Marlin Bowles (1974)

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES

The Natural Areas Section is concerned with the identification and protection of natural area resources on all Department properties. This report is the result of a staff inventory of Department properties for natural areas conducted during 1973 and 1974.

The objective of the report is to provide the planning, development and management divisions with the location, description and significance of all Department owned natural areas, including dedicated nature preserves, known to the Natural Areas Section. This will allow the consideration of these special natural areas in planning development and management of Department properties. The tract maps indicate natural areas only, with no buffer zones included; this should be considered as a factor when planning developments near the areas. The Natural Areas Section would like to have input into any development involved in or in close proximity to one of the recognized areas. More detailed information on many of the areas is available from the Natural Areas Section. While some of the natural areas recognized in this report would qualify for dedication as Illinois Nature Preserves, others probably would not; and no recommendations for dedication are made in this report.

For the purposes of this inventory a natural area is defined as a tract of land retaining to some degree its natural character as represented at the time of arrival of white man. Mature second growth forest tracts are included if the forest has suffered no other disturbances and appears to be in an otherwise natural condition. Disturbed prairie communities are included where a significant number of native plants are present and recovery through prescribed burning or other management is possible. Factors that add to the significance of an area include the presence of old growth timber, exceptionally rich herbaceous communities (ferns and wild flowers), a diversity of communities, the presence of rare or endangered plants or animals, and the presence of notable geologic features. Minimum size is not a factor in the survey; many prairie remnants or locations of rare plants may be a fraction of an acre in size.

The inventory was completed through the examination of aerial photographs and topographical maps, consultation with site managers when available, and direct field inspection of the site. Some inventory information was obtained from interested citizens familiar with some Department Areas, and from the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission.

The report format includes a table of contents followed by descriptions and maps of the recognized natural areas and existing nature preserves. Table I presents an alphabetical list of Department properties where we found no significant natural areas. It should be noted that the lack of a significant natural area should not be taken to mean that there are not natural environment areas, wildlife habitat, etc., deserving concern and protection on the area. Table II presents an alphabetical listing of properties found to contain significant natural areas. It serves as an alphabetical index to the report. Each property is treated with a narrative or narratives describing its natural areas by location, feature, and significance. Following the narratives is a topographical map showing the location of each natural area.

Due to the nature of inventory work and projected time limitations, there are some limits to the report. Some natural areas may have been missed by the inventory and the Natural Areas Section would appreciate information on any such areas for inclusion in a report update. Several properties known to contain natural areas have not yet been completely inventories; they are indicated in Table II and will be completed in 1975. Department managed properties under lease from other owners (such as the Federal government) have only been included in the survey when natural areas were known to be present. Since the Department has an active land acquisition program, newly acquired areas may not have been inventoried. Tracts not yet in State ownership were examined only in conjunction with master management planning task force projects. As a result, periodical updates to the report can be expected.

TABLE I

DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES WITH NO IDENTIFIED SIGNIFICANT NATURAL AREAS

Albany Mounds	Whiteside Co.
Anderson Lake	Fulton Co.
Aurora College Tract (Fox River Frontage)	Kendall Co.
Banner Strip Mine	Fulton Co.
Baldwin Lake	Randolph Co.
Bishop Hill State Memorial	Henry Co.
Bryant Cottage State Memorial	Piatt Co.
Bureau County Conservation Area	Bureau Co.
Burnham Island (Horseshoe Lake)	Alexander Co.
Cahokia Court House	St. Clair Co.
[illegible] Area	
Coleta Trout Ponds	Whiteside Co.
Champaign County Conservation Area	Champaign Co.
Chauncey Marsh (Nature preserve project - no natural land yet acquired)	Lawrence Co.
Dynamite Island	Rock Island Co.
Dixon Springs State Park	Pope Co.
Douglas Tomb State Park	Cook Co.
Edward Coles Monument	Madison Co.
Eldon Hazlett State Park	Clinton Co.
Fort Chartres State Park	Randolph Co.
Fort Defiance State Park	Alexander Co.
Fort Edwards Monument	Hancock Co. (Warsaw)
Fox River "State Park"	La Salle Co.
Frank Holten State Park (Grand Marais)	St. Clair Co.
Funks Grove (Nature preserve project - no natural land yet acquired)	McLean Co.
Gebhard Woods State Park	Grundy Co.
Gladstone Lake	Henderson Co.
Governor Bond Memorial	Randolph Co.
Governor Cole Memorial	Madison Co.
Grant, U.S. Home Memorial	Jo Daviess Co.
Hamilton County (Dolan Lake)	Hamilton Co.
Hidden Springs State Forest	Shelby Co.
Illini State Park	La Salle Co.
Illinois-Michigan Canal (Inventory incomplete)	
Jasper County Conservation Area	Jasper Co.
Jubilee College	Peoria Co.
Kaskaskia Memorial (West of Miss. River)	Randolph Co.
Lewis and Clark Memorial	Madison Co.
Laurence C. Warren State Park	Cook Co.
Lincoln Home	Sangamon Co.
Lincoln Log Cabin	Coles Co.
Lincoln Monument	Lee Co.
Lincoln Trail Monument	Lawrence Co.
Lincoln State School Annex	Logan Co.
Lincoln Tomb	Sangamon Co.
Lovejoy Monument	Madison Co.

TABLE I (continued)

Metamora Court House	Woodford Co.
Morrison-Rockwood State Park	Whiteside Co.
Mt. Pulaski Court House	Logan Co.
Murley Tract (Fox River Frontage)	La Salle Co.
Nauvoo State Park	Hancock Co.
Norwegian Settlers Memorial (Peerson)	La Salle Co. (Norway)
Old Market House Memorial	Jo Daviess Co.
Owen Lovejoy Home (Princeton, IL)	Bureau Co.
Peoria County Conservation Area	Peoria Co.
Pierre Menard Home State Memorial	Randolph Co.
Postville Court House State Memorial	Logan Co.
Prophetstown State Park	Whiteside Co.
Putnam County Conservation Area	Putnam Co.
Pyramid State Park	Perry Co.
Rice Lake	Fulton Co.
Railsplitter State Park	Logan Co.
Randolph County Conservation Area	Randolph Co.
Sam Dale Lake State Park	Wayne Co.
Sam Parr State Park	Jasper Co.
Sangchris State Park	Christian Co.
Seven Mile Creek	White Co.
Shadrach Bond Monument	Randolph Co. (Chester)
Shawneetown (Old) Memorial	Gallatin Co.
Shelby County State Forest	Shelby Co.
Shelbyville Reservoir	Shelby Co.
Sid Simpson	Adams Co.
Silver Springs	Kendall Co.
Tazewell County Conservation Area	Tazewell Co.
South Shore	Cook Co.
Spring Branch	Peoria Co.
Vandalia State House	Fayette Co.
Whiteside County Wildlife Area	Whiteside Co.
Wild Bill Hickock Monument	La Salle Co.
William B. Stratton	Grundy Co.
Winnebago Island (See Dynamite Isle)	Cook Co.
Woodford County Conservation Area	Woodford Co.
Wayne Fitzgerrell State Park	Franklin & Jefferson Co.'s

TABLE II
DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES WITH SIGNIFICANT
NATURAL AREAS

Apple River State Park	Jo Daviess Co.
Argyle Lake State Park	McDonough Co.
Ayers Sand Prairie Nature Preserve	Carroll Co.
Beall Woods Nature Preserve	Wabash Co.
Beaver Dam State Park	Macoupin Co.
Big River State Forest	Henderson Co.
Black Hawk State Park	Rock Island Co.
Buffalo Rock (with Starved Rock)	La Salle Co.
Cahokia Mounds State Park	St. Clair and Madison Co.'s
Castle Rock Nature Preserve	Ogle Co.
Cave-In-Rock State Park	Hardin Co.
Cedar Lake Bog Nature Preserve	Lake Co.
Chain O'Lakes State Park	Lake and McHenry Co.'s
Chestnut Hills Nature Preserve	Pulaski Co.
Crawford County Conservation Area	Crawford Co.
Cretaceous Hills Nature Preserve	Pope Co.
Delabar State Park	Henderson Co.
Des Plaines Conservation Area	Will Co.
Dixon State School	Lee Co.
Douglas County State Park	Douglas Co.
Easton Prairie Nature Preserve	Winnebago Co.
Ferne Clyffe State Park	Johnson Co.
Fort Creve Coeure State Park	Tazewell Co.
Fort Kaskaskia State Park	Randolph Co.
Fort Massac State Park	Massac Co.
Fox Ridge State Park	Coles Co.
Franklin Creek Nature Preserve	Lee Co.
Fults Hill Prairie - Kidd Lake Marsh Nature Preserve	Monroe Co.
Giant City State Park	Jackson & Union Co.'s
Goose Lake Prairie Nature Preserve	Grundy Co.
Green River Conservation Area	Lee Co.
Hennepin Canal	
Henry Allan Gleason Nature Preserve	Mason Co.
Horseshoe Lake State Park	Alexander Co.
Horseshoe Lake State Park	Madison Co.
Illinois Beach State Park	Lake Co.
Illinois Beach State Park Expansion	Lake Co.
Indian Caves	Kankakee Co.
Iroquois County Conservation Area	Iroquois Co.
Johnson Sauk Trail (Henry Co. Cons. Area)	Henry Co.
Kankakee River State Park	Kankakee Co.
Kickapoo State Park	Vermilion Co.
Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park	Stephenson Co.
Lake Murphysboro State Park	Jackson Co.

TABLE II (Continued)

La Salle County Conservation Area	La Salle Co.
Lincoln's New Salem State Park	Menard Co.
Lincoln Trail Homestead	Macon Co.
Lincoln Trail State Park	Clark Co.
Lowden Memorial State Park	Ogle Co.
Lusk Creek Nature Preserve	Pope Co.
Mackinaw River Conservation Area	Tazewell Co.
Marshall County Conservation Area	Marshall Co.
McHenry Dam State Park	McHenry Co.
McLean County Conservation Area	McLean Co.
Mermet Lake Conservation	Massac Co.
Miller-Anderson Woods Nature Preserve	Bureau & Putnam Co.'s
Mississippi Palisades State Park	Carroll Co.
Mississippi River Sand Hills Nature P.	Hancock Co.
Panther Creek Conservation Area	Cass Co.
Parks Memorial Woods Nature Preserve	Putnam Co.
Pekin Lake	Tazewell Co.
Pere Marquette State Park	Jersey Co.
Pike County Conservation Area	Pike Co.
Piney Creek Ravine Nature Preserve	Randolph County
Posen Woods (see Washington County Conservation Area)	
Prairie Chicken Sanctuary	Jasper Co.
Ramsey Lake State Park	Fayette Co.
Reavis Spring Hill Prairie Nature Preserve	Mason Co.
Red Hills State Park	Lawrence Co.
Rend Lake Wildlife Area	Jefferson Co.
Riverview Conservation Area	Calhoun Co.
Rock Cut State Park	Winnenbago Co.
Rockhouse Creek Lake Site	Monroe Co.
Rockton Township Bog	Winnebago Co.
Saline County Conservation Area	Saline Co.
Sand Prairie-Scrub Oak Nature Preserve	Mason Co.
Sand Ridge State Forest	Mason Co.
Sanganois-Barkhausen Conservation Area	Cass Co.
Shabbona State Park	DeKalb Co.
Siloam Springs State Park	Adams & Brown Co.'s
Spitler Woods State Park	Macon Co.
Spring Lake Conservation Area	Tazewell Co.
Starved Rock State Park Complex	La Salle Co.
Stephen A. Forbes State Park	Marion County
Tapley Woods	Jo Daviess Co.
Thomson-Fulton Sand Prairie Nature Preserve	Whiteside Co.
Trail of Tears State Forest	Union Co.
Volo-Wilson Bog Nature Preserve	McHenry & Lake Co.'s
Washington County Conservation Area (Posen Woods Nature Preserve)	Washington County
Wauconda Bog Nature Preserve	Lake Co.
Weinburg-King State Park	Schuyler Co.
Weldon Springs State Park	De Witt Co.
White Pines State Park	Ogle Co.
Wildcat Hollow State Forest	Effingham Co.
William W. Powers (Wolf Lake)	Cook Co.
Union County Conservation Area	Union Co.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Apple River Canyon State Park, Jo Daviess County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 1 of two natural areas, an 80 acre tract including the canyon west of the bridge and the canyon wall above the old campground. Situated in the SW¼ Sec. 4, SE¼ Sec. 5, T 28 N, R 4 E.

Physical Features

River canyon representative of the Wisconsin Driftless Natural Division of Illinois. The tract consists of the upper portion of the Apple River Canyon, eroded into Niagran dolomite.

Biological Features

The wooded slopes and side canyons support a northern mesic forest. Red oak and white oak are the dominant hardwood trees. Associates include shagbark hickory, chinkapin oak, basswood, sugar maple, walnut and blue beech. Boreal species such as white pine, birdseye primrose, shrubby cinquifoil, American stickseed, moschatel and Canada yew grow on steep slopes and cliffs. In the forest understory are hepatica, bishops cap, saxifrage, wild leek and several species of ferns.

Comments

The important features of the tract are the boreal species present on the dolomite cliffs (several are known only from these locations in Illinois) and the northern mesic forest on the north facing slopes of the canyon.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Apple River Canyon State Park, Jo Daviess County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 2 of two natural areas, a 380 acre tract including the canyon south of the bridge. Situated in the SW¼ Sec. 4, E½ Sec. 8, NW¼ Sec. 9, N½ Sec. 17, T 28 N, R 4 E.

Physical Features

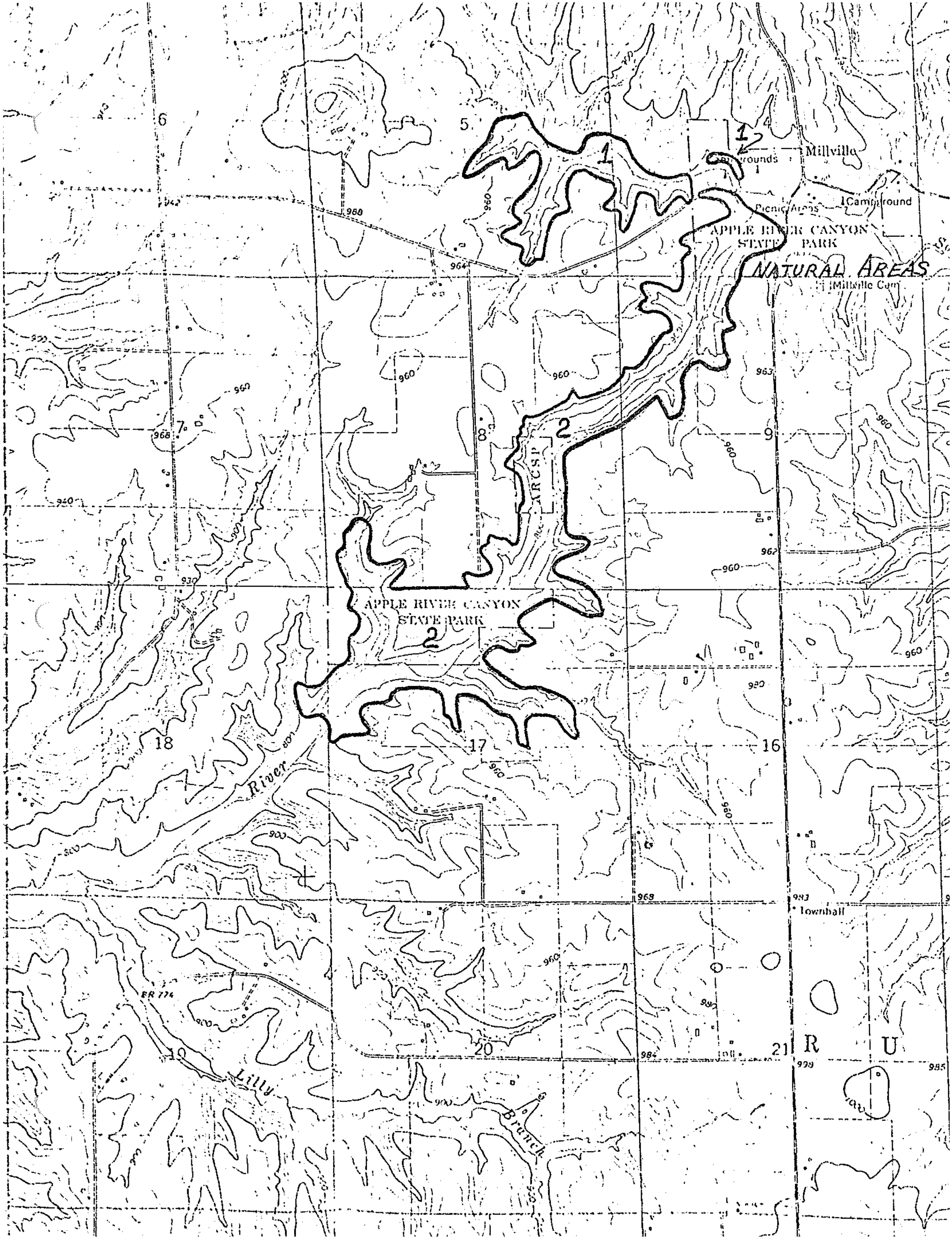
River canyon representative of the Wisconsin Driftless Natural Division of Illinois. The tract consists of the lower portion of Apple River Canyon, eroded into Niagran dolomite after the terminal moraine at the edge of the driftless area blocked the Apple River and forced it to take a new route. The lower canyon is scenic with cliffs and bluffs reaching over 100 feet above the river

Biological Features

The wooded slopes and side canyons support a northern mesic forest similar to that of area No. 1, with white pine and Canada yew locally abundant. Boreal cliff vegetation including birdseye primrose and shrubby cinquifoil occurs at the extreme south end of the tract.

Comments

The lower canyon is of geological significance since it was eroded due to glaciation causing a re-routing of the river within the driftless area. The high bluffs and cliffs and northern vegetation make the tract one of the most important natural areas in northern Illinois.



Millville
Campground
Picnic Areas
APPLE RIVER CANYON STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
Millville Cem
1
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ARCSP
APPLE RIVER CANYON STATE PARK
2
6
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16
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18
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21
River
Lilly
Branch
Townhall
R
U

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Argyle Lake State Park, McDonough County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 1 of five natural areas, a five acre tract located west of the park road at the crossing of the north end of the lake. Situated in the SW¼ NE¼ Sec. 36, T 6 N, R 4 W.

Physical Features

Stream bluff representative of the Galesburg Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract consists of a 20 foot high rocky stream bluff with outcrops of sandstone and shale, an intermittent streams flows along the base of the bluff.

Biological Features

The bluff is forested with a mesic community of sugar maple, red oak and basswood. Shadbush, red bud and butternut are also present. Noteable herbaceous species include hepatica, Christmas fern, baneberry, goatsbeard, American spikenard, lousewort, twayblade orchid, and snow trillium.

Comments

The site is reported to be the only locality for snow trillium in the park. This feature plus the mesic nature of the vegetation and the presence of bedrock outcrops make the tract an interesting natural area.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Argyle Lake State Park, McDonough County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 2 of five natural areas, a five acre tract located on the bluff at the extreme north end of the lake. Situated in the center of the E½ Sec. 36, T 6 N, R 4 W.

Physical Features

Loess covered bluff representative of the Galesburg Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract includes a small section of the high bluffs above the stream valley forming the head of Argyle Lake

Biological Features

Several small hill prairies occupy the site. Little bluestem is the dominant grass although big bluestem is also present, other associates include New Jersey tea, lead-plant, purple prairie clover, arrow-leaved violet and pale-spike lobelia. The prairies are being invaded by wild rose, hickory and shingle oak.

Comments

Although several other prairie remnants occur in the park, this tract includes the best examples of hill prairies located there during the survey. A prescribed burning program should be initiated for the area.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Argyle Lake State Park, McDonough County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 3 of five natural areas, a 10 acre tract located along the stream bluff north of the park road at the north end of the park. Situated in the NE¼ Sec. 36, T 6 N, R 4 W, and the NW¼ NW¼ Sec. 31, T 6 N, R 3 W.

Physical Features

Stream bluff with sandstone and shale outcrops, representative of the Galesburg Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract consists of a 20 to 30 foot high stream bluff extending along the east side of the main tributary stream of Argyle Lake.

Biological Features

The western exposure of the bluff limits the vegetation to a xeric community including such plants as shadbush, lousewort, twayblade orchid, pussytoes, mosses and lichens. At the extreme north end of the tract is a small hill prairie remnant dominated by little bluestem. The honeysuckle, Lonicera prolifera, grows in one locality along the bluff.

Comments

This natural area consists only of the verticle to sloping stream bluff. Adjacent bluff top communities have been altered by logging or grazing, the bluff top at the extreme south end of the tract still retains some characteristics of savanna vegetation.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Argyle Lake State Park, McDonough County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 4 of five natural areas, including the bluffs and ravines on either side of Twin Oak Road. Approximately 70 acres in size and situated in the E½ SE¼ Sec. 36, T 6 N, R 4 W, the NE¼ NE¼ Sec. 1, T 5 N, R 4 W, the W½ Sec. 31, T 6 N, R 3 W, and the NW¼ NW¼ Sec. 6, T 5 N, R 3 W.

Physical Features

Level upland ridgetops and ravines representative of the Galesburg Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract consists of a series of ridgetops and ravines eroded in deep loess over Illinoian glacial till. Sandstone and shale outcrop infrequently.

Biological Features

Dry to dry mesic upland forest communities are present. Black oak and white oak are present on the ridgetops while mesic communities of red oak and sugar maple occupy the ravines. Sugar maple is an important component of the understory in ravines, hepatica occurs infrequently and Christmas fern and maidenhair fern are present. A narrow strip of prairie community with Gentiana puberula, Indian paint brush, rattlesnake master, bush clover, blazing star, coreopsis and little bluestem occurs along Paint Brush Trail Road.

Comments

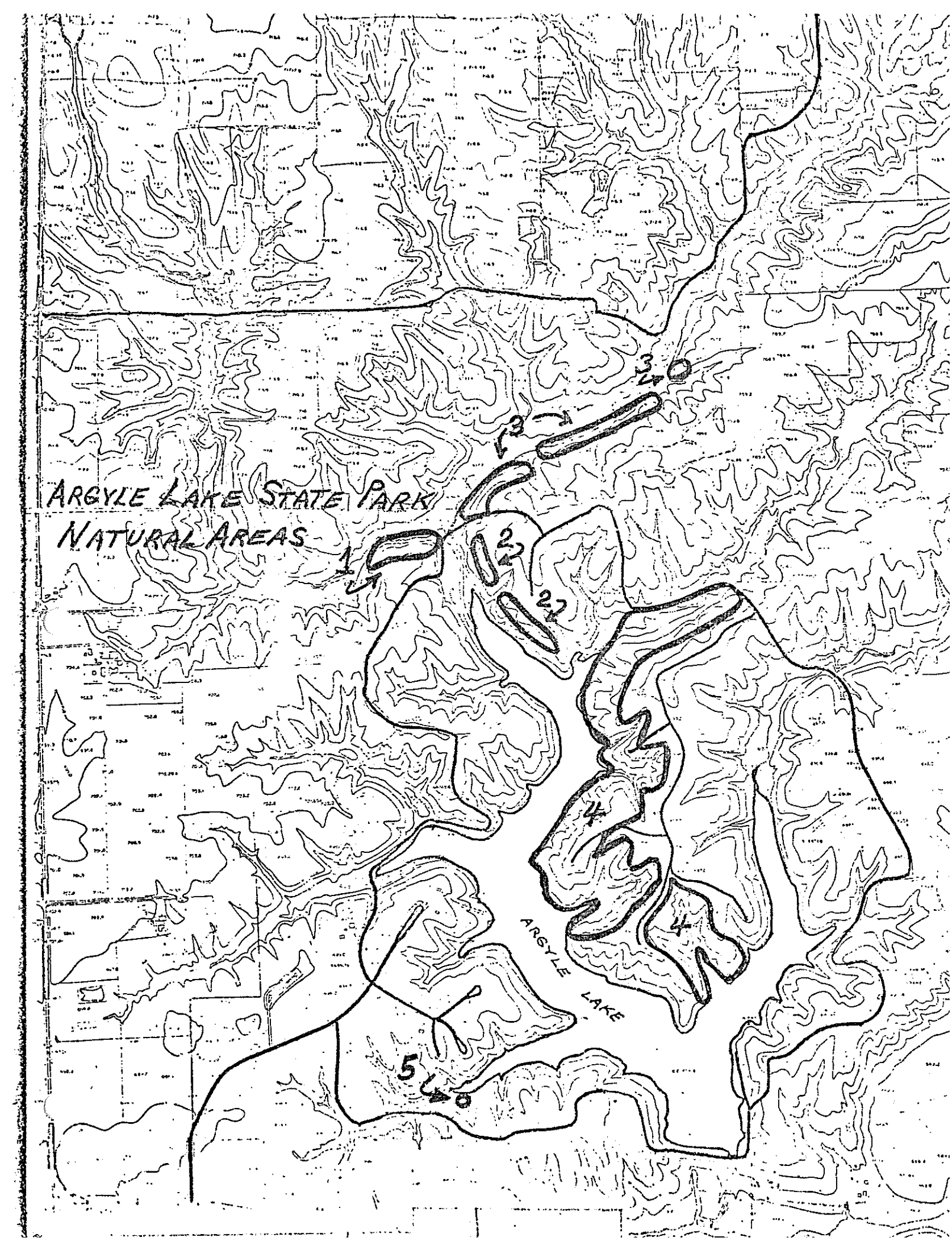
The wooded ravines are second growth in character but represent the best example of forest in the park and have apparently suffered no other disturbances. The prairie community may be a remnant of native prairie that could have occurred along ridgetops.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Argyle Lake State Park, McDonough County

ADDITIONAL NATURAL AREAS

Area No. 5 An acid seep spring located in a coal seam at the edge of the lake. The spring supports two species of Sphagnum moss, both rare and restricted elsewhere to northern and eastern Illinois.


ARGYLE LAKE STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
1
2
2
2
3
3
4
4
4
5
ARGYLE LAKE

AYERS SAND PRAIRIE - Carroll County.

Location:

3 miles southeast of Savanna, 1/2 mile east of Ayers.
S 1/2 of Sec. 24, T 24 N, R 3 E, 4 PM.
Savanna Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number: BWP-1EE-110 6/24/64

Character:

Natural types: Sand prairie and dunes of the Mississippi River Section of the Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Areas Division.

Geology: Galena-Platteville group (Ordovician), beneath river valley fill.

Soils: Sand

Physiography: A high terrace of sandy glacial outwash materials along the Mississippi River.

Vegetation: Sand prairie of little bluestem, June grass, and hairy grama with scattered shrubs of aromatic sumac. A few black oak and cottonwood trees occur in blowouts.

Aquatic environments: None

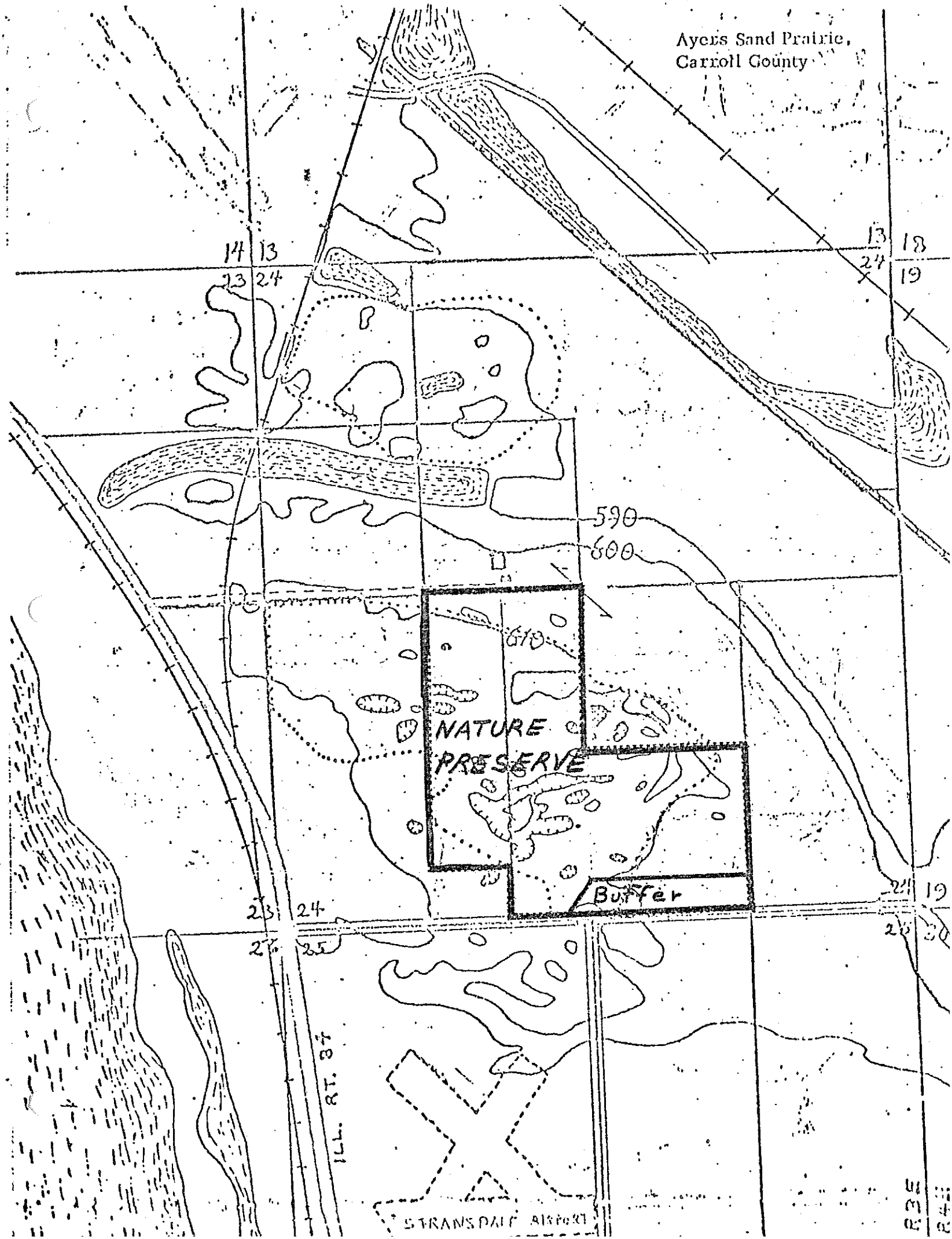
Natural features of special interest:

Extensive mats of the rare Hudsonia tomentosa and Selaginella rupestris characterize the successional communities. Poppy mallow, blazing star, and western sunflower are among the more attractive wildflowers. The ornate box turtle and the six-lined racerunner are resident.

History of preservation:

The main part of the prairie is essentially undisturbed, though old fences indicate at least some grazing in the past.

2/8/71


Ayers Sand Prairie,
Carroll County
14
13
23
24
13
24
18
19
590
600
610
NATURE
PRESERVE
Buffer
23
24
24
19
26
30
27
25
ILL. RT. 84
TRANSPAC Airport

BEALL WOODS NATURE PRESERVE - Wabash County.

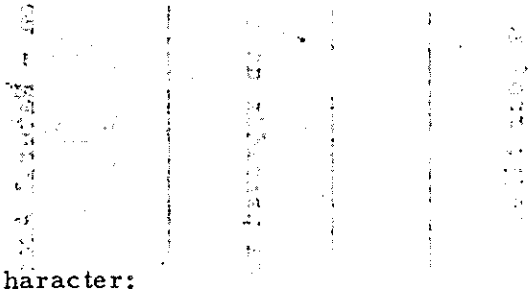
Location:

On the Wabash River five miles south of Mount Carmel, east of Keensburg and just north of Rochester.

Part of Sec. 11, T 2 S, R 13 W, 2 PM.

Keensburg Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number: 581-1 12 1/20/65



Character:

Natural types: Upland forest, permanent stream, and bedrock outcrops of the Southern Uplands Section and forests, permanent stream, and slough of the Bottomlands Section of the Wabash Border Division.

Geology: Pennsylvanian sandstone (Bond Formation) with good exposures along Coffee Creek

Soils: Alford-Iona association on the uplands and Haymond-Allison association in the lowlands.

Physiography: Eroded till plain and Wabash River floodplain

Vegetation: Virgin bottomland and upland hardwood forest. The following forest types were recognized by Ashby and Ozment (1967): Upland oak-hickory, white oak-tulip tree, white oak-sugar maple, red oak-basswood, lowland oak, sweet gum-hackberry, hackberry-elm, and silver maple-pecan.

Aquatic environments: Permanent stream (Coffee Creek), intermittent stream (Sugar Creek), small oxbow slough, and backwaters of the Wabash River.

Natural features of special interest:

Eleven kinds of oak and six of hickory are among the species of trees present. There are nine trees of state record size. Rare plants include the climbing milkweed Gonolobus gonocarpos and Iresine rhizomatosa of the amaranth family.

History of preservation:

The Beall family (pronounced "bell") came from Scotland and owned the tract since early days. They deliberately protected the woods. Miss Laura Beall of Frankfort, Indiana, last member of the family to have custody of the property, died on November 11, 1961. The tract was sold at public auction on June 5, 1962. The State attempted to purchase it from the new owner and finally took possession on September 17, 1965, after lengthy proceedings. Local leaders as well as conservationists across the country recognized the unique character of the virgin forest stand. On December 2, 1965, the National Park Service recognized the woods as a Registered Natural History Landmark.

Management and use:

The Preserve is part of the Beall Woods Conservation Area of 626 acres. Footpaths, steps, benches, and one footbridge are the only developments in the preserve. All trails start at the Red Barn Nature Center, adjacent to the preserve. A trail guide leaflet is available. Many school and club groups visit the area.

Bibliography:

Ashby, William C., and James E. Ozment. 1967. Plant species of Beall's Woods, Wabash Co., Illinois. Trans. Ill. State Ac. Sci. 60(2):174-183.

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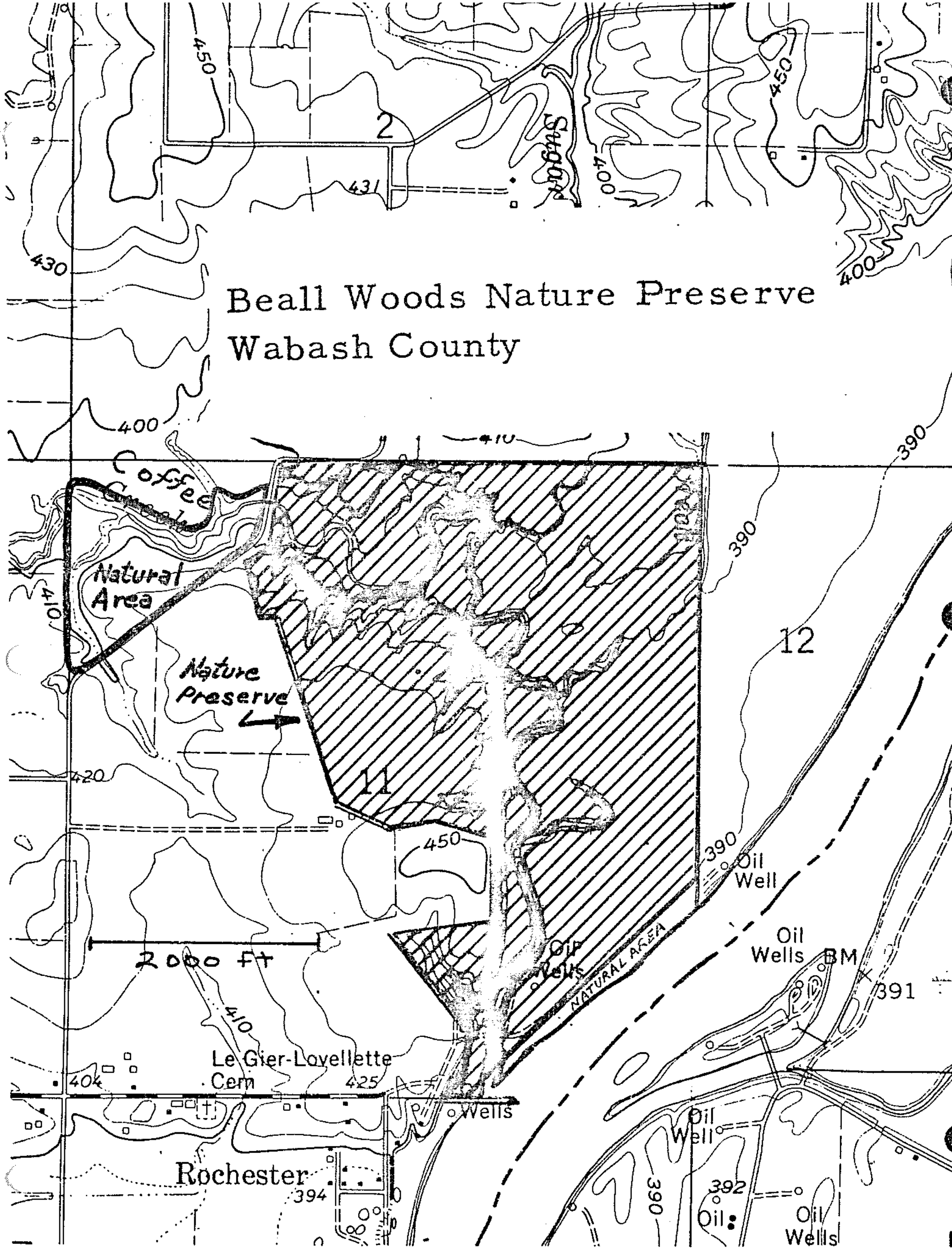

Beall Woods Nature Preserve
Wabash County
450
2
431
400
430
410
390
Coffee Creek
Natural Area
Nature Preserve
11
12
420
450
Oil Well
Oil Wells
BM
391
NATURAL AREA
2000 ft
Le Gier-Lovellette Cem
404
425
Wells
Rochester
394
392
Oil
Oil Wells

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Beaver Dam State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Beaver Dam State Park, Macoupin County, one of three natural areas in the park. Several small hill prairies totaling less than one acre in size, located on south facing ridges west of the Owl Hollow camping area. Situated in the NE$\frac{1}{4}$ NE$\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 21, and the NW$\frac{1}{4}$ NW$\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22, T 9 N, R 8 W. Tract number 1 on map.

Physical Features

Hill prairies of the Carlinville Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The prairies are found on steep south facing ridges or hillsides on the north side of the valley forming the westward drainage of Beaverdam Lake.

Biological Features

The prairies consist of small openings in a surrounding second growth forest community. Among the prairie plants present are big and little bluestems, Indian grass, side oats gramma, purple prairie clover, purple coneflower, and drooping coneflower.

Comments

The prairies are small and are being invaded by shrubs. Proper management including cutting and poisoning of shrubs and tree seedlings and prescribed burning should be initiated in order to improve the condition of the prairies.

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Beaver Dam State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Beaver Dam State Park, Macoupin County, one of three areas in the park. A 15 acre swamp located south of the Owl Hollow camping area road and west of Beaverdam Lake. Situated in the SW$\frac{1}{4}$ NW$\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22, T 9 N, R 8 W. Tract number 2 on map.

Physical Features

Swamp of the Carlinville Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The swamp is located in a low depression in the wide ravine bottom or valley of a tributary of Macoupin Creek. The swamp receives the westward drainage of Beaverdam Lake.

Biological Features

Buttonbush is the dominant vegetation, almost completely covering the area. Rose mallow, swamp milkweed, cottonwood, and willow occur along the edges of the swamp. Bass, bluegill, and bowfin are reported to be in the swamp and migrating water fowl have been observed there.

Comments

The presence of standing dead timber in the swamp seems to indicate that the present water level is above previous conditions. An elevated roadbed forms the west side of the swamp and may contribute to the high water level.

The area presents a significant feature of the park in that swamp communities are an uncommon feature of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Beaver Dam State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Beaver Dam State Park, Macoupin County, one of three natural areas in the park. A 25 acre wooded tract located east of the Ranger's residence and south of Beaverdam Lake. Situated in the SE$\frac{1}{4}$ NW$\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22 and the SW$\frac{1}{4}$ NE$\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22, T 9 N, R 8 W. Tract number 3 on map.

Physical Features

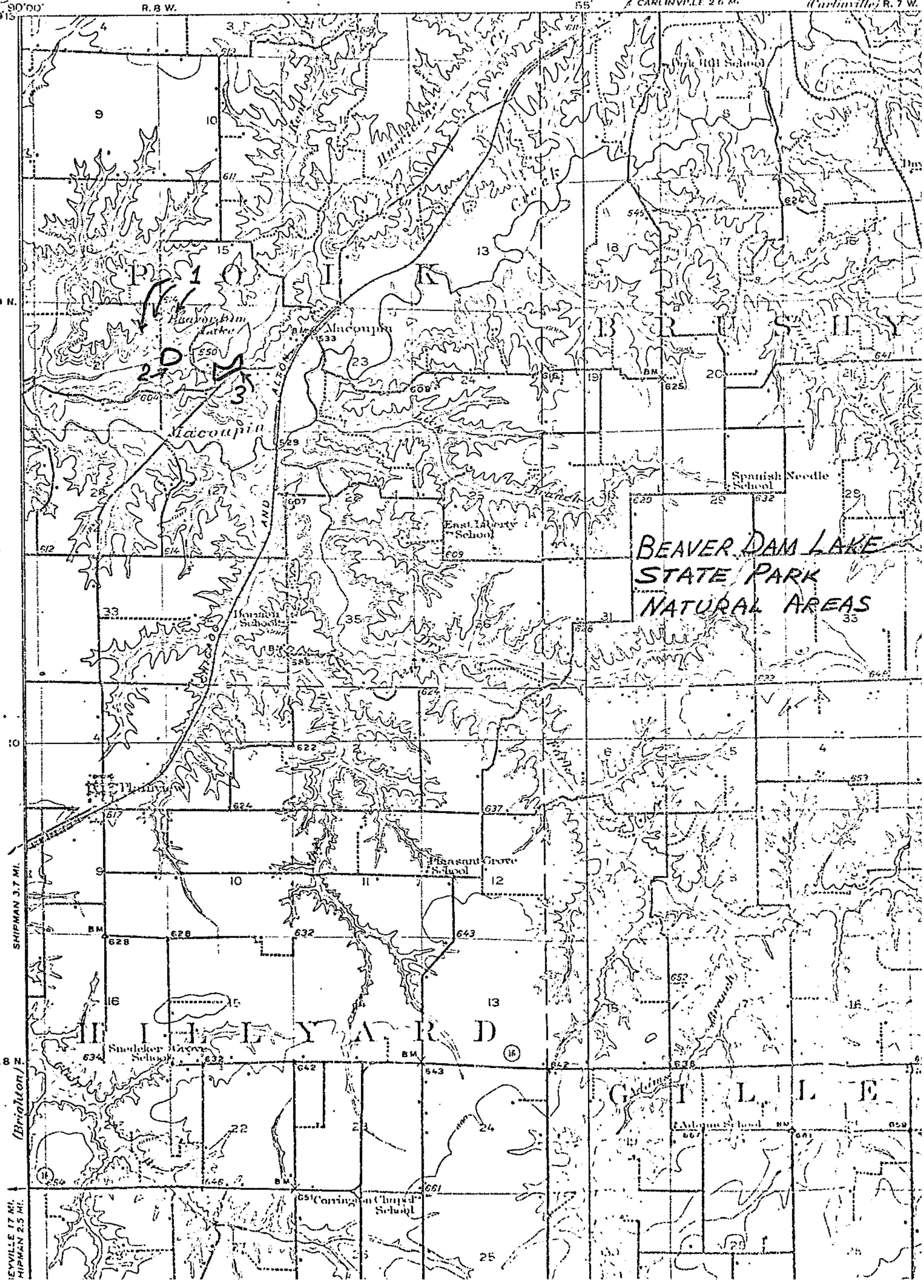
Upland and slope forest of the Carlinville Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract is on the south slope of the ravine forming the basin for Beaverdam Lake.

Biological Features

White oak, black oak, and shagbark hickory are representative of the overstory. Although the site is on a north facing slope the conditions appear rather xeric.

Comments

In the western portion of the area the trees are relatively large and may represent old growth conditions. This is in contrast to the remaining woodland in the park which is second growth in nature. A colony of white squirrels exists in the park but it is not known if they occur in the site described here.


BEAVER DAM LAKE
STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
90°00'
39°15'
R. 8 W.
R. 7 W.
55'
CARLINVILLE 2.6 MI.
(Carlinville)
T. 9 N.
T. 8 N.
P O L K
B R U S H Y
H I L L Y A R D
G I L L E
Macoupin
Macoupin
Beaver Dam Lake
Creek
Branch
Spanish Needle School
East Liberty School
Pleasant Grove School
Snedeker Grove School
Corrington Chapel School
Adams School
Oak Hill School
Plainview
ALTON
AND
SHIPMAN 3.7 MI.
(Brighton)
1
2
3
D

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Big River State Forest, Henderson County

Size and Location of Natural Areas

Two tracts, including an abandoned railroad right of way extending through the forest along the east line of Sections 2, 11, 14, 23, and 26, T 11 N, R 5 W; and a 900 acre tract situated in the SW¼ Section 24, Section 25, and the N½ Section 36, T 11 N, R 5 W.

Physical Features

Level to rolling sand plain representative of the Mississippi River Section of the Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Areas Natural Division of Illinois. The 900 acre tract contains stabilized dune ridges and swales, none of which apparently drop below the water table.

Biological Features

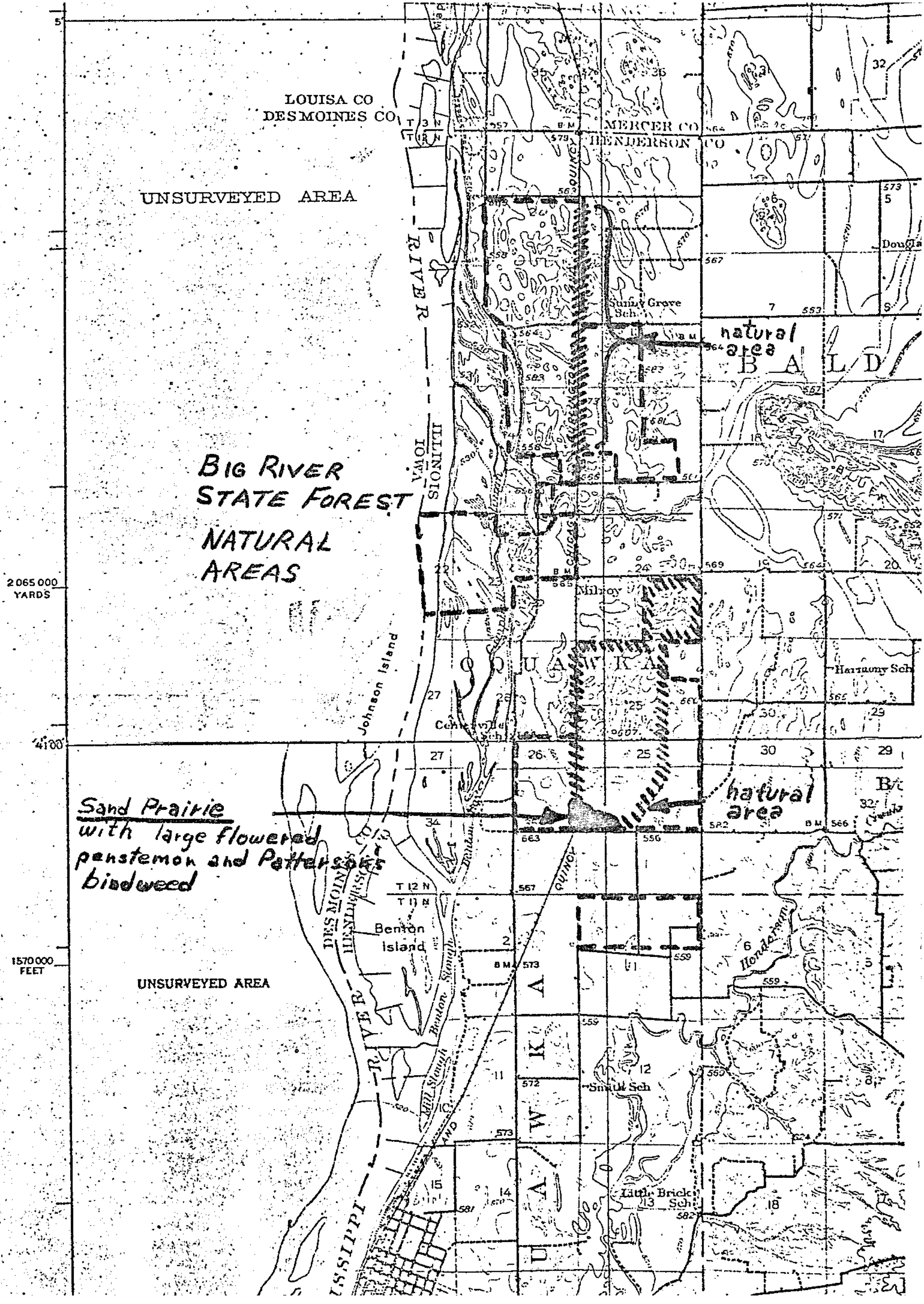
Sand prairie and scrub-oak forest communities are present. Prairie is best represented along the railroad right of way which was subjected to periodic fires before abandonment. Prairie vegetation includes little blue stem and June grass as dominants with occasional big bluestem and Indian grass; forbs include kitten tails, prickly pear cactus, large flowered penstemon, pucoon, leadplant, flowering spurge, spiderwort, purple coneflower, prairie larkspur and Patterson's bindweed. Scrub-oak forest dominates the 900 acre tract. Black oak and black jack oak are the dominant tree species; the woody understory consists of fragrant sumac and reproduction from the overstory. Prairie openings in the forest have the common sand prairie species but are often dominated by bluegrass.

Comments

The abandoned right of way contains good quality sand prairie with a number of rare plants including large flowered penstemon, which is known from only two Illinois counties.

The 900 acre tract is of wilderness size and in near natural condition, although protection from fire has allowed woody invasion and succession by bluegrass in prairie openings. The rare Patterson's bindweed and large flowered penstemon occur in sand prairie at the south edge of the tract. Disturbances in the tract include pipeline construction, local timber cutting, and a number of pine plantations.

A large percentage of the state forest contains scrub-oak forest in near natural condition, although protection from fire has allowed the elimination of prairie due to invasion by bluegrass and trees. The 900 acre tract is the largest and most diverse block of forest and prairie in the area, and is the most valuable from a natural area standpoint. A prescribed burning program for portions of this tract would eliminate brush and bluegrass, resulting in a return to the natural oak-savanna vegetation type.



LOUISA CO
DES MOINES CO
T 13 N
T 12 N
MERCER CO
HENDERSON CO
UNSURVEYED AREA
RIVER
IOWA
ILLINOIS
Sunny Grove Sch
natural area
BALD
Douglas
Big River State Forest Natural Areas
2 065 000 YARDS
Milroy
OQUAWKA
Johnson Island
Harmony Sch
Centerville Sch
natural area
Sand Prairie with large flowered penstemon and Patterson's bindweed
T 12 N
T 11 N
DES MOINES CO
HENDERSON CO
Benton Island
Benton Slough
1570 000 FEET
UNSURVEYED AREA
Henderson
Smith Sch
Mill Slough
Little Brick Sch
MISSISSIPPI

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Black Hawk State Park, Rock Island County

Size and Location of Natural Area

A 50 acre tract including the northern portion of the park area north of route 2. Situated in the NE¼ Sec. 14, T 17 N, R 2 W.

Physical Features

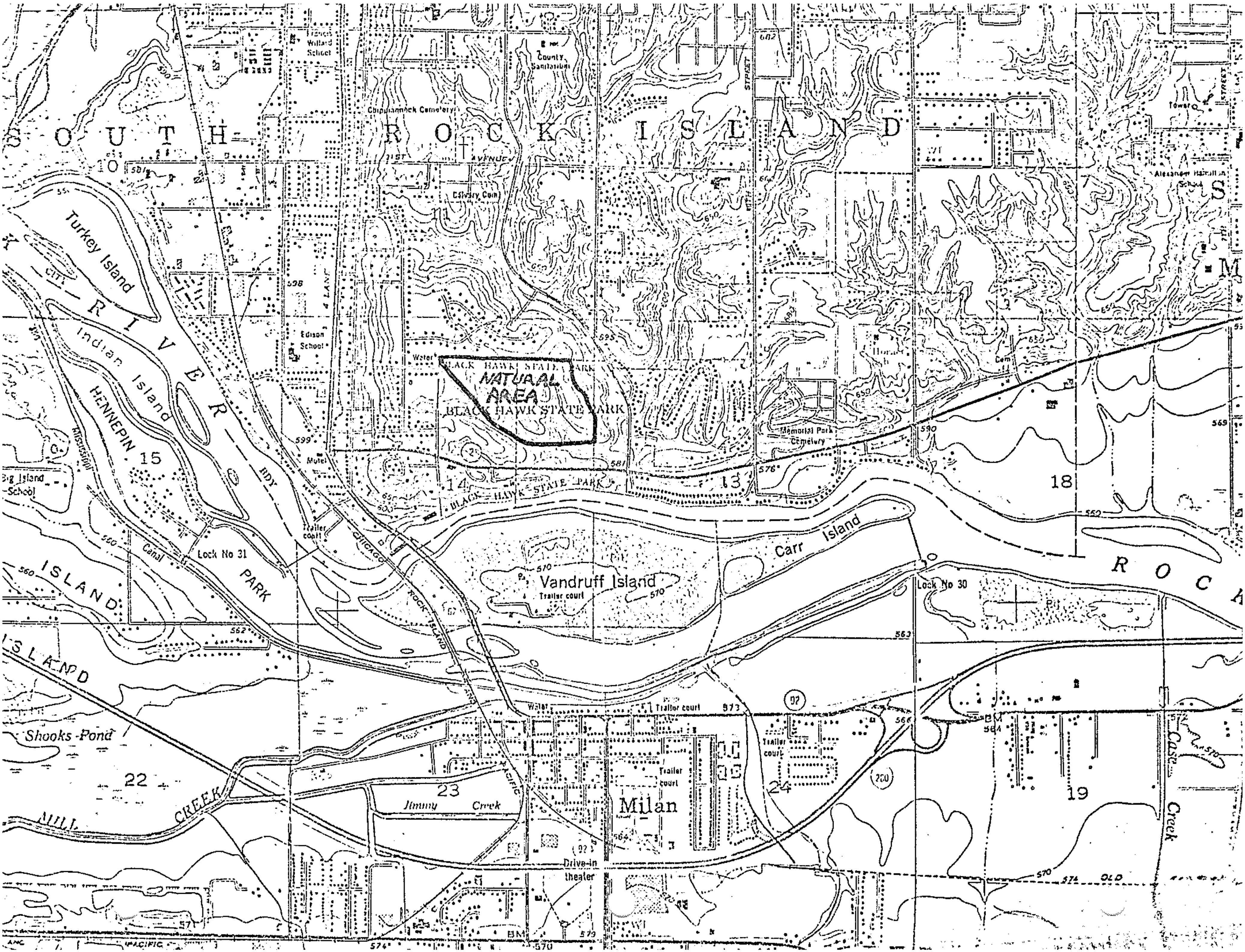
Flat upland and ravines of the Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Natural Division of Illinois. The tract consists of several shallow ravines and adjacent level uplands with drainage into the Rock River. Soils are developed in deep loess over Illinoian Glacial till.

Biological Features

Forest communities present range from dry mesic to mesic. On well drained ridges white oak is the dominant tree, on more poorly drained uplands and ravine slopes its associates include red oak, basswood, white ash and black cherry. Understory plants include high bush cranberry, arrow wood, hazel, Virginia creeper, prickly ash, lady fern, hepatica, and white baneberry. The uncommon orchid, Triphora trianthophora, is present.

Comments

Most of the forest is second growth in character, however the mesic nature of the flat uplands and the presence of a rich herbaceous understory is significant. Sugar maple, a common component of mesic woods, is not common. Weedy species including tatarian honeysuckle and barberry are present, and some trail use by motorcycles occurs in the north end of the tract.



SOUTH ROCK ISLAND
NATUAAL AREA
BLACK HAWK STATE PARK
Turkey Island
Indian Island
HENNEPIN
RIVER
Big Island School
Canal
Lock No 31
ISLAND PARK
Vandruff Island
Carr Island
Lock No 30
ROCK
Shooks Pond
MILL CREEK
Jimmy Creek
Milan
Drive-in theater
Trailer court
Edison School
Francis Willard School
County Sanitation
Chippiannock Cemetery
Calvary Cem
Memorial Park Cemetery
Alexander Hamilton School
Tower
Motel
CHICAGO ROCK ISLAND AND PACIFIC
Case Creek
OLD
10
14
13
15
18
19
22
23
24

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Cahokia Mounds State Park, St. Clair County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Three of four tracts; totaling approximately 155 acres, No. 1 located in the W½ Sec. 1, No. 2 in the SW¼ NE¼, NW¼ SE¼ Sec. 11, and No. 3 in the S½ SW¼ Sec. 1, NW¼ Sec. 12, all in T 2 N, R 9 W.

Physical Features

Bottomland marshes representative of the Northern Section of the Lower Mississippi River Bottomlands Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

Tracts 1 and 2 are primarily dominated by cattail with considerable open water, while tract 3 is associated with a bottomland woods of cottonwood, hackberry, elm and box elder. Sedges, smartweed, arrowhead, Riccia (an aquatic liverwort) and iris are also present in the marshes. Wildlife includes wood chuck, common egret, and pied-killed grebe (probably nesting).

Comments

Tracts 1 and 3 appear essentially undisturbed. Tract 2 has been disturbed somewhat in the past by the construction of a ditch and levee.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Cahokia Mounds State Park, St. Clair County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Tract No. 4, of four tracts, approximately 120 acres and located in Sec. 2, T 2 N, R 9 W.

Physical Features

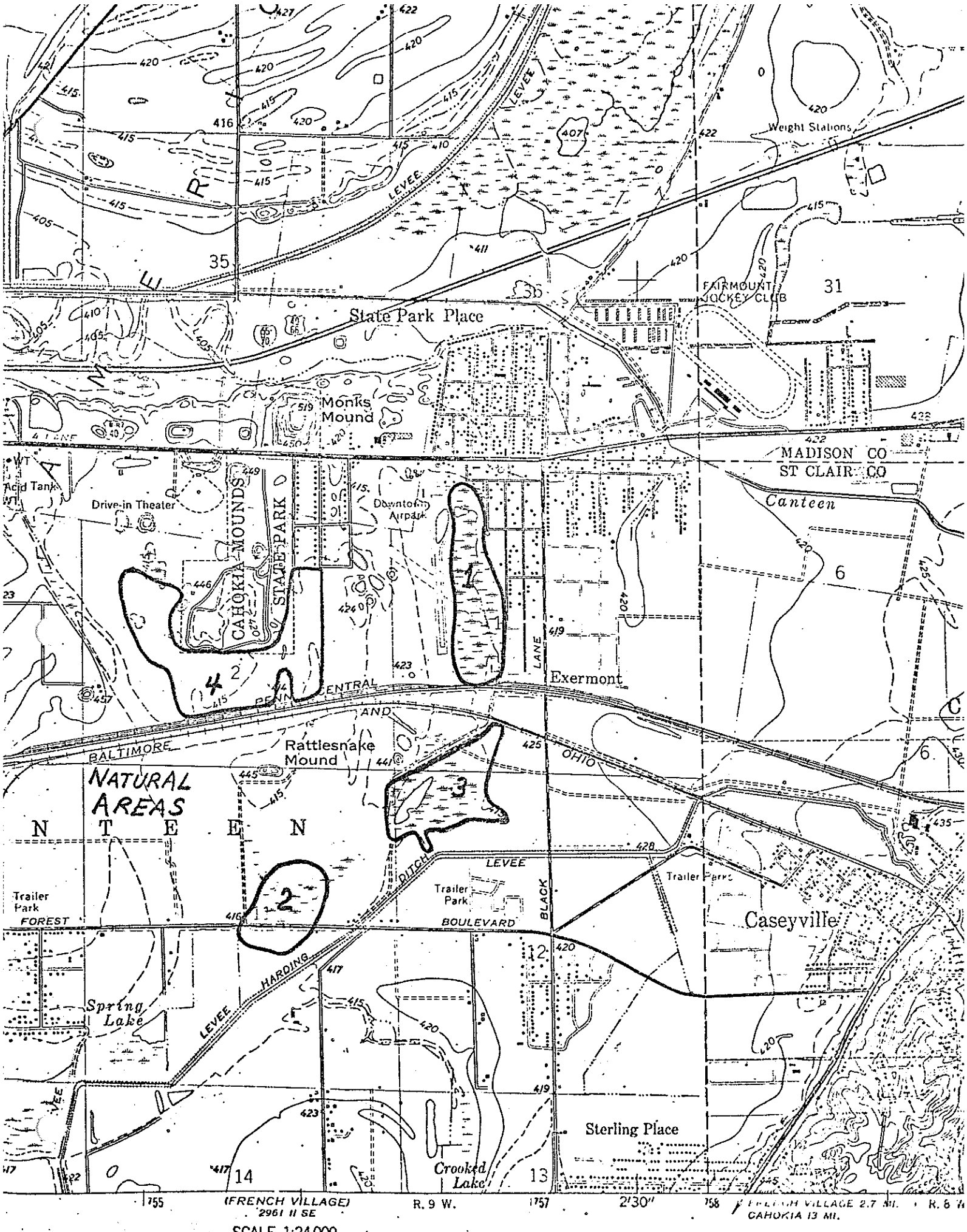
Bottomland representative of the Northern Section of the Lower Mississippi River Bottomlands Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

The tract consists of a bottomland woods of pin oak, elm, hackberry, box elder and ash; understory species include hawthorne, deciduous holly, various sedges, licorice root, tall bluegrass and poison ivy.

Comments

The woods may have been disturbed in the past by grazing and logging; however, many mature trees are present and the tract is recovering and does represent the best example of this natural type in the park.


NATURAL AREAS
N T E E N
State Park Place
Monks Mound
Rattlesnake Mound
Drive-in Theater
Downtown Airpark
CAHOKIA MOUNDS STATE PARK
Exermont
Canteen
MADISON CO
ST CLAIR CO
FAIRMOUNT JOCKEY CLUB
Weight Stations
Caseyville
Trailer Park
Trailer Park
Trailer Park
Spring Lake
Crooked Lake
Sterling Place
Acid Tank
BALTIMORE AND OHIO
PENN CENTRAL
BOULEVARD
FOREST
LEVEE
DITCH
BLACK LANE
HARDING
1
2
3
4
(FRENCH VILLAGE) 2961 II SE
R. 9 W.
2'30"
SCALE 1:24 000
1 MILE

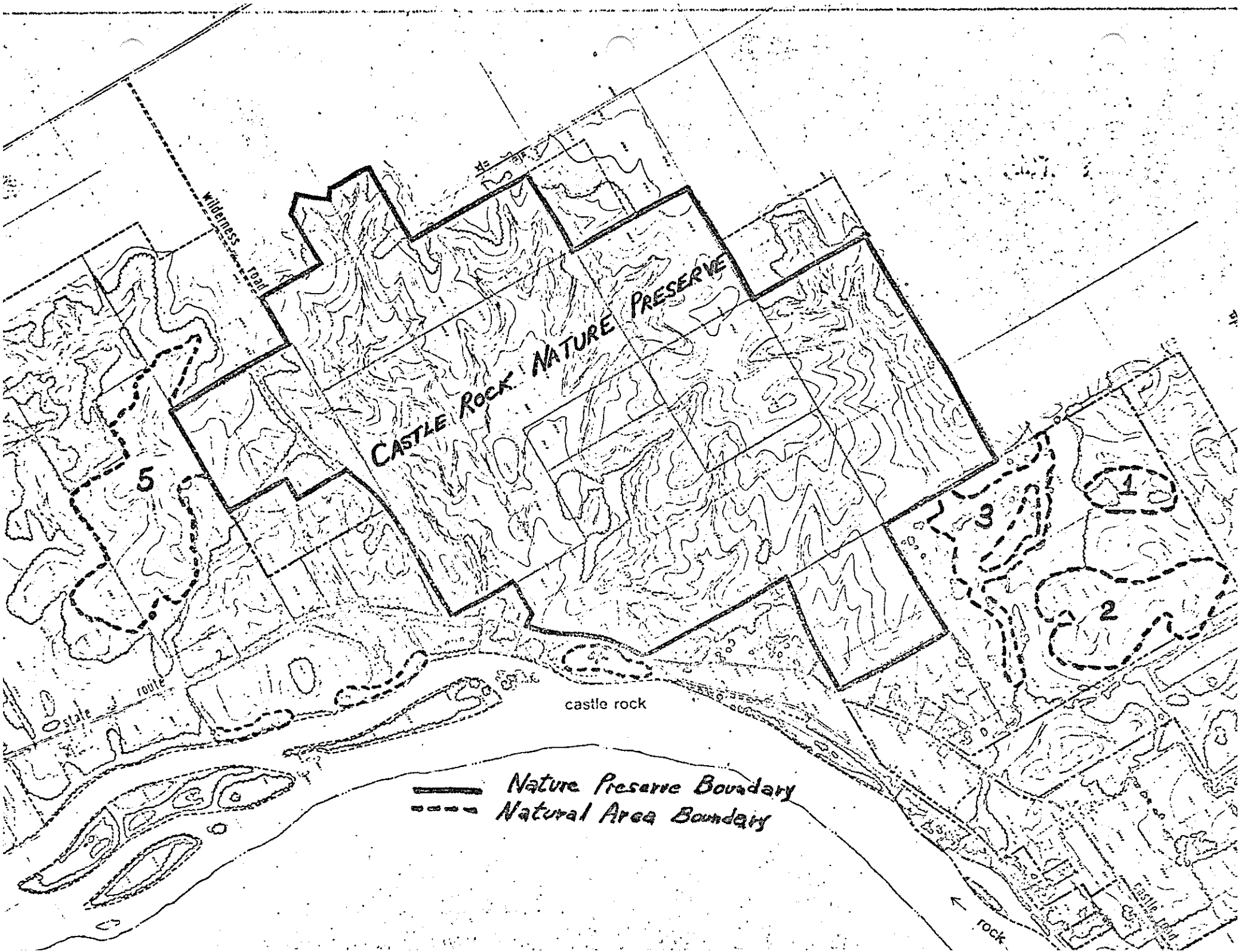
Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Castle Rock, Ogle County

Comments

The bulk of the natural areas at this Department property are dedicated as the Castle Rock Nature Preserve.

Natural area tracts identified here that lie outside of the nature preserve boundary are described in the Castle Rock Master Plan.


Wilderness road
CASTLE ROCK NATURE PRESERVE
5
3
1
2
state route
castle rock
Nature Preserve Boundary
Natural Area Boundary
rock

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Cave In Rock State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Cave in Rock State Park, Hardin County. One natural area including the face of the cliff facing the Ohio River and the cave itself. Situated in the $S\frac{1}{2}$ $SE\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 13, T 12 S, R 9 E, and the $SW\frac{1}{4}$ $SW\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 18, T 12 S, R 10 E.

Physical Features

River bluff and cave of the Lesser Shawnee Hills Section of the Shawnee Hills Natural Division of Illinois. A limestone bluff eroded by the Ohio River, with a large cave opening located in the bluff. The uplands adjacent to the bluff show characteristic karst topography, with one sinkhole connected to the end of the cave.

Biological Features

The only natural vegetation occurs on the cliff face and includes the rare stone crop sedum telephioides.

Comments

The cliff and cave are notable geologic features even though the cave has been defaced.

VERA M. BIRKS, DIRECTOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DIVISION, JOHN C. FRYE, CHIEF
URBANA, ILLINOIS

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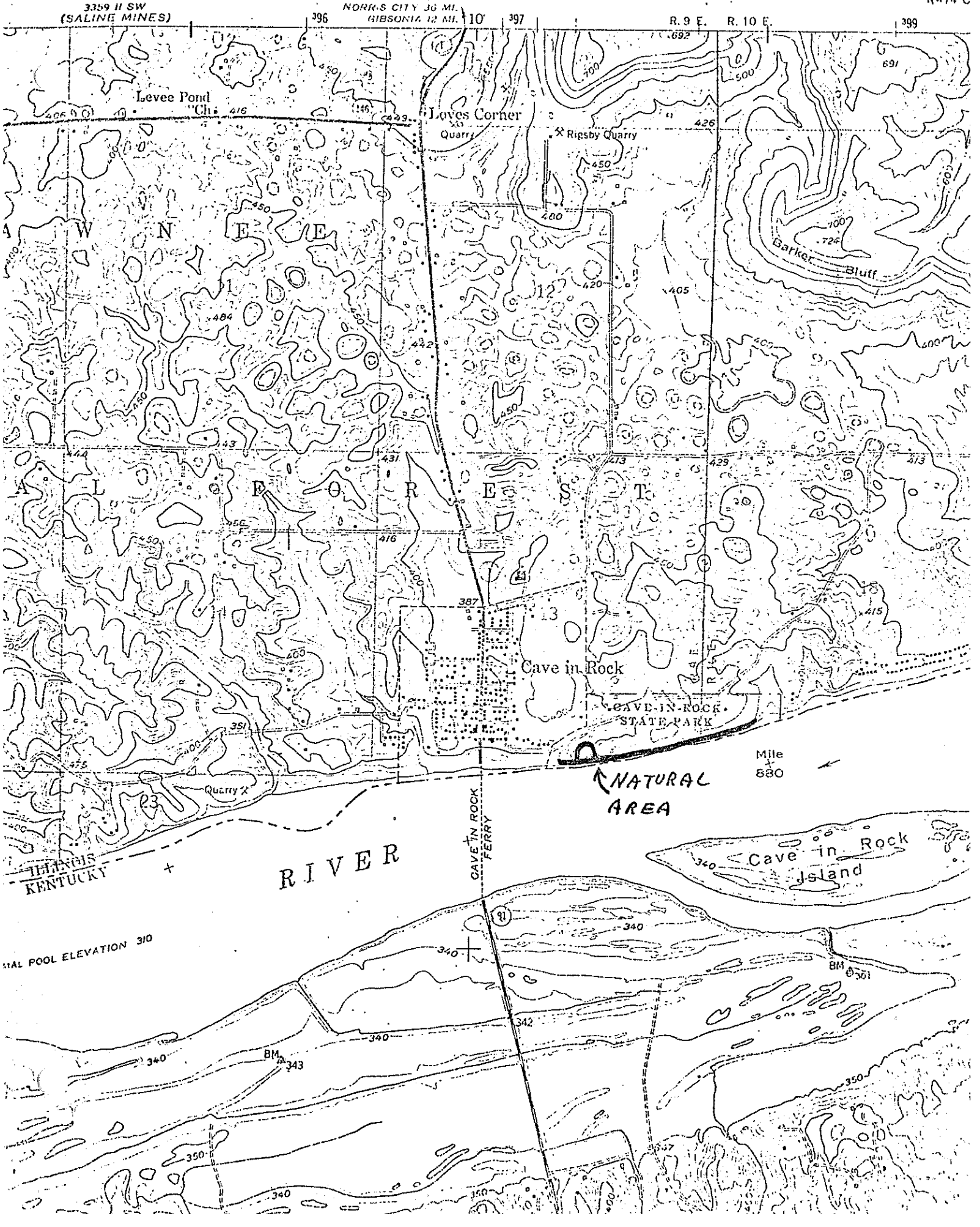
7.5 MINUT
NW/4 C



CEDAR LAKE BOG - Lake County.

Location:

On the west edge of the town of Lake Villa and at the west end of Cedar Lake.

Portions of the E 1/2 of Sec. 31 and the W 1/2 of Sec. 32, T 46 N, R 20 E, 3 PM.

Antioch Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series

Character:

Natural types: Youthful bog of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Geology: Wisconsinan glacial till overlying Silurian dolomite, which does not crop out.

Soils: A floating mat of vegetation.

Physiography: A bog formed by the accumulation of organic matter in the shallow west end of Cedar Lake.

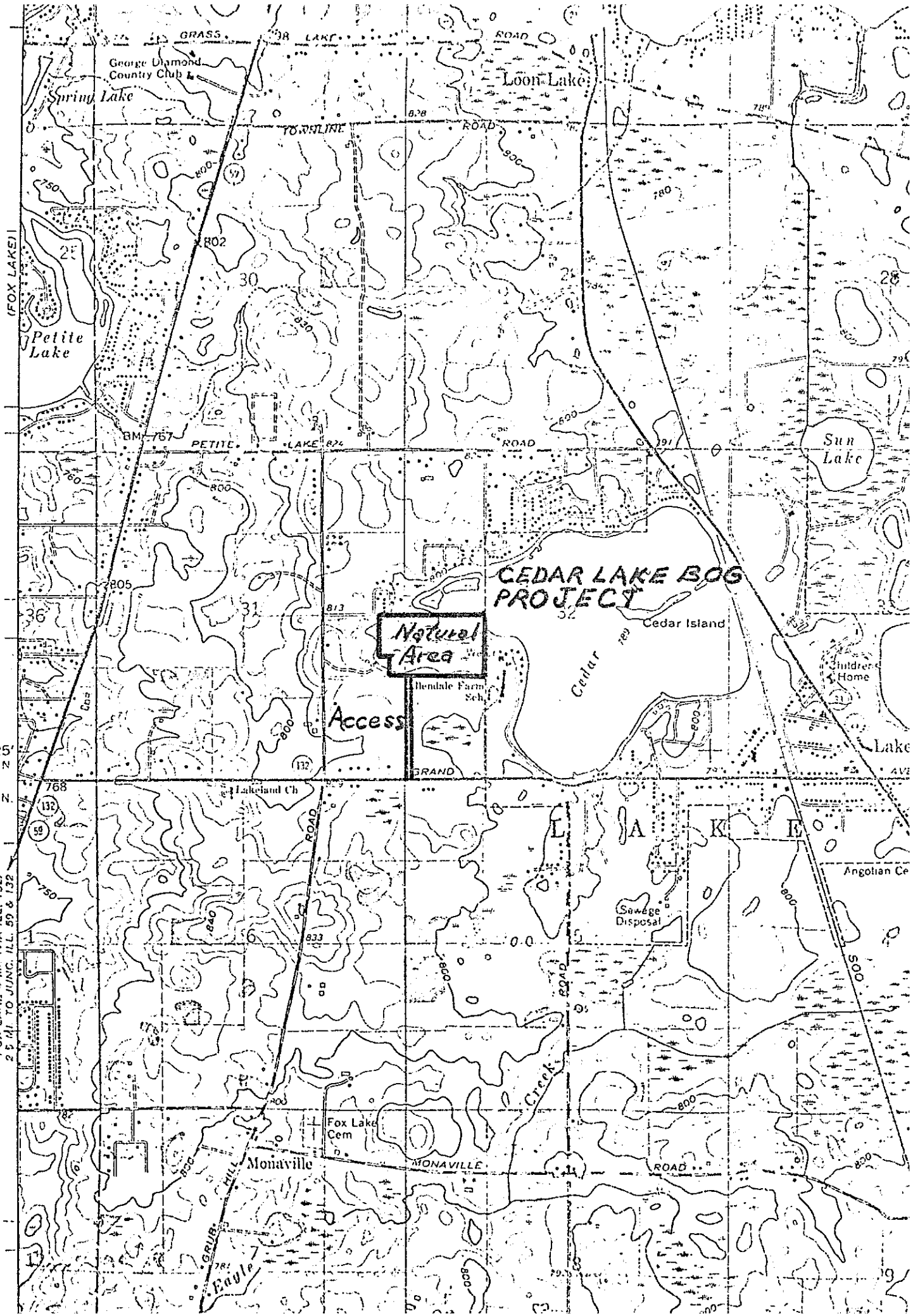
Vegetation: Marshes of cat-tail, sedges, and reed canary grass; the bog includes dwarf birch, dwarf willow, cranberry, and sphagnum moss occurring with scattered marsh plants such as cat-tail.

Aquatic environments: Glacial lake; youthful bog; and some small, still pools.

Natural features of special interest:

Growing on the mat are such rare bog plants as cranberry, pitcher plant, buckbean, and sundew.

2/10/71


GRASS LAKE ROAD
George Diamond Country Club
Spring Lake
Loon Lake
TOWNLINE ROAD
(FOX LAKE)
Petite Lake
BM 767
PETITE LAKE ROAD
Sun Lake
CEDAR LAKE BOG PROJECT
Natural Area
Access
Cedar Island
Cedar
Bendale Farm Sch
Children's Home
Lakeland Ch
GRAND
LAKE
Angolian Ce
Sewage Disposal
FOX LAKE 4 MI. (VIA ILL. 132) 2.5 MI. TO JUNC. ILL. 59 & 132
Fox Lake Cem
Monaville
MONAVILLE ROAD
Creek
GRUBB HILL
Eagle
T. 46 N.
T. 45 N.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Chain O'Lakes State Park, Lake County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Six areas located within Chain O'Lakes State Park, totaling approximately 370 acres. Situated in Sections 15, 16, 21, 22, and 28, T 49 N, R 20 E.

Physical Features

Kettle moraine topography of the Valparaiso Morainic System including glacial lakes, springs, advancing bog mat, and extensive marsh representative of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

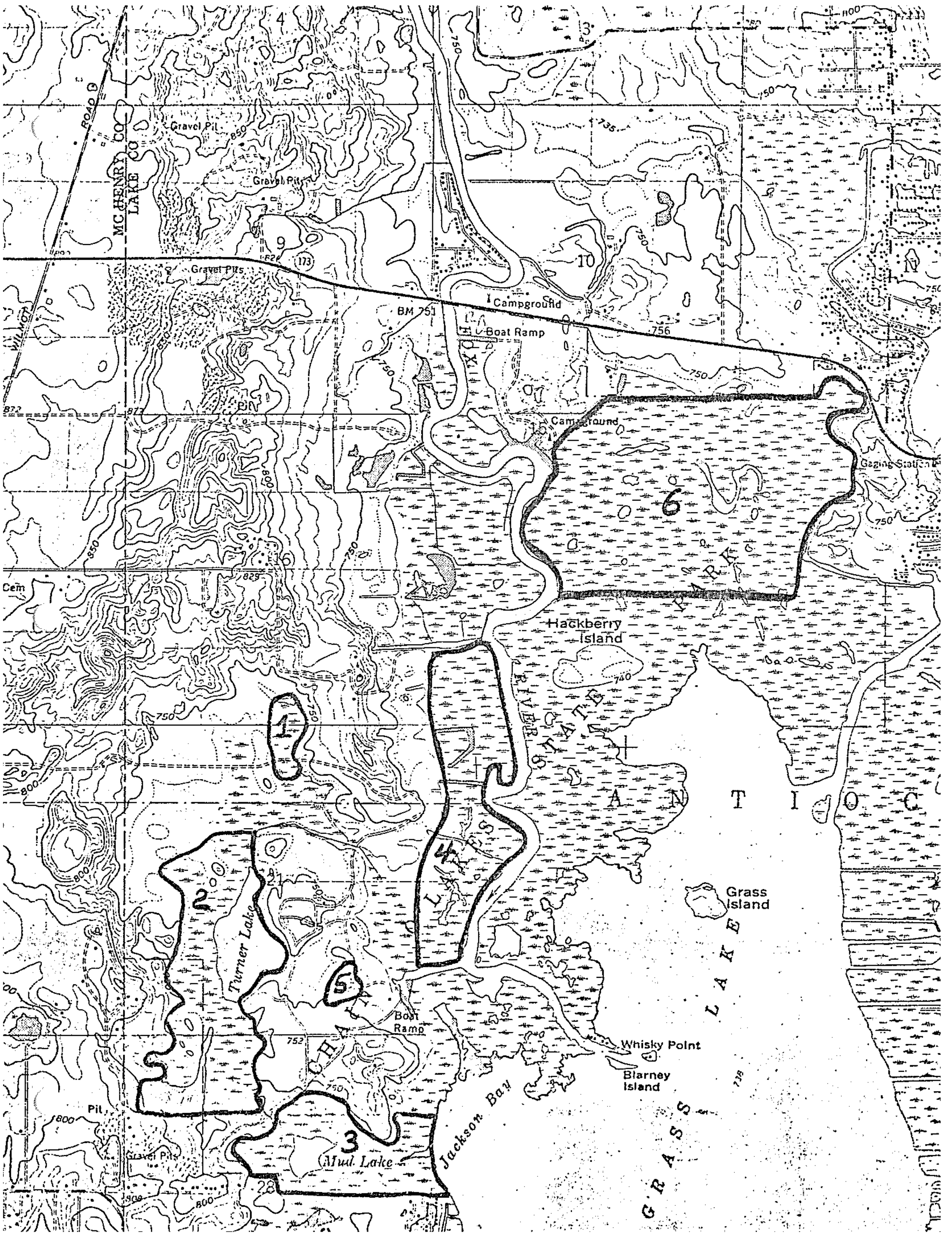
Included are dry upland forests of moraines, shrub carr, mesic prairie, wet prairie, sedge meadow, alkaline fen, marsh, and glacial lakes of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

The dry upland forests are dominated by black and bur oak with some hickory, basswood, and hackberry. A zone of shrub carr community, dominated by dogwood, dwarf birch, black haw, and aspen, surrounds the dry upland forest, grading into the prairie fen. Local areas of mesic prairie, dominated by big bluestem, Indian grass, and prairie dropseed, and containing such species as prairie dock, meadow-sweet, and shrubby cinquefoil, occur between the uplands and the fens. Extensive areas of wet prairie, sedge meadow, and alkaline fen surround the two glacial lakes. These are well developed and appear to be undisturbed. The dominant species are Carex and Calamagrostis canadensis, with such typical species as Solidago ohioensis, Cladium mariscoides (twig rush), Lobelia kalmii, Liatris spicata, Gentiana procera, Parnassia glauca, Eriophorum angustifolium, Acorus calamus, Caltha palustris, and Salix candida. The marshes are dominated by narrow-leaved cattail and bulrushes. Aquatic communities in and around the two glacial lakes contain several species of Scirpus, Utricularia, Potamogeton, Myriophyllum, Ceratophyllum, and both Nuphar advena and N. tuberosa. The bottoms of both glacial lakes are covered by a dense mat of Chara sp. and Naisas sp.

Comments

Turner Lake and Mud Lake are natural, undisturbed alkaline lakes and contain many aquatic plants. The combination of peat and muck soils and alkaline water creates an unusual association of plants, many of which are rare in Illinois, including a small stand of pitcher plants and Eleocharis rostellata, the latter a sedge that is found only in very marly or alkaline places and is quite rare in the Chicago region. Selaginella apoda is found in great abundance around both glacial lakes.

More detail on specific sites will be available in the Chain O'Lakes Master Plan.



MC HENRY CO
LAKE CO
ROAD
WILMOT
Gravel Pit
Gravel Pit
Gravel Pits
Campground
BM 751
Boat Ramp
Campground
Gaging Station
Hackberry
Island
Cem
Turner Lake
Mud Lake
Jackson Bay
Boat
Ramp
Grass
Island
Whisky Point
Blarney
Island
GRASS LAKE
CHAIN O LAKES
STATE PARK
ANTIOC
FOX RIVER
Pit
Gravel Pits
1
2
3
4
5
6

CHESTNUT HILLS - Pulaski County.

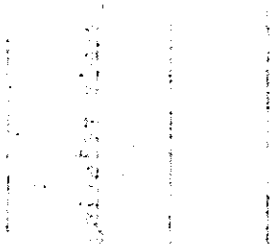
Location:

One-half mile east of Olmsted.

Portions of Secs. 13 and 24, T 15 S, R 1 E, 3 PM and Sec. 18, T 15 S, R 2 E, 3 PM.

Olmsted Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number: BHA-1FF-41 9/25/65



Character:

Natural types: Mesic ravine forest, floodplain forest, and outcrops of Cretaceous and Tertiary deposits of the Cretaceous Hills Section of the Coastal Plain Division.

Geology: Tuscaloosa-McNairy-Owl Creek formations, including the type locality of Levings Member (Cretaceous), Clayton formation (Paleocene), Porters Creek formation (Paleocene), and Lafayette gravel (Pliocene).

Soils: Hosmer-Stoy-Weir association.

Physiography: Rolling hills, ravines, and low bluffs of the Ohio River, composed of Gulf Coastal Plain deposits.

Vegetation: Old-growth mesic forest of beech, red oak, white oak, tulip tree, bitternut hickory, hackberry, and sweet gum, an occasional cucumber tree or white basswood being found. The floodplain forests are of elm and swamp chestnut oak.

Aquatic environments: Seep springs, small spring-fed creek, and the Ohio River.

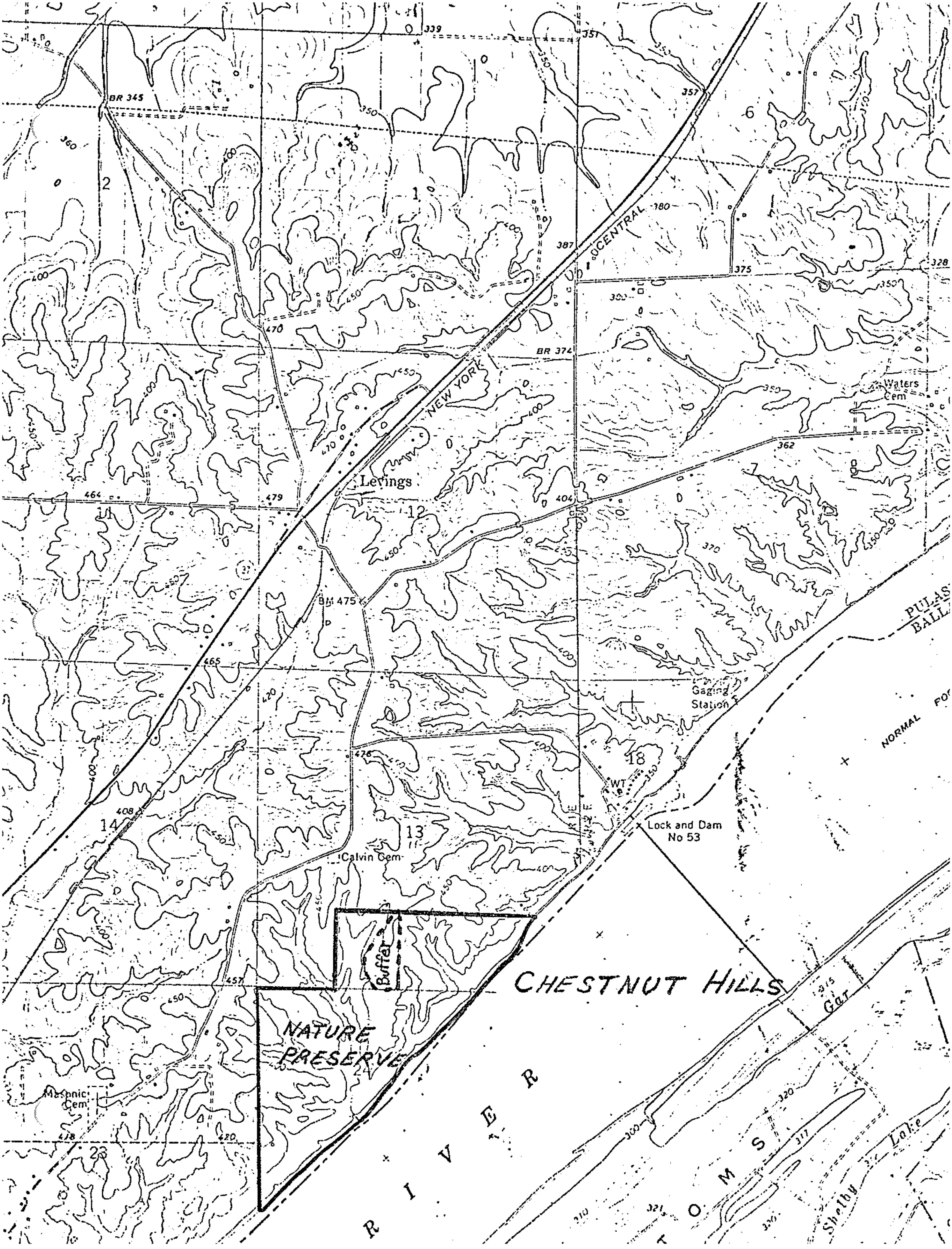
Natural features of special interest:

The dusky salamander, rare in Illinois, is represented by a good population here. Silverbell tree and white basswood are common near the Ohio River. Interesting herbs of these forests include puttyroot orchid, cranefly orchid, and Melanthera hastata.

Bibliography:

Pryor, W. A. 1959. Cretaceous geology and petrology of the upper Mississippi Embayment. Unpublished Ph. D. thesis. Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

2/8/71



BR 345
BR 374
NEW YORK
CENTRAL
Levings
BM 475
Waters Cem
Gaging Station
Lock and Dam No 53
Calvin Cem
Masonic Cem
NATURE PRESERVE
Buffer
CHESTNUT HILLS
RIVER
Shelby Lake

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Crawford County Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

Crawford County Conservation Area, Crawford County. Including the forested uplands on either side of the stream at the east end of the area, and the river bluff and floodplain extending westward through the conservation area. Approximately 90 acres in size and situated in the NW¼ Sec. 36 and S½ Sec. 35, T 8 N, R 12 W.

Physical Features

Upland and floodplain forest, stream bluff, bedrock outcrops and intermittant stream of the Southern Uplands Section and Bottomlands Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division of Illinois. The topography of the area consists of a narrow floodplain along the base of a north facing stream bluff, the top of the bluff reaches a maximum height of 40 feet above the stream. At the east end of the area the stream flows over shale bedrock which also outcrops for a short distance along the bluff.

Biological Features

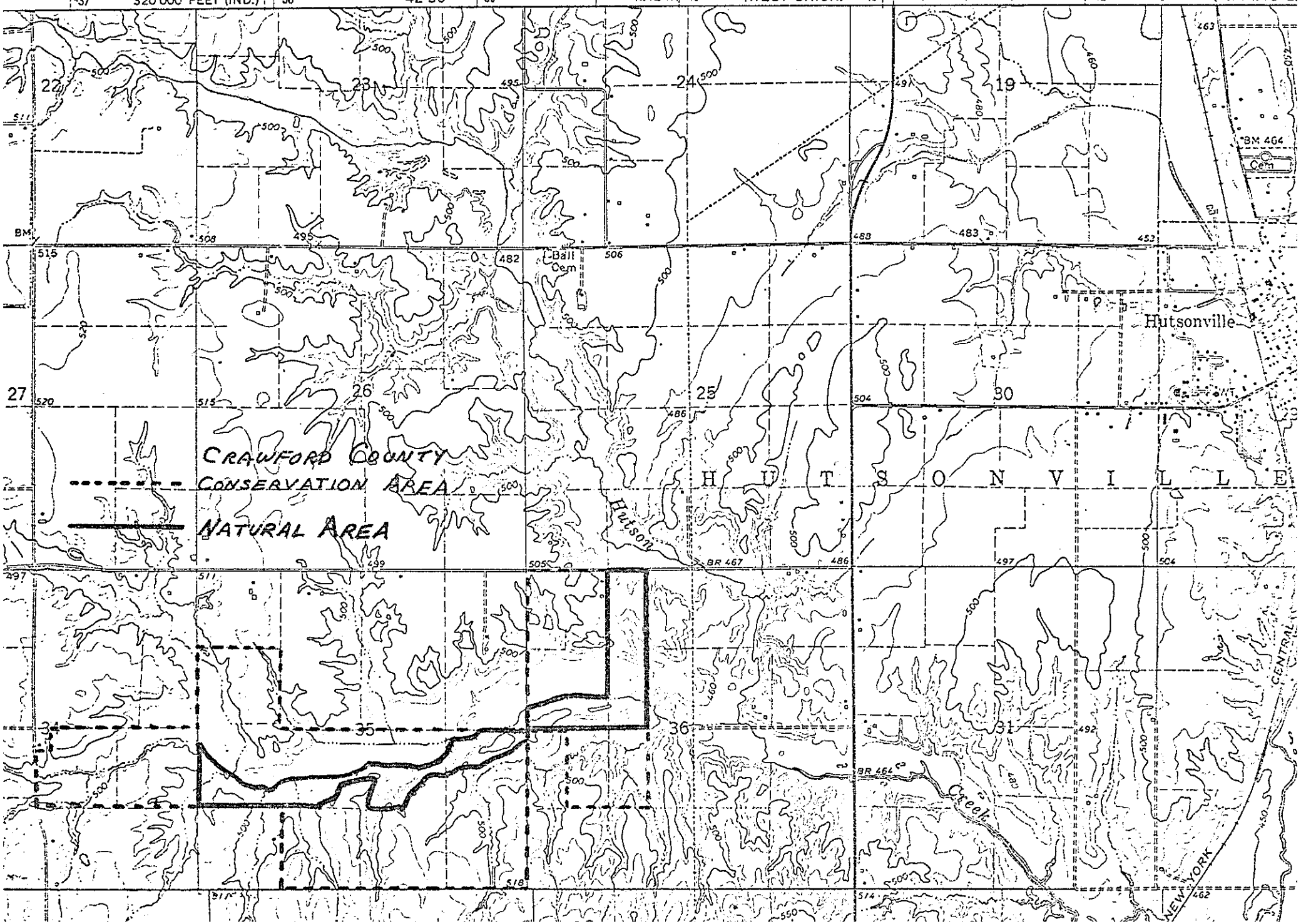
A good diversity of forest communities is present in the area. Upland forest types include a flat upland woods characterized by red and white oak, a xeric bluff forest with black oak and shagbark hickory, and a mesic north facing slope along the stream bluff with sugar maple, red oak, and wild hydrangea present. The uncommon orchid, triphora trainthophora, occurs on the stream bluff. A flood plain forest with pin oak, swamp white oak. red maple and river birch occurs along the stream. Some understory associates include wood reed grass, southern swamp privet, fringless purple orchid, and royal fern.

Comments

The significant features of this area are the diversity of plant communities present and the presence of many typical southern floodplain forest species near the northern limits of their occurence.

The present use of the area is for wildlife management. Some soil erosion is present on the slope of the bluff and may be the result of motorcycles establishing trails. Natural soil slumping occurs on the steepest slopes.

RIOR


320 000 FEET (IND.)
42'30"
R. 12 W.
3462 II NW
(WEST UNION)
MARSHALL 19 MI.
WEST UNION 7 MI. R. 11 W.
Hutsonville
Ball Cem
BM 464
Cem
CRAWFORD COUNTY
CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREA
H U T S O N V I L L E
Hutson
Creek
BR 467
BR 464
NEW YORK CENTRAL
22
23
24
19
27
26
25
30
34
35
36
31

CRETACEOUS HILLS NATURE PRESERVE - Pope County.

Location:

5 miles southwest of Bay City.
Portions of Secs. 15 and 16, T 15 S, R 6 E, 3 PM.
Paducah NE Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number:

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation.

Character:

Natural types: Upland forest, seep springs, and dry, gravel knobs of the Cretaceous Hills Section of the Coastal Plain Division.

Geology: Pliocene and Cretaceous gravel deposits overlying Hardinsburg (Mississippian) Sandstone (the sandstone does not crop out).

Soils: Hosmer and Gravelly Soils association

Physiography: Steep-to-rolling hills of coastal plain gravel

Vegetation: Second-growth oak-hickory forests, abandoned old fields, bog-like communities in seep springs.

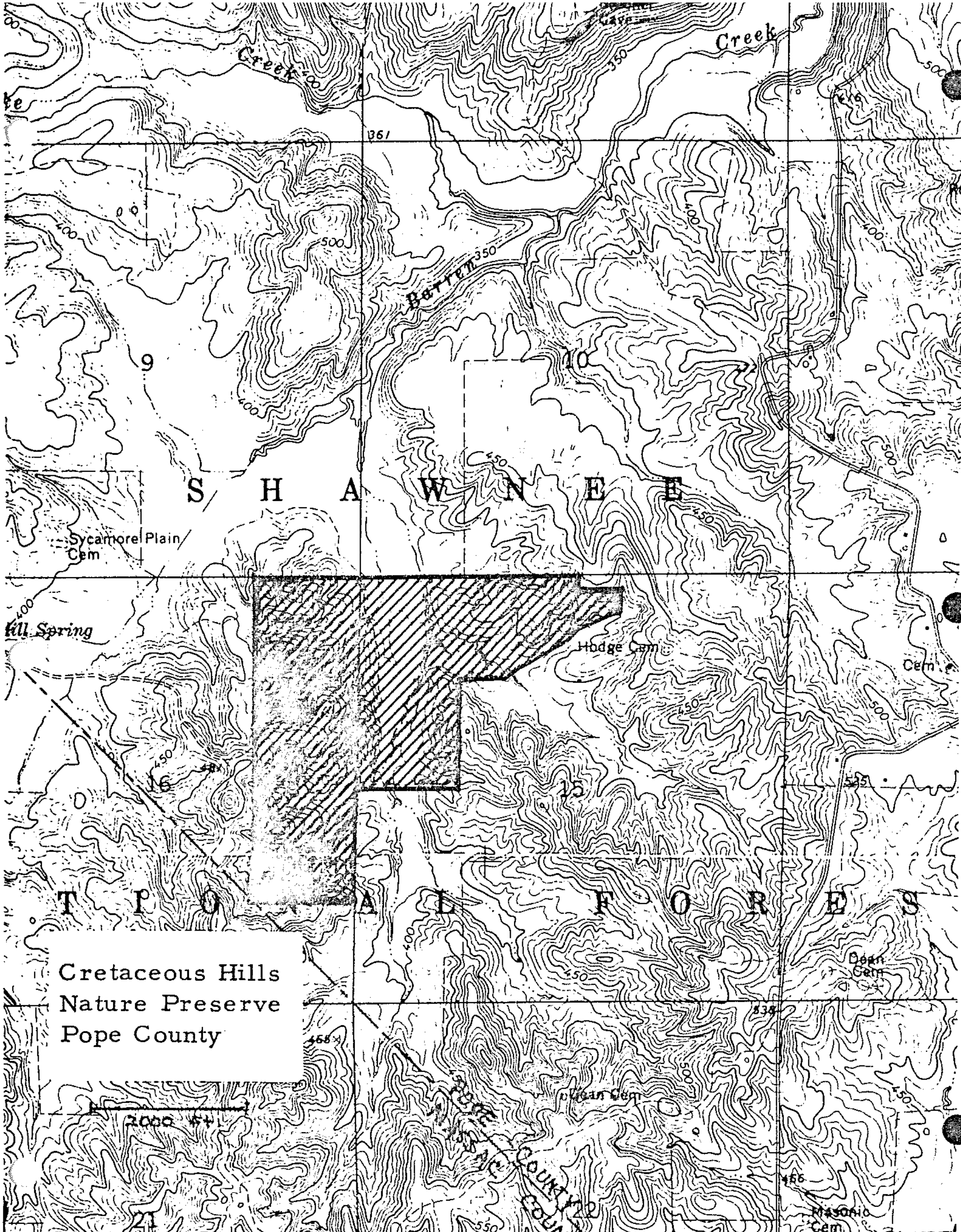
Natural features of special interest:

Rare plants of the acid seep springs include cinnamon fern, marsh fern, royal fern, and undiscovered sedge. Notable plants of the dry woodlands are Hypericum denticulatum, Lechea villosa, and dwarf crested iris.

Bibliography:

Schwegman, John E. 1969. Vegetation of some seep springs in the Cretaceous Hills of southern Illinois. Unpublished master's thesis, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

2/5/71


Cretaceous Hills
Nature Preserve
Pope County
Creek
Creek
Barren
9
10
S H A W N E E
Sycamore Plain
Cem
Hodge Cem
16
15
T I O A L F O R E S
Dean
Cem
Masonic
Cem
21
361
350
400
450
500
550

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Delabar State Park, Henderson County

Size and Location of Natural Area

One 50 acre tract in the east half of the park. Situated in the W½ Sec. 11, T 11 N, R 5 W.

Physical Features

A flat sand terrace representative of the Mississippi River Section of the Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Areas Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

Sand prairie and scrub oak forest are present. Prairie vegetation includes little bluestem, June grass, porcupine grass, cactus, puccoon, bush-clover, spiderwort, lead-plant, and blue larkspur. Forest vegetation consists of an overstory of black oak, blackjack oak, and hickories; with Virginia creeper, poison ivy, grape, and aromatic sumac as common understory plants.

Comments

The best quality prairie occurs along an abandoned railroad bed at the east edge of the area, smaller prairie openings also occur in the adjacent forest. The blue larkspur, known from four counties in Illinois, grows in one locality. The forested portion of the area appears to have been influenced by fire in the past.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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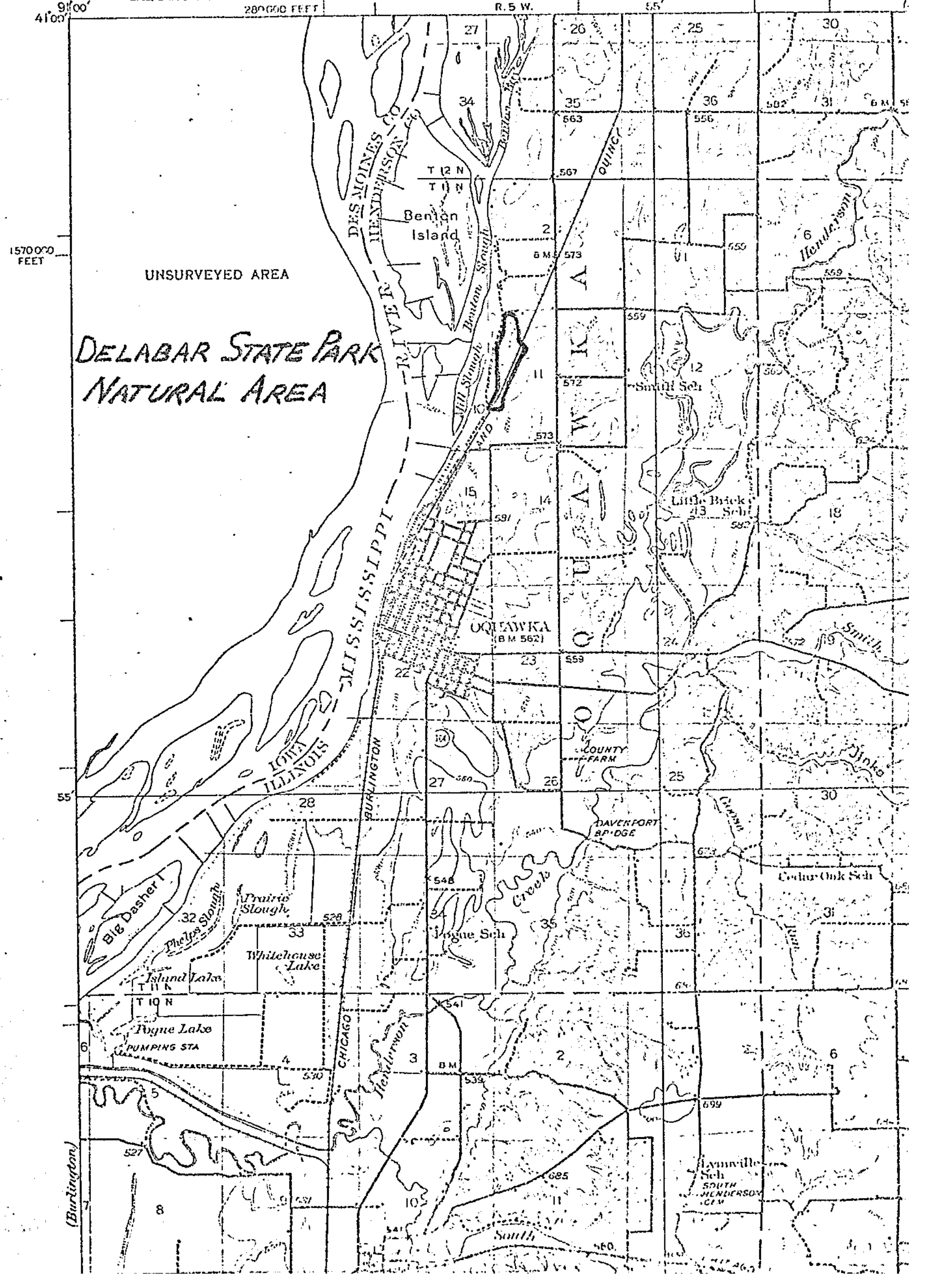

(Wapello)
91°00'
41°00'
280 000 FEET
R. 5 W.
55'
1570 000 FEET
UNSURVEYED AREA
DELABAR STATE PARK
NATURAL AREA
DES MOINES CO
HENDERSON CO
Benton Island
Benton Slough
Mill Slough
T 12 N
T 11 N
MISSISSIPPI
RIVER
IOWA
ILLINOIS
OQUAWKA
(B M 562)
QUINCY
OQUAWKA
Smith Sch
Little Brick Sch
Smith
Henderson
COUNTY FARM
DAVENPORT BRIDGE
Cedar Oak Sch
BURLINGTON
CHICAGO
Big Dasher I
Phelps Slough
Prairie Slough
Whitehouse Lake
Island Lake
Pogue Sch
Creek
T 11 N
T 10 N
Pogue Lake
PUMPING STA
Henderson
Lynnville Sch
SOUTH HENDERSON CEM
South
(Burlington)
55'

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Des Plaines Conservation Area, Will County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 1 of two tracts. A 120 acre tract located adjacent to the east side of Interstate 57, south of Blodgett Road.

Physical Features

Glacial outwash plain of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. Soils are shallow, medium textured sandy loam over limestone bedrock. Topography is generally flat with a low swale at the south end of the area.

Biological Features

Mesic prairie and wet prairie vegetation are present. Wet prairie occupies swales and is dominated by cordgrass and bluejoint grass. On more well drained sites the common grasses are switch grass, Indian grass, big bluestem and little bluestem; associates include compass plant, prairie dock, purple prairie clover, nodding onion, rattlesnake master, sunflower, alum root and grass leaved goldenrod, hawthorns are common at the North end of the tract. Ant mounds are present.

Comments

Although apparently lightly grazed in the past, this tract represents a high quality natural area. The highest quality portions of the tract are in the south half of the area, with hawthorn acting as an invader in the north half. A prescribed burning program should be initiated for the tract.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Des Plaines Conservation Area, Will County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 2 of two tracts. Approximately 5 acres in size and located adjacent to the clay pigeon range. Situated in the N½ N½ SE¼ Sec. 9, T 34 N, R 9 E.

Physical Features

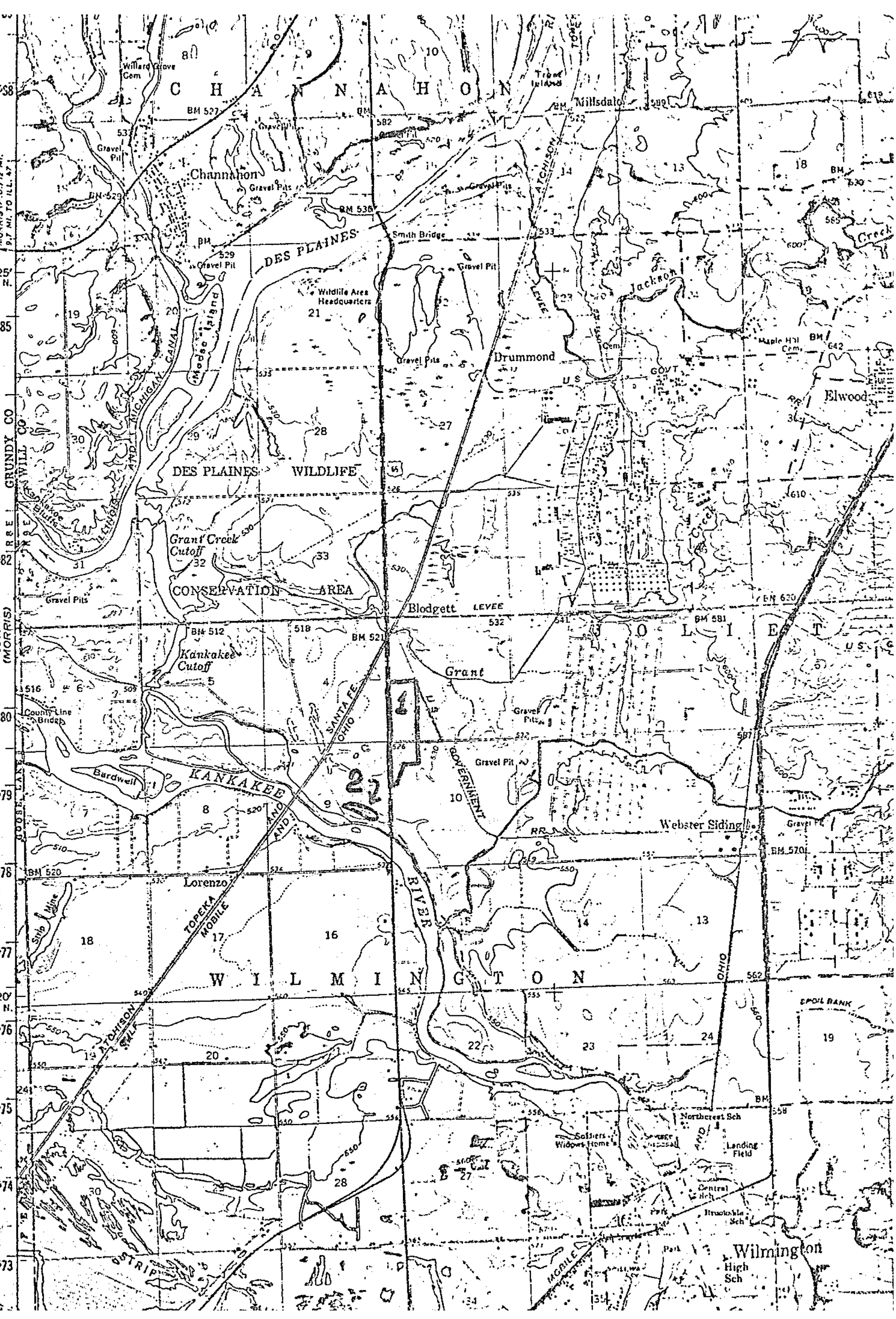
An abandoned, seasonally wet, stream channel with scattered small boulders and outcrops of limestone bedrock. Representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. Soils are thin and composed of sandy loam and limestone residuum.

Biological Features

The area contains a limestone prairie glade community, with common plants including big bluestem, Indian grass, muhly grass, nodding onion, purple prairie clover, showy goldenrod, Illinois mimosa and Indian bush.

Comments

Abandoned fences along the north and west edges of the tract indicate that it may never have been grazed. Muhly grass (Muhlenbergia cuspidata) is considered rare in northern Illinois, occurring only in LaSalle, Kankakee, and Will counties.


C H A N N A H O N
Channahon
Willard Grove Cem
Millsdale
Smith Bridge
DES PLAINES
Moose Island
ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL
Wildlife Area Headquarters
Gravel Pits
Gravel Pit
Drummond
Jackson Creek
Maple Hill Cem
Elwood
U S GOVT RR
GRUNDY CO
WILL CO
DES PLAINES WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION AREA
Grant Creek Cutoff
Blodgett
LEVEE
J O L I E T
Kankakee Cutoff
Grant
County Line Bridge
Bardwell
KANKAKEE
RIVER
SANTA FE
ATCHISON
TOPEKA AND
MOBILE AND OHIO
GOVERNMENT
Webster Siding
Lorenzo
W I L M I N G T O N
SPOIL BANK
Soldiers Widows Home
Northcrest Sch
Landing Field
Central Sch
Wilmington
High Sch
T. 34 N.
T. 33 N.
3366 IV (MORRIS)

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Dixon State School, Lee County

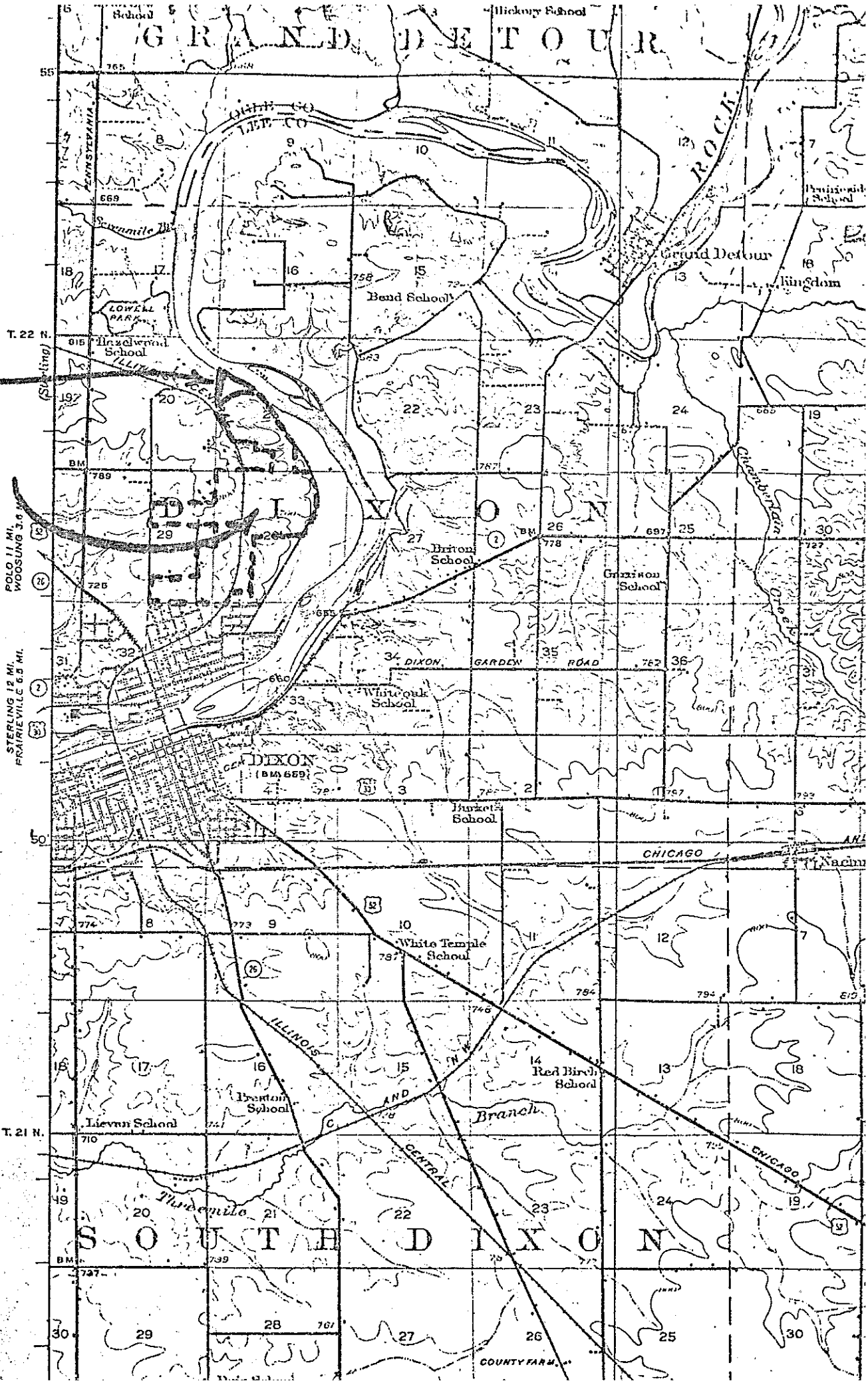
Comments

Although this property is not yet completely inventoried, examination of aerial photographs shows a possible forested natural area at the extreme north portion of the property adjacent to the Rock River.

This property is expected to be inventoried in 1975.

possiple natural area

DIXON STATE SCHOOL



Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Douglas County State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Douglas County State Park, one of two natural areas. Approximately 15 acres in size and located east of the lake. Situated in the SE¼ Sec. 36, T15N, R10E. Area number 1.

Physical Features

Forested upland representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. A relatively flat upland surrounded on three sides by Lake Douglas. The site is located at the edge of the Arcola Moraine with soils developed in deep loess over glacial outwash.

Biological Features

The site supports a rich second growth forest community with red oak, white oak, black oak, and sugar maple as the dominant tree. Basswood white ash, black cherry and several species of hickory are also present. Ironwood, redbud, sassafras, red elm, blue beech, black haw, hazel and gooseberry are among the shrubs present. Herbaceous species noted include twayblade orchid, baneberry, bloodroot, wild geranium and rattlesnake fern. Poison ivy and virginia creeper are abundant.

Comments

This area represents the best natural community of any of the forested tracts adjacent to the lake. Although the tract has been logged, many mature trees remain and the second growth timber is returning to a stable situation with relatively few smaller size class trees present. Putty root and yellow lady slipper orchids are reported from the area.

Disturbances have included logging (many large stumps are present) and road construction.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Douglas County State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Douglas County State Park, one of two areas, approximately 50 acres in size and located west of the dam adjacent to the Embarras River. In the NW¼ Sec. 1, T15N, R10E. Area number 2.

Physical Features

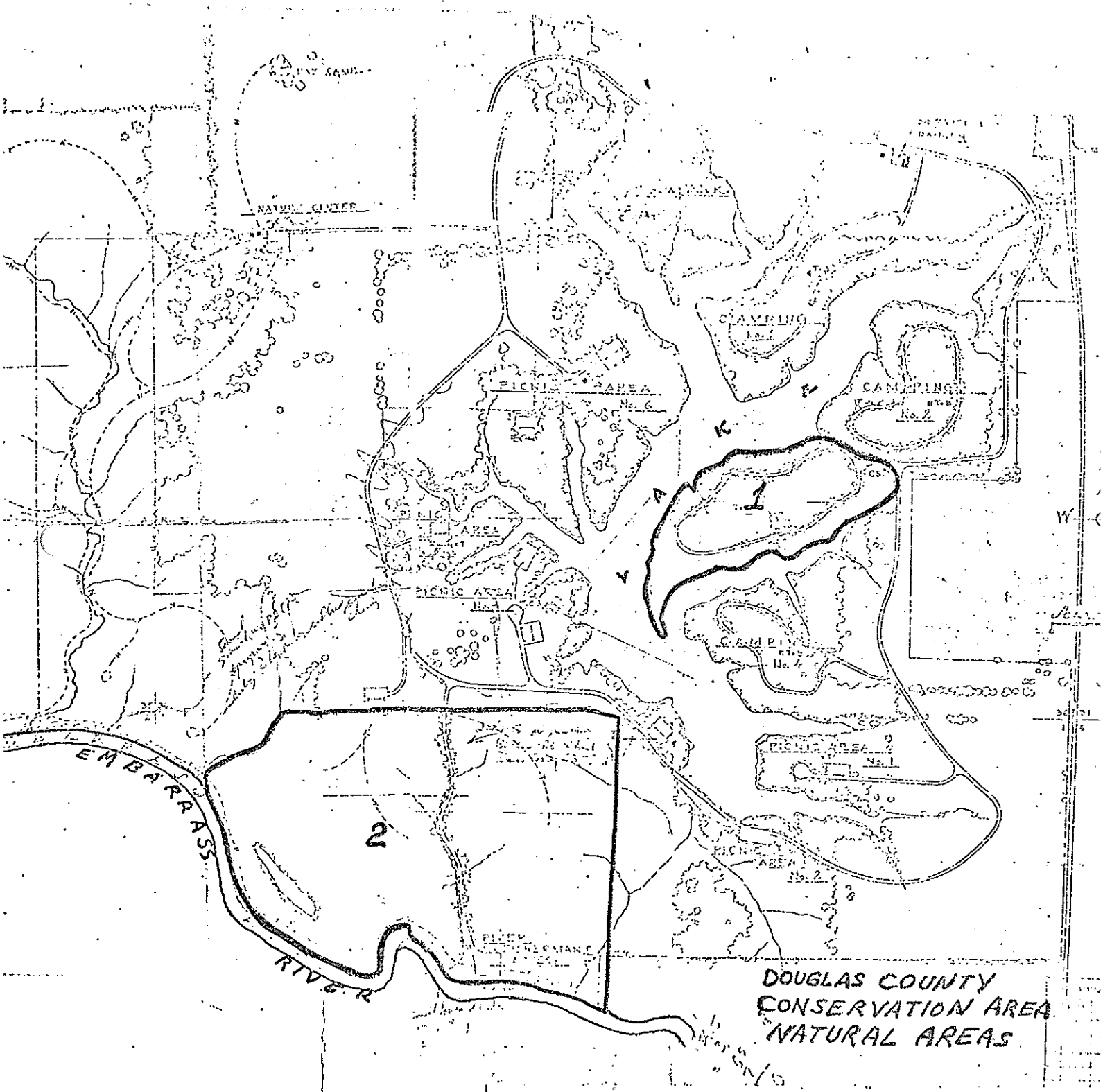
Upland and floodplain forest of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract is located at the base of the Arcola Moraine, soils are developed in loess over outwash material and in alluvium along the river floodplain.

Biological Features

A black oak-white oak-red oak forest with occasional sugar maple, shagbark hickory, walnut and black cherry is present on the uplands; silvermaple, sycamore, cottonwood, and swamp white oak are present in the river floodplain forest.

Comments

The northeast portion of this tract contains large mature trees that approach old growth conditions, elsewhere the timber is second growth in character. The presence of both upland and floodplain forest add diversity to the tract.


NATURE CENTER
CAMPING
No. 2
PICNIC AREA
No. 6
PARK
1
PICNIC AREA
No. 5
PICNIC AREA
No. 4
CAMPING
No. 4
PICNIC AREA
No. 1
PICNIC AREA
No. 2
2
EMBARRASS
RIVER
DOUGLAS COUNTY
CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREAS

EASTON PRAIRIE - Winnebago County.

Location:

One mile north of Rockford on Illinois Route 173.

Portions of Secs. 32 and 33, T 45 N, R 2 E, 3 PM and Sec. 5, T 44 N, R 2 E, 3 PM.

Rockford Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number: BXL-1EE-41 5/21/64

Character:

Natural types: Gravel hill prairie of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Geology: Wisconsinan glacial drift over Ordovician dolomite.

Soils: Gravel.

Physiography: River bluff eroded in a till plain.

Vegetation: Dry upland prairie dominated by little bluestem and sideoats grama in the higher areas and with a wide variety of secondary species.

Aquatic environments: None

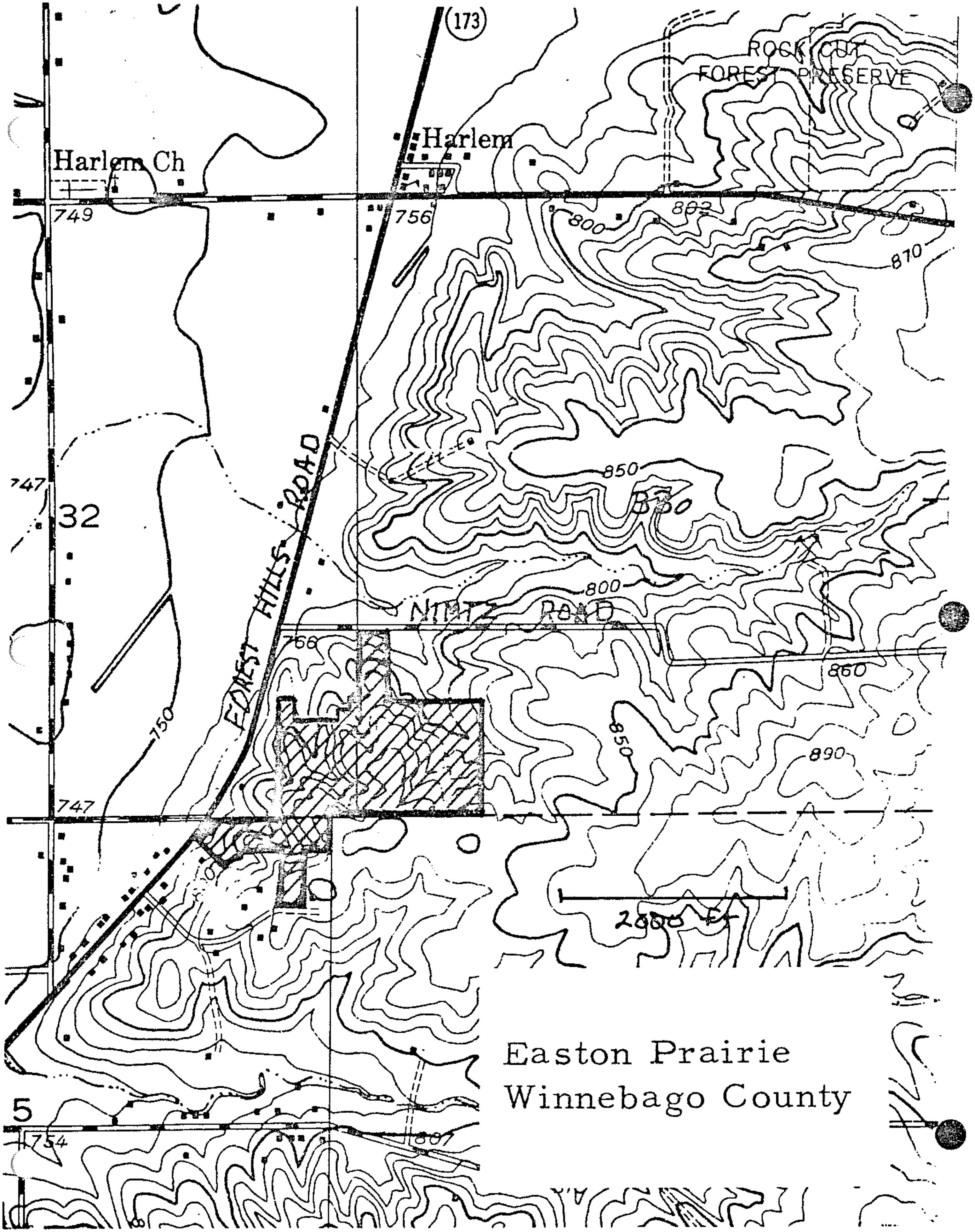
Natural features of special interest:

The spring displays of pasque flower and shooting star are notable. The rare Ranunculus rhomboideus occurs here.

History of preservation:

This prairie was used for grazing more than 25 years ago. Other than that, the area is essentially undisturbed by man.

2/8/71



Easton Prairie
Winnebago County

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Ferne Clyffe State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Ferne Clyffe State Park, Johnson County. Four tracts including Happy Hollow, a tract west of the park road near the east entrance, and two tracts along the north edge of the park boundary. Totaling approximately 240 acres and including portions of the S½ and E½ Sec. 28, N½ N½ Sec. 33, W½ NE¼ Sec. 27, SW¼ Sec. 22, and SE¼ Sec. 21, all in T 11 S, R 2 E.

Physical Features

Blufftop, upland, and ravine forest, bedrock outcrops, and permanent stream of the greater Shawnee Hills Section of the Shawnee Hills Natural Division of Illinois. The topography consists of rock bluffs and deep ravines eroded into Pennsylvanian Sandstones.

Biological Features

An oak-hickoryforest is typical of upland situations with communities of blackjack oak, red cedar, prickly pear, and American aloe in upland areas of bedrock outcrops. American beech, tulip tree, and sugar maple are dominant in the forested ravines. The stream in Happy Hollow supports a permanent fish population.

Comments

The sandstone ravines support a rich flora with many uncommon plants. The rare stripetail darter occurs in the stream in Happy Hollow and some old field habitats have the uncommon Bachman's sparrow.

A small tract in the southeast corner of the park is dedicated as an Illinois Nature Preserve.

3159 II SE
(LICK CREEK)
1.8 MI. TO INTERSTATE 57
Goreville
G O R E V I L L E
Dry
BM 650
Howard Cem
Busby Ch
Cem
BM 749
FERNE CLYFFE STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
Nature Preserve
Happy
Hollow
4157
2'30"
4156
4155
4154
310 000
FEET
T. 11 S
EASTERN
ILLINOIS
AND
QUINCY

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Fort Creve Coeur State Park, Tazewell County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Approximately two acres in size and located at the extreme southwest corner of the park at the end of an unpaved road. Situated in the southwest part of Sec. 1, T 25 N, R 5 W.

Physical Features

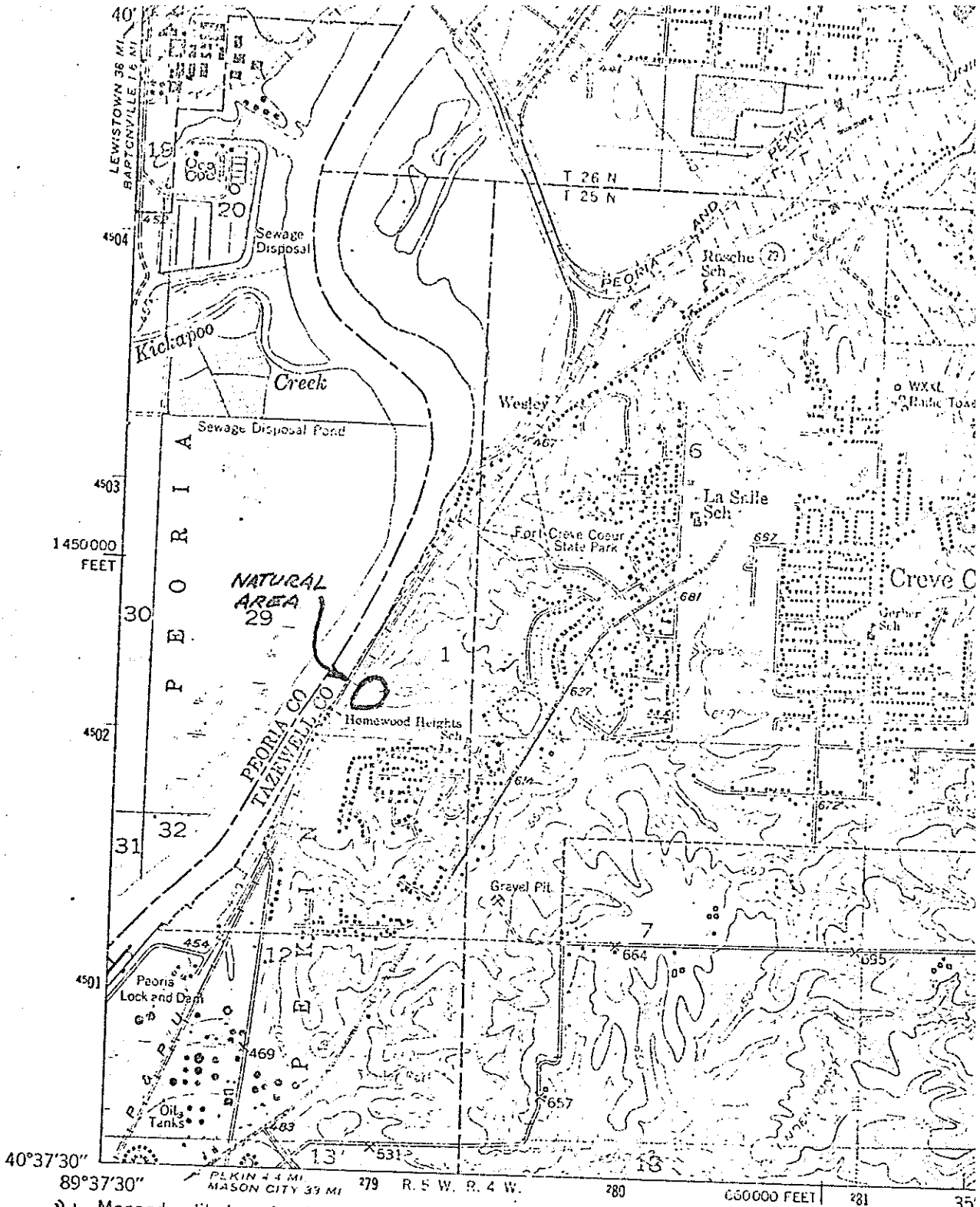
Bluffs of the Illinois River representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The river bluff is composed of Wisconsinan aged glacial till near the western limit of Wisconsinan glaciation. Slopes are very steep and soils are developed in loess over gravel loam which outcrops frequently.

Biological Features

Dry upland prairie occupies the steepest slopes with southwestern exposure. The common grasses include big and little bluestem, Indian grass, side oats grama grass and wild rye. A good assemblage of prairie forbs is present, including butterfly weed, purple prairie clover, white prairie clover, western sunflower, scurf pea, several species of aster, golden rod, and blazing star. Dry forest vegetation of chinkapin oak, white oak, black oak, and smooth sumac occurs along the edges of the prairie.

Comments

The upper portions of the prairie are weedy with white sweet clover and blue grass, and an eroded trail occurs on the ridge crest. Lower portions are in excellent natural quality.



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1946 and planetable surveys 1948–49

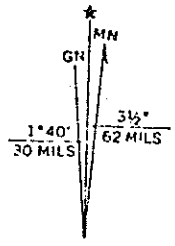
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Illinois coordinate system, west zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

Dashed light-blue pattern indicates area subject to infrequent inundation above Fondulac Dam

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1967. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



UTM GRID AND 1967 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

Natural Area Inventory of Department Properties
Fort Kaskaskia State Park, Randolph County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Fort Kaskasikia State Park, one tract located adjacent to the north park boundary. Approximately forty acres in size and situated in the SW¼ Sec. 30, T 6 N, R 7 W.

Physical Features

Forested ravines representative of the Northern Section of the Ozark Natural Division of Illinois. The tract includes the steep south slopes and side branches of a large ravine eroded into the bluff of the Mississippi River. The soils are developed in deep loess, and sandstone bedrock is present in the form of large boulders and outcrops along an intermittent stream in the main ravine bottom.

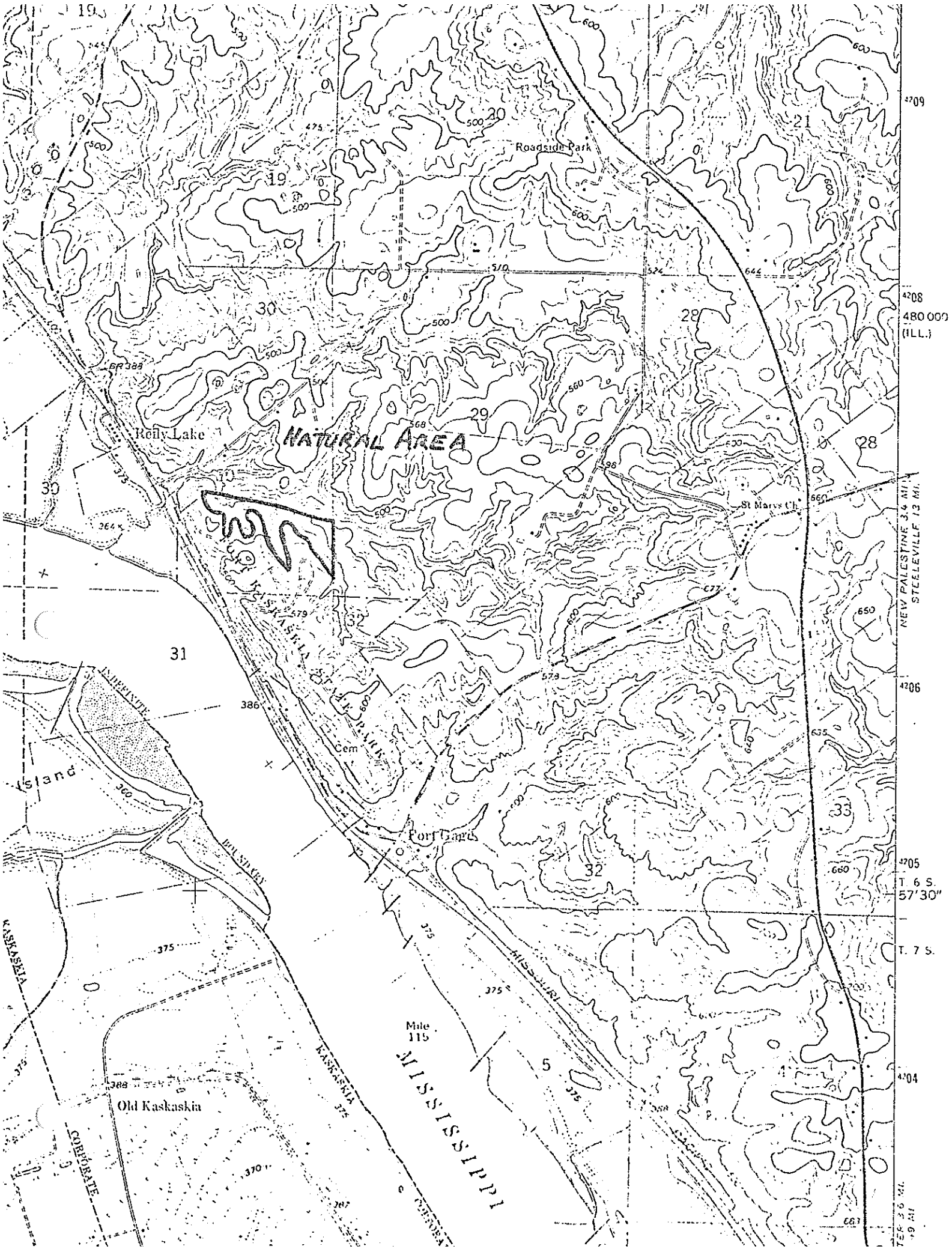
Biological Features

White oak, red oak, and sugar maple are characteristic of the overstory on slopes and in side ravines, black oak is present on the higher slopes and ridgetops, while ash and sycamore occur in association with sugar maple in the ravine bottom. Common woody plants in the understory include red elm, blue beech, hazel, ironwood, and flowering dogwood. A number of ferns including the uncommon silvery spleenwort occur in the area, and pennywort, goldenseal, and Wiester's coralroot orchid are among the notable herbaceous plants present.

Comments

The entire tract is second growth, however the forest understory appears to be largely in natural condition and the larger overstory trees reach two feet in diameter. Pennywort (Obolaria virginica) occurs here at the northern limit of its range in Illinois.

Erosion is evident on some steep slopes and in side ravines, and trash has been dumped in the ravine near the east edge of the area.


Roadside Park
Reily Lake
NATURAL AREA
St Marys Ch
Island
Fort Gage
Old Kaskaskia
MISSISSIPPI
Mile 115
4209
4208
480 000 (ILL.)
4206
4205
T. 6 S.
57'30"
T. 7 S.
4204
NEW PALESTINE 3.4 MI.
STEELEVILLE 1.2 MI.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Fort Massac State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Fort Massac State Park, Massac County. One of three natural areas in the park, located along the east side of Massac Creek, approximately 52 acres. Situated in the E½ Sec. 7, T 16 S, R 5 E. Tract number 1 on map.

Physical Features

Riverbank, floodplain, swamp, and terrace forest communities, and permanent stream of the Bottomlands Section of the coastal Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The topography consists of a sloping upland pleistocene aged river terrace which fronts on the Ohio River. A flood plain extends into the area along Massac Creek and its old meanders.

Biological Features

The river bank community consists of a border of black willow along the water's edge, with cottonwood, sycamore and silver maple predominating on higher ground; swamp privet, hedge apple; and southern dewberry are present in the understory. Along Massac Creek is a floodplain forest of silver maple, ash, elm, sycamore, and pin oak; while a swamp community of bald cypress, black willow, water elm, and button bush exists in an old meander of the creek. On higher ground is a low woods of overcup oak water hickory, and pecan; this grades into a rich mesic woods on higher slopes with red oak, white oak, hickory, elm, hackberry, catalpa, and white basswood present. On the highest flat terraces is a poorly developed flatwoods habitat of pin oak, southern red oak, and black oak.

Comments

This small area is extremely diverse, and of good natural quality, it contains all of the natural plant communities known in the park. In addition the tract contains several rare plants including southern dewberry, water elm white basswood, wafer ash, Dicliptera brachiata, and Astragalus canadensis.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Fort Massac State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Fort Massac State Park, Massac County, one of three natural areas in the park. Approximately 140 acres and located north of the I.C. Railroad and east of Interstate 24. Situated in the NE¼ Sec. 8, and the SE¼ Sec. 5, T 16 S, R 5 E. Tract number 2 on map.

Physical Features

Flatwoods of the Bottomlands Section of the Coastal Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The topography consists of a flat and relatively high pleistocence aged river terrace of the Ohio River. The soils are very poor clay hardpan and are not subjected to flooding.

Biological Features

The area supports a typical flatwoods forest community of pin oak, black oak, swamp white oak, and shagbark hickory. Viburnum recognitum is one of the few shrubs present, some of the herbaceous species present are smooth phlox, iron weed, mountain mint, reed grass, and ground nut. The crayfish frog, one of the typical animals of the flatwoods environment, is present.

Comments

The flatwoods habitat of Massac County is well known among botanists as the area where willow oak grows in Illinois. Willow oak has not been observed in this site, however the inventory work was completed in the winter and many tree species could have been overlooked. The natural quality of this area combined with the possible presence of willow oak makes this an interesting natural area.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Fort Massac State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Fort Massac State Park, Massac County. One of three natural areas in the park, located between Interstate 24 and the mouth of Seven Mile Creek. Approximately 20 acres in size and situated in the E½ Sec. 8, T 16 S, R 5 E. Tract number 3 on map.

Physical Features

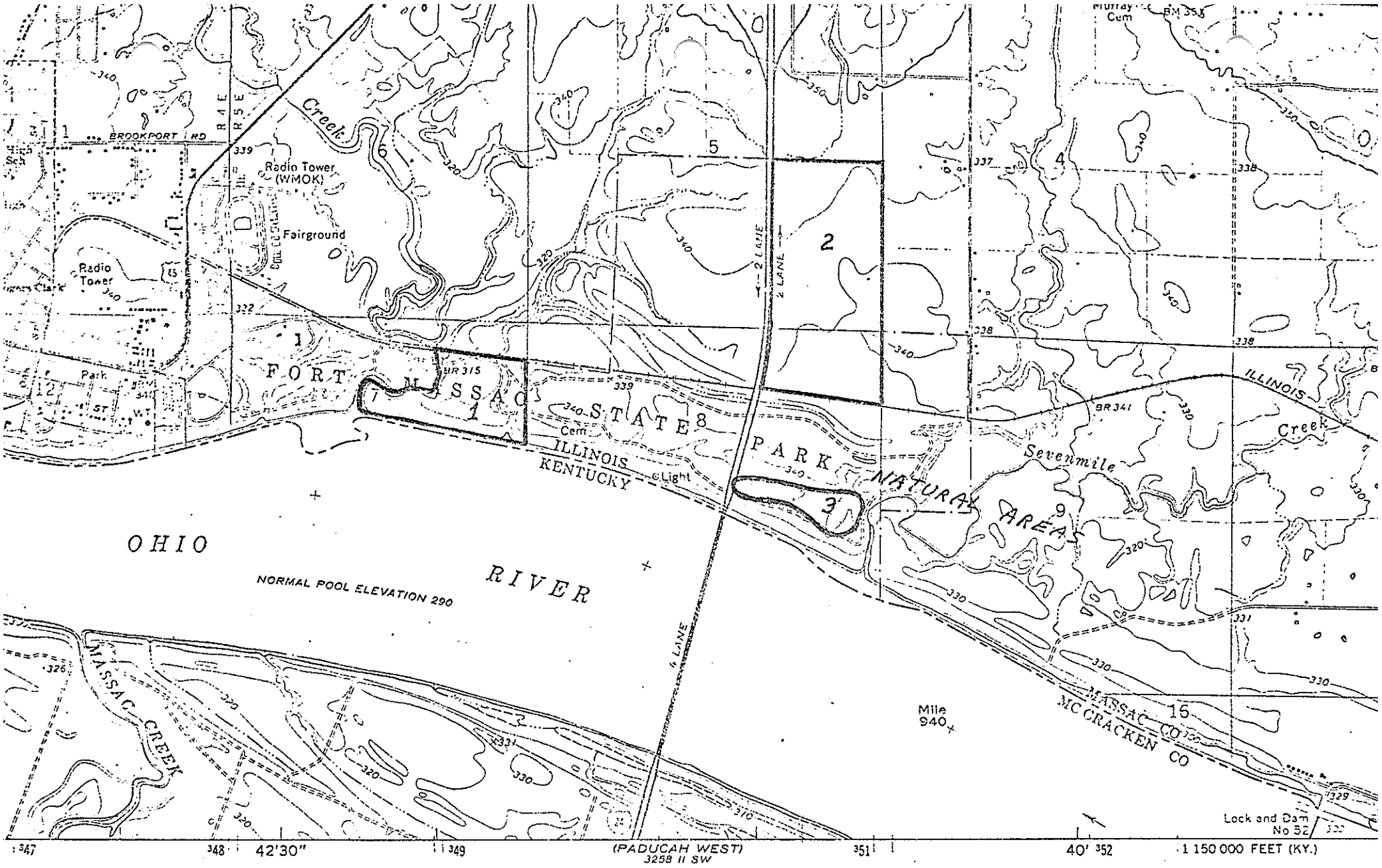
Swamp Forest of the Bottomlands Section of the Coastal Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The areas consist of two small depressions in the river terrace deposits of the Ohio River.

Biological Features

These swampy depressions contain a lowland swamp forest with bald cypress, overcup oak, swamp white oak, water elm, and swamp cottonwood

Comments

Although small, this area contains a good quality swamp forest and, as a special feature, it contains one of the largest specimens in the state of the rare water elm.



SCALE 1:24000

1 MILE

7000 FEET

1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET

DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

MN

GN

1°01' 18 MILS

4° 71 MILS

ky area

aphy

ILLINOIS

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Fox Ridge State Park, Coles County

Size and Location of Natural Area

A 200 acre tract including most of the park property south of the campground road. Located in Sec. 13, T 11 N, R 9 E.

Physical Features

River bluff and ravine system of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract consists of a bluff along the Embarras River and a major ravine system draining into the Embarras, it is located on the Shelbyville Moraine near the southern limit of Wisconsinan glaciation in Illinois.

Biological Features

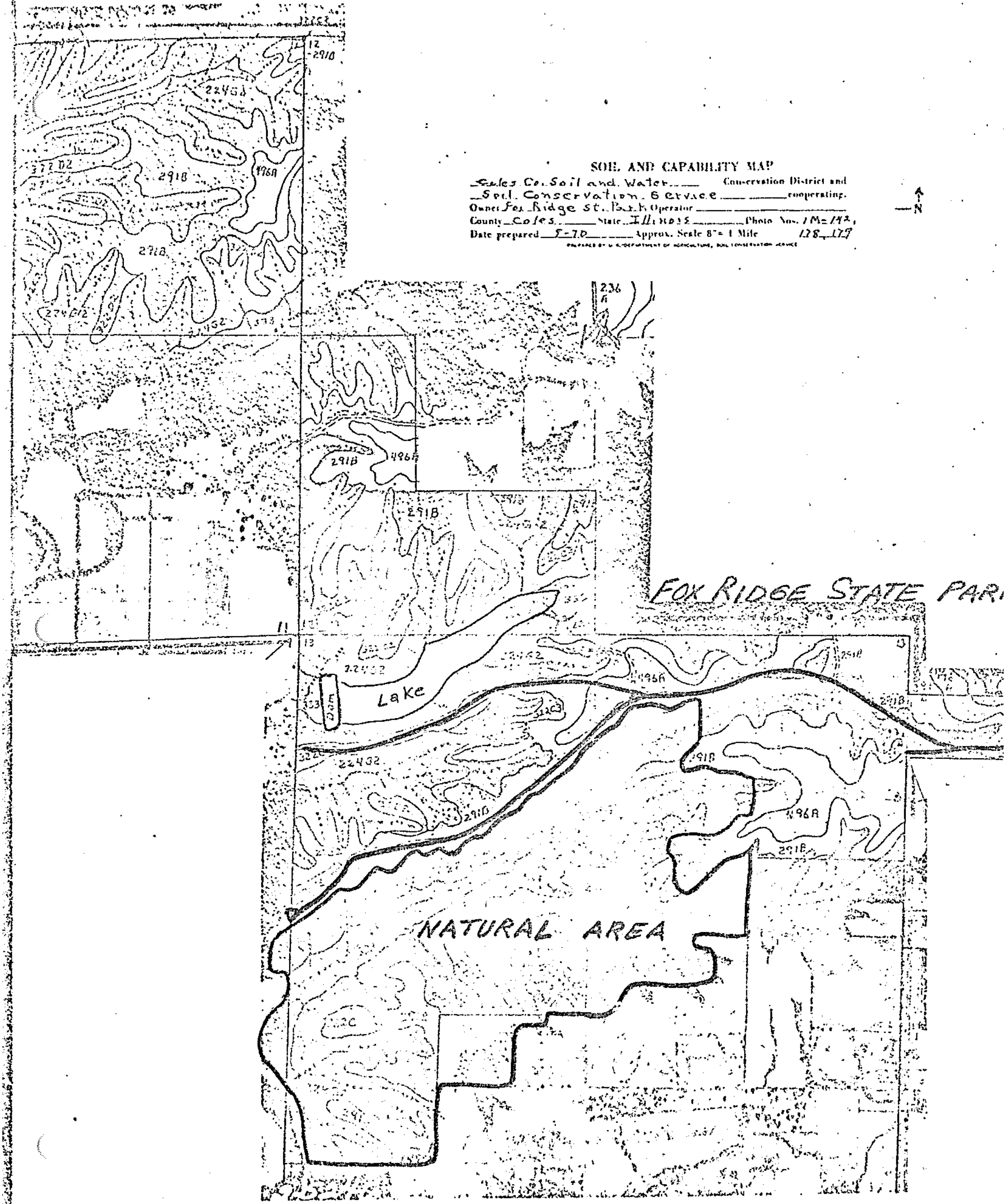
Dry upland forest and mesic ravine forest communities are present. White oak and black oak are the main components of the dry upland forest, American columbo is present in the understory. Mesic ravine forest includes bitternut hickory, red oak, sugar maple, and chinkapin oak on slopes, with hackberry, red elm, walnut and sycamore as associates in ravine bottoms. A rich assemblege of woody and herbaceous species is present, including witch hazel, flowering dogwood, spicebush, paw paw, blue beech, silvery spleenwort fern, broad beech fern, showy orchis, Veratrum woodii, and Monarda clinopodia.

Comments

Although the forest is second growth, the tract is a valuable natural area due to the presence of a rich mesic forest community, and the size and diversity of the area, featuring a large ravine system and frontage on the Embarras River.

SOIL AND CAPABILITY MAP

Coles Co. Soil and Water Conservation District and
Soil Conservation Service cooperating.
Owner Fox Ridge St. Park Operator
County Coles State Illinois Photo Nos. 1M-142, 128-177
Date prepared 5-70 Approx. Scale 8" = 1 Mile



FRANKLIN CREEK NATURE PRESERVE - Lee County.

Location:

One mile west of Franklin Grove, north and west of U. S. Alt. 30.
Part of SW 1/4 Sec. 34, T 22 N, R 10 E, 4 PM.
Dixon Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph numbers: BWZ-2EE-80 6/24/64, BWZ-4V-19 5/6/58

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation

Note: Within the proposed project boundary are additional natural areas not yet dedicated as nature preserve. As land acquisition proceeds, these areas will be identified.

Character:

Natural types: Upland forests and ravine forests, permanent stream, and bedrock outcrops of the Oregon Section of the Rock River Hill Country Division.

Geology: New Richmond Sandstone (Ordovician), Shakopee formation (Ordovician), and St. Peter sandstone (Ordovician) with many good outcrops and exposures up to 80 feet thick.

Soils: The upland soils are developed from loess and some soils on slopes from Wisconsinan till.

Physiography: A deep ravine eroded in bedrock in a region of relatively thin Wisconsinan glacial drift deposits.

Vegetation: Mature forests of white oak on uplands and sugar maple in ravines.

Aquatic environments: Permanent small stream and many springs.

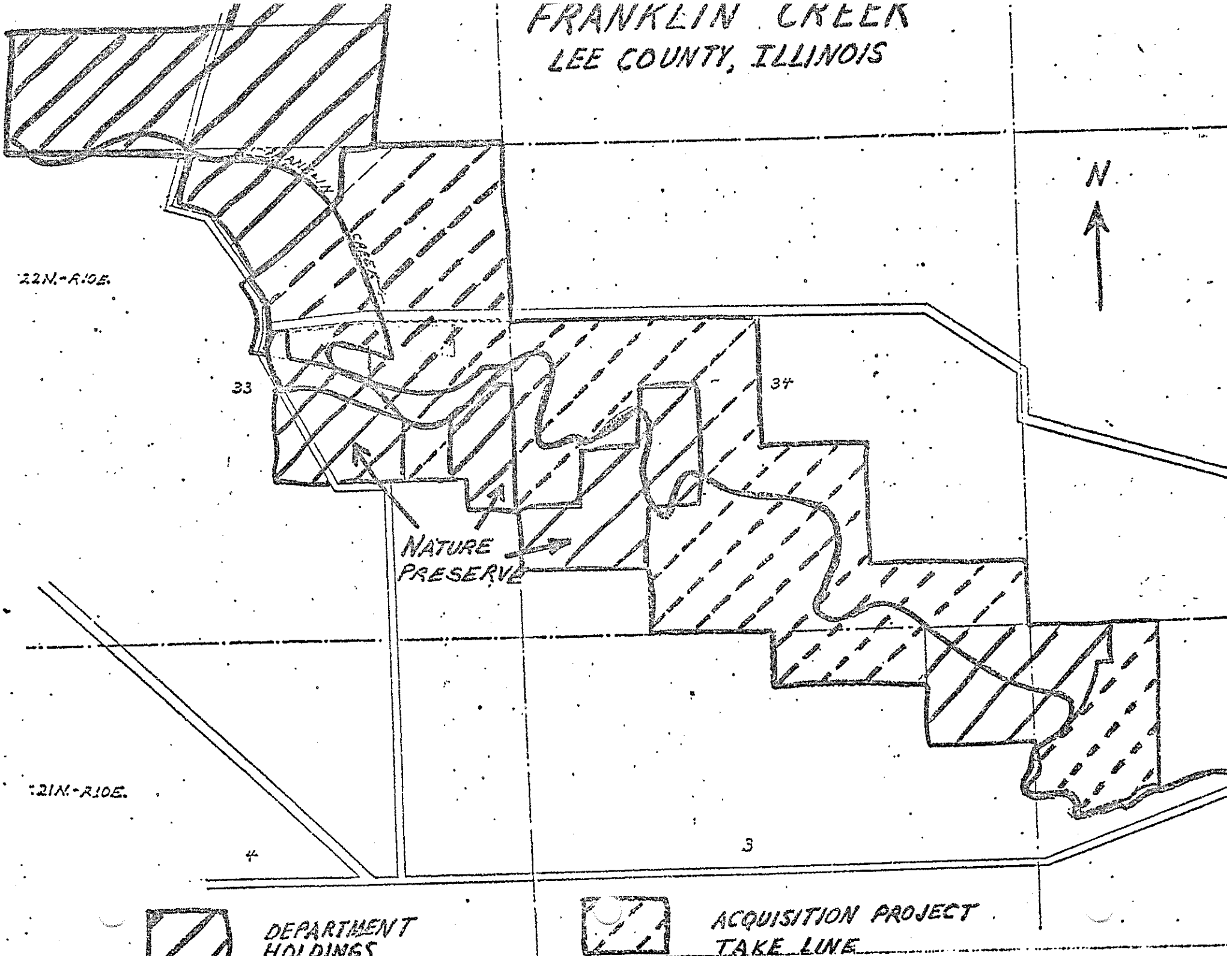
Natural features of special interest:

The New Richmond sandstone is the oldest rock formation exposed anywhere in the State. At places along the creek, cliffs rise 50 to 80 feet. The creek bottom is sheltered from north and west winds and provides a relatively mild situation where paw paw is found, here at the northern limit of its distribution. The cliffs and hillsides have many copious springs.

History of preservation:

The land for the original preserve was dedicated and given to the State by Mrs. William Knox of Franklin Grove.

2/5/71


FRANKLIN CREEK
LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
N
22N.-R.10E.
21N.-R.10E.
33
34
4
3
NATURE PRESERVE
DEPARTMENT HOLDINGS
ACQUISITION PROJECT TAKE LINE

FULTS HILL PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE - Monroe County.

Location:

About 1 mile east of the village of Fults, which is about 25 miles south of Belleville.

Portions of the Renault Grant and of the W 1/2 Sec. 21, T 4 S, R 10 W, 3 PM.

Renault Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number: SL-1JJ-145 9/2/68

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation

Character:

Natural types: Ravine forest, upland forest, hill prairie, river bluffs, bedrock outcrops, intermittent streams, and sinkhole ponds of the Northern Section of the Ozark Division; and prairie marsh of the Northern Section of the Lower Mississippi River Bottomlands Division.

Geology: St. Louis limestone.

Soils: Stookey-Alford-Muren association on uplands and alluvial soils in the river bottom.

Physiography: Eroded karst plain and sheer river bluffs on the east edge of the Ozark uplift and floodplain of the Mississippi River.

Vegetation: Second-growth upland and ravine forests, hill prairie, and river bottom prairie marsh.

Aquatic environments: Marsh, sinkhole ponds, springs, intermittent stream.

Natural features of special interest:

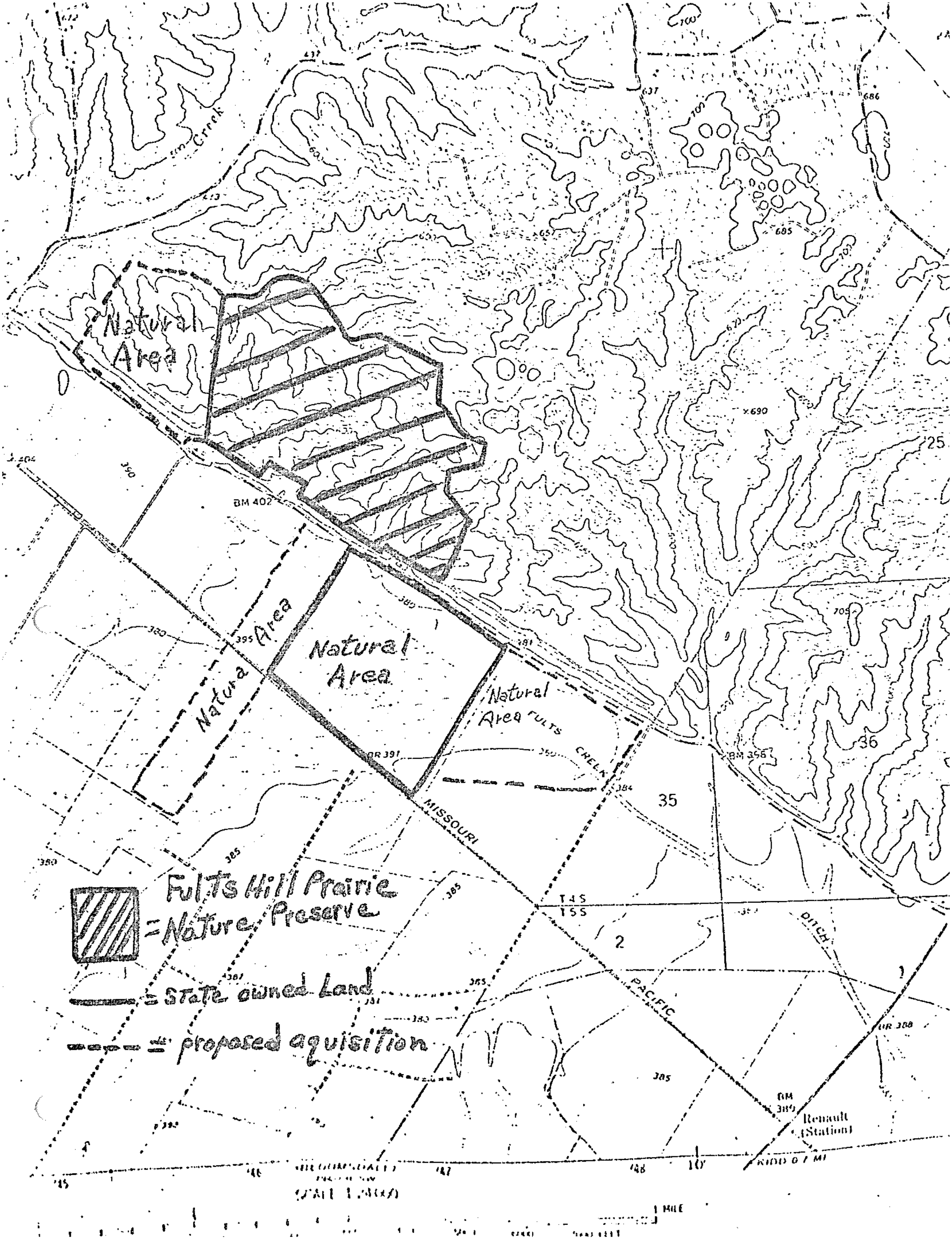
The following rare and unusual plants and animals are found on the bluffs and prairie: Rudbeckia missouriensis, Galium virgatum, Heliotropium tenellum; plains scorpion, coachwhip snake, flat-headed snake, Great Plains rat snake, and narrow-mouthed toad.

Bibliography:

Evers, R. A. 1955. Hill prairies of Illinois. Bull. Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. 26 (5):367-446.

Ozment, J. E. 1967. The vegetation of limestone ledges of southern Illinois. Trans. Ill. St. Acad. Sci. 60:135-173.

2/5/71


Natural Area
Natural Area
Natural Area
Natural Area
Natura Area
FULTS CREEK
MISSOURI
PACIFIC
DITCH
BM 402
BM 396
35
36
25
2
Renault (Station)
Fults Hill Prairie = Nature Preserve
= State owned Land
= proposed aquisition

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Giant City State Park, Jackson County

Size and Location of Natural Areas

Giant City State Park, three tracts, 70 acres, 1 acre, and 10 acres in size. The larger tract is located south of Makanda in the SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 27, and the NW¼ NW¼ Sec. 34, T 10 S, R 1 W. The 1 acre tract is in the center of the SW¼ Sec. 34, adjacent to the west side of the park road. The 10 acre tract is located in the center of the N½ Sec. 2, T 11 S, R 1 W.

Physical Features

Upland forest representative of the greater Shawnee Hills Section of the Shawnee Hills Natural Division of Illinois. The larger site is situated on the west slope of a 200 foot bluff; it includes a large ravine containing an intermittent stream and waterfall. Sandstone outcrops occur along the bluff top and in the ravine. The 1 acre and 10 acre tracts are situated on east facing ravine slopes.

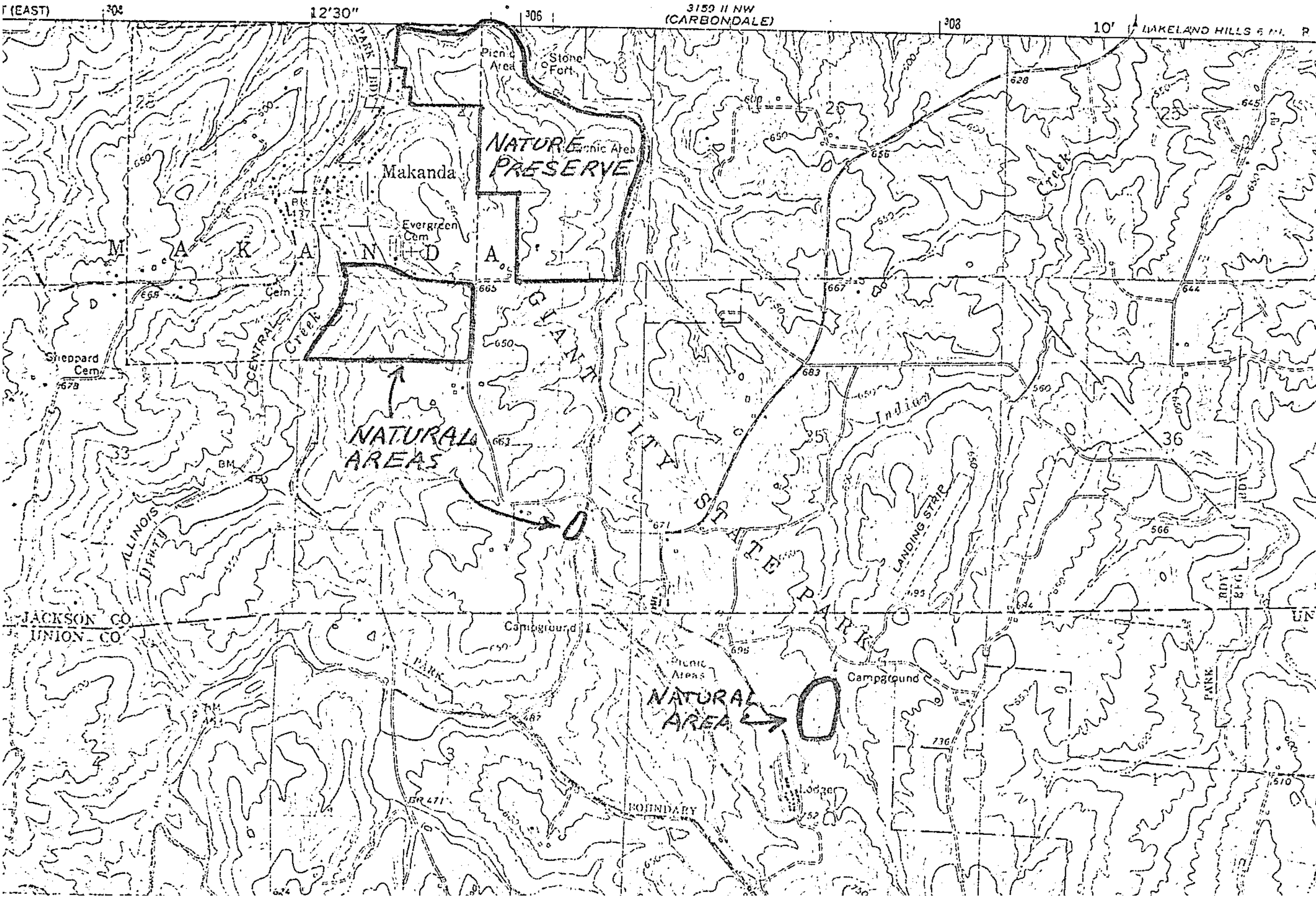
Biological Features

The sites support a typical white oak forest, parts of which are old-growth in character. The larger tract is diverse with black oak, post oak, scarlet oak and blackjack oak on slopes with a dry southern exposure, and red oak and tulip tree in more mesic situations. Ironwood, flowering dogwood, black gum, mockernut hickory, low bush blueberry and farkleberry are also present.

Comments

The 1 acre tract is entirely old-growth timber while the larger tract contains about ten acres in similar conditions. The presence of old-growth timber and the diversity of the 70 acre tract make it a high quality natural area. The 10 acre tract is the only Illinois locality for the Trillium, Trillium cuneatum.

Also present in the park is the Fern Rocks Nature Preserve; its location is indicated on the map.



T (EAST)
12'30"
3159 II NW
(CARBONDALE)
10'
LAKELAND HILLS 6 MI.
R 1 W.
NATURE PRESERVE
Picnic Area
Stone Fort
Makanda
Evergreen Cem
M A K A N D A
GIANT CITY STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
NATURAL AREA
Sheppard Cem
CENTRAL
Creek
ILLINOIS
Indian
LANDING STRIP
Campground
Picnic Areas
Lodge
BOUNDARY
PARK
JACKSON CO
UNION CO

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Goose Lake Prairie State Park, Grundy County

Size and Location of Natural Areas

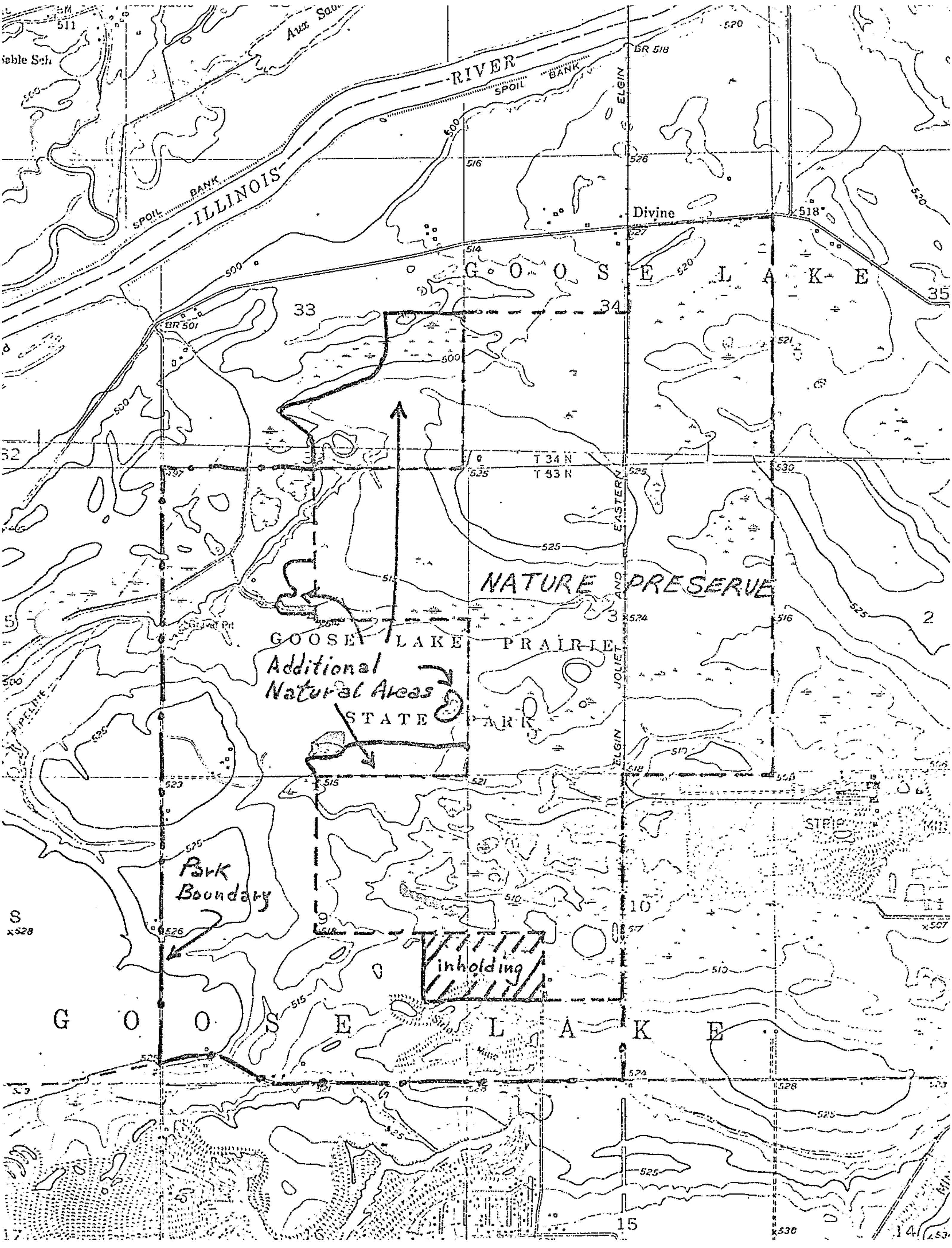
Four tracts totaling approximately 160 acres and all located adjacent to the west side of the nature preserve. A 100 acre tract situated in the SE¼ Sec. 33, T 34 N, R 8 E, and the remaining tracts in Sec. 4, T 33 N, R 8 E.

Features

The tracts contain dry upland, mesic, and wet prairie, and prairie sloughs and potholes representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois.

Comments

The tract in Section 33 is currently under acquisition. This area contains peat soils in low depressions and a pond with pickerel weed, neither of which are represented in the nature preserve.


ILLINOIS RIVER
SPOIL BANK
Divine
GOOSE LAKE
T 34 N
T 33 N
NATURE PRESERVE
GOOSE LAKE PRAIRIE STATE PARK
Additional Natural Areas
ELGIN JOLIET AND EASTERN
Park Boundary
inholding
GOOSE LAKE
STRIP
Gravel Pit

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Green River Conservation Area, Lee County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Four natural areas are present: Tract 1 in the W½ Sec. 17, T19N, R9E, approximately 240 acres; Tract 2 in the S½ Sec. 7, N½ Sec. 18, T19N, R9E, and the SE¼ Sec. 12, N 3/4 S, T19N, R8E, approximately 420 acres; Tract 3 in the N½ SW¼ Sec. 8, T19N, R9E, approximately 50 acres; and Tract 4 in the center of the S½ Sec. 18, T19N, R9E, approximately 15 acres.

Physical Features

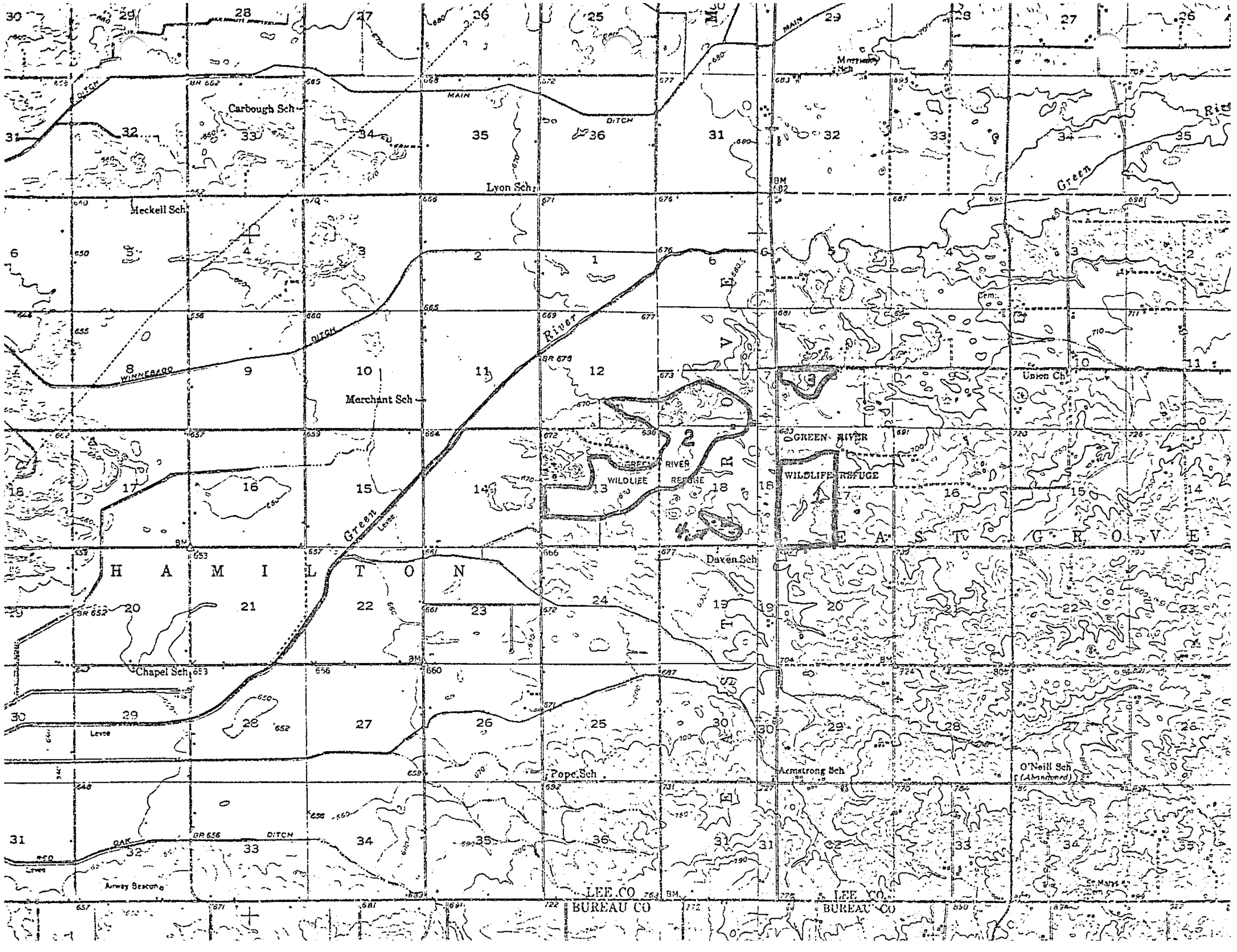
The tracts represent sand dunes, level outwash plain, sloughs, and pond representative of the Green River Lowlands Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

Tract 1 includes mesic prairie vegetation with big bluestem, little bluestem, Indian grass, cordgrass, compass plant, feverfew, ladies tresses orchid, and closed gentian. About half of this area appears to have been disturbed by plowing or grazing in the past but it is now returning to prairie with elements of the native prairie invading the disturbed sites from adjacent natural sites. Tract 2 is largely wet prairie and slough with bluejoint grass, bulrushes, cattails, giant waterdock, and willow thickets. Some dunes with sand prairie vegetation, little bluestem, goat's rue, coreopsis, purple prairie clover, lead plant, and broomrape, occur at the north end of the tract. Tract 3 is a stunted scrub oak forest dominated by black oak. Tract 4 is a natural pond bordered by slough vegetation. Henslow's sparrow and shortbilled marsh wren are nesting species, and the common snipe, long eared owl, and short eared owl occur on the conservation area. The prairie chicken was once present.

Comments

Tract 1 is an important area due to the presence of mesic prairie. Tract 2 is significant due to its large size and lack of disturbance, including only drainage ditch and duck pond construction. Tract 3 is the only extensive oak forest on the area. Tract 4 is the only known natural pond, and is used by migrating waterfowl.


HAMILTON
EAST GROVE
Green River
MAIN DITCH
WINNEBAGO DITCH
OAK RED DITCH
Carbough Sch
Lyon Sch
Meckell Sch
Merchant Sch
Morrissey Sch
Union Ch
GREEN RIVER WILDLIFE REFUGE
Daven Sch
Chapel Sch
Pope Sch
Armstrong Sch
O'Neill Sch (Abandoned)
Airway Beacon
Levee
LEE CO
BUREAU CO

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Hennepin Canal

Location and Description of Areas

Tract 1. The area from bridge 14 east to mile 55 (from Mississippi River) on the south side of the canal and from mile 54 to 55 on the north side. A large peat deposit that may have been disturbed by agricultural practices. It is of significance to scientists as a source for pollen profile analysis.

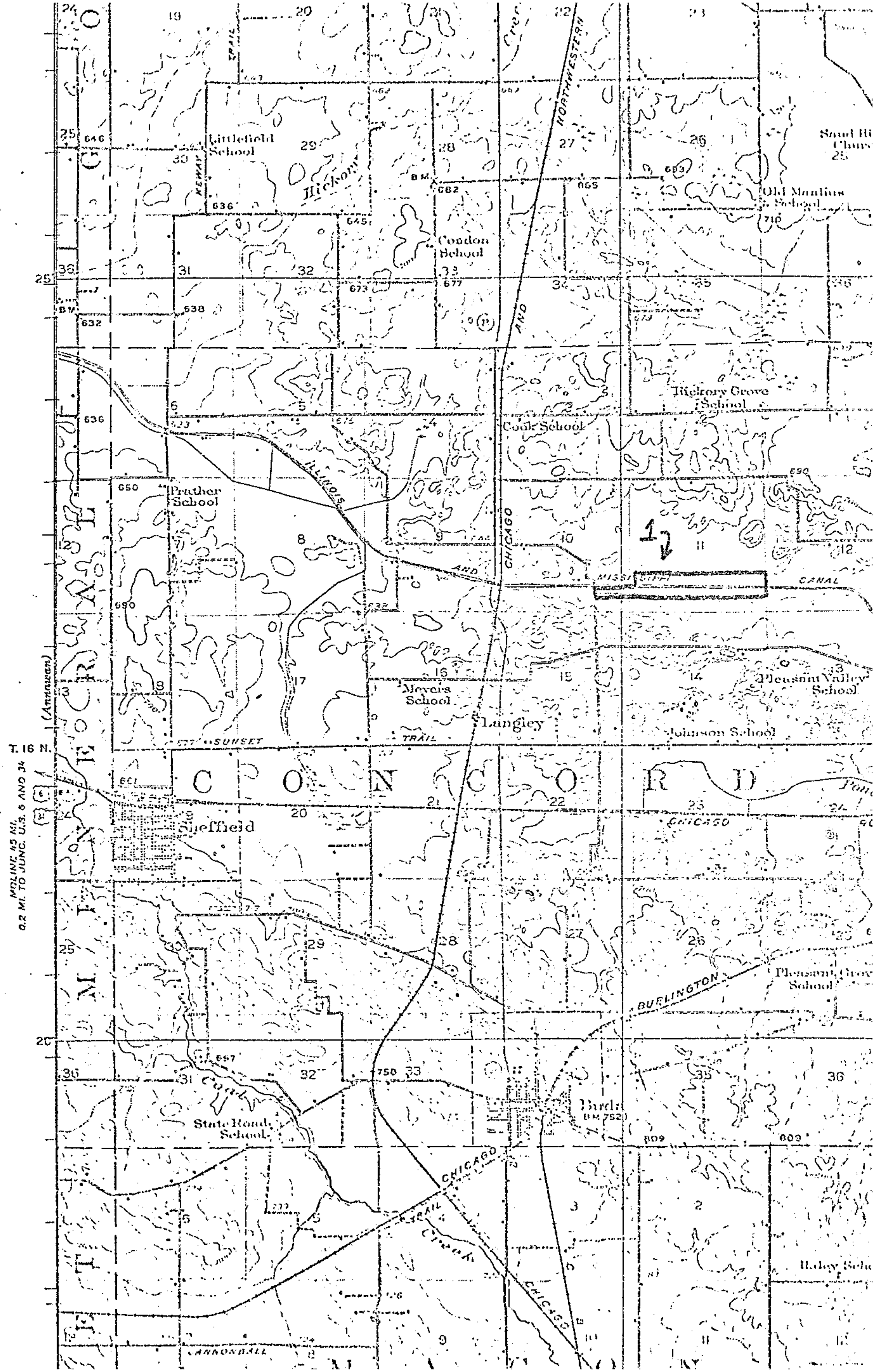
Tract 2. The area from aqueduct 4 east to mile 30 (from Illinois River) on the north side of the canal. A low prairie dominated by bluejoint grass. It should be managed by prescribed burning if practical.

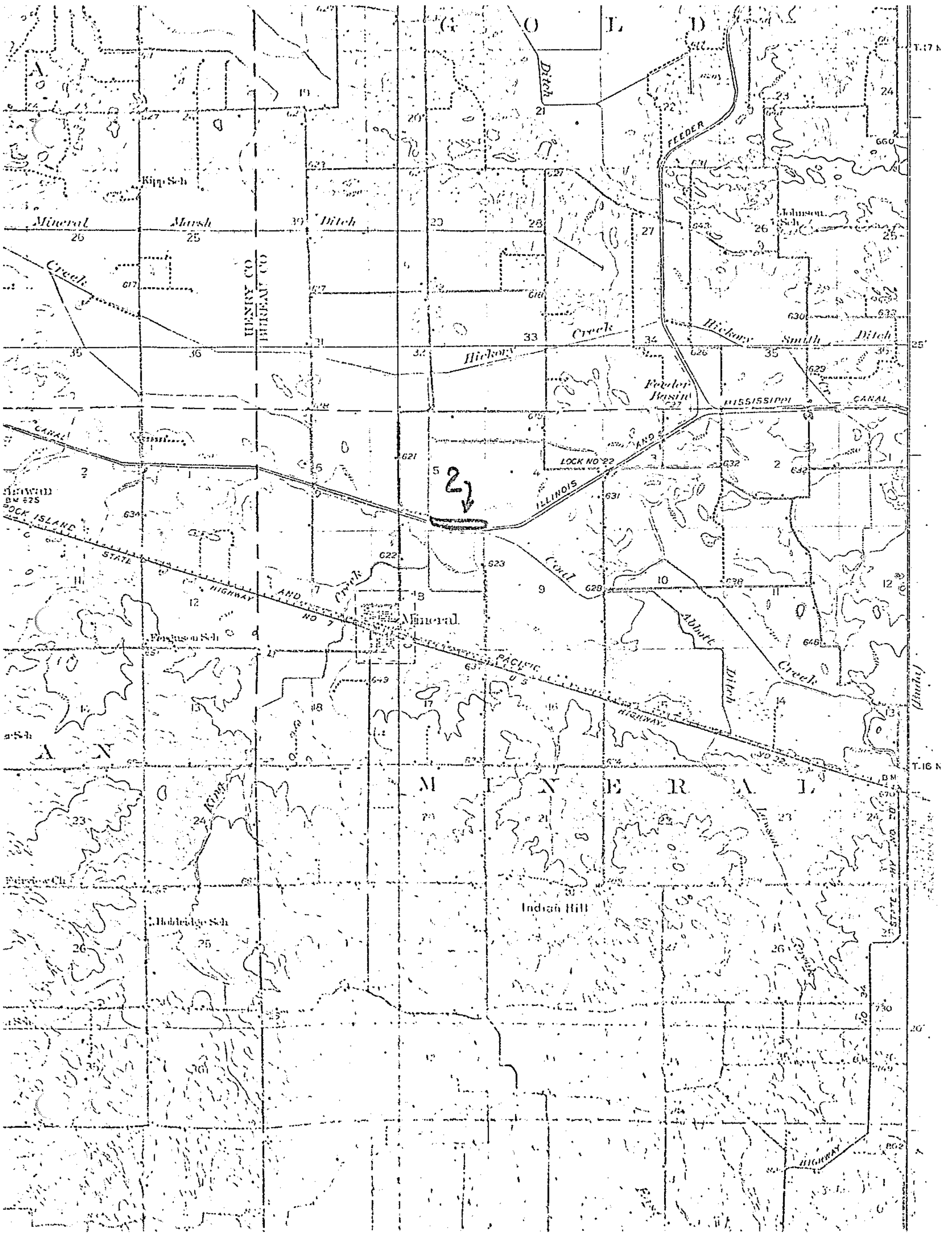
Tract 3. A 400 foot long strip of little bluestem prairie on the south side of the canal ½ mile east of bridge 40. It contains wildlflowers such as tall bush clover and brown-eyed susan. While it may exist on disturbed soil, it should be maintained as a natural area and managed by prescribed burning every third year in March or early April.

Tract 4. A relatively wide and shallow borrow area supporting a marsh community exists on both sides of the feeder in the south ½ of Section 1 and on the west side of the feeder in the north ½ of Section 12 two miles northeast of Tampico. No special management is recommended.

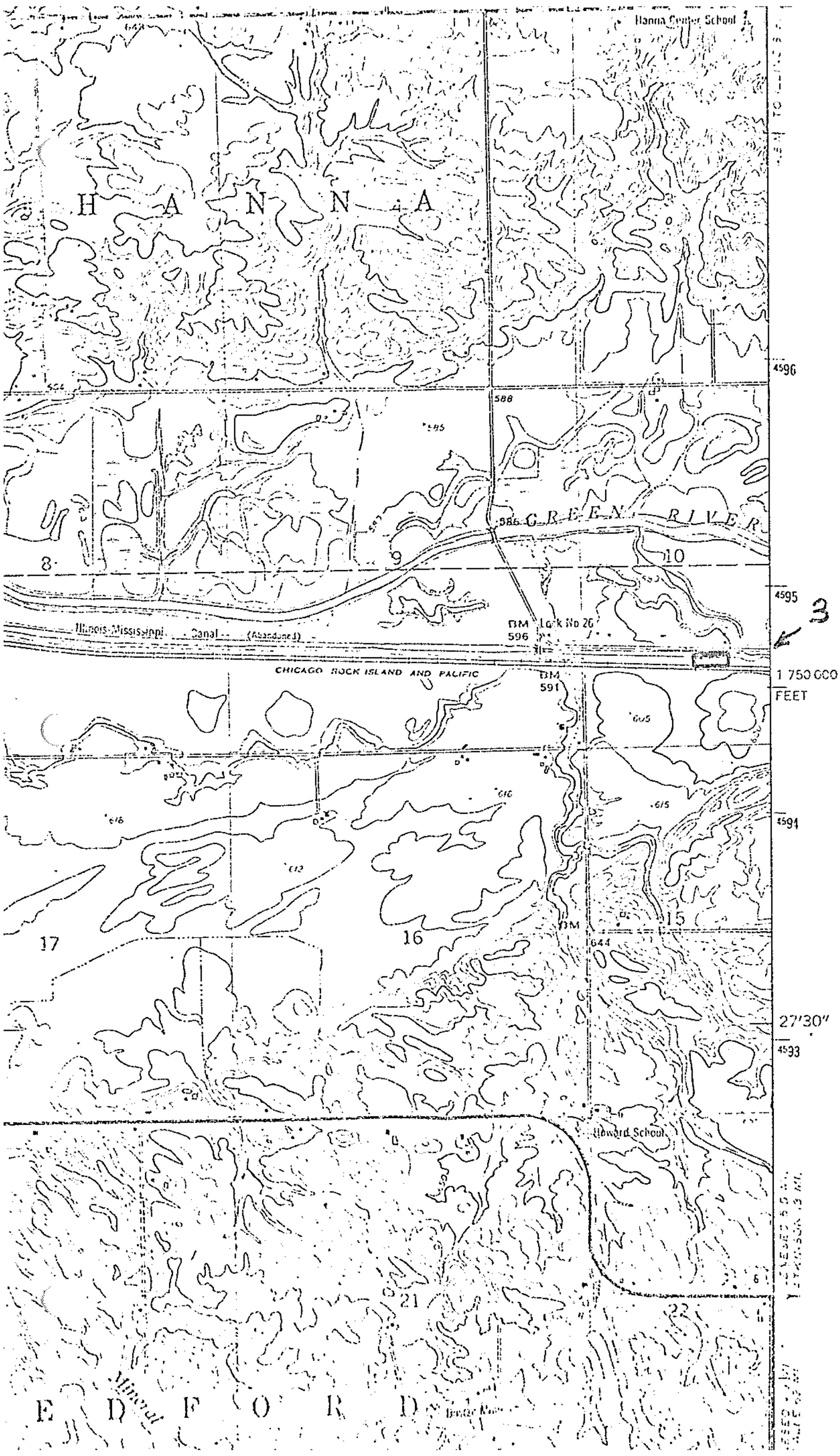
Comments

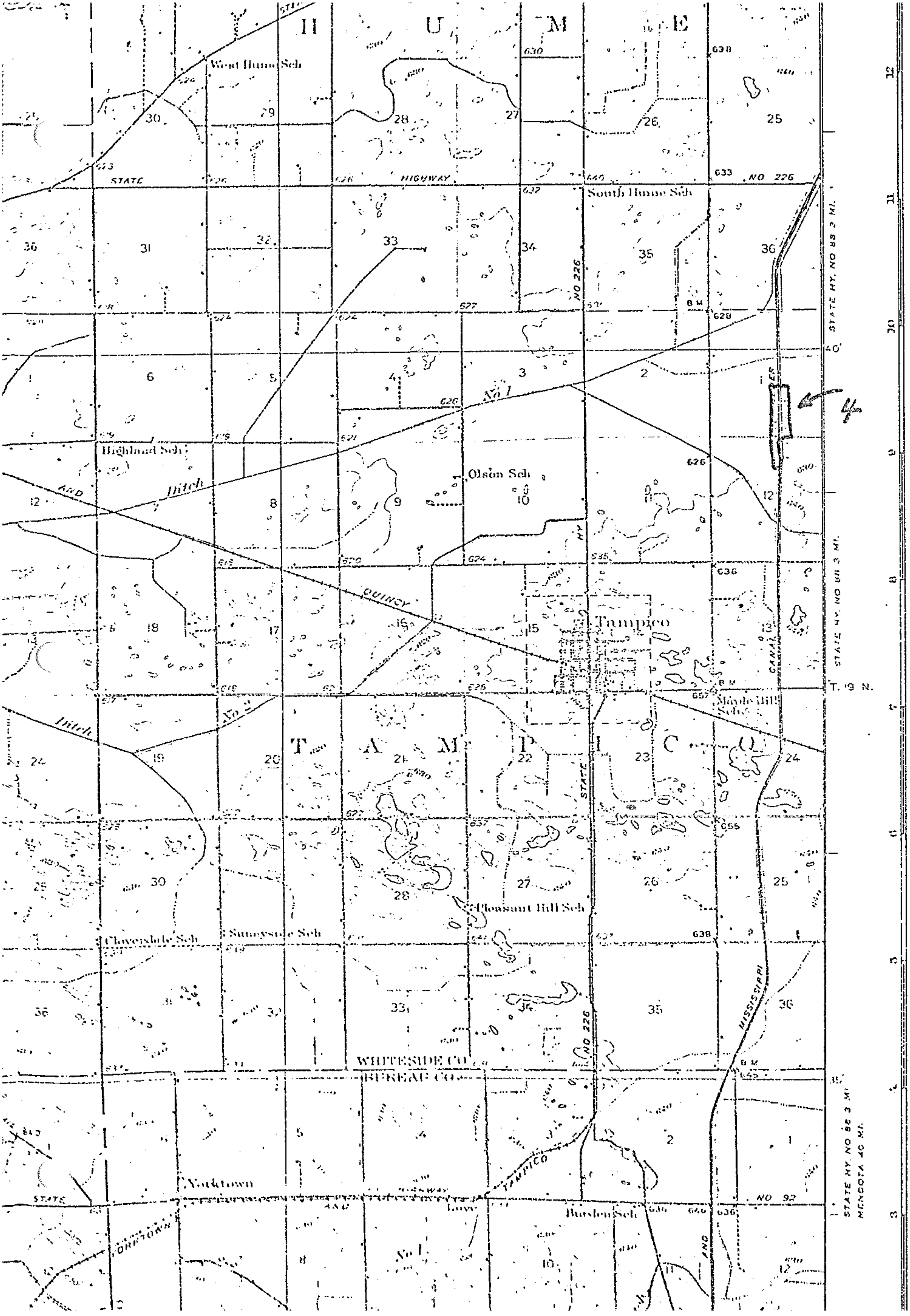
These tracts were identified by aerial and partial ground survey methods. Additional field work may supplement the known information.

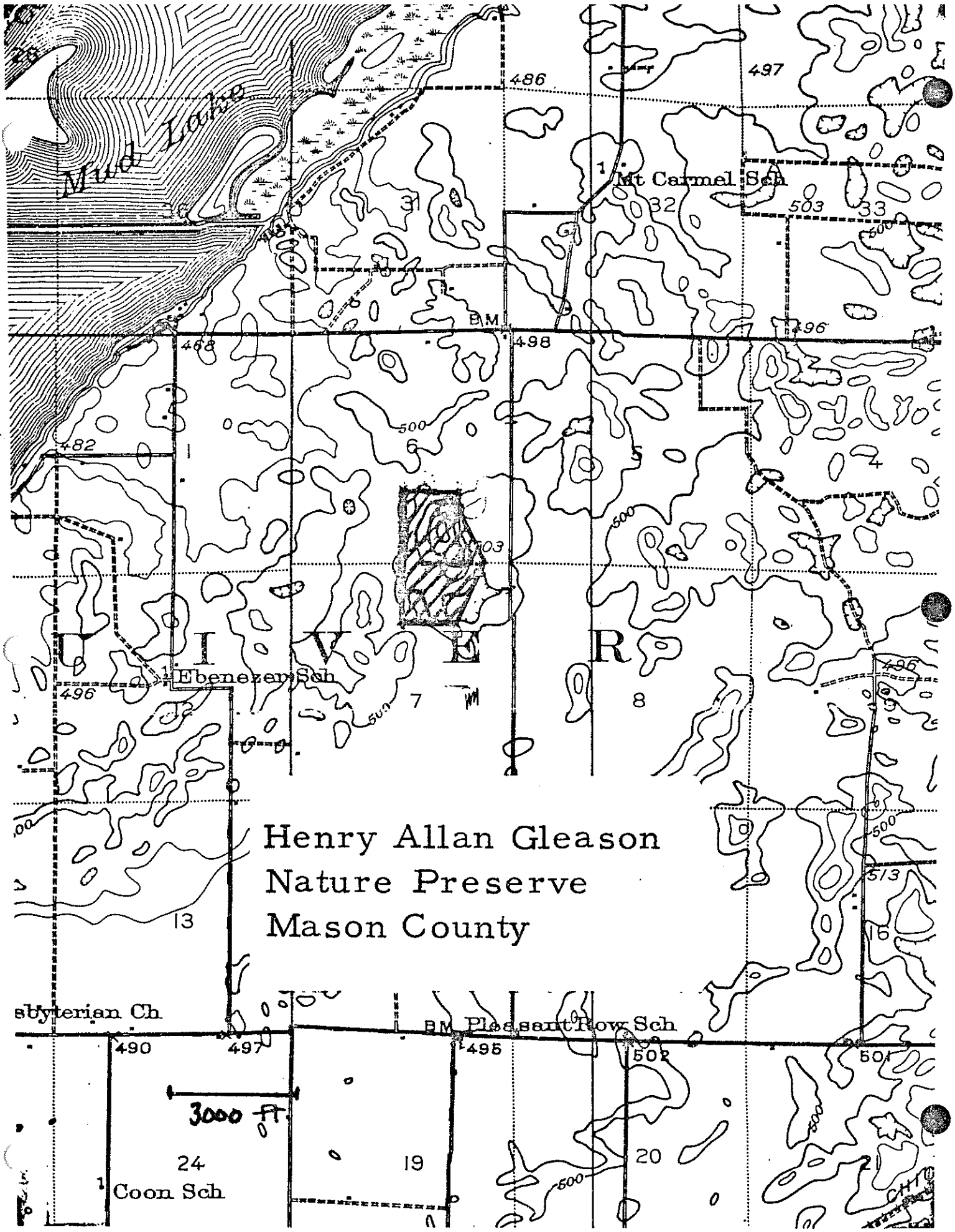

Littlefield School
Condon School
Old Manlius School
Hickory
Hickory Grove School
Cook School
Prather School
ILLINOIS AND MISSISSIPPI CANAL
CHICAGO AND NORTHWESTERN
Meyers School
Langley
Johnson School
Pleasant Valley School
SUNSET TRAIL
T. 16 N.
(Annawan)
MOLINE 45 MI.
0.2 MI. TO JUNC. U.S. 6 AND 34
C O N C O R D
Sheffield
CHICAGO
BURLINGTON
Pleasant Grove School
State Road School
CHICAGO TRAIL
Creek
CANNONBALL



G O L D
Ditch
FEEDER
Kipp Sch
Mineral Marsh
Ditch
Johnson Sch
HENRY CO
BUREAU CO
Creek
Hickory
Hickory Creek
Smith Ditch
Feeder Basin
MISSISSIPPI
CANAL
LOCK NO 22
ILLINOIS AND
ROCK ISLAND
STATE HIGHWAY NO 7
Coal Creek
Mineral
Ferguson Sch
PACIFIC
HIGHWAY
Abbott Ditch
Creek
M I N E R A L
Indian Hill
Holdridge Sch
Fairview Ch
T.17 N
T.16 N
2


Hanna Center School
H A N N A
4596
588
585
586
GREEN RIVER
8
9
10
4595
3
BM 596
Lock No 26
Illinois-Mississippi Canal (Abandoned)
CHICAGO ROCK ISLAND AND PACIFIC
BM 591
1 750 000 FEET
605
616
615
4594
17
16
15
BM
644
27'30"
4593
Howard School
21
22
E D F O R D


H U M E
West Hume Sch
STATE HIGHWAY NO 226
South Hume Sch
NO 226
STATE HY. NO 88 3 MI.
No 1
Ditch
Highland Sch
Olson Sch
QUINCY
AND
Tampico
CANAL
T. 19 N.
Maple Hill Sch
No 2
Ditch
T A M P I C O
STATE
Pleasant Hill Sch
Cloverdale Sch
Sunnyside Sch
MISSISSIPPI
WHITESIDE CO.
BUREAU CO.
Yorktown
TAMPICO
HIGHWAY
NO 92
STATE HY. NO 88 3 MI. MENDOTA 40 MI.
Burden Sch
No 1


Mud Lake
Mt Carmel Sch
Ebenezer Sch
Pleasant Row Sch
Coon Sch
3000 Ft.
Henry Allan Gleason
Nature Preserve
Mason County

HENRY ALLAN GLEASON NATURE PRESERVE - Mason County.

Location:

Three miles north of Topeka.
Portions of the SE 1/4 of Sec. 6 and the NE 1/4 of Sec. 7, T. 22 N, R 7 W, 3 PM
Manito Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number: BXC-2DD-46 6/24/63

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation

Character:

Natural types: Sand prairie, dunes, and blowouts of the Illinois River Section of the Sand Areas Division.

Geology: Mississippian, deeply buried under valley fill.

Soils: Sandy soils

Physiography: Terrace sand deposits within the Illinois River valley. The preserve includes a sand hill 60 feet high with a blowout at its top.

Vegetation: Sand prairie, cactus community, pine plantation, and sparse vegetation associated with shifting sand.

Aquatic environments: None

Natural features of special interest:

The only place in Illinois where the western mustard known as bladderpod (Lesquerella ludoviciana) grows. Most of the sand hill has a dense growth of prickly-pear cactus. In late spring and early summer the cactus and spiderwort present a colorful display.

Management and use:

The pines on the sand prairie will be removed.

Bibliography:

Gleason, H. A. 1910. The vegetation of the inland sand deposits of Illinois. Bull. Ill. State Lab. Nat. Hist. 9 (3).

2/5/71

HERON POND & WILDCAT BLUFF - Johnson County

Location:

Four miles south southwest of Vienna.

Portions of Sec. 24, T 13 S, R 2 E, 3 PM and of Secs. 19, 29, 30, and 31, T 13 S, R 3 E, 3 PM.

Karnak Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number: BGS-2FF-69 10/3/65

Ownership:

Department of Conservation.

Character:

Natural types: Bottomland forest, swamp, and permanent stream of the Bottomlands Section of the Coastal Plain Division; and upland forest, limestone glade, and bedrock outcrops of the Lesser Shawnee Hills Section of the Shawnee Hills Division.

Geology: Hardinsburg sandstone, Cypress sandstone, Paint Creek shale, and Golconda limestone (all Mississippian). Many good outcrops and exposures.

Soils: Dupo silt loam, Belknap silt loam, Karnak clay, and Piopolis silty clay loam are the predominant bottomland soils; and Hosmer silt loam occupies much of the uplands.

Physiography: Floodplain of the Cache River, bounded by a sheer bedrock escarpment to the north and low, rocky bluffs to the east and west.

Vegetation: The dominant tree species of the swamps are bald cypress, swamp tupelo, and swamp cottonwood. The dominants of the bottomland forests are Shumard oak, cherrybark oak, swamp chestnut oak, mockernut hickory, big shellbark hickory, sweet gum, and catalpa. The upland forests are of white oak, chinquapin oak, red oak, and pignut hickory. Little bluestem and side-oats grama are the dominant species of the limestone glade.

Aquatic environments: Permanent stream (Cache River), wooded swamps, and open, brushy "scatters".

Natural features of special interest:

The diversity of vegetation types related to topography, bedrock types, and wetness make this an ideal area for ecological instruction. Many animals that are limited in Illinois to the Coastal Plain inhabit the preserve. These include the bird-voiced treefrog and the cottonmouth water moccasin. A heronry exists on Heron Pond. Some unusual plants of the Coastal Plain that are present include the water elm, Styrax americana, Stieronema radicans, and Limnobium spongia.

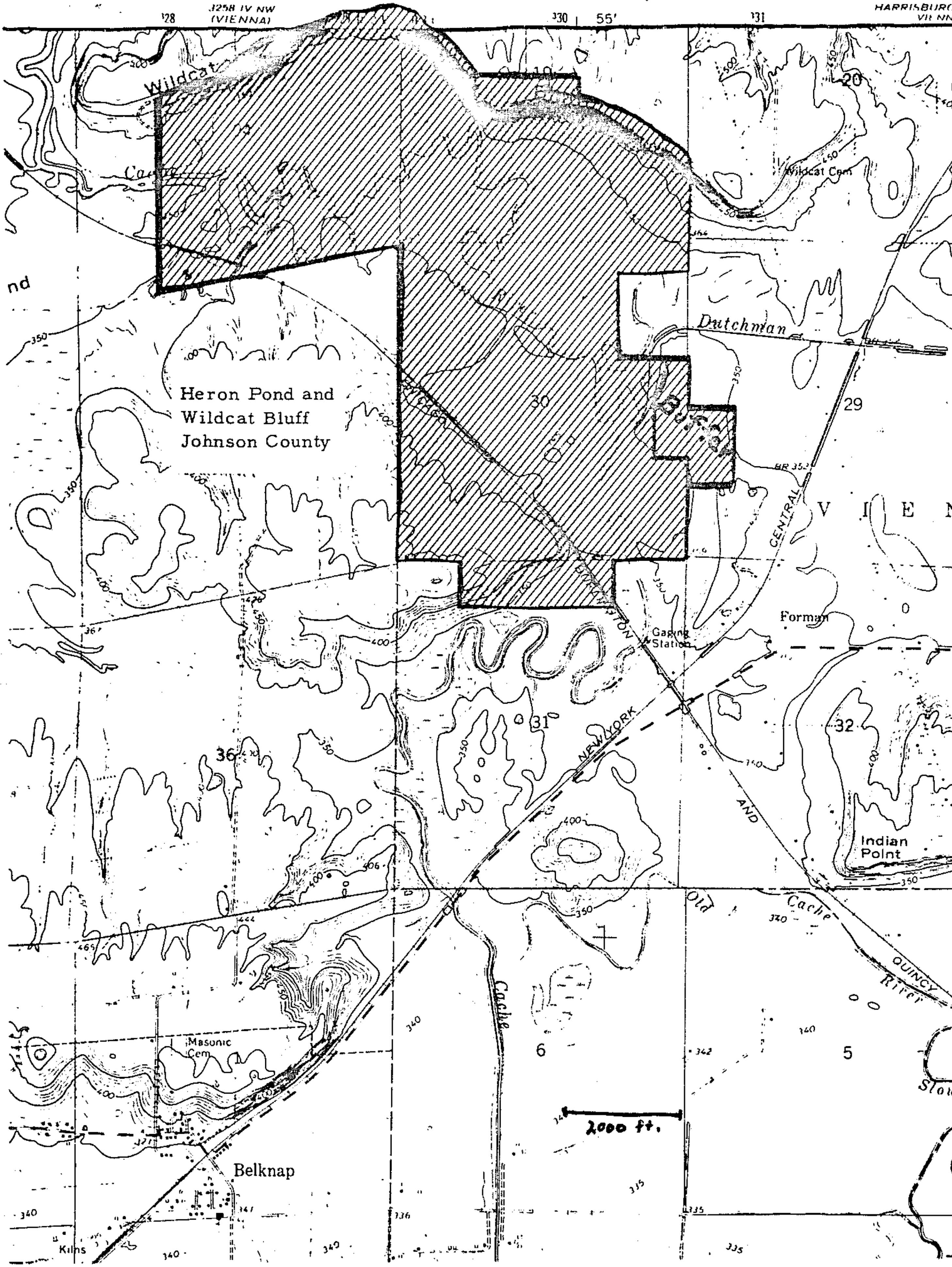
Management and use:

The Illinois Nature Preserves Commission has drafted a master plan for the proposed preserve, 1/15/71 (M36 R177). Present use is primarily for study by students and faculty from Southern Illinois University. The master plan calls for a visitor center and interpretive program.

Bibliography:

Anderson, R. C. and J. White. 1970. A cypress swamp outlier in southern Illinois. Trans. Ill. State Acad. Sci. 63(1):6-13.

2/10/71


Heron Pond and
Wildcat Bluff
Johnson County
HARRISBURG
Wildcat
Dutchman
Wildcat Cem
VIENNA
CENTRAL
Forman
Gaging Station
NEW YORK
AND
Indian Point
Old Cache River
Cache
QUINCY
Masonic Cem
Belknap
Kilns
2000 ft.

HORSESHOE LAKE NATURE PRESERVE - Alexander County

Location:

The southern tip of Horseshoe Island in Horseshoe Lake in Horseshoe Lake State Conservation Area south of Olive Branch.

Portions of Secs. 9, 10, 15, and 16, T 16 S, R 2 W, 3 PM.

Thebes Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number: BFZ-2FF-98 9/25/65

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation

Character:

Natural types: Forest, swamp, and oxbow lake of the Bottomlands Section of the Coastal Plain Division.

Geology: Cretaceous deposits overlain by deep valley fill.

Soils: Light, loamy soils on ridges in the beech forest and heavier soils in depressions.

Physiography: Mississippi River floodplain at the north end of the "delta" (Mississippi River embayment), including meanders, scars, and an oxbow lake.

Vegetation: Beech-basswood-sugar maple-red buckeye community on ridges, swamp chestnut oak-red oak community on heavier soils, and bald cypress-swamp tupelo community in sloughs and bordering Horseshoe Lake. Some stands are in virgin condition.

Aquatic environments: Seasonal swamp and oxbow lake.

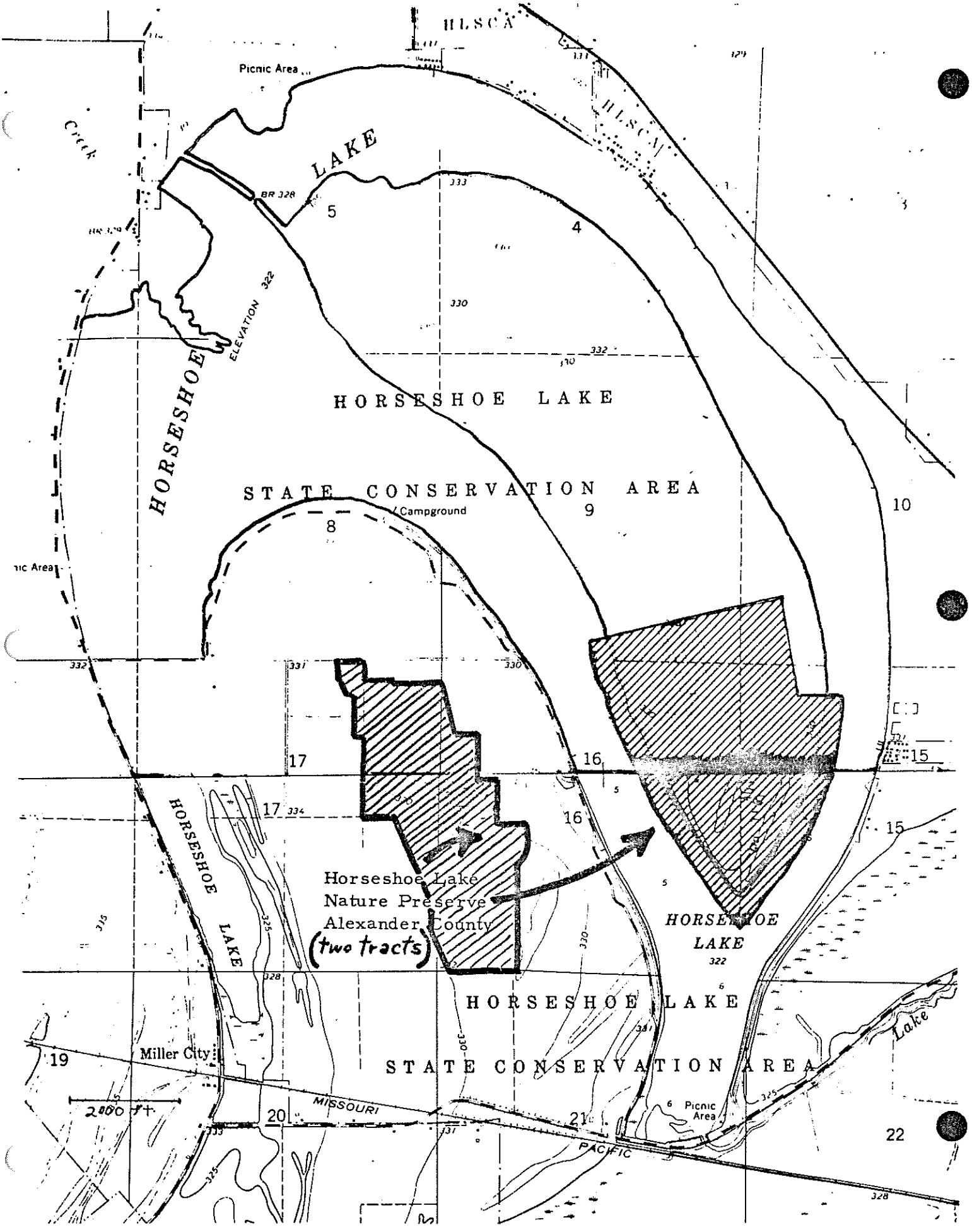
Natural features of special interest:

In the beech-maple-basswood forest the beautiful red buckeye is the dominant shrub and sometimes reaches the proportions of a small tree. The glade fern is common, as is Phacelia ranunculacea, a relatively rare species in Illinois. The birds, reptiles, and amphibians include many species of southern distribution that are rare in Illinois.

Management and use:

Since the surrounding area is managed for use by waterfowl, the preserve is open only to individual researchers, classes, and interested naturalists who have written permission from the Commission and the preserve is open only from March 15 to October 15 each year.

2/5/71


HLSCA
Picnic Area
LAKE
BR 328
5
4
ELEVATION 322
HORSESHOE
HORSESHOE LAKE
STATE CONSERVATION AREA
Campground
9
10
8
17
16
15
Horseshoe Lake
Nature Preserve
Alexander County
(two tracts)
HORSESHOE LAKE
322
HORSESHOE LAKE
STATE CONSERVATION AREA
Miller City
19
20
21
22
2000 ft.
MISSOURI
PACIFIC
Picnic Area
Lake

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Horseshoe Lake Madison State Park, Madison County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Two tracts totaling approximately 40 acres, both located on Walkers Island. Situated in the E½ Sec. 22 and the E½ Sec. 27, both in T 3 W, R 9 W.

Physical Features

Island sloughs representative of the Northern Section of the Lower Mississippi River Bottomlands Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

The sloughs are wooded with bottomland timber and have areas of open water in their centers. The drier slough edges support a pin oak - red elm - green ash - silver maple forest; associates include persimmon, swamp privet, hawthorn, deciduous holly, wild grape, poison ivy and green dragon. Black willow, buttonbush and cottonwood grow in wetter areas.

Comments

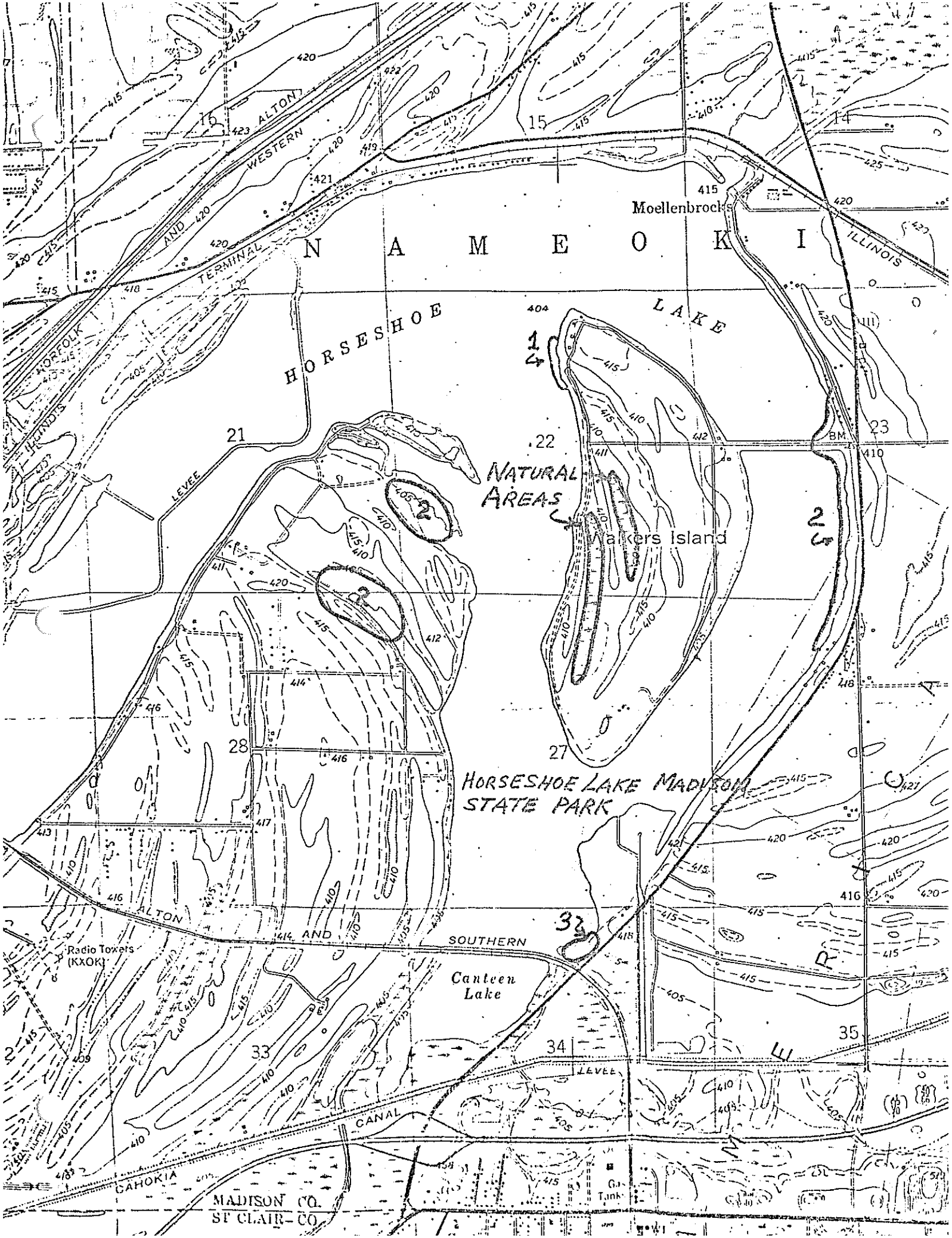
There is little evidence of past disturbance of the sloughs.

Other areas of biological interest in the park include:

1. A bank swallow nesting site.

2. Cattail marshes with arrowhead, willow, bulrush, and indigo bush. They serve as excellent wildlife habitat.

3. A second growth forest of bur oak, pin oak, as hackberry and willow; it is different from other woods in the area.


NAMEOKI
HORSESHOE LAKE
Moellenbrocks
ILLINOIS
ALTON AND WESTERN
NORFOLK AND TERMINAL
LEVEE
NATURAL AREAS
Walkers Island
HORSESHOE LAKE MADISON STATE PARK
ALTON AND SOUTHERN
Radio Towers (KXOK)
Canteen Lake
CANAL
CAHOKIA
MADISON CO.
ST CLAIR CO.
Gas Tank
BM
15
14
21
22
23
27
28
33
34
35

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Illinois Beach State Park Expansion, Lake County

Size and Location of Natural Area

710 acres, including most of the undeveloped land lying east of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad between Shiloh Boulevard and the State Line. Situated in E½ Sec. 3, E½ Sec. 10, S½ Sec. 11, NW¼, SW¼ Sec. 14, N½ Sec. 15, N½ Sec. 22, N½ Sec. 23, T46N, R23E.

Physical Features

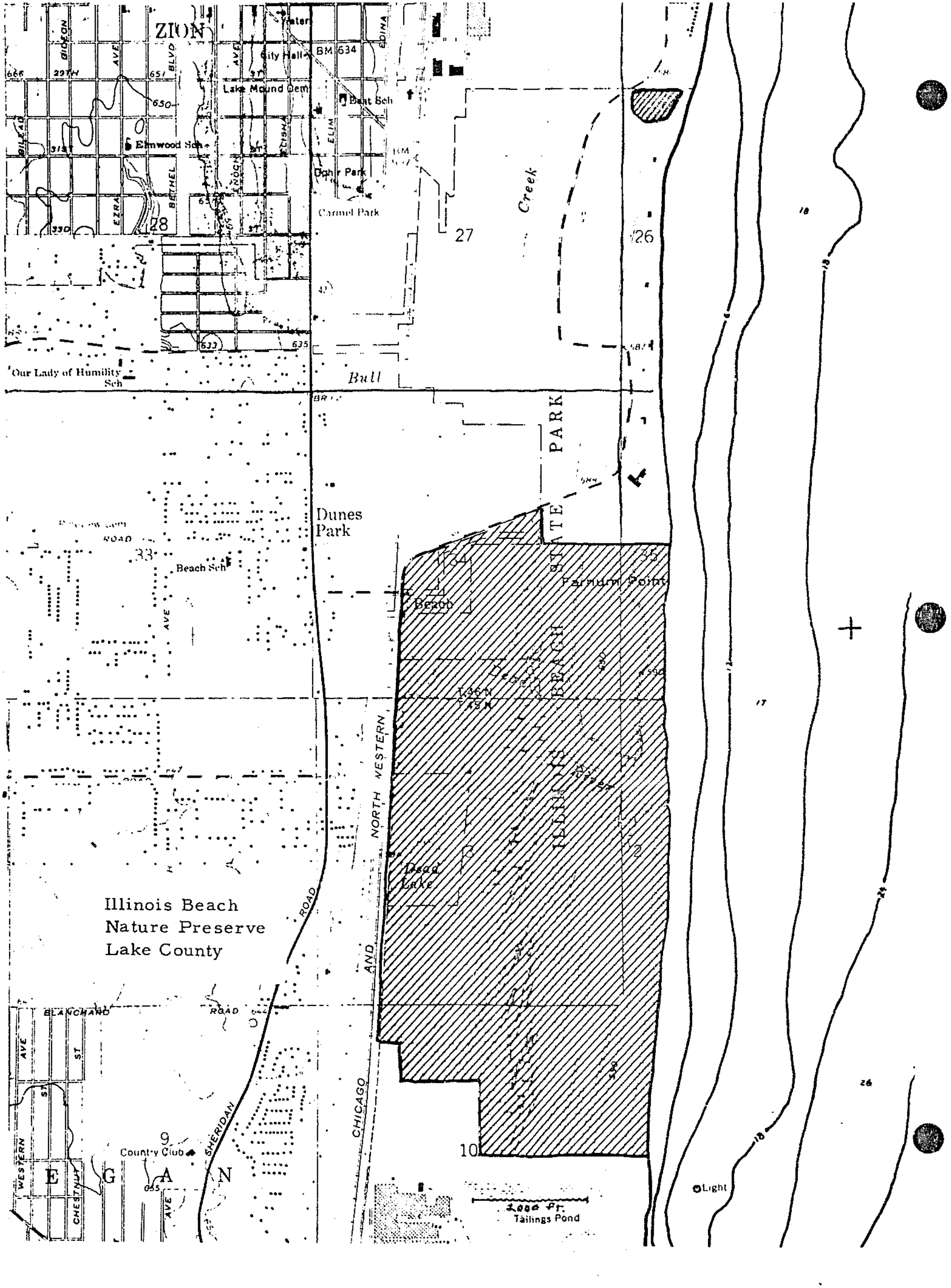
Lake Michigan beach ridges and swales representative of the Lake Michigan Dunes Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division of Illinois.

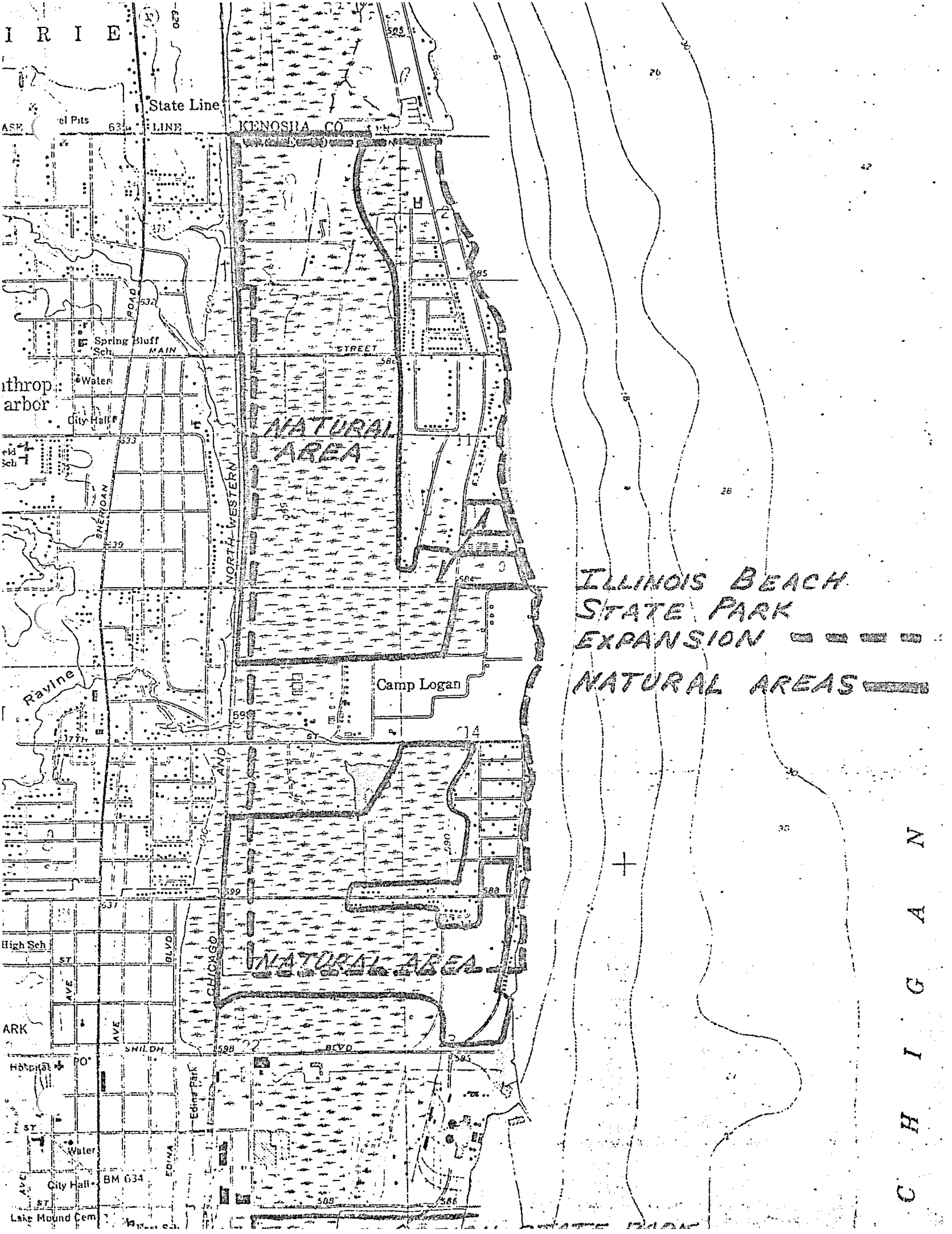
Biological Features

Vegetation includes: scrub-oak woods, sand prairie, and ridges and swales with cattail marsh. Most of the area consists of a series of ridges and swales dominated by cattail marsh with willows and scrub-oaks on drier sites. A large tract of scrub-oak woods is located at the north boundary adjacent to the state line. Dune vegetation of horizontal juniper and bearberry; alkaline fen vegetation featuring gentians, low calamint, Ohio goldenrod, and shrubby cinquefoil; and sand prairie containing clustered broomrape and downy yellow painted cup occur in the southeastern corner of the southernmost natural area.

Comments

The cattail marshes and scrub-oak forest are low in species diversity but of high natural quality. The dune, prairie, and alkaline fen area is of high natural significance due to the species diversity and presence of the rare clustered broomrape and downy yellow painted cup. This vegetation type is also represented in the Illinois Beach Nature Preserve, located at the south end of the State Park.


ZION
City Hall
BM 634
Lake Mound Cem
Elmwood Sch
Ophir Park
Carmel Park
Creek
27
26
28
Our Lady of Humility Sch
Bull
PARK
STATE
BEACH
ILLINOIS
Dunes Park
33
34
35
Beach Sch
Beach
Farnum Point
Dead Lake
NORTH WESTERN
AND
CHICAGO
ROAD
SHERIDAN
BLANCHARD
ROAD
WESTERN
CHESTNUT
AVE
ST
9
10
Country Club
E G A N
Light
2,000 Ft.
Tailings Pond
Illinois Beach
Nature Preserve
Lake County



I R I E
State Line
LINE
KENOSHA CO
Spring Bluff Sch
MAIN STREET
Water
ithrop Harbor
City Hall
ROAD
SHERIDAN
NORTH WESTERN
NATURAL AREA
ILLINOIS BEACH STATE PARK EXPANSION
NATURAL AREAS
Camp Logan
Ravine
CHICAGO AND
High Sch
NATURAL AREA
ARK
SHILOH BLVD
Hospital
PO
Edina Park
EDINA
Water
City Hall
BM 634
Lake Mound Cem
C H I G A N

ILLINOIS BEACH NATURE PRESERVE - Lake County.

Location:

On Lake Michigan, north of Waukegan, south of Illinois Beach State Park Lodge, and east of the C&NWRR.

Portions of Secs. 2, 3, 10, and 11, T 45 N, R 12 E, 3 PM and of Secs. 34 and 35, T 46 N, R 12 E, 3 PM.

Zion Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph numbers: BWX-2HH-49 10/20/67 and BWX-2HH-52 10/20/67

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation.

Note: Additional natural areas exist within the park outside of the nature preserve. They will be identified at a later date when an inventory is completed.

Character:

Natural types: Forest, prairie, marsh, dunes, beach, and stream of the Lake Michigan Dunes Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Geology: Silurian dolomite buried beneath glacial till and beach-deposited sand.

Soils: Sandy soils.

Physiography: Parallel ridges of beach-deposited sand and Lake Michigan shore.

Vegetation: Sand prairie, wet prairie, cat-tail marshes, black oak forest, (introduced) pine savanna, and a distinctive community next to the beach that has bearberry, trailing juniper, and beach grass.

Aquatic environments: Stream (Dead River), Lake Michigan, marsh, and artificial ponds (gravel pits).

Natural features of special interest:

The preserve has unusual displays of wildflowers throughout the growing season. Many kinds of birds use the shore of the lake as a path for migration; and heavy concentrations of migrants occasionally develop in the preserve, especially on fall days when the wind is from the west. Though they are not very large, many of the black oaks are extremely old. Dead River is remarkable for its strongly fluctuating water levels. In times of storm, currents along the beach fill the mouth of the river with sand and thus stop most of its flow. When heavy rains raise the level of the river to the top of the sand, the water washes through the sand and soon the river returns to the level of Lake Michigan.

History of preservation:

The preserve, the first in the State to be dedicated, includes the southern portion of Illinois Beach State Park, established in 1948. The original plans for the park provided that this south part would be a "nature area". Thus, its dedication as a nature preserve formalizes and provides a legal basis for the pre-existing arrangement.

Management and use:

The preserve is subjected to heavier use and has more management problems than any of the other nature preserves. Portions of the area, particularly the dunes, are extremely fragile. The beach and dunes are the primary attraction to visitors and are often trampled, with erosion resulting. The frequency of adverse visitor activities requires regular patrolling. Reproduction and spreading of exotic pines requires control by cutting.

Bibliography:

Evers, R. A. 1963. Some unusual natural areas in Illinois and a few of their plants. Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. Biol. Notes No. 50.

Gates, Frank C. 1912. The vegetation of the beach area in northeastern Illinois and southeastern Wisconsin. Ill. Lab. Nat. Hist. Bul. 9(5):255-372.

Ross, Herbert H. 1963. The dunesland heritage of Illinois. Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. Circular 49.

2/5/71

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Indian Caves Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

Indian Caves Area. Adjacent to the Kankakee River, one quarter mile southwest of the city limits of Bourbonnais. Approximately 10 acres in size and located in the NW¼ NW¼ Sec. 30, T 31 N, R 12 E.

Physical Features

A small gorge or ravine eroded into dolomite bedrock representing the Grand Prairie section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The gorge is narrow and deep with walls only five to six feet apart in places and reaching 20 feet in height. The gorge walls are nearly verticle and access is limited to only a few sites. Several small cave openings occur in the gorge and an intermittent stream flows through the area.

Biological Features

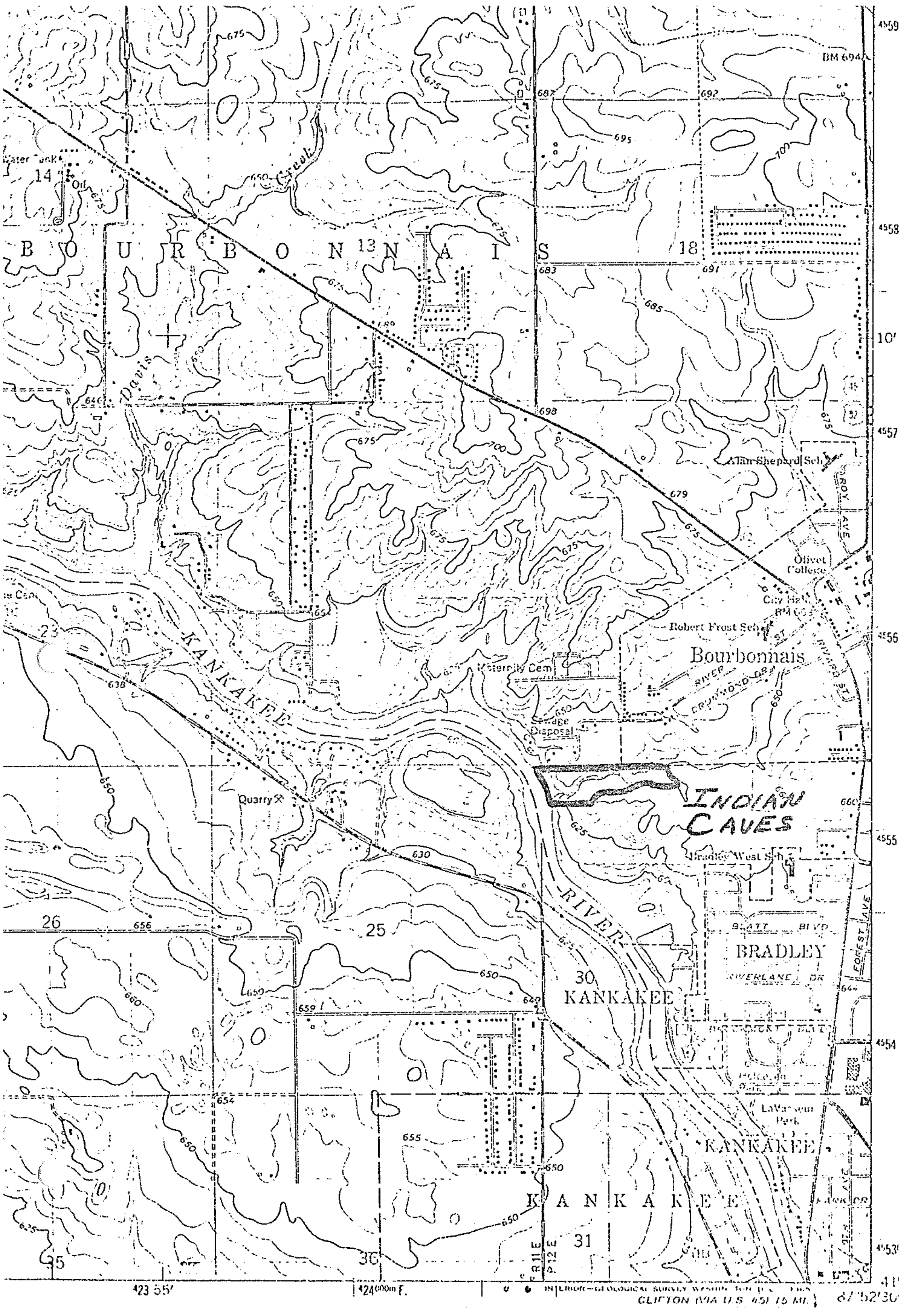
The natural vegetation is sparse and restricted to the verticle cliffs. Americna spikenard is abundant on ledges and liverworts are common.

Comments

The area has long been frequented by local inhabitants and as a result has remained undisturbed only on the most verticle and inaccessable rock walls. Although access is limited, once the ravine bottom is reached one can traverse the gorge to its confluence with the Kankakee River.

The significance of the area lies in its scenic quality and the natural vegetation on the rock ledges. The gorge is smaller and differs from the Rock Creek Canyon located nearby in Kankakee River State Park.

The Department is in the process of leasing the tract to the city of Bourbonnais as a recreation area.


B O U R B O N N A I S
Davis Creek
Water Tank
Olivet College
City Hall
Robert Frost Sch
Alan Shepard Sch
Bourbonnais
Maternity Cem
Sewage Disposal
KANKAKEE RIVER
Quarry
INDIAN CAVES
Bradley West Sch
BRADLEY
BLATT BLVD
RIVERLANE DR
FOREST AVE
ROY AVE
KANKAKEE
LaVasseur Park
K A N K A K E E
CLIFTON

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Iroquois County Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

Iroquois County Conservation Area, Iroquois County. 1240 acres in size and including the east two thirds of the conservation area. Situated in all of Sec. 24 and Sec. 23, except for the NW¼ NW¼ Sec. 23, T 29 N, R 10 W.

Physical Features

Scrub forest, wet prairie, mesic prairie, dry sand prairie, and marsh of the Kankakee Sand Area Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The area is within a low glacial outwash plain associated with the Kankakee River valley and consists of marshland, sand ridges, and dunes. An area of open water and natural marsh occurs at the east edge of the area.

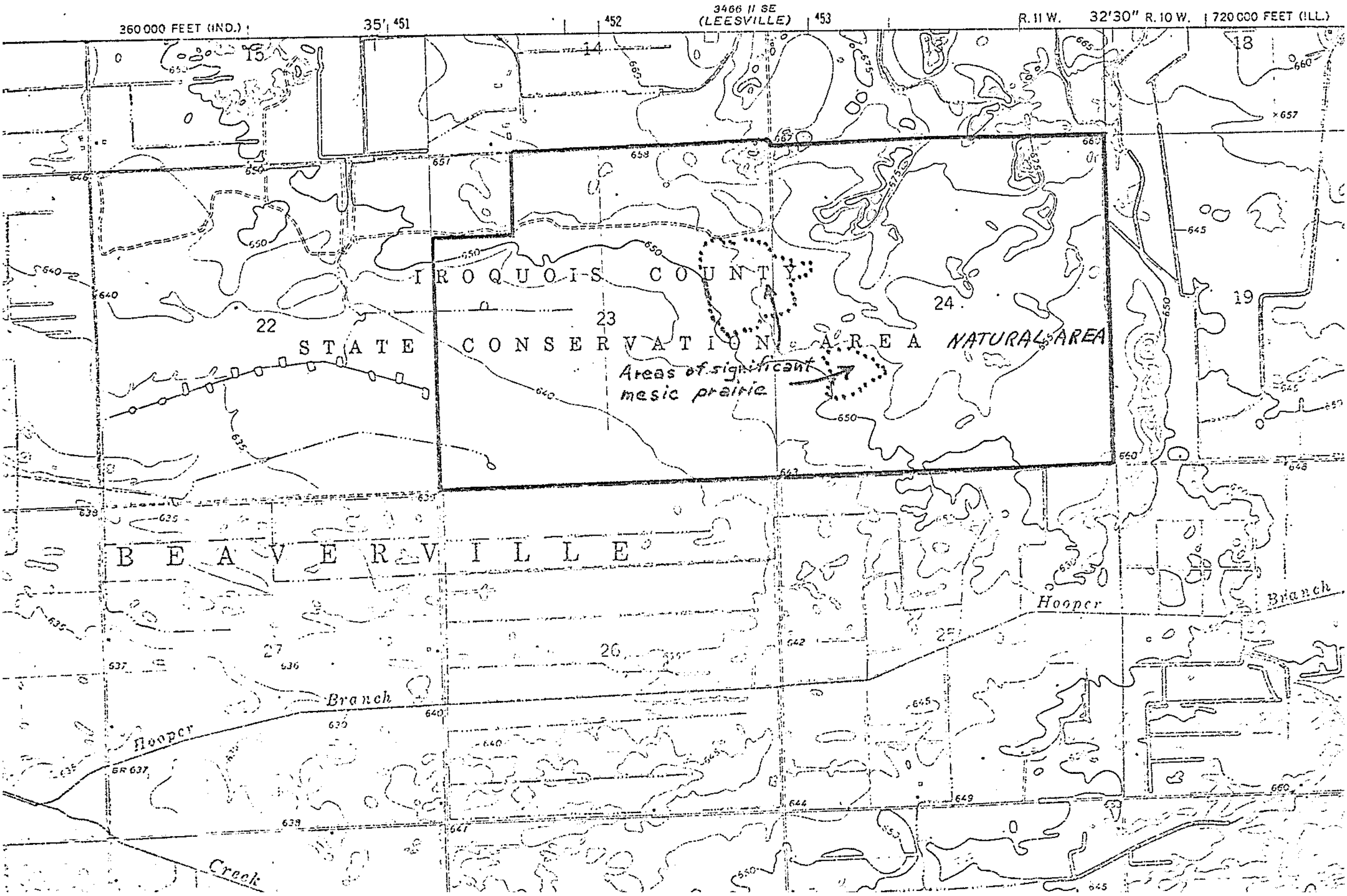
Biological Features

Black oak is characteristic of the scrub forest on sand ridges; the wet prairie is dominated by bluejoint grass, sedges, and cord grass; the mesic prairie has big blue stem, little blue stem, Indian grass, and switch grass; little blue stem and switch grass dominate the dry sand prairie, and cat-tail and sedges are common in the marshes. Boggy areas and wet prairie support such unususl plants as huckleberry, blueberry, chokeberry, hardhack, marsh marigold, and colicroot. The plains pocket gopher is an inhabitant of the area, and the sandhill crane is an occasional visitor.

Comments

This is of high quality and is one of the best remaining examples of the vegetation and environments of the Kankakee Sand Area. The areas of mesic prairie are especially significant as they represent a rare and dissapearing plant community in Illinois.

The area is presently managed as a public hunting area for the harvesting of pen-reared pheasants.


360 000 FEET (IND.)
35' 451
452
3466 II SE
(LEESVILLE)
453
R. 11 W.
32'30" R. 10 W.
720 000 FEET (ILL.)
IROQUOIS COUNTY
STATE CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREA
Areas of significant mesic prairie
BEAVERVILLE
Hooper Branch
Hooper Branch
Creek
14
15
18
19
22
23
24
25
26
27

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Johnson Sauk Trail State Park, Henry County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Johnson Sauk Trail State Park, one 20 acre tract located south of the lake and east of the pine plantation. Situated in the center of Sec. 2, T 15 N, R 5 E.

Physical Features

The tract includes forested upland and ravine and small spring fed stream representative of the Western Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois.

The topography is that of an eroded glacial moraine with the ravines developed in deep loess over glacial till. The area includes a small ravine with two branches on either side of a level upland. The ravines are shallow with steep walls and relatively flat bottoms, apparently springs occur along the edges of the ravine bottoms.

Biological Features

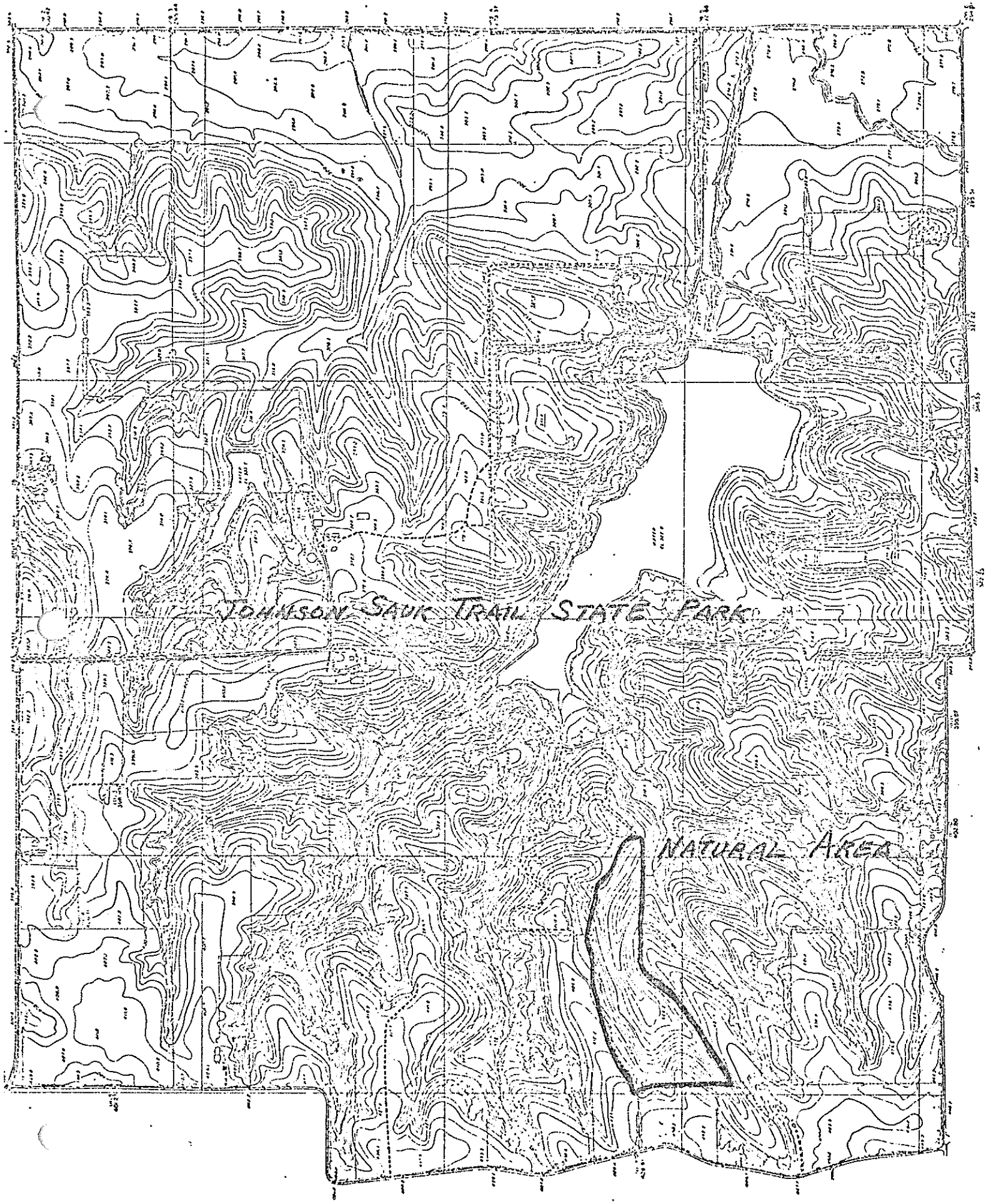
Flat upland, slope and ravine bottom forest communities are present. Skunk cabbage is a characteristic ravine bottom plant, being most abundant at the junction of the two ravine branches, its associates include swamp buttercup, sensitive fern, nettles, and sweet ciciley. Red elm and box elder are the most common tree species along the stream. The ravine slopes are rich in spring ephemerals including white trout lily, bloodroot, wild geranium, dutchman's breeches, rue anenome, Virginia bluebells, and wild leek; interrupted fern, lady fern, and maidenhair fern are also present. Red oak is the dominant tree species on the slopes, with white ash and white oak also present. White oak, black oak, black cherry, and shagbark hickory are characteristic of the upland area lying between the ravine branches. A number of spring ephemerals are present there, although the site is not as rich as the ravine slopes.

Comments

Past disturbances have included both timber cutting and grazing. The east half of the area was cleared recently and now supports an immature forest. The west half however, has large mature trees and has the characteristics of an old growth forest. For a short period of time, the tract was apparently grazed by horses (or ponies) and cattle, each on different sites. This has resulted in an absence or lack of a good understory or shrub layer, however, the vegetation on the forest floor was not eliminated and has now returned to good conditions. Minor gulley erosion is occurring on some side ravines.

The ravines are developed in the Atkinson Moraine, which represents a remnant of the western limit of Wisconsinian glacial advancement, most of this system was removed by erosion from outwash during the building of the Bloomington Morainic System.

Although the entire tract has been subjected to disturbance (grazing and logging), it qualifies as a natural area due to its character and diversity. The occurrence of old growth or mature forest (especially on upland sites) is significant, and the presence of skunk cabbage and springs along the ravine bottoms adds diversity to the rich herbaceous communities.


JOHNSON SAUK TRAIL STATE PARK
NATURAL AREA

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kankakee River State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Kankakee River State Park, Will County, one of four natural areas. Approximately 200 acres in size and including the west 5,500 feet of Department land on both sides of the Kankakee River, south of route 113. Situated in the S½ Sec. 21 and N½ Sec. 28, T 32 N, R 10 E. Tract number 1 on map.

Physical Features

Upland, slope, and flood plain forest, alluvial island, seep springs, and bedrock outcrops of the Grand Prarie and Kankakee River Sand Area Sections of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The topography includes the uplands and the river bluffs of the Kankakee River Gorge. The bluffs reach heights of 50 to 70 feet and dolomite bedrock outcrops in the form of cliffs and in side ravines. A large sand deposit occurs on the uplands north of the river.

Biological Features

Upland forests have black and white oak, hickories, and black cherry in the overstory; cherry, sassafras, and bracken fern are common under - story plants. The slope forest on the south side of the river has red oak basswood, sugar maple, and an abundance of spring wildflowers and ferns. Several seep springs occur along the river and contain many uncommon plants. Floodplain forests of silver maple, cottonwood, and green ash occur in a narrow band along the river and on the alluvial island.

Comments

The diversity of natural features and the presence of several rare and uncommon plant species make this an interesting and high quality natural area.

The past history of the area has included logging and possibily fires in some upland sites. As a result, the forests are second growth but show little evidence of other disturbances. Present day use includes bank fishing and some motorcycle use, although steps have been taken to prevent the latter.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kankakee River State Park

Size and Location of Area

Kankakee River State Park, Kankakee County, one of four natural areas. Located west of and adjacent to the campground. Approximately 40 acres in size and situated in the NE¼ Sec. 35, and NW¼ Sec. 36, T 31 N, R 10 E. Tract number 2 on map.

Physical Features

Upland and slope forest and bedrock outcrops of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract borders the river and consists of a flat upland adjoining a moderately steep river bluff where dolomite bedrock is exposed beneath the overlying glacial outwash.

Biological Features

The site supports a mesic forest with sugar maple, hackberry, red oak, and basswood as the major tree species. Many spring ephemerals including hepatica, blood root, bellwort, and wild ginger are also present.

Comments

Although the woods has been selectively logged it still retains good natural quality. Its importance lies in that it represents the last remaining stand of upland mesic woods in the park. The presence of bedrock outcrops along the river also adds diversity to the tract.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kankakee River State Park

Size and Location of Area

Kankakee River State Park, Kankakee County, one of four areas. Located along Rock Creek, west of the main park entrance. The natural communities include Rock Creek itself, the walls of the canyon, and the forested tracts associated with the stream. Tract number 3 on map.

Physical Features

Upland and slope forest, bedrock canyon and permanent stream of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. Rock Creek Canyon is a steep walled dolomite gorge almost a mile in length with cliffs reaching up to 30 feet above the stream bottom near its confluence with the Kankakee River. Further upstream, the bedrock is beneath glacial till.

Biological Features

Red Cedar is abundant on the cliffs with many other rock loving plants such as purple cliffbrake fern, bulbet fern and stonecrop. Further upstream the upper canyon walls are not as steep and a strip of slope forest is present In the upper reaches of the ravine a mesic forest occurs along the slopes and a narrow strip of flood plain forest is present along the stream.

Comments

The Rock Creek Canyon area represents one of the most scenic areas in the park and receives a high volume of day use. Consequently, the only natural vegetation remaining is on the steep slopes. In the early summer months the stream is stocked with trout and is frequented by fishermen.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kankakee River State Park

Size and Location of Area

Kankakee River State Park, Kankakee County, one of four natural areas. Located south of and adjacent to the Kankakee River, one mile east of Warner Bridge. Aproximately 50 acres in size and situated in the NE¼ Sec.6, and NW¼ Sec. 5, T 31 N, R 11 E, tract number 4 on map.

Physical Features

Prairie, spring fed ponds, upland woods, and dolomite bedrock outcrops of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract represents an area of high dolomite bedrock situated in the river gorge, at one time it may have been an island. The soils are developed in sand over bedrock and in thin residuum over bedrock in apparent abandoned river channels and along the river bank.

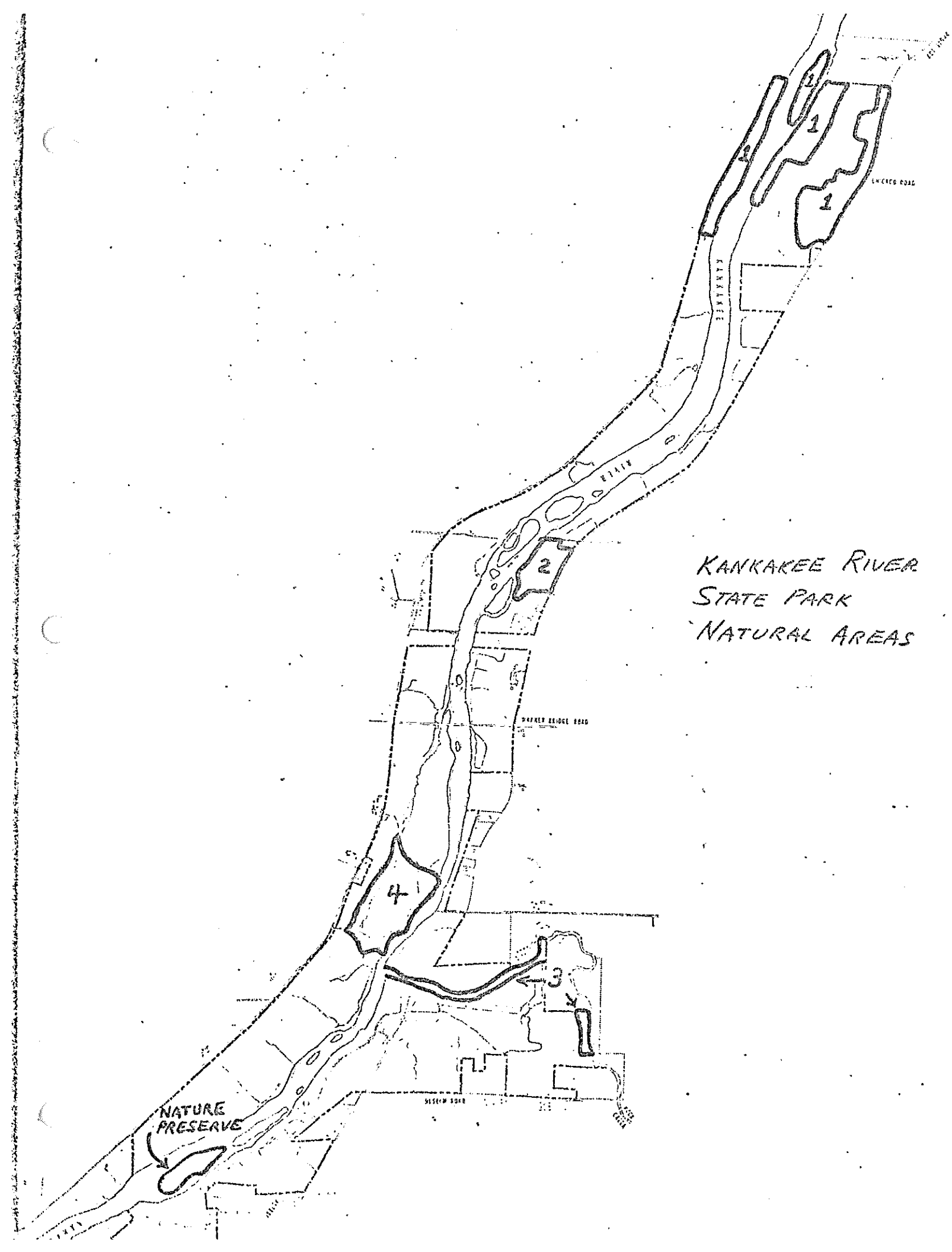
Biological Features

Prairie vegetation occurs in areas where the thin soils over bedrock restrict tree growth. Among the prairie plants present are big and little blue stem, purple prairie clover, brush clover, and prairie lead plant. A rare grass, Muhlenbergia cuspidata occurs in the prairie. An upland woods dominated by bur oak occurs where soil conditions are better. Found in association with the ponds are a number of uncommon plants including two species of water lily and pickerel weed; the uncommon queen snake inhabitats the ponds.

Comments

This area contains several biological communities of high natural quality and of uncommon occurance in Illinois. The prairies are the only natural communities of this type found in the park and contain one of the few native stations for Muhlenbergia in northern Illinois. The upland woods may have originally had an understory of prairie vegetation.

Any management or developments made in the area should be made so as to avoid adverse affects on the natural communities. In addition; some form of prairie management such as burning or cutting of invading shrubs should be implemented in order to improve the natural condition of the prairie.



KANKAKEE RIVER STATE PARK NATURAL AREAS

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kickapoo State Park, Vermilion County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Kickapoo State Park, one of six natural areas. Located north of the CCC Camp near the west park entrance. Approximately 90 acres in size and in the N½ NW¼, W½ NE¼ Sec. 5, T 19 N, R 12 W, and the S½ S½ Sec. 32, T 20 N, R 12 W. Area number 1 on the map.

Physical Features

Forested upland, ravines, and river bluff of the Vermilion River Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division of Illinois. The area includes the steep slopes of the west bank of the Middlefork, poorly drained flat uplands, and several ravines, the largest containing an intermittent stream which drains directly into the Middlefork. The soils are developed in thin loess and glacial outwash over sandstone and shale. Shale with abundant fossils outcrops along the Middlefork where it is undercutting its banks.

Biological Features

Upland sites are variable but generally mesic in character. Where drainage is good, white oak, red oak and sugar maple occur with an understory of sugar maple and black haw, also present are spring ephemerals, lady fern, and broad beech fern. Shagbark hickory, pignut hickory, and black oak are present with an understory of black haw, and arrow wood on the more poorly drained sites; large stands of sensitive fern and open areas with sedges and wood reed grass occur in these sites. Swamp white oak occurs in the wettest sites in ephemeral ponds.

The largest ravine is rich and diverse, the dominant trees include red oak and sugar maple on lower slopes, black and white oak and an occasional American beech on upper slopes, and American elm and sycamore along the stream. Notable herbaceous plants present include squirrel corn, green violet, Gleason's trillium, firepink, and squawroot.

The east facing bluffs along the Middlefork have white oak, chinkapin oak and red oak common in the overstory. Small seep springs occur along the bluff and natural soil sloping is apparent.

The salamander Ambystoma jeffersonianum has been collected at this site, its only known location in Illinois. It apparently breeds in the ephemeral ponds in the upland woods.

Comments

This is the largest, most diverse and most valuable natural area in the park. Although the flat upland forests are second growth, they are significant due to the unusual mixture of plant species present and the occurrence of the salamander. Portions of the ravines and slope forests have attained old growth conditions, this feature in combination with the diversity and number of uncommon plants present in these sites makes the tract a high quality natural area.

Within the designated natural area is a small picnic area, a road leads from the area to the CCC camp site.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kickapoo State Park, Vermilion County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Kickapoo State Park, one of six natural areas. Located adjacent to the north side of Interstate 74 on the west river bank. Approximately 30 acres in size and in the N½ NW¼ Sec. 8, T 19 N, R 12 W. Area number 2 on map.

Physical Features

Forested upland and river bluff of the Vermilion River Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division of Illinois. The site consists of a flat upland ridge adjacent to the steep north facing bluff of the Middlefork, the bluff reaches heights of 80 feet with slopes up to 25%. The soils are developed in thin loess and glacial outwash over shale, which is exposed along the river. A few seep springs occur along the base of the bluff.

Biological Features

Upland sites are characteristically black oak and white oak with occasional sugar maple, red oak, black cherry, white ash, flowering dogwood, ironwood, and arrow wood. As the ridge becomes more narrow, a xeric black oak community predominates with louse-wort, shooting star, and pussytoes common in the understory.

The north facing slope is mesic with sugar maple, red oak, basswood, flowering dogwood, bladdernut, wild hydrangea and buckeye as common woody species. Honeysuckle, running strawberry bush, Gleason's trillium, snow trillium, squaw-root, and several species of fern are present.

Comments

The entire tract is second growth with only an occasional mature tree remaining. However the high steep river bluff is of geological significance and in addition several unusual plants such as Gleason's trillium, snow trillium and squaw-root are present and add significance to the site. The presence of the Middlefork at the base of the bluff adds diversity to the tract.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kickapoo State Park, Vermilion County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Kickapoo State Park, one of six natural areas, located south of Interstate 74 near Route 150. Approximately 40 acres in size and in the NE¼ NE¼ Sec. 17, and the S½ SE¼ Sec. 8, T 19 N, R 12 W. Area number 3 on map.

Physical Features

Forested ravines and river bluff of the Vermilion River Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division of Illinois. The area consists of a steep northeast facing river bluff of the Middlefork River. On either side of the bluff are small, steep walled, narrow ravines with drainage into the Middlefork. Parent material is thin loess and glacial outwash over shale, seep springs occur along the river bluff.

Biological Features

The river bluff has a red oak-sugar maple overstory with occasional black cherry, white oak, basswood, buckeye and flowering dogwood. The ground cover is rich in spring ephemerals including squirrel corn and hepatica; firepink and Christmas fern are abundant. The side ravines have essentially the same characteristics and additionally have intermittent streams and yellow lady slippers on the steepest slopes. A xeric community with black oak, stunted white oak, lousewort, shooting star, spiderwort, pussytoes, star grass, and twayblade orchid is represented on ravine crests with western, southern and eastern exposure.

Comments

The ravines and bluffs are second growth communities but qualify as natural areas due to their rich flora and number of uncommon plants including ladyslipper and twayblade orchid and firepink.

The base of the river bluff has been disturbed by strip mining and one side ravine had its lower reaches flooded by excessive rain.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kickapoo State Park, Vermilion County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Kickapoo State Park, one of six natural areas. Located midway between Interstate 74 and Route 150. Approximately 10 acres in size and in the N½ SE¼ Sec. 8, T 19 N, R 12 W. Area number 4 on map.

Physical Features

Forested river bluff of the Vermilion River Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division of Illinois. The site consists of a section of the east facing bluff and junction of a side ravine of the Middlefork. Soils are glacial outwash over shale and clay.

Biological Features

White oak is the dominant tree with occasional red oak, hickory, and sugar maple, bladdernut is a common shrub. Wild leek, cream violet and wild ginger are common herbaceous vegetation.

Comments

Although small, this tract is significant in that a small stand of old growth white oak occurs on the upper slopes of the bluff.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kickapoo State Park, Vermilion County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Kickapoo State Park, one of six natural areas. Area number 5 on the map is adjacent to the south edge of Interstate 74 in the NE¼ NE¼ Sec. 8, T 19 N, R 12 W. It is approximately 10 acres in size.

Physical Features

The area consists of a small flat upland, side ravine, several seep springs, and river bluff. The soils are developed in thin loess and glacial outwash over sandstone and shale which outcrop along the river bluff.

Biological Features

The area contains a small tract of undisturbed upland forest, a large disturbed spring containing marsh marigold, and a slope forest with several seep springs.

Comments

The large spring in area 5 contains a large colony of marsh marigold, an uncommon plant in the park, a power line passes over the site and timber has been cleared around the spring. The adjacent upland woods and ravines contain squaw-root and a number of spring ephemerals. The river bluff is partially forested and displays sandstone and shale outcrops where stream bank erosion is active.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Kickapoo State Park, Vermilion County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Kickapoo State Park, one of six natural areas. Approximately 5 acres in size and located north of Emerald Pond, in the NE¼ NE¼ SE¼ Sec. 32, T 20 N, R 12 W. Area number 6 on map.

Physical Features

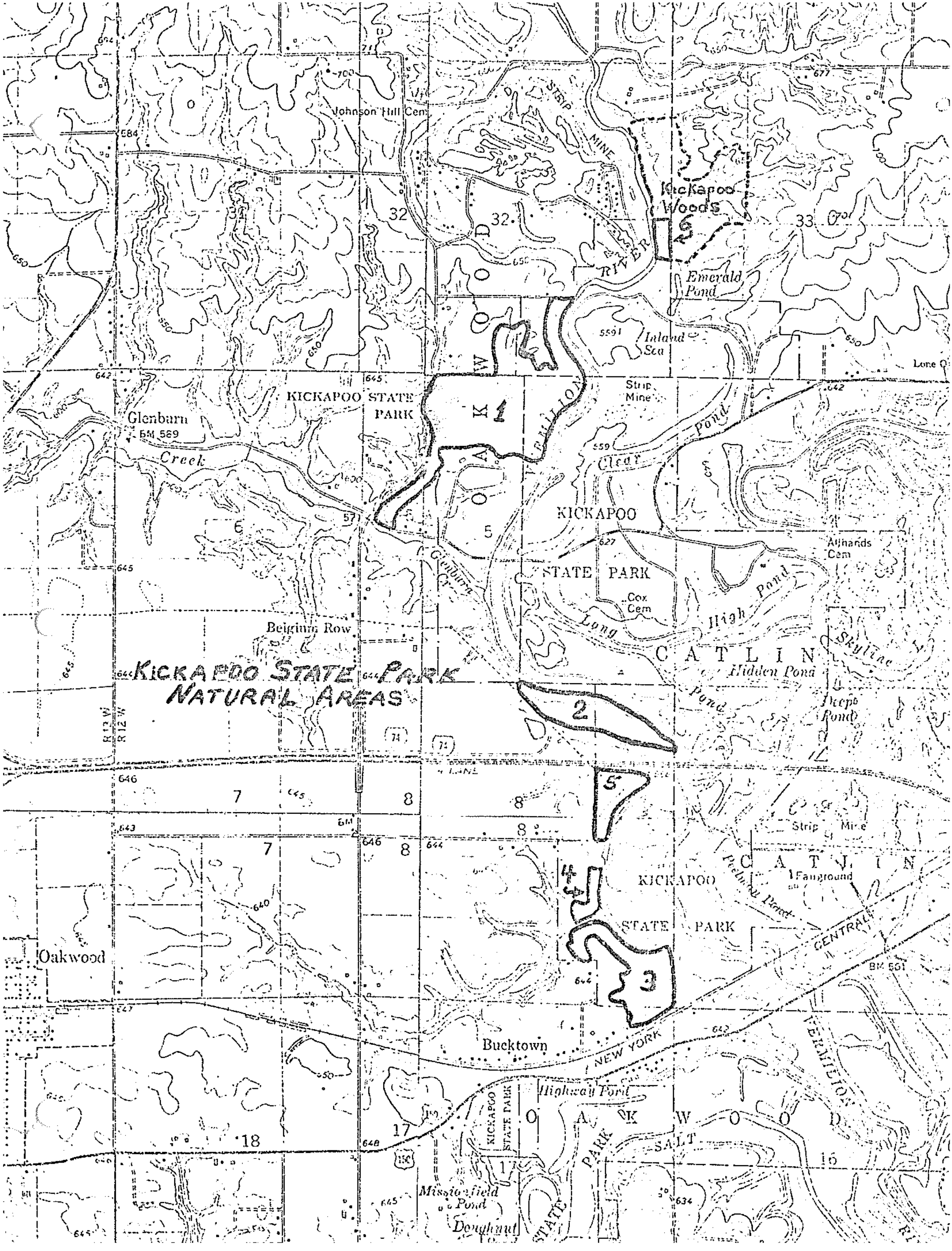
A portion of the east bluff of the Middlefork River.

Biological Features

This tract is the extreme southwest part of Kickapoo Woods, most of which lies outside of park ownership. (See attached description by the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission.)

Comments

Kickapoo Woods has been described as one of the best natural areas in the Middlefork drainage.


KICKAPOO STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
Johnson Hill Cem
STRIP MINE
Kickapoo Woods
RIVER
Emerald Pond
Inland Sea
Lone O
Strip Mine
VERMILION
KICKAPOO STATE PARK
Glenbarn
BM 589
Creek
Clear Pond
KICKAPOO
STATE PARK
Allhands Cem
Cox Cem
Long
High Pond
Skyline
CATLIN
Hidden Pond
Deep Pond
Glenburn Cr
Beiginn Row
4 LANE
Strip Mine
CATLIN
Fairground
KICKAPOO
STATE PARK
Pelham Pond
CENTRAL
BM 551
Oakwood
Bucktown
NEW YORK
Highway Pond
KICKAPOO STATE PARK
O A K W O O D
SALT
STATE PARK
Missionfield Pond
Doughnut
VERMILION
R 13 W
R 12 W
1
2
3
4
5
6

NATURAL AREAS ALONG THE MIDDLE FORK *

Kickapoo Woods

Location: Parts of the SW¼ of the NW¼, and the NW¼ of the SW¼ of Section 33; and parts of the SE¼ of the NE¼, and NE¼ of the SE¼ of Section 32, T.20N.,R.12 W., east of the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River.

Size: 46 acres

Kickapoo Woods is the name given to a series of deep wooded ravines at the north end of, and partly outside of, Kickapoo State Park. The ravines drain westward into the Middle Fork, so most of the slopes face north or south, and the river bluffs face west. The habitats range from wet floodplain woods to dry ridgetop woods, and the area illustrates quite well in a small area the diversity of forest types along the Middle Fork. The diversity of understory and ground cover species is remarkable, and the timber is generally of high quality. On the river bluff at the north end of Kickapoo Woods are oaks with massive boles supporting spreading crowns, and the mesic slopes have tall, straight-trunked oaks, hickories, and sugar maple. The mesic aspect of the slopes is shown by the local dominance of red oak and sugar maple, and the presence of beech, Kentucky coffee-tree, basswood and butternut.

* Illinois Nature Preserves Commission Report

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Lake-Le-Aqua-Na State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park, Stephenson County. Three tracts: a 20 acre forested area at the south edge of the park (SE¼ SW¼ Sec. 17), and two rocky ravines located along the stream west of the lake (NW¼ SW¼) and in a drainage north of the lake (SE¼ NW¼), all in T 28 N, R 6 E.

Physical Features

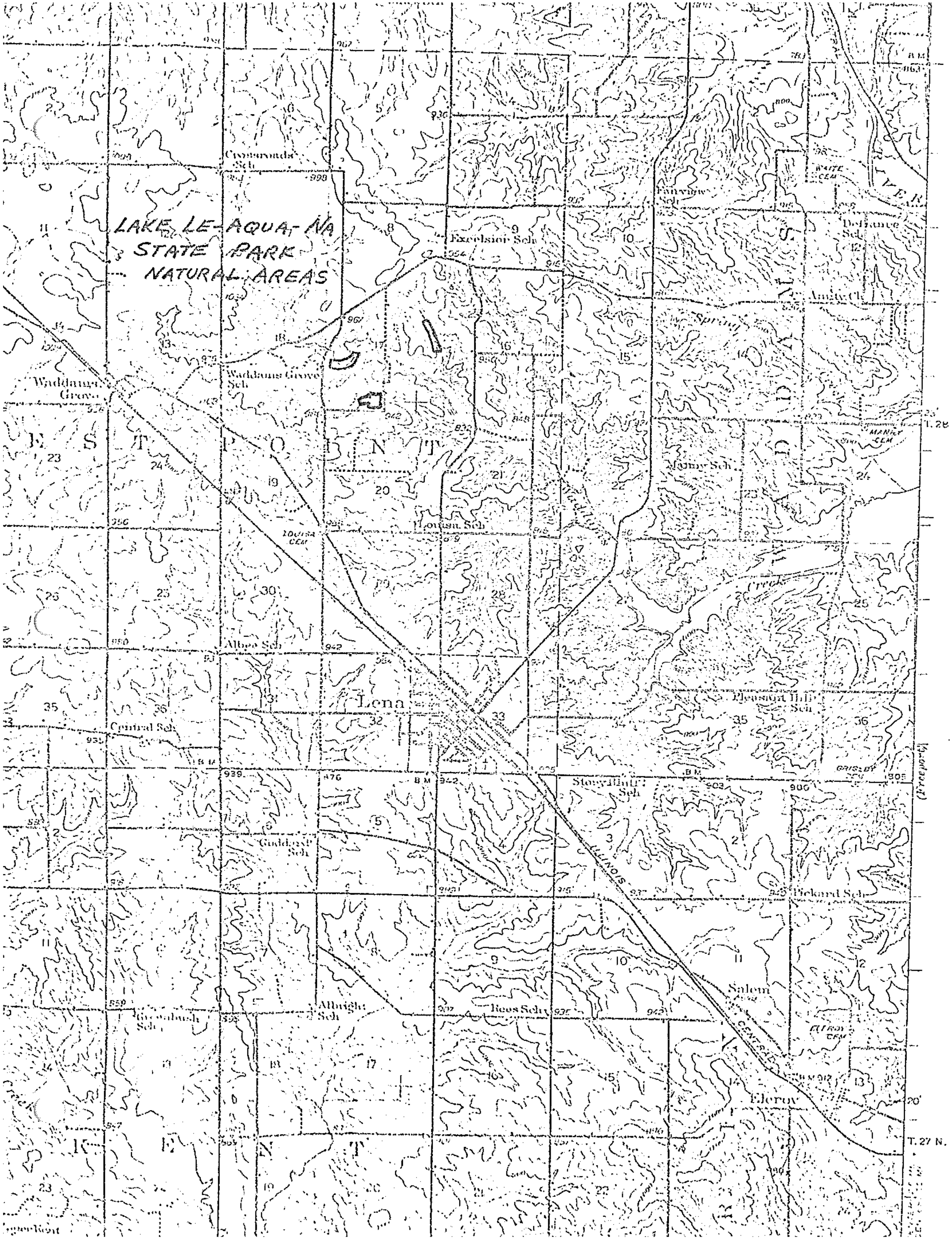
Upland and slope forests and bedrock outcrops of the Freport Section of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division of Illinois. The topography is flat to sloping with small rocky stream beds and ravines along which limestone outcrops occur. The area is near the western limit of Illinoian glaciation and the soils are developed in thin parent material over limestone.

Biological Features

The forested tract supports mesic upland woods with an overstory characterized by sugar maple, red oak, shagbark hickory, and ash; sugar maple seedlings are common in the understory. The ground cover is rich and includes many spring ephemerals; among the plants present are lady fern, baneberry, American spikenard, hepatica, and blue cohosh. Fragile fern is common on bedrock in the ravines and the uncommon spinulose wood fern occurs on the slopes above the stream. Ruffed grouse and badger are known to occur in the park but it is not known if they inhabit these tracts.

Comments

Past land use of the park area has included both extensive logging and grazing. The forested tract identified here is a second growth community but apparently if the tract was grazed it was not intense and the community is recovering. Although small, this area is of good natural quality, especially in the south part of the tract, and in addition represents a natural feature (mesic upland forest) that is not common in northern Illinois. The bedrock ravines are scenic and support natural vegetation on the steepest rock areas although the more level adjacent sites have been disturbed.



LAKE LE-AQUA-NA
STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
Lena
Waddams Grove
Waddams Grove Sch
Excelsior Sch
Fairview Sch
Defiance Sch
Louisa Sch
LOUISA CEM
Albee Sch
Central Sch
Pleasant Hill Sch
Stony Hill Sch
Pickard Sch
Albright Sch
Rees Sch
Salem
Eleroy
ILLINOIS
CENTRAL
T. 28
T. 27 N.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Lake Murphysboro State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Lake Murphysboro State Park, Jackson County, two tracts totaling approximately 179 acres in size. The tracts are located to the northwest and southwest of the lake, and are situated in the NW¼ and the NW¼ NE¼ Sec. 36; and in the SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 36, and the N½ NE¼ Sec. 1. Sec. 36 in T 8 S, R 3 W, and Sec. 1 in T 9 S, R 3 W.

Physical Features

Hill Prairie and upland, ravine, and floodplain forests of the Mt. Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The topography consists of nearly level to strongly sloping uplands with steep to very steep walled ravines. Loess and Illinoian glacial drift cover the sandstone and limestone bedrock, which outcrops infrequently. A small part of the Indian Creek floodplain below the lake is in the south tract.

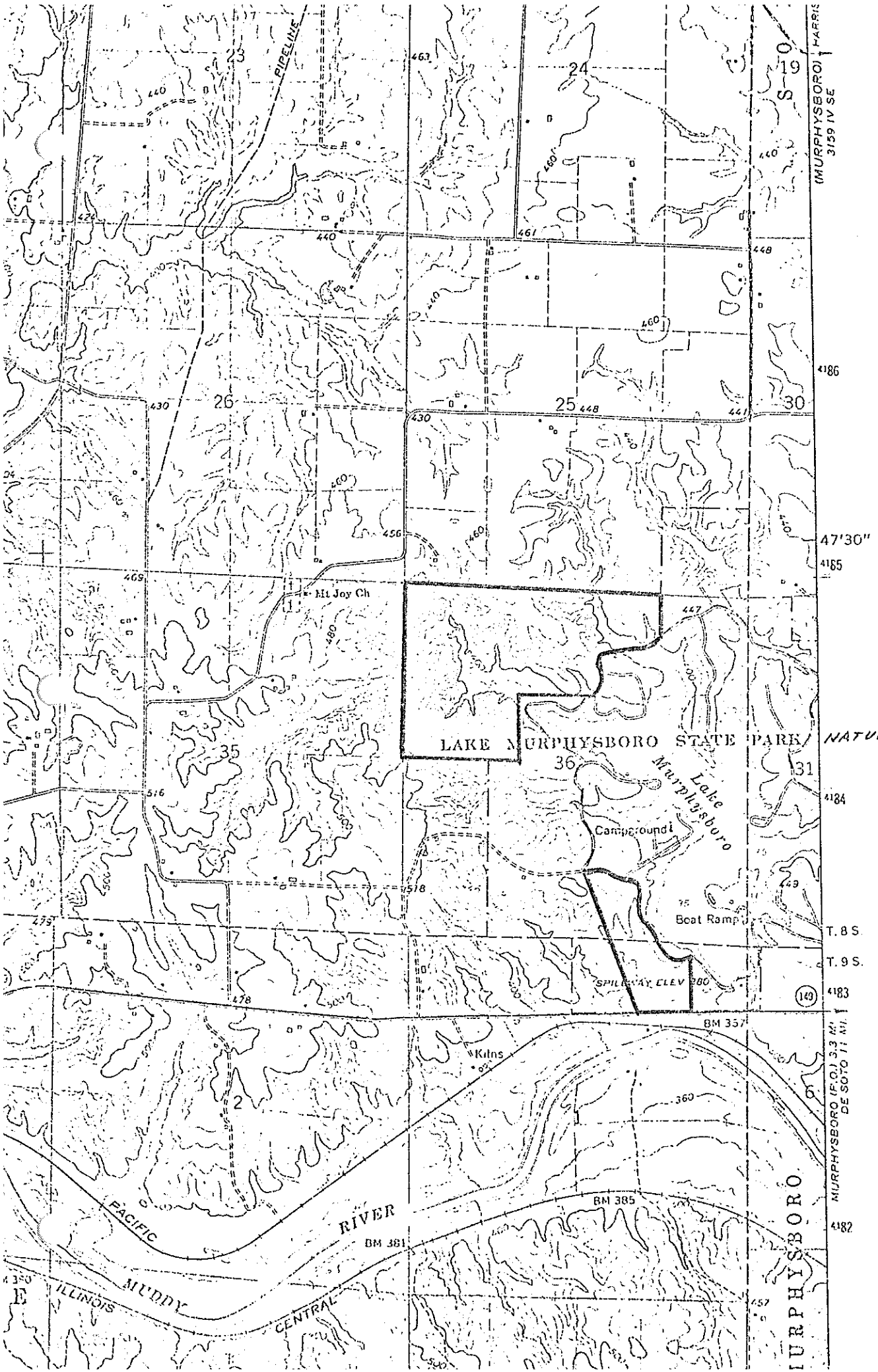
Biological Features

Prairie vegetation occurs on southeast facing slopes and includes big bluestem, little bluestem, Indian grass, wild rye, yellow coneflower, obedient plant, rosinweed, and purple coneflower. Black oak, post oak, and pignut hickory occur on flat ridge tops while white oak, black oak, hickories occur on upper slopes. The ravine bottoms and lower slopes have American elm, red oak, cherry, walnut, beech, tulip tree, and numerous ferns and spring ephemerals. Flood plain species such as cottonwood, pin oak, pecan, and sweetgum occur along Indian Creek.

Comments

Based on degree of disturbance, these areas are of above average natural quality and significance. The sites are diverse and support more than 60 tree species and contain several rare plants.

Without proper management the hill prairies will disappear from woody invasion, a prescribed burning program would be of benefit for this plant community. Occasional uncontrolled trail bike use occurs in the north tract and may lead to trail erosion on steep slopes.


(MURPHYSBORO) HARRIS
3159 IV SE
PIPELINE
24
19
S
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463
440
461
448
460
4186
26
25
30
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441
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469
47'30"
4185
Mt Joy Ch
LAKE MURPHYSBORO STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
35
36
31
Lake Murphysboro
Campground
516
518
4184
Boat Ramp
T. 8 S.
T. 9 S.
SPILLWAY ELEV 380
149
4183
BM 357
Kilns
2
360
PACIFIC
RIVER
BM 385
BM 381
4182
MURPHYSBORO (F.O.) 3.3 MI
DE SOTO 11 MI
ILLINOIS
MUDDY
CENTRAL
MURPHYSBORO

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
LaSalle County Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

LaSalle County Conservation Area, LaSalle County. Within the conservation area the natural areas are restricted to the bluffs of the Vermillion river and to ravines in the extreme northern and southern parts of the area. Approximately 80 acres in size and located in Sec. 32, T 32 N, R 3 E.

Physical Features

Upland and ravine forest, hill prairie, sandstone outcrops, river bluff, and permanent stream of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The topography of the conservation area consists of a flat extention of the upland terminating in a sharp river bluff of the Vermillion River and bordered on the north and south by deep ravines. Sandstone outcrops occur in the form of cliffs and overhangs along the Vermillion River and in the ravines.

Biological Features

The forested uplands along the river bluff are dominated by black and white oak, intermixed with this community are small strips of hill prairie that include such plants as big and little blue stem, bush clover, lead plant, western sunflower, culvers root, and drooping cone flower.

Red oak, sugar maple, and pawpaw are common woody plants in the ravines, understory associates include glade fern, Christmas fern, lady fern, and showy orchis. Associated with shaded outcrops in the ravines are interrupted fern, marginal woodfern, goats beard, American spikenard and white pine. Forbes saxifrage is extremely abundant in the ravines.

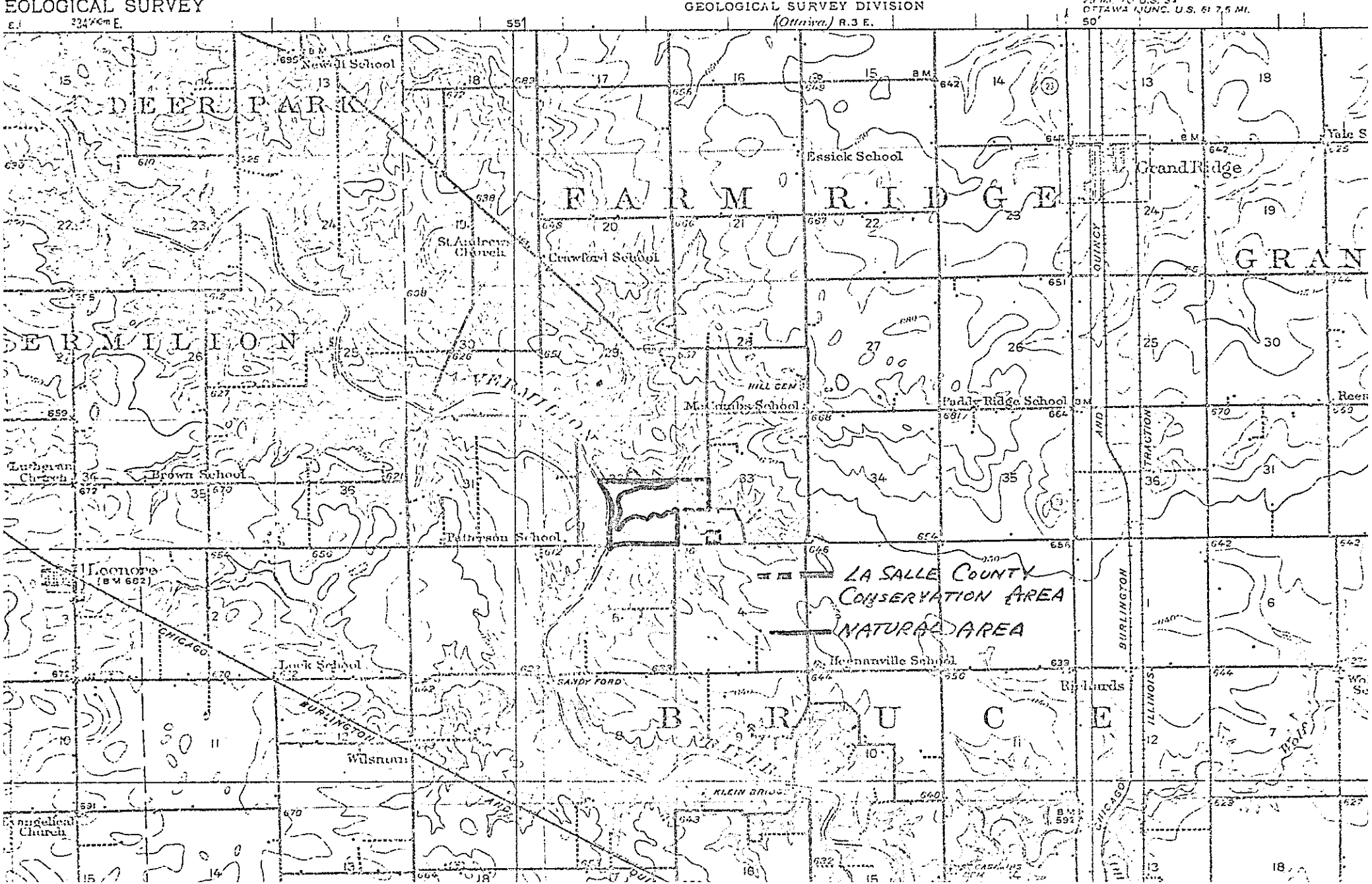
Comments

The conservation area was acquired as a lake site but developments have never been initiated. Apparently the tract was heavily logged prior to acquisition by the state, leaving undistrubed areas only on the steepest slopes of the ravines and river bluff

The significance of the area lies in the presence of several unusual plant communites, including the small hill prairies and the plants found in association with sandstone outcrops. The bluffs of the Vermillion River are quite scenic.

UNITED STATES
TMENT OF THE INTERIOR
EOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION AND EDUCATION
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DIVISION



Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Lincoln's New Salem State Park, Menard County

Size and Location of Natural Area

A 100 acre tract located on both sides of route 123 in the southern portion of the park. Situated in the S½ SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 25, NW¼ Sec. 36, T 18 N, R 7 W.

Physical Features

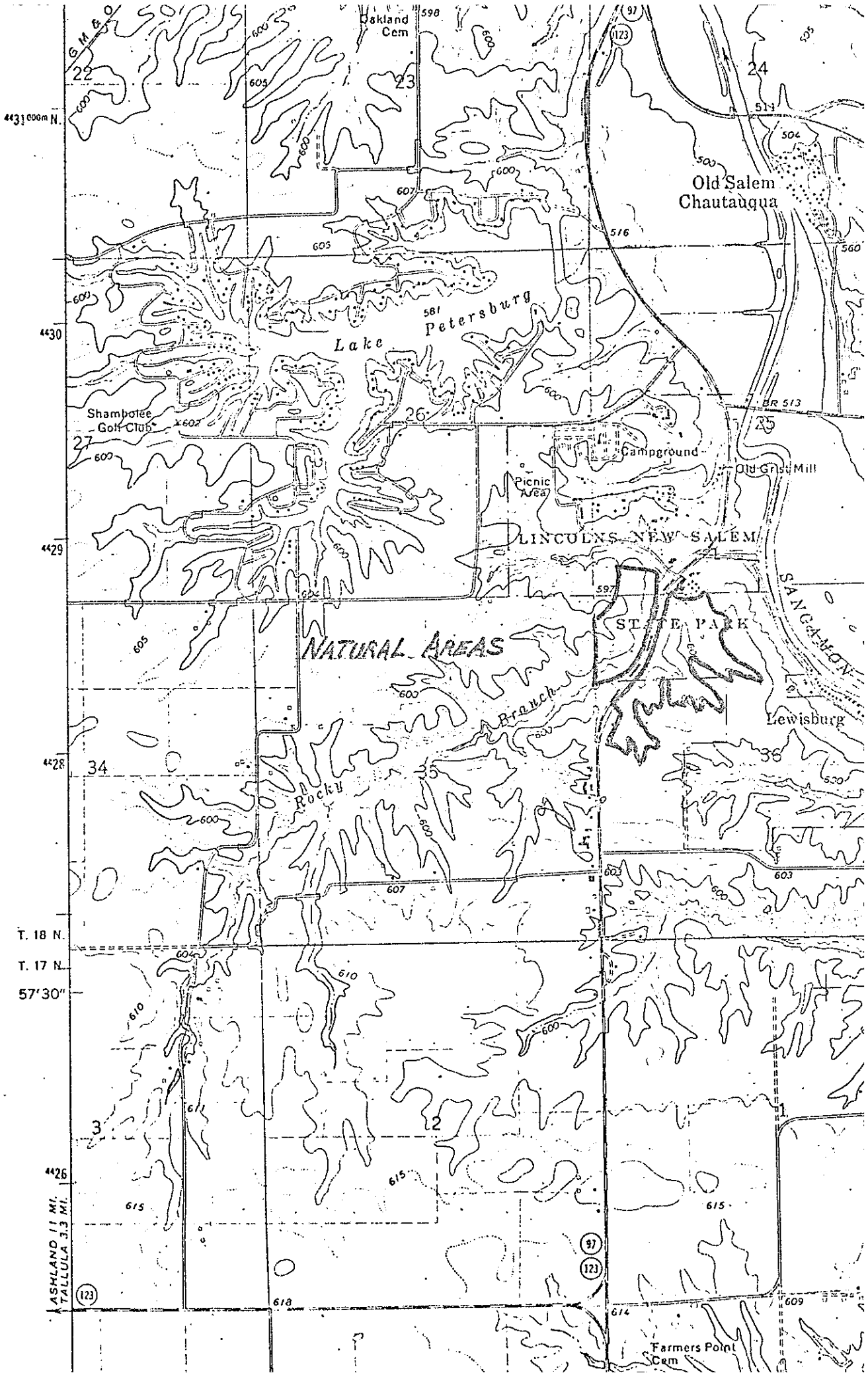
Level upland and ravine of the Springfield Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The area includes a section of a tributary ravine of the Sangamon River. A highway traverses the main ravine bottom, larger side ravines are well developed with intermittent streams. Soils are developed in deep loess over Illinoian glacial till.

Biological Features

Vegetation varies from dry upland forest communities on ridges and south facing slopes to a dry mesic community in ravines. Black oak and white oak are the main components of the dry upland forest, noteable understory plants include false fox glove and shooting star on well drained ridges. Red oak, white oak, sugar maple, mockernut hickory, and bitternut hickory are representative of the mesic forest communities; woody understory plants include Ohio buckeye, wild hydrangea, redbud, and prickly ash; Christmas fern, maiden hair fern, and hepatica grow on north facing slopes.

Comments

The forest appears to have never been logged extensively, old growth trees occur as individuals throughout the tract. Disturbances include old mine shafts and an old road bed on the west tract.


Oakland Cem
Old Salem Chautauqua
Petersburg
Lake
Shambolee Golf Club
Campground
Old Grist Mill
Picnic Area
LINCOLNS NEW SALEM
STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
Rocky Branch
Lewisburg
Farmers Point Cem
T. 18 N.
T. 17 N.
57'30"
4431 000m N.
4430
4429
4428
4426
ASHLAND 11 MI.
TALLULA 3.3 MI.
BR 513

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Lincoln Trail Homestead State Park, Macon County

Size and Location of Natural Area

A 35 acre tract situated south of the Sangamon River in the SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 28, and the E½ NE¼ NE¼ Sec. 32, T 16 N, R 1 E.

Physical Features

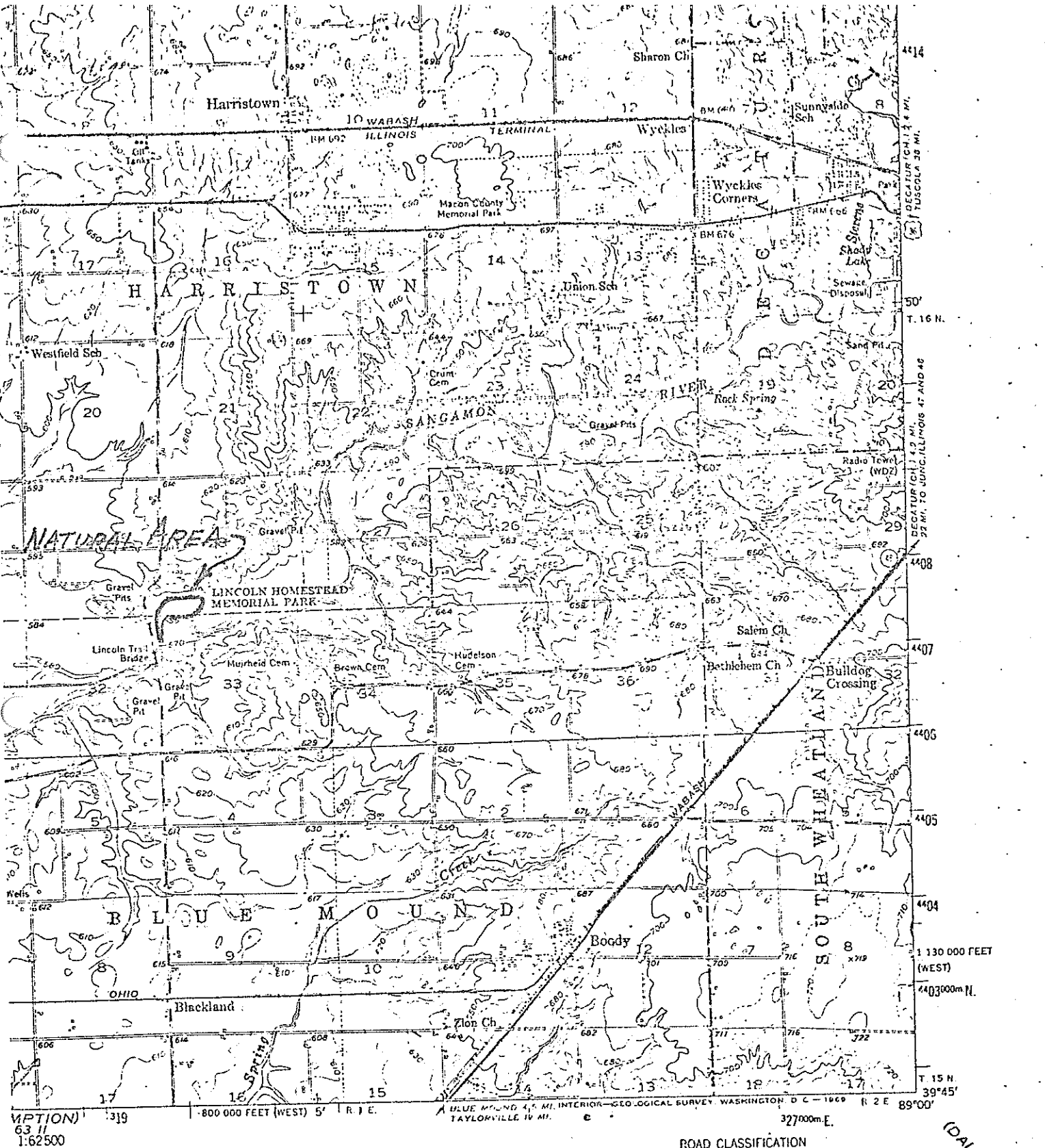
River floodplain representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The area includes a meander of the Sangamon River and a section of floodplain surrounded on three sides by the river. The topography is generally flat with shallow ponds and meanders left by floodwaters.

Biological Features

The area is forested with a typical floodplain community. Silver maple is the dominant tree species, associates include swamp white oak, honey locust, hackberry, American elm, Kentucky coffee-tree, green ash, sycamore, box-elder, and willow. The ground cover consists of wood nettle in the wettest sites, with Virginia creeper, trumpet creeper, wild ginger, and Solomon's seal on the more well drained sites.

Comments

The forest is second growth with trees averaging between one and two feet in diameter. The important features of the tract are its size and lack of disturbance except for logging.



INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.—1954

63 II
1:62500

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9000 12000 15000 18000 21000 FEET

2 3 4 5 KILOMETERS

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...LF-INTERVAL CONTOURS
...N SEA LEVEL

...IONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
... SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
...L SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801
...S AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium duty — Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route — State Route

ILLINOIS
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

NIANTIC, ILL.
N3945—W8900/15

1954

AMS 3163 I—SERIES V763

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Lincoln Trail State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Lincoln Trail State Park, Clark County, including two separate tracts in the park. The individual areas include a 40 acre tract located east of the campground (N½ Sec.2, T 10 N, R 12 W.) and a 70 acre tract bordering the northwest shore of the east arm of the lake (S½ Sec 35, T 11 N, R 12 W, E½ Sec. 3, T 10 N, R 11 W) The Old Indian Treaty Boundary passes through the second tract.

Physical Features

Upland and ravine forest and intermittent stream of the Southern Uplands Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division of Illinois. The topography consists of narrow upland ridges between deep ravines; the parent material is glacial drift over sandstone and shale which outcrop infrequently along drainages.

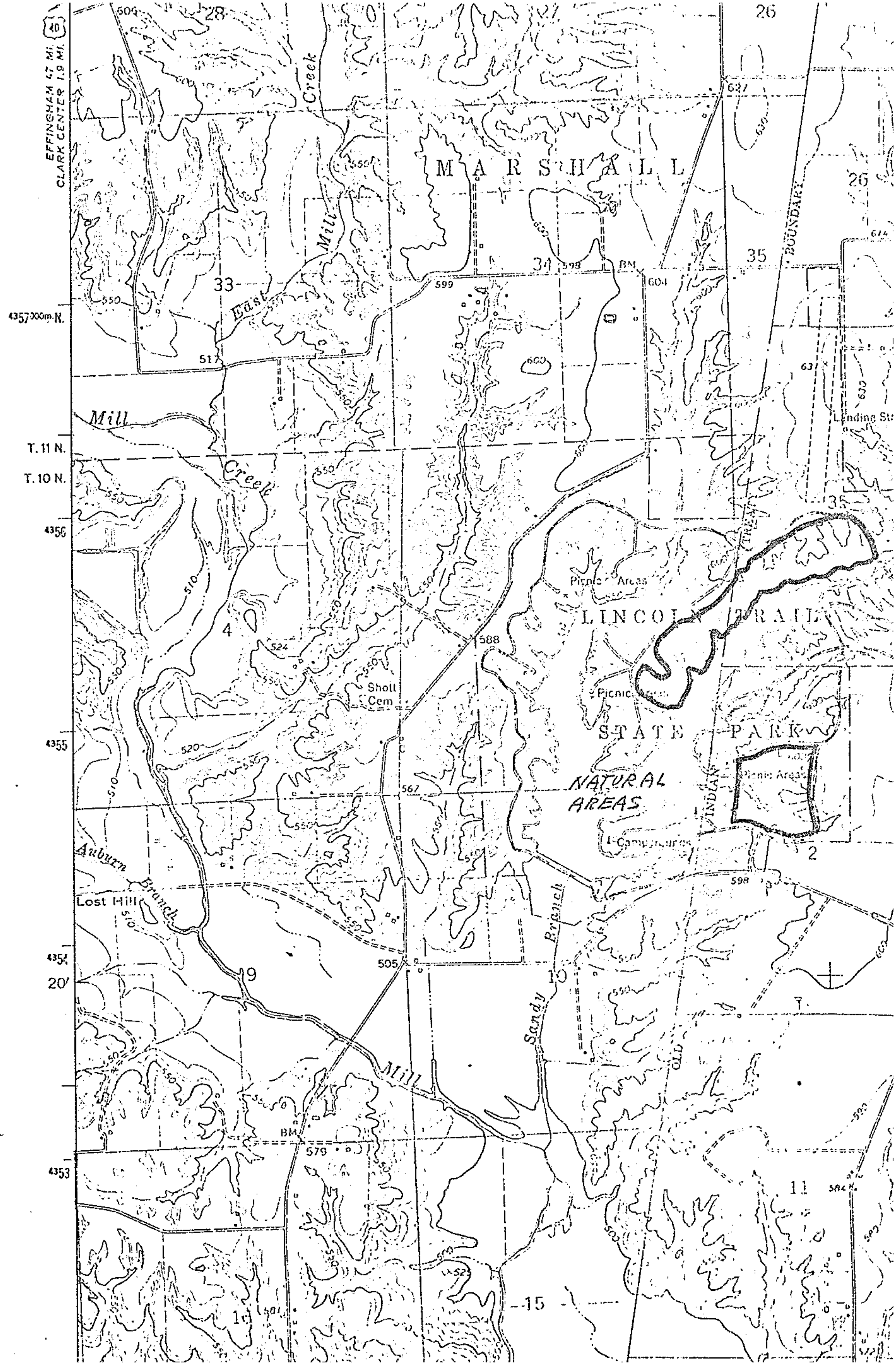
Biological Features

The ravines and slopes support a beech-sugar maple forest, associates include red oak, white oak, tulip tree, ash, persimmon, and butternut; black oak and white oak are common on upland sites. Sassafras, pawpaw, flowering dogwood, and blue beech are common shrubs. The ground cover is rich in ferns and wild flowers including five species of ferns, hepatica, ginseng, showy orchis, richweed, beech drops, and squaw root.

In the 40 acre tract several intermittent streams are present and have small seep springs associated with them. The streams have occasional small pools supporting fish populations. The carolina box turtle and the gray squirrel are present.

Comments

These tracts represent excellent examples of second growth beech-tuliptree-maple forest which is restricted in distribution to extreme eastern and southern Illinois. In addition, several plants of restricted range such as squaw root and richweed occur in the ravines. The 40 acre tract deserves special mention as it contains a wide diversity of natural features and is an extremely high quality natural area.



EFFINGHAM 47 MI.
CLARK CENTER 1.9 MI.
40
28
26
M A R S H A L L
East Mill Creek
33
34
35
BOUNDARY
4357000m N.
Mill Creek
T. 11 N.
T. 10 N.
4356
4
Shott Cem
LINCOLN TRAIL
STATE PARK
Picnic Areas
NATURAL AREAS
Campgrounds
4355
Auburn Branch
Lost Hill
Sandy Branch
4354
20′
9
Mill
BM
579
4353
OLD INDIAN TRAIL
2
11
15

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Lowden State Park, Ogle County

Size and Location of Natural Area

No. 1 of three natural areas, a 10 acre island in the Rock River, adjacent to the park. Situated in the SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 34, T 24 N, R 10 E, and the NW¼ NW ¼ Sec. 3, T 23 N, R 10 E.

Physical Features

An alluvial island in the Rock River, representative of the Oregon Section of the Rock River Hill County Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

Bottomland forest trees including American elm, soft maple, cottonwood, green ash, bur oak, basswood, box-elder, hackberry and honey locust are present. The upstream portion of the island expresses the best species diversity and has an occasional sugar maple and walnut on well drained sites. Down stream, on younger alluvial soils, box-elder and soft maple are the dominant species. Two species of nettle, wild grape, giant ragweed, bur cucumber, sunflower, smartweed, and monkey flower are among the herbaceous species present.

Comments

Known past disturbances include construction of a building (now removed), use of the island as a hunting club, and theft of a number of a walnut trees. Possibly as a result of disturbance by ice blocks during periods of high water, the island does not support a typical closed canopy forest community, rather there are scattered clusters of larger trees among communities of second growth woody species. The apparent movement of the island downstream is of ecological significance.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Lowden State Park, Ogle County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 2 of three natural areas, a 15 acre tract located below the river bluff, southwest of the main park. Situated in the center of the SW¼ Sec. 34, T 24 N, R 10 E.

Physical Features

River bluff, talus slope, and floodplain of the Oregon Section of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division of Illinois. Topography consists of a moderately steep 100 foot bluff of the Rock River, with an associated talus slope and narrow river floodplain.

Biological Features

Higher portions of the bluff once supported a prairie community with scattered bur oak, the oaks remain but woody species have replaced the prairie. White oak is the main component of the forest below the steep bluff, while on lower portions of the slope is a dry mesic forest community of shagbark and bitternut hickory, white oak and red oak, with sugar maple and red elm as associates near the river; spice bush, blackhaw, hazel and gooseberry are common shrubs. A narrow floodplain forest of soft maple and box elder occurs adjacent to the river.

Comments

Past disturbances of the tract include grazing, however, it has recovered greatly. Part of the tract may never have been logged, a number of large red oak more than three feet in diameter occur on the lower slopes of the bluff near the river.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Lowden State Park, Ogle County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 3 of three natural areas, a 40 acre tract located north of the campground. Located in the N½ SE¼ Sec. 34, R 10 E, T 24 N.

Physical Features

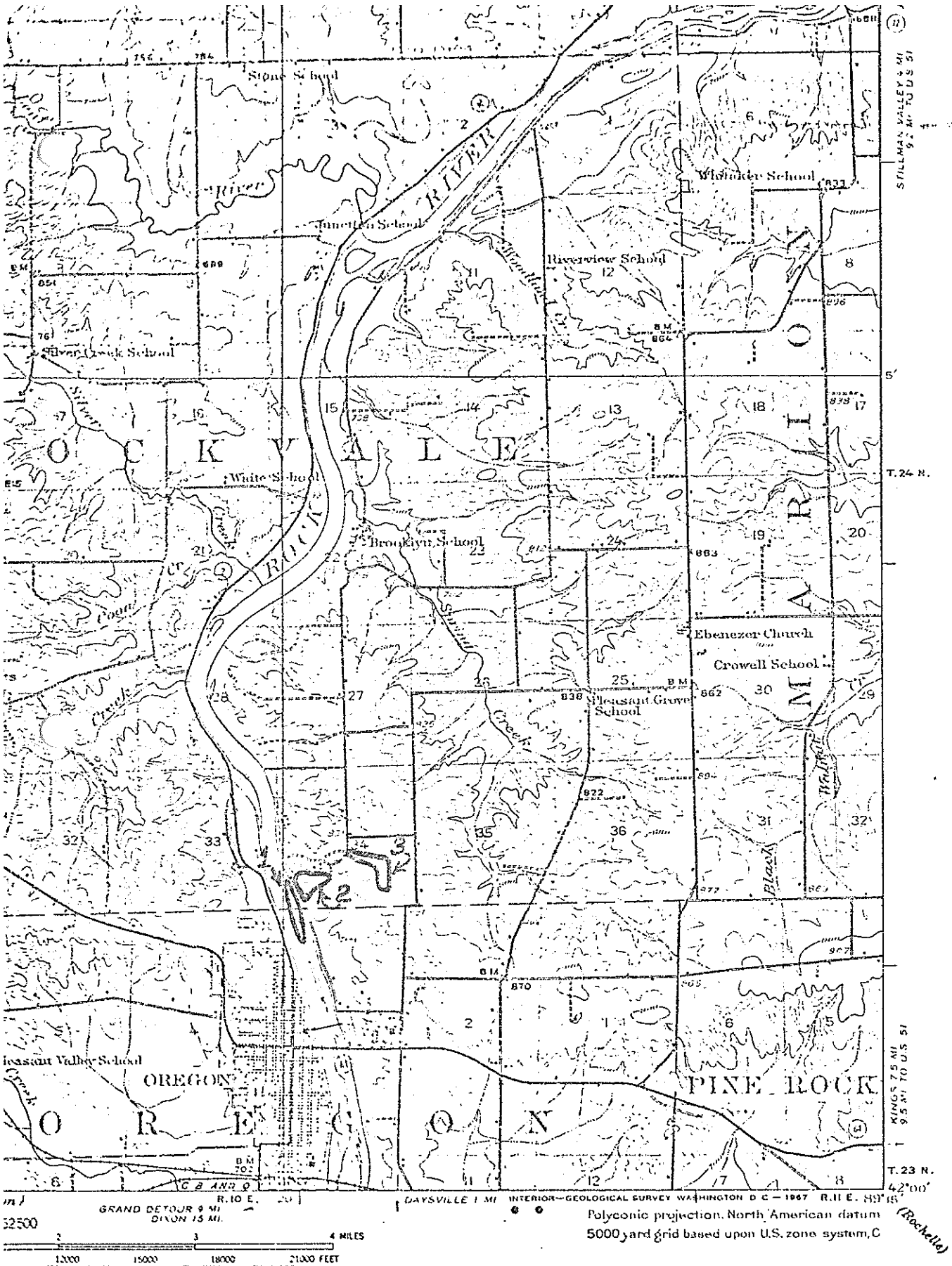
Level upland representative of the Oregon Section of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division of Illinois. Parent material is loess over glacial till.

Biological Features

A dry mesic upland forest dominated by red oak occupies the site. Associates include white oak, black cherry, red elm, blackhaw, lady fern, and maiden hair fern.

Comments

The tract was logged and grazed in the past but is now in an advanced stage of recovery. The site represents one of the few areas of mesic upland woods in the park.



LOWDEN MEMORIAL STATE PARK

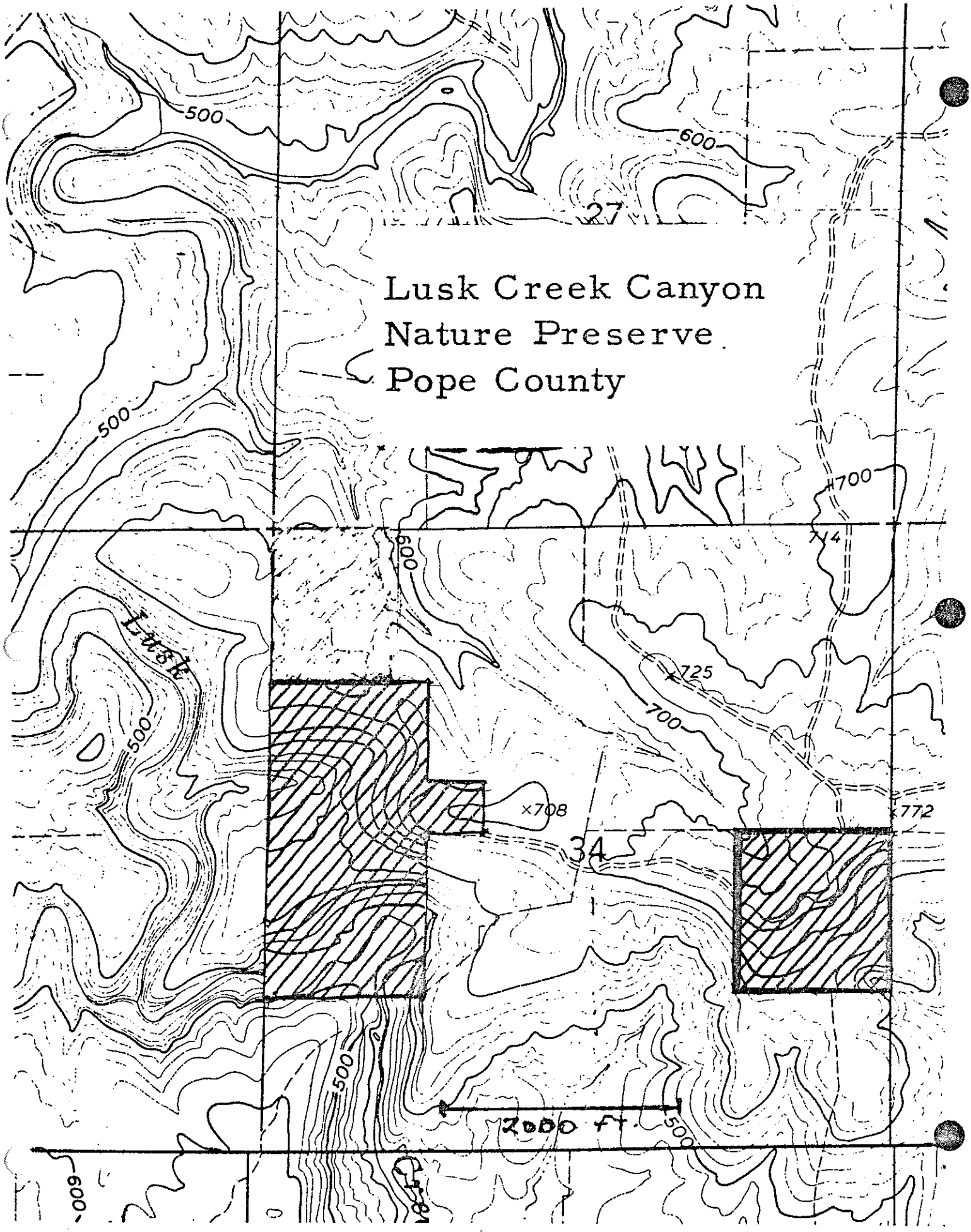
NATURAL AREAS

OREGON, ILLINOIS

N4200—W8915/15

1922

SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST


Lusk Creek Canyon
Nature Preserve
Pope County
27
34
500
600
700
725
×708
×772
2000 ft.

LUSK CREEK CANYON NATURE PRESERVE - Pope County

Location:

4 miles northeast of Eddyville
Portions of Sec. 34, T 11 S, R 6 E, 3 PM
Eddyville Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number:

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation

Character:

Natural types: Forests, permanent stream, and bedrock outcrops of the Greater Shawnee Hills Section of the Shawnee Hills Division.

Geology: Pennsylvanian sandstone (Caseyville Formation) with exposed sections up to 100 feet thick.

Soils: Grantsburg-Zanesville association.

Physiography: A deep gorge eroded through the Pennsylvanian escarpment by Lusk Creek.

Vegetation: Forests of sugar maple-beech-tulip tree in valley bottoms, white oak-red oak-hickory on slopes, and blackjack oak-post oak-scarlet oak on blufftops.

Natural features of special interest:

The gorge is very scenic and supports relic northern plants including three species of clubmosses on its north-facing walls. The rare hay-scented fern and at least 13 different kinds of native orchids occur here. At least 13 kinds of lichens are known in Illinois only from Lusk Creek Canyon. There is on the preserve a stone wall built by Indians during the Archaic Period.

History of preservation:

A planned impoundment that would have flooded the canyon was the occasion of a protracted public controversy prior to the dedication of the nature preserve.

Bibliography:

Ashby, W. C. 1968. Forest types of Lusk Creek in Pope County, Illinois. Trans. Ill. State Acad. Sci. 61(4):348-355.

Hopkins, W. E. 1967. Lusk Creek Canyon: a rare place. Outdoor Illinois 6:8-16.

_____1969. The vascular flora of Lusk Creek Canyon. Castanea 34:1-56.

Schwegman, J. E. 1967. Martha's Woods. Outdoor Illinois 6(2).

Skorepa, A. C. and J. A. Snider. 1967. Some unusual lower plants from Lusk Creek Canyon, Pope County, Illinois. Trans. Ill. St. Acad. Sci. 60(1):105-106

2/5/71

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Mackinaw River Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 1 of two natural areas, a 40 acre tract located 3.5 miles northeast of Mackinaw. Situated in the SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 2, T 24 N, R 2 W.

Physical Features

Ravine system representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The area consists of the lower portion of a steep walled 80 foot deep ravine with adjacent side ravines and flat uplands. The main ravine is drained by an intermittent gravel bottomed stream; soils are developed in loess over Wisconsinan aged glacial till. The site is at the edge of the Bloomington Moraine, adjacent to the Mackinaw River.

Biological Features

Hill prairie, dry upland, forest, and ravine forest vegetation are present. Two hill prairies less than one half acre in size are present on the crest of a side ravine at the west edge of the tract; vegetation includes little bluestem, prairie dock, milk-vetch, lead-plant, scurf pea, white prairie clover, tall tickseed, and New Jersey tea. The dry upland forest is characterized by black oak, white oak, and black cherry; with Virginia creeper, Desmodium sp., and false fox glove common in the understory, large stands of the yellow ladyslipper orchid are also present. The ravine contains a mesic forest dominated by red oak; alternate leaved dogwood, American spikenard, and goatsbeard grow on the ravine slopes and broad beech fern is common, skunk cabbage occurs along the streambank.

Comments

The track consists of young second growth timber, however the diversity of vegetation and topography in the tract make it an important natural area. The hill prairies are being invaded by the surrounding forest vegetation.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Mackinaw River Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 2 of two areas, a 20 acre tract located 4 miles northeast of Mackinaw. Situated in the SE½ SE¼ NW¼ Sec. 2, T 24 N, R 2 W.

Physical Features

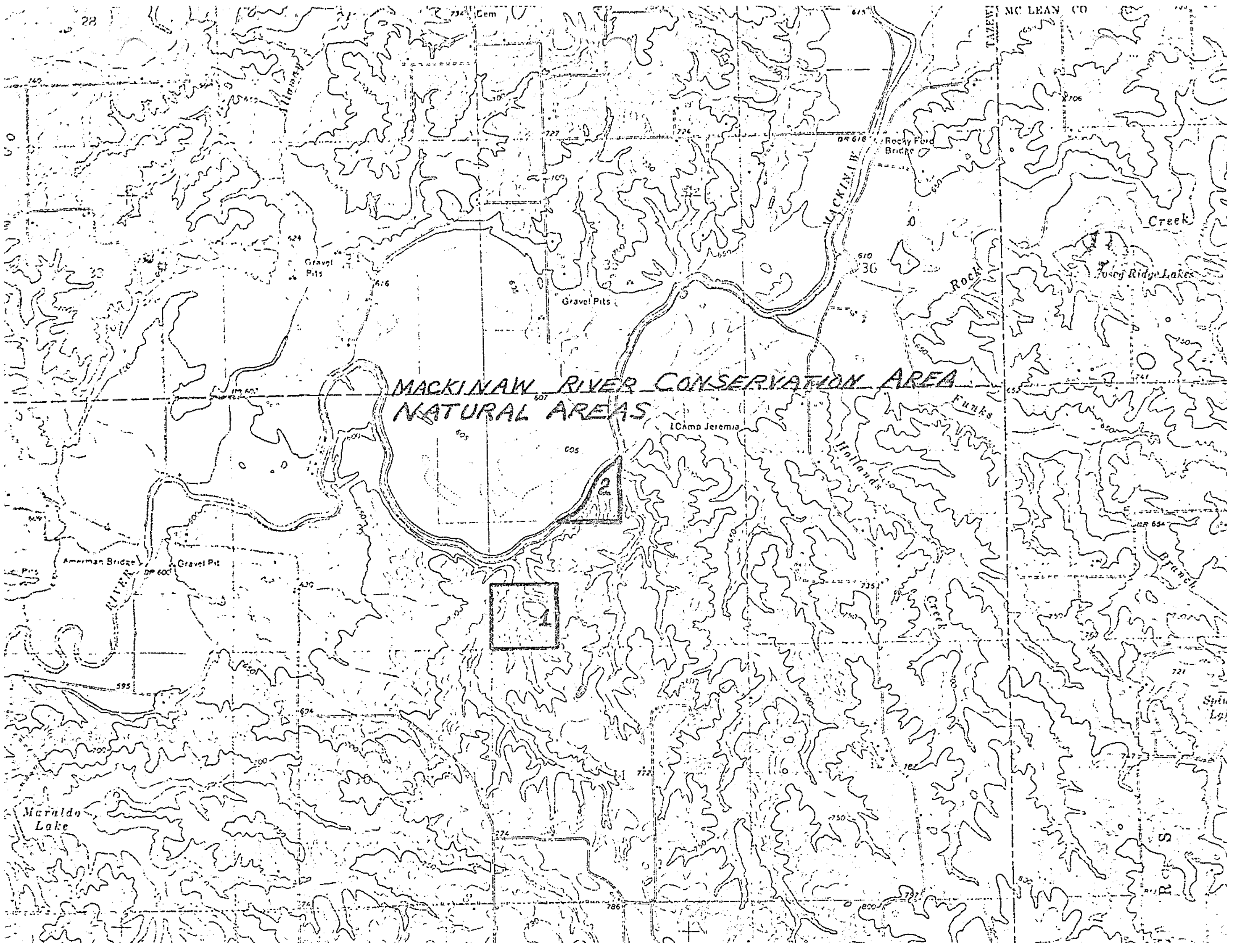
Ravine and river bluff of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The tract includes a ¼ mile long, 120 foot high, section of river bluff along the Mackinaw River. Also present is the mouth of a small tributary and a side ravine. The tract is located on the Bloomington Moraine, parent material is loess over glacial till.

Biological Features

Dry upland and ravine forest vegetation are present. The slopes of the river bluff support a dry-mesic community of chinkapin oak and white oak, with red oak, sugar maple and walnut as associates, honeysuckle and American spikenard are present in the understory. The side ravine supports a mesic forest community of red oak, sugar maple and basswood; butternut, arrow wood, blackhaw, buckeye, blue beech, hop tree, and alternate leaved dogwood are associates. Scouring rush grows in a spring on the ravine slopes.

Comments

The importance of this tract is the high river bluff and frontage on the Mackinaw River, one of the better scenic streams in Illinois.


MACKINAW RIVER CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREAS
1
2
MC LEAN CO
TAZEW
MACKINAW
RIVER
Rocky Ford Bridge
Amerman Bridge
Gravel Pits
Gravel Pit
Camp Jeremia
Rosey Ridge Lakes
Rock
Creek
Funks
Hollands
Creek
Branch
Mcraldo Lake
Cem
36

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Marshall County Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 1 of two natural areas, a 30 acre tract along the Illinois River, adjacent to route 29, one mile south of Sparland. Situated in the center of the SW¼ Sec. 23, T 12 N, R 3 W.

Physical Features

River bluff and side ravine of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The area consists of a section of the Illinois River bluff and the slopes of a side ravine. Soils are developed in loess and glacial till.

Biological Features

Hill prairies occur along the dry upper slopes of the side ravine on sites having a direct southern exposure. A blend of both hill prairie and dry upland prairie plants are present, including side oats gramma, western sunflower, scurf pea, purple cone flower, white and purple prairie clover, prairie dock, and compass plant. A dry forest of chinkapin oak, white oak, black oak, and bur oak occurs on lower slopes and in draws, drooping coneflower is common in the woods.

Comments

Prairie apparently once occupied the entire ridge top and upper ravine slopes; woody invasion has now restricted the community to a series of small tracts each less than one-fifth acre in size.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Marshall County Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

One of two natural areas, a series of springs totaling approximately 15 acres and located both north and south of area headquarters, adjacent to the west side of route 26. In the W½ Sec. 23, E½ Sec. 27, T 11 N, R 3 W.

Physical Features

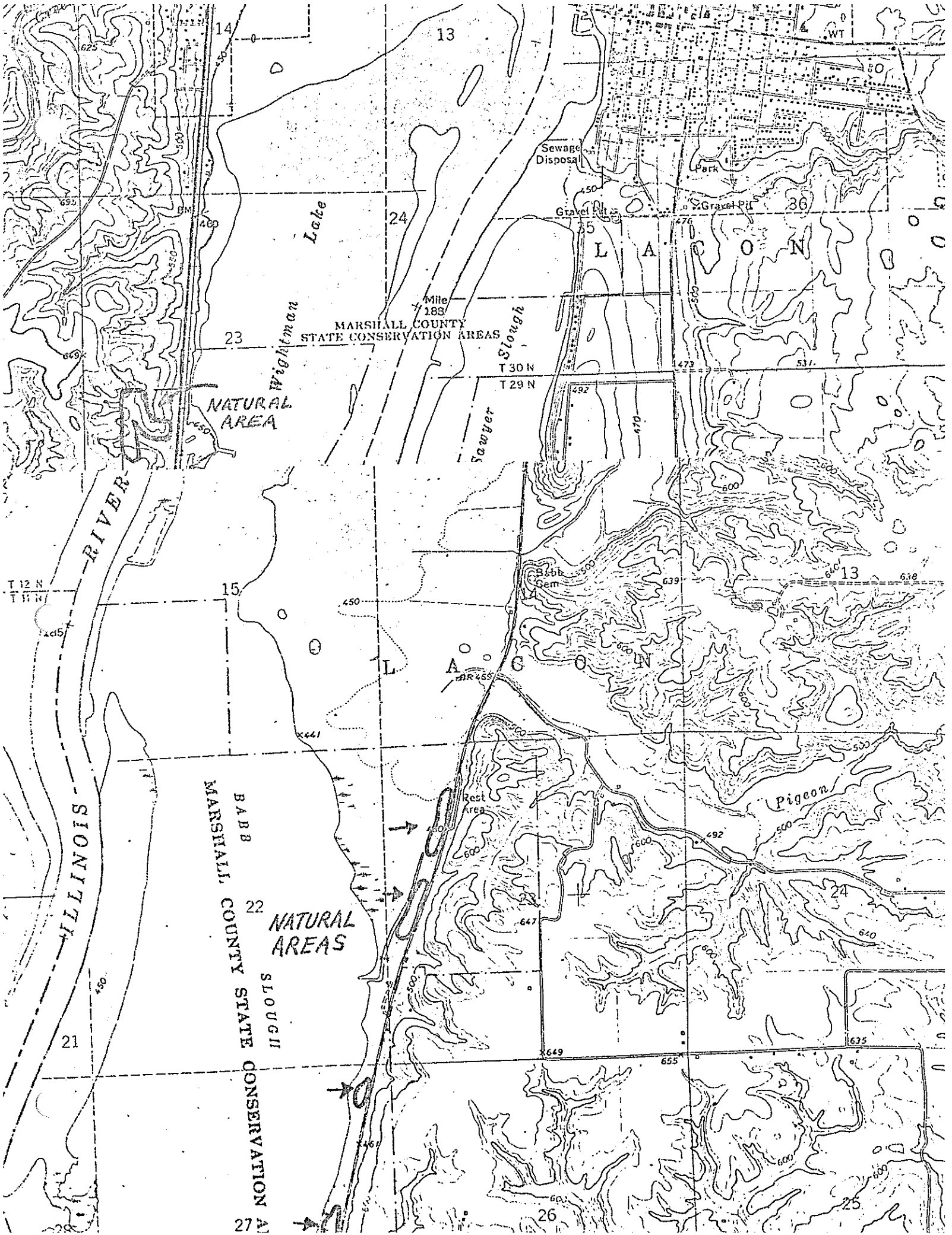
Large spring fed peat and muck deposits representative of the Illinois River Section of the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River Bottomland Natural Divisions of Illinois.

Biological Features

The springs support a bog flora more typical of northern Illinois. Distinctive plants include skunk cabbage, water dock, marsh fern, and turtle head. Other marsh plants present include buttonbush, river bulrush, arrowhead, swamp loosestrife and *Eupatorium maculatum*.

Comments

Past disturbances include dredging and, more recently, prolonged inundation by flood waters of the Illinois River. The latter may have had some effect on the flora of the springs.


Wickman Lake
Sewage Disposal
Park
Gravel Pit
Gravel Pit
LAKE
Mile 188
MARSHALL COUNTY STATE CONSERVATION AREAS
Sawger Slough
T 30 N
T 29 N
NATURAL AREA
ILLINOIS RIVER
T 12 N
T 11 N
LAKE
Rest Area
Pigeon
MARSHALL COUNTY STATE CONSERVATION AREAS
NATURAL AREAS
SLOUGH
13
14
15
22
24
25
26
27
36

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
McHenry Dam State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

McHenry Dam State Park, McHenry County, 310 acres in five tracts. The tracts are situated approximately in the N½ Sec.7, and Sec. 6, T 44 N, R 8 E.

Physical Features

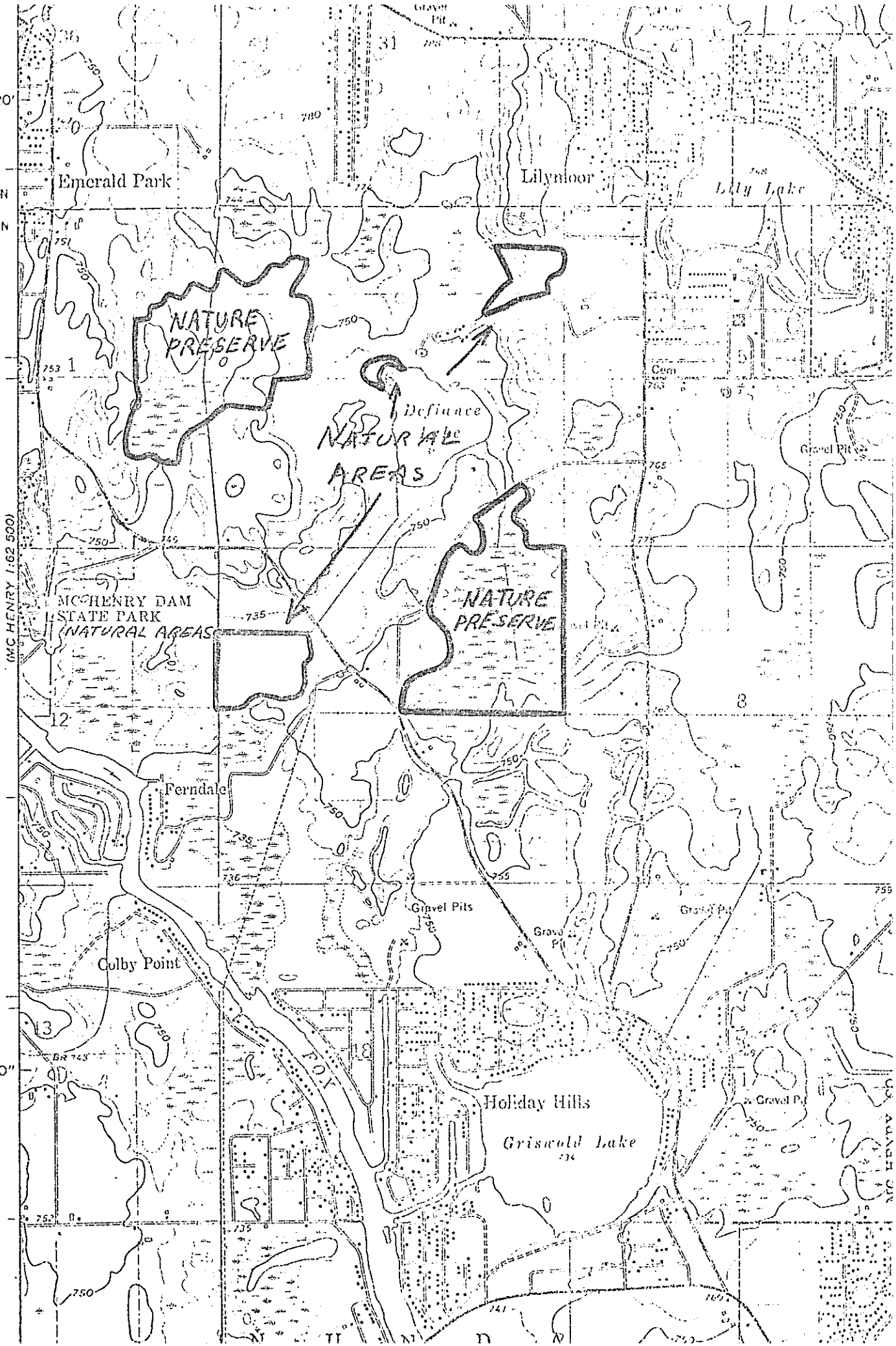
The tracts include upland and slope forest, hill prairie, marsh, and bog found in association with kame and kettle hole topography of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Nature Division of Illinois. The natural areas represent a section of the Valparaiso Moraine and its immediate outwash plain, the moraine consists of a belt of kames while the outwash zone has several eskers and kettle holes.

Biological Features

The forests and hill prairie occur only on the higher ridges above the water table. White oak and hickories occupy the level ridge tops while red oak is more characteristic of the slopes and kettle holes. The forest ranges from an open grown situation with nodding onion, and shooting star common in the understory to a more dense community with a shrub cover of cherry, elder, American red currant, and arrow wood. Many wild flowers are present, including round lobed hepatica, shinleaf, bellwort, Greek valerian, and Solomon's seal. The hill prairie is dominated by Indian grass, associated species include purple prairie clover, lead plant, and birds foot violet. Where the topography drops below the water table the depressions are peat filled and marsh and bog communities occupy the sites. The bog consists of an extensive floating mat of sphagnum moss and leather leaf. Typical marsh species present include blue joint grass, marsh fern, marsh marigold, and several species of willows, some unusual marsh species present include grass of parnassus, Kalm's lobelis, dwarf birch, and Ohio goldenrod.

Comments

These areas are of both geological and botanical significance as they display excellent examples of kettle-moraine topography and the diversity of plant communities that occupy the sites. In addition, many rare and uncommon plants are present. The wetlands show very few signs of disturbance while the forested uplands have been both logged and grazed but are returning to natural condition.


Emerald Park
Lilymoor
Lily Lake
T. 45 N
T. 44 N
NATURE PRESERVE
Defiance
NATURAL AREAS
NATURE PRESERVE
McHENRY DAM
STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
Ferndale
Colby Point
Gravel Pits
Holiday Hills
Griswold Lake
FOX
20'
17'30"
(McHENRY 1:62 500)

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
McLean County Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

One tract approximately 25 acres in size located southwest of the dam. Situated in the SE¼ SE¼, Sec. 35, T 23 N, R 4 E.

Physical Features

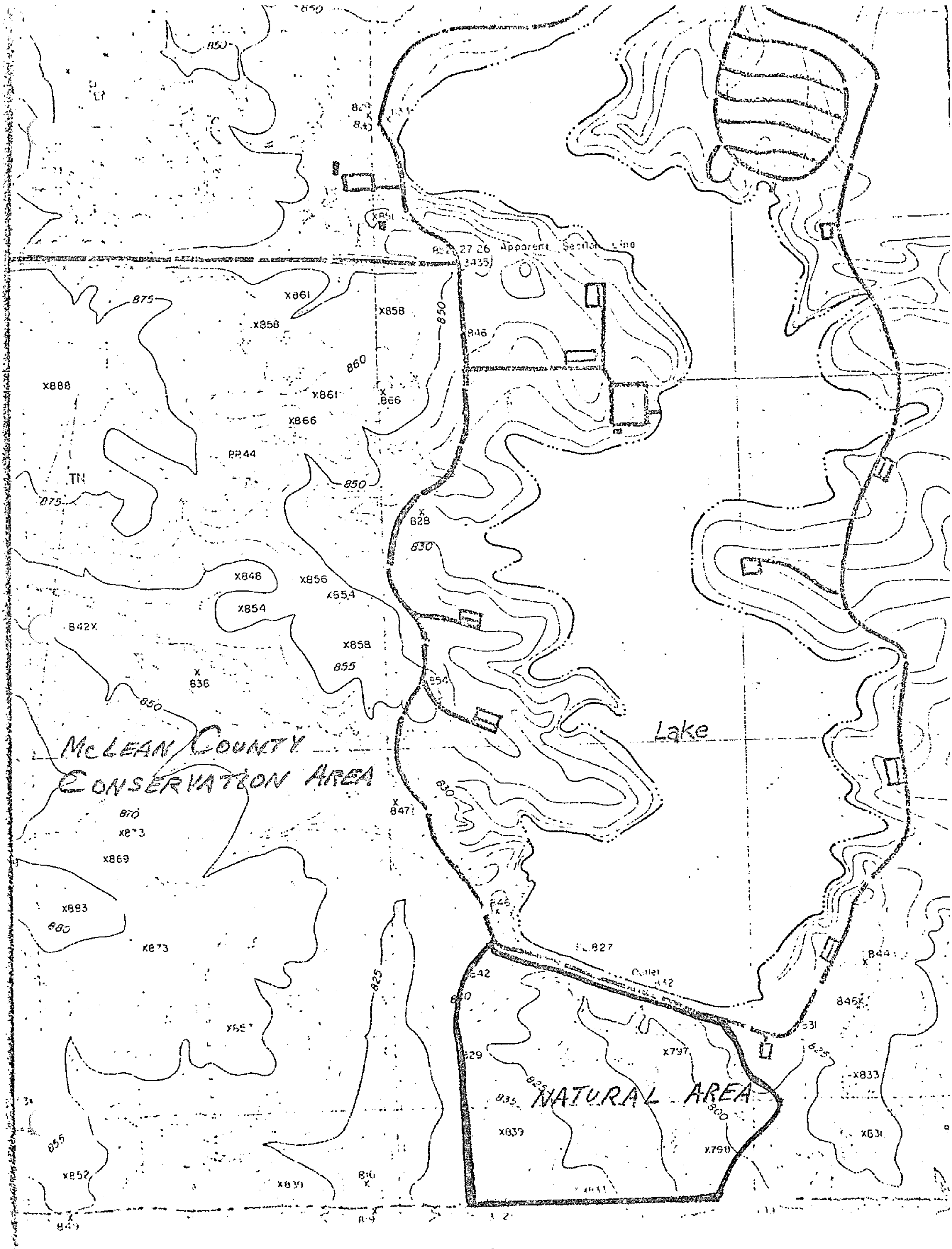
Ravine and adjacent uplands representation of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. Topography consists of a low ridge and shallow ravine system on the Bloomington Moraine. A small stream which is fed by overflow from the dam is present. Soils are developed in deep loess over glacial till, which is exposed along the stream bank.

Biological Features

A second growth forest of white oak, black oak, bitternut hickory and shagbark hickory occurs on the low ridge while red oak and sugar maple are characteristic of the ravine, associated woody species include green ash, hackberry, walnut, black cherry, Ohio buckeye, ironwood, and red elm. Among the herbs present are squaw root, hepatica, showy orchis, Gleason's trillium, two species of waterleaf, and stinging nettle.

Comments

This tract represents the least disturbed example of natural woodland in the park. Important features include a stand of large trees (some two feet in diameter) along the stream and the presence of squaw root, which is of local occurrence in eastern Illinois.


McLEAN COUNTY
CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREA
Lake
Apparent Section Line
Outlet
TN
875
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850
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830
825
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x888
x861
x858
x866
x848
x856
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x842
x838
x828
x873
x869
x883
x797
x798
x839
x852
x833
x844
x846
x847
x851
x830

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Mermet Lake Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

Mermet Lake Conservation Area, Massac County, two separate tracts totaling approximately 180 acres. The tracts are located at the north and the south west edges of the conservation area. The areas are situated in the NE¼ Sec.27, and NW¼ NW¼ Sec. 26, T 14 S, R 3 E, and the SE¼ SE¼ Sec. 34 and S½ SW¼ Sec. 35, both in T 14 S, R 3 E, and the N½ N½ Sec. 2, T 15 S, R 3 E.

Physical Features

Forests of terrace soils of the Bottomlands Section of the Costal Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The area consists of a remnant of flat clayey terrace deposits within the ancient abandoned Ohio River Valley. There are many shallow depressions that hold water during the spring. Isolated hills of loess covered cretaceous deposits occur in the extreme south part of the area.

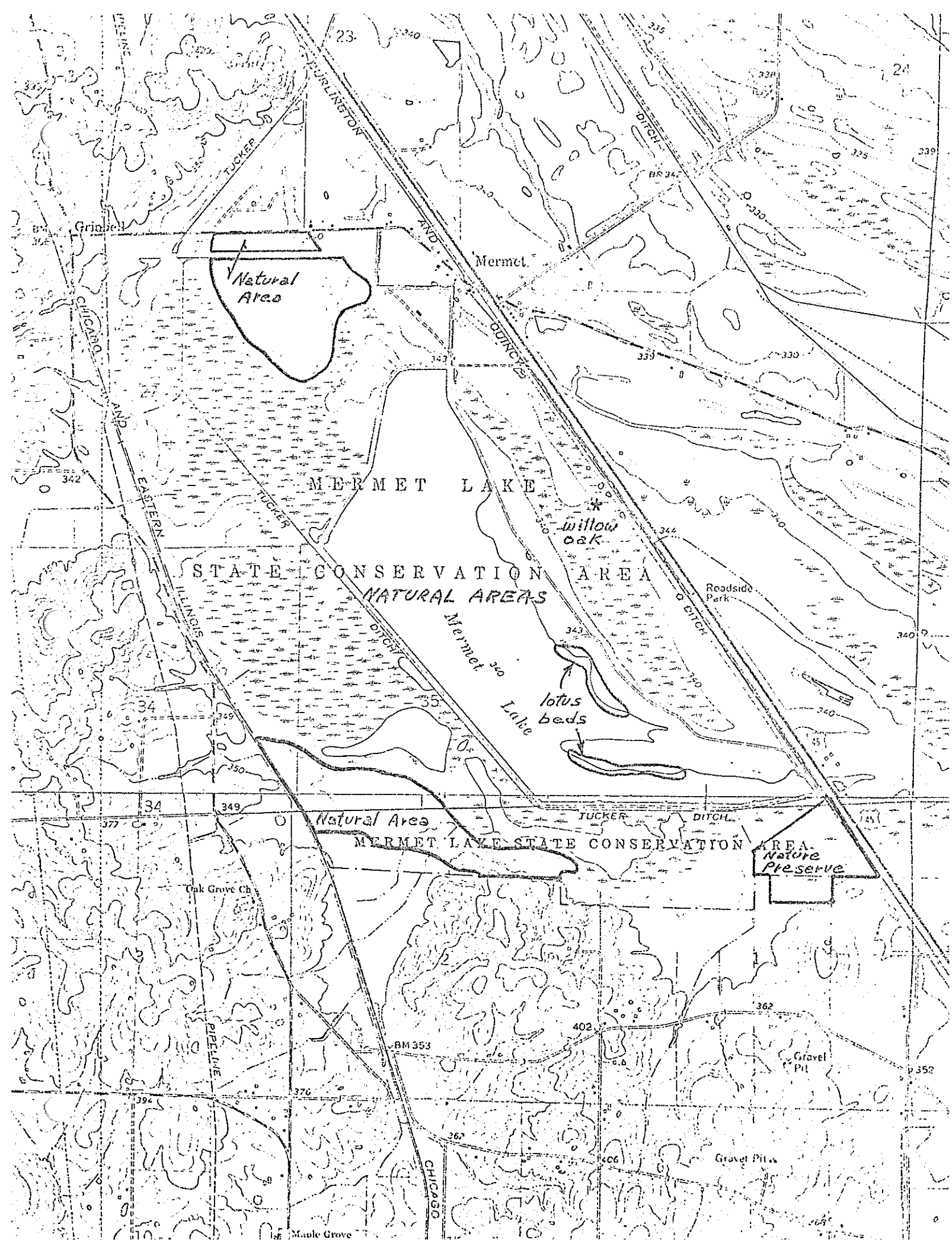
Biological Features

On the highest terrace deposits is an open stunted forest of post oak, pin oak, black oak, swamp white oak, and shagbark hickory. The trees grow in a scattered fashion with a mixed understory of prairie plants such as big bluestem and rattlesnake master; and many coastal plain plants, including narrow leaved sunflower, storax and spider lily. Lower terraces support a more typical swamp forest with pin oak and sweet gum as common trees. Upland slope forests have red oak and mockernut hickory as dominants. The yellow lady slipper orchid, ginseng, and yellow trout lily occur on upland sites.

Comments

The upland terrace deposits support a unique botanical area with an unusual combination of upland forest trees, prairie plants and rare coastal plain plants. This area is an outstanding example of the effect of soil type on the natural vegetation. The presence of royal fern, yellow trout lily, several species of orchids, and large colonies of ginseng add special interest to the swamp and slope forests.

Other interesting features of the conservation area include the state champion willow oak, located at the east edge of the area, and the only breeding population of purple gallinules in the state. The birds nest in the lotus beds in the southeast portion of the Conservation Area. In the extreme southeast corner of the area a 43.4 acre tract is dedicated as the Mermet Swamp Nature Preserve.


Natural Area
Mermet
MERMET LAKE
STATE CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREAS
Willow oak
Roadside Park
Mermet Lake
lotus beds
Natural Area
MERMET LAKE STATE CONSERVATION AREA
Nature Preserve
Oak Grove Ch
Gravel Pit
Gravel Pits
Maple Grove
TUCKER
DITCH
CHICAGO AND EASTERN ILLINOIS
BURLINGTON
QUINCY
PIPELINE
BM 353

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Miller-Anderson Woods Nature Preserve, Bureau County

Size and Location of Natural Areas

Two tracts totaling approximately 15 acres and located east of the dedicated nature preserve adjacent to north side of the Bureau County line. Situated in the SWP SE¼ Sec. 36, T 15 N, R 9 E.

Physical Features

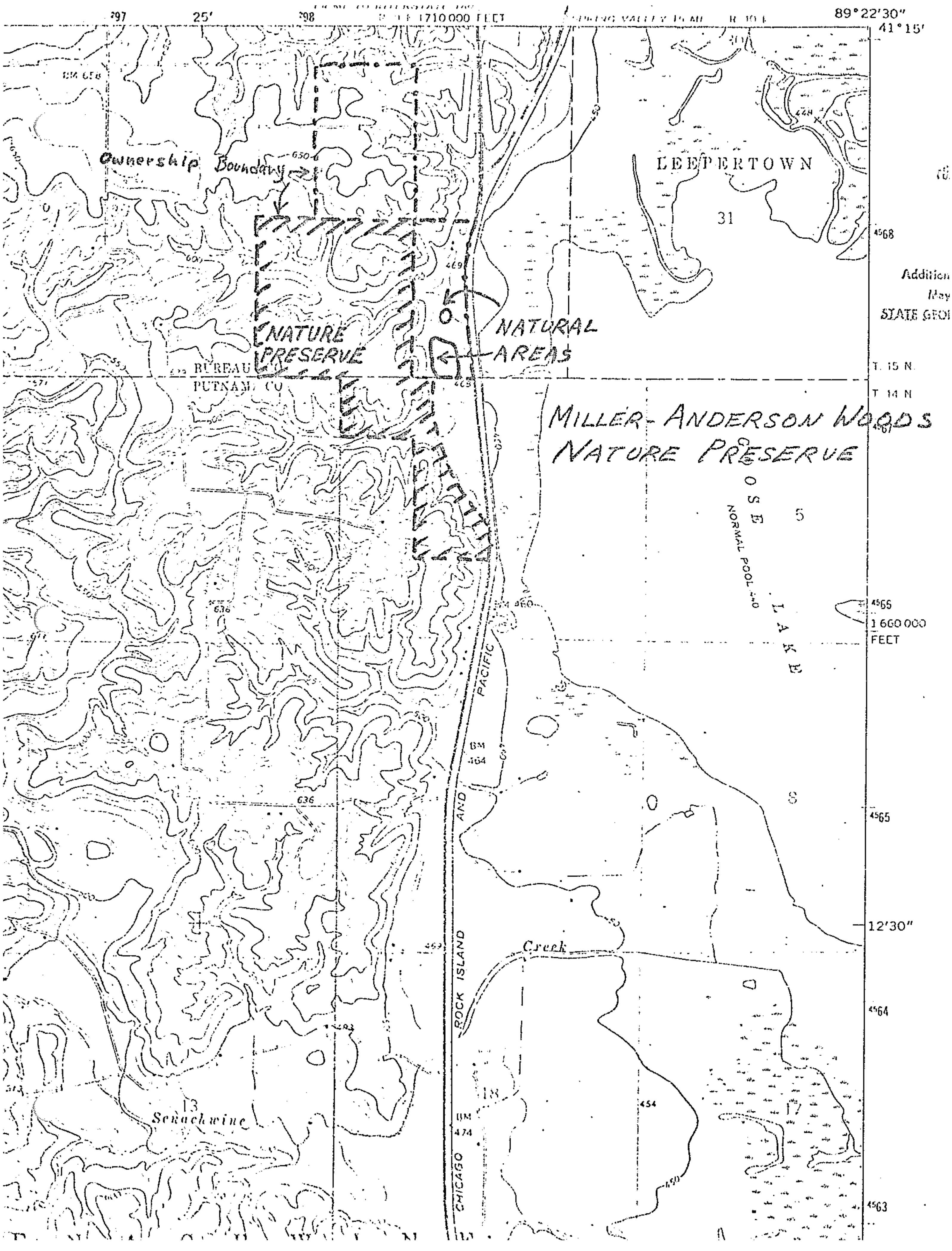
Spring fed peat deposits representative of the Illinois River Section of the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River Bottomlands Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

The peat deposits support a bog flora featuring skunk cabbage, marsh marigold and queen of the prairie.

Comments

The tracts represent a natural division different from the nature preserve and also contain vegetation not found in the preserve.



Ownership Boundary
NATURE PRESERVE
NATURAL AREAS
MILLER-ANDERSON WOODS NATURE PRESERVE
LEEPERTOWN
BUREAU CO
PUTNAM CO
T. 15 N.
T. 14 N.
31
5
8
17
18
13
NORMAL POOL 440
LAKE
Creek
Senachwine
ROCK ISLAND AND PACIFIC
CHICAGO
1 660 000 FEET
1 710 000 FEET
89°22'30"
41°15'
12'30"
25'
297
298
4568
4567
4566
4565
4564
4563
BM 464
BM 474
636
454
469
465
Addition
May
STATE GEOI

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Mississippi Palisades State Park, Carroll County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 1 of six natural areas. A 1 acre tract located along Mill Hollow Road at the campground road junction. Situated in the center of the NE¼ NW¼ Sec. 16, T 25 N, R 3 E.

Physical Features

An unusual geological site representative of the Wisconsin Driftless Natural Division of Illinois; featuring a water deposited sand lens in the form of a small isolated hill. Prairie vegetation including blazing star and little bluestem occurs on the hill.

Comments

Although level sand deposits are common along the nearby Mississippi lowlands, an isolated sand deposit within an interior ravine is of geological significance. This is the only known occurrence of such a feature within the park.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Mississippi Palisades State Park, Carroll County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 2 of six natural areas. A 60 acre section of the river bluff north of the park office. Situated in the W½ SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 16, SE¼ SE¼ Sec. 17, NE¼ NE¼ Sec. 20, NW¼ SW¼ NW¼ Sec. 21, T 25 N, R 3 E.

Physical Features

Ravine and river bluff of the Wisconsin Driftless Natural Division of Illinois. Niagran dolomite outcrops in the form of cliffs and water carved palisades. Soils are developed in loess on bluff tops and steep slopes and in talus material below the bluffs.

Biological Features

Hill prairie, talus slope forest, and ravine forest with northern and southern exposures are present. A number of small prairie remnants occur along the bluff line and north ravine slopes. Side oats grama and Indian grass are dominant in the prairies, associates include hairy grama grass, sky blue aster, June grass and big bluestem; stiff gentian and Carex eburnea occur with red cedar at the prairie edges. Forested portions of the north ravine slopes support a dry red cedar and black oak community, while the south slopes have a mesic forest of red oak, basswood and white birch; talus slopes below the cliffs have white oak, chinkapin oak, and bur oak as important species.

Comments

The hill prairies are being invaded by dogwood and red cedar but still retain important prairie vegetation and are of significant size. Portions of the south ravine slopes and talus area support a mature forest with old growth characteristics.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Mississippi Palisades State Park, Carroll County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 3 of six natural areas. A 5 acre portion of the river bluff located south of the park office. Situated in the center of the W½ Sec. 21, T 25 N, R 3 E.

Physical Features

River bluff of the Wisconsin Driftless Natural Division of Illinois. Niagran dolomite forms cliffs along the bluff. The bluff line is loess capped and talus material has accumulated below the bluff.

Biological Features

Several small hill prairies occur along the bluff top and black walnut is a conspicuous component of the forested talus slope.

Comments

Important features of the area are the prairie openings of the bluff-top and the dolomite cliffs.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Mississippi Palisades State Park, Carroll County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 4 of six natural areas. A 35 acre section of river bluff located south of the campground entrance. Situated in the center of the S½ S½ Sec. 21, and the W½ NE¼ Sec. 28, T 25 N, R 3 E.

Physical Features

River bluff of the Wisconsin Driftless Natural Division of Illinois. Talus slope, cliffs, and palisades of Niagran dolomite are present.

Biological Features

Sugar maple and black walnut are important components of the forested talus slope, and a timber rattlesnake den is located in the bluff.

Comments

This is one of the few portions of the park where sugar maple is common, and one of two known rattlesnake dens in the park.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Mississippi Palisades State Park, Carroll County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 5 of six natural areas. A 30 acre tract located north of the south park entrance and including the Sunset Nature Trail. Situated in the SE¼ Sec. 28, and the NW¼ SW¼ Sec. 27, T 25 N, R 3 E.

Physical Features

River bluff, ravine, and sinkhole of the Wisconsin Driftless Natural Division of Illinois. Soils are developed in loess on the bluff top and in talus material below Niagran dolomite cliffs.

Biological Features

Several small hill prairies dominated by little bluestem and side oats grama occur on southwest facing spurs. Mesic ravine forest of red oak and basswood occurs on north facing ravine slopes while white oak and black oak are representative of forested south facing slopes. The mesic ravine forest is rich in ferns and wildflowers including spinulose woodfern, cinnamon fern, yellow lady slipper, and showy orchis.

Comments

Although the mesic forest is second growth in character, it is significant in the presence of rich herbaceous flora. The hill prairies have been studied by scientists.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Mississippi Palisades State Park, Carroll County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 6 of six natural area. A one acre tract located at the northeast edge of the campground. Situated in the NW¼ SE¼ Sec. 21, T 25 N, R 3 E.

Physical Features

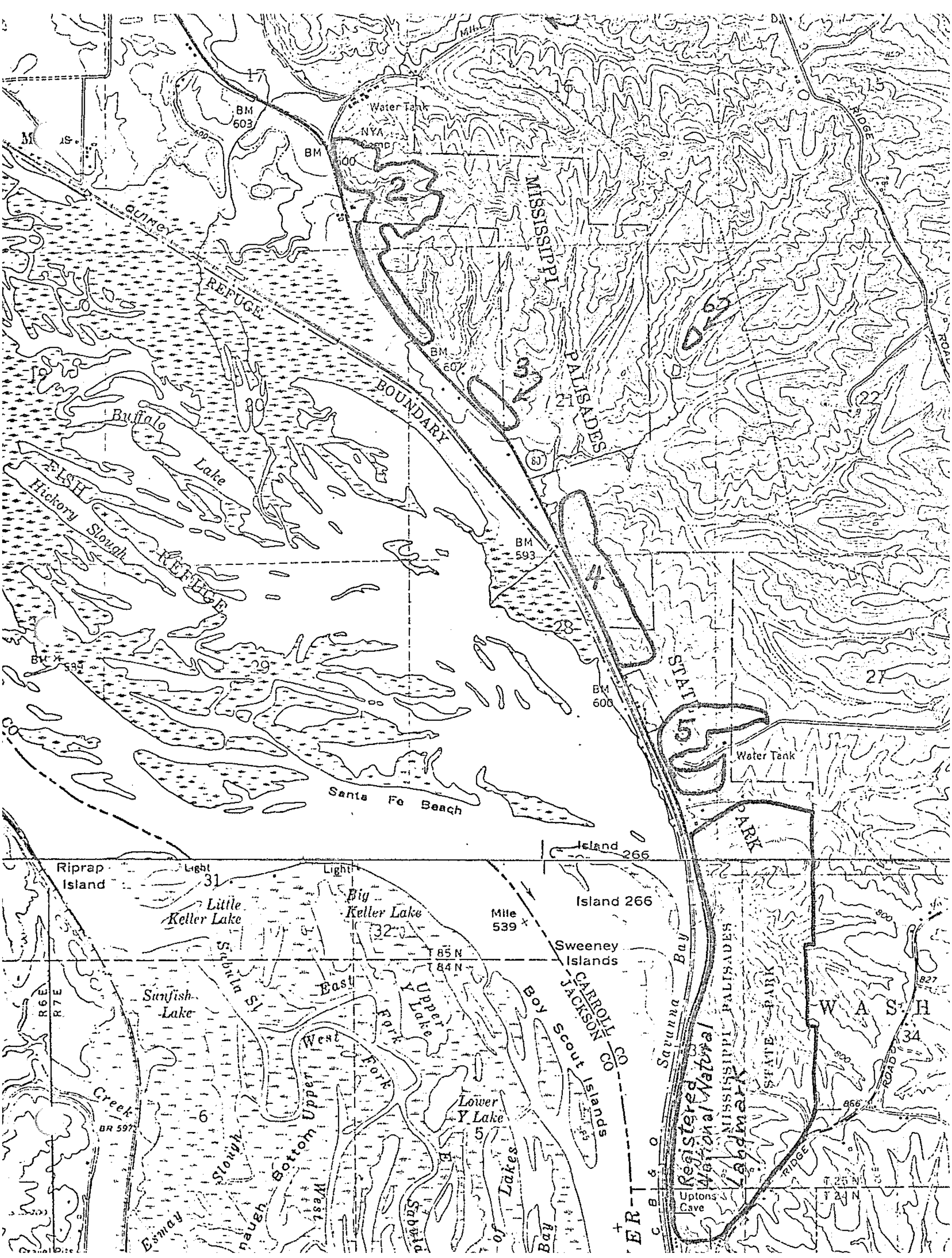
loess capped ravine spur representative of the Wisconsin Driftless Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

The site consists of a little bluestem dominated hill prairie.

Comments

The prairie is being burned on an annual basis, it may have been disturbed by grazing in the past.


Water Tank
NYA Camp
BM 603
BM 600
BM 607
BM 593
BM 585
BM 600
MISSISSIPPI PALISADES STATE PARK
QUINCY
REFUGE BOUNDARY
FISH REFUGE
Buffalo Lake
Hickory Slough
Santa Fe Beach
Water Tank
Island 266
Island 266
Riprap Island
Light
Light
Little Keller Lake
Big Keller Lake
Mile 539
Sweeney Islands
T 85 N
T 84 N
CARROLL CO
JACKSON CO
Sunfish Lake
Sabula Sl
East Fork
Upper Y Lake
West Fork
Upper Bottom
Boy Scout Islands
Lower Y Lake
Savanna Bay
Registered National Natural Landmark
MISSISSIPPI PALISADES STATE PARK
WASH
RIDGE ROAD
Creek
BR 597
Slough
Esmay
West
Lakes
Bay
Uptons Cave
T 25 N
T 24 N
R 6 E
R 7 E
CB&Q
RIVER

MISSISSIPPI RIVER SAND HILLS - Hancock County.

Location:

One-half mile east of Warsaw and 1/8 mile south of the Mississippi River along the Great River Road running from Warsaw to Hamilton.

Part of Sec. 3, T 4 N, R 9 W, 4 PM.

Warsaw Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph numbers: RX-4DD-53 7/24/63 and RX-2KK-179 9/28/69.

Character:

Natural types: Sandy hill prairie, woody invasion communities of the preceding, and wooded creekbottom of the Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Division.

Geology: Kansan glacial till overlying Middle Valmeyeran (Mississippian).

Soils: A sandy loess.

Vegetation: Sandy hill prairie dominated by little bluestem, upland forest of oaks and hickory, floodplain forest, and successional communities between prairie and forest.

Aquatic environments: Temporary stream.

Natural features of special interest:

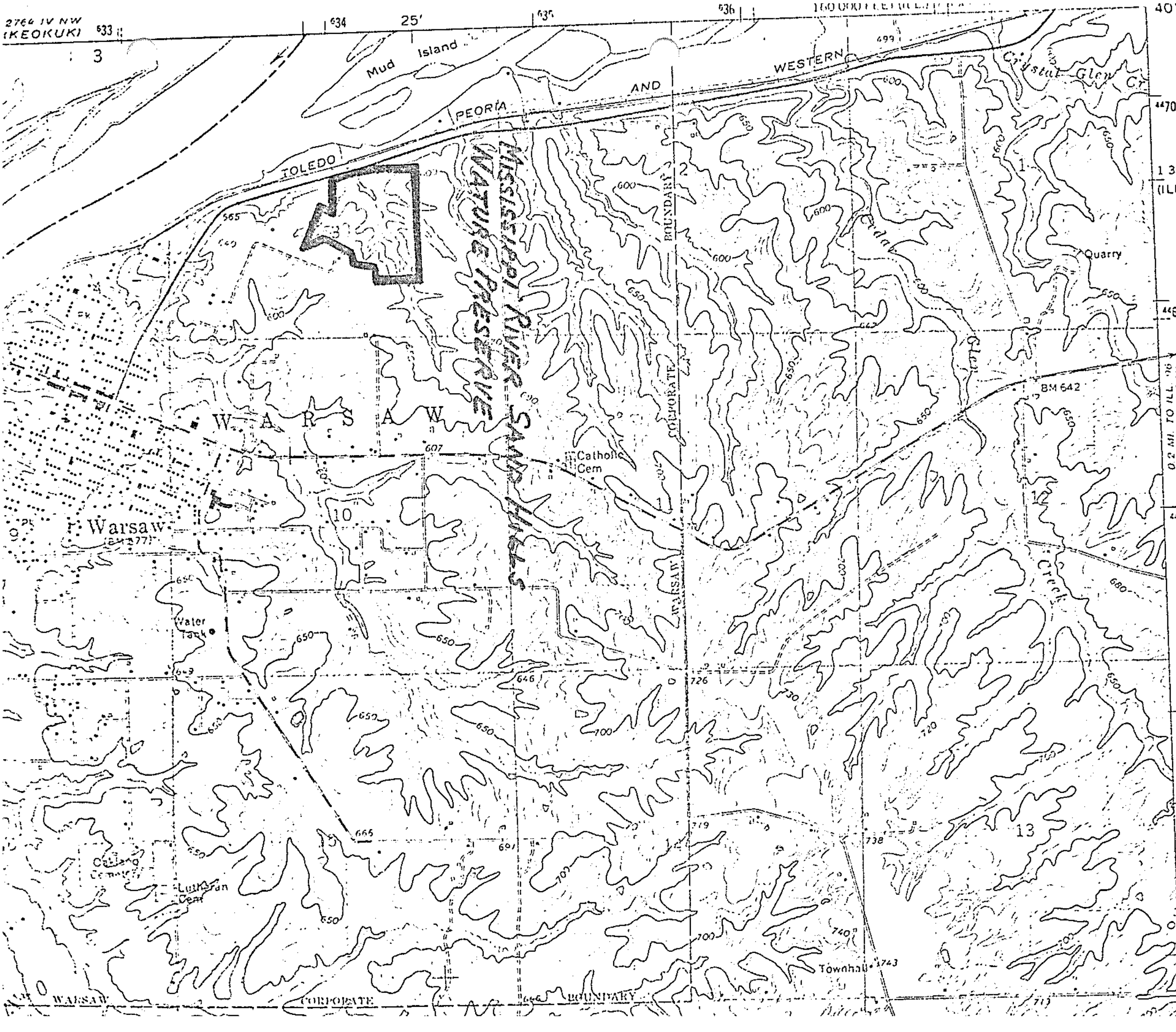
An uncommon species of syrphid fly has been collected on the sandy, open hilltop areas, the only known place of occurrence of this fly in west central Illinois. Several living saplings of American chestnut have been found on the area.

Bibliography:

Kibbe, A. L. 1952. Botanical study and survey of a typical Mid-Western county. Published by Alice Kibbe, Carthage, Illinois.

Thurow, G. R. and R. D. Henry. 1968. Surviving American chestnuts, Castanea dentata, in western Illinois. 59th annual report of Northern Nut Grower's Association, Inc.

2/10/71


MISSISSIPPI RIVER SAND HILLS
NATURE PRESERVE
2764 IV NW
(KEOKUKI)
Mud Island
TOLEDO
PEORIA
AND
WESTERN
Crystal Glen Cr
Cedar Glen Creek
Quarry
1 350 000 FEET
(ILL.)
40°22'30
20'
25'
BM 642
0.2 MI. TO ILL. 96
HAMILTON 3.5 MI.
WARSAW
Warsaw
Catholic Cem
Water Tank
Lutheran Cem
Townhall 743
CORPORATE
BOUNDARY

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Panther Creek Conservation Area

Size and Location of Area

Panther Creek Conservation Area, Cass County. A three acre hill prairie site on gentle slopes overlooking Little Jobs Creek in the SE¼ SW¼ Section 13, T 18 N, R 10 W.

Physical Features

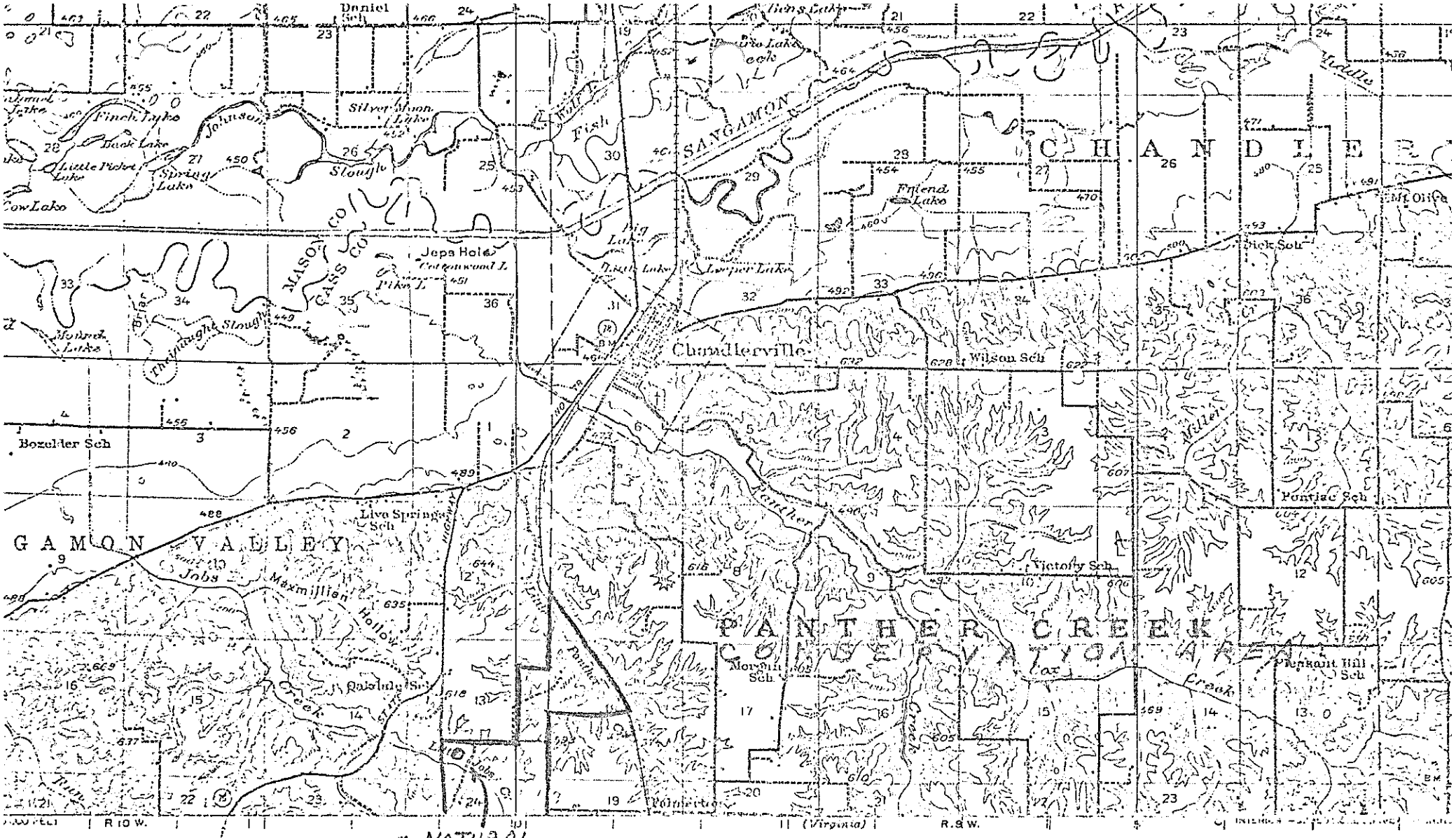
The prairie occurs on nearly level to steep topography of an upland spur extending southwestward into Little Jobs Creek valley. The soil appears to be a deep loess that shows some minor slumping and erosion at steep points.

Biological Features

The prairie is dominated by little bluestem grass and has a wide variety of forbs including blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium albidum* and *S. campestris*), cleft phlox, hoary puccoon, prairie ragwort, purple coneflower and many others. The forb diversity is less on the more level upland areas than on the steeper slopes. This appears to be due to cattle grazing in the past.

Comments

This prairie is in relatively good shape but does have some shrub invasion from the fence row at its upper end and from brushy fields below the slopes. A prescribed burn every third year should be adequate to maintain the vegetation. A small trail to, but not through, the prairie and an opening in the fence at the north end would improve access.



F. A. Dunforth, J. A. Duck, W. S. Gehres, E. Baird, and J. T. Schultz

Image in part compiled from aerial photographs
...s, U.S. Army
...eological Survey and
...ers, U.S. Army
1928, 1929, and 1930

VIRGINIA (JUNC. U.S. 67) 3.3 MI.
JACKSONVILLE 19 MI.

NATURAL AREA

TRUE NORTH
MAGNETIC NORTH
APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION, 1930

SCALE 1:62500

1 0 1 2 3 4 MILES
3000 0 3000 6000 9000 12000 15000 18000 21000 FEET
1 5 0 1 2 3 4 5 KILOMETERS

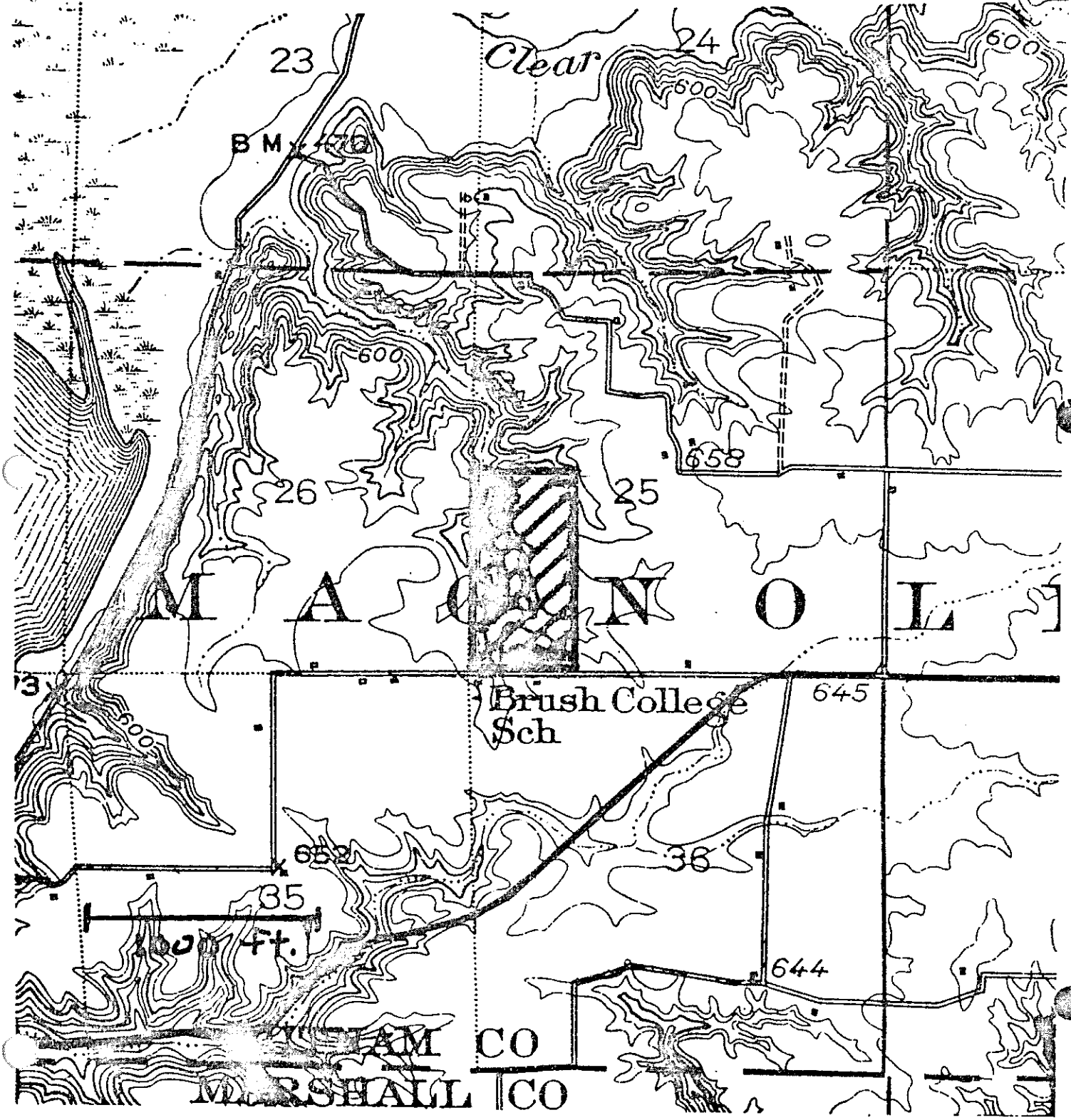
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty - - -
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - -
State Route

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND BY THE STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Parks Memorial Woods
Nature Preserve
Putnam County



PARKS MEMORIAL WOODS NATURE PRESERVE - Putnam County.

Location:

Two miles northeast of the intersection of Illinois Routes 18 and 26.
W 1/2 SW 1/4 Sec. 25, T 31 N, R 2 W, 3 PM.
Lacon Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number: BXG-1EE-214 5/15/64

Ownership:

Department of Conservation.

Custody:

Putnam County Conservation District and Department of Conservation.

Character:

Natural types: Upland and valley forests of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

Geology: Carbondale formation (Pennsylvanian)
Soils: Clary-Clinton-Keomak association
Physiography: Small ravines eroded in Wisconsinan till.
Vegetation: Old-growth oak-hickory forest.
Aquatic environment: Intermittent stream.

Natural features of special interest:

Goldenseal, the yellow-flowered form of the purple trillium, and showy orchis are some of the more unusual and attractive plant species present. In addition, two rare species of beetles have been found here.

2/5/71

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Pekin Lake, Tazewell County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Comments

A heron rookery is located in the bottomland forest associated with this department property. The forest is second growth and not of high natural quality, however, the rookery should be recognized as an important natural feature. The herons are somewhat transient and may not use the rookery in successive years. More detail is available in the Pekin Lake Master Plan.

The Department is presently negotiating the transfer of this area to the city of Pekin, Illinois.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Pere Marquette State Park, Jersey County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Tract 1 (approximately 260 acres) located in Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34, T 7 N, R 13 W. Tract 2 (approximately 250 acres) in Sections 3, 4, 9, and 10, T 6 N, R 13 W. Tract 3 (approximately 500 acres) in Sections 5 and 8, T 6 N, R 12 W. Tract 4 (approximately 30 acres) in the N½ NE¼ Sec. 1, T 6 N, R 13 W. Tract 5 in the W½ Sec. 1, T 6 N, R 13 W. Tract 6 located in the center of the SW¼ Sec. 12, T 6 N, R 13 W. Tract 7 (approximately 100 acres) located in Sections 2, 11, and 12, T 6 N, R 13 W.

Physical Features

The tracts feature loess river bluffs and ravines with limestone cliffs and a rock canyon, bald eagle roosts and a bat cave; all representative of the glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

The characteristic plant communities include dry upland and mesic ravine forest and loess hill prairies. Common tree species include white oak, red oak, white ash, chinkapin oak, sugar maple, shagbark hickory, and red elm. Flowering dogwood redbud and paw paw are common shrubs. Columbine, bulbet fern, walking fern, alum root and ebony spleenwort occur on bedrock outcrops. Hill prairies are dominated by little bluestem, big bluestem and side oats gramma; important associates include scurf pea, azure aster, cone flower, and purple prairie clover. Wildlife includes winter roosting bald eagles, bats, deer, gray squirrel, fence lizard and long tailed salamander.

Comments

Tract 1 includes deep ravines and several hill prairies. Trace 2 includes the largest and most abundant hill prairies in the park. Tract 3 includes deep ravines and a spring fed stream. Tract 4 is a narrow rock canyon. Tract 5 includes eagle roosting trees. Tract 6 is the bat cave. Tract 7 includes a forested ravine.

The tracts shown here represent the known natural areas in the park but not a final inventory. The inventory is expected to be completed in conjunction with the park master planning task force.

Otter Creek
Teneriffe Sch
The Glades
Little Lake
Flat Lake
Pleasant Grove Sch
Dug Hill
Rosedale
ROSEDALE
ST ANDREW
Coon Creek
McCoy Hill
St Andrew Sch
Meadow Branch Sch
Coon Hollow
Fowler Lake
Upper Flat L
Lower Flat L
Deep Lake
Long Lake
Brushy Lake
Eagle Lake
CALHOUN CO
JERSEY CO
Simpson Hollow
Goat Ridge Hollow
Bear Hollow
Ridge
Buckeye Sch
South Fork
OTTER
Liberty Sch
Shiloh Sch
Grant Sch
1
2
3
7
EAGLE ROOSTS (5)
BAT CAVE (6)
PERE MARQUETTE STATE PARK
QUARRY
Williams Hol
Goat Cliff
McAdams Peak
Tucker Knob
Deer Lick Hol
Graham Hollow
Camden Hollow
Mason Hollow
Distillery Hol
Fullerson Landing
Hartford Ch
ILLINOIS RIVER
Swan Lake
Murphy Slough
Sawmile Slough
NORMAL POOL ELEVATION 419
Gilbert Lake
Marshall Landing
Silver Lake
Calhoun Point
Chickahominy Lake
Coon Lake
Royal Lake
Mason Island
Island 526
Island 525
Ferry Island
Airport Lake
CALHOUN CO
ST CHARLES CO
T 12 S
T 13 S

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Piney Creek Nature Preserve, Randolph County

Size and Location

A 200 acre tract located on the Randolph/Jackson County Line. Situated in the SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 23, S½ SE¼ Sec. 22, N½ NE¼ Sec. 27, NW½ NW¼ NW¼ Sec. 26, all in T.7S., R.5W.

Physical Features

A small winding canyon with sandstone walls up to 80 feet high, and associated uplands. Representative of the Central Section of the Ozark Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

The tract contains a sandstone ravine flora having beach and tulip tree and the Ozarkian Harvey's buttercup, and Bradley's spleenwort fern. Shortleaf Pine, also an Ozark species, grows on dry canyon slopes.

Comments

Important features include an Ozarkian floral element, and the northernmost outposts of beach and tulip tree in southwestern Illinois.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Pike County Conservation Area

Note: Although no natural areas were found within the conservation area, a number of sites were noted that fall within the potential take line and should be considered as natural areas if acquired.

Size and Location of Natural Area

Tract No. 1, approximately 90 acres and located in the NE¼ NW¼, E½ SW¼ Sec. 32, T 4 S, R 2 W. Tract No. 2, approximately 40 acres, located in the SE¼ SE¼ Sec. 32, SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 33, T 4 S, R 2 W, and in the N½ NW¼ Sec. 4, E½ NE¼ NE¼ Sec. 5, T 5 S, R 2 W. Tract No. 3, approximately 10 acres, located in the W½ NE¼ Sec. 4, T 5 S, R 2 W.

Physical Features

Tract No. 1 includes portions of ravine systems, Tract No. 2 a limestone gorge, and Tract No. 3 a loess capped bluff top. All are representative of the Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

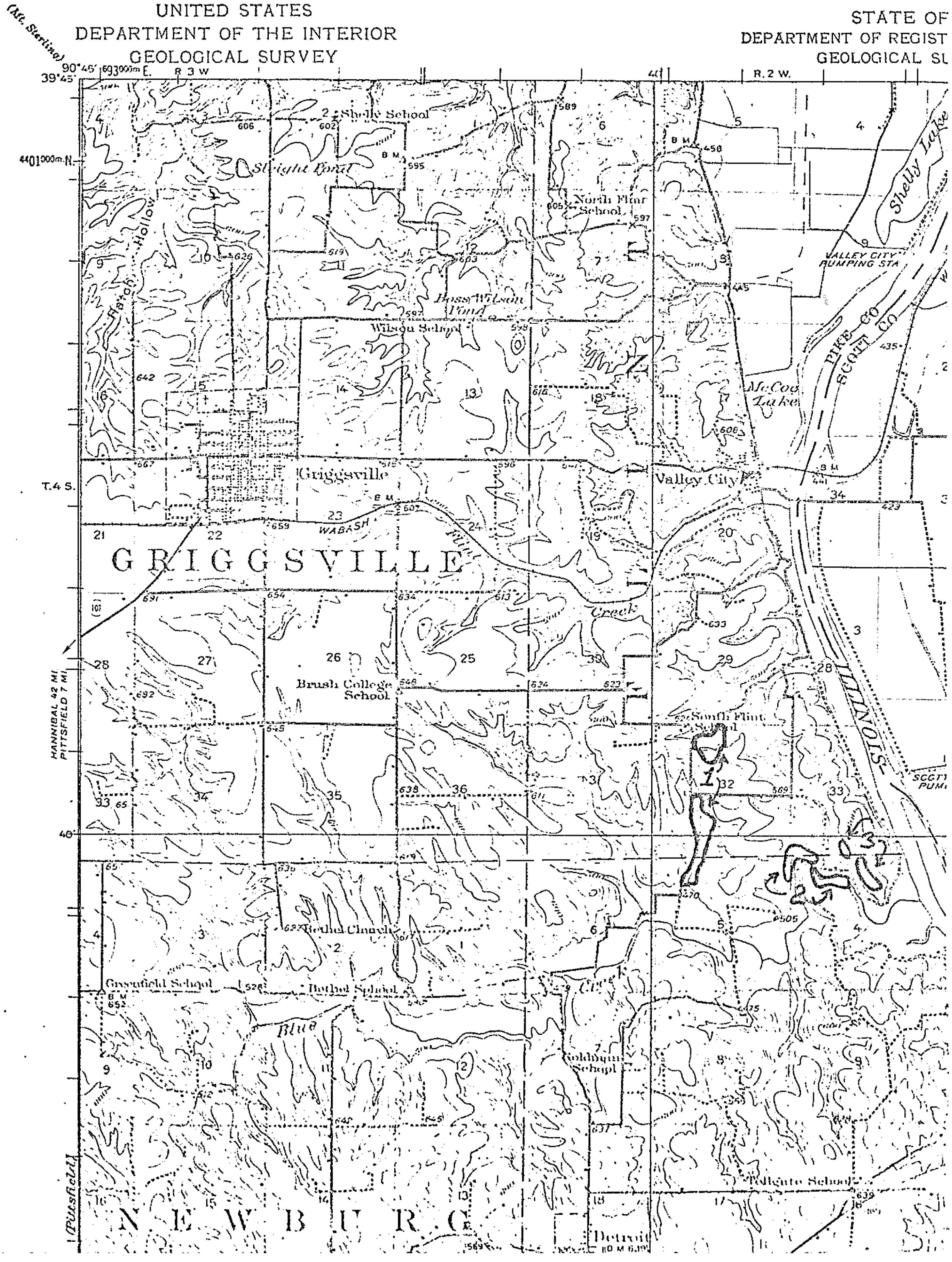
Tract No. 1 consists of second growth dry mesic forest rich in ferns and spring wildflowers. Tract No. 2 contains mature dry upland forest on steep slopes, xeric limestone communities with red cedar, cliffbrake fern, and wooly lip fern, and mesic limestone communities with red oak, white oak, sugar maple, iron wood, blue beech, Christmas fern, hepatica, and jeweled shooting star as important species. Tract No. 3 contains loess hill prairie communities.

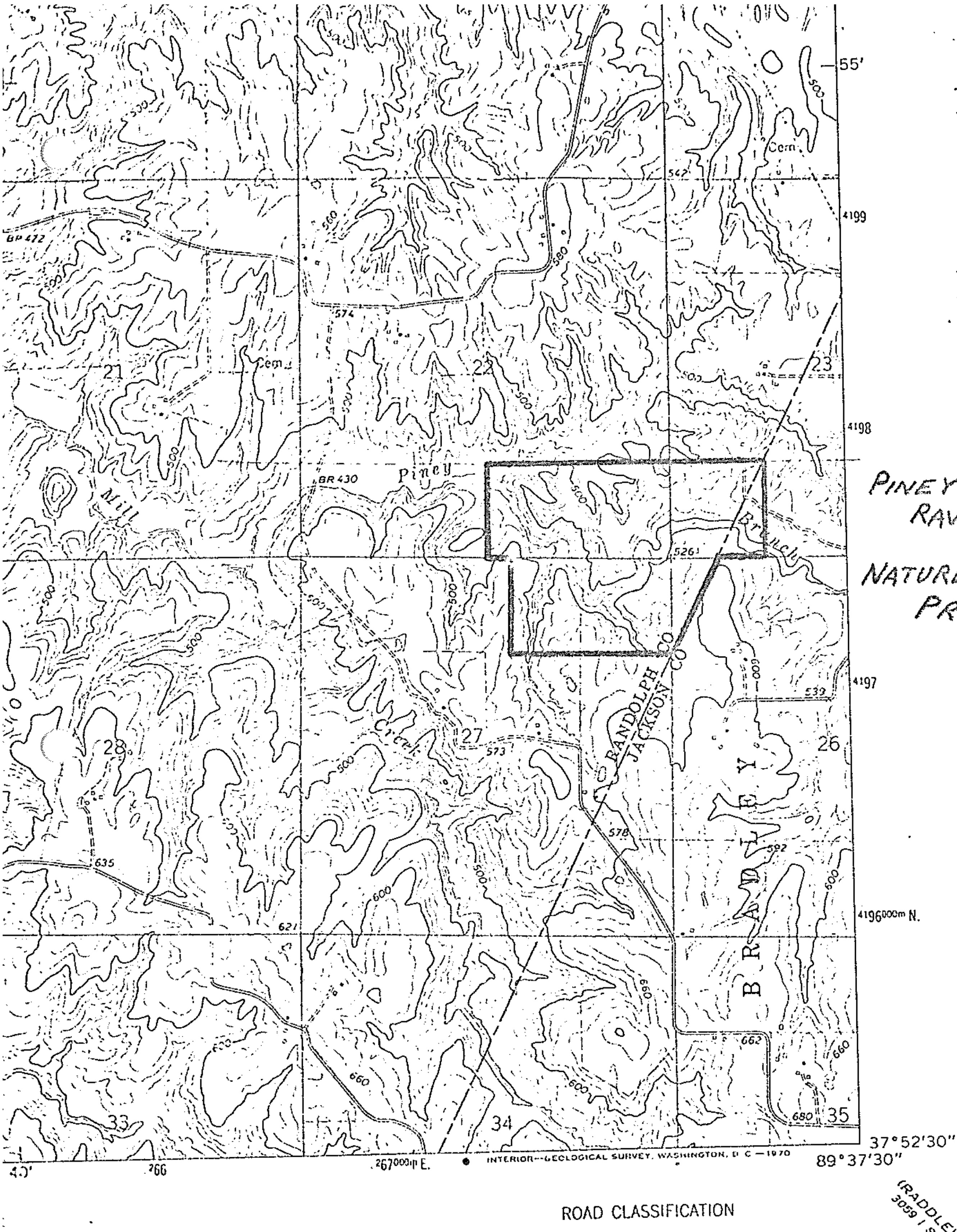
Comments

Further field investigation of the area may be needed after land acquisition is completed. The presence of the jeweled shooting star, a rare pre-glacial relict, makes Tract No. 2 an important natural area.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF
DEPARTMENT OF REGIST
GEOLOGICAL SU


(Mt. Sterling)
90°45'
39°45'
R 3 W
R. 2 W.
T. 4 S.
Shelly School
Slight Pond
North Flint School
Ross Wilson Pond
Wilson School
Hatch Hollow
Shelly Lake
VALLEY CITY PUMPING STA
PIKE CO
SCOTT CO
McCoo Lake
Griggsville
Valley City
WABASH
GRIGGSVILLE
Creek
Brush College School
South Flint School
ILLINOIS
HANNIBAL 42 MI.
PITTSFIELD 7 MI.
40°
Bethel Church
Greenfield School
Bethel School
Blue
Goldblum School
Tollgate School
(Pittsfield)
NEWBURG
Detroit



PINEY CREEK RAVINE
NATURE PRESERVE PROJECT

(RADDLE) 3059 I SE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty		Light duty	
Medium-duty		Unimproved dirt	

State Route

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

WELGE, ILL.
NW/4 CAMPBELL HILL 15' QUADRANGLE
N3752.5—W8937.5/7.5

1968

PRAIRIE CHICKEN SANCTUARY - Jasper County.

Location:

North and east of Bogota.

Portions of Secs. 23, 27, 28, and 29, T 6 N, R 9 E, 3 PM; and Sec. 4, T 5 N, R 9 E, 3 PM.

Newton Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph numbers:

Ownerships:

Department of Conservation.

Custody:

Illinois Natural History Survey.

Record of preservation actions:

Acquisition		proposed (NA-18)	5/1/70 (M32 R124)
Nature preserve	250.3 acres	preliminary approval	9/16/70 (M34 R13
Addition		acquisition prop.	1/15/71 (M36 R17
		preliminary approval	1/15/71 (M36 R17

Character:

Natural types: Mesic prairie land, which has been cultivated.

Geology: Mattoon formation (Pennsylvanian), underlying Illinoian glacial till.

Soils: Hoyleton-Cisne-Huey association.

Physiography: Rolling till plain.

Vegetation: Grassland, primarily redtop. Prairie regeneration is in process on part of the area.

Aquatic environments: Intermittent streams.

Natural features of special interest:

This sanctuary is dedicated to the preservation of the rare and endangered Illinois strain of the greater prairie chicken. Their dramatic mating ritual ("booming") is performed at dawn in March and April.

Management and use:

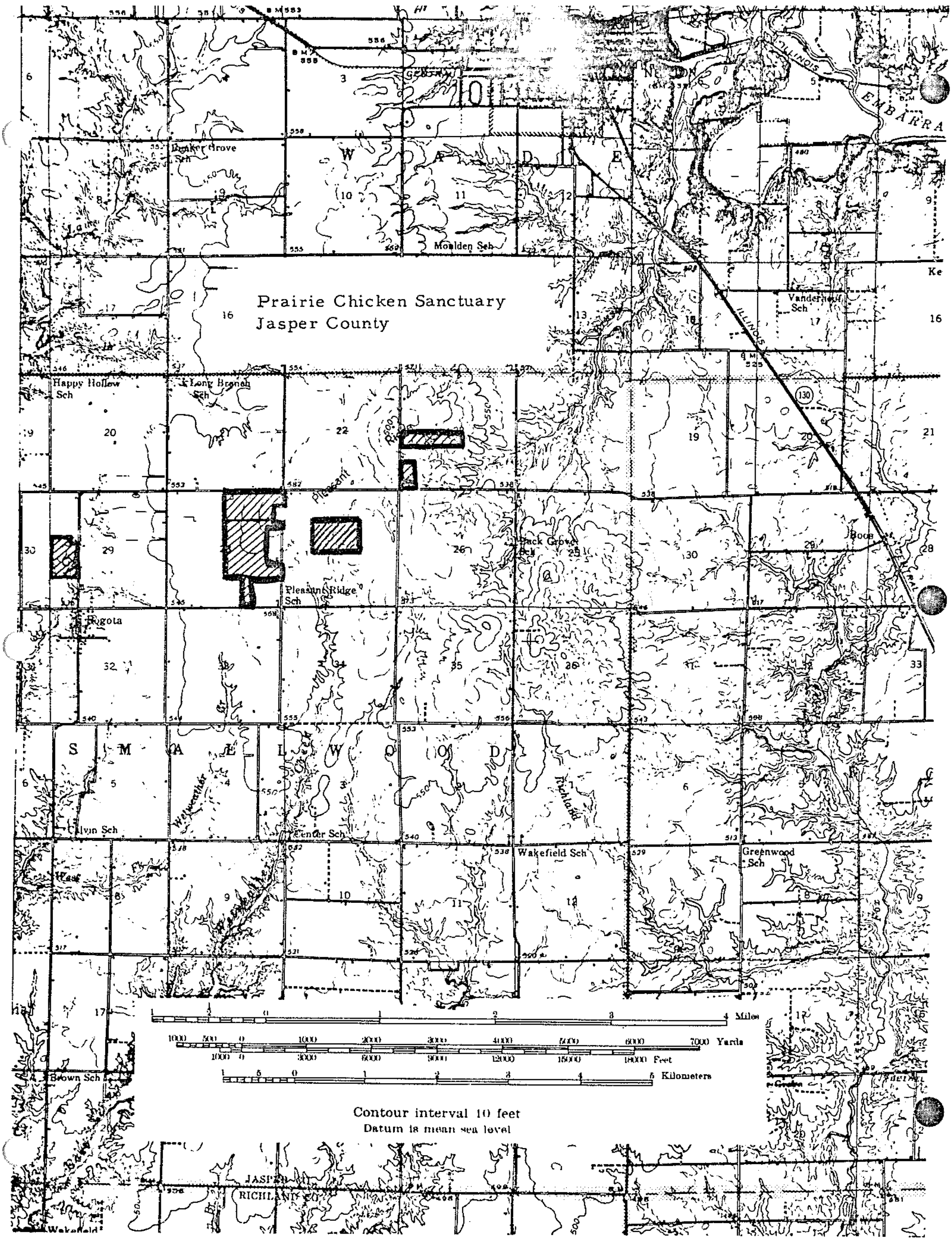
The land is managed with agricultural techniques to maintain optimal habitat and food supplies for the prairie chickens. Blinds are provided for observing the prairie chickens on their booming grounds. Reservations for use of the blinds on specific dates may be obtained by writing to:

Illinois Natural History Survey
Natural Resources Building
Urbana, Illinois 61801.

Bibliography:

Yeatter, Ralph E. 1943. The prairie chicken in Illinois. Bull. Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. 22:373-416.

2/12/71



Prairie Chicken Sanctuary
Jasper County
W A D E
S M A L L W O O D
Bunker Grove Sch
Moalden Sch
Vanderhoof Sch
Happy Hollow Sch
Long Branch Sch
Pleasant Ridge Sch
Back Grove Sch
Bogota
Calvin Sch
Center Sch
Wakefield Sch
Greenwood Sch
Brown Sch
Wakefield
Richland
Weinberger
Pleasant Ridge
EMBARRA
ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS CENTRAL
JASPER CO
RICHLAND CO
Miles
Yards
Feet
Kilometers
Contour interval 10 feet
Datum is mean sea level

PRAIRIE CHICKEN SANCTUARY - Marion County

Location:

Southeast of Kinmundy.
SW 1/4 of Sec. 35, T 4 N, R 3 E, 3 PM.
Omega Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number:

Ownership:

Department of Conservation.

Custody:

Illinois Natural History Survey.

Record of preservation actions:

Acquisition	proposed (NA-18)	5/1/70 (M32 R124)
Nature preserve 160.0 acres	preliminary approval	9/16/70 (M34 R139

Character:

Natural types: Mesic prairie land, which has been cultivated.

Geology: Mattoon formation (Pennsylvanian), underlying Illinoian glacial till.

Soils: Hoyleton-Cisne-Huey association.

Physiography: Rolling till plain.

Vegetation: Grassland, primarily redtop. Prairie regeneration is in process on part of the area.

Aquatic environments: Artificial ponds and intermittent stream.

Natural features of special interest:

This sanctuary is dedicated to the preservation of the rare and endangered Illinois strain of the greater prairie chicken. Their dramatic mating ritual ("booming") is performed at dawn in March and April.

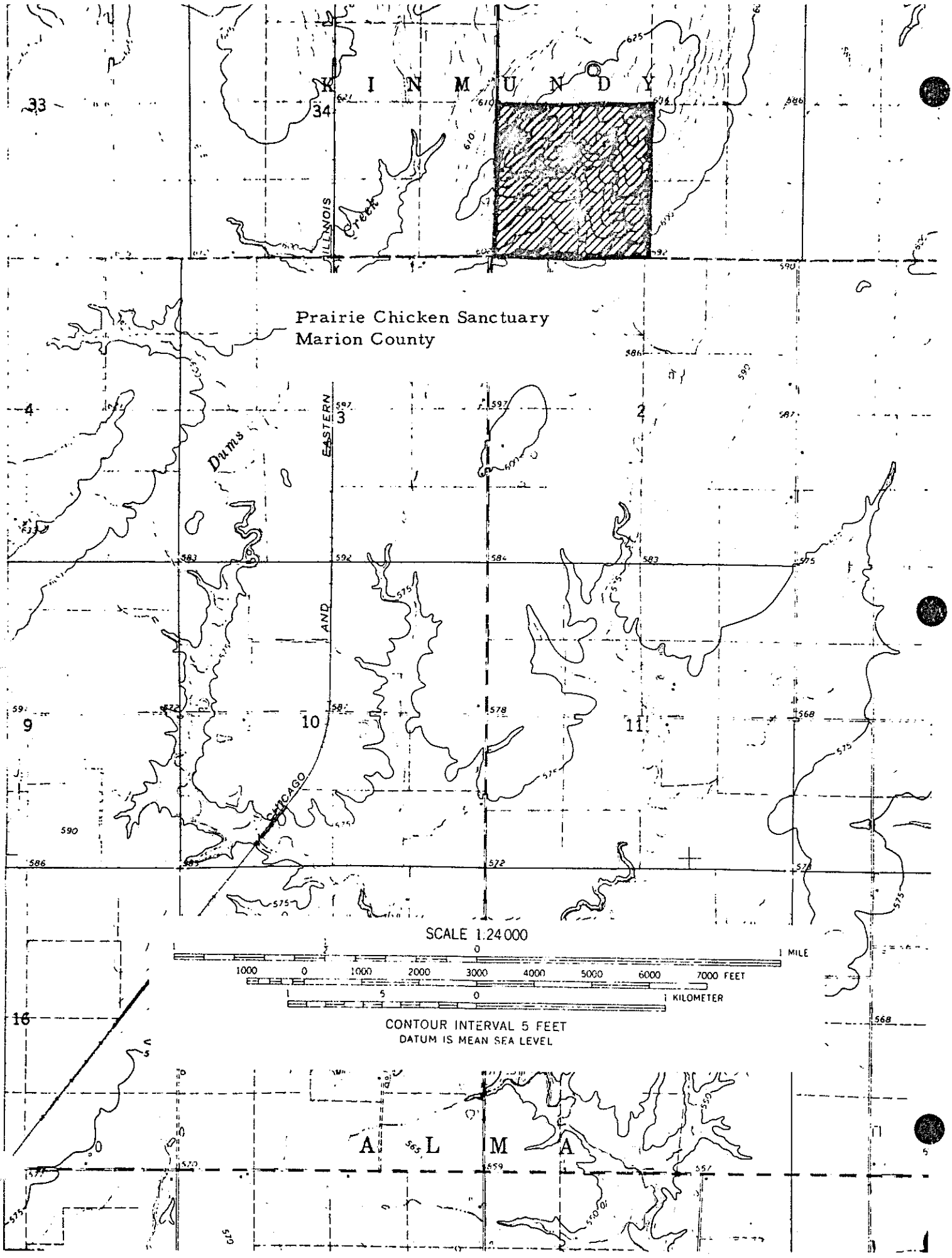
Management and use:

The land is managed with agricultural techniques to maintain optimal habitat and food supplies for the prairie chickens.

Bibliography:

Yeatter, Ralph E. 1943. The prairie chicken in Illinois. Bull. Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. 22:373-416.

2/12/71


K I N M U N D Y
Prairie Chicken Sanctuary
Marion County
ILLINOIS
Creek
DUMS
EASTERN
AND
CHICAGO
A L M A
SCALE 1:24 000
1 MILE
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Ramsey Lake State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Ramsey Lake State Park, Fayette County, one of two areas in the park. Located adjacent to the west side of Ramsey Lake, and approximately 75 acres in size. Situated in the SW ¼ Sec. 6, T 9 N, R 1 E. Tract number 1 on map.

Physical Features

Upland and ravine forest of the Effingham Plain Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The topography is rugged, consisting of narrow upland ridges and a moderately deep ravine system eroded into the Illinoian glacial till. The ravine system consists of the side ravines of the hollow that now serves as the basin for Ramsey Lake. The lake edge penetrates the lower ravines, providing an unnatural wet zone near the lake edge.

Biological Features

The forest is dominated by white oak, with shagbark and bitternut hickory also present on upland sites and red oak and sugar maple common in ravine bottoms and on lower slopes. Solomon's seal, American columbo, ginseng, maiden hair fern, and broad beech fern occur in the ravines. The Blue jay and red headed woodpecker are abundent in the woods and the Carolina box turtle is present.

Comments

Although the woods is second growth and mostly evan age, the trees have attained a closed canopy and the tract is in good natural condition, with the mature white oak averaging slightly under 2 feet in diameter.

The tract is currently managed as a picnic area with access roads and picnic sites developed on the level ridgetops. This use is compatible with the recognition given the area here, however, further development of the area should be kept minimal.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Ramsey Lake State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Ramsey Lake State Park, Fayette County, one of two natural areas in the park. Located south of the Ramsey Lake Dam, in the southwest corner of the park. Approximately 60 acres in size and situated in the NW¼ Sec. 7, T 9 N, R 1 3. Tract No. 2 on map.

Physical Features

Upland, ravine, and floodplain forest of the Effingham Plain Section of the Southern till Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The topography is rugged, with narrow to broad upland ridges and a deep ravine system having intermittent streams and small floodplains.

A steep bluff with both northern and western exposures is located along the northwestern edge of the tract.

Biological Features

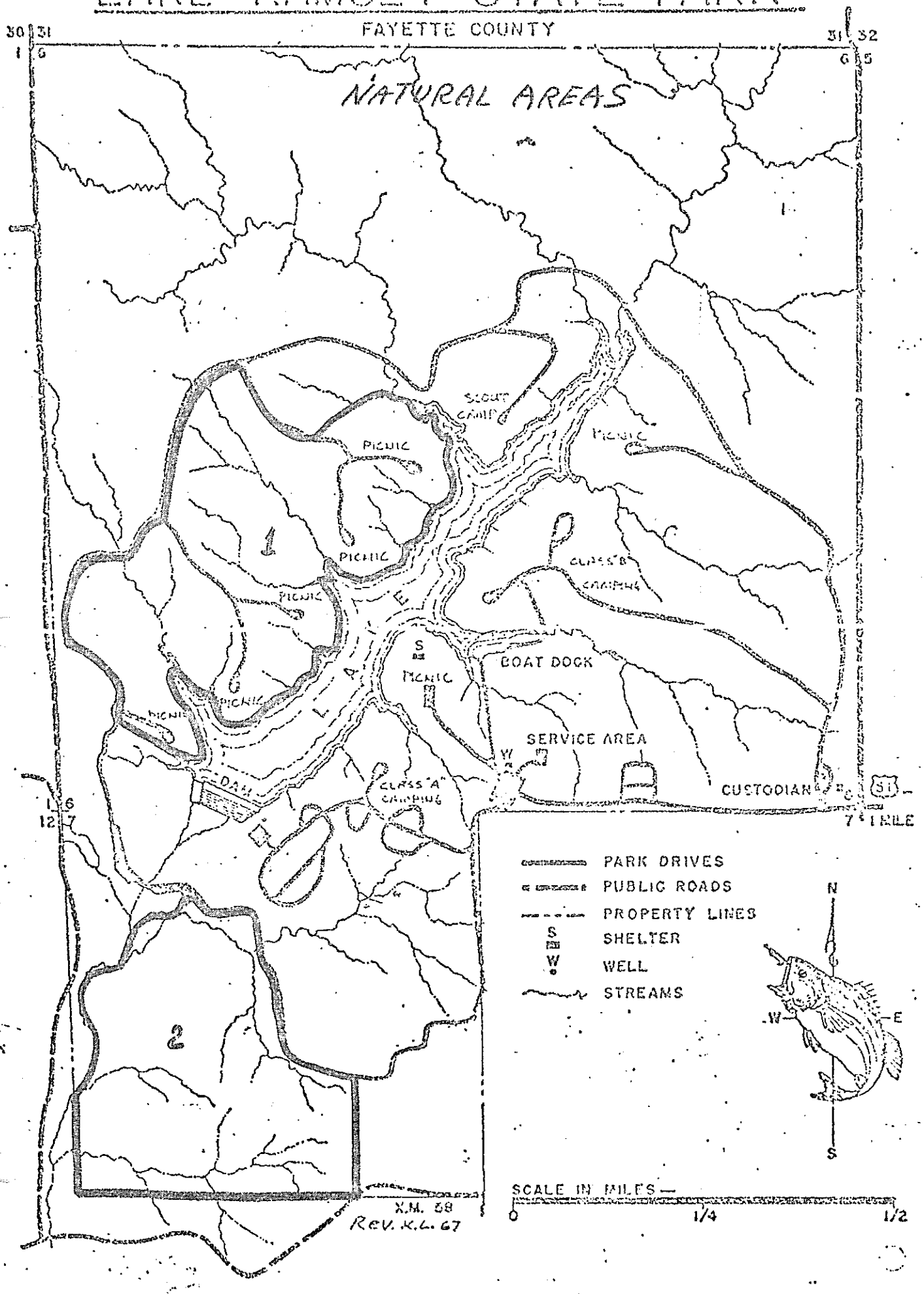
The upland ridges support a dry forest with black and white oak and pignut hickory common in the understory, while the deeper ravines contain a mesic forest community of red oak and sugar maple with wild hydrangea, bladdernut, and ironwood present in the understory. A distinct floodplain forest occurs in narrow strips of alluvial soils along several streams, cottonwood, sycamore, walnut, butternut, and American elm are typical of this community. Shooting star, Indian pipe, twayblade orchid, and five species of fern including silvery spleenwort are present.

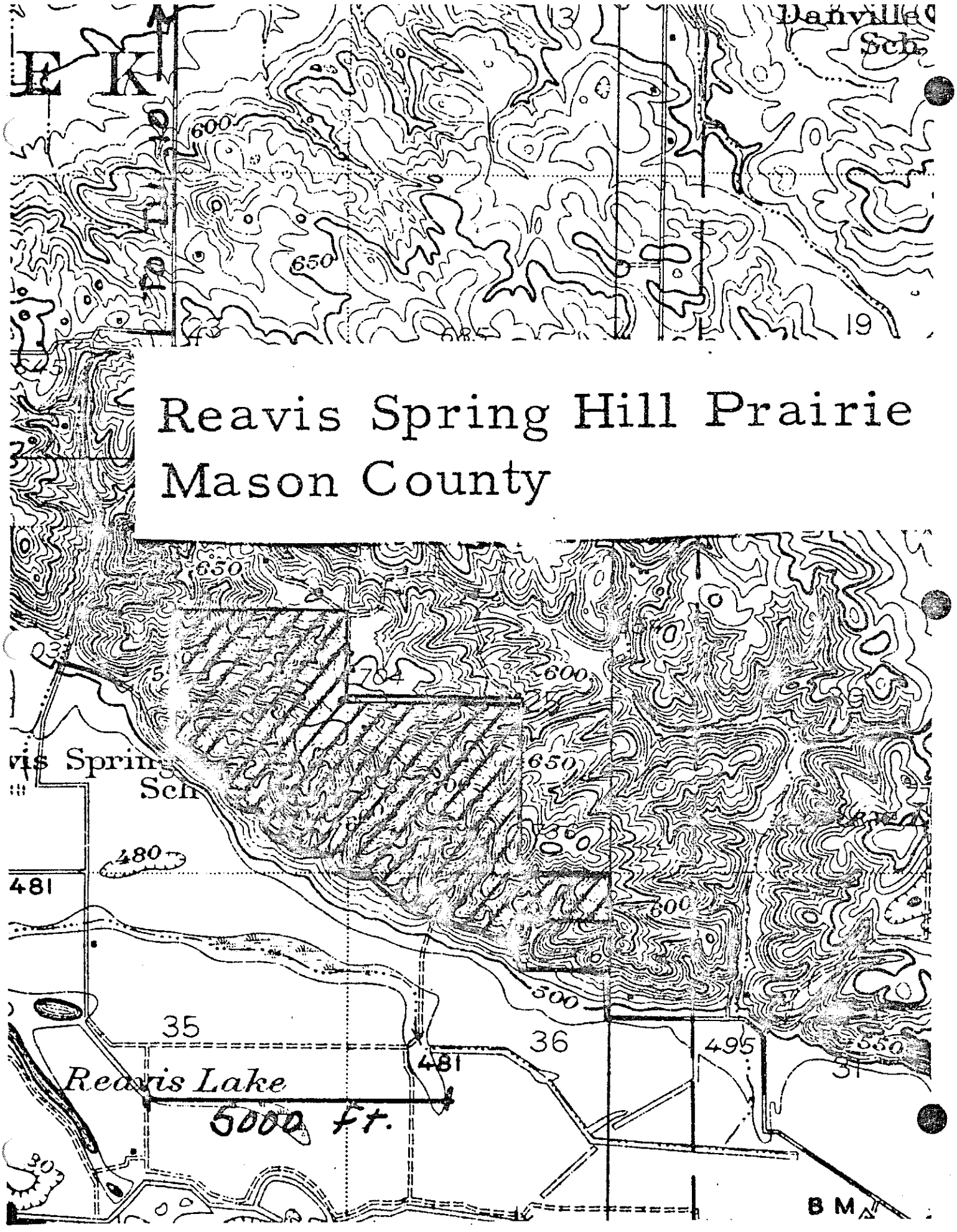
Comments

The entire tract has been subjected to logging in the past and only a few scattered old growth trees remain. The natural conditions have been retained however, and the diversity present in the tract gives the area significance.

The tract is part of an area managed as a wildlife management area. No other management uses are made of the area.

LAKE RAMSEY STATE PARK





Reavis Spring Hill Prairie
Mason County

REAVIS SPRING HILL PRAIRIE - Mason County.

Location:

Two miles northwest of the confluence of Salt Creek and the Sangamon River.

Portions of Secs. 25, 26, and 36, T 20 N, R 7 W, 3 PM
Petersburg Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number:

Note: Within the proposed project boundary are additional natural areas not yet dedicated as nature preserve. As land acquisition proceeds, these areas will be identified.

Character:

Natural types: Loess hill prairie of the Springfield Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

Geology: Illinoian glacial till overlying Carbondale Formation (Pennsylvanian), which does not crop out.

Soils: Fayette silt loam, Sylvan silt loam, and Hamburg silt.

Physiography: A steep bluff along the north edge of the Sangamon River valley.

Vegetation: Prairie of little bluestem and side-oats grama.

Natural features of special interest:

Many prairie forbs and wildflowers are present, including nodding ladies' tresses.

Bibliography:

Evers, R. A. 1955. Hill prairies of Illinois. Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. Bull. 26:367-446.

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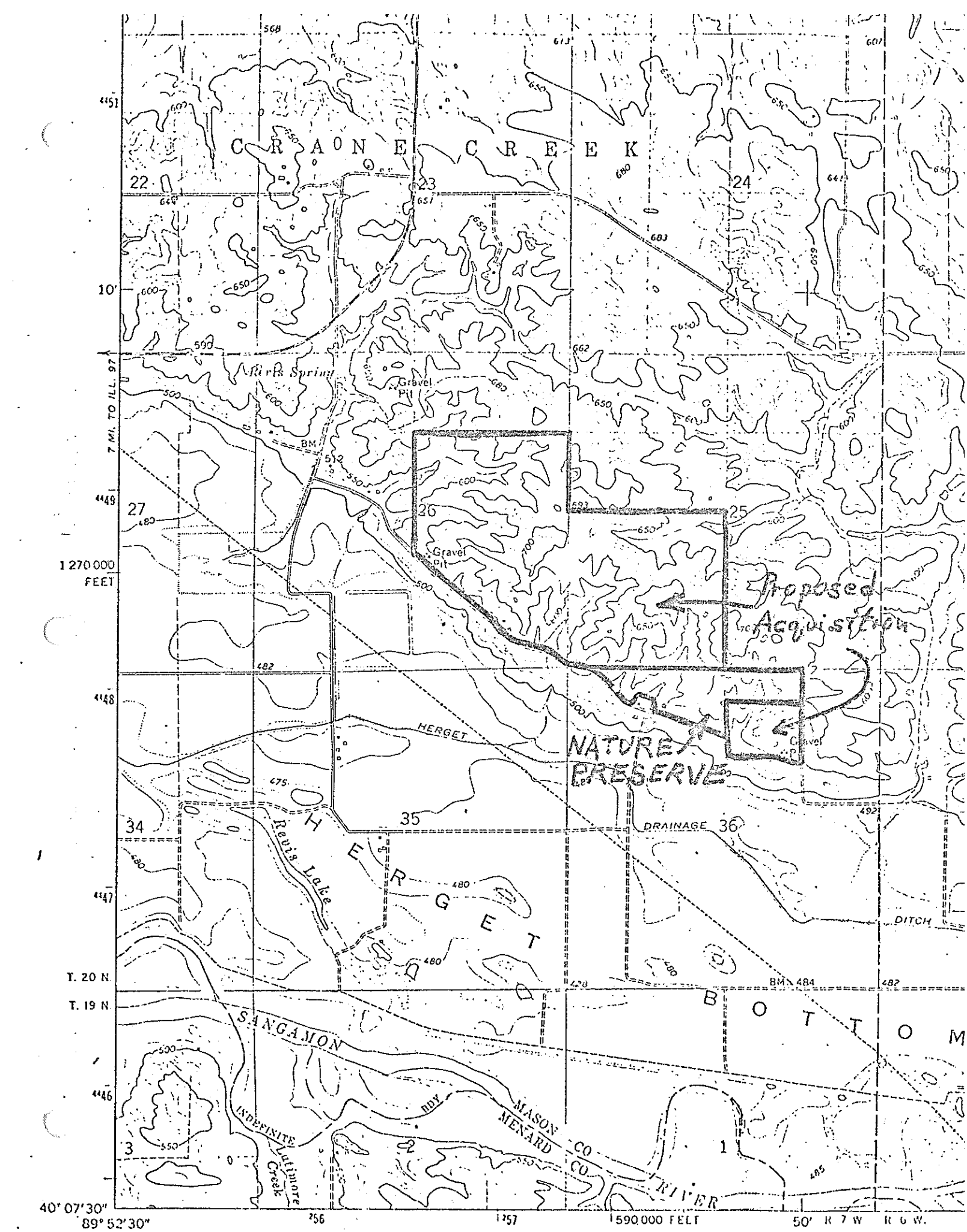

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Red Hills State Park

.Size and Location of Natural Area

Red Hills State Park, Lawrence County. One of two tracts, 200 acres in size and including the forested uplands and ravines north of route 50. Situated in the E 3/4 Sec. 34, T 4 N, R 13 W. Tract number 1 on map.

Physical Features

Upland and ravine forest, seep springs, and intermittant stream of the Mt. Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Hill Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The Red Hills represent a significant natural landform with the highest point 150 feet above the surrounding landscape. The hills are dissected with deep ravines, leaving narrow level ridgetops. Rather large seep springs are present at the heads of several ravines and have large deposits of muck soils.

Biological Features

The ravines support a mesic forest of tulip tree, sugar maple, black gum, basswood, ash and white oak. Sycamore is present along small floodplains in the ravine bottoms. Silvery spleenwort, lady fern, broadbeech fern, gensong and American spikenard occur in the ravines. Tulip tree and black gum are abundant here near the edge of their range, many of the specimens are of large size.

Comments

This tract is of high natural quality and in addition supports an interesting flora suggestive of the Wabash Border Division, even though the Red Hills are located several miles west of this natural division.

Present uses of the general area include foot trails and developed picnic areas along park roads. Intense public use of trails near the picnic shelter has resulted in the elimination of vegetation and the beginnings of gulley erosion on the steepest slope.

The most significant feature of the separate tract south of the old highway is the occurrence of several large springs at the heads of ravines.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Red Hills State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Red Hills State Park, Lawrence County, one of two areas in the park. Located in the south half of the park, south of the park road and west of the campground. Approximately 40 acres and situated in the NW¼ SW¼ Sec. 2, T 3 N, R 13 W. Tract number 2 on map.

Physical Features

Upland woods of the Mt. Vernon Hill country Section of the Southern Hill Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The tract is on a flat section of the Illinoian till plain, with the only other topographical features being a gentle slope along Red Hills Lake and a small intermittent stream in the south part of the area.

Biological Features

The woods is a typical dry upland woods dominated by white oak, other common species include black oak, blackcherry, and several species of hickory. Red oak and basswood occur occasionally along slopes and drainages. The understory is not diverse and includes reproduction from the overstory, sassafras and red elm. Poison ivy is abundant and sensitive fern and virginia knotweed are common.

Comments

The important features of the woods are the dominance of white oak and the size of the trees. Many of the oak are over two feet in diameter and one individual approaches three feet. The woods shows very little evidence of past disturbance and is of high natural quality.

The only current use of the tract is for hiking, several foot trails lead from the campground into the woods, and a Boy Scout trail has been developed along the north edge of the woods.

UNITED STATES
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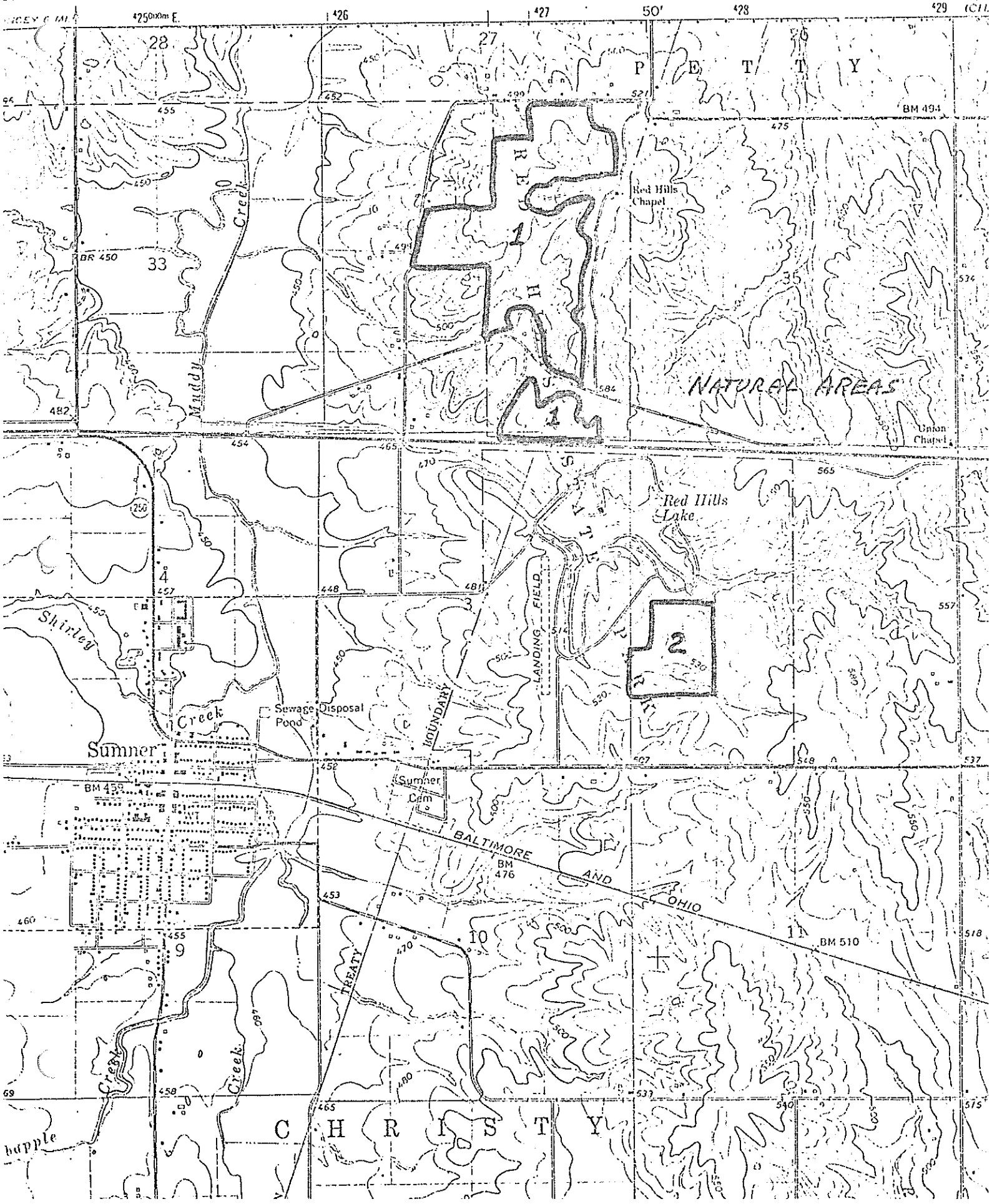


NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Rend Lake Wildlife Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

Rend Lake Wildlife Area, Jefferson County, located in the Big Muddy Subimpoundment Area and including the forested land lying north of route 148 and east of the Missouri - Pacific Railroad. Approximately 900 acres in size and situated in th S½ Sec. 28, S¼ Sec. 29. N½ and E½ Sec. 32, and Sec. 33, all in T 3 S, R 2 E.

Physical Features

Bottomland forests of the Mt. Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The tract is located within the immediate flood plain of the Big Muddy River, the soils are alluvial and are probably flooded annually. Included in the tract is the junction of Rayse Creek and the Big Muddy River and several flood plain ponds left by past meanders of the stream.

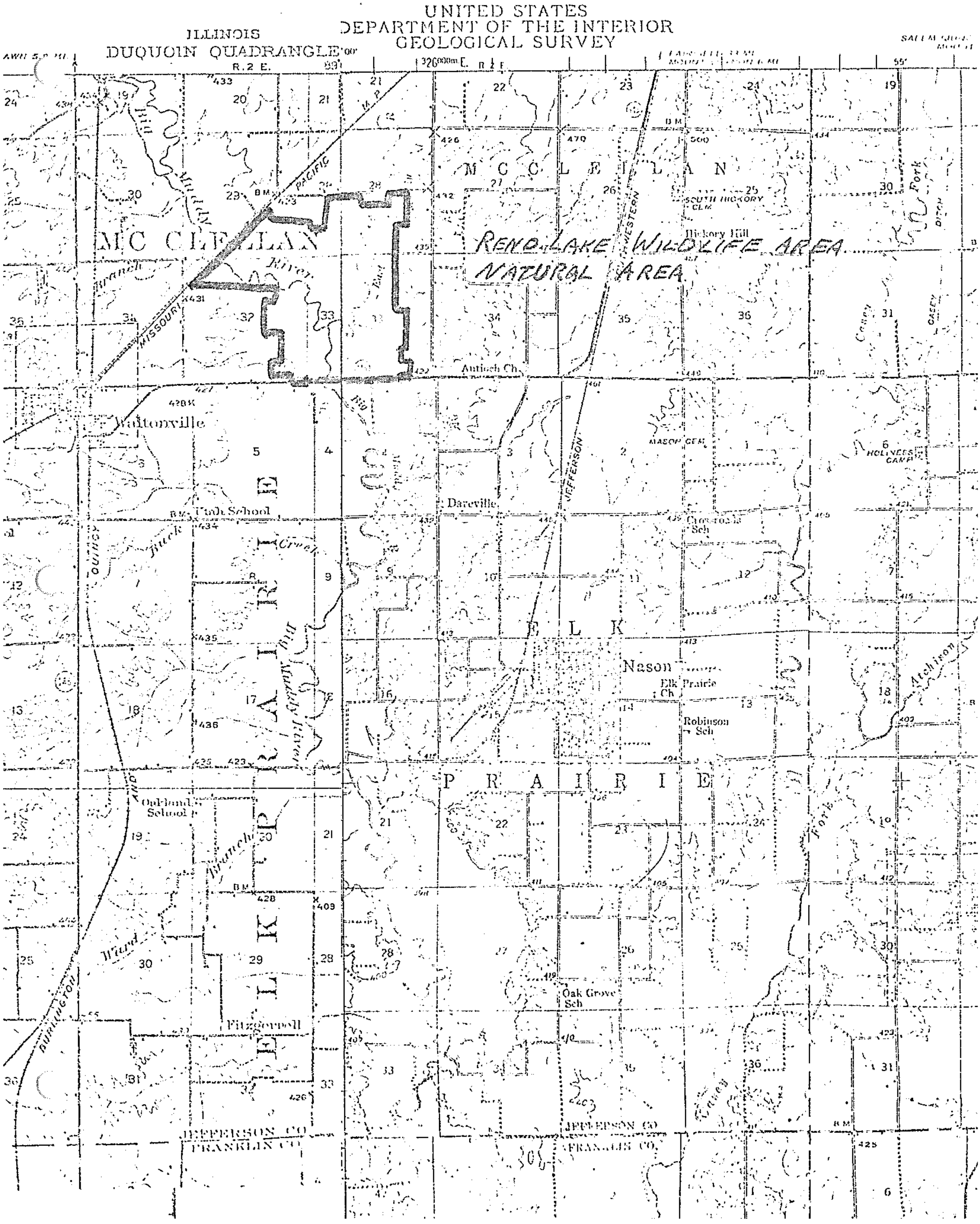
Biological Features

The characteristic trees of this extensive flood plain forest include pin oak, sweet gum, red maple, green ash, swamp white oak, shumard red oak, and several species of hickory; all of which give a southern element to the forest. Although the area has been subjected to logging, many trees that were of poor form were left, some of these individuals approach three feet in diameter. The understory is dominated by reproduction from the overstory and several species of shrubs and vines, including button bush, trumpet creeper and poison ivy.

Comments

The most significant features of the area are the large acreage and aquatic communities and the scattered larger trees left after logging. The area is 2½ miles north of the Big Muddy subimpoundment dam and may be subjected to some flooding from the dam. Some food patches are maintained in the area as part of the management program.

It should be noted that the Department land at Rend Lake is leased from the Corps of Engineers on a 25 year lease.


UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
ILLINOIS
DUQUOIN QUADRANGLE
R. 2 E.
MC CLELLAN
M C C L E L L A N
RENO LAKE WILDLIFE AREA
NATURAL AREA
SOUTH HICKORY CEM
Hickory Hill
Antioch Ch.
Waltonville
Dareville
Utah School
MASON CEM
HOLINESS CAMP
Crossroads Sch
E L K
P R A I R I E
Nason
Elk Prairie Ch
Robinson Sch
Oakland School
Oak Grove Sch
Fitzgerrell
MISSOURI
PACIFIC
JEFFERSON
Big Muddy River
Buck Creek
Atchison
Casey
Fork
Branch
Ward
BURLINGTON
JEFFERSON CO
FRANKLIN CO

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Riverview Conservation Area, Calhoun County

Size and Location of Natural Area

A 175 acre tract located between the river and the levee road, north of Riprap Landing. Situated in the SW¼ SE¼ Sec. 30, E½ Sec. 31, W¼ W½ Sec. 32, T 8 S, R 2 E.

Physical Features

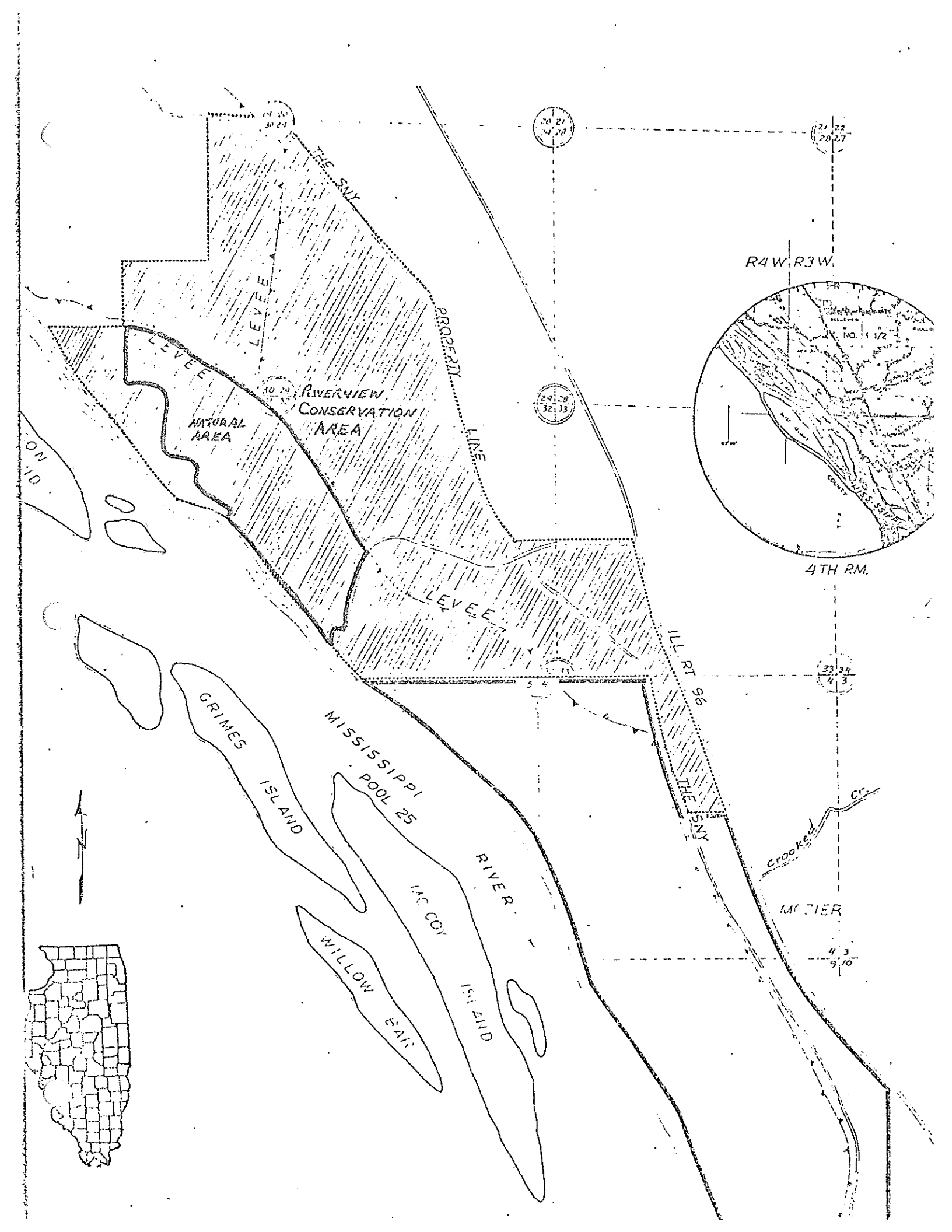
Level bottomland representative of the Mississippi River Section of the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River Bottomlands Division of Illinois. The tract consists of a section of river floodplain adjacent to the Mississippi River, topography is generally flat with a few well drained rises, several floodplain ponds are present.

Biological Features

The tract is covered with a floodplain forest dominated by pin oak, important associates include soft maple, pecan, green ash, hackberry and American elm; honey locust, river birch, bur oak, coffee tree, persimmon, cottonwood, sycamore, box-elder, and deciduous holly are also present. Willows and buttonbush grow along the ponds.

Comments

The tract appears to be in excellent natural condition, with portions of the forest possibly in virgin condition. These features in addition to the ponds and frontage on the Mississippi River make the tract a high quality natural area.


THE SNY
LEVEE
LEVEE
PROPERTY LINE
RIVERVIEW CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREA
LEVEE
LEVEE
ILL RT 96
THE SNY
R4W R3W
4TH P.M.
MISSISSIPPI
POOL 25
GRIMES ISLAND
MAC COY ISLAND
WILLOW BAR
RIVER
Crooked Cr.
MC TIER

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Rock Cut State Park, Winnebago County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Tract No. 1 of three areas, 150 acres, located adjacent to Harlem Road, west of the main entrance. Situated in the S3/4 SW¼, W½ SE¼ Sec. 27, S½ SE¼ Sec. 28, N½ NE¼ NE¼ Sec. 33, N½ N½ NW¼ Sec. 34, T 45 N, R 2 E.

Physical Features

Upland till plain, ravines, and stream bluff with dolomite bedrock outcrops; representative of the Winnebago Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division of Illinois. Soils are developed in wind blown sand over the sandy Wisconsin aged glacial till.

Biological Features

Dry upland forest and mesic forest are the dominant plant communities with red oak, white oak, bitternut hickory, shagbark hickory, red elm and basswood as common tree species; gray dogwood, pagoda tree and maple leaved viburnum are common shrubs. Significant herbaceous species present include two species of clubmoss, two species of grape fern, and rattlesnake plantain. Floodplain forest of bur oak, basswood and walnut occurs locally along stream banks, and skunk cabbage and marsh marigold grow in one side ravine. On north facing cliffs and river bluffs occur a number of uncommon plants including slender cliff brake fern, purple cliff brake fern, walking fern, bishop's cap and leatherwood.

Comments

The area is of special significance due to the presence of a number of uncommon species and the diversity of habitats. Past disturbances have included timber cutting and uncontrolled over use by park visitors.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Rock Cut State Park, Winnebago County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 2 of three natural areas, involving two tracts located north of the lake. A 20 acre tract situated in the E½ SW¼ SE¼ Sec. 22, and a 100 acre tract situated in the S½ SW¼ Sec. 23, N½ NW¼ Sec. 26, both in T 45 N, R 2 E.

Physical Features

Till plain representative of the Winnebago Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

Both tracts contain oak-hickory forest vegetation. The 20 acre tract is a second growth forest of white oak, red oak, and shagbark hickory. The larger tract serves as a nesting area for the Veery and Chestnut Sided Warbler, both uncommon as nesting birds in Illinois.

Comments

Although both tracts have suffered from logging and possibly grazing, they represent natural features that are significant in this natural division.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Rock Cut State Park, Winnebago County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 3 of three natural areas. A 15 acre tract located at the west edge of the park. Situated in the S½ SW¼ NE¼ Sec. 28, T 45 N, R 2 E.

Physical Features

Stream bluff and eroded draws representative of the Winnebago Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division of Illinois. The tract is on the dry south facing north bluff of Willow Creek, parent material is Wisconsin aged sandy glacial till.

Biological Features

The tract supports a disturbed dry prairie community. Bluegrass is the dominant grass although prairie grasses such as big bluestem, little bluestem, Indian grass, side-oats grama and rough dropseed are present. A number of prairie forbs including showy goldenrod, cream false baptisia, prairie smoke, prairie cinquifoil and purple prairie clover are also present. The draws contain box-elder.

Comments

Although disturbed by grazing the tract is significant in that it represents the only dry prairie community known to occur in the park. Woody invasion by wafer ash, prickly ash and hawthorns should be controlled by prescribed burning.

ROCKFORD NORTH QUADRANGLE
ILLINOIS—WINNEBAGO CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SE/4 ROCKFORD 15' QUADRANGLE


3268 IV (BELVIDERE)
89° 00'
42° 22' 30"
810 000 FEET
BURDEN RD
MITCHELL RD
Roadside Park
Gravel Pit
WEST LANE ROAD
Rockford Speedway
Gravel Pits
HART ROAD
Campground
Campgrounds
H A R L E M
Lake
Pierce
STATE PARK
Picnic Area
Gravel Pit
ROCK CUT STATE PARK
WILLOW CREEK FOREST PRESERVE
Harlem
Gravel Pits
Rock Cut Sch
Trailer Park
Quarry
NIMITZ ROAD
HARVEY ROAD
FOREST HILLS ROAD

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Rockhouse Creek, Monroe County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Approximately 100 acres, including the southeastern corner and all but the eastern and southern portions of the 160 acre tract owned by the Department. Located in the S3/4 W¼ Sec. 4, SE¼ SE¼ Sec. 5, both in T 3 S, R 9 W.

Physical Features

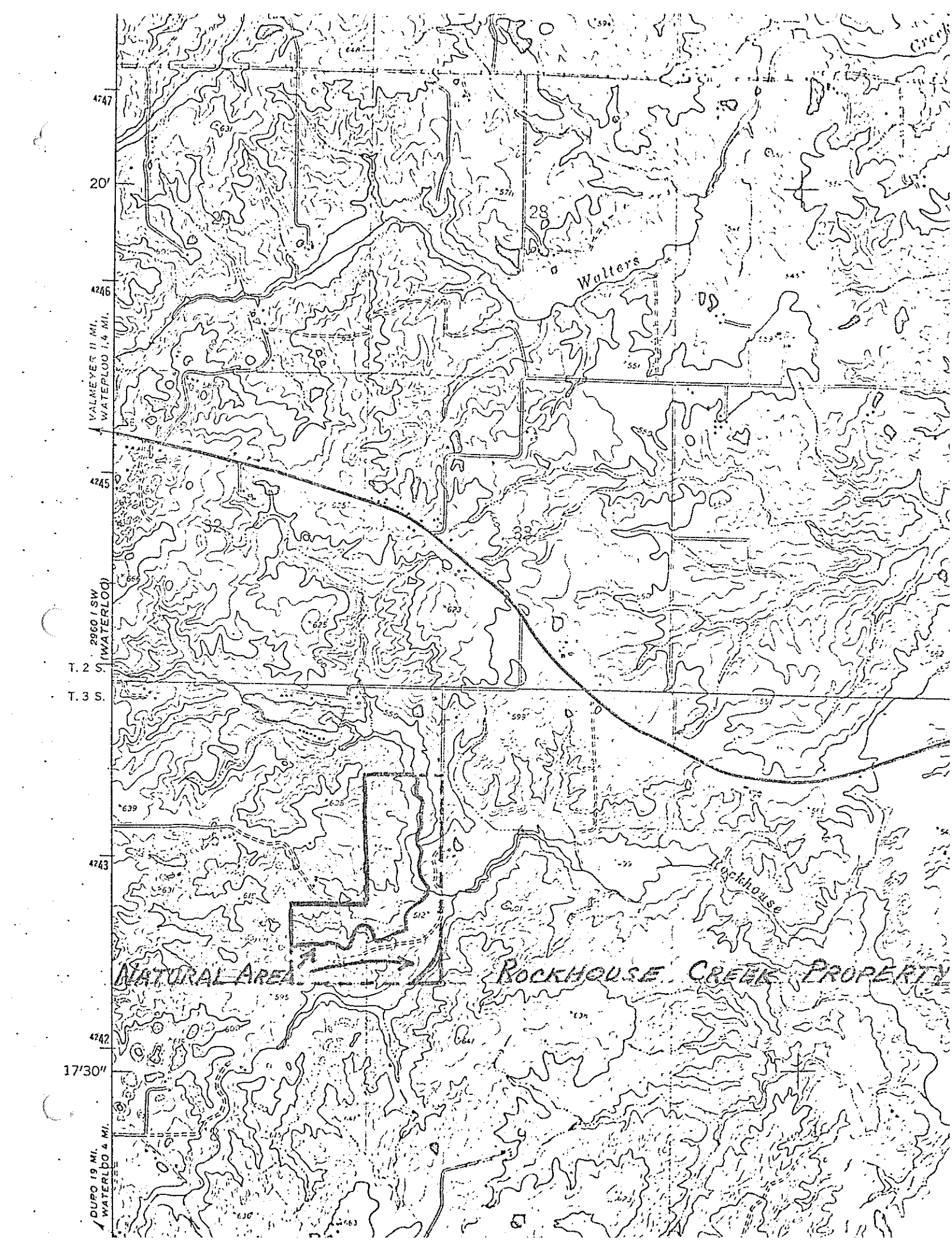
Stream valley with associated bedrock outcrops and sinkholes, representative of the Mount Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division of Illinois. Topography consists of two shallow stream valleys, one of which drains a deep narrow ravine having internal drainage through sinkholes. The streams are rock bottomed and lined with low limestone cliffs; they serve as tributaries to Rockhouse Creek which enters the tract from the south and is lined on its south bank with a high sandstone bluff. Soils are developed in deep to shallow loess over limestone and sandstone.

Biological Features

Dry upland forest occupies the greater portion of the tract, common species include white oak, black oak, black cherry and shagbark hickory. Deep sinkholes support a mesic forest community dominated by red oak with an understory rich in herbaceous plants. Rock loving species such as goatsbeard, purple cliffbrake fern, walking fern, shooting star, and columbine grow on cliffs along the stream valleys.

Comments

The entire tract is second growth, significant features are the mesic forest communities associated with sinkholes, and the geologic diversity of the tract including sinkholes, limestone and sandstone cliffs.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DUPO 19 MI.
WATERLOO 4 MI.
28
27
32
Walters
Rockhouse
NATURAL AREA
ROCKHOUSE CREEK PROPERTY

ROCKTON TOWNSHIP BOG - Winnebago County.

Location:

Three miles northwest of Rockton and 3 miles west of South Beloit.

Part of Sec. 3, T 46 N, R 1 E, 3 PM.

South Beloit Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series, and Rockford Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series.

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph numbers: BXL-1EE-134 and -135 5/21/64

Ownership:

Department of Conservation--34.72 acres, 1 tract under option--32.09 acres, 2 other private owners.

Record of preservation actions:

Acquisition	130 acres	proposed (NA-17)	10/8/69 (M29 R107)
Nature preserve	66.81 acres	final approval	9/16/70 (M34 R151)

Character:

Natural types: Wet prairie and shallow bog of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Geology: Glacial outwash sand overlying Galena-Platteville Group (Ordovician), which does not crop out.

Soils: Sandy soils and peat.

Physiography: Level, poorly drained area of glacial outwash deposits.

Vegetation: Wet prairie dominated by cordgrass and sedges with many bog plants such as dwarf birch and black chokeberry.

Aquatic environments: Wet prairie and shallow bog.

Natural features of special interest:

Many prairie and bog wildflowers and ferns occur, including Campanula intercedens, Triadenum fraseri, marsh marigold, marsh lousewort, marsh fern, cinnamon fern, royal fern, and sensitive fern.

Bibliography:

Fell, E. W. 1957. Plants of a northern Illinois sand deposit. Am. Midland Naturalist 58(2):441-451.

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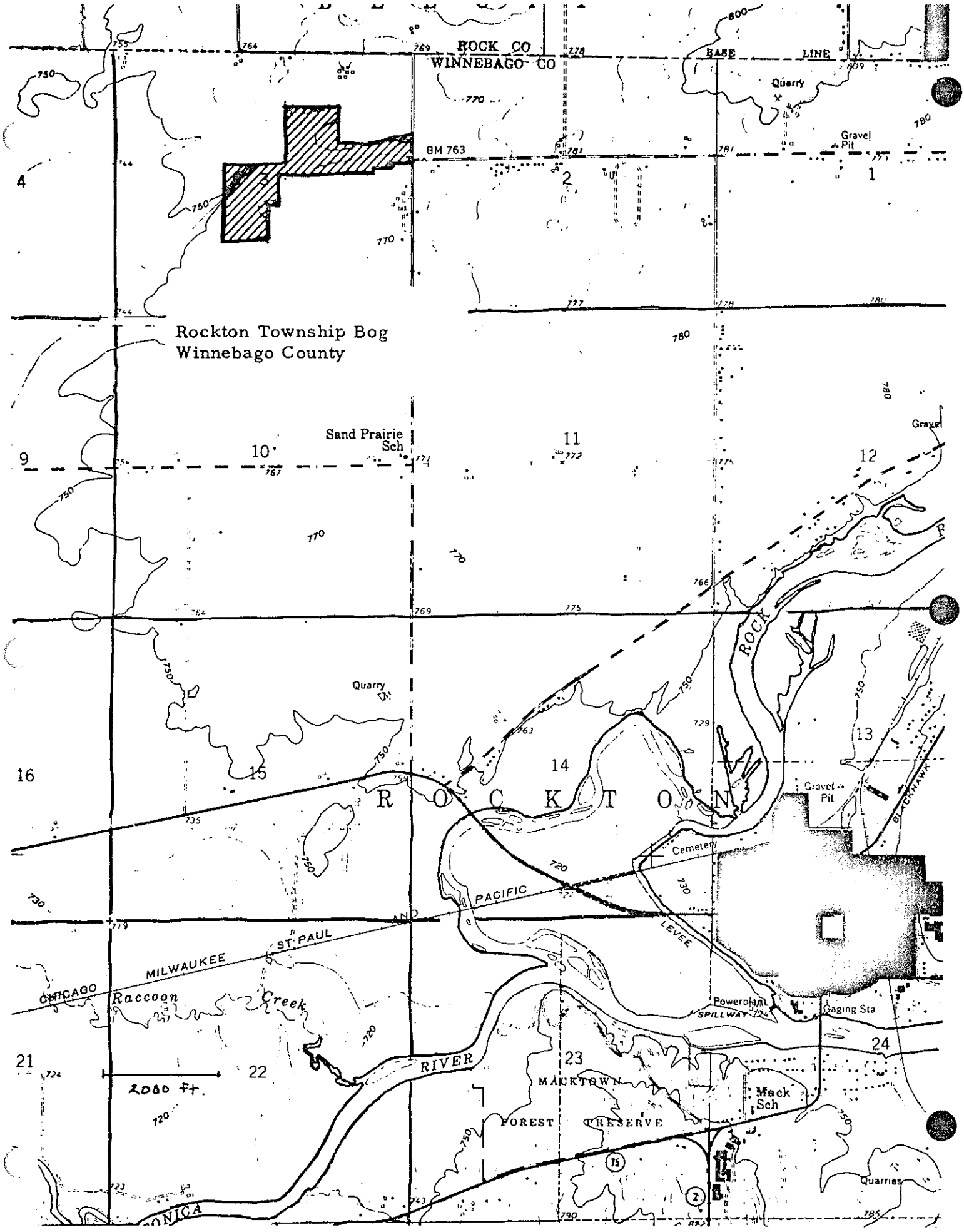

ROCK CO
WINNEBAGO CO
BASE LINE
Quarry
Gravel Pit
BM 763
Rockton Township Bog
Winnebago County
Sand Prairie Sch
Gravel
Quarry
ROCK
R O C K T O N
Gravel Pit
BLACKHAWK
Cemetery
PACIFIC AND
MILWAUKEE ST. PAUL
CHICAGO
LEVEE
Raccoon Creek
Powerplant
SPILLWAY
Gaging Sta
RIVER
2000 Ft.
MACKTOWN
FOREST PRESERVE
Mack Sch
Quarries

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Saline County Conservation Area

Size and Location of Natural Area

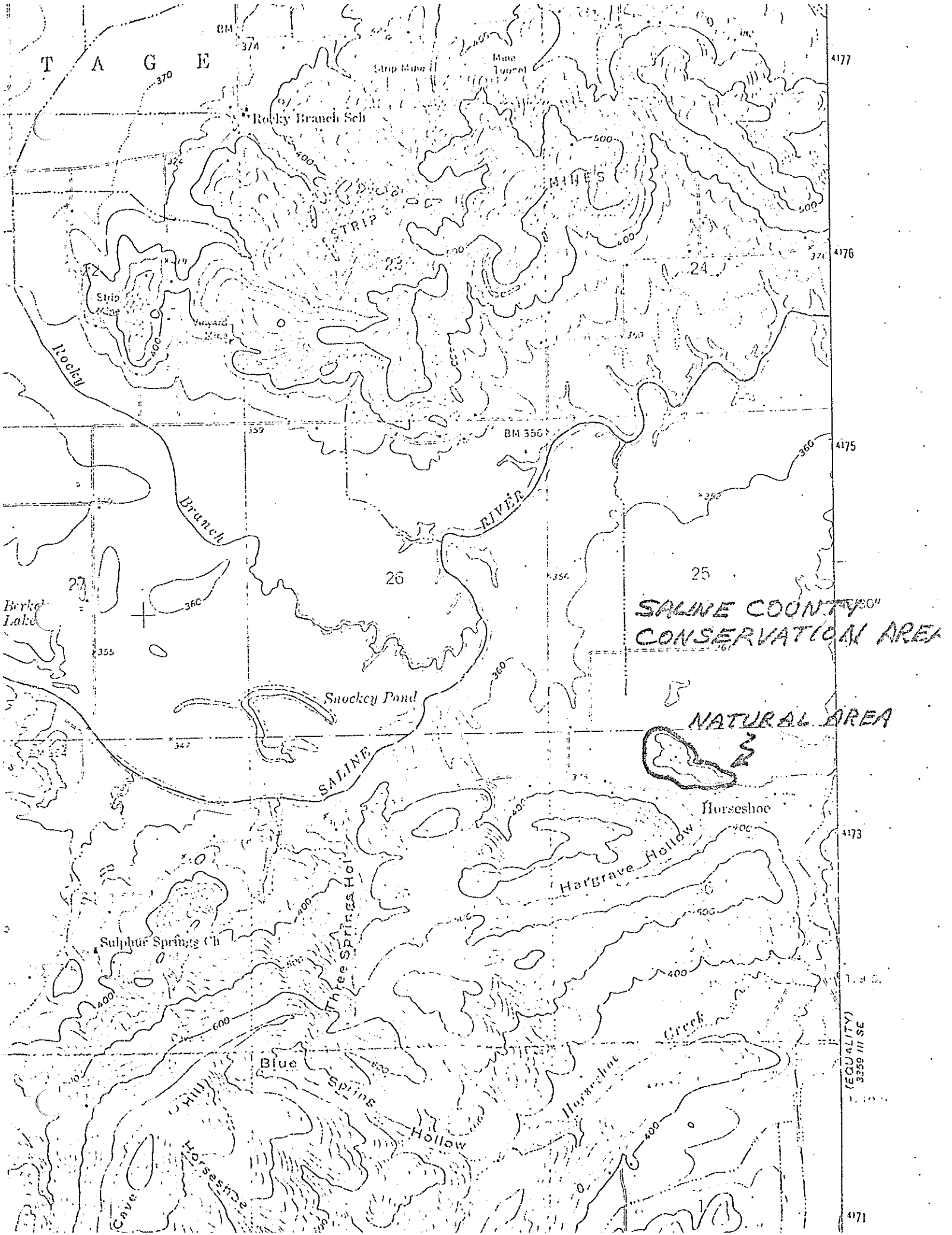
A 20 acre tract located north west of the park entrance. In the NE¼ NW¼, NW¼ NE¼, Sec. 36, R7E, T9S.

Features

A notable geologic uplift separated from the main body of the Shawnee Hills.

Comments

The tract has no natural vegetation; it is used by geology classes and is of scientific interest.


T A G E
Rocky Branch Sch
Strip Mine
STRIP MINES
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Rocky Branch
BM 356
SALINE RIVER
Berkel Lake
Snockey Pond
SALINE COUNTY CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREA
Horseshoe
Hargrave Hollow
Sulphur Springs Ch
Three Springs Hollow
Blue Spring Hollow
Horsehead Creek
Cave
Horseshoe
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4175
4173
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(EQUALITY) 3359 III SE

SAND PRAIRIE - SCRUB OAK NATURE PRESERVE - Mason County

Location:

Nine miles south of Havana, between Bath and Kilbourne.
Sec. 23 and portions of Secs. 26 and 14, T 20 N, R 9 W, 3 PM.
Chandlerville Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph numbers: BXC-4DD-204 6/24/63
BXC-2T-147 9/24/57

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation

Character:

Natural types: Forest, prairie, and dunes of the Illinois River Section of the Sand Areas Division.

Geology: Valmeyeran Series (Mississippian) beneath valley fill.

Soils: Sandy soils.

Physiography: Terrace deposits of sand in the Illinois River Valley.

Vegetation: Scrub forest of blackjack oak, sand prairie, old field successional vegetation, and various plant associations related to unstabilized sand.

Aquatic environments: None

Natural features of special interest:

The sandy soil provides a very rigorous environment for both plant and animal life, arid and with extremely high surface temperatures in summer. An assemblage of western plants and animals survive in this dry environment as relics of a drier, warmer period. The lark sparrow is very common here.

Management and use:

Tentative management plans call for fencing and the provision of minimal facilities for visitors. In this preserve, primary emphasis is placed on university-based research; and little casual visitation by the general public is anticipated.

Bibliography:

Johnson, William W. 1970. The resident mammal and bird populations of a sand prairie and forest area near Bath, Illinois. Trans, Ill. State Acad. Sci. 63(3):234-239.

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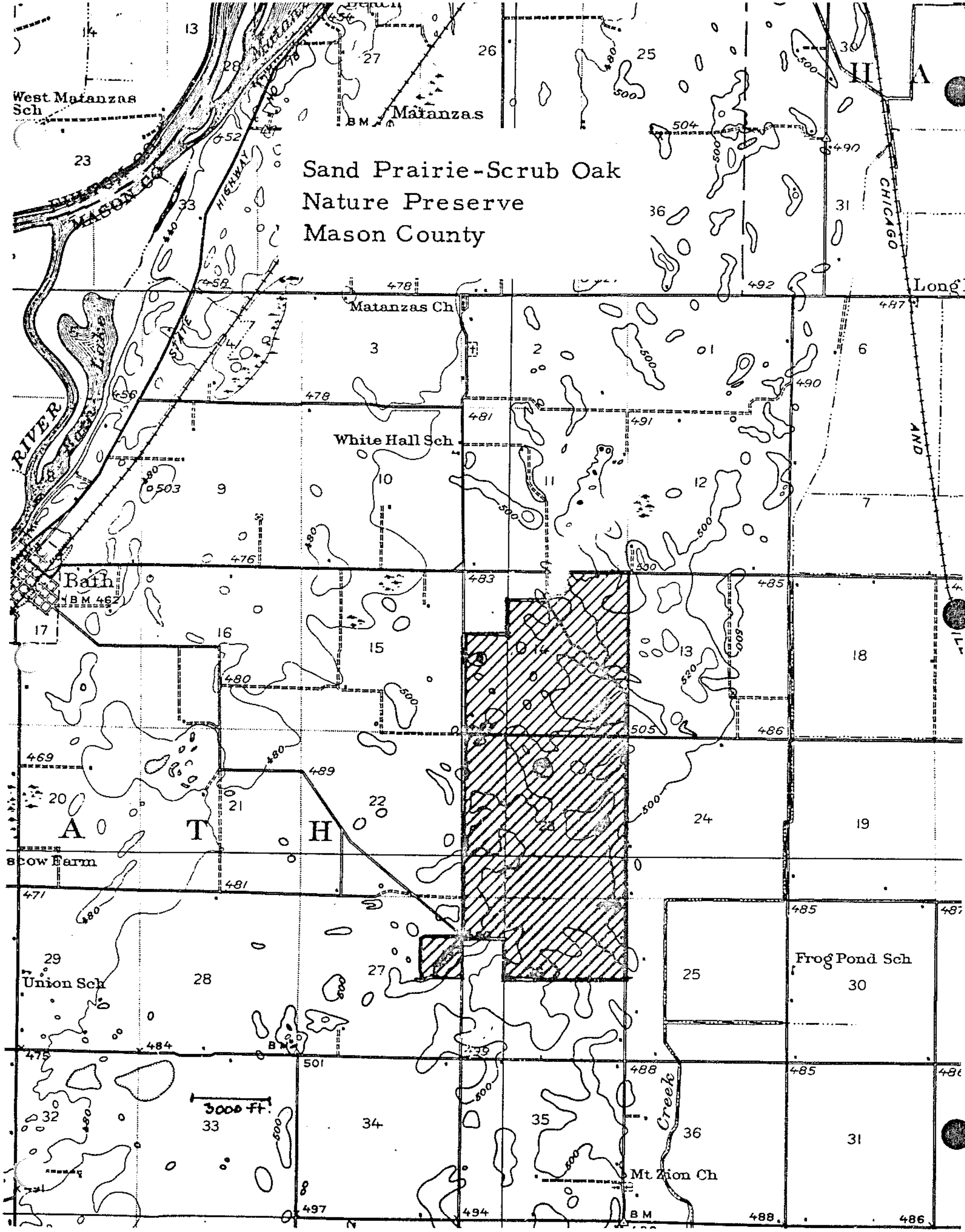
Sand Prairie-Scrub Oak
Nature Preserve
Mason County
West Matanzas Sch
Matanzas
Matanzas Ch
White Hall Sch
Bath
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RIVER
MASON CO
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Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Sand Ridge, Mason State Forest

Natural Features

Although only partially inventoried, this large tract is known to contain natural scrub oak forest and sand prairie representative of the Illinois River Section of the Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Areas Natural Division of Illinois.

Comments

An inventory of the area will be completed in 1975 in conjunction with the Master Management Planning Task Force.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Sanganois-Barkhausen Conservation Area, Cass County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 1 of two natural areas, approximately 800 acres in size and including the S½ SW¼ Sec. 9, SE¼ SE¼ Sec. 8, E½ E½ Sec. 17, Sec. 16, all in T 19 N, R 11 W.

Physical Features

Floodplain representative of the Illinois River Section of the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River Bottomlands Natural Division of Illinois. The tract is located near the junction of the Illinois and Little Sangamon Rivers, it includes a section of the Little Sangamon River and associated sloughs and "scatters".

Biological Features

"Scatters" are open areas dominated by buttonbush, privet, and willow, with smartweed and the uncommon mud plantain (Echinodorus cordifolious) in the understory. Most of the tract is covered with a bottomland forest of pecan, silver maple, ash, cottonwood, sycamore, elm, swampwhite oak, and river birch. The trees form nearly a complete canopy and undergrowth is sparse. Understory plants include aster, bur cucumber, trumpet creeper, poison ivy, and wood nettle. Wildlife includes deer, squirrel, herons, and many kinds of waterfowl.

Comments

This area is fine example of bottomland timber and "scatters" of the Illinois River Bottoms, it may be the best natural area of this type within Department ownership.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Sanganois-Barkhausen Conservation Area, Cass County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 2 of two natural areas. A 26 acre tract located in the NW¼ SW¼ Sec. 30, T 19 W, R 10 W.

Physical Features

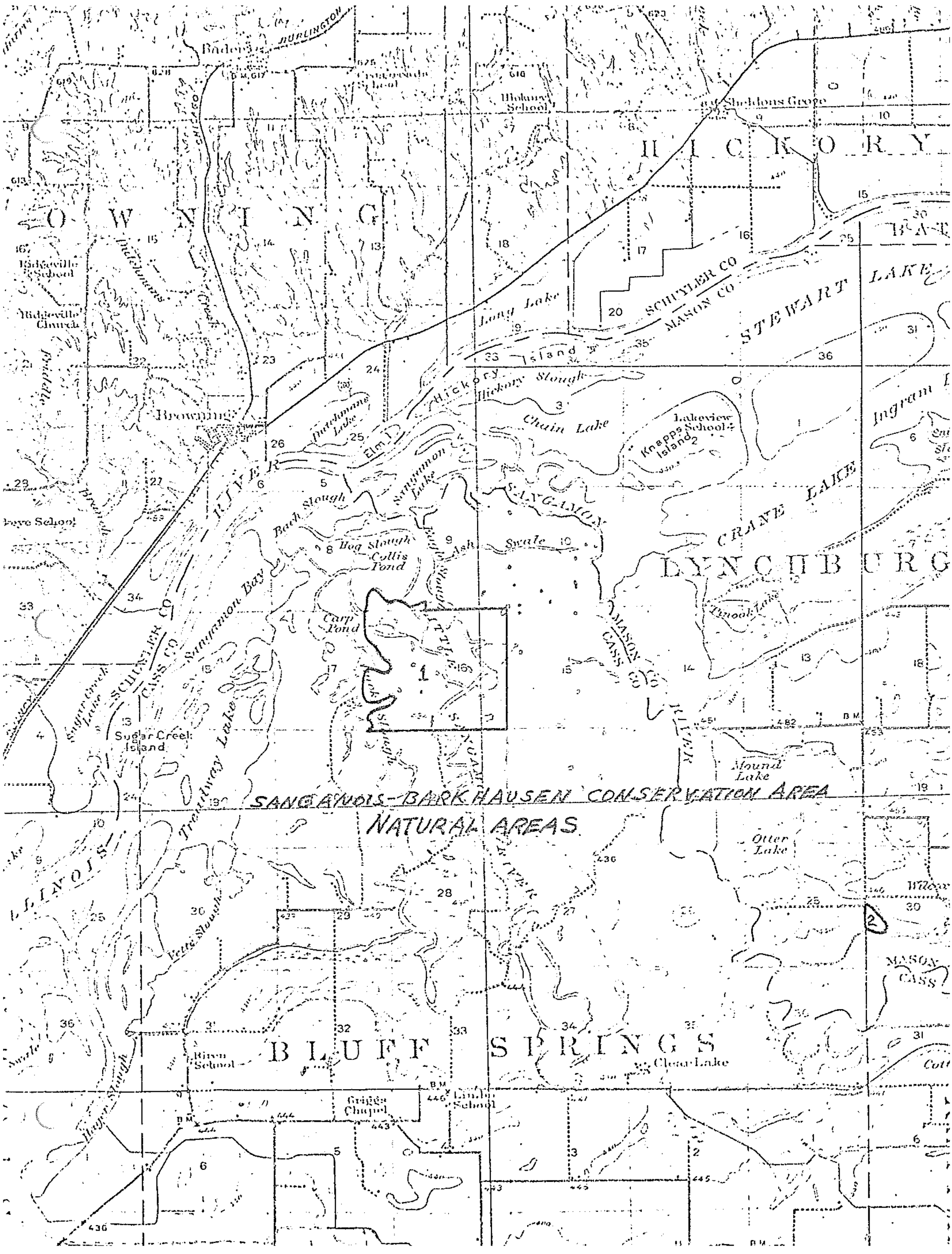
Bottomland of the Illinois River Section of the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River Bottomlands Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

The tract consists of a low wet prairie dominated by cordgrass. There is little diversity in the community since cordgrass leaves little room for other species.

Comments

This tract may be typical of prairies that once occurred in the Illinois River Bottoms. Parts of the tract may have been cropped in the past.


SANGANOIS-BARKHAUSEN CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREAS
HICKORY
LYNCHBURG
BLUFF SPRINGS
SCHUYLER CO
MASON CO
CASS CO
STEWART LAKE
CRANE LAKE
Long Lake
Island
Hickory Slough
Chain Lake
Dutchmans Lake
Elm I.
Sangamon Lake
Back Slough
Bog Slough
Collis Pond
Ash Swale
Carp Pond
Sangamon Bay
Treadway Lake
Sugar Creek Island
Sugar Creek Lake
Lakeview School
Knapps Island
Ingram L
Tinnook Lake
Mound Lake
Otter Lake
Browning
Baders
Sheldons Grove
Hickory School
Ridgeville School
Ridgeville Church
Dutchmans Creek
Clear Lake
Riven School
Griggs Chapel
Lutts School
Vette Slough
ILLINOIS
RIVER
BURLINGTON

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Shabbona State Park, De Kalb County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Shabbona State Park, a one half acre tract located along Indian Creek near the northwest access road; in the center of Sec. 22, T38N, R3E.

Physical Features

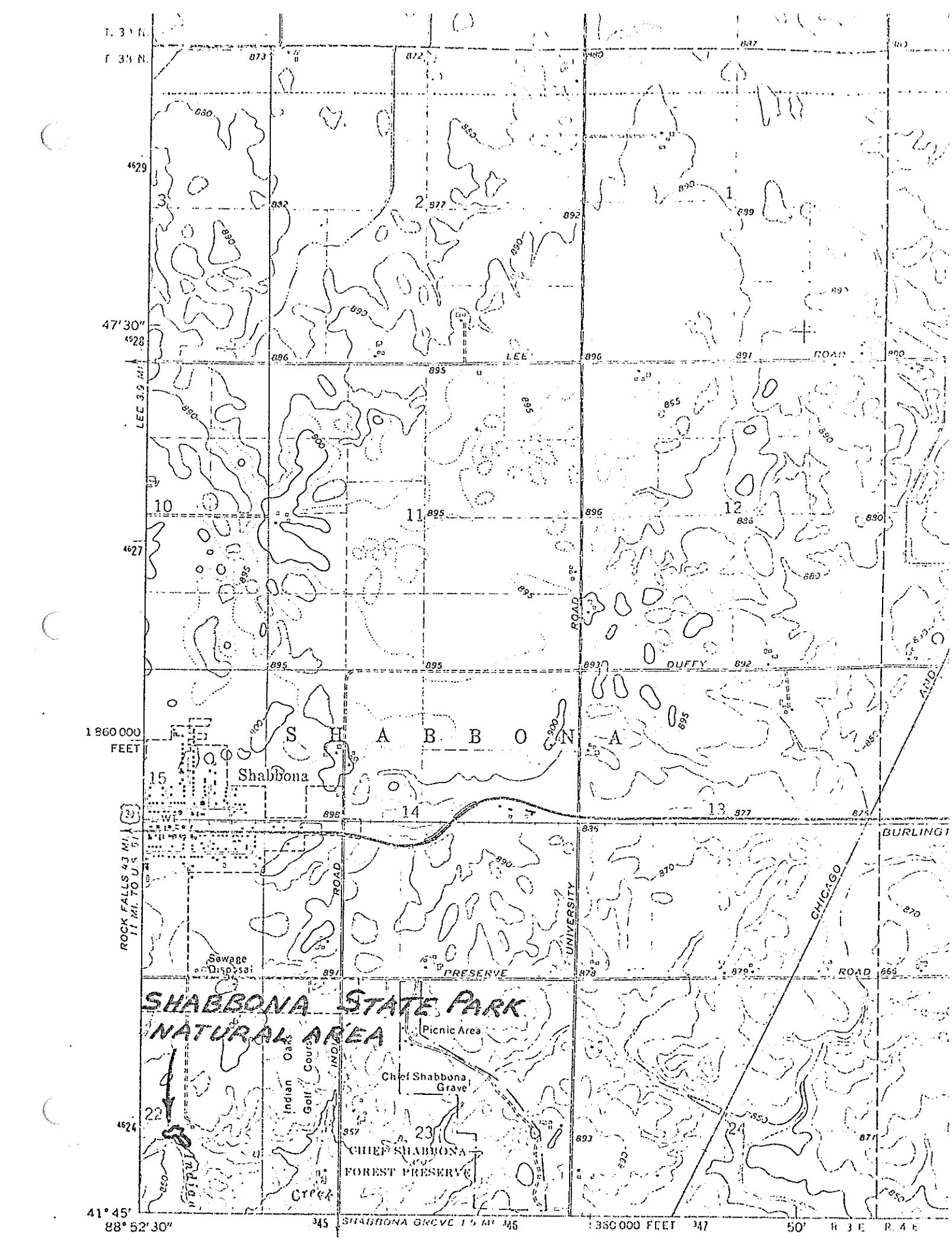
A small fen representative of the northern portion of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The fen consists of peat and muck soils developed in association with seepages on the north bank of Indian Creek as it passes through the Shabbona Moraine.

Biological Features

Along small streams and in muck soils are found skunk cabbage, marsh marigold, spring cress, angelica, and iris. Found in association with peat soils are water dock, boneset, turtlehead, bluejoint grass, cat - tails and sedges. Thickets of hawthorn and willow occur around the south and west edge of the site.

Comments

Although small, this is an interesting and good quality natural area. Disturbances probally include grazing as a fence line crosses the east portion of the area and the site is surrounded by pasture land.


T. 31 N.
T. 30 N.
47'30"
41°45'
88°52'30"
1 860 000 FEET
1 860 000 FEET
LEE 3.9 MI.
ROCK FALLS 4.3 MI.
11 MI. TO U.S. 51
SHABBONA
Shabbona
LEE ROAD
DUFFY ROAD
ROAD
UNIVERSITY
PRESERVE
ROAD
CHICAGO AND
BURLINGT
Sewage Disposal
SHABBONA STATE PARK
NATURAL AREA
Picnic Area
Chief Shabbona Grave
Indian Oak Golf Course
INDIAN
Creek
CHIEF SHABBONA
FOREST PRESERVE
SHABBONA GROVE 1.5 MI.
50'
R 3 E
R. 4 E

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Siloam Springs State Park, Adams and Brown Counties

Size and Location of Natural Areas

Three tracts located in the western portion of the tract. Tract 1 (360 acres) situated in Sec. 17, 18, 19, T 2 S, R 4 W. Tract 2 (400 acres) situated in Sec. 13, 24, T 2 S, R 5 W, and Sec. 18, 19, T 2 S, R 4 W. Tract 3 (40 acres) situated in Sec. 24, 25, T 2 S, R 5 W; located below the dam.

Physical Features

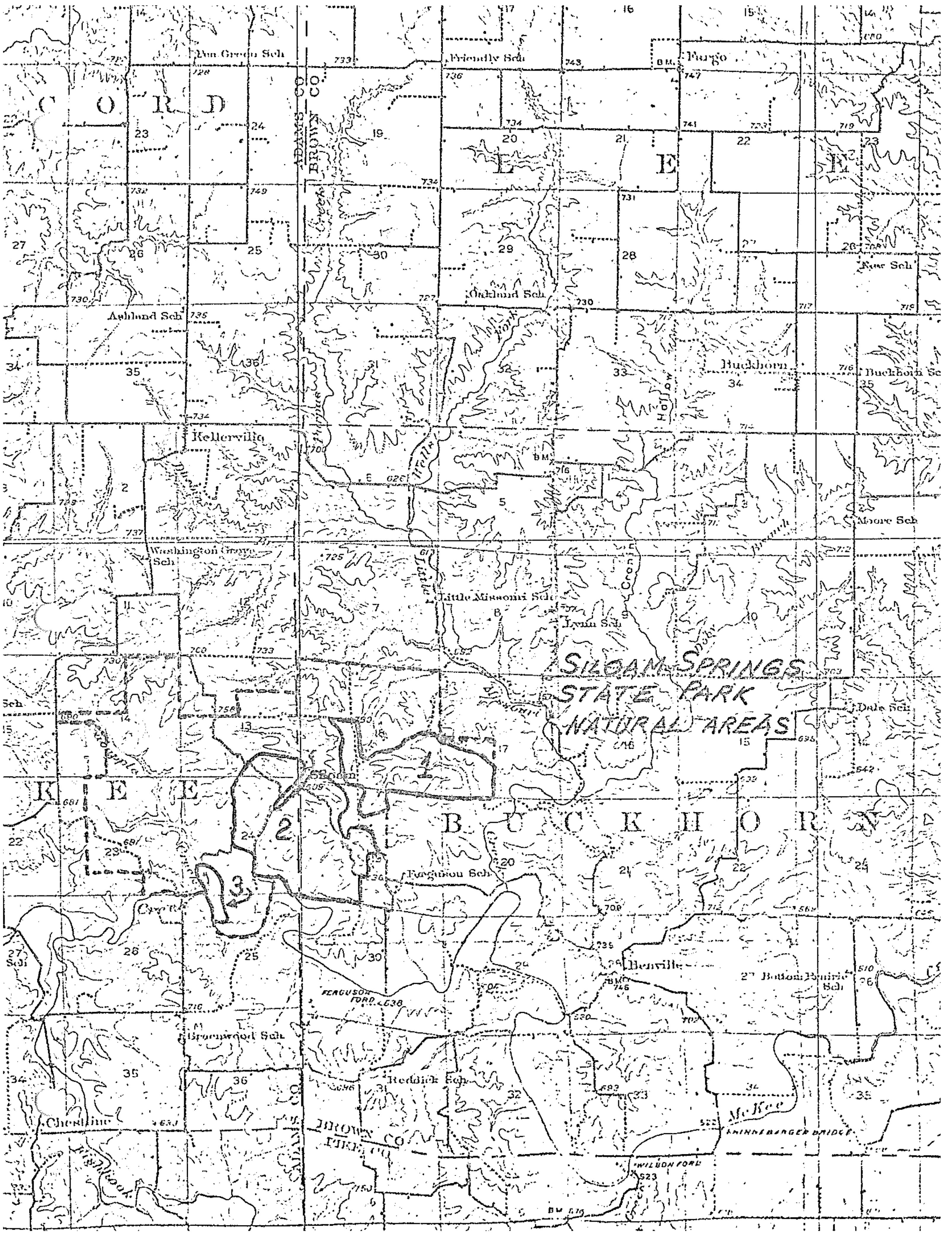
Tract 1 contains uplands and rugged ravines eroded into Illinoian glacial till. Tract 2 features similar topography with stream erosion extending into the underlying Pennsylvanian sandstone and shale bedrock, additional features include steep eroding shale stream bluffs, springs and sedge meadows. Tract 3 is a relatively wide ravine with a flood plain and sandstone walls below dry blufftops. All are representative of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

Forest vegetation includes: dry upland forest of black oak, white oak, chink apin oak, and hickory; mesic forest of red oak, white oak, sugar maple, butternut, and basswood; and floodplain forest of elm, walnut, box elder, and Ohio buckeye. Shrubs of drier sites include flowering dogwood and redbud, with alternate-leaf dogwood being frequent in ravines. Level uplands in tract 1 support mesic prairie of big bluestem and Indian grass, while shale slopes and dry bluffs in tracts 2 and 3 support dry prairie of little bluestem with leadplant, Ohio spiderwort, and buffalo clover. Sedge meadows in tract 2 support a distinctive flora of sedges, bog goldenrod, white turtlehead and bog twayblade orchid. McKee Creek is a relatively unpolluted medium sized stream with a diverse fish fauna.

Comments

These tracts are excellent and diverse representatives of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division. Tracts 1 and 2 are large enough to possess wilderness qualities; and all 3 tracts contain a number of uncommon plants including the sedge meadow vegetation of tract 2, interrupted fern, pinesap, buffalo clover, and snow trillium (reported from tract 3). The upland prairies in tract 2 are partially developed in old fields, however, they are rich and diverse (including at least two orchid species). Management problems include pine plantations and a need for prescribed burns in the upland prairies.



SILOAM SPRINGS
STATE PARK
NATURAL AREAS
C O R D
E E
K E E
B U C K H O R N
ADAMS CO
BROWN CO
PIKE CO
Friendly Sch
Fargo
Oakland Sch
Ashland Sch
Buckhorn
Buckhorn Sch
Kellerville
Moore Sch
Washington Grove Sch
Little Missouri Sch
Lynn Sch
Dale Sch
Ferguson Sch
Benville
Bottom Prairie Sch
Broadwood Sch
Reddick Sch
Chestline
FERGUSON FORD
SHINNEBARGER BRIDGE
WILSON FORD
McKee
1
2
3

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Spitler Woods State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Spitler Woods State Park, Macon County. Approximately 125 acres in size and including most of the forested portions of the eastern part of the park. Located in the SE½ Sec. 3, T 15 N, R 3 E.

Physical Features

Upland and ravine forests of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. Spitler Woods is situated on a glacial morain with a shallow ravine and intermittent stream bisecting the area on a north-south axis. Relatively flat uplands border each side of the ravine and small amounts of alluvial soils have accumulated along the stream.

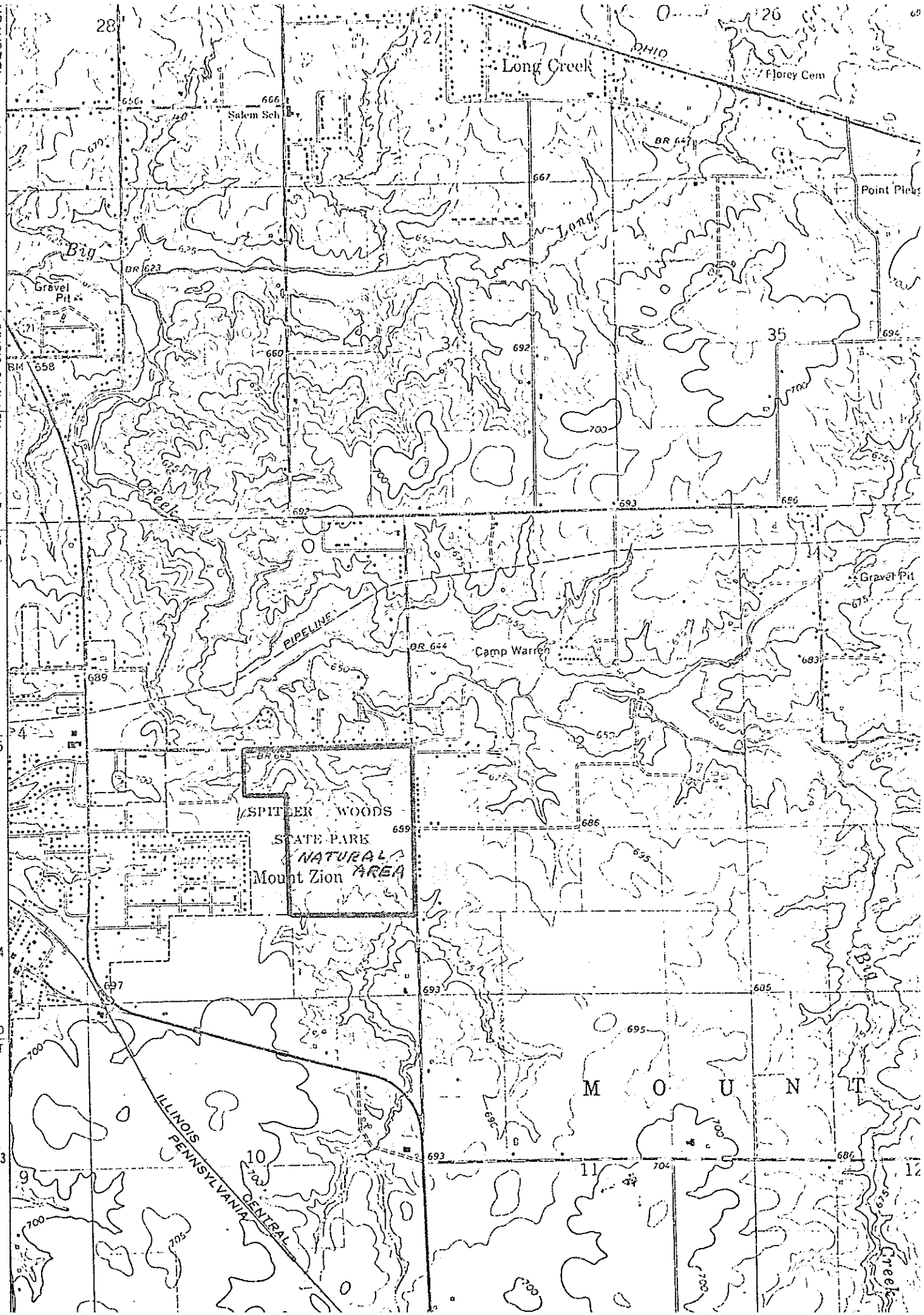
Biological Features

White oak, black oak, and several species of hickory are common on upland sites while sugar maple, red oak, and ash are found on ravine slopes. Ravine bottoms support a mixed community of sycamore, American elm, walnut, hackberry, bur oak, red oak, and sugar maple. Bladdernut and red mulberry are present in the understory.

Comments

Portions of the woods approach old growth conditions with several bur and white oak greater than three feet in diameter and several large walnut, one 29 inches and another 34 inches in diameter.

Although areas of the park are of high natural quality, adjacent sites have been disturbed by timber cutting and over use by park visitors. These problems detract somewhat from the quality of the entire area. The stream may be subjected to pollution from housing developments which are gradually surrounding the park.


Long Creek
Florey Cem
Salem Sch
Point Pleas
Big
Long
Gravel Pit
BR 623
BR 658
LINCOLN 40 MI.
1.5 MI. TO U.S. 36
T. 16 N.
47'30"
T. 15 N.
Gravel Pit
PIPELINE
BR 644
Camp Warren
BR 665
SPITLER WOODS
STATE PARK
NATURAL AREA
Mount Zion
1 130 000
FEET
ILLINOIS
PENNSYLVANIA
CENTRAL
M O U N T
Big
Creek

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Spring Lake Conservation Area, Tazewell County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Two tracts, each approximately 20 acres in size. Located in the center of the E½ Sec. 2, and in the center of the NE¼ Sec. 10, T23N, R7W.

Physical Features

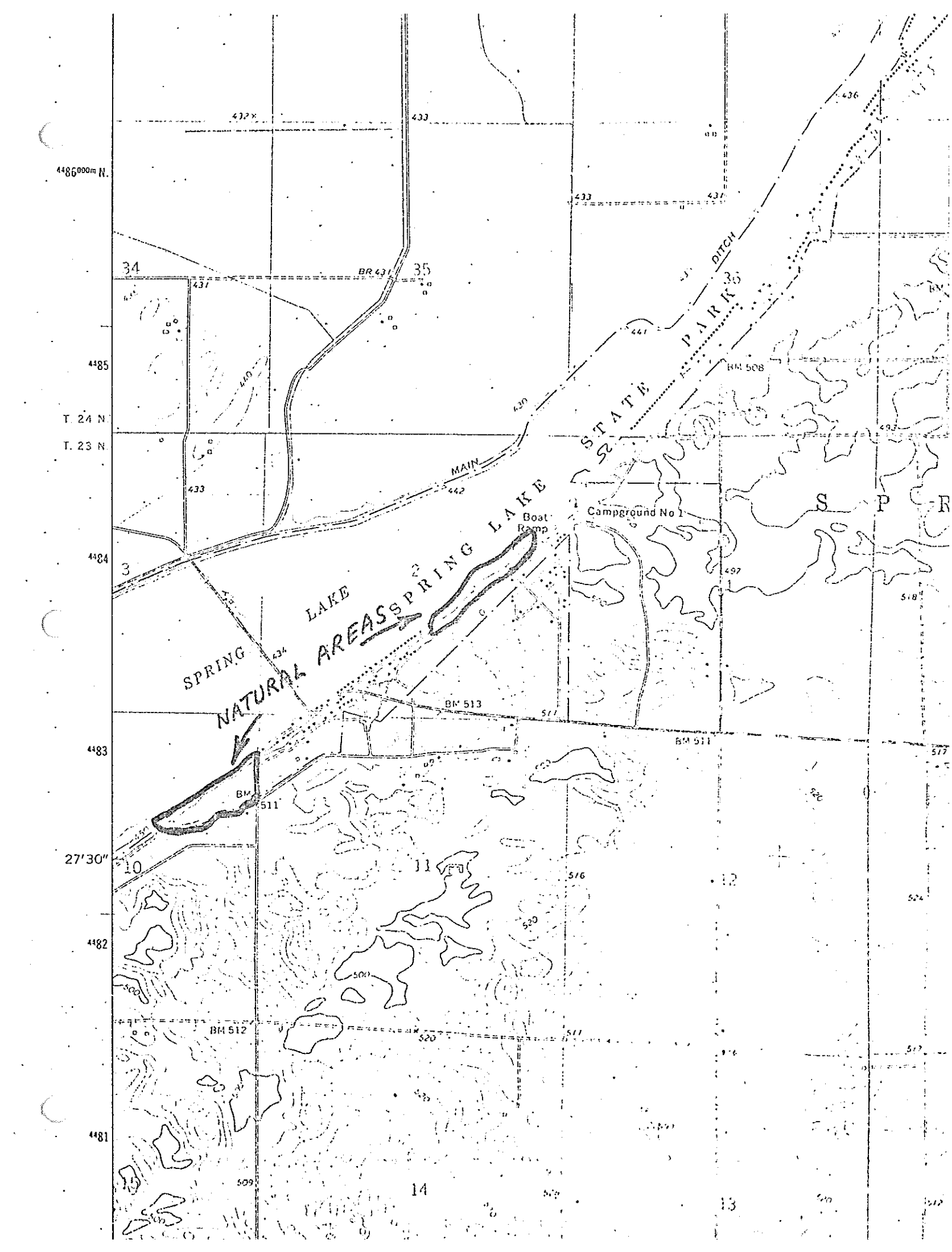
Spring fed peat deposits, sand bluff, and scrub oak forest representative of the Illinois River Section of the Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Areas Natural Division of Illinois. The springs are located at the base of a sand bluff, with soils of peat, sand and gravel.

Biological Features

Vegetation typical of the Illinois River spring fed bogs is present. Woody species include scattered large black and white ash with a heavy woody understory of dogwood, buttonbush, wild indigo bush, gooseberry and pussy willow. A rich herbaceous understory is present including water cress, giant water dock, skunk cabbage, water parsnip, marsh fern, spinulose wood fern, crested wood fern, and bog twayblade orchid. The scrub oak forest is of black and blackjack oaks and hickory.

Comments

These tracts are of high natural quality and the springs represent an uncommon plant community near the southern limits of its range in Illinois.


4486000m N.
4485
4484
4483
4482
4481
27'30"
T. 24 N.
T. 23 N.
34
35
36
3
10
11
12
13
14
BR 431
MAIN
STATE PARK
SPRING LAKE
SPRING LAKE
NATURAL AREAS
Boat Ramp
Campground No 1
BM 508
BM 513
BM 511
BM 512
DITCH

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Starved Rock Complex, La Salle County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 1 of five natural areas, a 180 acre tract including most of the wooded portion of Mathiessen State Park. Located in the SW¼ Sec. 29, SE¼ Sec. 30, NE¼ N½ Sec. 31, NW¼ Sec. 32, T 33 N, R 2 E.

Physical Features

Level till plain, river bluff, ravines, and sandstone gorge of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The eastern portion of the tract consists of a level upland with several ephemeral ponds. Three major ravines drain westward and form a 100 foot gorge of St. Peters Sandstone which in turn drains into the Vermilion River. Soils are formed in deep loess over glacial till of the Farm Ridge Moraine.

Biological Features

White oak, bur oak, and bitternut hickory are characteristic of the flat uplands, with bur oak concentrated around depressions. The ravines have a mesic forest of red oak, white oak, basswood, and sugar maple. Northern white cedar and Canada yew occur on shaded sandstone cliffs as glacial relicts.

Comments

The main ravine is one of the most scenic gorges in northern Illinois, although the ravine bottom has been trampled by over use the cliff vegetation and the geological character of the gorge are of natural significance. Most of the forest is old growth in character. These features make the tract a high quality natural area.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Starved Rock Complex, La Salle County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 2 of five natural areas. Located along the west entrance road between route 178 and the main park entrance. Situated in the N½ Sec. 21, T 33 N, R 2 E.

Physical Features

River bluff, St. Peters Sandstone cliffs and side canyons, flood plain pond, and spring fed peat deposits of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The area includes a section of the Illinois River Bluff with a large side canyon, and cliffs reaching 100 feet above the river; below the cliffs is a talus slope and spring fed peat bog. The flood plain pond lies to the north of the park road.

Biological Features

Sandstone cliff begetation including northern white cedar and white pine occurs on north facing cliffs while dry site species such as little bluestem occur on the south facing ledges of one side ravine. Bog vegetation includes black ash, skunk cabbage, marsh marigold, cinnamon fern, Turk's-cap lily, bog twayblade orchid, and turtlehead. The pond may have been disturbed by logging; beaver are present there.

Comments

The important feature of this tract is the bog, similar vegetation does not occur elsewhere in the main park. The largest side ravine terminates in a scenic box canyon, hemlock (not native in Illinois) was planted in the canyon in the 1930's.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Starved Rock Complex, La Salle County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 3 of five natural areas, 315 acres in size and including the river bluff and canyons composing the bulk of Starved Rock State Park. Located in the southern portions of Sec. 22 & 23, the S½ SW¼ Sec. 24, N½ NE¼ Sec. 26, N½ NW¼ Sec. 25, T 33 N, R 2 E.

Physical Features

River bluff, talus slope, river flood plain, and St. Peters Sandstone cliffs and side canyons of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. This area represents some of the best examples in the park of bedrock erosion related to the relatively recent development of the Illinois valley. Maximum elevation differences of 140 feet are displayed along cliff faces and in the deepest side canyons. Soils are almost entirely developed in sand residuum from erosion and bluff wash.

Biological Features

Sandstone bluff vegetation, dry upland forest, mesic forest, and flood plain vegetation are present. Prairie vegetation including little bluestem, bush clover, goats rue, lead-plant, and prickly pear occur on sandy blufftops and ledges with a southern exposure. In sandstone ravines and on north facing ledges occur a number of relict northern plant species including white pine, northern white cedar, Canada yew, long beech fern and cinnamon fern. Dry upland forest of black oak, red cedar, and white oak occur on sandy bluff tops, with white oak and bur oak more dominant away from the bluff in deeper soils. The dry upland forest grades into a mesic forest of red oak, basswood, and sugar maple on sandy talus of north facing slopes. Here, a rich herbaceous understory is present including six species of ferns, an abundance of spring ephemerals, and uncommon species of rich mesic sites such as partridge berry, rattlesnake plantain orchid, and yellow ladyslipper orchid. The spotted coral root orchid and the southern coral root orchid are both present on sandy slopes at the southern and northern limits of their ranges respectively. Flood plain forest is represented locally along the river by silver maple, swamp white oak is abundant in one seasonally flooded area.

Comments

This section of the park is one of the most valuable natural areas in Illinois. The sandstone cliffs and mesic ravines harbor a valuable collection of relic northern and mesic forest flora left behind by past plant migration. This flora is present throughout the park but seems to be most concentrated in this area. The western portion of the tract has suffered severely from over use and trampling by park visitors but still retains much of its natural significance.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Starved Rock Complex, La Salle County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 4 of five areas, 105 acres including the lower portion of Illinois Canyon and the east side of Kaskaskia Canyon. Located in the N½ Sec. 25, T 33 N, R 2 E.

Physical Features

Level uplands, side canyons, and river bluff of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. St. Peters Sandstone outcrops in the form of cliffs along the river bluff and in side canyons. The cliffs of the main bluff are 100 feet high with a deep talus slope beneath them; side canyons are deep and straight walled with shear cliffs.

Biological Features

Dry upland and mesic forest and sandstone cliff vegetation are present. The level upland between the canyons is forested with old growth bur oak, black oak, and white oak with arrow wood as a common shrub; many of the trees are open grown in character and may be remnants of savanna vegetation. A dry mesic forest occurs on the north facing talus slope, and typical cliff vegetation of white pine, northern white cedar, and several species of ferns occurs on sandstone cliffs.

Comments

The forested level uplands are some of the best examples of old growth forest of this type in Starved Rock State Park. Although the ravine bottoms have been over used, they are signigicant in that Illinois canyon is the largest canyon in the park.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Starved Rock Complex, La Salle County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Area No. 5 of five areas, 15 acres including the north and south facing cliff faces of Buffalo Rock State Park. Situated in the SW¼ Sec. 17, T 33 N, R 1 E.

Physical Features

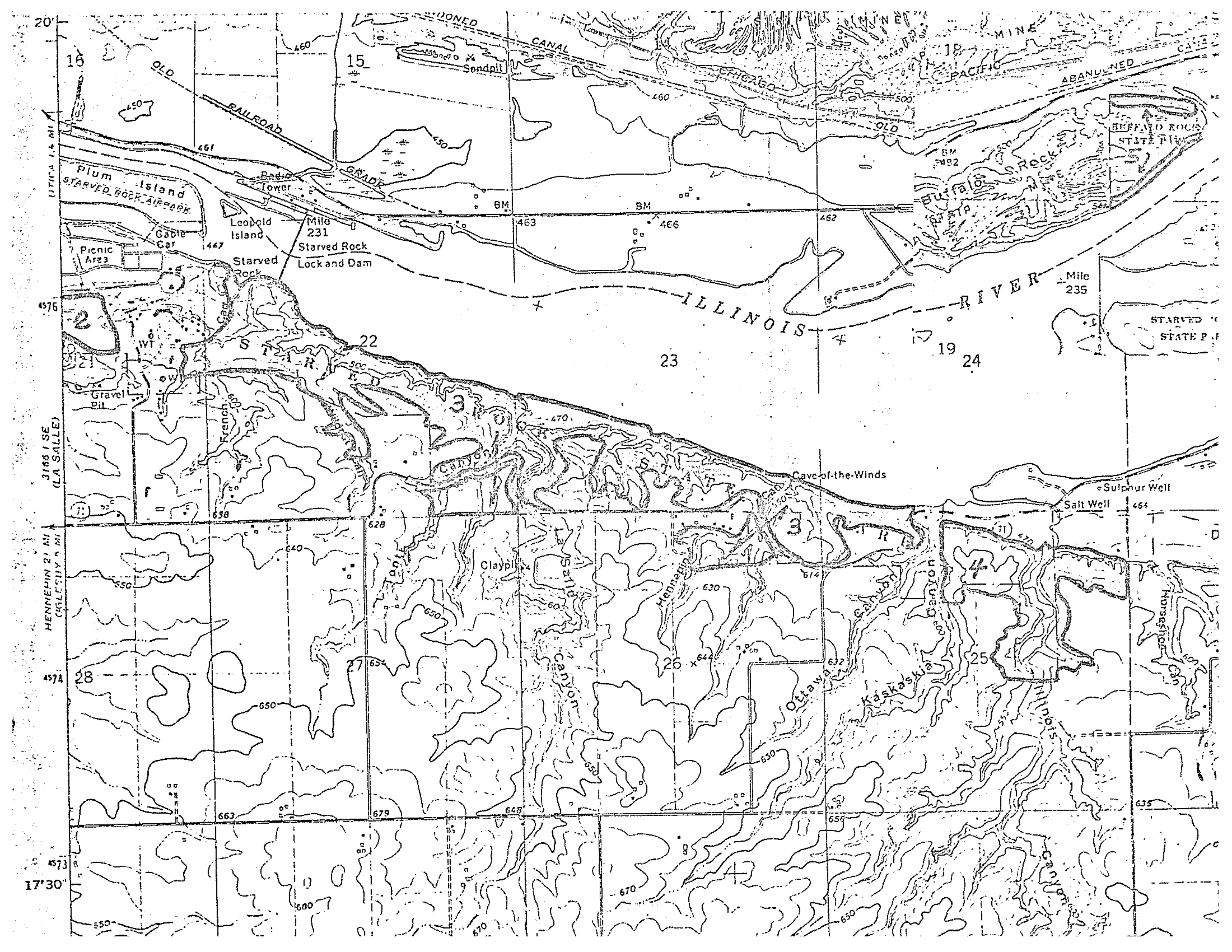
St. Peters Sandstone cliff vegetation of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The natural areas consist of the shear cliff faces of the undisturbed eastern portion of Buffalo Rock.

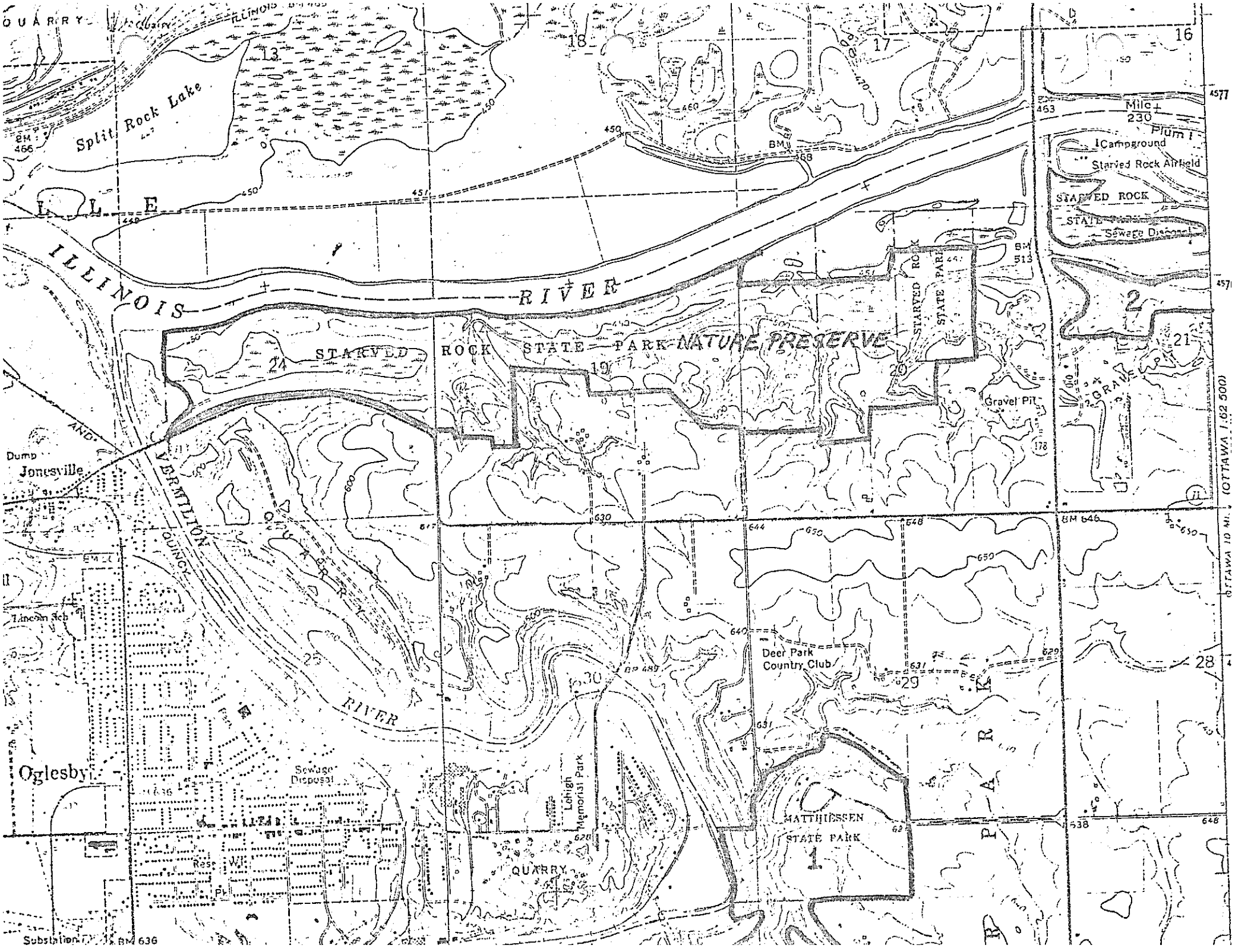
Biological Features

In places, the south facing cliff ledges supports a dry prairie-like community with little bluestem as the dominant grass, associates include spiderwort and pinweed. Elsewhere a xeric community of red cedar, smooth sumac, black oak, and hickory is present. The north facing cliff ledges support a northern plant community including white pine, northern white cedar, interrupted fern, cinnamon fern, and American spikenard. Cliff swallows were noted along the south cliff face.

Comments

Much of the upper portions of the south cliff face have been trampled by park visitors, leaving natural communities only on the lower inaccessable ledges. The north facing cliffs may have been partially cleared during road construction; however, the presence of the northern plants on the ledges justifies the site as a natural area.


ILLINOIS RIVER
Starved Rock Lock and Dam
Mile 231
Mile 235
Plum Island
STARVED ROCK AIRPARK
Leopold Island
Starved Rock
Cable Car
Picnic Area
Gravel Pit
Radio Tower
Sandpit
OLD RAILROAD GRADE
CHICAGO PACIFIC
CANAL
Buffalo Rock
BUFFALO ROCK STATE PARK
STARVED ROCK STATE PARK
STARVED ROCK STATE PARK
Cave-of-the-Winds
Sulphur Well
Salt Well
French Canyon
Tonti Canyon
Claypit
La Salle Canyon
Hennepin Canyon
Ottawa Canyon
Kaskaskia Canyon
Illinois Canyon
Horseshoe Can
HENNEPIN 21 MI
(LA SALLE)
3166 I SE
20'
17'30"


Split Rock Lake
ILLINOIS
RIVER
STARVED ROCK STATE PARK-NATURE PRESERVE
STARVED ROCK STATE PARK
Starved Rock Airfield
Campground
Sewage Disposal
Gravel Pit
Dump
Jonesville
VERMILION
QUINCY
RIVER
Oglesby
Sewage Disposal
Lincoln Sch
Lehigh Memorial Park
QUARRY
Deer Park Country Club
MATTHIESSEN STATE PARK
Substation
BM 636
BM 646
Mile 230
Plum I
(OTTAWA 1:62 500)

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Stephen A. Forbes State Park, Marion County

Size and Location of Natural Area

A one acre tract located south of the main park road on the east side of the lake.

Physical Features

Level upland representative of the Southern Uplands Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

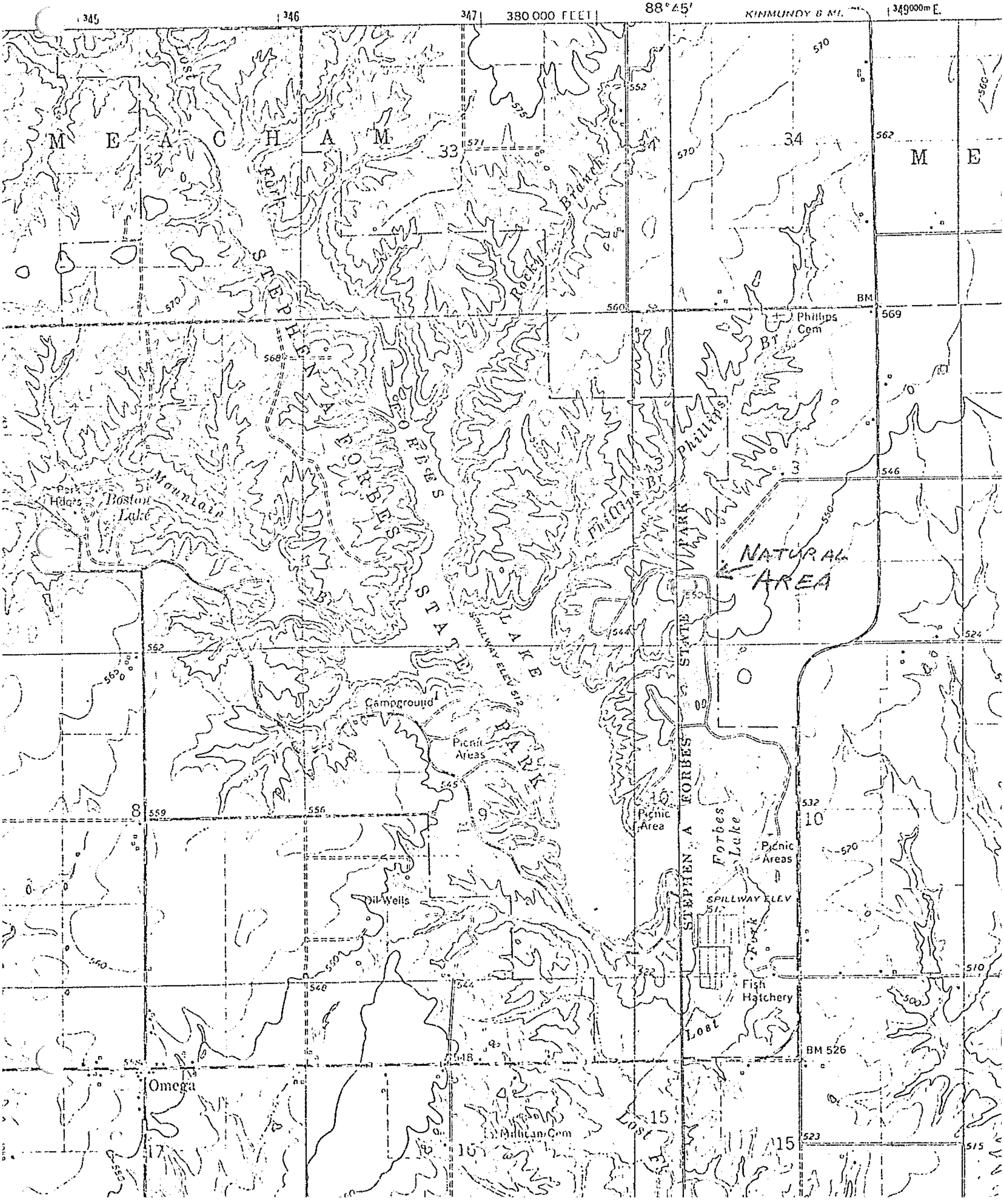
The site features a stand of Indian grass and big bluestem with prairie composites and goldenrods. Indian paint brush is reported from the site.

Comments

The tract is burned on an annual to semi-annual basis.

OMEGA QUADRANGLE
ILLINOIS–MARION CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE/4 SALEM 15' QUADRANGLE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIC
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Tapley Woods

Size and Location of Natural Area

Tapley Woods, Jo Daviess County. 259 acres in size and including the entire track except for developed areas along route 84. Located in the SE¼ Sec. 5, SW¼ Sec. 4, and NW¼ Sec. 9, T 27 N, R 2 E.

Physical Features

Upland, slope, and ravine forest, and bedrock outcrops of the Wisconsin Driftless Natural Division of Illinois. The topography consists of a high relatively narrow ridge with associated ravines on its slopes. Dolomite bedrock outcrops frequently as low cliffs and isolated boulders.

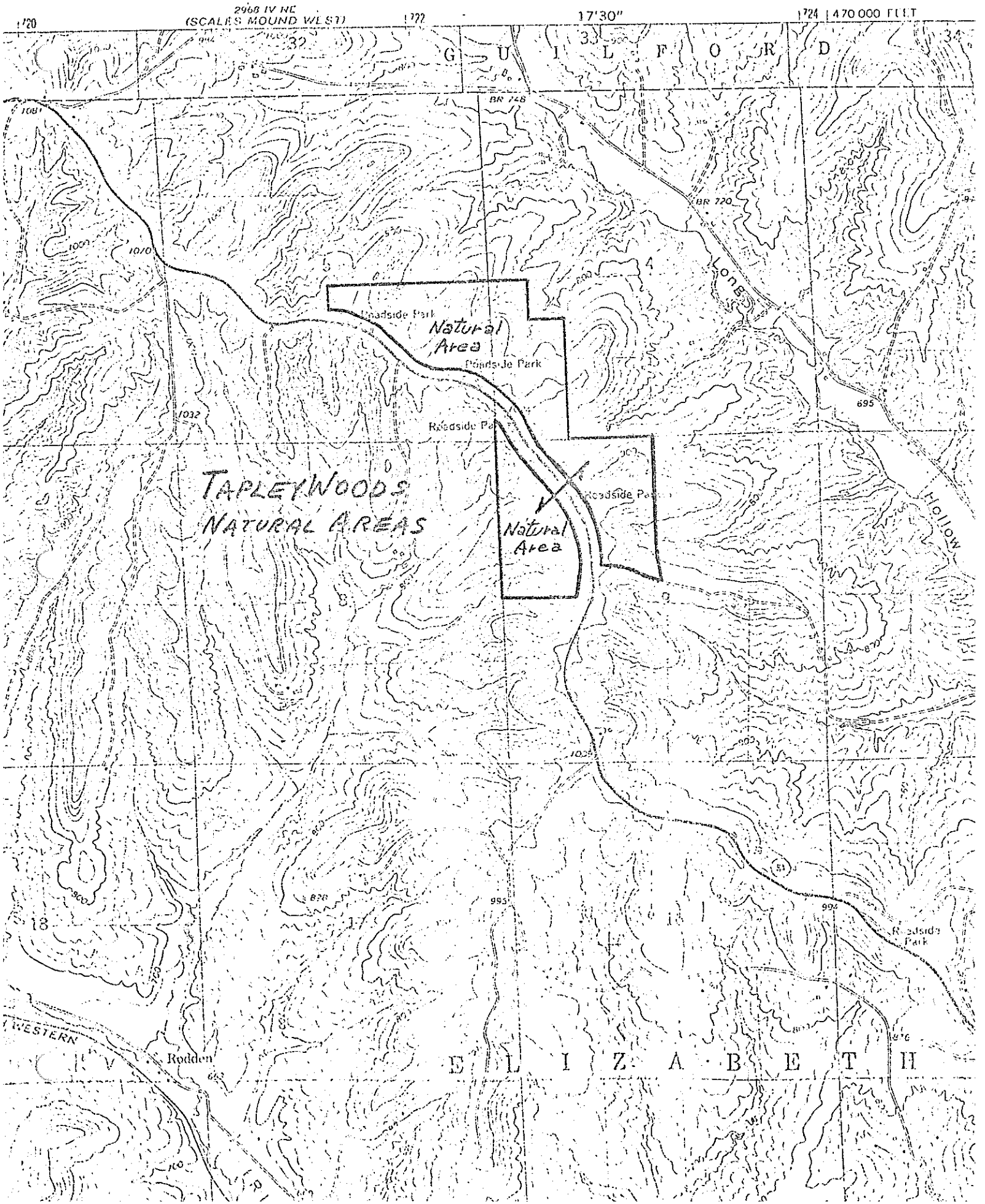
Biological Features

Upland forests are characterized by white oak and shagbark hickory, with some quaking aspen. The slopes and ravines support a mesic forest of basswood, red oak, white oak, butternut, and slippery elm. Red cedar and paper birch are associated with bedrock outcrops, and nannyberry and American black currant occur along spring branches. Included in the ground cover are shinleaf, wild sarsaparilla, red baneberry, showy orchis, hepatica, bloodroot, trout lily, and white trillium. Wildlife includes the gray squirrel, chipmunk and hooded warbler.

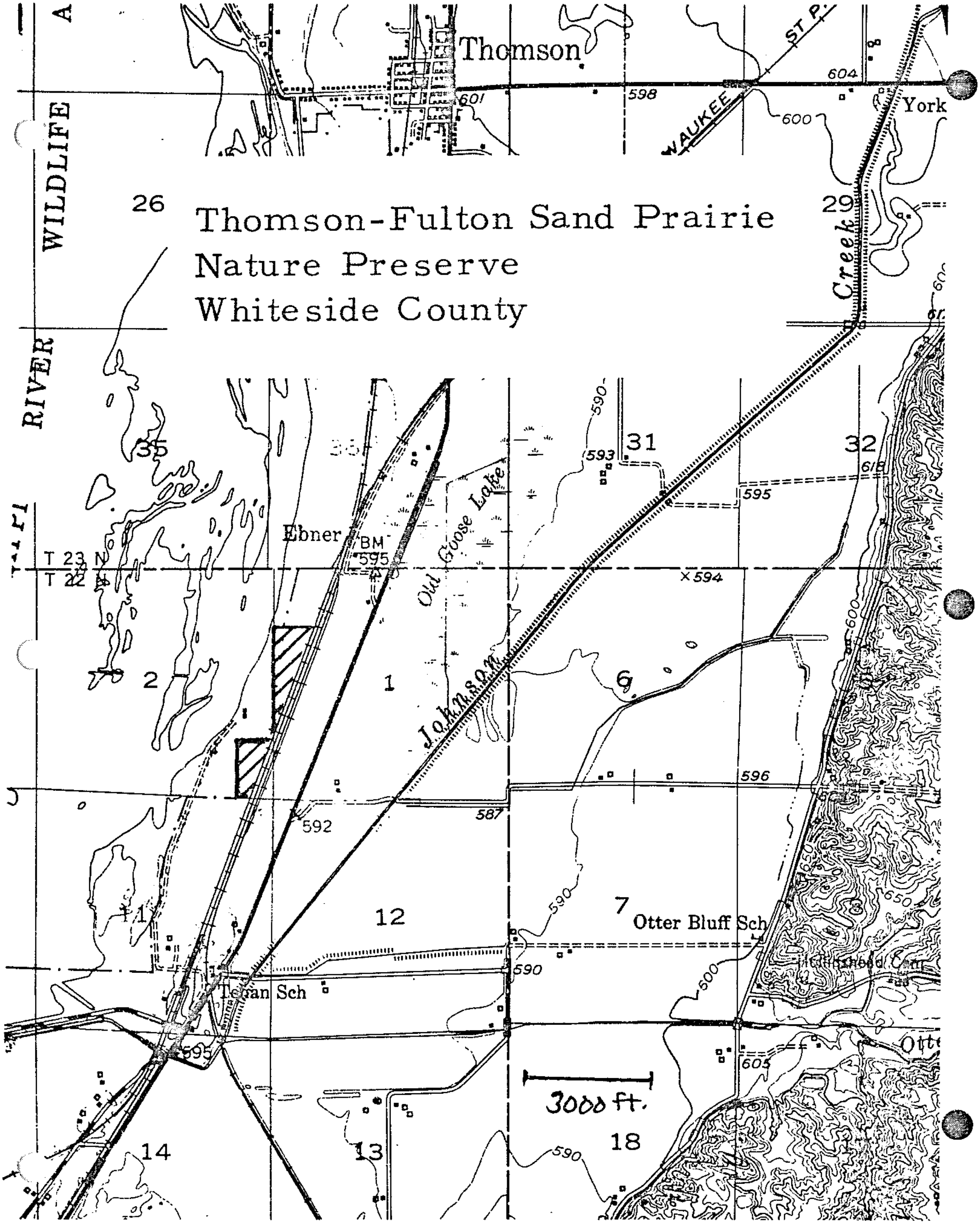
Comments

Except for logging, there is no evidence of any disturbances to the area and the forest is returning to natural condition. The important features of the area are the good representation of the ravine forests of the driftless area and the presence of many northern plants such as paper birch, shinleaf, wild sarsaparilla, and red baneberry.

This area was acquired by the Department of Conservation from the Division of Highways in 1969.


2968 IV NE
(SCALES MOUND WEST)
17'30"
1720
1722
1724
470 000 FEET
GUILFORD
BR 78
BR 720
Roadside Park
Natural Area
Roadside Park
Roadside Park
TAPLEYWOODS
NATURAL AREAS
Natural Area
Roadside Park
Roadside Park
Long
Hollow
WESTERN
Rodden
ELIZABETH

Thomson-Fulton Sand Prairie Nature Preserve Whiteside County



THOMSON-FULTON SAND PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE - Whiteside County.

Location:

Two miles south of Thomson, in the extreme northwest corner of Whiteside County, between the CB&QRR right-of-way and the Mississippi River navigation pool.

Portions of Secs. 1 and 2, T 22 N, R 3 E, 4 PM.
Clinton Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number:

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation.

Character:

Natural types: Sand Prairie of the Mississippi River Section of the Sand Areas Division.

Geology: Maquoketa Group buried by valley fill.

Soils: Sandy soils.

Physiography: Glacial outwash terrace deposits in the Mississippi River valley.

Vegetation: Sand prairie, including dune and blow-out communities.

Aquatic environments:

Natural features of special interest:

Prickly pear cactus is well established, and the western harvest mouse is resident.

Comment:

Larger and adjacent areas of the sand prairie are held by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and the Corps of Engineers, and the holdings of the federal agencies are managed according to the same principles as the State holdings.

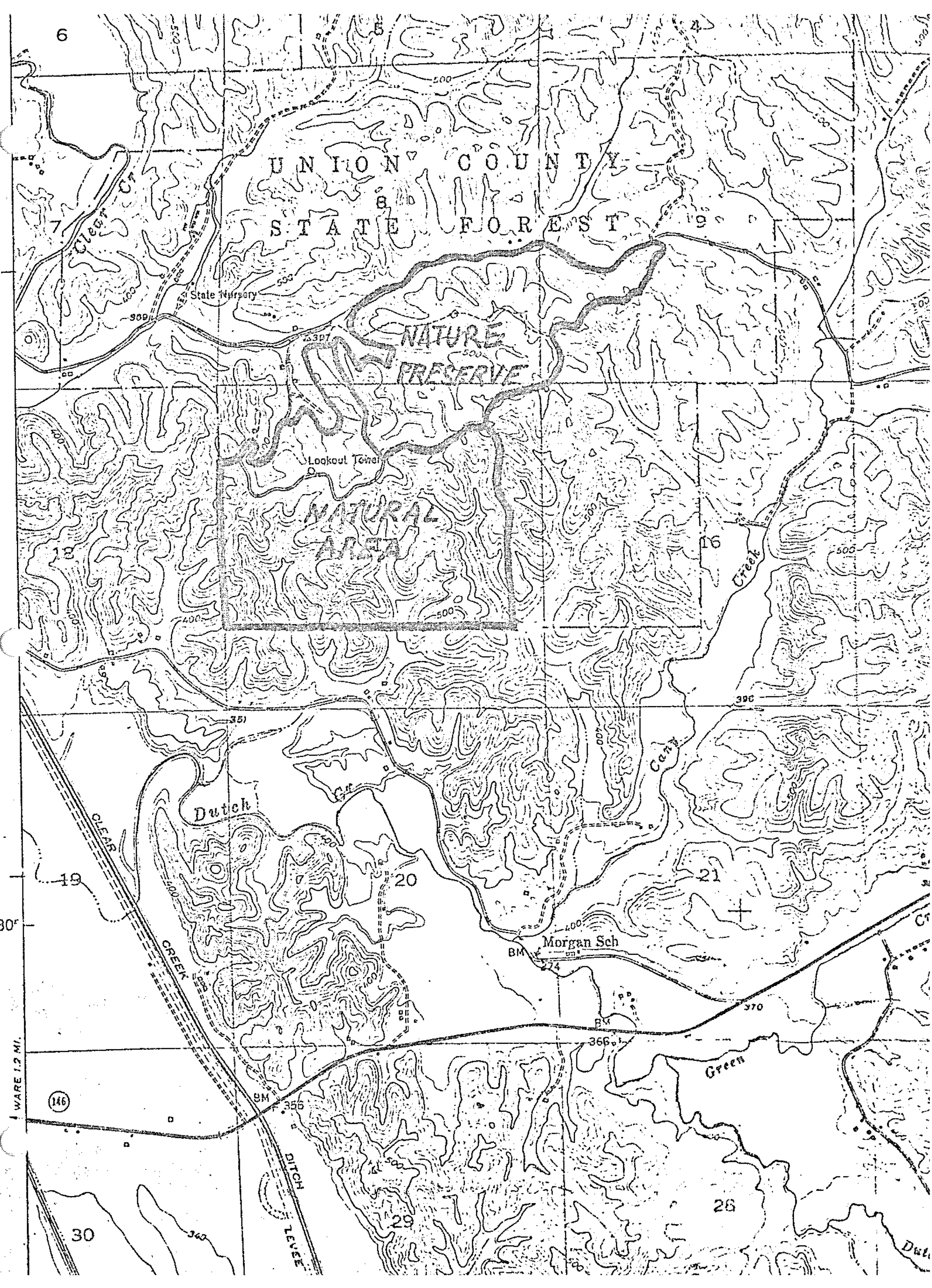
2/5/71

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Trail O'Tears, Union County State Forest

Comments

A section of the forest is dedicated as nature preserve representative of the Southern Section of the Ozark Natural Division of Illinois. Additional acreage of high natural quality is adjacent to the southwest side of the nature preserve. This area represents vegetation with features (such as Rhododendron roseum) similar to that of the preserve.


UNION COUNTY
STATE FOREST
NATURE PRESERVE
NATURAL AREA
State Nursery
Lookout Tower
Clear Cr
Dutch Cr
Cany Creek
Green
Morgan Sch
CLEAR CREEK DITCH LEVEE
WARE 1.2 MI.
146
27'30"
BM 356
BM 374
366
370
351
390
6
5
4
7
8
9
18
16
19
20
21
30
29
28
500
400
300
340

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Union County Conservation Area (Wildlife Refuge)

Size and Location of Natural Area

205 acres in size, located in Sections 6 and 7, T 13 S, R 2 W, and Sections 1 and 12, T 13 S, R 3 W.

Physical Features

Forests of light soils and the forests of heavy soils on river floodplains and stream meander scars of the Southern Section of the Lower Mississippi River Bottomlands Division of Illinois. The bedrock of this area is of the Silurian System, deeply buried under the alluvial deposits of the Mississippi River. The topography of the Mississippi River floodplain area is level to gently rolling with old stream meander scars and depressions forming shallow sloughs and swamps. The wet low soils are of the Karnak, Beaucoup, and Darwin silty clay types. The ridge soils are of the Tice and Newart silty clay types. The slough areas are poorly drained and stand in water much of the year. The natural drainage has been altered by man-made ditches and drainage of most of the slough areas has been blocked by the levees of the drainage ditch constructed through the area.

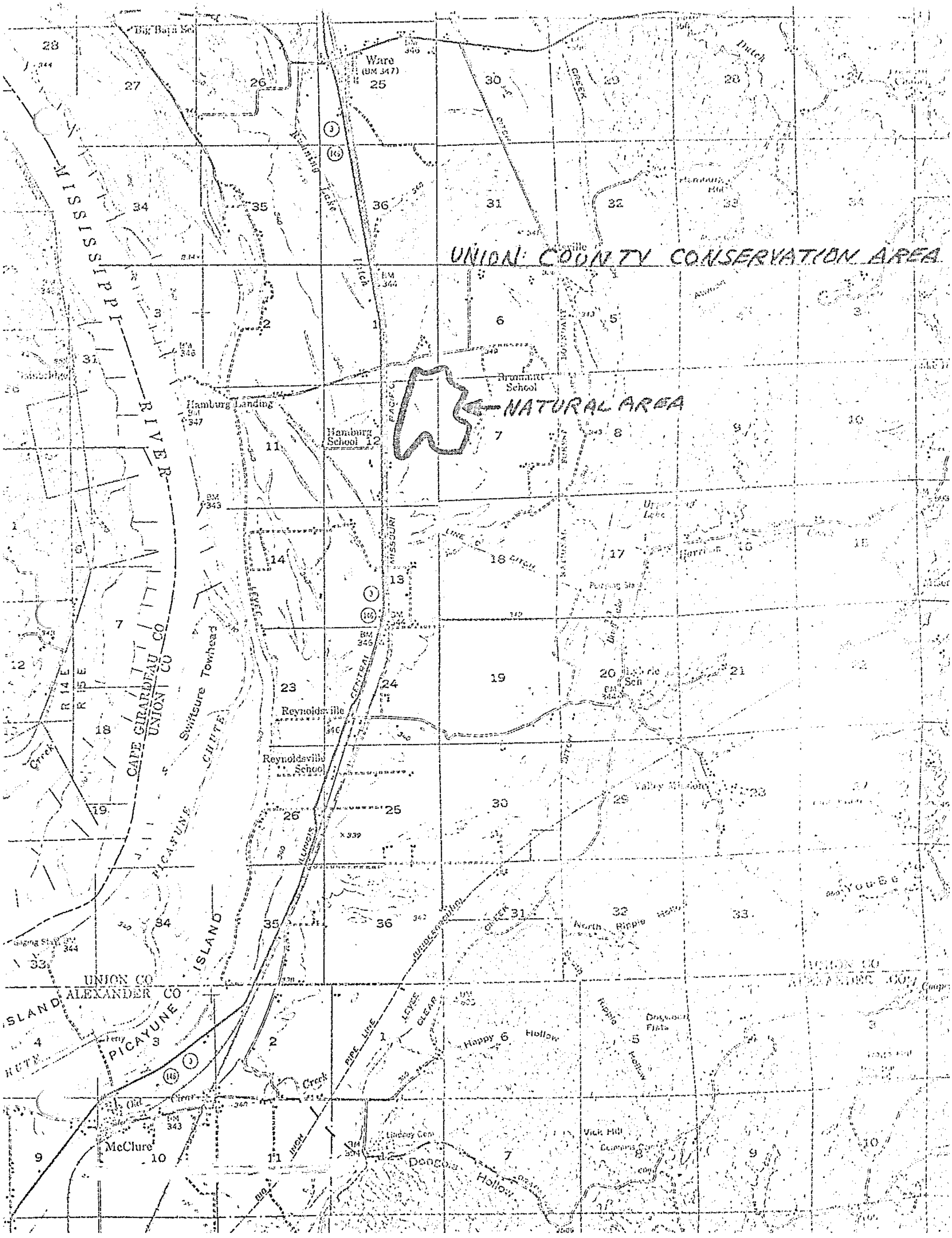
Biological Features

The low ridge forest community of sugar maple, bitternut hickory, and sweet gum has large trees reaching three feet in diameter. There are a few scattered large pin oak and white oak trees. The swamp border forest community is characterized by sweet gum, pin oak, ash, and box elder. The timber is generally smaller than that on ridges, but there are a few large pin oak, sweet gum, and elm. The swamp forest areas are characterized by standing shallow water much of the year. Red maple, sweet gum, and willow are dominant. There are scattered, open, brushy areas, and some areas of dying timber in the deeper water.

Comments

There are scattered large trees throughout the area including a chinquapin oak near five feet in diameter which is the largest of that species in the state. The sandy ridges are also rich in herbaceous vegetation including the puttyroot orchid.

This area is one of the last remaining stands of timber on light soil in the Lower Mississippi River Bottomlands Division. Practically all of the area has had the best timber cut out several years ago, and parts of the area have evidently been pastured, however natural vegetation seems to be rapidly covering.


UNION COUNTY CONSERVATION AREA
NATURAL AREA
Ware
(BM 347)
Big Barn Sch
MISSISSIPPI RIVER
Running Lake Ditch
Hamburg Landing
Hamburg School
Brummitt School
CAPE GIRARDEAU CO
UNION CO
Swiftsure Towhead
Reynoldsville
Reynoldsville School
PICAYUNE CHUTE
PICAYUNE ISLAND
MISSOURI PACIFIC
ILLINOIS CENTRAL
UNION CO
ALEXANDER CO
McClure
Old Cairo
Happy Hollow
Dongola Hollow
Vick Hill
Dogwood Flats
North Ripple Hollow
Valley Mission
Harrison
R 14 E
R 3 W
Gaging Sta

VOLO BOG NATURE PRESERVE - Lake County

Location:

1.5 miles north-northwest of Volo. May be reached by proceeding 1.2 miles north of Volo on U. S. 12, then one mile west on Sullivan Lake Road.

Portions of Sec. 28, T 45 N, R 9 E, 3 PM.

Wauconda Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series, and Grayslake Topographic Quadrangle, 15 Minute Series

ASCS-USDA aerial photograph numbers: BWX-3HH-123 10/20/67 and BXA-3HH-225 and -227 10/20/67

Ownership and custody:

Department of Conservation

Note: Within the proposed project boundary are additional natural areas not yet dedicated as nature preserve. As land acquisition proceeds, these areas will be identified.

Character:

Natural types: Bog, lake, and marsh of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Geology: Wisconsinan glacial till.

Soils: Peat

Physiography: A poorly drained basin now nearly filled with peat.

Vegetation: A tamarack bog with open water at the center, floating mat, and shrub zone; and a sedge-and-cattail marsh.

Aquatic environments: Lake (center of the bog) and bog.

Natural features of special interest:

This is the only bog in Illinois that contains a well developed tamarack forest and all the prior stages of bog succession. In addition to the tamarack, the bog contains numerous species of unusual plants characteristic of bogs. These include sphagnum moss, cotton sedge, buckbean, pitcher plant, winterberry, poison sumac, leatherleaf, and cinnamon fern.

History of preservation:

The 48-acre tract in the center of the bog was purchased in 1958 by The Nature Conservancy with funds raised through popular subscription. The Conservancy deeded the land to the University of Illinois, which held it until 1970, at which time it deeded it in turn to the Department of Conservation, with the consent of the Conservancy, for dedication as a nature preserve.

Bibliography:

Artist, R. C. 1936. Stratigraphy and preliminary pollen analysis of a Lake County, Illinois, bog. Butler Univ. Bot. Stud. 3:191-198.

Evers, R. A. 1963. Some unusual natural areas in Illinois and a few of their plants. Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. Biol. Notes No. 50.

Kurz, H. 1928. Influence of sphagnum and other mosses on bog reactions. Ecology 9 (1):56-69.

Reichle, D. E. 1969. Distribution and abundance of bog-inhabiting Pselaphid beetles. Trans. Ill. State Acad. Sci. 62 (3):233-264.

Waterman, W. G. 1921. Preliminary report on the bogs of northern Illinois. Trans. Ill. State Acad. Sci. 14:79-84.

____ 1923. Report on the bogs of Illinois, II. Trans. Ill. State Acad. Sci. 16:214-225.

____ 1926. Ecological problems from the sphagnum bogs of Illinois. Ecology 7 (3):255-272.

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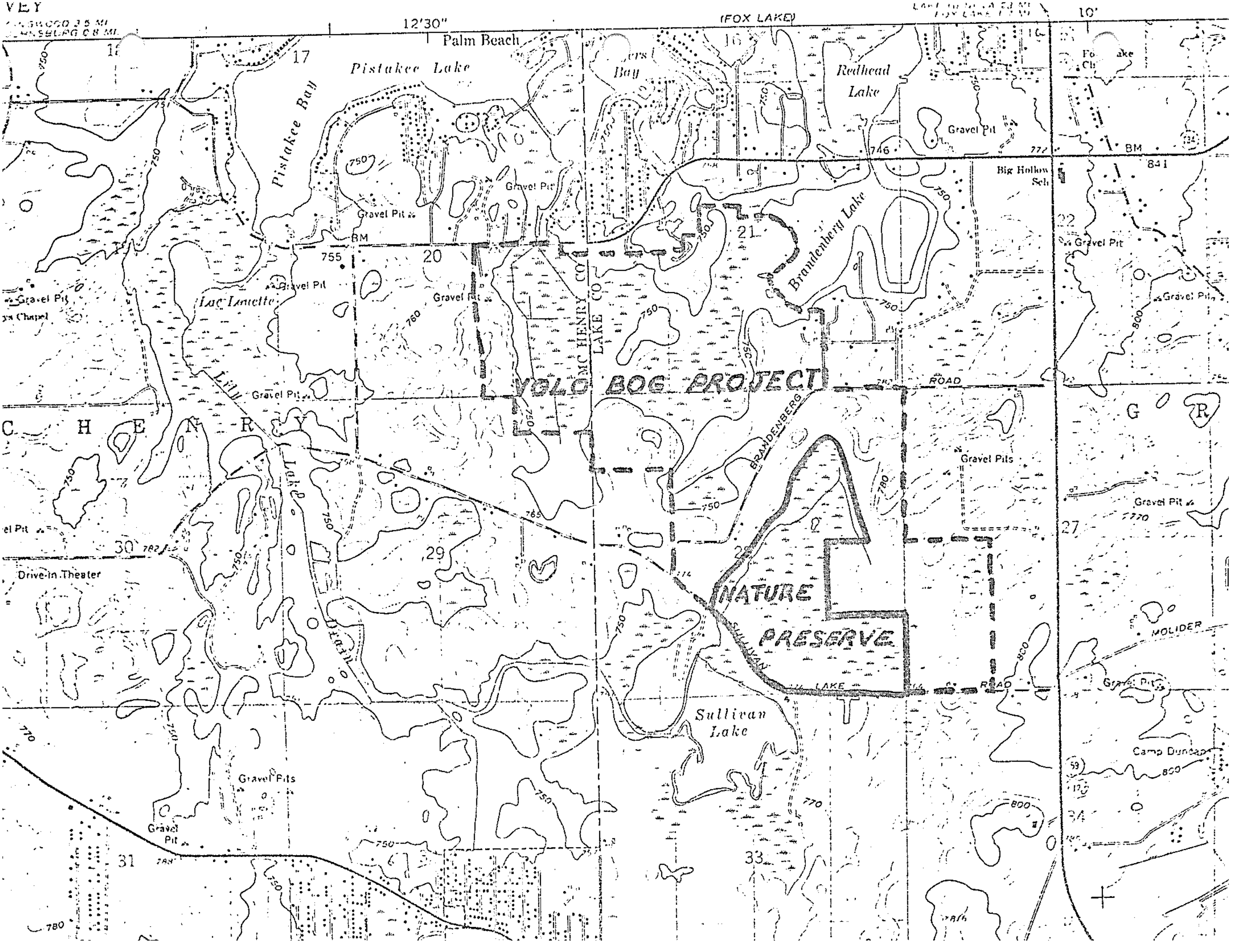

(FOX LAKE)
12'30"
10'
Palm Beach
Pistakee Lake
Pistakee Bay
Redhead Lake
Brandenberg Lake
Lac Louette
Lily Lake
Sullivan Lake
Big Hollow Sch
Gravel Pit
Gravel Pits
Drive-in Theater
Camp Duncan
MOLIDER
BRANDENBERG
ROAD
SULLIVAN LAKE ROAD
MC HENRY CO
LAKE CO
YOLO BOG PROJECT
NATURE PRESERVE
BM
17
20
21
22
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33
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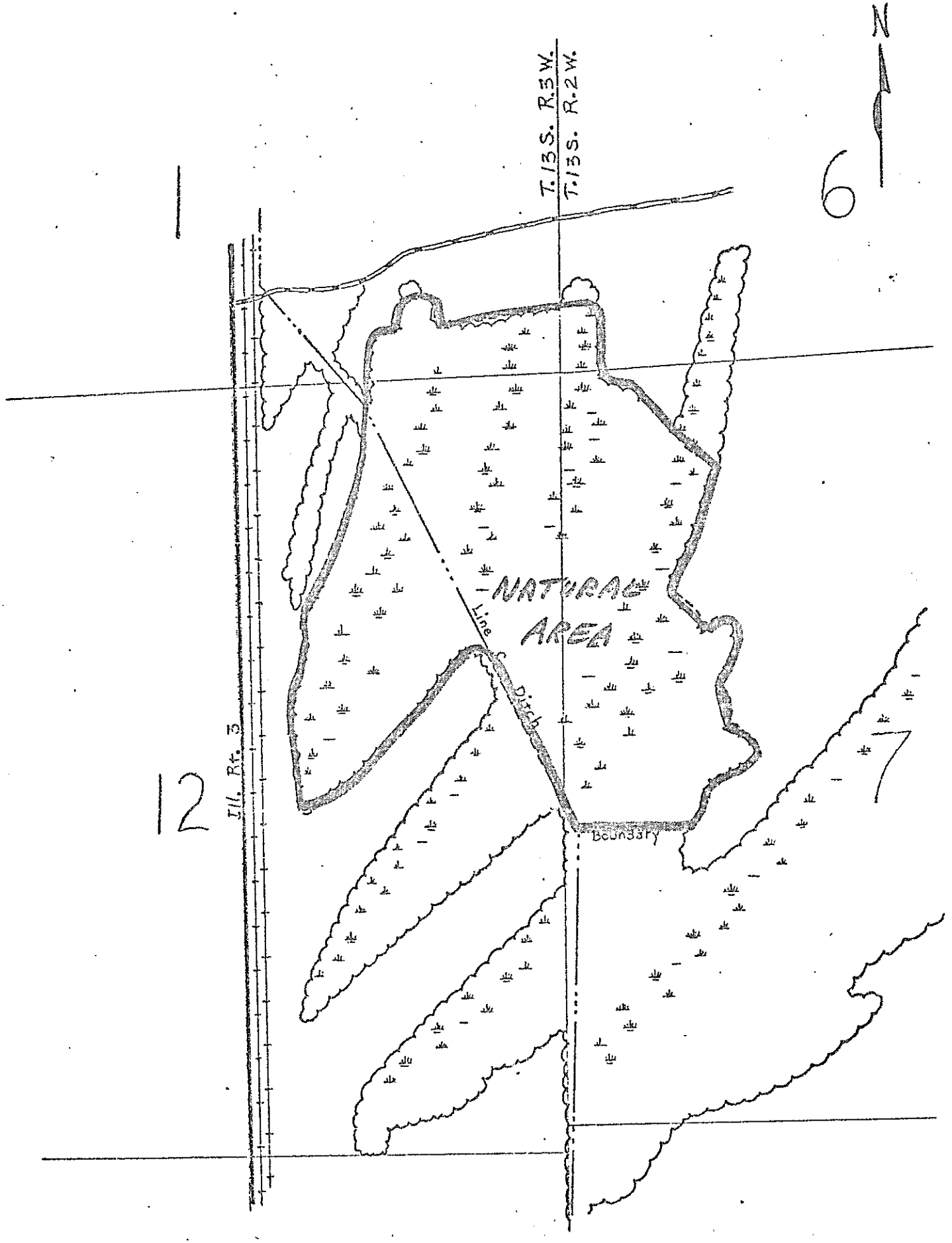


UNION COUNTY CONSERVATION AREA

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Washington County Conservation Area (Posen Woods Nature Preserve)

Size and Location

A 40 acre tract located east of the landing strip. Situated in the NE¼ SE¼ Sec. 8, T.3S., R.2W., Washington County.

Physical Features

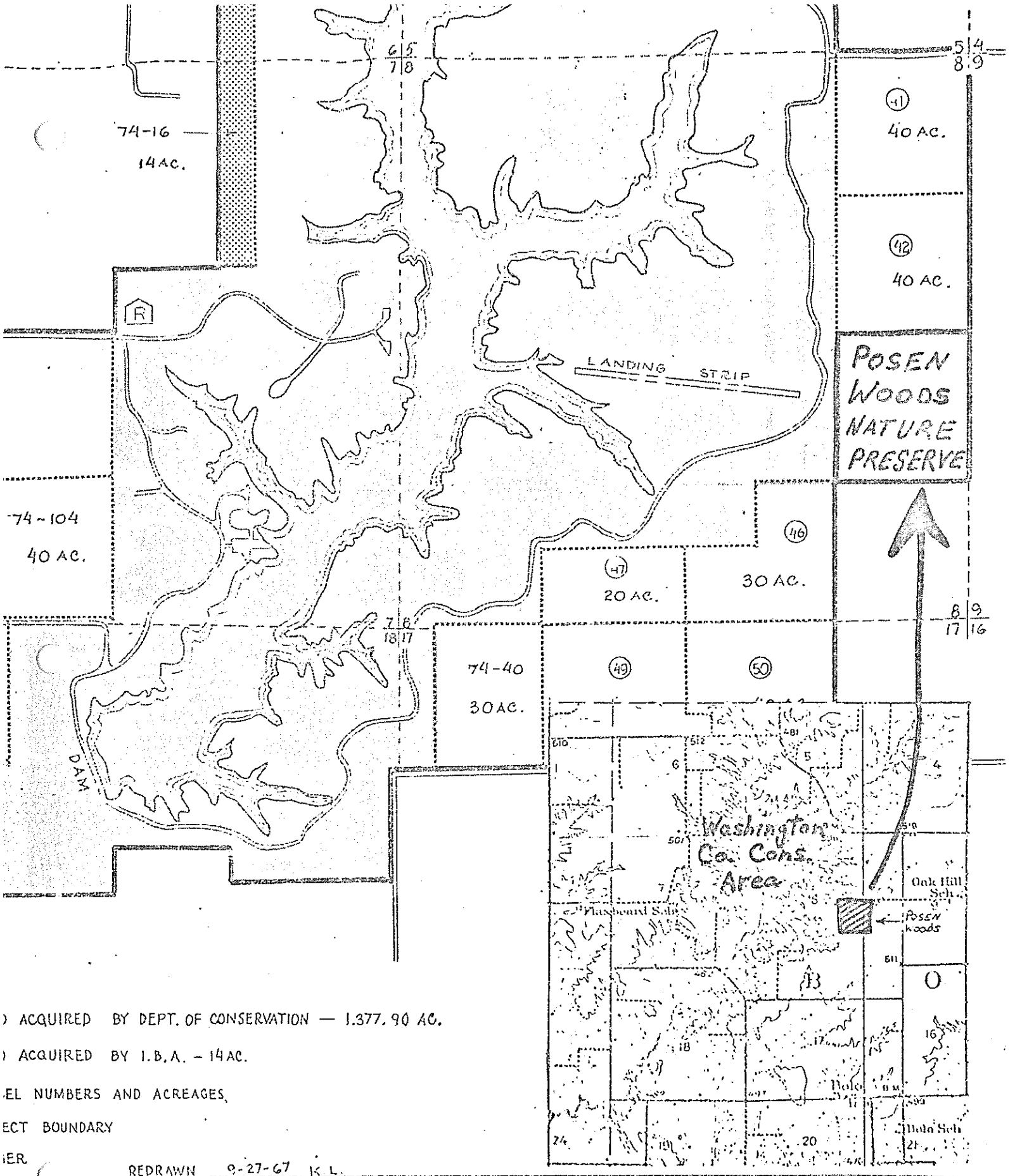
Flat glacial till plain having shallow claypan soils. Representative of the Mt. Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division of Illinois.

Biological Features

The flatwoods is dominated by post oak and white oak with scattered hickories, blackjack oak, and pin oak. Where rolling topography is present, white oak, black oak, and hickory become dominant. The rigorous soil conditions restrict understory species to a low diversity.

Comments

The stand is of virgin quality, with the small average tree size reflecting the poor growth conditions of the claypan soils.



) ACQUIRED BY DEPT. OF CONSERVATION — 1,377.90 AC.

) ACQUIRED BY I.B.A. - 14 AC.

EL NUMBERS AND ACREAGES

ECT BOUNDARY

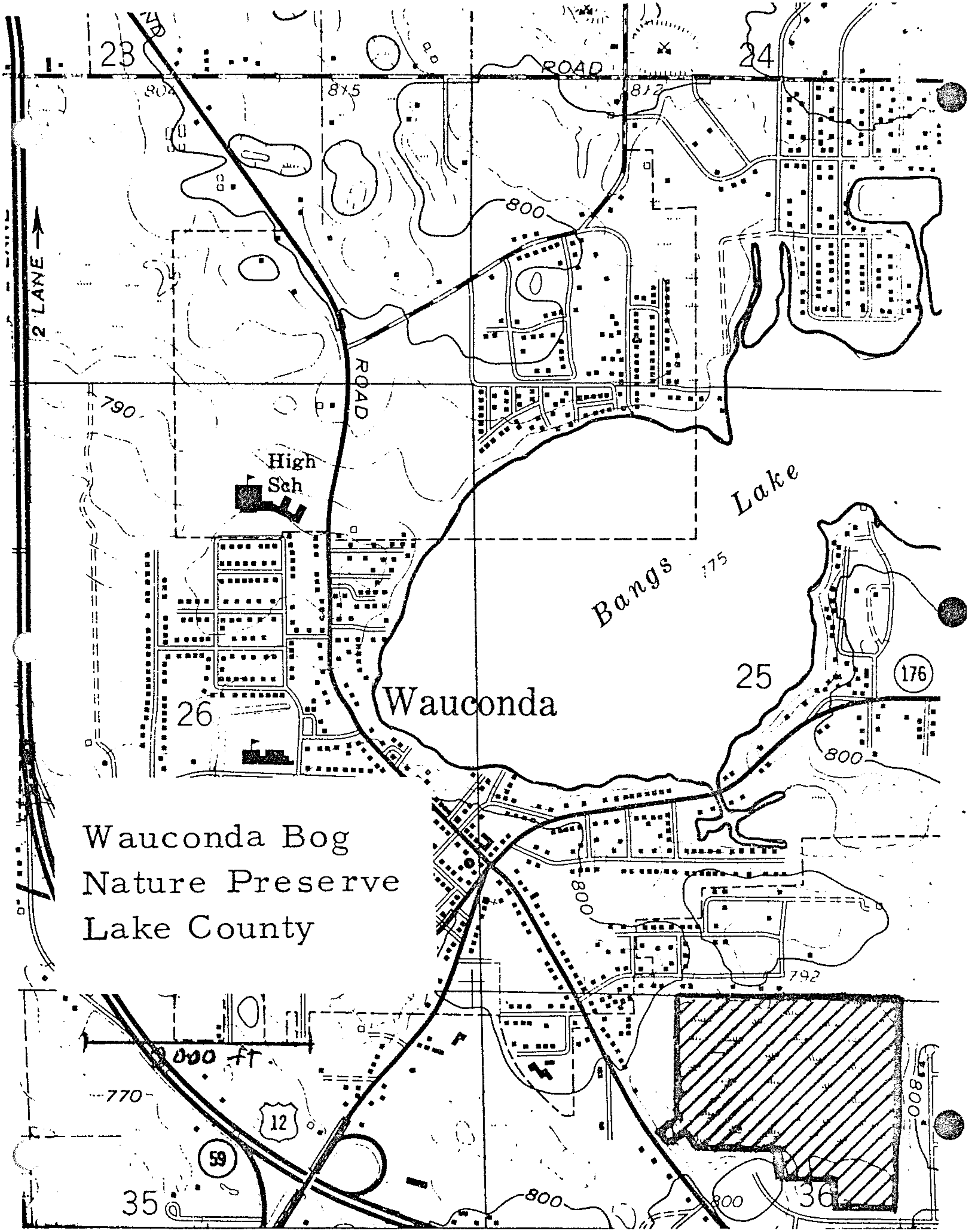
ER

REDRAWN 9-27-67 K L

OF ILLINOIS
OF CONSERVATION

WASHINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION AREA

WASHINGTON COUNTY


Wauconda Bog
Nature Preserve
Lake County
23
24
25
26
35
36
ROAD
804
815
812
800
790
770
792
2 LANE
High
Sch
Bangs Lake
775
Wauconda
176
12
59
1000 ft

WAUCONDA BOG NATURE PRESERVE - Lake County.

Location:

On the south side of the village of Wauconda, east of Rand road.
Part of the N 1/2 Sec. 36, T 44 N, R 9 E, 3 PM.
Wauconda Topographic Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series
ASCS-USDA aerial photograph number:

Character:

Natural types: Tamarack bog of the Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Geology: Silurian dolomite, which does not crop out.

Soils: Peat.

Physiography:

Vegetation: Tamarack bog, shrub bog, and marsh.

Aquatic environments: Bog and marsh.

Natural features of special interest:

This nature preserve contains a large stand of showy lady's slipper orchids, a good stand of yellow birch, and abundant fringed gentians. The marsh is inhabited by rails and marsh wrens.

History of preservation:

The tract was purchased in 1958 by The Nature Conservancy with funds raised through popular subscription. The Conservancy deeded the land to the University of Illinois, which held it until 1970, at which time it deeded it in turn to the Department of Conservation, with the consent of the Conservancy, for dedication as a nature preserve.

Bibliography:

Evers, R. A. 1963. Some unusual natural areas in Illinois and a few of their plants. Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. Biol. Notes No. 50.

Waterman, W. G. 1921. Preliminary report on the bogs of northern Illinois. Trans. Ill. State Acad. Sci. 14:79-84.

_____1923. Report on the bogs of northern Illinois, II. Trans. Ill. State Acad. Sci. 16:214-225.

_____1926. Ecological problems from the sphagnum bogs of Illinois. Ecology 7 (3):255-272.

2/5/71

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Weinburg-King State Park

Size and Location of area

Weinburg-King State Park, Schuyler County, one of three natural areas within the park. Located on the north west facing river bluff, west of the picnic area. Approximately 5 acres in size and in the N½ NE¼ Sec. 19, T 3 N, R 4 W. Tract number 1 on map.

Physical Features

Slope forest, permanent stream, and bedrock outcrops of the Galesburg Section of Western Forest - Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The topography consists of a steep, eroded river bluff bordering Williams Creek. Sandstone bedrock outcrops along the bluff. Williams Creek forms the northwest edge of the tract.

Biological Features

The woods is mesic due to the northern exposure of the bluff, and is dominated by red oak and sugar maple. Hepatica, wild ginger, and fragile fern are present in the understory.

Comments

Although small the tract is relatively undisturbed except for some past timber cutting. The presence of bedrock exposures adds diversity and significance to the area.

The area may get some visitor use due to the close presence of the picnic area.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Weinburg-King State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

Weinburg-King State Park, Schuyler County, one of three natural areas in the park. Located north of Route 101 along Williams Creek near the west end of the park. Approximately 30 acres in size and in the E½ NW¼ Sec. 19, T 3 N, R 4 W. Tract number 2 on map.

Physical Features

Slope forest, bedrock outcrops, and permanent stream of the Galesburg Section of the Western Forest - Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. Williams Creek has eroded deeply into the bedrock leaving steep cliffs and bluffs alternating on either side of the stream, the highest points reach 80 feet above the creek. Sandstone and shale outcrop along the bluff in the form of small cliffs and overhangs and talus slopes, and several small seep springs occur along the bluff where the two types of bedrock join.

Biological Features

Slopes with a northern exposure are characterized by white and red oak, sugar maple, and have some hickories and black oak; shadbush occurs along the bluff and goatsbeard, columbine, hepatica and Christmas fern are abundant. Mosses and liverworts occur in the wetter sites. In contrast, slopes with a more southern exposure are dominated by black oak, white oak, and red cedar; chinkapin oak and bladdernut are common in some sites. Strips of flood plain woods occur in several stretches along the stream, which flows over a sand and gravel bottom and supports a permanent fish population.

Comments

The combination of high bluffs, outcrops, rocky stream and forested slopes give this area high scenic and natural quality. Several sites along the stream that represent both xeric and mesic forest appear to be realtively undisturbed except for some minor evidence of logging. The uplands along both sides of the stream are highly disturbed, however, and detract somewhat from the quality of the area. Present use includes a bridal path.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Area Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Weinburg-King State Park

Name, Size, and Location of Area

Weinburg-King State Park, Schuyler County, one of three natural areas within the park. Located south of Route 101 and including the Department property south of Williams Creek. Approximately 50 acres in size and in the SW¼ Sec. 19, T 3 N, R 4 W. Tract number 3 on map.

Physical Features

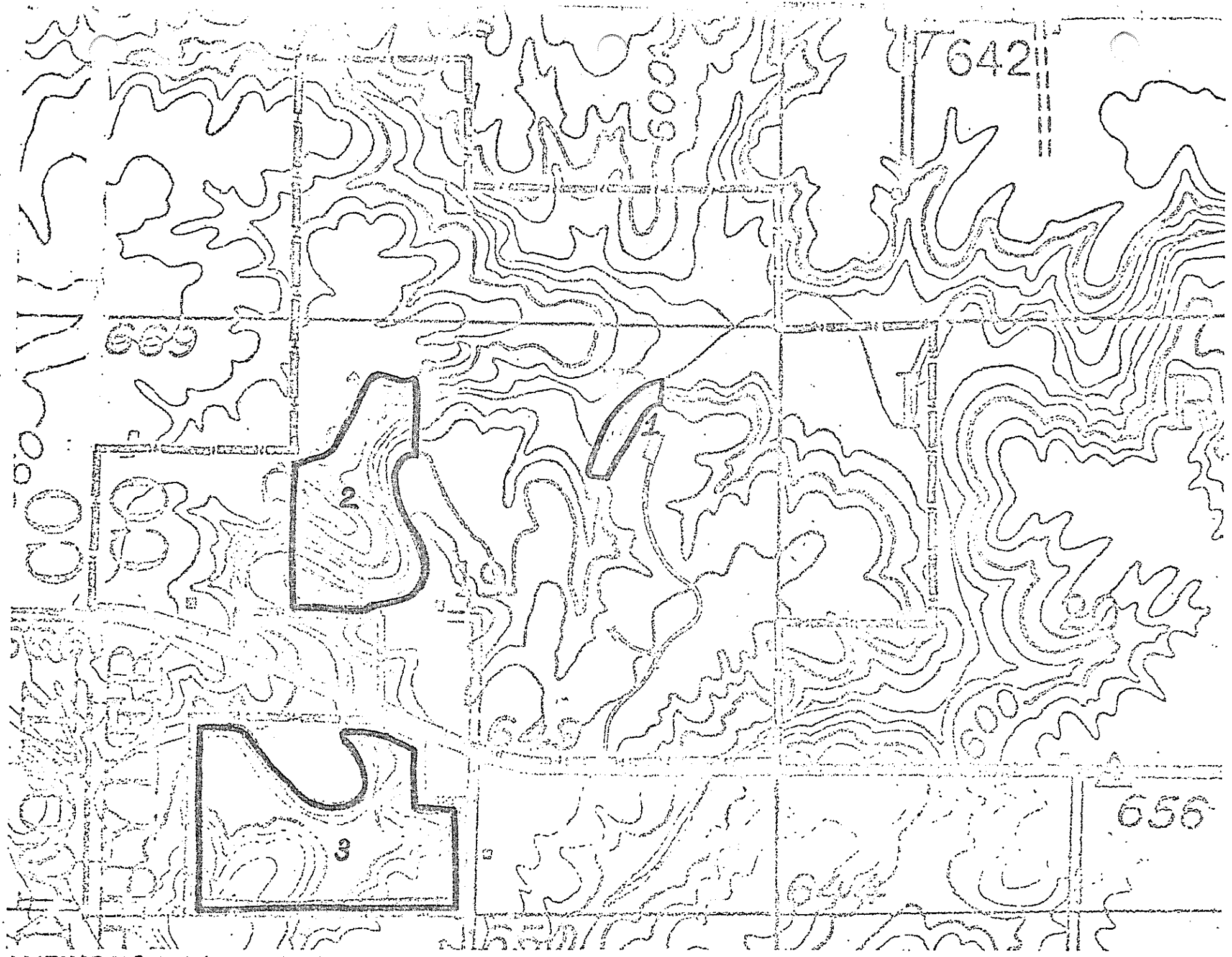
Upland, slope, and ravine forest, bedrock, and permanent stream of the Galesburg Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The topography is diverse and includes level uplands, side ravines, and river bluff with northern and western exposures. Sandstone bedrock outcrops along the north facing river bluff and in side ravines.

Biological Features

Black oak, white oak, shingle oak, and red cedar are common on the upland ridges and along the west facing river bluff. The side ravines and north facing slope have red and white oak, river birch, and basswood present in the overstory, ironwood is a common shrub, and hepatica and christmas fern are abundant. Williams Creek flows over gravel and bedrock and has a permanent fish population.

Comments

This area has been logged but still retains much of its natural quality. The importance of the area lies in its diversity, including both zeric and mesic slope forests, sandstone outcrops, ravines, and permanent stream.



WEINBERG-KING STATE PARK NATURAL AREAS

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Weldon Springs State Park, De Witt County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Two of three natural areas in the park, totaling about one acre in size and located east of the lake at the northernmost picnic area, and on a hillside south of the boat launch. Areas number 2 on map. In the N½ NE¼ Sec. 12, T 19 N, R 2 E.

Physical Features

Well drained uplands representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The sites are located on hillsides at the edges of a ravine (now on impoundment) eroded into glacial till and draining into Salt Creek. Soils are developed in loess over Wisconsinan glacial till.

Biological Features

Prairie vegetation consists mostly of little bluestem with some big bluestem; other plants present include flowering spurge, prairie bush clover, mountain mint, dogbane, brown eyed susan, anenome and several species of milkweed. Weedy vegetation is present and includes white sweet clover, plum, hawthorne, and blackberries.

Comments

These tracts have been mowed for a number of consecutive years but were allowed to grow up in 1973. The prairies may be successional in character, however, the surrounding forest cover and species present indicated that these sites could have been originally prairie. The prairies could be easily burned or the invading brush cut with a mower.

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Weldon Springs State Park, De Witt County

Size and Location of Natural Area

Weldon Springs State Park, one of three natural areas, approximately 2 acres in size and located at the northeast side of the lake, NE¼ NE¼ Sec. 12, T 19 N, R 2 E. Area No. 1.

Physical Features

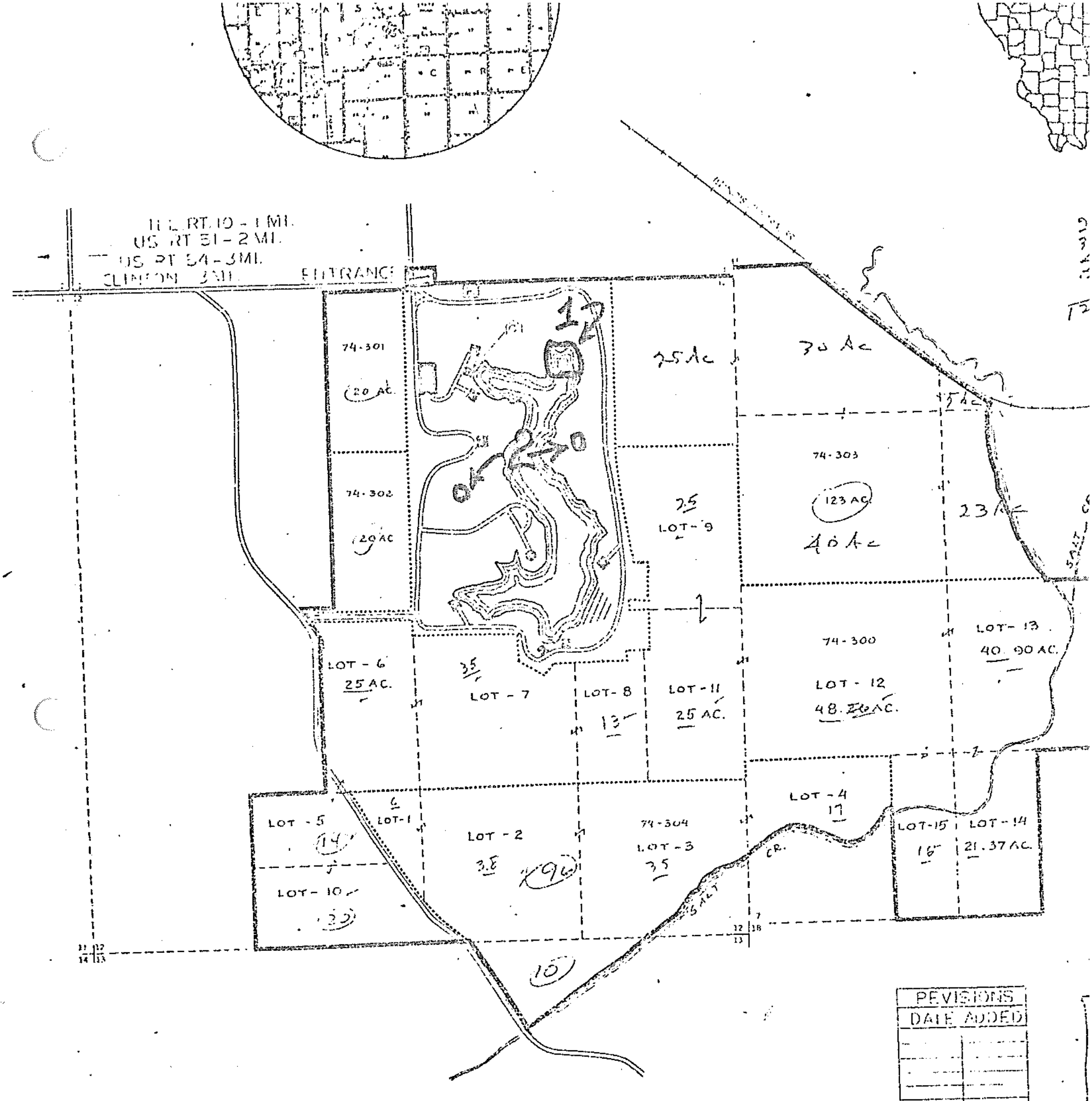
Marsh representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division of Illinois. The marsh is located at the edge of Lake Weldon.

Biological Features

The central part of the marsh is dominated by a community of cutgrass and arrowhead, cattails and bulrushes are present along the lake edge, and a thicket of American black currant, cottonwood, and willows is present near the shore. Other species present include swamp milkweed, boneset, water hemlock, and jewel weed.

Comments

As it is located at the edge of an impoundment and receives tile drainage from upland fields, the marsh is doubtlessly disturbed and altered from its natural state. However, a diversity of marsh species is present, including American black currant, an uncommon shrub in central Illinois. This indicates that the marsh vegetation was probably present in springs before the construction of the lake and has now adapted to the changes in drainage.



LAND ACQUIRED PRIOR TO JULY 1ST, 1965 — ~~119.96~~ 120 AC.

LAND ACQUIRED BY I.B.A — NONE

74-300 20 AC — PARCEL NUMBERS AND ACREAGES

PROJECT BOUNDARY

Ⓡ RANGER

Ⓒ CONCESSION

~~total~~ 672

Keep for

JAN 10 '70 K.I.

STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION	WELDON SPRINGS STATE PARK	DE WITT COUNTY

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
White Pines State Park, Ogle County

Size and Location

Approximately 30 acres, including the cliffs and steep slopes associated with Pine Creek along the south edge of the park on both sides of the entrance road and northwest of the lodge.

Physical Features

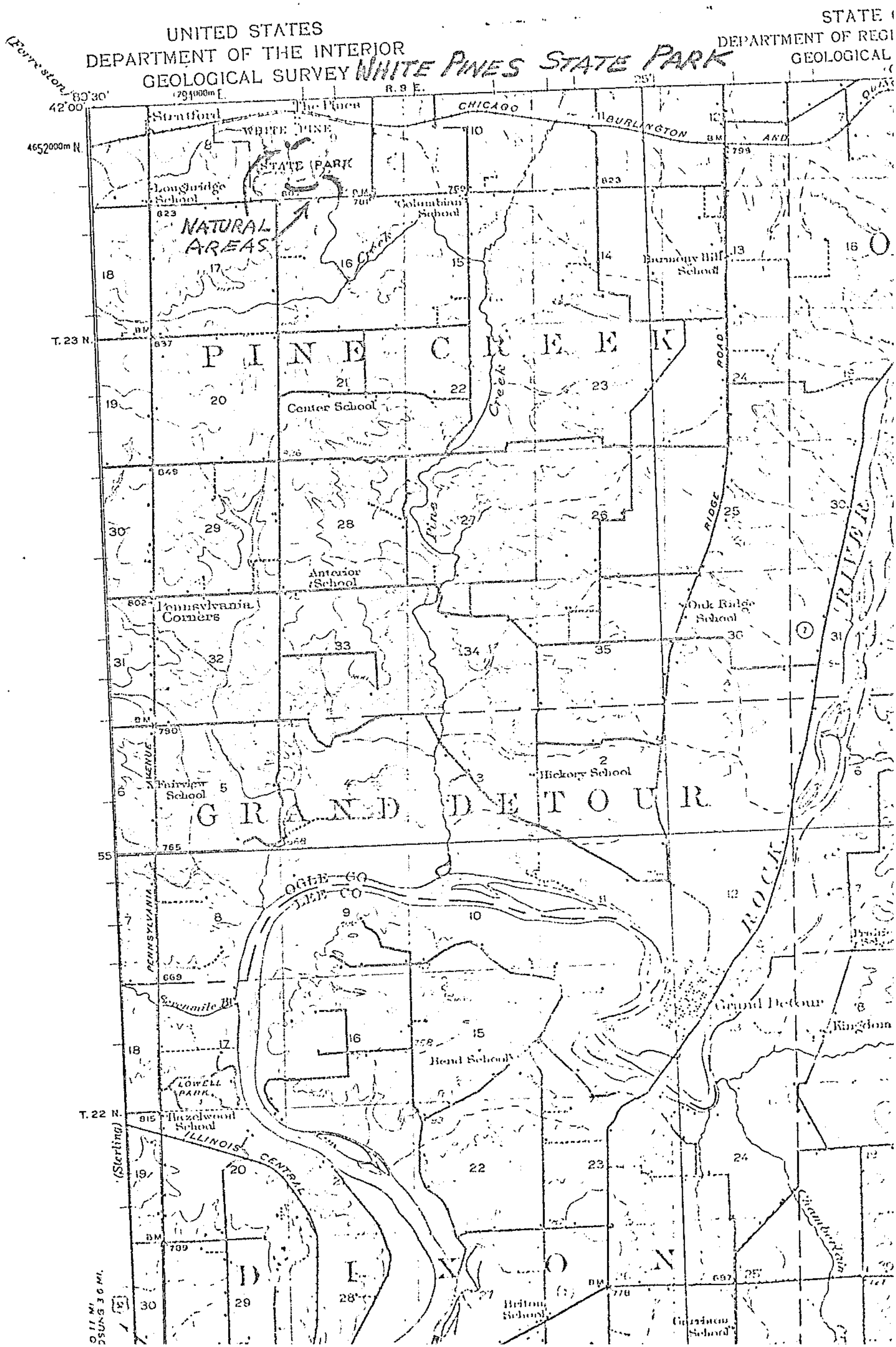
Slopes and limestone cliffs representative of the Freeport Section of the Rock River Hill County Natural Division of Illinois. Topography consists of narrow steep slopes above steep limestone cliffs along Pine Creek, soils are developed in residuum over bedrock and glacial till.

Biological Features

Plant communities are representative of a mixture of northern conifer forest and mesic upland forest. White pine, red oak, and basswood are among the common overstory species on shaded and north facing slopes while red cedar and Hill's oak occur on drier sites. Canada yew is an important understory species on north facing slopes and cliffs; its associates include bush honeysuckle, red baneberry, American spikenard, honeysuckle, hepatica, bishop's cap, lady fern, and bulbet fern.

Comments

The tracts identified here represent the only undisturbed natural areas within the park. The remaining upland forest has suffered from logging and grazing, both of which may have allowed the invasion (or reinvasion) of white pine from the native stands along pine creek. Although not identified here as a natural area, these disturbed areas should be recognized as a natural environment zone not to be developed due to the presence of white pine and the mesic quality of the forest.


UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WHITE PINES STATE PARK
STATE
DEPARTMENT OF REG
GEOLOGICAL
(Forreston)
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4652000m N.
R. 9 E.
Stratford
The Pines
WHITE PINE
STATE PARK
Longridge School
NATURAL AREAS
Columbian School
CHICAGO
BURLINGTON
AND
Harmony Hill School
T. 23 N.
PINE CREEK
Center School
Anterior School
Pennsylvania Corners
Oak Ridge School
RIDGE ROAD
Pine Creek
Hickory School
Fairview School
GRAND DETOUR
ROCK RIVER
OGLE CO
LEE CO
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
Sevenmile Br
Grand Detour
Kingdom
Bend School
LOWELL PARK
T. 22 N.
Hazelwood School
(Sterling)
ILLINOIS CENTRAL
DIXON
Chamberlain
Britton School
Grierson School

Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
Wildcat Hollow State Forest

Size and Location of Natural Area

Wildcat Hollow State Forest, Effingham County. Approximately 100 acres in size and including the two ravines in the east half of the state forest. Situated in the SE¼ Sec. 2, T 6 N, R 5 E.

Physical Features

Upland, ravine and floodplain forest, bedrock outcrops, springs and creek of the Effingham Plain Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division of Illinois. The topography consists of a dissected till plain with ravines extending down into the underlying bedrock. The bedrock consists of sandstone, limestone, and shale and is overlain with Illinoian glacial till.

Biological Features

Upland forests consist of white and black oak, shagbark hickory, and occasional flats of pin oak and post oak. Sugar maple, ash, walnut, white oak, and basswood occur in the ravines, and a floodplain community of silver maple, sycamore, and box elder occurs along the stream. Shadbush, red cedar, hop hornbeam, and flowering dogwood grow on dry ridges and bedrock outcrops. The ravines harbor many uncommon plants including yellow trout lily, blue-eyed mary, squirrel corn, putty root orchid, and silvery spleenwort fern.

Comments

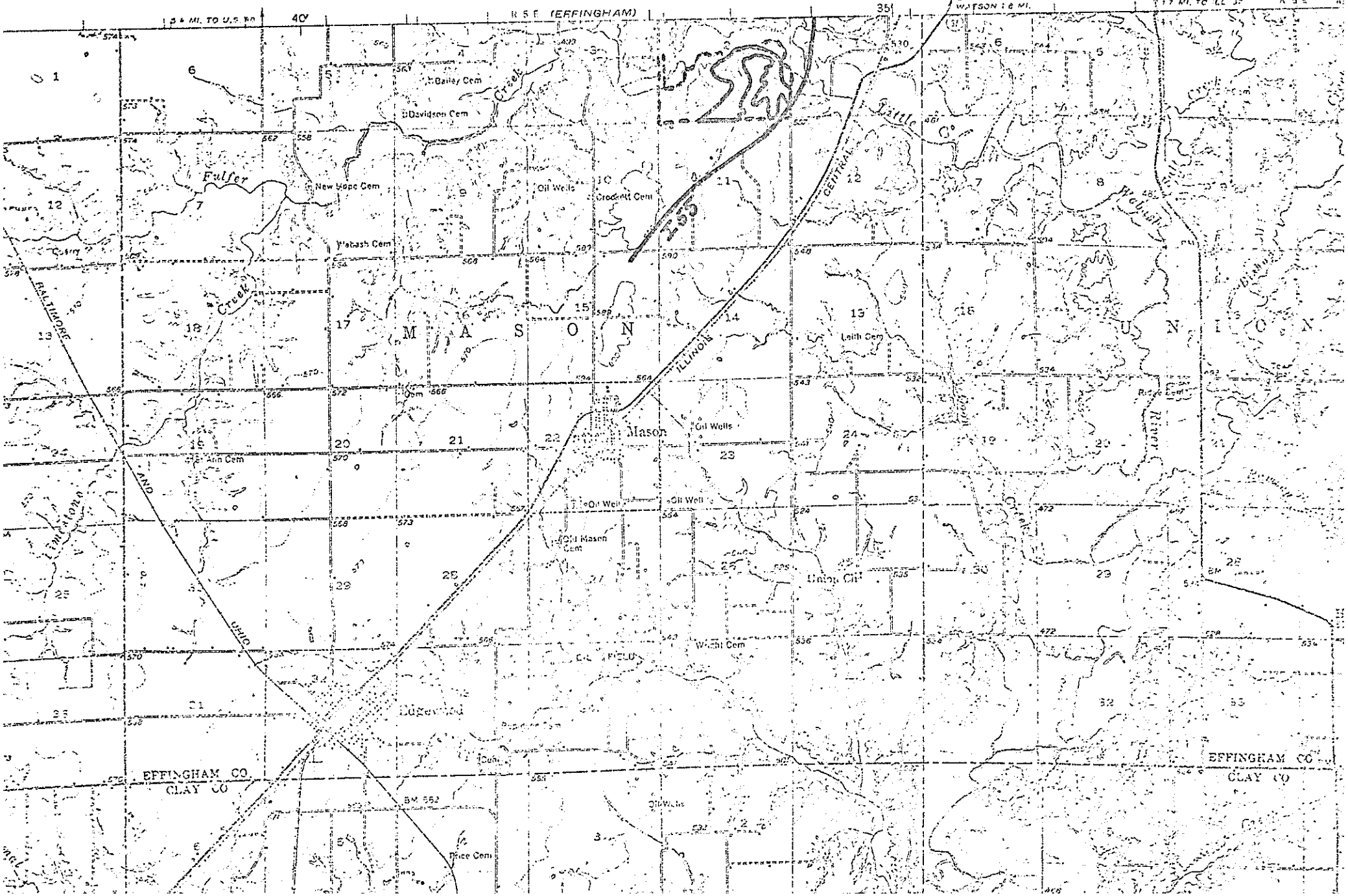
The bedrock outcrops form rock walled canyons which are unusual for this part of Illinois. Other significant features include shelter bluffs which may have been inhabited by Indians, several springs of high mineral content, and the presence of the uncommon plants in the ravines.

Access to the land is difficult due to the location of Interstate Highway 57 on the south and east sides of the area, and the poor condition of the public road to the northwest corner of the property.

WILDCAT HOLLOW
---- STATE FOREST
——— NATURAL AREA

STATE OF ILLINOIS
WILLIAM G. STRATTON, GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION AND EDUCATION
VERA M. BINKS, DIRECTOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DIVISION, JOHN C. FRYE, CHIEF
URBANA, ILLINOIS

EDGEWOOD QUADRANGLE
ILLINOIS
15 MINUTE SERIES



Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Section

NATURAL AREA INVENTORY OF DEPARTMENT PROPERTIES
William W. Powers State Park

Size and Location of Natural Area

William W. Powers (Wolf Lake) State Park, Cook County. The tract is a narrow strip of lakeshore located south of the boathouse. Approximately 1 acre in size and situated in the Sw¼ SW¼ Sec. 29, T 37 N, R 15 E.

Physical Features

Marsh and lake shore of the Chicago Lake Plain Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division of Illinois. The topography is flat and characteristic of the lake plain. The soils are shallow peat over sand, and the lake is reported to be spring fed.

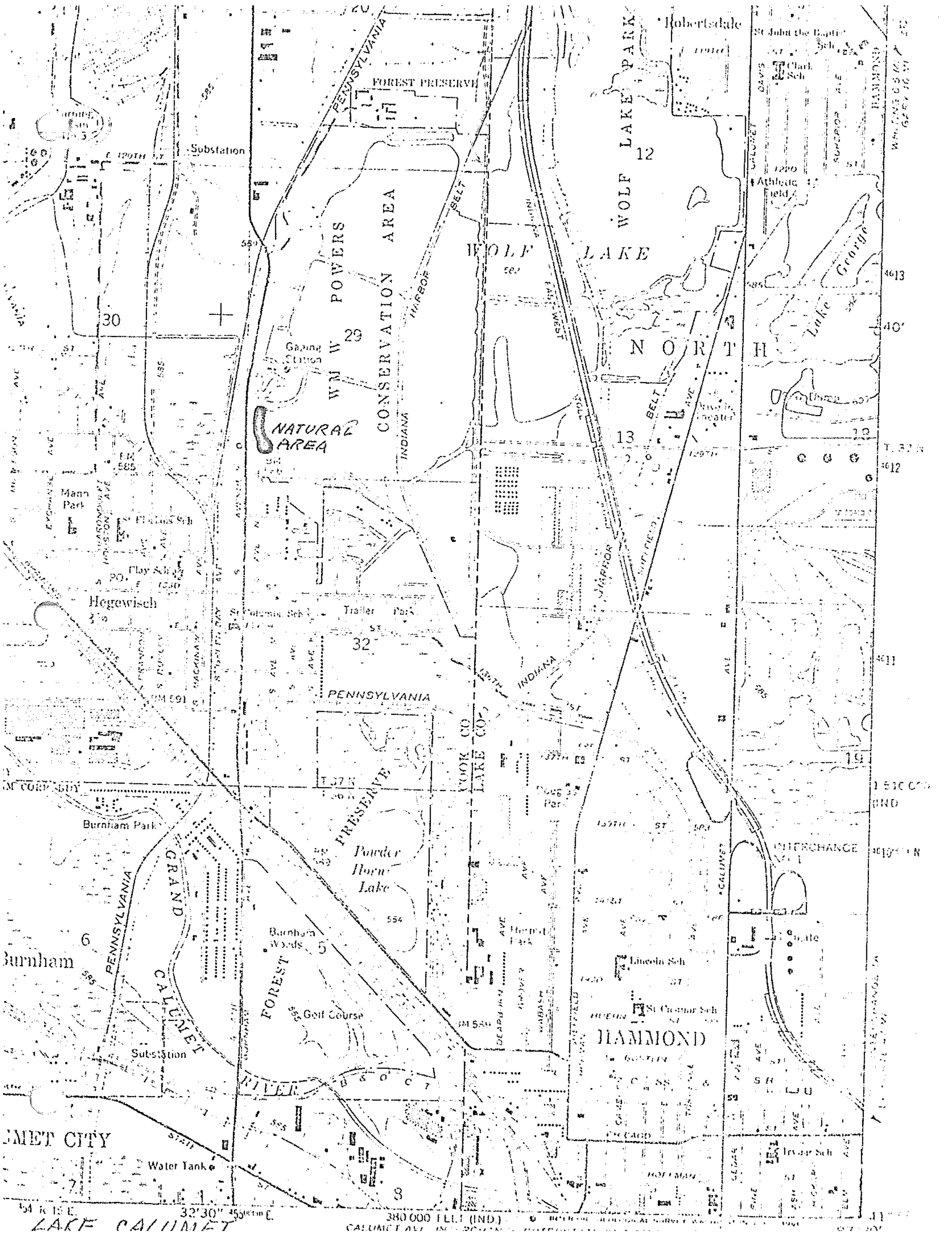
Biological Features

The natural area consists of a marsh community characterized by bullrushes, cattails, cord grass, bluejoint grass, meadow sweet, red osier dogwood, buttonbush, and marsh fern. Several uncommon or showy plants are present, including rose mallow, iris, swamp milkweed, and wild black currant.

Comments

The Wolf Lake area has a history of disturbance, including slag dumping and deepening of the lake, however the lake edge here appears to be natural.

Although small, the tract may represent one of the few remaining tracts of natural lake shore of the Wolf Lake - Calumet Lake System. The tract is bordered on the west by a park road and there is no present use of the area, except possibly by fishermen walking the lake shore. Since the area is so small, some minor changes in management could be considered to help protect the site. If the mowing between the area and the road to the west could be stopped, the natural vegetation would have a chance to expand. Also, a small buffer zone could be left undeveloped on the north and south ends of the marsh.



Robertsdale
FOREST PRESERVE
PENNSYLVANIA
Substation
WOLF LAKE PARK
12
Clark Sch
Athletic Field
WM W POWERS CONSERVATION AREA
INDIANA HARBOR BELT
WOLF LAKE
Lake George
NORTH
Gaging Station
29
30
NATURAL AREA
Drive-in Theater
13
Mann Park
Hegewisch
Trailer Park
32
PENNSYLVANIA
INDIANA
COOK CO
LAKE CO
Burnham Park
GRAND CALUMET RIVER
PRESERVE
Powder Horn Lake
FOREST
Burnham Woods
5
6
Burnham
Golf Course
Substation
HAMMOND
Lincoln Sch
INTERCHANGE
Irving Sch
MET CITY
Water Tank
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8
19
32'30"
380 000 FEET (IND.)
LAKE CALUMET