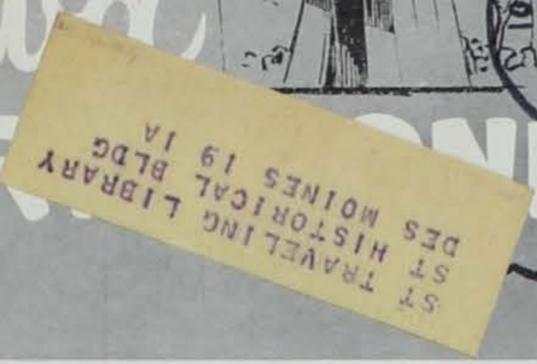


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Volume 21

May, 1962

Number 5

CAMPING AND PARKHOPPING FOR IOWANS



Camping at Emerson Bay on West Okoboji

Jim Sherman Photo.

Let's Go Camping!

Denny Rehder

Camping and parkhopping are the "boom" twins in the field of recreation. The pressure all over the country has necessitated spending to meet the needs of the public.

In Iowa, we had seven million park visitors last year. Camping the state totalled over 160,000 and spent 243,000 days collecting on the campgrounds. Such use calls for a considerable expenditure of funds to provide space and facilities.

In response to the growing demand for more public recreation in Iowa and the needed improvement of existing areas the last legislature appropriated over 2½ million dollars in capital improvements.

A part of this legislation was a sum of about \$640,000 to be devoted to the renovation of existing facilities. This budget, known as the repair-replacement budget, is a big step toward up-dating many of our older parks. Improvements of this type used to be under the general maintenance budget which was inadequate to cover all the needs of Iowa's 90 state parks and preserves.

Another part of the appropriation amounted to two million dollars for capital improvements to be used toward the acquisition and development of new areas and the expansion and improvement of existing areas.

These funds were needed for the replacement of worn-out or run-down facilities and to meet the increasing needs of Iowans for recreation facilities.

A nationwide boom in camping has been felt in Iowa and it was necessary to expand campsites, parking areas, and waterlines. Twenty-two camping areas will use \$190,000 of the appropriation.

For the camper this year probably the biggest items are the new campgrounds. Lake MacBride, our largest state park, will have an-

other campground on its south fork by midsummer. Viking Lake will have a campground by late summer. Other areas with new campgrounds to be ready by midsummer include Black Hawk Lake, Gull Point, Lacey-Keosauqua, Nine Eagles, Red Haw Lake, and Wild Cat Den.

Trailer campers will be interested in the new sewage dumps to be installed this year at Beeds Lake, Lake MacBride, Dolliver, Geode, Gull Point, Viking Lake, Pikes Peak, and Black Hawk Lake. These parks will also have new shower buildings complete with flush toilets, hot and cold water, showers, and laundry tubs.

The following areas already have these new shower buildings: Waubonsie, Lewis and Clark, Stone, Lake Ahquabi, Backbone, Clear Lake, Lake Darling, Lake Keomah, Lacey-Keosauqua, Ledges, McIntosh Woods, Nine Eagles, Palisades-Kepler, Red Haw Lake, Rock Creek, Springbrook, Lake of Three Fires, and Lake Wapello.

All campers will be interested in the electrical hook-ups now available at Ledges, Springbrook, and Lewis and Clark. These electrical facilities will be installed also at Geode, Gull Point, and Dolliver by midsummer.

The camp areas set aside at forty-one of our state parks are there strictly for the camper. The fee \$1 per night per camping unit goes right back to the parks to help in the upkeep and maintenance of their facilities.

If your tastes run more to the unorganized camp or the wilderness setting, you would enjoy a trip to one of Iowa's many hunting and fishing access areas which allow camping. These areas are listed in this issue. No fee is charged for camping since the facilities on the areas are few.

Another comer in the camping picture is the county park created by Iowa's county conservation boards. County parks with camping facilities are listed in the camping directory elsewhere in this issue.

So get out the tent, hit the road, and join thousands of Iowans who are enjoying themselves in Iowa's state-owned areas.

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CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE.....51,000

COMMISSION MINUTES

The Conservation Commission approved a motion to support planning and development of a Lewis and Clark Trailway Recreation Area on the Missouri River.

A motion was approved to study and plan a memorial to Ding Darling at Lake Darling.

Boyd Porter informed the Commission of progress on planning for a state-wide radio microwave system and the Commission appointed a committee of Earl Jarvis, Jim Sherman, and Bob Rollins to work with other state departments in planning such a system.

Travel was approved for the fisheries section to Land 'O Lakes, Wisconsin to pick up muskie fry in May.

Approval was given to travel for one man to Canada, June through August, to work on the duck banding program.

One man was approved for travel to Washington, D. C. to meet with the advisory committee to the U. S. Coastguard May 1 and 2.

Two men were approved for travel May 16-19 to Frankfort, Kentucky to attend a North-Central State Sporting Administrators Meeting.

Approval was given for the Director and two Commissioners to travel to Pierre, South Dakota to attend the Missouri Basin Inter-agency Committee Meeting.

A report was given on a new front page design for the *Iowa Conservationist* magazine.

Planning for a memorial to Bruce Stiles was discussed.

Sale of 9.71 acres of land for \$500 to the Y.M.C.A. adjacent to Carter Lake was granted, contingent on approval from the Executive Council.

LANDS AND WATERS

Approval was given for an option on 12 acres of land at \$100 per acre on an area adjacent to the campgrounds at Backbone State Park.

Approval was given for three options in the Lake Anita area including 40 acres for \$5,000, 19 acres for \$3,825, and 110 acres for \$28,000.

An alternate proposal was presented to the Y.M.C.A. in lieu of

the impracticability of building an additional beach at Lake Geode.

Approval was given for the town of Lake View to take over management of Crescent Park on Black Hawk Lake.

Approval was given to a speed limit of 15 miles per hour at Cold Springs Park in Cass County.

A construction permit was approved to widen the county road adjacent to Lake Cornelia in Wright County.

Approval was given for an option on 40 acres of land for a total of \$600 adjacent to the Stephens Forest Area in Lucas County.

Administrative order was given for order number 307, boating regulation number 10, to clarify lighting needed on vessels while inhabited at anchor.

The Commission decided to figure passenger capacities for pontoon boats and houseboats according to deck area only.

The Commission met with a group from Clear Lake for discussion concerning dock permits in the Shorewood Hills area and granted a dock permit for one year.

Approval was given for a construction permit to Doctor Utne of Clear Lake for construction of a waterline.

Permission was granted for a construction permit for maintenance of the channel at Venetian Village at Clear Lake.

The Commission accepted a \$2 gift from Lee Verba of Traer for wetlands acquisition.

COUNTY PARKS

Clayton County received approval for a 15-year lease at no cost for an area 50 ft. x 50 ft. on the Mississippi River at Guttenberg to be used for a boat landing.

Floyd County received approval for purchase of three acres of land for \$1 from the town of Marble Rock as a boating access.

Hardin County received approval to acquire 40 acres of timberland at \$25 per acre for hunting.

Marshall County received approval for the acquisition of 1.68 acres as a gift from the unincorporated town of Bangor.

Webster County received approval to acquire by condemnation 300 acres for a multiple use park.

Hamilton County received approval for the acquisition of 27 acres of land at a cost of \$12,150 located at the north end of Little Wall Lake including a set of farm buildings for a custodian's residence and service area.

Buchanan County received approval for the development plan for Fontana Park to provide for picnicking, fishing, boating access, and camping.

Dubuque County received approval for a development plan for the Massey Landing Area as a boat harbor and marina.

Dubuque County also received approval for development plan for Mud Lake Area for boating, fishing and camping area.

Franklin County received approval for a development plan for

RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE MISSOURI RIVER

Jim Sherman

Nine areas on the Missouri River offer possibilities for development as major recreational areas on Iowa's western border. These areas are Snyder Bend, Winnebago Bend, Tieville Bend, Upper Decatur Bend, Middle Decatur Bend, Deer Island, Tyson Bend Island, California Bend, and Wilson Island. These nine areas, located between Council Bluffs and Sioux City, were created by work projects designed to straighten and stabilize the meandering river channel.

Wilson Island in northwest Pottawattamie County has the greatest potential recreational value due to its location within twenty-five miles of the homes of one-half million people. This area consists of five hundred acres of land and twelve acres of water and is now owned by the state of Iowa. It is situated along the Missouri channel adjacent to the nine thousand acre federal DeSoto Bend Refuge Area. Wilson Island is now under development by the Iowa Conservation Commission to provide hunting, fishing, camping, boating access, and picnicking.

Snyder Bend, located four miles southwest of Salix in Woodbury County, includes six hundred acres of water, sixty acres of land now under litigation to quiet title, and twenty-four acres of land under option. The Conservation Commission's fisheries section is now doing intensive fish management work on the water area and the game section has created a waterfowl refuge with food plantings. Land option areas are for picnic areas, access road and camping areas. The federal government has been asked to place impervious levees and control structures at each end of the area. A bathing beach and boat ramp are planned by Woodbury County Conservation Board.

Middle Decatur Bend is six miles southwest of Onawa in Monona County. Title litigation is now in progress on three hundred acres of water area with six acres of land now owned by the Iowa Conservation Commission and twenty acres under option. The Nebraska Commission is buying three hundred and fifty acres of land and two hundred and fifty acres of water in this area. The federal government has appropriated money to protect both ends of the oxbow lake. As soon as land and water acquisition is completed, levees will be built and construction will be started by both Iowa and Nebraska to provide facilities for camping, fishing, hunting, and boating.

Winnebago Bend is located six miles west of Sloan in Woodbury County. This is the only Missouri River oxbow lake which is entirely within the boundary of Iowa. It consists of seven hundred acres of water, one hundred and twenty acres of sand dunes, and one hundred acres of timber. The State Conservation Commission is now in the process of quieting title to the area. It planned to acquire additional land in this area. The federal government has been asked to appropriate money for control structures at both ends of this oxbow lake.

Tieville Bend and the adjoining Upper Decatur Bend are located six miles west of Onawa and include four hundred and ten acres of land and 1,175 acres of water. This area lies in both Iowa and Nebraska. Iowa now has a boat launching dock and parking area. Fish management work is being carried on jointly by the two states. Further development work is being delayed pending court action on title to part of this area.

Deer Island lies four miles northwest of Little Sioux, Tyson Bend Island is located six miles west of Modale, and California Bend is ten miles west of Missouri Valley. These areas include about 1,500 acres of land. Tyson Bend area is owned by the state of Iowa. Title to Deer Island and to California Bend is still in litigation. The Iowa Conservation Commission plans for these to remain as wilderness areas with access by boat from the Missouri River only.

The Missouri River provides one hundred ninety-two miles of water recreation area along Iowa's western boundary. Up-stream impoundments have stabilized the water level. Much soil conservation work remains to be done on tributary streams to provide clear water at all times. Sewage disposal plants are now being built at Sioux City, Council Bluffs and Omaha. Boating, swimming and fishing are now increasing at a fabulous rate each year.

Development work now under way will provide outdoor recreation for many people for many years. Problems of land title, state boundaries and financing have complicated the job of developing this area for recreational use. Iowa and Nebraska are now moving to overcome these problems. Ding Darling's dream of a Lewis and Clark Park extending the length of the Missouri River and to the Pacific Ocean adds a rosy glow to the future of these nine areas.

Mallory Park.

Linn County received approval for a development plan for Pinicon Ridge Park as a multiple use area.

Webster County received approval for development plan for

Badger Creek Lake which provides for a 70 acre artificial lake and 300 acre multiple use area.

Howard County received approval for a management agreement for the Turkey River Access Area.

DON'T CAMP CRAMPED

It's not what to take, but what to leave home!

Jack Kirstein

Early settlers of Iowa were our original campers. Many actually used tents for sleeping as they crossed the plains. Others slept under the canvas of their wagons, but all cooked, ate, slept, and lived under the open Iowa skies.

They camped as they traveled because there was no other way. Today, we camp because we choose to do so, and by so doing gain a recreation available no other way in our complicated high-speed world.

Every sporting goods store can find several hundred items adaptable either directly or indirectly to today's camping. Our problem today is not so much what to take along, but what can we leave at home? Unlike the early pioneers, today we can have almost every comfort of home while camping.

So, unlike the early pioneers, we are never at too great a distance from a store or town. This should mean that it is unnecessary to pack groceries into our cars as though the world around us might cease to exist. Perhaps you've seen the enormous boxes and crates that some campers unload as they set up the modern day campsite. It isn't necessary, and most important it's a nuisance.

Double Duty

The key word for the modern camper is versatility. Every item carries should do double duty. A cooler makes a convenient small table. A stove serves as a heater, a lantern, and a picnic jug as well as a bucket for water to pour your fire at the end of the day. Some air mattresses double as a comfortable chair. A heavy plastic tablecloth can be used on the picnic table and then

provide shade for playing children only to convert later into a cover protecting some of your gear from rain.

A short length of rope can be used to tie part of your equipment on a luggage rack, later becoming a clothesline, and later still a jump-rope, or maybe as an extra anchor rope for a boat. Plastic rope is good for this kind of use as it is easily cleaned by washing and quick sun-drying.

Clothing can be convertible in many ways. A sweat shirt and a light rain jacket each have their separate uses, but together they serve as a warm dry combination for camping even in snow and you can leave the cold weather coat at home. The sweat shirt and pants as pajamas can be worn outside the tent without embarrassment. Our point here is that the more you can adapt your equipment to two or more uses, the more it proves itself in camp, and without the necessity of taking along more than is needed.

Some items are absolute musts for most kinds of camping. The kind of camping you do governs what is or is not a necessity.

In organized campgrounds, a stove, lantern, and cooler are listed among the items absolutely necessary. Stoves are available in many sizes and with many special features. Generally, they are of the one, two, or three burner variety.

Stoves

A two burner stove is usually adequate for two, three, or four persons. It can accommodate many more, but if you are preparing large meals, the three burner model may be quicker. One burner stoves are sufficient for the lone camper or canoe-tripper who is satisfied with the more primitive



Jack Kirstein Photo.

Light, compact, and easily carried, this reflector oven works well for smaller groups.

camping. Actually, many times outside the organized campgrounds it is safer to use a stove than to attempt open fire cooking. Stoves burn many different fuels. Some use white stove gas only. Others use white or regular leaded gas equally well. Some small stoves use only alcohol. Whatever your choice, take along the reserve fuel supply in its own can.

Lights

For light in the night, you can choose from gas, alcohol, electric or even candle powered lanterns. The gas lanterns are most commonly used due to the extreme brightness of the mantle systems. Also, you will be wise to buy a gas lantern that uses the same fuel as your stove so that one gas can fills either. Electric lanterns are much less of a heat problem in hot weather camping, but you must be sure that the batteries are fresh. Candle lanterns are extremely light in weight for the hiker or for canoe trips. Their light is less bright, but usually sufficient. If you choose a gas mantle lantern, a single mantle is best. This is due to the fact that only a single gas generator is used in either a one or two mantle lantern. For this reason, each mantle of a two mantle lantern receives only half of the fuel passing through the generator, while the single mantle receives the full amount. The light is so nearly the same in either case that it is not necessary to go to the added expense, size, and weight of the two mantle lantern.

Coolers

The cooler you choose will hold the perishables in your food supply. It should be as good as you can afford. To date, the best insulating material found for coolers is composed of round, granular,

formed plastic. It is usually molded in place in the cooler or in a mold when used without an outer protective shell. This is not to be confused with foam plastic, although both are extremely light in weight. Granular plastic has been used in many other fields, notably as a material in minnow buckets for the fisherman. Its cold-retaining capabilities are two to three times superior to fiberglass types. For the lightest in weight, some coolers are made only of the plastic, but in extra thick form. For greater durability, however, some kind of metal covering on the outside is necessary and usually a one piece inner shell of polystyrene affords easier cleaning.

(Continued on page 39)



Jack Kirstein Photo.

Here's fine camping with a pop tent and the necessary accessories—cooler, jug, and lantern—to make for comfortable living.



Jack Kirstein Photo.

Something as simple as these tablecloth hooks can make an outing much more enjoyable.

IOWA CAMPING

KEY

Facilities are listed: T-toilet, W-water, C-camping, B-boating, F-fishing, and H-hunting.

STATE PARKS

A. A. Call	1/2 mi. S. W. Algona	T,W,C	Maquoketa Caves	Iowa 130, 7 mi. N. W. Maquoketa	T,W,C
Backbone	Iowa 410, 4 mi. S. W. Strawberry Point	T,W,C,F,B	McIntosh Woods	U.S. 18, 3/4 mi. E. Ventura	T,W,C,B,F
Beeds Lake	3 mi. N. W. Hampton	T,W,C,B,F	Nine Eagles	3 1/2 mi. S. E. Davis City	T,W,C,B,F
Bellevue	U. S. 52, S. of Bellevue	T,W,C	Oak Grove	4 mi. N. W. Hawarden	T,W,C,F
Black Hawk	Lake View	T,W,C,B,F	Oakland Mills	Iowa 133, 4 mi. S. W. Mount Pleasant	T,W,C,F
Clear Lake	Iowa 106, 2 mi. S. Clear Lake	T,W,C,B,F	Palisades-Kepler	U. S. 30, 3 1/2 mi. W. Mt. Vernon	T,W,C,B,F
Dolliver Memorial	Iowa 50 and 121, 3 mi. N. W. Lehigh	T,W,C,F	Pammel	Iowa 92 and 162, 5 mi. S. W. Winterset	T,W,C,F
Fort Defiance	Iowa 9 and 245, 1 mi. S. W. Estherville	T,W,C	Pikes Peak	4 mi. S. E. McGregor	T,W,C
Geode	4 mi. S. W. Danville	T,W,C,B,F	Pilot Knob	4 mi. E., 1 mi. S. Forest City	T,W,C
George Wyth Memorial	U.S. 20, adjoins Cedar Falls	T,W,C,F	Pine Lake	Iowa 118, 1/2 mi. N. E. Eldora	T,W,C,B,F
Green Valley	2 1/2 mi. N. W. Creston	T,W,C,B,F	Red Haw Lake	U.S. 34, 1 mi. E. Chariton	T,W,C,B,F
Gull Point	W. side of West Okoboji	T,W,C,B,F	Rock Creek	3 mi. N., 3 mi. E. Kellogg	T,W,C,B,F
Lacey-Keosauqua	Iowa 1, adjoins Keosauqua	T,W,C,B,F	Springbrook	Iowa 25 and 384, 7 mi. N. Guthrie Center	T,W,C,B,F
Lake Ahquabi	Iowa 349, 5 1/2 mi. S. W. Indianola	T,W,C,B,F	Stone	N. W. section Sioux City	T,W,C,F
Lake Darling	Iowa 78, 3 mi. W. Brighton	T,W,C,B,F	Union Grove	3 mi. S. W. Gladbrook	T,W,C,B,F
Lake Keomah	Iowa 371, 5 mi. E. Oskaloosa	T,W,C,B,F	Viking Lake	4 mi. E. Stanton	T,W,C,B,F
Lake MacBride	Iowa 382, 2 1/2 mi. W. Solon	T,W,C,B,F	Walnut Woods	5 mi. W., West Des Moines	T,W,C,F
Lake of Three Fires	Iowa 49, 3 mi. N. E. Bedford	T,W,C,B,F	Wapsipinicon	U.S. 151, adjoins Anamosa	T,W,C,F
Lake Wapello	Iowa 273, 6 mi. W. Drakesville	T,W,C,B,F	Waubonsie	U. S. 275, Ia. 2 and 239, 7 mi. S. W. Sidney	T,W,C
Ledges	Iowa, 164, 3 mi. S. Boone	T,W,C,F	Wild Cat Den	Iowa 22 and 389, 3 mi. E. Fairport	T,W,C
Lewis & Clark	Iowa 165, 2 mi. W. Onawa	T,W,C,F			

OTHER STATE-OWNED AREAS

(Camping Free Except Where Marked)

Allamakee County			Jackson County		
French Creek	8 mi. W., 2 mi. N. Lansing	C,F,H	Dalton Pond	1 1/2 mi. S. E. Preston	C,F,H
Bremer County			Jefferson County		
Sweet Marsh	2 mi. N. E. Tripoli	T,W,C,B,F,H	MacCoon Access	4 mi. N. Lockridge	C,B,F,H
Clayton County			Louisa County		
Sny Magill	6 1/2 mi. S. McGregor	C,B,F	Lake Odessa	5 mi. E. Wapello	T,W,B,C,F
Dickinson County	(* denotes \$1 per night per camping unit)		Lucas County		
Center Lake	3 mi. S. W. Spirit Lake	C,B,F,H	Colyn Area	4 mi. S. Russell	C,B,F,H
*Emerson Bay Access	1 mi. N. West Okoboji	T,W,C,B,F	Mills County		
Hales Slough	4 mi. N. E. Orleans	C,B,F,H	Willow Slough	2 mi. S. Henderson	C,B,F,H
Marble Lake	2 1/2 mi. N. W. Orleans	C,B,F	Monona County		
*Marble Beach Access	2 mi. N. W. Orleans	T,W,C,B,F,H	Decatur Bend	6 mi. S. W. Onawa	C,B,F
Minnewashta and Lower Gar	3/4 mi. S. Arnolds Park	C,B,F,H	Monroe County		
*State Fish Hatchery	Orleans	T,W,C,B,F,H	Cottonwood Pits	4 mi. S. E. Albia	C,B,F,H
Silver Lake	2 1/2 mi. S. W. Lake Park	C,B,F,H	Ringgold County		
Swan Lake	3 mi. N. Superior	C,B,F,H	Mount Ayr Game Area	4 mi. W., 1 mi. Mount Ayr	C,F,H
Emmet County			Sac County		
High Lake	6 mi. E. Wallingford	C,B,F,H	Arrowhead & Hallet's Pit	S. W. edge Lake View	T,C,F
Iowa Lake	6 mi. N. Armstrong	C,B,F,H	Sac City Access	S. edge Sac City	C,B,F,H
Ingham Lake	6 mi. E. Wallingford	C,B,F,H	Union County		
Fayette County			Thayer Lake	1 1/2 mi. W. Thayer	C,B,F,H
Big Rock Access	1 1/2 mi. E. Fayette	C,F,H	Webster County		
Grannis Creek	6 mi. E. Fayette	C,F,H	Lehigh Area	2 mi. S. E. Lehigh	C,B,F
Floyd County			Lizard Creek Area	2 mi. N., 1 mi. E., Moorland	C,F,H
Idlewild Access	10 mi. N.W. Charles City	C,B,F,H	Woodman Hollow	6 mi. N. Lehigh	C,F
Guthrie County			Winneshiek County		
Bays Branch	4 mi. N. E. Panora	C,B,F,H	Bluffton Area	1/2 mi. E. Bluffton	C,B,F,H
Hardin County			Canoe Creek Access	8 mi. N. E. Decorah	C,F,H
Hardin City Access	6 mi. N. Eldora	C,B,F,H	Cold Water Springs	3 mi. N. W. Bluffton	C,F,H
Henry County			Cardinal Marsh	2 mi. S., 2 mi. E. Cresco	C,F,H
Oakland Mills Access	4 mi. S. W. Mount Pleasant	C,F,H	Melanaphy Springs	4 mi. N. W. Decorah	C,F,H
Howard County			North Bear Creek	3 mi. E. Highlandville	C,F,H
Turkey River Access	1 1/2 mi. S. Cresco	C,F,H	South Bear Creek	Town of Highlandville	C,F,H
Ida County			Wright County		
Washta Access	1 mi. S. Washta	C,F,H	Morse Lake	4 mi. W. Belmond	T,W,C,B,F
Iowa County					
Randolph Access	5 1/2 mi. S. E. Belle Plaine	C,B,F,H			

DICTIONARY-1962

Persons camping in state parks are reminded that they must check-in with the park officer before setting up on the campground. Fees are \$1 per night per camping unit. A camping unit is the portable shelter used by the members of one household and may include a tent, trailer, station wagon, or a combination of the three.

Under the listing of "Other State Owned Areas" the Commission requires no registration and no fee. You are asked only to leave the area as you found it with all paper and debris cleaned up. Be particularly careful of your campfire during the dry season.



George Tovey Photo.

Setting up camp on one of Iowa's many fine campgrounds.

COUNTY PARKS

Benton County (no fee)			
Annex Park	2½ mi. S. 1 mi. W. Blairstown	T,W,C,F	
Anton City-Fry Area	5 mi. E. Vinton	T,W,C,F	
Apple Area	2 mi. E., 1 mi. N. Vinton	C	
Bremer County (under development, no fee)			
Block Park	Frederika	T,W,C	
Landt Park	Denver	C	
Green Bridges Park	4 mi. S., 2½ mi. E. Readlyn	W,C	
North Woods Park	1½ mi. N. Sumner	T,W,C	
Buena Vista County (no fee)			
Antana Park	10 mi. N., ¼ mi. W. Independence	T,W,C,B,F	
Cass County			
Shan Lake	3 mi. S. E. Carroll; \$1 per night—\$.25 elect	T,W,C,F	
Jobs Access	8 mi. N., 1 mi. E. Glidden—no fee	T,W,C,F	
Ferritt Access	2 mi. E., 4 mi. N. Glidden—no fee	T,W,C,F	
They Access	3 mi. N. Ralston—no fee	T,W,C,F	
Werside Picnic Area	N. E. edge Coon Rapids—no fee	T,C,F	
Cedar County (no fee)			
Massillon Area	N. edge Massillon	T,W,C,B,F	
Cedar Rapids (no fee, 3 day limit)			
Lin Grove Park	S. edge Rockwell	T,W,C	
Wilkinson Pioneer Park	S. edge Rock Falls	T,W,C	
Cherokee County (no fee)			
Meriden Roadside Park	1 mi. W. Meriden	C	
Clasaw County (no fee)			
Isis Park	N. E. edge North Washington	T,W,C,F	
Howard Woods	3 mi. S. Ionia, 5 mi. W., ½ mi. S.	C,F,B	
Lin Ponds	2 mi. S., 3 mi. E. Ionia	T,W,C,F,H	
Clinton County (no fee)			
St. Park Game Area	½ mi. N. E. Dows	C,F	
Clory Park	4½ mi. S., 2 mi. W. Hampton	T,W,C,F	
Clinson Park	1 mi. N., 1 mi. E., ½ mi. N. Hampton	T,W,C,F	
Latimer Recreation	in Latimer	C	
St. John Park	5 mi. E. Sheffield	W,C	
Adorf Park	Ia. 3, 8 mi. E. Hampton	T,W,C	
Franklin County (no fee)			
Key Glenn	Tabor	W,C	
Anti Park	4 mi. S. W. Shenandoah	T,C,F	
Greene County (no fee)			
Highway Park	3 mi. W. Jefferson	T,W,C	
Anderson Park	Ia. 17, 1 mi. S. Jefferson	T,W,C,B,F	
Sirrel Hollow Park	6 mi. W. Rippey	T,W,C,B,F	
Harrison County (\$1 per night, \$.50 elec., 3 day limit)			
Higgs Woods	3½ mi. S. Webster City	T,W,C	
Is Mill	4½ mi. N. E. Stratford	T,W,C	
Hancock County (\$1, overnight only)			
Concord Park	½ mi. S. Garner	T,W,C	
Ellsworth College Park	Crystal Lake	T,W,C,F	
Howard County (no fee, permission needed from Howard Co. Cons. Board at Cresco)			
Florenceville Park	9 mi. N. Cresco	C	
Vernon Springs	2½ mi. S. W. Cresco	T,W,C,B,F	
Davis Corners Roadside Park	9 mi. W. Cresco	T,C	
Lidtkke Park	1 mi. N. Lime Springs	T,C,B,F	
Jones County (no fee)			
Picture Rock	5 mi. S. E. Monticello—after July 1	C,F	
Lee County (no fee)			
Croton Civil War Park	3 mi. S. E. Farmington	C,F,B	
Wilson Lake	4 mi. E. Donnellson	C,F	
Chatfield Park	U. S. 218, 2 mi. N. Keokuk	C,F	
Green Bay Access	8 mi. N. Ft. Madison near Wever	C,F,B	
Linn County (group or family—period up to one week, \$2; permits needed from hdqs. at Central City)			
Buffalo Creek Parkway	½ mi. W. Coggon—after June 1	T,W,C,F,H	
Pinicon Ridge	1 mi. N. W. Central City	C,F,H	
Wakpicada Recreation Area	1 mi. S. Central City	C,F,H	
Jay G. Sigmond Park	Waubeek	T,C,F	
Lewis Access	3 mi. S. Center Point	C,B,F,H	
Matsell Bridge Access	2½ mi. N. Viola	T,C,F,H	
Mt. Hope Access	1 mi. W. Stone City	T,W,C,F	
Wickiup Hill	2 mi. W. Toddville	C,F,H	
Chain Lakes Access	1½ mi. SE Palo	T,W,C,B,F,H	
Polk County (no fee)			
Gillespie Lease & Keays-Miller Access	4 mi. W. Runnells	C,F	
Lewis A. Jester Park	1½ mi. E. Granger	T,W,C,B,F	
Tama County (no fee)			
Clark Park	4½ mi. N. E. Traer, 2½ mi. E off U. S. 63	T,W,C	
Winnebago County (no fee)			
Roadside Park	1 mi. N. Thompson	C	
Woden Gravel Pit	2½ mi. N., ½ mi. W., ½ mi. S. Woden	C,F	
Hogsback Park	2 mi. N., 1 mi. W., Lake Mills	C	
Moen Slough	1 mi. W., 1 mi. N., 1 mi. W., ½ mi. N. Lake Mills	C,H	
Wright County (no fee)			
Pikes Timber Park	3 mi. S., 2 mi. W., ½ mi. S. Belmont	T,W,C,F	
Bingham Park	1 mi. S., 1 mi. W., ½ mi. S. Rowan	T,W,C,F	
Oakdale Park	1½ mi. S., 1 mi. E. Renwick	T,W,C,F	
Troy Roadside Park	4 mi. S. Eagle Grove	T,W,C,F	
69 & 3 Roadside Park	6 mi. E. Clarion	T,W,C	

TWO DEDICATIONS THIS MONTH

Carol Buckmann
Fort Atkinson

After years of reconstruction and preparation, the gates of Fort Atkinson will swing open to the public May 20 at the official dedication ceremony scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. on the fort parade grounds.

Governor Norman Erbe and other dignitaries will be present for the dedication of Fort Atkinson to the people of Iowa. Bands, Indian dancers, a history of the fort, flag raising ceremony and other events will be presented on that date.

Fort Atkinson adjoins the town of Fort Atkinson in Winneshiek County, off United States Highway 18, 13 miles south of Decorah. It was established primarily to protect the Winnebago Indians from the warlike Sioux and the allied Sac and Fox tribes who claimed the territory given to the Winnebagoes by the treaty of 1825.

Work on the post was started in 1840 using funds voted by the United States Congress in 1839. The fort was garrisoned until 1849 when it was abandoned and later sold. Fort Atkinson was named for Brigadier General Henry Atkinson at the time commandant at Jefferson Barracks at St. Louis.

The state of Iowa purchased this 4.67 acre fort in 1921 in a move to preserve the site for future Iowans as a visual symbol of our past. Excavation for artifacts, elevation of buildings and outlines were begun but the work was brought to a standstill with the advent of World War II.

Due to the great interest in Fort Atkinson during the 1955 legislature, \$40,000 was appropriated to the State Conservation Commission for stabilization and restoration of the fort. In order to have the advantage of professional historians the National Park Service was called upon to study the problems and possibilities for development.

Upon the recommendations of the historian for the Park Service, part of the stockade was restored. The east stockade wall still stands while the north was replaced. The west and south walls have been tapered to show where they once stood to preserve the realism of the fort and help stabilize the remaining buildings. Two cannon houses, the powder magazine, soldiers' well and the stone barracks on the north side are preserved. The foundations outlining the old officers' and non-commissioned officers' quarters as well as south barracks and hospital have also been preserved. The Park Service recommended stabilization rather than restoration.

Fort Atkinson is one of the few forts where stone was used to build many of the buildings. Consequently, it is one of few left to

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OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Denny Rehder

No doubt you have all heard of the Iowa Great Lakes, Backbone, Ledges, and other areas in the state famous for their natural attraction to recreation-loving Iowans. But have you heard of Melanaphy Springs, Barringer Slough, Turkey River Mounds, or Gitchie Manitou?

These are areas that are off the beaten track. They're small, and many times lacking such facilities as you would find at a large state park.

Why mention them? Well, I think there are people like me who enjoy an outing just as well or better if there are not 18,000 people competing with them for space and facilities as the situation sometimes is in our popular parks.

There's something alluring about a little nook set off from the mainstream of life. Visiting a place like this gives you a chance to take it easy with nothing to interrupt your reverie save the occasional chatter of a squirrel, melodious trill of a bird, or the muted song of springs bursting from a rocky ledge and falling to the stream below.

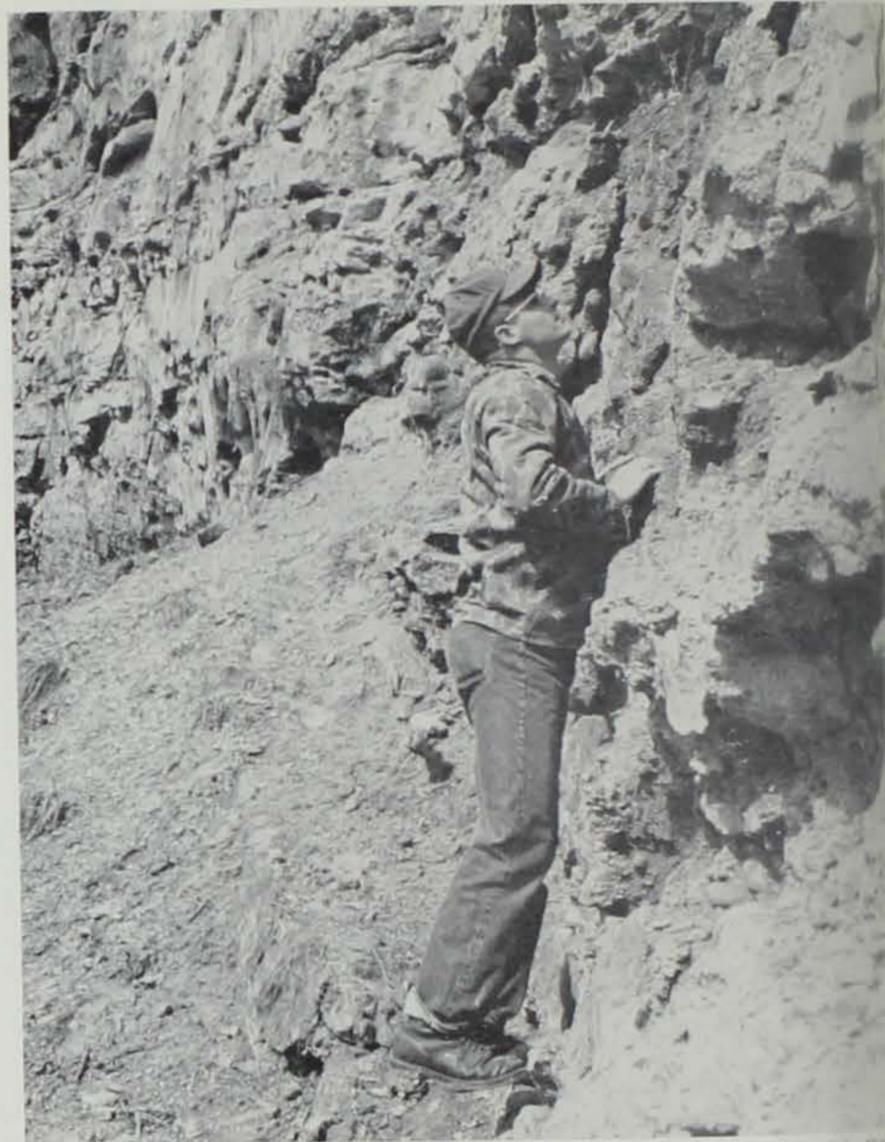
This series will take you to some of these little Iowa nooks set back from the rush about them. We hope you'll visit and enjoy the particular attraction found at each of them.

The "Copperas" Beds at Dolliver

The "unique" copperas beds at Dolliver Memorial State Park a few miles north of Lehigh on the Des Moines River have long attracted visitors. Although the formation cannot be called unique, it is interesting to stop at the park and take a short hike back to the Copperas beds.

Copperas is common over the state in the Pennsylvania series, a geological term denoting an age that existed 48 million years ago. The beds at Dolliver offer a fine example of this iron compound.

As you look at the cliffs you will see a variety of coloring all of which is generally referred to as copperas. In this particular section of Iowa we have the gypsum beds for which Fort Dodge is famous. Often found with gypsum is



Although not really unique in Iowa, the copperas beds are interesting in their formation.

a crystallized iron pyrite known as marcasite. You can tell marcasite in the copperas beds by its brassy, yellow coloring.

When marcasite is exposed to air and weather it forms copperas which is also known as green vitriol or ferrous sulphate. This copperas is in the form of green crystals. The green coloring is due to a basic salt in the formation. These green crystals in moist air will often form a brown, rust-colored coating. If the crystals lack this basic salt, air and water will create a bluish-white formation on the surface.

While the rust and greenish coloring are most common, you will see small patches of the white formation along the face of the cliffs.

Copperas is commercially the

most important ferrous salt. It is used to make other iron compounds and other sulfates in fertilizers and in water treatment. It is used as a reducing agent in chemical processes engraving and lithography, medicine, purification of coal gas, textiles, dye for leather, electrolytic iron, and echant for aluminum.

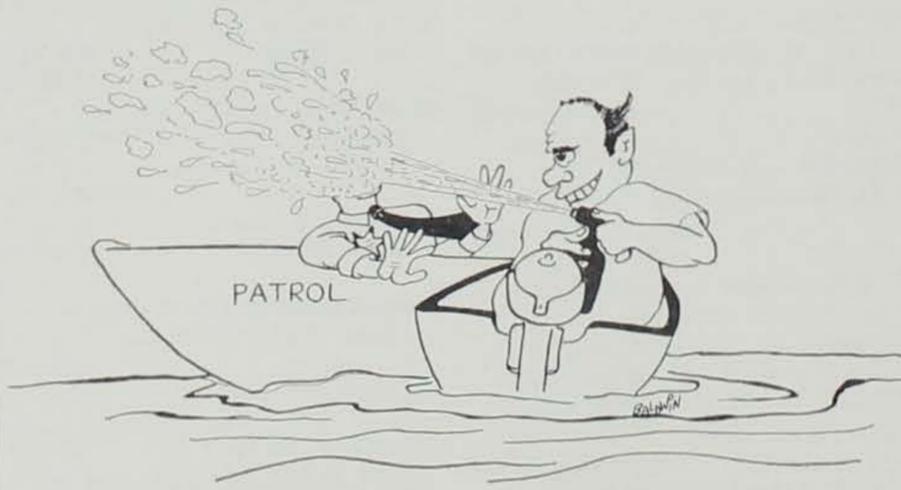
For all its value and the variety of its uses it is interesting to note that copperas does not exist in marketable quantity anywhere in the world.

Most of our supply of copperas is recovered from "pickle liquor," the waste product that accumulates from the cleaning process of dipping iron and steel into sulfuric acid before galvanizing or electroplating.

You'll enjoy the copperas beds at Dolliver, but plan also to spend some time camping, picnicking or fishing in this beautiful park.

The index for Volumes 19 and 20 of the years 1960-1961 is now available. This index is a handy reference source to help you find specific stories in your back issues of the CONSERVATIONIST. You may obtain your copy free of charge by writing the CONSERVATIONIST, East 7th and Court, Des Moines 8, Iowa.

One female moth and her family can destroy, in a single year, as much wool as it would take of a dozen sheep to produce.



"Sure I got a fire extinguisher!"

TAX RELIEF FOR FOREST RESERVATIONS

Roy Hatcher
District Forester

The Iowa Conservation Laws help to conserve the natural resources of Iowa. Our timberlands are one of many natural resources that need protection and management. They provide valuable habitat for wildlife, timber products, and invaluable watershed protection.

The Code of Iowa, 1958, Chapter 161, known as the Fruit-Tree and Forest Reservation Law, provides for certain tax exemptions on fruit tree and forest reservations and has helped to encourage woodland owners over the state to take the initial steps in woodland management.

In general terms that law provides that an owner may select a permanent forest reservation of not less than two acres of continuous area and upon compliance with the provisions of the law will be entitled to the tax benefits of the law. In Chapter 441.5 of the Code of Iowa, 1958, it states that forest reservations fulfilling the conditions of Chapter 161.1 to 161.13, inclusive, shall be assessed on a taxable valuation of four dollars per acre. The reduced tax valuation on forest land has helped to make forest management a more economical proposition.

In order for a forest area to be placed under this law it must meet certain specifications. First, a forest reservation must contain not less than two hundred growing forest trees per acre. Should an area have less than this number the owner may plant additional trees to bring the number of trees per acre up to the minimum. This means that many areas now being planted to trees will be eligible under this law and can receive the tax benefits provided by it.

Another very important provision in the law is the restraint of livestock from the forest reservation. According to the 1959 Forest Survey Release No. 22 on the Forest Resources of Iowa, published by the Central States Forest Experiment Station of the U. S. Forest Service "Eighty per cent of the forest land in Iowa is grazed to some degree. Twenty-seven per cent of all forest land in Iowa is so heavily grazed that no young trees are present to take over the sites when the trees there now are cut or die." Grazing is one of our biggest forest management problems in Iowa. The law has helped to encourage the protection of our woodlands from grazing.

Putting a forest area under the reservation law does not keep the owner from harvesting his timber. The law states that not more than one-fifth of the total number of trees in any forest reservation may be removed in any one year, excepting cases where the trees die naturally. Any time the number of trees per acre falls below the

CAMPING—

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Be sure yours has an easily used water drain. A good cooler can be expected to retain ice for two to three days, if you keep it out of the direct sun in your camp and open it only when absolutely necessary. Each time a cooler is opened, some warm air enters and the ice must then cool the air as well as the food it contains, reducing the efficiency.

Sleeping Bags

For sleeping, you should provide comfort under a wide range of temperature conditions.

Sleeping bags are ideal under most conditions. The very best are filled with down. Acceptable and comfortable are those filled with Dacron. Also available are bags filled with a variety of other materials. The warmth of the bag is determined by the heat holding capabilities of the filler material and is in direct proportion to the amount of filler used as expressed in pounds.

A three pound Dacron bag should take care of you down to nearly freezing temperatures, as will a two pound down bag. Many other filler materials require four or even five pounds of bulk to accomplish this. For added warmth, heavy blankets, such as the Army style, can be used either as a cover over the outside of the bag, or as a sheet on the inside.

Normally you can be warmer on the ground sleeping in a sleeping bag and on an air mattress. This is due to the fact that heat rises, leaving the underside of you less warm than the upper side. The dead air space of the air mattress works efficiently beneath you as no cold air can circulate between it and the ground.

Useful items you may want to consider include: cook kits with all pots, pans, dishes, cups, and silver packed in the largest of the pots; air pumps for inflating the mattresses; aluminum foil, which is handy for cooking directly in an open fire, relieving the cook of extra dishwashing; dehydrated foods which require only the addition of water to prepare anything from fried potatoes to a full meal, as well as the concentrated milks and juices that need no refrigeration; table-cloth holders to eliminate spotting your tableware around like chessmen to keep the cloth from blowing away.

200 minimum number of forest trees per acre the owner has a year to re-plant the area to bring it back up to the minimum trees per acre.

To place an area under the forest reservation law it is necessary to go to the county assessor and make application. Anyone interested in finding out more about this law may contact his local district forester of the Forestry Section of the Iowa State Conservation Commission. He has copies of the law and will be glad to explain it.



Jack Kirstein Photo.

If you wet your tent down before you leave home, you'll find that it will shed water better when you get on the campground. Wetting it down shrinks the threads.

WANT TO BUY A TENT?

Some careful thought before you buy will help you make the most of your money.

Jack Kirstein

In buying a tent, one adage is true, you know better than anyone else which tent style you will need, and this is true even though you may never have pitched one before. What you need is to point you in the right direction.

Perhaps the best economy in buying a tent is to spend a few dollars at the outset and buy a good book on camping. These are available from a number of publishers, and in varying degrees of thoroughness in their approach to camping. Get the best you can with the assurance that it will pay for itself in savings as you purchase your new equipment.

Get a Camping Book

A good camping book will explain the various kinds of tents and their construction, as well as the advantages and disadvantages of each. It will also cover other facets of camping and give you some idea of what to expect in the kind of camping you want to do.

After deciding what kind of camping you intend to do, the next step is not to buy a tent, but to borrow one of the kind which will best suit your needs. If it is possible to rent a tent with the option of applying the amount of the rental towards a purchase, do so. By using the tent before buying, you can determine its suitability.

Be sure of suggestions and advice from well meaning friends and neighbors, as well as the sales talk of the clerks. Sometimes even the "pros" of the camping game

are ill-informed. In any event, others can only advise you from their own background and desires, and this may be an entirely different kind of camping than what you would like for yourself. Let your book be your guide, muddle through by yourself, and you will make a wiser decision.

A good tent should last a lifetime with reasonable care, and should be selected from that viewpoint.

Tent Types

In brief, tents come in several classes. Some are designed for the person who camps alone on the backwoods trails. These are called trail tents. They generally will sleep one comfortably or two with a little crowding. In this class are the pup tents, arctic tents, small pop-up tents, etc. They generally are very light in weight and made of good fabric.

Another class is the next step up in size. They will sleep three in good fashion or four with crowding. In this class is the floorless Baker tent, the small umbrella tents, the wall tents, and small cabin tents. This is also the class in which many beginning campers will make their purchase.

The umbrella tent is the tent most commonly seen in campgrounds, for two reasons. One, it is easily made of a small amount of material so therefore usually has the most amount of floor space for the least amount of money. But, beware of buying a tent on account of floor space alone. Most umbrella tents afford no more than a few square feet of standing head-

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TENTS—

(Continued from page 39)

room, due to the extreme inward slope of the sides. This can cause no end of grief if you are rained into your tent for two or three days and are wishing for a chance to pull on your clothes without everyone else having to sit on the floor or lie down while you do it.

Two, umbrella tents do have one of the most easily erected frames. Its frame gives it the name, as it is a center pole with four umbrella arms supporting the eaves of the tent. It goes up exactly as you would put up an umbrella.

The purchaser may choose a so-called poleless frame which is in reality four poles instead of one. These poles are put into the corners of the tent rather than the middle and give you the dubious pleasure of leaving the center free of poles. In actual practice, it takes nearly four times as long to erect the corner pole frame as it does the center pole frame. And, you are only removing an obstruction of about the size of a fifty-cent piece from the center of the tent.

Years ago, wall tents were the only styles available other than trail tents. They resemble a small house with a gable roof. They have no floors, and for that reason, no bug-proofing.

Be Careful on Coverings

Tent coverings, the outer shell that separates you from the elements, are made in many weights as well as a wide range of materials. From the common and inexpensive lightweight sheeting material with waterproofing applied to the outer surface, coverings move up through canvas of various weights and weaves also waterproofed, through nylons, silks, plastic, sailcloth, balloon cloth, parachute material, and in fact almost any yardgoods you can imagine. Many of the clerks selling tents do not understand well enough the various materials, and for this reason alone it is wise to have the help of a good

camping book to learn for yourself what each kind of covering will or will not do. Some coverings are inherently waterproof, while others require an outer coating of some kind to shed water. The most common coating, and the type used on cheaper tents is merely a paraffin base impregnated with either a tan or green clay. While it is usually suitable for a time, it will rub off on contact resulting in surprisingly green hands and knees on the children or on clothing.

Better is the waterproofing that dyes its way into the material and is called a dry-finished waterproofing. It does not rub off, and lasts a great deal longer.

Another and still better waterproofing is afforded by the tent cloth that is so tightly woven that when rain drops touch it the threads will swell and close the spaces between them, keeping out water. Generally, these are best also because of their tendency to permit air to pass through on dry days.

Regardless of the kind of tent material you finally purchase, a good practice is to take any new tent to your backyard and put it up. This will acquaint you with the procedure and any difficulties can be ironed out before you venture far from home. The next thing to do, while it is up in the yard, is to spray it thoroughly with water—on the outside, of course. This will wet the threads with which it is sewn and cause them to shrink, pulling the needle holes in the material together.

Lastly, consider the fact that it is poor practice to cook in your tent. For this reason, you should have some provision for outdoor cooking even in the rain. It may be that the canopy on your tent is large enough for this, or you may want to buy a dining fly. This is the choice of many seasoned campers, as it affords space for not only cooking, but also gives room to shelter the big picnic tables and is a gathering place among the other tent campers.



George Tovey Photo

Of interest to all trailer campers are the new sewage dumps to be placed in several of our state parks. Such improvements have been made possible by a special appropriation.

DEDICATIONS—

(Continued from page 38)

contain a portion of the original structures, making it of prime significance in history.

The curator of the State Historical Building, Jack Musgrove, was asked to oversee setting up the museum because of the specialized work needed to provide an attractive display and story of the fort.

At the museum, housed in the old barracks building, visitors will find artifacts, including guns, small tools, copies of photographs, letters, orders, prints of Indians and many other items pertinent to the history of Fort Atkinson.

Wildlife Research and Exhibit Station

The Wildlife Research and Exhibit Station, commonly called the "game farm," presents a brand new face to visitors familiar with the place. Following the formal dedication on May 6, the station with new buildings, pens and pools constructed to instruct people in the habits of birds and mammals native to Iowa will be ready to go.

The "game farm" was begun 24 years ago strictly on a research level and a place to hold animals for the State Fair and Traveling Exhibit. In early 1959, the Conservation Commission instituted a program for the development of the present Wildlife Research Station including an exhibit area paid by license fees.

Completely reconstructed in the one year it was closed to the pub-

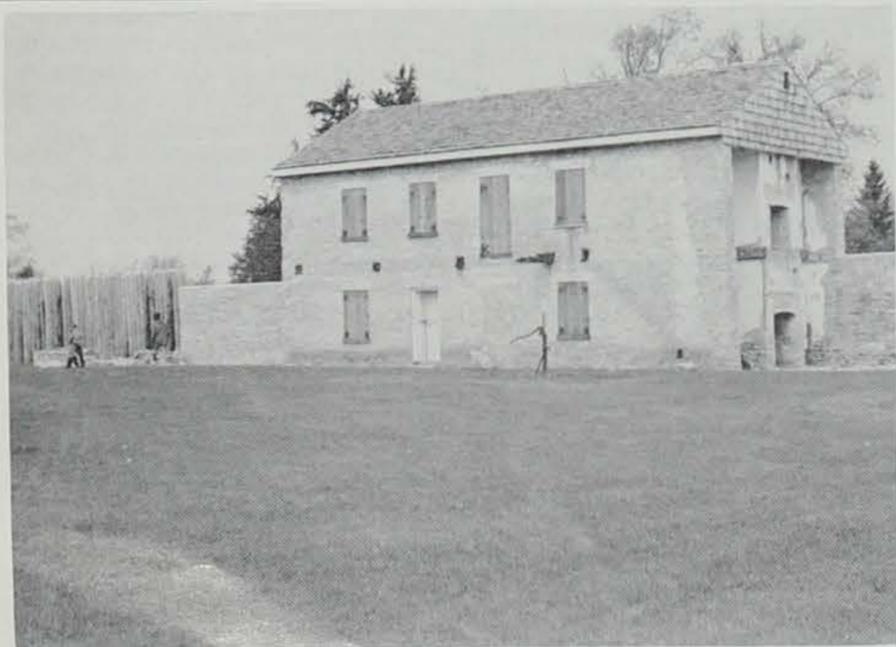
lic, this popular area was first opened for a trial run by the Conservation Commission for a month beginning October 8, 1961. Following the May 6 dedication the area will be open until November from 10 a.m. until sunset.

At the Exhibit Station, visitors are welcome to browse around, ask questions and learn about Iowa wild animals, their habits, where they live, and what they eat. Competent guides will be on hand to answer any questions. If visitors would like to bring a group of friends, school children or another group, tours can be arranged with guides.

Visitors will find many species of ducks, geese and shore birds in the waterfowl pool. They can view squirrels, raccoons, otters, fish-tailed beavers, eagles, hawks and owls.

At the Research Station, south of the exhibit area, three biologists conduct studies on deer, pheasants and small animals. Through their research work, they study food habits, travel habits, population trends and other phases necessary for better management of Iowa's wildlife resources. From these studies, recommendations as to seasons, limits and management practices are made to the Commission.

There is a rearing program for pheasants and quail at the Research Station. Approximately 4,000 pheasants and 12,000 quail are reared for release each year.



Ft. Atkinson

Jack Kirstein Photo.