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O.E.D.P. REPORT

for

HOWARD COUNTY, IOWA

HOWARD COUNTY
OVERALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM REPORT

A Guide to Local Decision-Making
For
Growth and Development

Prepared by:
Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission
July 1973

Urban Planning Grant No. I-24-165
The preparation of this report was financially aided through a Federal grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, under the Urban Planning Assistance Program authorized by Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954 as amended.

Mr. Allen Pett
Economic Development Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
Suite 505, Title Building
909 - 17th Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Dear Mr. Pett:

We submit herewith six copies of the Howard County Overall Economic Development Program. The O.E.D.P. Committee represents all interested groups in the Title I area, and is charged with the implementation and/or coordination of the O.E.D.P. prepared for the County. Request is hereby made for approval of the attached O.E.D.P. and formal designation as a Title I Area under the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965.

This action is supported by interested groups in the area, all of which have had an opportunity to review the O.E.D.P. and to file their views and comments; a complete list has been made a formal part of this report.

Attested this 17 day
of July, 1973

By George J. Woods
Chairman
Howard County Board of Supervisors
Cresco, Iowa

Attested this 17 day
of July, 1973

By R. Fitzgerald
Chairman
Howard County O.E.D.P. Committee
Cresco, Iowa

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ORGANIZATION

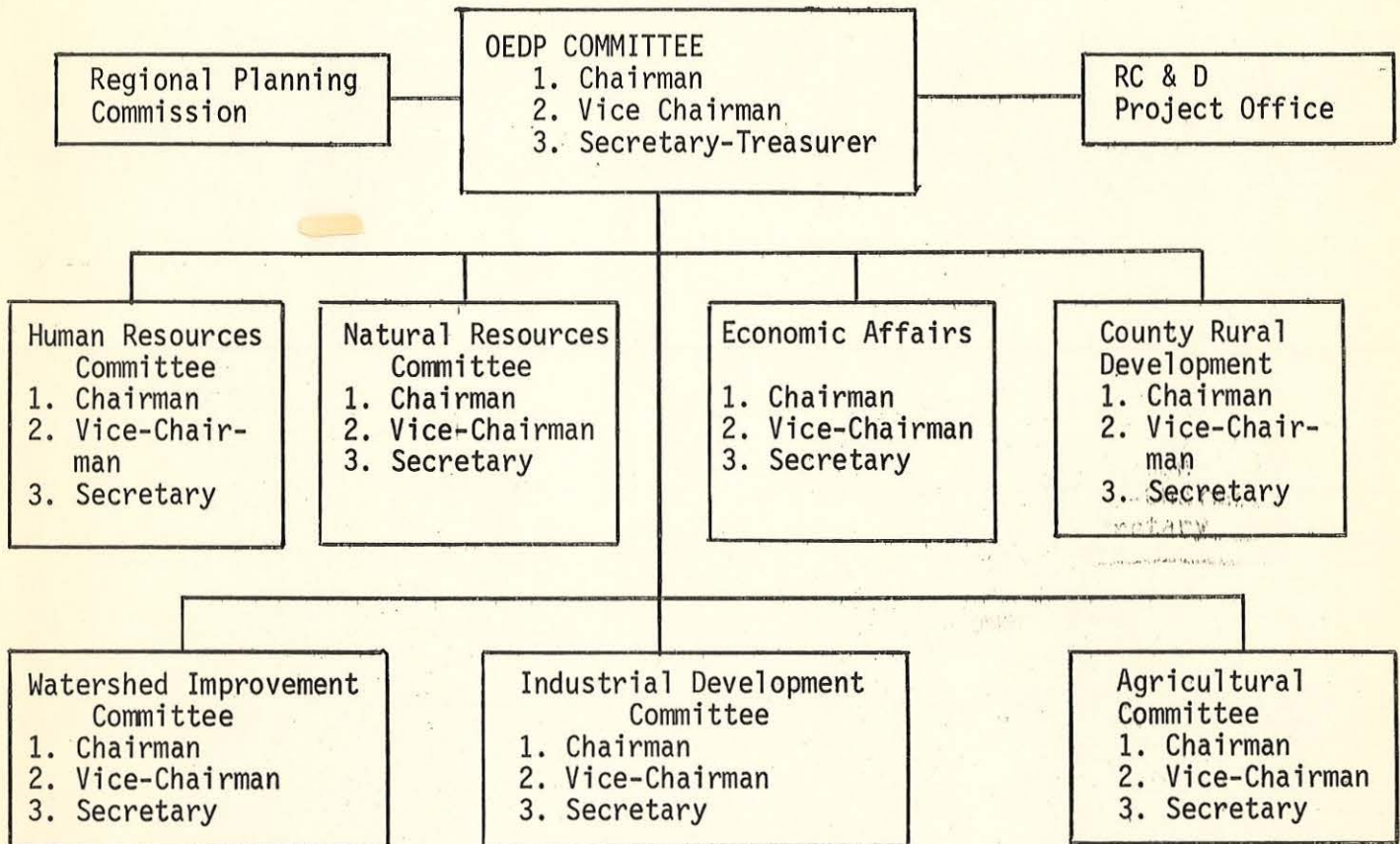
OEDP COMMITTEE

The Howard County OEDP Committee was created in response to an overall need in developing and implementing a program for sustained economic development. Earlier efforts were made by the residents of Howard County to seek federal assistance under the Accelerated Services Training Program, which did not materialize.

The committee is comprised of 58 persons chosen on the basis of residence, occupation, community leadership, public offices held and ability to represent a recognized interest group in the community.

The OEDP Committee was divided into five subcommittees: Natural Resources, County Rural Development, Community Development, Watershed Improvement, and Agriculture. Special committee meetings were held and each committee was responsible for presenting the goals, objectives, developmental problems, and a realistic implementation or action program. Once these committee meetings were held, the results and findings were reported to the OEDP Core Committee to coordinate all development efforts, and review committee reports before being incorporated into the plan.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

George Woods, Chairman
225 - 5th Ave. W
Cresco, Iowa

Ralph Fox
R.R.
Riceville, Iowa

Galen Peter
R.R. 4
Cresco, Iowa

Ralph Fitzgerald
207 E. 3rd
Cresco, Iowa

Kenneth Shimek
R.R. 2
Cresco, Iowa

Craig Anderson
113 S. Elm
Cresco, Iowa

EDA CORE COMMITTEE

Ralph Fitzgerald, Chairman RC&D
207 E. 3rd
Cresco, Iowa

George Hansen, Cresco City Council
803 N. Elm
Cresco, Iowa

Darwin Kock, County Conservation Board
Riceville, Iowa

John McAllister, County Zoning Commission
R.R. 1
Cresco, Iowa

Mrs. Norma Thompson, County Community Action
903 N. Elm
Cresco, Iowa

George Woods, Chairman, Board of Supervisors
225 - 5th Ave. W
Cresco, Iowa

Steve Larson, Student
Cresco, Iowa

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Civic Group
Chamber of Commerce
Elected Official
Banker

Businessman

Realtor
Industrialists
Transportation
Housing Authority
Contractor
Newspaper
Insurance Agent
Farmer
Lawyer
Economists
Transportation
Unemployed
Youth

George Hansen
Craig Anderson
Helen Bateman
Reed Elwood
Jack Thompson
Lloyd Peters
Ralph Fitzgerald
Henry Webber
Kenneth Copp
Arlyn Weers
Delbert Lindstrom
John Wilken
Carl Cassidy
Tom Long
Ralph Marr
Kevin McGuire
Garold Weasmer
Erwin Marshall
Don Mohs
Senior Class President
Cresco Catholic High

HUMAN RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE

Health Personnel
Insurance
Social Welfare
Legal
Librarian
Poor and Unemployed
Personnel Officers
Retirement
Doctor

Mrs. Murray
Paul Kolbet
Mrs. Miles
Henry Elwood
Mrs. Nichols
Mrs. Ahern
Mrs. Thompson
Willard Thomas
Peter Kepros, MD

TURKEY RIVER WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Executive Committee:

Robert Davies, Chairman
R.R. 1
Cresco, Iowa

John Thompson, Secretary-Treasurer
520 E. 8th
Cresco, Iowa

Gerald Wilson
R.R. 3
Cresco, Iowa

Chester Perry
R.R. 3
Lime Springs, Iowa

William Voyna
R.R. 2
Cresco, Iowa

William Fenske
R.R. 2
Cresco, Iowa

Leonard Culbert
515 - 7th Ave.
Cresco, Iowa

Kenneth Shea
R.R. 2
Lime Springs, Iowa

Committee Members:

Craig Morrison
703 E. 2nd
Cresco, Iowa

John Daley
R.R. 3
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Bruce Turvold
732 E. 2nd
Cresco, Iowa

Gerald Sovereign
R.R. 2
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Ellis Fravel
R.R. 2
Cresco, Iowa

Urban Dietzenbach
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Ray Farnsworth
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Arnold Baker
723 E. 3rd
Cresco, Iowa

Frank Elwood
R.R. 1
Cresco, Iowa

Dale Turnmire
115 - 5th Ave.
Cresco, Iowa

COUNTY RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Bob Cole, Chairman
131 - 12th Ave. W
Cresco, Iowa

Thaine Hogue
520 - 4th Ave. E
Cresco, Iowa

Willard Peterson
R.R. 3
Cresco, Iowa

Donald Bell
District FHA Representative
New Hampton, Iowa

C. E. Christensen
624 E. 2nd
Cresco, Iowa

CRESCO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Jerry Weasmer, President
936 Crescent Drive
Cresco, Iowa 52136

John Burgess, Vice President
902 E. 2nd
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Arnold Baker, Secretary
723 E 3rd
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Jack Thomson, Treasurer
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Craig Anderson, Executive Secretary
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Ralph Fitzgerald
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Don Gooder
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Russ Carwell
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Cresco, Iowa 52136

Arnold Kratz
206 - 8th Ave. E
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Dwain Tubbs
103 - 10th Ave. W
Cresco, Iowa 52136

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

John O'Byne, Chairman
912 N. Elm
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Art Svestka, Co-Chairman
223 W. 5th
Cresco, Iowa 52136

George Johnson
1000 Division
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Kenny Hurst
R.R. 2
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Jim Hale
502 - 8th Ave.
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Don Ketchum
326 - 6th Ave. W
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Thaine Hogue
520 - 4th Ave. E
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Tom Murry
309 W 7th
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Orlo Haight
735 N. Elm
Cresco, Iowa

Earl Kluender
506 E 8th
Cresco, Iowa 52136

Rex Carlson
826 Prospect
Cresco, Iowa 52136

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The cooperation and assistance of the following persons and organizations during the preparation of this plan is gratefully acknowledged:

- Resource Conservation and Development Project Office
- Office For Planning and Programming
- Iowa Employment Security Commission
- Howard County Comprehensive Development Plan 1969
- Evelyn C. Baldner, City Clerk, Cresco
- The various OEDP working committees

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS, NOVEMBER (December 4, 1972)

SESSION, 1972

Cresco, Iowa
December 4, 1972

THIRD DAY

The Board of Supervisors of Howard County, Iowa, met in regular adjourned session as required by law at the office of the County Auditor, Cresco, Iowa, on December 4, 1972.

The meeting was called to order and on roll call the following Supervisors were present: George D. Woods, Chairman-in-the-Chair, Ralph Marr, and Peter M. Kemmer.

Absent: None

The minutes of the last meeting were read and on motion, duly seconded, they were approved as read.

On motion, duly seconded, the O. E. D. P. Committee is as follows:

HOWARD COUNTY OVERALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE

1. George Hansen - represents Cresco Council and City Zoning Commission.
2. Darwin Kock - Executive Officer Howard County Conservation Board and he represents the small towns in the County.
3. John McAllister - Chairman of the Howard County Zoning Commission and he represents the farmers and industries of the County.
4. Ralph Fitzgerald - Chairman of Upper Explorerland RC&D and he represents the Howard County businesses.
5. Mrs. Norma Thompson - represents the Howard County Community Action.
6. George D. Woods - Chairman of the Howard County Board of Supervisors and Chairman of Howard County RC&D.
7. Steve Larson - President of the High School Senior Class represents the young generation of the County.

On motion, duly seconded, the Board adjourned to December 11, 1972.

ATTEST:


County Auditor

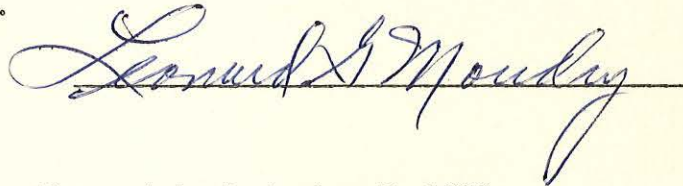

Chairman

CERTIFICATION

I, Leonard G. Moudry, duly appointed and Auditor of Howard County, Iowa,
do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution
passed and approved by the Howard County Board of Supervisors, State of Iowa,
on the 28th day of August, 1972.

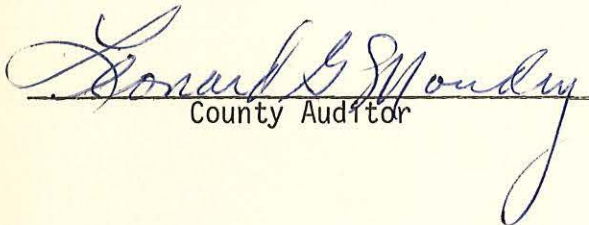
Dated this 28th day of August, 1972.

County Auditor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Leonard G. Moudry", written over a horizontal line.

On motion, duly seconded, the Board adjourned to September 5, 1972.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Leonard G. Moudry", written over a horizontal line.
County AuditorA handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "George D. Wood", written over a horizontal line.
Chairman

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS, JUNE (August 28, 1972)

SESSION, 1972

Cresco, Iowa
August 28, 1972

NINTH DAY

The Board of Supervisors of Howard County, Iowa, met in regular adjourned session as required by law at the office of the County Auditor, Cresco, Iowa, on August 28, 1972.

The meeting was called to order and on roll call the following Supervisors were present: George D. Woods, Chairman-in-the-Chair, Ralph Marr and Peter M. Kemmer.

Absent: None

The minutes of the last meeting were read and on motion, duly seconded, they were approved as read.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAMS OF THE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

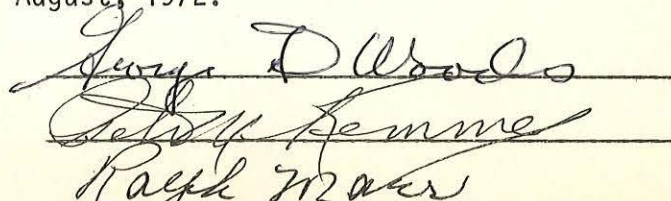
WHEREAS: The Economic Development Administration was assigned to administer the provisions of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965; and

WHEREAS: The Economic Development Administration has established the criteria by which counties may be eligible for assistance under the provisions of said act; and

WHEREAS: Howard County has met that criteria and has been officially designated an EDA County;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Howard County Board of Supervisors that Howard County desires to participate in the programs of the Economic Development Administration.

Passes and approved this 28th day of August, 1972.


Howard County Board of Supervisors

REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Howard County is located in extreme northeast Iowa, approximately equidistant from the urban areas of Austin and Rochester in Minnesota and Waterloo and Mason City in Iowa.

Howard County is physically closer to the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area (approximately 110 miles distant) than to the Des Moines metropolitan area (approximately 150 miles), but the effects of the political and governmental structures of Iowa tie the county much more closely to Iowa and to the Des Moines metropolitan area than to the nearer Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan center.

Mileage From Howard County

Chicago	250	Minneapolis	138
Des Moines	178	Omaha	235
Kansas City	350	Sioux City	278
Milwaukee	285	St. Louis	325

The County is rectangular in shape with the longer side extending 24 miles east and west and the shorter side approximately 20 miles north and south. It is divided into 12 civil townships of irregular size. The total area of the county is 468 square miles or 299,520 acres.

Physiographically, Howard County consists of a moderately hilly area covering a little more than 20 square miles in the northeastern part of the county and a gently underlating plain covering the remainder of the county. This plain covered the whole county having even extended eastward from its boundary at one time and this hilly area was formed merely due to the dissection of a fringe of the plain. The plain is an old one and essentially its present form was in existence prior to glacial times. Its elevation was not necessarily the same then as now. During glacial times its surface form was modified in detail by the disposition of rock debris

by the ice. Its existing details of relief were caused by the unequal accumulation, from place to place, of this material, a thick accumulation producing a low hill and a thin one a depression. A very slight modification of this relief has been effected by the existing streams.

The following rivers flow through Howard County:

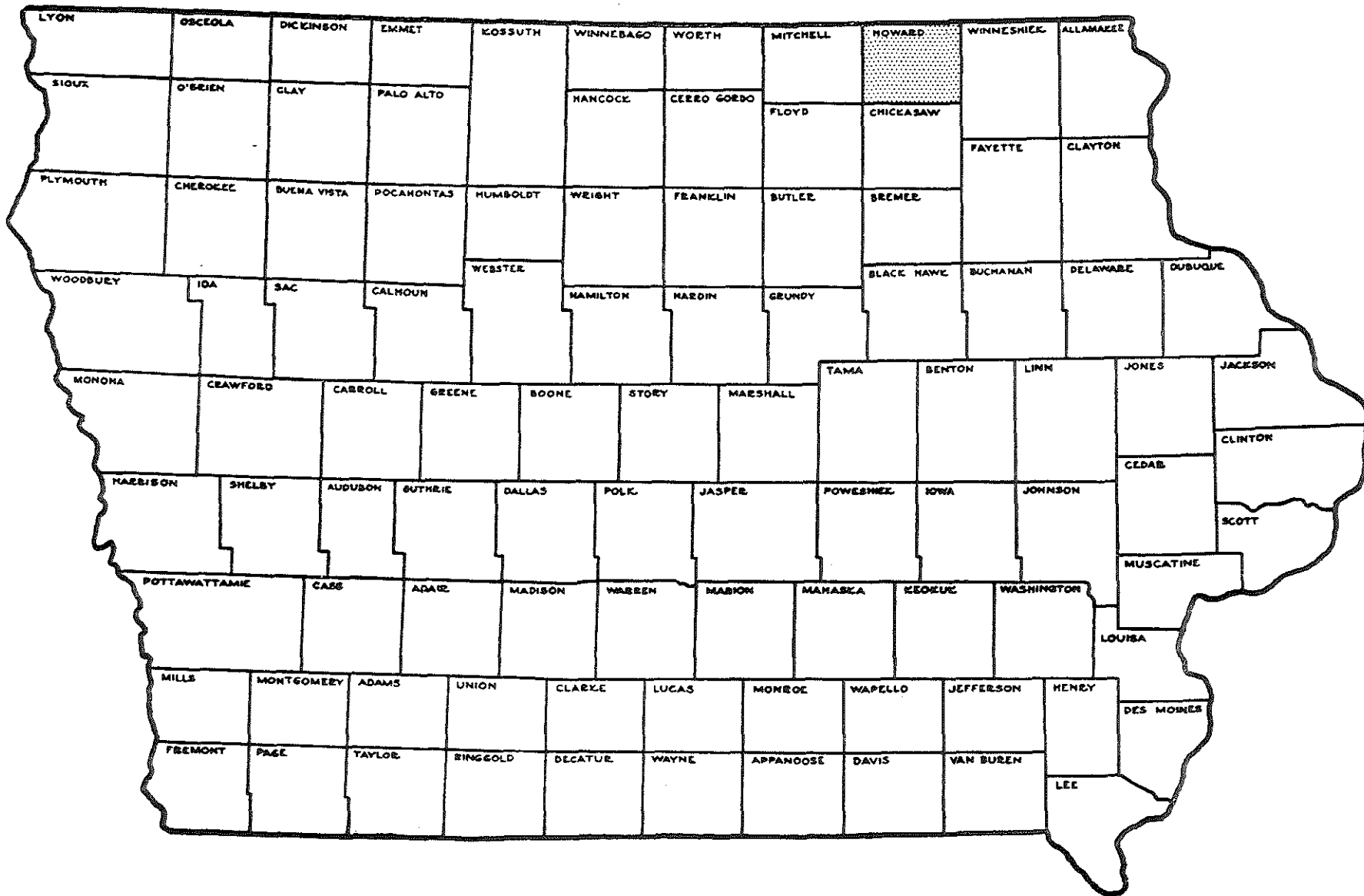
1. The Upper Iowa River
2. The Turkey River
3. The Little Turkey River
4. The Wapsipinicon River
5. The Little Wapsipinicon River

Drainage along these streams is to the east and south.

The average elevation of the county is between 1,229 feet and 1,298 feet above sea level. Elevations at various points within the county, which show the general slope, are as follows: Cresco 1,298 feet above sea level; Lime Springs 1,245 feet; Riceville 1,229 feet; and Elma 1,188 feet. Upper Iowa and Turkey Rivers flow due east out of the county and the other streams flow in a southeasterly direction.

The City of Cresco, the county seat town, is the largest community in Howard County. It has 34% of the present population. It is located in the east central part of the county at the intersection of State Highways 9 and 139. State Highway No. 9 runs east and west through the center of the county and goes through the town of Riceville which is in both Mitchell and Howard County. U.S. Highway 63 runs north and south through the center of the county starting in Chickasaw County in the south and running through Chester on the north before going into the State of Minnesota. Lime Springs is connected to U.S. 63 by Iowa Highway 157 and Elma is connected to U.S. 63 by Iowa Highway 272. Protivin in the southeast corner of the county has Iowa Highway 139 going through the town.

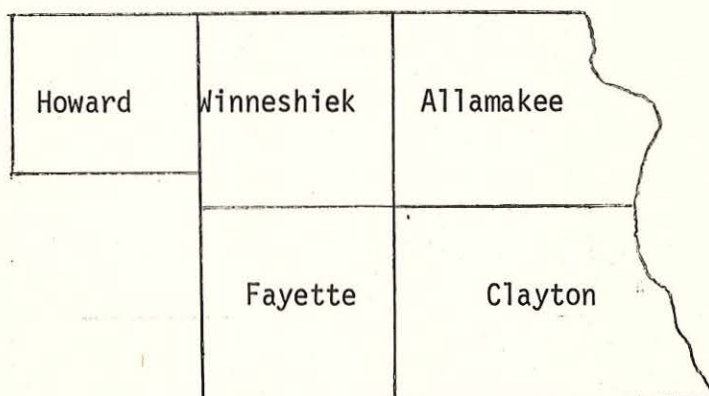
The county has an extensive county road net with most highways and roads following land lines, except where the relief necessitates following the contour line in order to avoid dangerous and expensive cuts and fills.



LOCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

REGION I

Region I is composed of five "independent" rural counties. The City of Postville, located in the far southwest corner of Allamakee County, was chosen as the location for the Regional Planning Office. Postville was chosen because of its central location, accessibility from the remainder of the Region, and the RC&D Project Office is also located in Postville.



<u>Region I</u>	<u>1970 Population</u>	<u>Real, Personal, Utilities--Net Taxable Valuations</u>	<u>(in 1,000's) Retail Sales</u>	<u>Severity of Poverty¹</u>
Allamakee	14,968	\$33,294,594	\$32,942	16
Clayton	20,606	\$48,357,604	\$37,568	12
Fayette	26,898	\$70,399,856	\$53,755	49
Howard	11,442	\$29,535,419	\$22,082	9
Winneshiek	<u>21,758</u>	<u>\$46,616,195</u>	<u>\$37,958</u>	33
TOTAL	95,672	\$228,203,668	\$184,305	

¹ With 1 being the worst and 99 the best.

CLIMATE

The Howard County climate is marked by seasonal variations in temperature and precipitation. The average yearly temperature is 47° with the monthly average varying from 8° in January to 85° in July. Temperature extremes have varied from a low of -38° in January to a high of 110° in July. The growing season averages about 169 days a year.

Precipitation averages about 32.2 inches with much seasonal variation. Most of the annual rainfall is received during the growing season from April through September. The average annual snowfall is 38 inches.

The above information was obtained from the U.S. Weather Bureau. The averages are based on data recorded for the last 29 years at the City of Cresco.

SOILS

The soils of Howard County are grouped into four classes on the basis of their origin and location: drift, loess, terrace, swamp and bottom land soils.

Drift soils were formed from the material deposited by glaciers. They are variable in composition containing clay, sand and gravel and boulders.

Loess soils are fine wind blown soils deposited by the wind during the time that the glaciers were retreating in northern Iowa.

The terrace soils are old bottom lands that have been covered with soils eroded from the hillsides of the stream valleys.

The swamp and bottom land soils occur in low poorly drained areas or along streams where they are subject to occasional overflow.

The drift soils are the major soil group in Howard County accounting for 82.7% of the total area of the County. Loess soils cover 3.3% of Howard County, while terrace soils cover 6.5% and swamp and bottom land soils cover 7.5% of the County area.

The natural drainage system of the County is generally good and most of the soils are well-drained. Artificial drainage is desirable on some of the soil types. In the drift soils the Clyde Silt Loam and the Floyd Silt Loam generally need artificial drainage. In the terrace soils the Bremer Silt loam requires tiling and in the bottom lands the Wabash loans and the Wabash Silt loams require artificial drainage. The Wabash soils generally are subject to overflow from the nearby streams.

POPULATION

Between 1950 and 1960, the population of Howard County decreased by 2.8 percent, and from 1960 to 1970, a decrease of 10.3%. This decrease in population growth is the result of farm consolidation and more labor saving farming methods through mechanization. With this loss in farm population, an accompanying loss has occurred in most of the smaller communities.

Area Change in Farm Population for Howard County

<u>County</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>Change</u>		<u>1960</u>	<u>Change</u>	
			<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>		<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Howard	7,730	7,258	-472	-6.1%	6,697	-561	-7.7%
	<u>1970</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>			
	5,022	1,675	-25.0%				

Source: U.S. Census of Population 1970.

The county seat, Cresco, is a major point of contact for local agencies and outside organization. It is generally accepted that such county seat towns throughout northern Iowa will grow slowly, but most importantly they will continue to grow. Such has been the case of Cresco, one of the towns in Howard County which has shown an increase in population in the 1950-1960-1970 year period. With the expansion of service industries and manufacturing, growth trends in the larger towns will balance the off-farm migration to stabilize, and hopefully, increase the county population.

Area Births, Deaths and Natural Increases for Howard County, 1955-1968

<u>Year</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Natural Increase</u>
1955	256	126	+130
1956	237	136	+101
1957	253	160	+ 93
1958	247	174	+ 73
1959	229	169	+ 60
1960	242	174	+ 68
1961	247	147	+100
1962	251	163	+ 88
1963	231	141	+ 90
1964	236	170	+ 66
1965	239	198	+ 41
1966	183	176	+ 07
1967	154	173	- 19
1968	176	157	+ 19
1969	152	147	+ 5
1970	166	156	+ 10
1971	157	167	- 10
1972	142	152	- 10

Average Increase (65.5/year)

Rural - Urban Relationship

An urban area must, according to census definition, have a population of 2,500 or more inhabitants. On this basis, the City of Cresco is the only urban community, with a population of 3,927. Howard County is basically classed as rural with 66% of the population living on farms or in towns and villages of less than 2,500 population. Table 4 indicates that the population in the towns are increasing but that the loss in the rural areas is almost twice as much as this gain.

Table 4. Area Rural and Town Population Trends.

	<u>1940</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>% Change 1940-1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>% Change 1950-1960</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>% Change 1960-1970</u>
Towns (incorp.)	5,779	5,854	+1.30	6,037	+3.13	6,420	+6.3
Rural	7,752	7,251	-6.46	6,697	-7.64	5,022	-25.0
Total Pop.	13,531	13,105	-3.15	12,734	-2.83	11,442	-10.3

Source: U.S. Census of Population

Age Distribution

The age-sex distribution and composition of Howard County is graphically illustrated by the population pyramid in Figure 2, and specifically by distribution and change in age group classes for 1950-1960 in Table 4A.

Table 4A. Distribution and Change By Age Group Classes, 1950-1960-1970 - Howard County

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>Percent Change 1950-1960</u>	<u>Percent Change 1960-1970</u>
0-9	2,635	2,674	2,028	+ 1.5	+24.1
10-19	2,085	2,248	2,281	+ 7.8	+ 1.4
20-29	1,552	1,050	879	-32.3	-16.3
30-39	1,696	1,411	1,004	-16.8	-28.8
40-49	1,569	1,581	1,269	+ 0.8	-19.7
50-59	1,412	1,378	1,449	- 2.4	+ 4.9
60-69	1,144	1,221	1,226	+ 6.7	+ 0.4
70-85	920	1,034	1,159	+12.4	+10.8
85+	92	137	147	+48.9	+ 6.8
Total	13,105	12,734	11,442	- 2.8	-10.3

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 1970.

Distribution of Population by Township

<u>Township</u>	<u>Population</u>				<u>Percent Under 18</u>	<u>Percent Over 65</u>	<u>Households</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Age - Median</u>			<u>Number</u>	<u>Persons Per Household</u>
Afton	940	475	465	35.5	36.0	15.9	306	3.05
Albion	335	159	176	35.9	34.6	13.4	103	3.25
Chester	423	212	211	38.8	31.7	14.7	134	3.16
Forest City	795	387	408	39.6	31.9	18.1	273	2.91
Howard Center	411	222	189	27.3	43.1	6.3	105	3.91
Howard	872	449	423	26.7	41.9	12.0	236	3.69
Jamestown	784	400	384	36.8	34.6	15.9	258	3.04
New Oregon	1,063	529	534	33.7	37.9	15.0	319	3.33
Oak Dale	294	161	133	20.0	48.0	5.1	74	3.97
Paris	615	322	293	29.1	41.1	10.6	169	3.64
Saratoga	367	180	187	33.8	36.8	12.5	110	3.34
Vernon Springs	4,543	2,110	2,433	38.9	32.3	20.4	1,540	2.84

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 1970.

The above table illustrates the population distribution with respect to geographical location or township political subdivision.

The population composition in Howard County clearly shows that the area has an economic base which is agriculturally oriented. The only large mass of people is located in or near Cresco with the rest of the population distributed throughout the county on farms or in small cities or towns.

The age composition of Howard County shows two significant trends since 1950.

(1) The 55 year and older group, comprises 28.2% of the county's population, an increase from 21.6 in 1950. This is a trend that is expected to continue.

(2) The 20-44 year age group has shown a marked decrease which together with Number 1 above shows that younger people in their peak productive years are leaving the county for better economic opportunities.

These two trends call attention to the urgent need for increased job opportunities for the young and further re-enforces the need to stem out-migration.

The State of Iowa has more elderly persons for its population size than any other state except Florida.

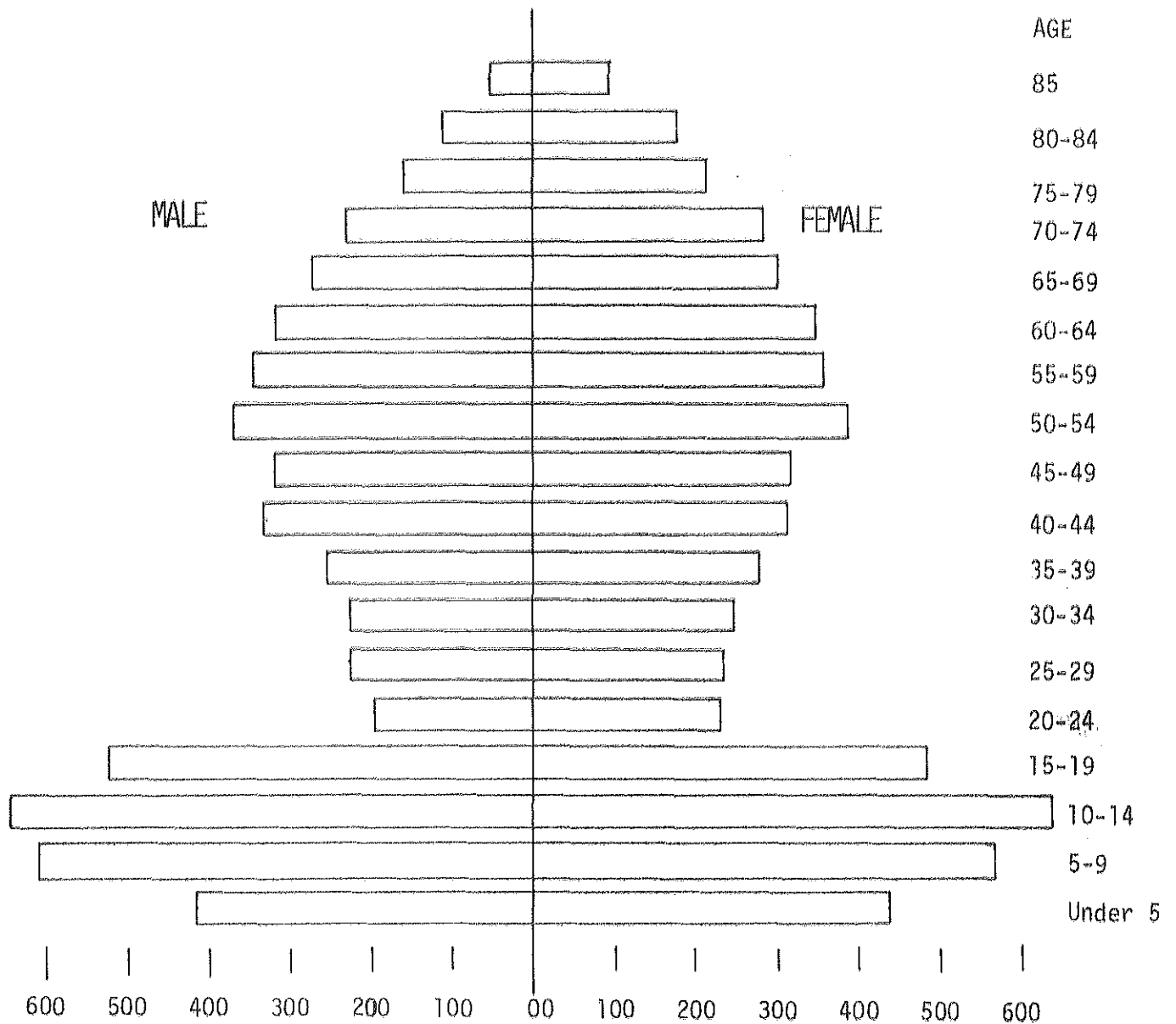
The impact of substantial out-migration can be most readily detected in the changes in age distribution from an average age in 1960 of 32.7 to the present average age in 1970 of 35.6, which is opposite the state trends. In a rank ordering of counties based on the index of aging (those over 65 and under 18), Howard County was 36th out of 99 counties with the score of 56.5. The mean for the state was 43.4

Median Age of Population

<u>Year</u>	<u>Howard County</u>	<u>State of Iowa</u>
1950	31.6	31.0
1960	35.0	30.3
1970	37.8	28.8

POPULATION COMPOSITION
OF AGE GROUP & SEX FOR
HOWARD COUNTY, IOWA

1970



The population graph or pyramid indicates a large number of people in the younger age group less than twenty (20) years old. It also shows a lack of individuals in the 20-49 age category. This would indicate that the county must be losing these people because of education or professional goals or due to the lack of jobs available.

This population age structure also indicates that there will be a continued demand for jobs by young people entering the labor markets. If jobs and opportunities are not available, out-migration of those potentially productive individuals will continue to drain the county of the 20 to 49 year age category.

Size of Family

There are 2,409 married couples in Howard County, 1,236 of which have 3,083 children under 18 years of age, Table 6.

Table 6. Size of Families.

Married Couples:	2,409
With own household	2,896
With own children under 6	430
With own children under 18	1,158
With husband under 45	805
Families:	2,600
With own children under 6	430
With own children under 18	1,236
Persons under 18 years old	
Living with both parents	2,863
Percent of total	92.9%

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 1960.

The average family size in Howard County, of those with children is 3.47 individuals. In total, considering those without children, the average family size is 3.1 individuals.

Generally, the population distribution within each township is fairly uniform. However, in many cases there are but one or two farmsteads within a section. In some cases, there are no farmsteads at all within a given section. This is due to the rugged terrain and lack of roads within these sections. The concentration of active farmsteads are located along the major highways and farm-to-market county roads.

Population density and distribution in Howard County can be summed up by the fact that 40% of the population live in the rural areas and are scattered more or less evenly throughout the county.

Population Trends & Change by Community, 1940-1970

<u>Community</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>Percent Change 1940-1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>Percent Change 1950-1960</u>
Howard	13,531	13,105	- 3.1	12,734	- 2.8
Chester	234	226	- 3.4	211	- 6.6
Cresco	3,530	3,638	+ 3.1	3,809	+ 4.7
Elma	790	729	- 7.7	706	- 3.2
Lime Springs	567	552	- 2.6	581	+ 5.3
Protivin	290	282	- 2.8	302	+ 7.1
* Riceville	910	962	+ 5.7	898	- 6.7
**Total	5,779	5,854	+ 0.8	6,037	+ 3.2
Percent of County	42.7	44.7	+ 2.0	47.4	+ 2.7
	<u>1970</u>		<u>Percent Change 1960-1970</u>		
Howard	11,442		-10.3		
Chester	185		-12.3		
Cresco	3,927		+ 3.1		
Elma	601		-14.9		
Lime Springs	497		-14.5		
Protivin	333		+10.3		
* Riceville	877		- 2.3		
**Total	6,402		6.0		
Percent of County	60.0		+12.6		

* Total population of town including both Howard and Mitchell County

**Howard County only

The remaining 60% of the population lives in the incorporated towns and cities.

Employment Status of Howard County:

Male, 16 years old and over	3,771
Labor force	2,843
Percent of total	75.4
Civilian labor force	2,843
Employed	2,736
Unemployed	107
Percent of civilian labor force	3.8
Not in labor force	928
Inmate of institution	58
Enrolled in school	157
Other: Under 65 years	240
65 years and over	473
Female, 16 years old and over	4,103
Labor force	1,314
Percent of total	32.0
Civilian labor force	1,314
Employed	1,226
Unemployed	88
Percent of civilians labor force	6.7
Not in labor force	2,789
Inmate of institution	73
Enrolled in school	207
Other: Under 65 years	1,594
65 years and over	915
Male, 16 to 21 years old	439
Not enrolled in school	160
Not high school graduate	22
Unemployed or not in labor force	4

Median Earnings in 1969 of Persons in Experienced Civilian Labor Force
For Selected Occupation Groups in Howard County:

Male, 16 years old and over with earnings	\$5,992
Professional, managerial, and kindred workers	8,533
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	6,915
Operatives, including transport	6,091
Laborers, except farm	3,654
Farmers and farm managers	5,256
Farm laborers, except unpaid, and farm foremen	2,100
Female, 16 years old and over with earnings	2,215
Clerical and kindred workers	2,724
Operatives, including transport	- - -

Prepared by Research & Statistics Dept. of
the Iowa Employment Security Commission in
Cooperation with the U. S. Department of
Labor.

CRESOO, IOWA WORK FORCE SUMMARY 1/

Monthly and Annual Work Force, Employment and Unemployment Data

January - December 1971

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual Average
1. Work force (civilian)	4330	4320	4400	4690	4800	5550	5470	4920	4630	4710	4520	4410	4730
2. Unemployment - total	330	330	300	270	180	320	300	160	140	110	170	250	240
A. Unemployment rate (as percent of civilian work force)	7.6	7.6	6.7	5.8	3.7	5.8	5.4	3.3	3.1	2.2	3.8	5.6	5.1
3. Employment - total <u>2/</u>	4000	4000	4110	4420	4620	5220	5180	4760	4480	4600	4350	4160	4490
A. Nonagricultural wage & salary workers (except domestics) <u>3/</u>	1790	1770	1790	1860	1890	1850	1880	1880	1890	1870	1850	1870	1850
Manufacturing	220	220	220	250	250	230	240	240	230	240	240	250	240
Nonmanufacturing	1570	1550	1580	1620	1640	1630	1640	1640	1660	1630	1610	1620	1610
Construction	70	60	60	80	80	80	90	80	90	80	80	80	80
Transportation, communication, and public utilities	110	110	110	110	110	120	110	110	110	110	100	110	110
Wholesale & retail trade	470	460	480	490	500	510	500	490	490	490	470	480	480
Wholesale trade	70	70	70	60	60	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
Retail trade	400	400	410	420	430	440	420	420	420	420	400	410	420
Finance, insurance and real estate . .	80	70	70	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80
Service	350	350	350	350	360	350	340	350	360	350	350	350	350
Government	500	490	500	510	510	490	530	530	530	520	520	520	510
B. All other nonagricultural employ- ment <u>4/</u>	710	710	720	730	760	750	760	760	730	740	740	740	740
C. Agriculture	1500	1510	1600	1830	1970	2630	2540	2110	1860	1990	1770	1550	1900
4. Persons involved in labor-management disputes <u>5/</u>	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)

1/ Cresco, Iowa is defined as Howard County. Data based on a December 1971 benchmark.

2/ Includes nonagricultural wage and salary workers, all other nonagricultural employment, agriculture, and persons involved in labor-management disputes. Detail may not add up to total due to rounding.

3/ Data includes all full and part-time wage and salary workers, excluding domestics, who were employed during the week containing the 12th of the month.

4/ Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.

5/ Data includes only persons involved in labor-management disputes for the entire week containing the 12th of each month.

1970 Income

	<u>Iowa</u>	<u>Howard County</u>
Median Income for Families & Unrelated Individuals	\$7,157	\$5,609
Median Income for Families	9,018	7,203
Per Capita Income	2,894	2,662
% Families in Poverty Classification	8.9%	16.5%
% Families Earning \$15,000 or more	16.2%	15.6%

Types of Family Income in Howard County in 1970

Total Number of Families in County	2,958
Families:	
Receiving wages	2,071
Self-employed (non-farm)	626
Self-employed (farm)	1,297
Receiving Social Security	829
Receiving Public Assistance	71
With Other Income	1,093

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 1970.

In a 1971 OEO study, "Profile of Poverty for Iowa," which took into account,

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| a. Income: | Percent of families under OEO guidelines |
| b. Population Change: | Percent of change in population between 1960 and 1970 (greatest loss is rank 1) |
| c. Welfare: | ADC cases per 1,000 population
OAA cases per 1,000 persons 65 and over;
Persons in households receiving food stamps per 1,000 population |
| d. Education: | Percent of persons 25 and over with less than 12 years of education |

- e. Housing: Percent of occupied housing units lacking some or all plumbing
- f. Health: Death rate -- all causes;
Infant death rate;
Illegitimate birth rate;
Population/patient-care physician ratio
- g. Aging: Index of Aging

Howard County ranked 9th overall in severity of poverty out of 99 counties
(ranking 1 as most severe and 99 as least severe):

Severity of Poverty - Rank Order*

<u>County</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Population Change</u>	<u>Welfare</u>	<u>Education</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Health</u>	<u>Aging</u>	<u>Overall Severity</u>
Howard	1	22	21	2	14	43	36	9

Howard County ranks #1 in the percent of families under OEO guidelines.

*with 1 being the worst and 99 the best.

Years of schooling completed:

Years of school completed by persons 25 years and over -- 1970

Male, 25 years old and over	3,214
No school years completed	25
Elementary: 1 to 4 years	61
5 to 7 years	373
8 years	1,109
High School: 1 to 3 years	319
4 years	1,041
College: 1 to 3 years	178
4 years or more	108
Median school years completed	9.4
Percent high school graduates	41.3
Female, 25 years old and over	3,495
No school years completed	10
Elementary: 1 to 4 years	65
5 to 7 years	250
8 years	866
High School: 1 to 3 years	406
4 years	1,417
College: 1 to 3 years	400
4 years or more	81
Median school years completed	12.1
Percent high school graduates	54.3

Years of school completed for selected age groups -- 1970

Male, 20 to 49 years old	1,521
No high school	405
High School, 1 to 3 years	141
High school, 4 years	754
College, 1 year or more	221
Female, 15 to 44 years old	1,766
No high school	185
High school, 1 to 3 years	438
High school, 4 years	912
College, 1 year or more	231

Source: This information was taken from the 1970 Census.

Need for New Jobs to Reduce Underemployment to an Acceptable Level

Total number of persons presently looking for a job or who want to change jobs*	Jobs 1,371
Five year projection of job creation needs Assuming population outmigration reduced and present labor force participation rates remain unchanged	478

Total Jobs Needed 1,849

New jobs made available directly and indirectly from increased trade primarily from business and industrial expansion	250
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Miscellaneous jobs made available from changing economic conditions	25
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Total Jobs Generated 275

Howard County needs 1,574 new jobs over the next five years to retain job opportunities at home for its youth, stem outmigration trends, and in general, grow with the rest of the nation's economy.

*Source: 1968 Manpower Study.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE HOWARD COUNTY MANPOWER STUDY

COMMUNITY RESPONSE	Howard County residents age 16 and over returned 3,718 questionnaires during the manpower study period of July 5 through August 18, 1967.
AVAILABLE WORKERS	These replies showed 1,644 residents--864 men and 780 women--available for employment. Additional screening removed persons who were considered set in their jobs such as teachers, nurses, farmers with over 300 acres and students who were in the tenth grade or who were not entering the labor market at this time. The reduced figure of 1,371 left 683 men and 688 women available for employment in a new or expanding industry. Of the workers available for employment, 1,022 are under 50 years of age.
WORK EXPERIENCE	Over 83 percent or 1,143 of the residents interested in employment had nonagricultural work background.
EDUCATIONAL LEVEL	Of the 1,371 persons who indicated an interest in employment, 656 are high school graduates, 122 have had one or more years of college, 234 have had one to three years of high school and 359 have had an eighth grade education or less.
INDUSTRIAL WAGES	Industrial wages in Howard County are not significant as they represent only one firm's wage policy.
FIRM STAFFING POTENTIAL	There are 683 men and 688 women who indicated an interest in employment opportunities in a new or expanding industry.

HOURLY WAGE RATES

The economy of Howard County is so greatly varied that clerical wages are the only hourly wage rate that could be established without disclosure of individual firms.

The starting clerical rate is \$1.25 an hour and maximum rate is \$2.25.

LOCAL APPRAISAL OF HOWARD COUNTY

"Because of the rapid farm mechanization, agricultural employment in Howard County will decrease rapidly. There are indications there will be less than 1,000 farmers in the county by 1975," states Harold Alert, county extension director. "Because of the rapid off-the-farm movement, there will be a need for creating new jobs in Howard County or else the county will suffer increased population losses," Alert added. The extension office offers its continued assistance in providing information and education necessary to cause rapid industrial development to occur in Howard County.

John H. Thomson, banker and manpower study chairman, emphasized that in spite of the low unemployment figure, they feel there would be sufficient labor if those who are presently driving 20 to 55 miles to work out of town and the available farm labor are considered. "This study has backed my conviction on this point," he states.

"Howard County has been handicapped in the past," states Donald Fairchild, State Advisory Extension Council member, "because universal drainage ditching and tiling has not been accepted. The area generally suffers from too much rain rather than not enough." This problem is being handled by the rapid rise in field tiling throughout the county.

The general attitude of the area is best expressed by Bruce Turvold, editor of the Times Plain Dealer, "There is unlimited recreation just around the corner for residents of the county during the leisure hours. Howard County is for people who enjoy good living."

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

	<u>Iowa</u>	<u>Howard County</u>
Population	2,757,537	12,734
Rural Farm Population	24.0%	48.3%
LABOR FORCE		
Total age 14 & up	54.3%	54.6%
Men, age 14 & up	78.1%	79.5%
Women, age 14 & up	31.9%	29.9%
Married Women	28.0%	29.5%
EMPLOYED PERSONS		
Agriculture	20.6%	44.8%
Manufacturing	18.6%	5.3%
Professional, Managerial, Clerical, & Sales	36.8%	25.1%
Working Outside County of Residence	7.5%	7.3%
FAMILY INCOME		
Median Income	\$5,069	\$3,337
Income under \$3,000	25.3%	45.2%
Income \$10,000 & over	10.7%	6.3%

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 1960.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Vocational Training</u>	<u>Maximum Semesters</u>
Crestwood High School* Cresco	601	Typing	2
		Business Law	1
		Bookkeeping	2
		General Business	1
		Personal Typing	1
		Business Arithmetic	2
		Mechanical Drawing	2
		Woodworking	4
		Shorthand	4
		Secretarial Practice	2
		Office Practice	2
		Vocational Agriculture	8
		Radio (Beginning Electronics)	4

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Vocational Training</u>	<u>Maximum Semesters</u>
Notre Dame High School** Cresco	193	Typing Business Law Bookkeeping Business Arithmetic Mechanical Drawing Shorthand Office Practice Radio (Beginning Electronics)	4 1 2 2 2 4 2 4
Riceville Community High School	322	Vocational Agriculture Woodworking Shorthand Secretarial Practice Bookkeeping Typing Business English Business Math General Business	8 4 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
Immaculate Conception High School-Elma	95	Typing Bookkeeping	4 2
Rudolphinum High School Protovin	75	Shorthand Typing Bookkeeping	2 2 2

TOTAL ENROLLMENT 1,286

* Now in the process of constructing a new 3-year high school.

**Courses for boys offered in conjunction with Crestwood High School.

Residents of Howard County are close enough to Decorah to benefit from the educational facilities and activities of Luther College. The western part of the county will soon have the advantages of a college at Charles City.

Vocational training is offered to students and adults through the Northeast Area I Vocational School at Calmar. Courses include accounting automotive mechanics, auto body mechanics, building materials management, carpentry and building trades, farm implement mechanics, farm management, general clerical, interior decorating, practical nursing, secretarial and welding.

... school is now closed.

... school was closed in 1960.

LOCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY RESIDENTS INTERESTED IN NEW JOBS

<u>Community</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Adults</u>		<u>Students</u>	
		<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
Cresco including Bonair, Protovin, Schley	808	345	370	53	40
Elma	233	114	97	13	9
Lime Springs	179	79	86	7	7
Riceville including Saratoga	83	34	38	6	5
Chester	<u>68</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
Total	1,371	603	624	80	64
Students	<u> </u>	<u>80</u>	<u>64</u>		
Grand Total	1,371	683	688		

Source: Manpower Study.

43 PERCENT OF INTERESTED JOB SEEKERS ARE BETWEEN 16 AND 35 YEARS OLD

Of the 683 men interested in new jobs, 299 are in the 16 to 35 age group; 200 are in the 36 to 49 age group; and 184 are in the 50 and older age group.

Of the 688 women interested in new jobs, 295 are in the 16 to 35 age group; 227 are in the 36 to 49 age group; and 166 are in the 50 and older age group.

66% OF INTERESTED JOB SEEKERS ARE EMPLOYED OR HOMEMAKERS

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
Employed	333	174
*Not Currently Employed	42	37
Self-Employed	228	19
Homemakers	-	399
Students	77	58
Retired	3	1

*Persons either actively seeking work (unemployed) or not in the labor force but potentially available for work.

Source: Manpower Study.

56 PERCENT OF THOSE SEEKING JOBS IN NEW INDUSTRY ARE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Of the 683 men interested in new jobs, 280 are high school graduates while 60 men have at least one year of college or more. At least one to three years of high school education had been received by 122 men. Only 221 men had an eighth grade education or less.

Of the 688 women interested in new jobs, 376 are high school graduates while 62 women have one to four years of college. One to three years of high school education was listed by 112 women. Only 138 women had an eighth grade education or less.

Source: Manpower Study.

FARMING SERVICE, CLERICAL AND SALES JOBS ARE PREDOMINANT IN HOWARD COUNTY

As might be expected in Howard County, 215 of the men interested in new jobs have had experience in farming. This figure includes farmers that can be expected to be looking for off farm employment to supplement their income. Another 120 men have structural work experience. Both the machine trades and the miscellaneous categories had 85 men each. A background of clerical and sales was listed by 50 men and service work was shown by 46. A professional, technical or managerial background was reported by 38 men, 32 showed processing work experience and 12 had benchwork background.

Service work experience was shown by 261 women with clerical and sales experience a close second at 259. Many of these women would like the opportunity to work in a factory. However, this type of employment is very limited in the area, and only 79 women listed benchwork experience. Professional, technical and managerial experience had been obtained by 30 women and 28 had processing background. A farming background was shown by 13 women, miscellaneous employment was given by 10 women and machine trades experience was recorded by 8 women.

FIRE PROTECTION AND CLASSIFICATION

Cresco: 25-man volunteer fire department

Equipment: 1 1,000-gallon tanker with 250-gallon-a-minute pump
2 500-gallon-per-minute pumpers with 500-gallon tanks
1 500-gallon-per-minute pumper with 300-gallon tank
Foam fire fighting equipment on pumper

Fire Insurance Class: 5 - 6

Service furnished to Cresco and to seven surrounding townships.

COMMERCIAL UTILITIES

	<u>Daily Peak Demand</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
<u>Cresco:</u>		
Electricity:	2,500 KW	Unlimited
Gas:	1,600 MCP	Unlimited
Water:	389,500 gallons	1,584,000 gallons
Sewerage:	4,000 population served	(1)

(1) Engineering firm is now making a study of the plant and facilities to be sure it is more than sufficient for all demands in the near future.

TRANSPORTATION

Rail

The Milwaukee Road:	Carload freight service only
CRESCO, BONAIR, LIME SPRINGS, CHESTER	2 east and 2 west trains daily Express service at Cresco
Chicago Great Western Railroad:	Carload freight service only
ELMA, RICEVILLE	2 north and 2 south trains daily

Truck Service

H & W Motor Express	Admiral-Merchants Motor Freight
Takin Bros. Freight Lines	United Parcel Service
Iowa Parcel Service	Johnsrud Trucking/Transport

Air

CRESCO MUNICIPAL ($\frac{1}{4}$ mile southwest of Cresco)

Runway: 2,300 foot, east-west turf

Facilities: Lighted runway

Scheduled airline service available 50 miles from Cresco at Rochester,
Minnesota.

A 50' x 2050' NW-SE runway is proposed for the 1973 airport construction program

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the basic industry in Howard County. Most business activity in addition to actual farm operation is related to the farm economy in each of the county's communities.

The total percentage of land area in the county, devoted to agricultural use, has remained relatively constant.

This has remained at approximately 97% of the land area. The size of farms has increased with time, but has lagged behind the state average due to the large number of farms which have livestock enterprises. Most agricultural land is used for rowcrop production since the capability of soils permits it. Over 70,000 acres of cropland in the county is in need of tile drainage to allow for full productive use of the land. The number of dairy cattle is decreasing while the number of beef cattle, especially beef cows is increasing.

Agriculture is an important industry in Howard County and will continue to be for many years in the future.

LAND AREA 1958 AND 1967

	Total Land Area	Non-Agricultural Acreages									
		Federal Non-Cropland		Urban and Built-up		Small Water Areas		Total		Agricultural Acreage	
		1958	1967	1958	1967	1958	1967	1958	1967	1958	1967
Allamakee	408,960	11,196	11,196	10,622	10,753	--	--	21,818	21,949	387,142	387,011
Clayton	497,920	7,734	7,734	14,660	15,561	1,099	1,099	23,493	24,394	474,427	473,526
Fayette	465,920	--	--	18,744	18,744	--	553	18,744	19,297	447,176	446,623
Howard	301,440	--	--	8,766	9,924	--	--	8,766	9,924	292,674	291,516
Winneshiek	440,320	--	--	10,370	10,366	--	--	10,370	10,366	429,950	429,954
Total	2,114,560	18,930	18,930	63,162	63,348	1,099	1,652	83,191	85,930	2,031,369	2,028,630

Source: Conservation Needs Inventory: 1970.

LAND USE (ACRES) INVENTORY

	Total Inventory		Cropland		Pasture		Forest		Other Land	
	1958	1967	1958	1967	1958	1967	1958	1967	1958	1967
Allamakee	387,142	387,011	196,428	196,425	44,652	53,016	134,080	132,000	11,982	5,570
Clayton	474,427	473,426	289,376	293,140	59,442	51,394	116,313	120,000	9,296	8,992
Fayette	447,176	446,623	333,902	351,379	66,943	46,974	33,599	38,000	12,732	10,270
Howard	292,674	291,516	234,868	238,924	37,464	32,604	10,916	10,867	9,426	9,121
Winneshiek	429,950	429,954	277,337	291,928	83,660	71,953	58,615	56,000	10,338	10,073
Total	2,031,369	2,028,630	1,331,911	1,371,796	292,161	255,941	353,523	356,867	53,774	44,026

Source: 1970 Conservation Needs Inventory

BASIC LAND USE TRENDS (1959-1969 Basis)¹

No. and Size of Farms and 1969 Tenure

County	1959	No. Farms 1969	Index	Acres/Farm 1959	1969	Index ²	%Owner Operated 1969	Average Operator Age 1969
Allamakee	1860	1360	73.8	203	268	132.0	73.6	48.1
Clayton	2690	2070	76.8	175	220	125.7	66.5	47.1
Fayette	2770	2080	75.1	163	213	130.6	63.1	47.9
Howard	1580	1210	76.7	186	238	127.9	62.7	48.0
Winneshiek	2570	2030	79.0	168	206	122.6	69.0	48.1
RC&D Area Totals	11,470	8,750	76.0	179	229	127.9	67.0	47.8
State	186,983	136,640	73.1	187	247	132.1	52.5	48.5

¹ - From: Iowa Annual Farm Census Report and Iowa Crop & Livestock Data 1954-1970, Vol. 6, Iowa and Dubuque Extension Area, Iowa State University Cooperative Extension Service, May 1972, Econ. Inf. 157 (Revised).
Compiled by Wayne Dietz, Ext. Crop Production Specialist.

² - Index is the percent the 1969 figure is of 1959 figure.

BASIC LAND USE TRENDS (1959-69 Basis)¹

County	GRAIN CROP ACREAGE								
	Corn Acreage ²			Oat Acreage			Soybean Acreage		
	1959	1969	Index	1959	1969	Index	1959	1969	Index
Allamakee	62,845	57,156	90.9	34,666	23,932	69.0	303	2,781	917.8
Clayton	103,929	109,643	105.4	56,651	39,856	70.3	296	2,594	876.4
Fayette	149,228	125,077	83.1	59,644	31,934	53.5	18,432	46,885	254.4
Howard	102,942	69,240	67.2	45,184	24,912	55.1	17,287	45,008	260.4
Winneschiek	110,349	102,489	92.8	61,054	44,023	72.1	2,775	12,292	443.0
Total	529,293	463,605	87.6	257,199	164,657	64.0	39,093	109,560	280.3

¹ From: Iowa Annual Farm Census Report and Iowa Crop & Livestock Data 1954-1970, Vol. 6, Iowa and Dubuque Extension Area, Iowa State University Cooperative Extension Service, May 1972, Econ. Inf. 157 (revised). Compiled by Wayne Dietz, Ext. Crop Production Specialist.

² Includes corn acreage harvested for silage.

BASIC LAND USE TRENDS (1959-69 Basis)¹

County	FORAGE CROP ACREAGE					
	HAY			PASTURE		
	1959	1969	Index	1959	1969	Index
Allamakee	52,332	56,208	107.4	177,153	159,480	90.0
Clayton	62,382	62,444	160.1	183,019	167,201	91.4
Fayette	58,562	46,879	80.1	120,460	106,885	88.7
Howard	34,623	29,604	85.5	67,972	60,631	89.2
Winneschiek	61,334	64,374	105.0	137,691	128,145	93.1
Total	269,233	259,509	96.4	686,295	622,342	90.7

¹ From: Iowa Annual Farm Census Report and Iowa Crop & Livestock Data 1954-1970, Vol. 6, Iowa and Dubuque Extension Area, Iowa State University Cooperative Extension Service, May 1972, Econ. Inf. 157 (Revised). Compiled by Wayne Dietz, Ext. Crop Production Specialist.

BASIC LAND USE TRENDS (1959-69 Basis)¹

Total Farmland Acres (1959-1969 Basis) and Percent of Total In Crops

County	Total Farm Acreage		Percent of Total Farm Acreage in Crops Listed											
	1959	1969	a) Corn		b) Oats		c) Soybean		d) Hay		e) Pasture		Total	
			1959	1969	1959	1969	1959	1969	1959	1969	1959	1969	1959	1969
Allamakee	379,282	368,558	16.5	15.5	9.1	6.5	.07	.75	13.8	15.3	46.7	43.3	86.2	81.4
Clayton	472,070	456,037	22.0	24.0	12.0	8.7	.06	.56	13.2	13.7	38.8	36.7	86.1	83.7
Fayette	452,537	443,810	33.0	28.2	13.2	7.2	4.1	10.6	12.9	10.6	26.6	24.1	89.8	80.7
Howard	295,017	288,716	34.9	24.0	15.3	8.6	5.9	15.6	11.7	10.3	23.0	21.0	90.8	79.5
Winneshiek	430,572	417,328	25.6	24.6	10.2	10.5	.64	2.9	14.2	15.4	32.0	30.7	82.6	84.1
Area Total	2,029,478	1,974,449												
Area %	100.0	97.3	26.0	23.5	12.7	8.3	1.9	5.5	13.3	13.1	33.8	31.5	81.9	81.9

¹From: Iowa Annual Farm Census Report and Iowa Crop & Livestock Data 1954-1970, Vol. 6, Iowa State University Cooperative Extension Service, May 1972, Econ. Inf. 157 (Revised). Compiled by Wayne Dietz, Ext. Crop Production Specialist.

LIVESTOCK INVENTORY

FED CATTLE MARKETED

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>Index 1959 vs. 1969</u>
Allamakee	2,220	8,230	370.46%
Clayton	5,210	16,420	314.96
Fayette	10,250	31,850	310.63
Howard	4,650	10,090	216.88
Winneshiek	4,400	16,360	371.39
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	26,730	82,950	

5 County Index 310.32%

Iowa Index 177.10%

BEEF COW NUMBERS

Allamakee	12,660	20,890	164.96%
Clayton	8,820	17,410	197.48
Fayette	6,070	12,890	212.39
Howard	7,300	12,190	167.03
Winneshiek	10,760	21,110	196.27
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	45,610	84,490	

5 County Index 185.24%

Iowa Index 146.13%

PIGS BORN

Allamakee	211,500	205,700	97.25%
Clayton	343,200	333,500	97.17
Fayette	289,400	266,100	91.95
Howard	155,200	141,600	91.24
Winneshiek	321,600	319,100	99.22
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	1,320,900	1,266,000	

5 County Index 95.84%

Iowa Index 95.58%

FED LAMBS MARKETED

Allamakee	240	990	416.48%
Clayton	2,270	1,340	58.93
Fayette	3,470	3,240	93.43
Howard	1,430	2,930	204.51
Winneshiek	580	3,800	655.41
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	7,990	12,300	

5 County Index 153.94%

Iowa Index 53.88%

LAMBS BORN

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>Index 1959 vs. 1969</u>
Allamakee	6,070	4,160	68.59%
Clayton	6,670	4,950	74.26
Fayette	4,810	4,120	85.65
Howard	4,910	3,880	79.07
Winneshek	7,860	6,230	79.21

<u>30,320</u>	<u>23,340</u>
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5 County Index 76.97%

Iowa Index 60.45%

MILK COW NUMBERS

Allamakee	27,690	26,680	96.36%
Clayton	39,320	37,740	95.99
Fayette	34,780	28,510	81.99
Howard	16,340	14,540	89.01
Winneshek	37,480	35,440	94.55

<u>155,610</u>	<u>142,910</u>
----------------	----------------

5 County Index 91.83%

Iowa Index 61.60%

HENS AND PULLETS

Allamakee	210,080	124,880	59.44%
Clayton	406,310	157,680	38.80
Fayette	503,540	307,390	61.05
Howard	355,750	292,200	82.14
Winneshek	480,310	253,900	52.86

<u>1,956,050</u>	<u>1,136,050</u>
------------------	------------------

5 County Index 58.07%

Iowa Index 46.34%

HOGS MARKETING 1969

Allamakee	152,605
Clayton	274,291
Fayette	215,793
Howard	105,925
Winneshiek	232,577

SOW FARROWINGS RESPONSIBLE FOR HOGS MARKETING IN 1969

	<u>Fall 1968</u>	<u>Spring 1969</u>
Allamakee	11,325	13,371
Clayton	18,556	23,154
Fayette	14,775	16,495
Howard	7,977	9,236
Winneshiek	16,314	20,281

PIGS MARKETING PER SOW FARED IN 1969

	<u>Number of Sows</u>	<u>Pigs Per Litter</u>
Allamakee	24,696	6.17
Clayton	41,710	6.57
Fayette	31,270	6.90
Howard	17,213	6.15
Winneshiek	36,595	6.30

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Number of Employees of Various Businesses and
Industries in Howard County

(Excludes government employees, railroad employees,
self-employed persons, etc. "D" denotes figures
withheld to avoid disclosure of operations of
individual reporting units.)

Industry	# of Employees Mid-March Pay Period	Taxable Payrolls Jan.-March (\$1,000)	Total Reporting Units
Agricultural Services, Forestry, Fisheries	(D)	(D)	5
Contract Construction	57	68	23
Special Trade Contractors	42	50	15
Manufacturing	141	228	11
Transportation & Other Public Utilities	111	179	24
Trucking & Warehousing	37	33	15
Trucking, Local & Long Distance	23	22	11
Trucking Without Storage	23	22	11
Wholesale Trade	93	121	17
Retail Trade	374	338	104
Building Materials & Farm Equip.	83	101	21
Hardware & Farm Equipment	53	55	13
Food Stores	59	44	12
Grocery Stores	(D)	(D)	10
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	37	38	14
Gasoline Service Stations	(D)	(D)	12
Eating & Drinking Places	65	19	20
Miscellaneous Retail Stores	70	93	20
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate Services	64	90	12
Personal Services	259	184	54
Medical and Other Health Services	25	16	11
Medical and Other Health Services	142	102	14
Unclassified Establishments	(D)	(D)	3
TOTAL	1,139	1,234	253

Source: County Business Patterns, 1971.

NEW INDUSTRIES TO HOWARD COUNTY IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Employment</u>
1. Donnalldson's	1967	
2. Donnalldson's Expansion	1971	105-110 Total
3. Cresco Tool & Die	1972	8
4. Pureway Manufacturer	1971	5
5. Leon Johnsrud Transport	1970	32

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

There are six banks serving the county: the Cresco State Bank, Cresco Union Savings Bank, People's Savings Bank of Elma, Bohemian Savings Bank of Protivin, First National Bank of Riceville, and State Bank of Lime Springs.

Non-bank financial institutions consist of the Northeast Iowa Savings and Loan Association in Cresco, a part-time Production Credit Association, and a Federal Land Bank which is serviced out of Decorah, Iowa.

Financial Facts as of June 30, 1973

	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Loans</u>	<u>Loan Deposit Ratio</u>
Cresco State Bank	\$5,800,000	\$3,700,000	64%
Cresco Union Savings Bank	\$12,470,449	\$7,200,536	58%
Peoples Savings Bank	\$4,920,000	\$2,328,000	47%
Bohemian Savings	\$2,423,110	\$1,240,399	51%
First National	\$6,330,644	\$3,537,180	56%
State Bank	\$2,321,990	\$1,274,940	55%
Savings and Loan	<u>\$ 458,000</u>	<u>\$ 522,000</u>	<u>---</u>
TOTAL	\$34,724,193	\$19,803,055	55.2%

It is very evident the financial institutions of Howard County are trying their best to provide loans to develop the county to its fullest extent, and promote as much progress as possible. One bank employs a farm specialist that spends most of his time in the field advising farmers how to improve their farming operations and apply for loans.

OTHER DEBTS IN HOWARD COUNTY

County Expenditure 12/30/72

County Home for Aged \$73,246.57

School Debt, 7/1/73

Howard-Winneshiek School
Building Bonds \$1,320,000.00

City of Cresco, 12/31/72

G.O. Airport 30,000.00

G.O. Street Construction Bonds 550,000.00

G.O. Sewer Construction Bonds 230,000.00

Special Assessment Street Bonds 165,000.00

Sewer Revenue Bonds 155,000.00

TOTAL \$1,130,000.00

Cresco Municipal Utilities

Water Revenue Bonds \$205,000.00

TOTAL \$205,000.00

The county and incorporated communities expect to receive from revenue sharing from 1972 funds:

Cresco \$43,581.00

Elma \$ 4,486.00

Protivin \$ 1,482.00

Lime Springs \$ 4,192.00

Riceville \$ 4,288.00

Chester \$ 1,182.00

Howard County \$89,334.00

TOTAL \$148,545.00

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Howard County is made up of two school districts, the Howard-Winneshiek and the Riceville Districts. The Howard-Winneshiek District encompasses a majority of the County, with the exception of 1½ sections in Oakdale Township, all of Jamestown Township and ½ of Afton and Saratoga Townships. The Howard-Winneshiek District however, does include the following townships in Winneshiek County: Freemont, Orleans, Lincoln, and parts of Bluffton, Madison, and Sumner. The following enrollment figures are for the Howard-Winneshiek District since this district covers a majority of the study area.

Student Enrollment

<u>Grade</u>	<u>FY 7/1/72-6/30/73</u>	<u>FY 7/1/71-6/30/72</u>	<u>FY 7/1/70-6/30/71</u>	<u>FY 7/1/69-6/30/70</u>
K	173	207	206	209
1	167	165	174	158
2	160	157	171	181
3	165	165	193	186
4	165	191	180	174
5	196	182	174	155
6	179	176	154	162
7	196	172	182	188
8	174	181	188	218
9	184	188	215	187
10	192	212	190	181
11	201	185	183	176
12	185	177	165	168
Special Ed.	<u>27</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>39</u>
TOTAL	2,364	2,393	2,464	2,343

It appears from the following figures that the total student enrollment is on the decline from the last three years. The sharpest decrease was in the kindergarten level. This could be due to married couples having fewer children, a declining population in the county, and a large portion of the population remaining in Howard County is beyond the age of child bearing.

Howard County is also served by several vocational technical schools, colleges and universities. The following is a list of schools within an 80 mile radius:

<u>School</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Distance From Cresco</u>	<u>Type</u>
Area I Vocational Technical School	Calmar	28	1&2 year
Luther College	Decorah	19	4 year
Northeast Iowa Area Community College	Mason City	72	2 year
University of Northern Iowa	Cedar Falls	80	4 year
Wartburg College	Waverly	62	4 year
Upper Iowa College	Fayette	52	4 year

Percent of Graduating Class that Attends College or Technical School:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Class Size</u>	<u>Attending College or Technical School</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1968-69	170	73	43
1969-70	168	71	42
1970-71	165	66	40
1971-72	177	69	39
1972-73	185	70	38

This chart shows that over the last five years approximately 40% of all high school graduates are attending either college or a technical school. This in itself demonstrates the need for job opportunities at home to attract these well-trained and highly motivated young people back to their home towns. It also is a valuable asset in attracting the kind of industry that requires well educated and technically trained employees.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES INVENTORY

City: Cresco Population: 3,927

Library: yes, 19,000 volumes

Police Station: yes, 5 full-time policemen

Jail Facilities: yes, 8 cells

City Hall: yes

Fire Station: 1 station

a. Fire fighting equipment: 4 vehicles

b. Rescue equipment: 3 privately owned ambulances

Schools

a. elementary: 4

b. Junior High: 1

c. Senior High: 1

d. Other: 3 parochial: 1-H.S. & 2 elementary (Catholic)

Public Housing: 12 unit structure under construction for elderly

Bank: 2 banks with deposits totalling \$14,127,741 (12/31/71)

Northeast Iowa Savings & Loan: Deposits of \$458,000 (12/31/72)

Water System: 3 wells, 600,000 gallon storage, 250,000 reservoir storage

Sewer System: Treatment Plant

Storm Drain System: yes

Ordinances: zoning, subdivision regulation, airport zoning, sanitation

Solid Waste Site: yes, 6.03 acres

Airport: yes

Nursing Home: 4 nursing homes with 101 total beds; 1 new nursing home--42 bed under construction

Hospital: yes, 42 beds

Swimming Pool: yes

Parks: 3 parks totalling 13.3 acres

HOWARD COUNTY
Park, Recreation, and Open Space Inventory

Name	Acreage		Total
	Land	Water	
State			
1. Hayden Prairie	240	-	240
2. Turkey River Access*	84	3	87
TOTAL			<u>327</u>
County			
1. Bigalks	1	-	1
2. Bonair Area Special Hunting	15	-	15
3. Carroll River Access	1	1	2
4. Cowan Wildlife Area	1	-	1
5. Dicken Wildlife Area	14	-	14
6. Florenceville Park	3	-	3
7. Houska-Johnson Wildlife Area	20	-	20
8. Iowa River Access	5	5	10
9. Lake Hendricks	78	52	130
10. Lidtke Park	8	2	10
11. Louvar Area	1	-	1
12. Lylah's Marsh Wildlife Area	130	10	140
13. Merricks Pond	10	3	13
14. Roman Park	1	-	1
15. Scharnwebber Wildlife Area	1	-	1
16. Stephan Wildlife Area	3	-	3
17. Vernon Springs Park	64	25	89
18. Whittenbreer Marsh Wildlife Area	9	-	9
19. Davis Corner Rest Area	1	-	1
20. Jamestown Rest Area	1	-	<u>1</u>
TOTAL			440
Municipal			
1. Cresco, 3 City Parks	13.3	-	13.3
2. Elma Town Park	3.5	-	3.5
3. Lime Springs, Brown Park	1	-	1
4. Protivin, City Park & Baseball Diamond	2	-	2
5. Protivin Rest Area	1	-	<u>1</u>
TOTAL			20.8

* Leased to County

HOSPITAL DATA

	Counties				
	Allamakee	Clayton	Fayette	Howard	Winnebago
Total licensed beds	78	67	92	42	102
Acute care	78	67	74	42	84
Gen. medical & surgical	65	53	70	38	73
Coronary Care	2	1	0	0	5
In C.C.U.	0	1	0	0	0
In I.C.U.	0	0	0	0	2
On General Floor	0	0	0	0	3
Obstetrical Care	11	10	10	4	6
Labor Room	3	2	2	2	0
Postpartum	6	8	7	4	0
Pediatric Care	0	4	15	0	0
Non-Acute Care	0	0	0	0	18
Rehabilitation	0	0	0	0	18
Nursing Home Beds--					
Bldgs. not attached but					
under same adm.	76	0	0	0	0

FACILITIES:

Emergency Room Available?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
If yes,					
1. Staffed by physicians & RN's on 24-hr. basis	-	-	-	-	-
2. Staffed by RN's on 24-hr. basis w/physicians on call	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Regularly scheduled out-patient clinics?	No	No	No	No	No
Crash-cart capability?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Radiation Techniques available?	Diagnostic	Diagnostic	Diagnostic	Diagnostic	Diagnostic
Home care available in county?	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
If yes, Referral Basis?	Yes	-	-	-	Yes
Transfer agreements with nursing homes?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hospital pharmacy staffed by registered pharmacists?	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
If yes,					
1. Serving in-patients only?	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
2. Serving in-patients & out-patients?	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment & staff to perform hemodialysis?	Yes	No	No	No	No
Other special services	RN Mental Health Consultant	-	Physical Therapist Dietician to Council Diabetics	-	-

STAFF:

Physicians-Active	12	9	18	5	13
Courtesy Staff	1	2	2	1	9

HOSPITAL DATA (cont.)

	Counties				
	Allamakee	Clayton	Fayette	Howard	Winnebago
Emeritus and/or honorary staff	0	0	2	1	0
Other (Consultants)	5	0	17	1	0
Number of above physicians retained or employed part-time	4	2	0	0	0

HOSPITAL DATA

	Allamakee County				Clayton County				Fayette County				Howard County				Winneshiek County			
	#Persons		#Positions Budgeted		#Persons		#Positions Budgeted		#Persons		#Positions Budgeted		#Persons		#Positions Budgeted		#Persons		#Positions Budgeted	
Other Staff:	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time
R.N.s	10	14	16	6	15	8	15	5	17	19	17	12	15	3	0	0	9	18	0	0
L.P.N.s	8	4	9	1	5	3	7	1	7	8	8	4	0	2	0	0	5	6	0	0
Nurses Aides & Orderlies	19	26	20	0	15	11	22	4	23	15	23	6	13	5	0	0	28	23	0	0
Physical Therapists	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Medical Social Workers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Registered Pharmacists	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0
Dieticians	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Medical Record Librarians	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Medical Technologists	2	1	2	0	3	0	3	0	6	2	6	2	1	1	0	0	5	1	0	0

DENTISTS BY COUNTY

1970

Region 1

County	Number Dentists	Number Dentists Over 65 years	Population	Population/ Dentist	Population/ Dentist Over 65
Allamakee	8	3	14,733	1,841	4,911
Clayton	9	7	20,528	2,280	2,933
Fayette	2	1	26,898	13,449	26,898
Howard	6	2	11,264	1,877	5,632
Winnebago	9	6	21,613	2,401	3,602
TOTAL	34	19	95,036	2,795	5,002

PHYSICIAN POPULATION RATIO BY COUNTY

County	% of Reg. Population	Total # Physicians	% of Reg. Physicians	# of GPs and DOs*	% of Reg. GPs&DOs*	# Phys. Per 1000	GPs & DOs* Per 1000
Allamakee	22	10	24	10	25	.67	.67
Clayton	30	11	26	10	26	.53	.49
Fayette	11	18	9	13	15	.67	.48
Howard	17	8	19	8	21	.70	.70
Winnebago	32	13	31	10	26	.60	.46

* Does not include Osteopathic Specialists.

SPEECH CLINICIANS

Region I

<u>County</u>	<u>Number</u>
Allamakee	1
Clayton	2
Fayette	4
Howard	-
Winneshiek	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	10

REGISTERED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS
AND
CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANTS

Region 1

<u>County</u>	<u>O.T.R.s</u>	<u>C.O.T.A.s</u>
Allamakee	0	0
Clayton	0	0
Fayette	1	0
Howard	0	0
Winneshiek	1	0

Source: Iowa State Department of Health.

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

Region I

<u>County</u>	<u>Number</u>
Allamakee	2
Clayton	0
Fayette	2
Howard	0
Winnebago	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	5

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES AS OF 10/15/70

County	# Full-time County Nurses	# Part-time County Nurses	# Full-time School Nurses	# Part-time School Nurses
Allamakee	1	-	3	1
Clayton	1	-	3	1
Fayette	-	-	3	1
Howard	1	1	3	-
Winnebago	2	-	5	1

NUMBER AND SPECIALTY OF PHYSICIANS

Region I

<u>County</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Specialty</u>
Allamakee	1	Osteopath
	<u>9</u>	General Practitioners
	10	TOTAL Physicians in County Population/Physician = 1,497
Clayton	10	General Practitioners
	<u>1</u>	Surgeon
	11	TOTAL Physicians in County Population/Physician = 1,873
Fayette	1	Osteopath
	12	General Practitioners
	1	Obstetrician and/or Gynecologist
	1	Ophthalmologist
	<u>3</u>	Surgeons
	18	TOTAL Physicians in County Population/Physician = 1,494
Howard	<u>8</u>	General Practitioners
	8	TOTAL Physicians in County Population/Physician = 1,430
Winnebago	1	Osteopath
	9	General Practitioners
	1	Pathologist
	1	Radiologist
	<u>1</u>	Surgeon
	13	TOTAL Physicians in County Population/Physician = 1,674

Housing Characteristics:

Howard County Year-round Housing Units	1970
Total Housing Units	3,925
Total	3,908
Lacking Some or All Plumbing Facilities	524
One Unit Structures	3,646
One Person Households	671
Median Number of Rooms	5.9
Owner Occupied	2,946
Median Value	\$9,600
Renter Occupied	681
Median Contract Rent	\$ 48
Vacant For Sale	99
Percent Built Before 1939	79%
Number of Mobile Homes	55

Source: Detailed Housing Characteristics, U.S. Census of Housing, 1970.

HOWARD COUNTY CULTURAL, CIVIC AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Civic Organizations

Chamber of Commerce	Cresco Fire Department
Business and Professional Women	Kiwanis
P.E.O.	Seven Federated Womens Clubs
Women's Club	Each of the 28 churches in the county
Masonic Lodge	has various women & men's organizations
Red Cross	Junior Chamber of Commerce
American Field Service	Howard County Farm Bureau
American Legion	Cresco Wildlife Club
American Legion Auxiliary	Evans Home Ladies
Cresco City Park Commission	Cresco Art Show Committee
Cresco Public Library Board	International Snow Festival Committee
Veterans of Foreign Wars	Youth Activities:
Howard County Park Producers	4-H
Howard County Beef Producers	Boy Scouts
Howard County Dairy Council	Campfire
Howard County Historical Society	FFA
Howard County Conservation Commission	Crestwood Band Boosters Club
Howard County Fair Society	Howard County Extension Service

Professional Societies

Howard-Winneshiek County Teachers Association
Cresco Ministerial Association
Howard County Bar Association
Howard County Medical Association

LOCAL SERVICES AND AGENCIES

Howard County has a three-person board of supervisors whose members are elected for four-year terms. Every two years, at least one member of the board is up for election. The supervisors serve as the chief administrative and policy board for the county and have the power to levy taxes within state constitutional guidelines.

The communities in the county are all mayor council forms of government and operate within state constitutionally defined limits on taxation.

There are several regional planning groups in which Howard County participates with the counties of Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette and Winneshiek, all of which together constitute Iowa's state planning district I as established by executive order in 1967.

The one which has had the greatest impact over the longest period of time has been the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Resource, Conservation and Development District (RC&D) which was created in 1970. Howard County has six members on the board of directors of this group in equal representation with the other five counties. The purpose of this board is primarily conservation and has had an active funding program since its inception.

The RC&D group was primarily responsible for the creation of the Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission which is currently operating under a grant from HUD for \$30,000 for regional planning. The Commission once fully constituted will have the local clearinghouse authority for the five-county organization.

These same five counties (Howard County included) also participate in Region I Manpower Planning Council. This group has received special attention this year with a \$341,997.00 services program run by the Office For Economic Opportunity. The council's main responsibilities lie with coordinating all manpower programs (public and private) in the five counties.

State planning district I is currently certified for organization as Area I Comprehensive Health Planning Council (MINOWA) whose responsibilities will be the coordination of all health facilities and health planning in the six counties (including Chickasaw).

Other regional planning groups of which Howard County is a member include the Northeast Iowa Area Crime Commission which includes 14 counties of northeast Iowa. Its primary responsibility is to provide a regional funding source for LEAA programs.

Finally the Office For Economic Opportunity sponsors a seven county group (Howard County included) which is called CAP, Community Action Corporation. CAP sponsors and administrates all OEO related programs in the seven county area.

In general, Howard County has a number of tie ins with regional planning agencies that affect directly the counties plans for future economic and social development and expands beyond any capabilities the county might have for resource people and planning assistance.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The following is a list of Howard County RC&D Project Measures the committees discussed and rediscussed which they consider realistic in improving the overall economic plight of the county. The major priority item is the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park:

A. A 640 acre Turkey River Industrial Park; Estimated cost: \$3,000,000

Complete financial help for the purchase of the site and development expense of the area is needed: Cost Estimates

Site:	\$ 640,000
New Well:	40,000
Pump:	25,000
Tower (500,000 gal.):	140,000
Complete Sewer Plant:	600,000
Sanitary Sewer Line (main line - 3 mi.):	340,000
Water Main:	270,000
Railroad Service Line:	300,000
4 miles of interior roads: (graded and gravelled)	320,000
Engineers Fees:	167,000
Contingencies:	<u>158,000</u>
TOTAL	\$3,000,000

B. Purchase of 3,500 acres to be known as the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park to honor Dr. Norman Borlaug, a Nobel Peace Prize winner who was born and raised in Howard County. The park is to be developed as a tourist farm for all various types of year round outdoor recreational and educational activities for all ages. There will be four small lakes (estimated size: 250 acres, 90 acres, 120 acres and 100 acres), formed by one dam.

Estimated land acquisition and complete development cost: \$6,000,000

Two private engineering firms place the preliminary cost estimate of the dam, dike, spillway, and so on at \$1,680,000. The State Conservation Commission and Howard County Conservation Board now owns some land in the area and are purchasing more at the present time.

3. The construction, grading, draining and paving of four miles of access roads to the industrial site and around the recreational project area.

Estimated cost: \$350,000

Road improvements around the project site are in the process of being graded and drained, when funds permit.

4. To construct high fill, bridge and road grade to retain water for a short period of time. This development would allow silt carried by flooding waters to settle out before entering the proposed recreational area.

Estimated cost: \$220,000

There is presently a 35-acre mill pond downstream. From this point and between the area of placing the siltation structure and the mill pond downstream, there is a small siltation structure which has eroded away and needs replacement.

5. Development of a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile trout stream for youth. This project would involve the installation of flood control dams, installation of styles, and the purchase of land by the County surrounding the trout stream. Surrounding land owners have agreed to the project proposal.

Estimated cost: \$30,000

6. Repair dam and dredge out a 35-acre mill pond. This proposal would increase the recreational value of boating, swimming and fishing. The dam was constructed over 100 years ago and the Mill Pond has never been cleaned.

Estimated cost: \$40,000

The total cost of this project is estimated at approximately \$9,640,000.

It is anticipated financial assistance will be solicited from the Iowa Conservation Commission, RC&D funds, Public Law 566, the Howard County Conservation Board, and the Howard and Winneshiek County Road Funds. The various study committees

realize the great magnitude of the project proposal and request EDA financial assistance for local cost sharing. At the present time, 195 acres has been purchased in the proposed project area. See appendix for sequence of events on this project measure.

Other Project Measures the Committees considered important for Howard County are: (order does not indicate priority status)

1. Cresco Industrial Park: To complete the Cresco Industrial Park by adding 67 acres to complete the 95 acre tract with facilities.
2. Dairy Development Project: To raise the economic and educational level of 300 dairy farmers of the area by furnishing them a direct contact program of dairy management and record keeping under a 2-year pilot program.
3. Drainage Loan Funds: A need for low interest loan for financing cropland tile drainage to obtain reasonable production from land with high potential for crop production.
4. Cresco Storm Sewer: Enlargement of present storm sewer to accommodate foreseeable required capacity and to extend to areas presently without storm sewer facilities.
5. Cresco Sanitary Sewer: To reach water users with effective sewage system including new industrial, commercial, and residential areas. The replacement of inadequate and antiquated lines.
6. Cresco Water Extension: To extend water mains to present users needs, and to accommodate industrial demands and foreseeable residential and commercial needs. Additional main lines needed are approximately two miles.
7. Memorial Nursing Home: 150-bed nursing home for elderly; majority of rooms to be single bed units with $\frac{1}{2}$ bath and clothes closet; also, some two-bed units; seven story memorial home to honor men and women of county; built and operated in accordance to Chapter 37, Code of Iowa.

8. Low Cost Housing For Aged: A 24-unit structure providing 2-4 room apartments for needy aged persons and couples, with laundry and central social room and facilities for maintenance staff, utilities, except telephone, are to be furnished to occupants.
9. Bridge Replacement: Present bridges not only are too narrow for safe travel but inadequate during flooding as water fills bridge opening and flows over roadway; inadequate structural strength to take legal loading.
10. Howard County Farm: New home for steward and matron; a forty bed unit structure to be added to county home to care for mental and retarded and poor citizens of surrounding area; also this proposal asks for complete set of farm buildings.
11. Cresco Community Center: Building of 9,000 sq. ft. on lot of 60x150 feet. To include auditorium, stage for community theater, indoor swimming pool, meeting rooms, kitchen area. Building feasibility has been approved by architect and local contractor has given estimates.
12. Hendricks Road: Reconstruct 2½ miles of roadway for pavement and shoulders; construct two siltation ponds in conjunction with roadway; purchase right of way.
13. Chester-Lime Springs Center: Revision of Old Town School building for community center.
14. Cresco Street Surfacing: Produce permanent paving on principle streets. Accommodate the widening of streets to safe thoroughfare dimensions including all vehicle traffic needs.
15. Cresco Parking Lots: Purchasing areas contingent to business area; resurfacing present and acquired lots; lighting, marking, and landscaping.
16. Cresco Street Maintenance Shop: Acquisition of work shop capable of storing street maintenance machinery and equipment.
17. Elma Storm Sewer: Storm sewer project and curb and gutter. Present one is not adequate.

18. Elma Rest Home: A rest home for senior citizens of the Elma community providing suitable care and facilities.
19. Howard County Sewer Laterals: 8" sanitary sewer, necessary manholes and appurtenances, to provide sanitary sewer laterals to service seven houses, two businesses, one church and one manufacturing plant.
20. Cresco Community Center: The operation and development of a community center catering to the social needs of all age groups and providing needed social services.
21. Topographic Survey: Complete topographic survey for Howard County; two foot interval interpolated to one foot.
22. Wittenbreer Marsh: Multipurpose dam for recreation, wildlife development, flood control, 10 acre artificial lake plus marshland development.
23. Lidtke Mill Restoration: Restoring an operative old grist mill on the Upper Iowa River with all machinery and equipment in it and expect to restore it to operative condition.
24. Museum Completion: Locate funds to restore an 1870 residence of unique architectural design for purpose of making it a museum and hope to build a carriage house adjacent to same with Caretaker Apartment for the purpose of storing antique farm equipment.
25. Mill Pond Improvement: Repair of dam, and dredging of approximately 25 acre mill pond at Vernon Springs.
26. Elma Swimming Pool and Facilities: Swimming pool and rest rooms and shower rooms for development of our local park and recreational facilities for the town and community.
27. Lake Hendricks Completion: Completion of development of Lake Hendricks for recreation.

28. Deepening Lidtke Mill Pond: Dredge 15 acres, 8' deep at Lidtke Mill Pond to restore it to its original beauty and remove by dredge, 193,000 cu. yds. at a cost of 30¢ per yard.
29. Deepening Lylah's Marsh: Dredge 35 of 54 acres of Lylahs Marsh for restoration of Marsh to natural depth--12 to 15 feet. Remove 165,000 cu. yards at a cost of 30¢ per yard by dredge.
30. Outdoor Classroom and Center #1: Erection of 30'x30' building for Visitor Center; outdoor classrooms, operated by Howard County Conservation Board in conjunction with local school.
31. Outdoor Classroom and Center #2: Erection of a 30'x30' building for Visitor Center and outdoor classroom operated by Howard County Conservation Board in conjunction with local school.
32. Lylahs Marsh Development: Development of Lylahs Marsh; installation of bath house, showers, toilet facilities, water system, sewage system, tree planting, resurfacing of dam.
33. Development of Lidtke Park: Installation of camping area (electricity, toilets, camp pads, road surfacing, water system, picnic tables, etc.)
34. City Park: Build multi-seasonal recreational park for Cresco.

AREA DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The following goals have been established by the O.E.D.P. Study Committee:

1. Decrease the rate of out-migration.
2. Provide for better health care delivery systems.
3. Strive for full-time and part-time employment for the small farmers.
4. Improve the tax base of the county.
5. Provide for continuous career development and improve the skills of the unemployed and rural residents.
6. Seek industrial expansion both through the location of new industries or the expansion of existing industries thus providing more job opportunities.
 - a. Develop the Turkey River Industrial Park
 - b. Expansion of existing industries
7. Encourage farmers to accelerate conservation land treatment, thereby improving crop productivity and farm incomes.
8. Strive to improve the per capita income.
9. Encourage such other activities which will conserve and/or develop the human, natural and political resources of Howard County.

DEVELOPMENT OF ACTION PROGRAMS

Problem: Narrow Economic Base

Action: Attract new and diversify industry into Howard County and promote homegrown industry. To accomplish this objective, an aggressive and well organized industrial development program is essential. Howard County presently has a County Rural Development Committee and Cresco has an Industrial Development Committee with a full time staff.

Problem: Low Family Income

Action: This can in part be solved through an improved labor market in the County. Presently, a combination of surplus labor and lack of industrial job opportunities have depressed the wage scales. This situation could be alleviated by the creation of new jobs, increasing the demand for labor, and thereby raising the wage rates.

Problem: Narrow Tax Base

Action: This is related to the problem of a narrow economic base and a similar program as was used for this problem would apply. We plan to develop local retail business through downtown beautification and other such community pride activities which are designed to expand local trade. Plans for Cresco downtown beautification are being finalized.

Problem: Lack of Prepared Industrial Sites and Buildings

Action: As has been previously pointed out, the success or failure of any industrial development is largely dependent upon the availability of prepared or ready-to-occupy industrial site and buildings. While there are some sites in the five county area, there is no site in the county in spite of some potential and available land.

At the present time Cresco has 28 acres in their Industrial Park. The Cresco Industrial Committee would like to acquire an additional 67 acres to complete the 95 acre tract. The Committee believes the expansion is needed to provide a choice location for industrial development providing up to 250 new job opportunities.

Problem: Out Migration of Educated and Skilled Young

Action: This problem is closely related to the problem of a narrow economic base and a similar solution as was used for this problem can be applied.

There is a need for further development of cultural and social programs combined with expanding recreational facilities through the Resource Conservation and Development Program and the Regional Planning Commission at both the county and regional level.

Potentials for Growth

In spite of existing problems and current trends, Howard County does possess the potentials and above all the community optimism essential for economic growth and development.

There are adequate and desirable industrial sites which could be developed and served by nearby rail, road and air transport for the development and future expansion of any small, moderate or large size industry or group of industries.

Further, there is a sufficient labor market within the county to provide needed manpower for most kinds of industrial development and a system of vocation technical schools and colleges which could provide any training program required.

The communities are attractive free of excessive pollution and offer many opportunities for outdoor activities of all types.

The Howard-Winneshiek School District has school facilities that can easily handle 300-500 more pupils. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Cresco is fully accredited. It is running at only 50% of its capacity. It could serve twice the population it is presently. Cresco has seven church educational buildings, being of various denominations. Outstanding bonds remaining on the new Cresco utilities include \$30,000 for airport expansion; \$230,000 for sewer construction; \$155,000 in sewer revenue bonds; \$205,000 for water revenue bonds and \$550,000 in street construction bonds.

Finally, aside from all the potentials that have been mentioned elsewhere in this report, the potential that will make it all come together is the attitude of the citizens of Howard County. The fact that a group of fifty-eight people all with many other commitments could get together and put so much time and effort into preparing this OEDP is evidence that the citizens of this county have not given up.

Howard County residents worked along with four other counties to create the Resource Conservation and Development District and the Regional Planning Commission so they could benefit from regional resource management.

These are just a few of the examples of the spirit and determination that makes all the potentials for growths viable.

Problems and Deficiencies

The problems and deficiencies of Howard County are not really unique in rural America. They are problems of a changing society in which technology has made obsolete the economic foundation of Howard County. We stand faced with the concerns of either joining the American mainstream of industry and service or be caught up in the backwater of a prosperous economy with our older citizens and our abandoned towns.

What we need is assistance in building the basic capital structure that will allow us to compete as a community for the payrolls and employment of American industry.

Many of Howard County's problems can be resolved by making job opportunities available. Our basic stumbling block besides the lack of a developed site is that we have only one other major industry located here that would attract others and put confidence into industrial location people that this area can and does support thriving businesses and strong economic activity. This problem, however, we can do little about; but we must do all we can to attract new industry and thus get the wheels of economic growth and development moving.

Some of the county deficiencies can be appreciated from the list of Howard County RC&D Project Measures.

Summary of Area Resources

Howard County, as shown in the preceeding sections has excellent potential for growth and development on many fronts. Agricultural, historically the most important industry in the County, could be further developed by location of agri-business type industries in the area, in conjunction with increasing loan ceilings on cow calf herds and taking advantage of the areas superior grazing land by putting more cows on it. Light industry should be developed to take advantage of the area's excellent location and transportation facilities.

Over the past two decades, the population of Howard County has reflected a decline and unemployment has been on the increase though less dramatic a trend as population. The reason, simply stated, is because of a general historical trend of declining farm labor demands and rural migration to urban centers. To offset these population shifts, Howard County's rural communities have not been able to shift from farm service employment to industrial employment fast enough to absorb those displaced from agriculture.

The basic wage structure in the county leaves 32.0% of all families below O.E.O. poverty guidelines as compared to 19.6% for the state as a whole. This is more an indicator of a rural community caught in an era of economic transition than one of deep poverty problems.

The educational programs through the high school and post-secondary levels in the county are excellent at the present time. Present facilities could accommodate 300 more students. Post-secondary and adult level courses are readily available for those seeking additional career training or skill acquisition.

The labor supply, though small in absolute numbers, presents little problems for either expanding industry or attracting moderate sized new industry. In the 1968 comprehensive labor force survey, indications were that there was

a relatively large group of highly motivated and well-trained people both men and women who were seeking employment or a change in their present employment.

The basic financial structure of the county is stable. Cities, though not free of debt have a history of passing bond issues of community facilities and could be counted on for support for any expansion of the local economy.

As with most rural communities, the tax base has eroded somewhat while tax rates are approaching constitutional limits. The county must have additional industries and businesses to provide employment and strengthen the tax base. As the median age in the county has risen to 35.6, the ability to meet higher local taxes to support expansion had diminished and thus, the impetus for an economic revival must come from outside the local government structure with its financial limitations.

Cultural facilities that are available are abundant on the social level yet physical facilities are desperately needed to focus community attention and provide services which heretofore had people leaving the county to enjoy.

In summary, Howard County has the potential for expansion on a moderate scale that would help stem outmigration and attract back the people who left for urban living and better job opportunities. What it needs to realize this potential, is an infusion of support monies to finance the basic programs that are needed to attract employment and revenue producing opportunities.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The OEDP Committee will remain divided into five permanent subcommittees:

1. Natural Resources Committee will be responsible for developing an action program for the creation of new programs and promotion of existing programs in the areas of environmental protection and resource development. They will coordinate their efforts with appropriate local, state, and regional organizations.
2. Community Development Committee will be responsible for the promotion of tourism and public relations and for the improvement of community facilities and services. They will coordinate their efforts with appropriate local, state, and regional organizations.
3. County Rural Development Committee will be responsible for the growth and development of rural development projects to improve the per capita income of the rural people and encourage full utilization of the rural labor skills.
4. Watershed Improvement Committee will be responsible for the development of watershed, conservation and drainage programs that will increase the productivity of farm lands and increase the per capita income of the farmers.
5. Agriculture Sub-committee will be responsible for the development of various agricultural related programs such as a dairy herd improvement specialist, pasture specialist and other programs that will improve the economy of Howard County.

The OEDP Core Committee will have overall responsibility for the coordination of these working committees and for the updating of the OEDP Report. This committee will be the main source of contact between the federal government and local groups on program development, application and funding. The Core Committee will coordinate their work with all appropriate local, state, federal, and regional organizations.

Program Evaluation

The O.E.D.P. Core Committee will evaluate the O.E.D.P. Report and the work of the subcommittees in affecting the work plan on a continuing basis and will submit their findings to the area EDA Office.

Regular meetings of the O.D.E.P. Committee will be held so the overall program can be coordinated in an orderly manner.

The Howard County O.E.D.P. Committee has pledged itself to a program of work to alleviate the unemployment and underemployment in Howard County and to promote economic growth and stability.

APPENDIX

Sequence of Events

In the fall of 1966 the Howard County Supervisors, County Conservation Board, County Engineer and Study Committees introduced the plan of the proposed Memorial Park and industrial park to a group of staff leaders of various departments of the State Conservation Commission in Des Moines, Iowa. We asked for their consideration for the future of such a project as ours. They have given us encouragement to go on with our plans. We were told that there are two areas in the state of Iowa that do not have a state park within a fifty mile radius of its center. The area around Cresco, Iowa, happens to be one of the two; the other area is near Sioux City, Iowa.

1. A geologist of the Iowa Geologic Survey of Iowa City, Iowa, has checked the total lake area and said the feasibility of holding water was very good.

2. We hired the Soil Testing Service of Iowa, Inc., Iowa City to do the soil testing at the site of the dike, dam and spillway. They have found that both soil and bedrock were satisfactory as far as preventing water losses at the proposed site.

3. On June 6, 1967, the Iowa State Conservation Commission gave this proposed memorial park project its approval as "to bring this area into being."

4. On August 29, 1967, the Iowa Natural Resources Council gave its recommendation as "it was generally agreed that this proposed park project would be acceptable for approval subject to receipt of engineering plans."

5. On December 4, 1967, the Governor's Committee on Conservation of Outdoor Resources referred to the proposed park project as "the project with its many merits to the Governor and 1969 legislature."

6. We hired the Great Plains Aerial Surveys, Inc., of Omaha, Nebraska, to perform an aerial survey and furnish topographic maps and other necessary information of the park area.

7. We hired Wallace, Holland, Kastler & Schmitz of Mason City, Iowa, and Rochester, Minnesota, to proceed with just the necessary preliminary engineering service required by the State Conservation Commission for the proposed park project.

8. We are working with the Iowa Development Commission and Wallace, Holland, Kastler & Schmitz of Mason City, Iowa, in regard to Iowa project P-90 consisting of a planning program for Howard County, Iowa.

9. We are working with the FHA and Cullen, Schiltz & Associates, Inc., of Dubuque, Iowa, in the preparation of comprehensive area plans for water and sewer systems for Howard County, Iowa.

10. We are working with the local federal officers of the S.C.S., the A.S.C.S., the FHA and the local State Agricultural Extension Office in regard to the Federal 566 Program in the proposed park's watershed area.

11. On May 7, 1968, after personal inspection of the proposed park area, the Iowa State Conservation Commission authorized the expenditure of the sum of \$17,500.00 for further engineering studies. (Various local organizations have already spent approximately \$30,000.00 for coring and sampling rock, resistivity testings, ground water elevation tests, aerial survey, ground control, and purchasing of land at site of the proposed dam and spillway.)

12. On May 8, 1968, the Iowa State Conservation Commission has accepted the proposed park as a State Project for investigative purposes.

13. On September 28, 1968, after a tour of the proposed Turkey River's State Recreational project, the Iowa State Advisory Preserve Board asked the U.S. Department of Interior to investigate the potential of marshland acquisition in its watershed area.

14. On September 30, 1968, after a tour of the proposed recreation area, the Iowa Natural Resources Council reiterated their approval of the areas and recommended that the engineering plans, when completed, be submitted to the

council and encouraged the local group to continue their efforts, particularly in work with farmers to control erosion.

15. On October 24, 1968, the material of the proposed recreation project was presented to the Iowa Development Commission by its planning Director. The Commissioners are aware of the project and encourage the development of such state recreation, and their planning director is to meet with the Howard County Zoning Commission to review progress of the 701 Planning program presently underway.

16. On Tuesday, April 1, 1969, the Iowa State Conservation Commission accepted the preliminary engineering report on the Turkey River dam in Howard County (in regard to the proposed Turkey River Little Lakes of the Woods Park project) by Wallace, Holland, Kastler, and Schmitz of Mason City, Iowa, and Rochester, Minnesota, and Shive, Hattery and Associates, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, and Chicago, Illinois.

17. On Wednesday, April 1, 1969, at 7:30 A.M. we met with the Senate and House Appropriation Sub-Committee at a joint meeting to present the familiarity of our proposed park project to them.

18. On Friday, May 2, 1969, the Iowa Senate of the 1969 Legislature passed by a vote of 52 to 0 the bill of senate file 672 with the amendment of the Turkey River Little Lakes of the Woods Park project attached to it.

19. On Tuesday, May 13, 1969, the Iowa House of Representatives of the 1969 Legislature passed by a vote of 104 to 6 and sent to the Governor of Iowa the bill of senate file 672 with its same amendment.

20. On Friday, May 23, 1969, the Iowa Governor, Robert D. Ray, signed the Senate file 672 with its Turkey River amendment, which now authorizes and legally brings the 4,000 acre area one mile south of Cresco, Iowa, in as the Turkey River Little Lakes of the Woods Park project as a reality.

21. On Tuesday, May 12, 1970, a letter was received from Mr. Fred A Priewert, Director of the Iowa State Conservation Commission stating that up to the present date his land acquisition department has conducted a preliminary study

of land appraisal and ownership in the general area. This additional study was undertaken to become more knowledgeable of the proposed project area.

22. On Thursday, August 6, 1970, Gary L. Ackerman, District Fisheries Manager of the State Conservation Commission established a preparation of a biological recognizance report for the Commission. Special emphasis on fisheries management potential of the Lakes of the Turkey River Little Lakes of the Woods Park.

23. On Thursday, April 15, 1971, our group met with joint Senate and House Natural Resource Appropriation Sub-Committee in regard to appropriating funds to start the Little Lakes of the Woods Park Project.

24. During the last days of the 1971 Session, the Iowa Senate and the House of Representatives (of the 64th General Assembly) and Iowa Governor Robert D. Ray approved \$150,000.00 to start the Turkey River Park Project.

25. On Thursday, May 27, 1971, the local and state S.C.S. group met various staff members of the Iowa Conservation Commission at a joint meeting in regard to information for improvement of the 98 sq. miles watershed area for preventing siltation of the future lakes of the Little Lakes of the Woods Park.

26. On January 2, 1972, a local group asked to remove the word State from the title of the Little Lakes of the Woods State Park and place the word of Memorial in the title. So from this date on it would be called the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park, which is actually a 4,000 acre tourist farm with the park and the four small lakes within it. This park is to honor Dr. Norman Borlaug, a Nobel Peace Prize winner who was born and raised here in Howard County and Dr. Borlaug is the first man in the agriculture field who was so honored in this way.

27. On February 16, 1972, three staff members of the Iowa Conservation Commission, Gerald Schnepf, Director of Planning; Jim Scheffler, Resource Planner and Robert Armstrong, of the Land Acquisition Department, were here to survey the area for planning the future master plans.

28. On Friday, May 19, 1972, the Iowa Association of Foresters toured the area of the proposed recreational project. They have stated that the project looks very promising and additional new forest areas have been recommended.

29. On Friday, May 26, 1972, a Howard County delegation presented the preliminary master plan of the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park to Governor Robert Ray in his office of the Iowa State Capitol; Governor Ray stated that he was very interested in this Howard County project on the Turkey River.

30. On Tuesday, June 6, 1972, the Iowa Conservation Commission has supported the staff's recommendation of acquiring portions of land along the Turkey River from the Cardinal Marsh area to the Vernon Springs area and that the potential for smaller watershed impoundments on the three contributing creeks in that area be investigated by the staff.

31. On Wednesday, June 21, 1972, Governor Robert Ray and a local group toured the area of this proposed Turkey River Memorial Park. He was impressed with this area which has been designated by the Iowa Legislature for a State park and chain of lakes.

32. On Wednesday, June 21, 1972, Dr. Kent Nelson, Dairy Nutritionist and Extension Dairyman of Extension Service, Iowa State University and Robert Cole of Local Extension Service office toured the tourist farm portion of the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park. Dr. Nelson has expressed a great interest in the tourist farm part of this recreational area.

33. On July 19, 1972, the presentation of the proposed project of the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park was made to various leaders of the Science and Technology area of the Agriculture Extension Service Department of Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. They have stated great interest in the tourist farm portion of the recreational area.

34. On October 10, 1972, a letter has been received stating that the Commission would indeed consider the possibility of turning over the acquired land along

the Turkey River in the recreational area to the Howard County Conservation Board under a management agreement based upon a master plan.

35. On Wednesday, November 15, 1972, the Upper Explorerland RC&D (N.E. Iowa RC&D) placed the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park on its priority list of top priority projects.

36. On Wednesday, November 22, 1972, we have presented our Turkey River recreational area at the monthly meeting of the Iowa Americal Revolution Bicentennial Commission in Des Moines, Iowa. The Commission stated "it is hoped that some sources for funding will become available so that we can be of real help to you."

37. On Tuesday, November 28, 1972, the Iowa Americal Revolution Bicentennial Commission has sent their representative Phaene G. Hibbs to tour the Turkey River area of the proposed Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park project. Mr. Hibbs stated that he avored the project very much.

38. On Tuesday, December 12, 1972, the presentation of this Turkey River recreational area was made to the Iowa Office For Planning and Programming in Des Moines, Iowa. The group has expressed great interest in this project.

AREA DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The following goals have been established by the O.E.D.P. Study Committee:

1. Decrease the rate of out-migration.
2. Provide for better health care delivery systems.
3. Strive for full-time and part-time employment for the small farmers.
4. Improve the tax base of the county.
5. Provide for continuous career development and improve the skills of the unemployed and rural residents.
6. Seek industrial expansion both through the location of new industries or the expansion of existing industries thus providing more job opportunities.
 - a. Develop the Turkey River Industrial Park
 - b. Expansion of existing industries
7. Encourage farmers to accelerate conservation land treatment, thereby improving crop productivity and farm incomes.
8. Strive to improve the per capita income.
9. Encourage such other activities which will conserve and/or develop the human, natural and political resources of Howard County.

DEVELOPMENT OF ACTION PROGRAMS

Problem: Narrow Economic Base

Action: Attract new and diversify industry into Howard County and promote homegrown industry. To accomplish this objective, an aggressive and well organized industrial development program is essential. Howard County presently has a County Rural Development Committee and Cresco has an Industrial Development Committee with a full time staff.

Problem: Low Family Income

Action: This can in part be solved through an improved labor market in the County. Presently, a combination of surplus labor and lack of industrial job opportunities have depressed the wage scales. This situation could be alleviated by the creation of new jobs, increasing the demand for labor, and thereby raising the wage rates.

Problem: Narrow Tax Base

Action: This is related to the problem of a narrow economic base and a similar program as was used for this problem would apply. We plan to develop local retail business through downtown beautification and other such community pride activities which are designed to expand local trade. Plans for Cresco downtown beautification are being finalized.

Problem: Lack of Prepared Industrial Sites and Buildings

Action: As has been previously pointed out, the success or failure of any industrial development is largely dependent upon the availability of prepared or ready-to-occupy industrial site and buildings. While there are some sites in the five county area, there is no site in the county in spite of some potential and available land.

At the present time Cresco has 28 acres in their Industrial Park. The Cresco Industrial Committee would like to acquire an additional 67 acres to complete the 95 acre tract. The Committee believes the expansion is needed to provide a choice location for industrial development providing up to 250 new job opportunities.

Problem: Out Migration of Educated and Skilled Young

Action: This problem is closely related to the problem of a narrow economic base and a similar solution as was used for this problem can be applied.

There is a need for further development of cultural and social programs combined with expanding recreational facilities through the Resource Conservation and Development Program and the Regional Planning Commission at both the county and regional level.

Potentials for Growth

In spite of existing problems and current trends, Howard County does possess the potentials and above all the community optimism essential for economic growth and development.

There are adequate and desirable industrial sites which could be developed and served by nearby rail, road and air transport for the development and future expansion of any small, moderate or large size industry or group of industries.

Further, there is a sufficient labor market within the county to provide needed manpower for most kinds of industrial development and a system of vocation technical schools and colleges which could provide any training program required.

The communities are attractive free of excessive pollution and offer many opportunities for outdoor activities of all types.

The Howard-Winneshek School District has school facilities that can easily handle 300-500 more pupils. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Cresco is fully accredited. It is running at only 50% of its capacity. It could serve twice the population it is presently. Cresco has seven church educational buildings, being of various denominations. Outstanding bonds remaining on the new Cresco utilities include \$30,000 for airport expansion; \$230,000 for sewer construction; \$155,000 in sewer revenue bonds; \$205,000 for water revenue bonds and \$550,000 in street construction bonds.

Finally, aside from all the potentials that have been mentioned elsewhere in this report, the potential that will make it all come together is the attitude of the citizens of Howard County. The fact that a group of fifty-eight people all with many other commitments could get together and put so much time and effort into preparing this OEDP is evidence that the citizens of this county have not given up.

Howard County residents worked along with four other counties to create the Resource Conservation and Development District and the Regional Planning Commission so they could benefit from regional resource management.

These are just a few of the examples of the spirit and determination that makes all the potentials for growths viable.

Problems and Deficiencies

The problems and deficiencies of Howard County are not really unique in rural America. They are problems of a changing society in which technology has made obsolete the economic foundation of Howard County. We stand faced with the concerns of either joining the American mainstream of industry and service or be caught up in the backwater of a prosperous economy with our older citizens and our abandoned towns.

What we need is assistance in building the basic capital structure that will allow us to compete as a community for the payrolls and employment of American industry.

Many of Howard County's problems can be resolved by making job opportunities available. Our basic stumbling block besides the lack of a developed site is that we have only one other major industry located here that would attract others and put confidence into industrial location people that this area can and does support thriving businesses and strong economic activity. This problem, however, we can do little about; but we must do all we can to attract new industry and thus get the wheels of economic growth and development moving.

Some of the county deficiencies can be appreciated from the list of Howard County RC&D Project Measures.

Summary of Area Resources

Howard County, as shown in the preceeding sections has excellent potential for growth and development on many fronts. Agricultural, historically the most important industry in the County, could be further developed by location of agri-business type industries in the area, in conjunction with increasing loan ceilings on cow calf herds and taking advantage of the areas superior grazing land by putting more cows on it. Light industry should be developed to take advantage of the area's excellent location and transportation facilities.

Over the past two decades, the population of Howard County has reflected a decline and unemployment has been on the increase though less dramatic a trend as population. The reason, simply stated, is because of a general historical trend of declining farm labor demands and rural migration to urban centers. To offset these population shifts, Howard County's rural communities have not been able to shift from farm service employment to industrial employment fast enough to absorb those displaced from agriculture.

The basic wage structure in the county leaves 32.0% of all families below O.E.O. poverty guidelines as compared to 19.6% for the state as a whole. This is more an indicator of a rural community caught in an era of economic transition than one of deep poverty problems.

The educational programs through the high school and post-secondary levels in the county are excellent at the present time. Present facilities could accommodate 300 more students. Post-secondary and adult level courses are readily available for those seeking additional career training or skill acquisition.

The labor supply, though small in absolute numbers, presents little problems for either expanding industry or attracting moderate sized new industry. In the 1968 comprehensive labor force survey, indications were that there was

a relatively large group of highly motivated and well-trained people both men and women who were seeking employment or a change in their present employment.

The basic financial structure of the county is stable. Cities, though not free of debt have a history of passing bond issues of community facilities and could be counted on for support for any expansion of the local economy.

As with most rural communities, the tax base has eroded somewhat while tax rates are approaching constitutional limits. The county must have additional industries and businesses to provide employment and strengthen the tax base. As the median age in the county has risen to 35.6, the ability to meet higher local taxes to support expansion had diminished and thus, the impetus for an economic revival must come from outside the local government structure with its financial limitations.

Cultural facilities that are available are abundant on the social level yet physical facilities are desperately needed to focus community attention and provide services which heretofore had people leaving the county to enjoy.

In summary, Howard County has the potential for expansion on a moderate scale that would help stem outmigration and attract back the people who left for urban living and better job opportunities. What it needs to realize this potential, is an infusion of support monies to finance the basic programs that are needed to attract employment and revenue producing opportunities.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The OEDP Committee will remain divided into five permanent subcommittees:

1. Natural Resources Committee will be responsible for developing an action program for the creation of new programs and promotion of existing programs in the areas of environmental protection and resource development. They will coordinate their efforts with appropriate local, state, and regional organizations.
2. Community Development Committee will be responsible for the promotion of tourism and public relations and for the improvement of community facilities and services. They will coordinate their efforts with appropriate local, state, and regional organizations.
3. County Rural Development Committee will be responsible for the growth and development of rural development projects to improve the per capita income of the rural people and encourage full utilization of the rural labor skills.
4. Watershed Improvement Committee will be responsible for the development of watershed, conservation and drainage programs that will increase the productivity of farm lands and increase the per capita income of the farmers.
5. Agriculture Sub-committee will be responsible for the development of various agricultural related programs such as a dairy herd improvement specialist, pasture specialist and other programs that will improve the economy of Howard County.

The OEDP Core Committee will have overall responsibility for the coordination of these working committees and for the updating of the OEDP Report. This committee will be the main source of contact between the federal government and local groups on program development, application and funding. The Core Committee will coordinate their work with all appropriate local, state, federal, and regional organizations.

Program Evaluation

The O.E.D.P. Core Committee will evaluate the O.E.D.P. Report and the work of the subcommittees in affecting the work plan on a continuing basis and will submit their findings to the area EDA Office.

Regular meetings of the O.D.E.P. Committee will be held so the overall program can be coordinated in an orderly manner.

The Howard County O.E.D.P. Committee has pledged itself to a program of work to alleviate the unemployment and underemployment in Howard County and to promote economic growth and stability.

APPENDIX

Sequence of Events

In the fall of 1966 the Howard County Supervisors, County Conservation Board, County Engineer and Study Committees introduced the plan of the proposed Memorial Park and industrial park to a group of staff leaders of various departments of the State Conservation Commission in Des Moines, Iowa. We asked for their consideration for the future of such a project as ours.

They have given us encouragement to go on with our plans. We were told that there are two areas in the state of Iowa that do not have a state park within a fifty mile radius of its center. The area around Cresco, Iowa, happens to be one of the two; the other area is near Sioux City, Iowa.

1. A geologist of the Iowa Geologic Survey of Iowa City, Iowa, has checked the total lake area and said the feasibility of holding water was very good.

2. We hired the Soil Testing Service of Iowa, Inc., Iowa City to do the soil testing at the site of the dike, dam and spillway. They have found that both soil and bedrock were satisfactory as far as preventing water losses at the proposed site.

3. On June 6, 1967, the Iowa State Conservation Commission gave this proposed memorial park project its approval as "to bring this area into being."

4. On August 29, 1967, the Iowa Natural Resources Council gave its recommendation as "it was generally agreed that this proposed park project would be acceptable for approval subject to receipt of engineering plans."

5. On December 4, 1967, the Governor's Committee on Conservation of Outdoor Resources referred to the proposed park project as "the project with its many merits to the Governor and 1969 legislature."

6. We hired the Great Plains Aerial Surveys, Inc., of Omaha, Nebraska, to perform an aerial survey and furnish topographic maps and other necessary information of the park area.

7. We hired Wallace, Holland, Kastler & Schmitz of Mason City, Iowa, and Rochester, Minnesota, to proceed with just the necessary preliminary engineering service required by the State Conservation Commission for the proposed park project.

8. We are working with the Iowa Development Commission and Wallace, Holland, Kastler & Schmitz of Mason City, Iowa, in regard to Iowa project P-90 consisting of a planning program for Howard County, Iowa.

9. We are working with the FHA and Cullen, Schiltz & Associates, Inc., of Dubuque, Iowa, in the preparation of comprehensive area plans for water and sewer systems for Howard County, Iowa.

10. We are working with the local federal officers of the S.C.S., the A.S.C.S., the FHA and the local State Agricultural Extension Office in regard to the Federal 566 Program in the proposed park's watershed area.

11. On May 7, 1968, after personal inspection of the proposed park area, the Iowa State Conservation Commission authorized the expenditure of the sum of \$17,500.00 for further engineering studies. (Various local organizations have already spent approximately \$30,000.00 for coring and sampling rock, resistivity testings, ground water elevation tests, aerial survey, ground control, and purchasing of land at site of the proposed dam and spillway.)

12. On May 8, 1968, the Iowa State Conservation Commission has accepted the proposed park as a State Project for investigative purposes.

13. On September 28, 1968, after a tour of the proposed Turkey River's State Recreational project, the Iowa State Advisory Preserve Board asked the U.S. Department of Interior to investigate the potential of marshland acquisition in its watershed area.

14. On September 30, 1968, after a tour of the proposed recreation area, the Iowa Natural Resources Council reiterated their approval of the areas and recommended that the engineering plans, when completed, be submitted to the

council and encouraged the local group to continue their efforts, particularly in work with farmers to control erosion.

15. On October 24, 1968, the material of the proposed recreation project was presented to the Iowa Development Commission by its planning Director. The Commissioners are aware of the project and encourage the development of such state recreation, and their planning director is to meet with the Howard County Zoning Commission to review progress of the 701 Planning program presently underway.

16. On Tuesday, April 1, 1969, the Iowa State Conservation Commission accepted the preliminary engineering report on the Turkey River dam in Howard County (in regard to the proposed Turkey River Little Lakes of the Woods Park project) by Wallace, Holland, Kastler, and Schmitz of Mason City, Iowa, and Rochester, Minnesota, and Shive, Hattery and Associates, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, and Chicago, Illinois.

17. On Wednesday, April 1, 1969, at 7:30 A.M. we met with the Senate and House Appropriation Sub-Committee at a joint meeting to present the familiarity of our proposed park project to them.

18. On Friday, May 2, 1969, the Iowa Senate of the 1969 Legislature passed by a vote of 52 to 0 the bill of senate file 672 with the amendment of the Turkey River Little Lakes of the Woods Park project attached to it.

19. On Tuesday, May 13, 1969, the Iowa House of Representatives of the 1969 Legislature passed by a vote of 104 to 6 and sent to the Governor of Iowa the bill of senate file 672 with its same amendment.

20. On Friday, May 23, 1969, the Iowa Governor, Robert D. Ray, signed the Senate file 672 with its Turkey River amendment, which now authorizes and legally brings the 4,000 acre area one mile south of Cresco, Iowa, in as the Turkey River Little Lakes of the Woods Park project as a reality.

21. On Tuesday, May 12, 1970, a letter was received from Mr. Fred A Priewert, Director of the Iowa State Conservation Commission stating that up to the present date his land acquisition department has conducted a preliminary study

of land appraisal and ownership in the general area. This additional study was undertaken to become more knowledgeable of the proposed project area.

22. On Thursday, August 6, 1970, Gary L. Ackerman, District Fisheries Manager of the State Conservation Commission established a preparation of a biological recognizance report for the Commission. Special emphasis on fisheries management potential of the Lakes of the Turkey River Little Lakes of the Woods Park.

23. On Thursday, April 15, 1971, our group met with joint Senate and House Natural Resource Appropriation Sub-Committee in regard to appropriating funds to start the Little Lakes of the Woods Park Project.

24. During the last days of the 1971 Session, the Iowa Senate and the House of Representatives (of the 64th General Assembly) and Iowa Governor Robert D. Ray approved \$150,000.00 to start the Turkey River Park Project.

25. On Thursday, May 27, 1971, the local and state S.C.S. group met various staff members of the Iowa Conservation Commission at a joint meeting in regard to information for improvement of the 98 sq. miles watershed area for preventing siltation of the future lakes of the Little Lakes of the Woods Park.

26. On January 2, 1972, a local group asked to remove the word State from the title of the Little Lakes of the Woods State Park and place the word of Memorial in the title. So from this date on it would be called the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park, which is actually a 4,000 acre tourist farm with the park and the four small lakes within it. This park is to honor Dr. Norman Borlaug, a Nobel Peace Prize winner who was born and raised here in Howard County and Dr. Borlaug is the first man in the agriculture field who was so honored in this way.

27. On February 16, 1972, three staff members of the Iowa Conservation Commission, Gerald Schnepf, Director of Planning; Jim Scheffler, Resource Planner and Robert Armstrong, of the Land Acquisition Department, were here to survey the area for planning the future master plans.

28. On Friday, May 19, 1972, the Iowa Association of Foresters toured the area of the proposed recreational project. They have stated that the project looks very promising and additional new forest areas have been recommended.

29. On Friday, May 26, 1972, a Howard County delegation presented the preliminary master plan of the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park to Governor Robert Ray in his office of the Iowa State Capitol; Governor Ray stated that he was very interested in this Howard County project on the Turkey River.

30. On Tuesday, June 6, 1972, the Iowa Conservation Commission has supported the staff's recommendation of acquiring portions of land along the Turkey River from the Cardinal Marsh area to the Vernon Springs area and that the potential for smaller watershed impoundments on the three contributing creeks in that area be investigated by the staff.

31. On Wednesday, June 21, 1972, Governor Robert Ray and a local group toured the area of this proposed Turkey River Memorial Park. He was impressed with this area which has been designated by the Iowa Legislature for a State park and chain of lakes.

32. On Wednesday, June 21, 1972, Dr. Kent Nelson, Dairy Nutritionist and Extension Dairyman of Extension Service, Iowa State University and Robert Cole of Local Extension Service office toured the tourist farm portion of the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park. Dr. Nelson has expressed a great interest in the tourist farm part of this recreational area.

33. On July 19, 1972, the presentation of the proposed project of the Little Lakes of the Woods Memorial Park was made to various leaders of the Science and Technology area of the Agriculture Extension Service Department of Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. They have stated great interest in the tourist farm portion of the recreational area.

34. On October 10, 1972, a letter has been received stating that the Commission would indeed consider the possibility of turning over the acquired land along

