LAKE AHQUABI STATE PARK

"Ahquabi," a Sauk and Fox Indian word meaning "resting place," is a fitting name for this scenic 770-acre park. The park site was recommended by "Ding" Darling, nationally known lowa political cartoonist and conservationist, and was dedicated in 1936. Many of its structures were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930's and remain available for the enjoyment of park visitors.

SWIMMING

The 130-acre man-made lake has a large sandy beach and offers supervised swimming with lifeguards on duty. Refreshments are for sale at the modern beach concession building.

BOATING AND FISHING

The boat rental building has snacks and fishing supplies for sale. Canoes, paddle boats, motor boats and rowboats are available for rent. The "no wake" rule applies on Lake Ahquabi. A modern boat ramp is located at the northern end of the park. Another ramp is located in the campground. Lake Ahquabi is popular with anglers. A number of fishing jetties provide great places for a day of shoreline fishing.

LODGE

A stone lodge overlooking the lake may be rented through the park ranger. Constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps, it is very popular for family reunions, weddings and other large gatherings. Two shelter houses are also available and may be reserved for \$15 through the park ranger.

CAMPING

The campground is located on the lakeshore. There are 161 campsites (85 with electrical hookups), modern rest rooms and showers and two trailer dump stations. Each campsite has a picnic table and fireplace. An organized youth group camping area is inside the main campground in the "non-electric" area. Camping permits are obtained by self-registration at the campground.

TRAILS

Hikers, snowmobilers and cross-country skiers can travel all the way around the lake on a beautiful gravel trail. Other scenic foot trails wind through the woods. A self-guided nature trail provides the walker with information on many of the trees and shrubs found at Lake Ahquabi.

NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Indianola is six miles north. It is the home of Simpson College and the site of the annual hot air balloon contests.

Des Moines, lowa's capital city, is 22 miles north.

EQUAL RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

All persons are entitled to full and equal enjoyment of the recreational opportunities, privileges and advantages available in lowa's great outdoors. The rest room building in the south picnic area is accessible to persons with varying abilities.

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