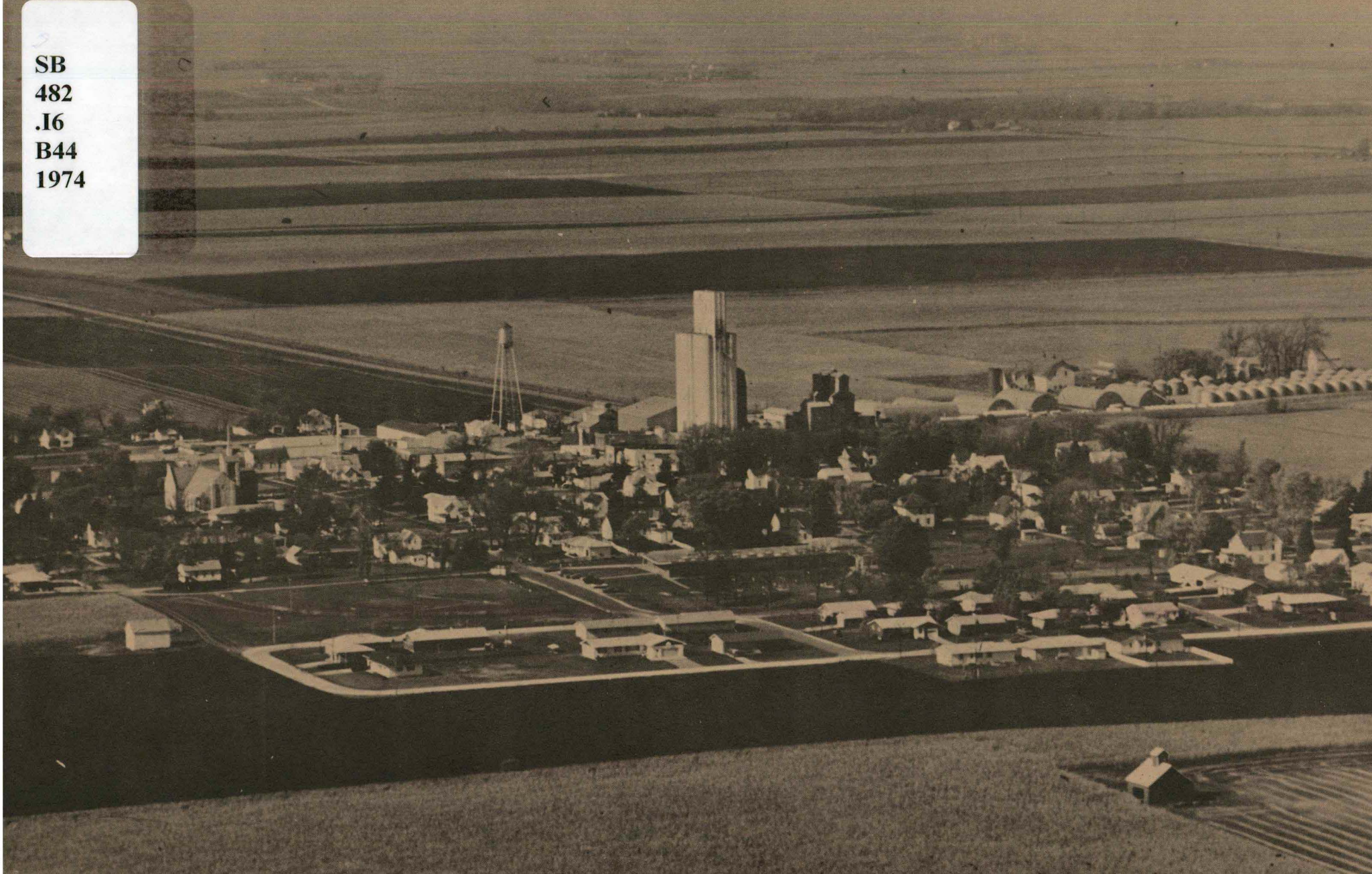
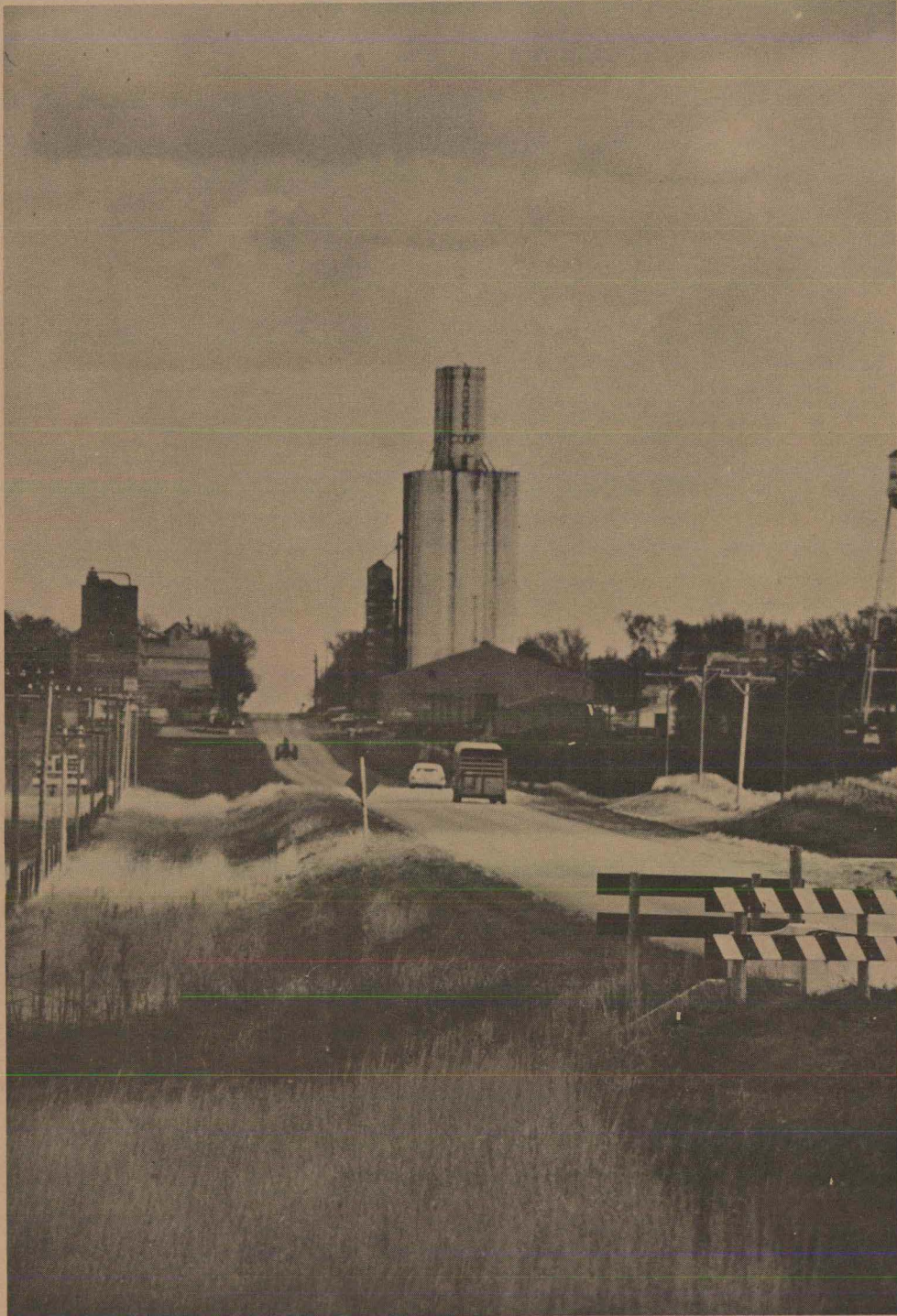


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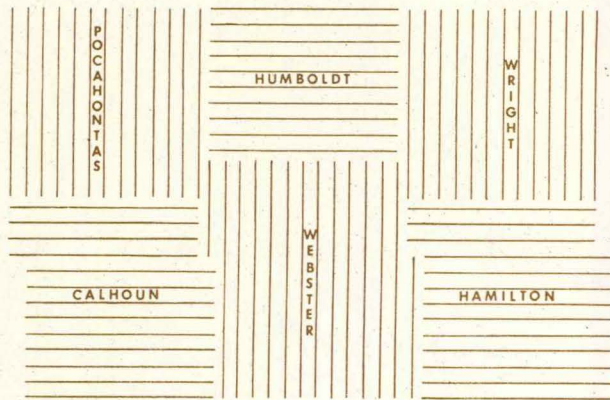


BADGER 1974

A COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN



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MIDAS

MID IOWA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
12 SOUTH TENTH STREET
FORT DODGE, IOWA 50501
515-576-7183

Enclosed please find a copy of a report recently completed for the community of Badger, Iowa by MIDAS Regional Planning Commission.

We at MIDAS feel that this report exemplifies the type and content of study which each community with a population under 1000 should anticipate completing to assist themselves in planning to meet their own recreation needs. While most importantly a vehicle for guiding a town's development, plans such as these as well make the community better equipped to solicit federal or state assistance in the way of matching grants for park development.

According to a MIDAS report, Iowa: Region Five - An Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Element, each community under 1000 in population should have at least four to six acres of developed recreation space available as one of their community services. This pilot plan and subsequent plans for other communities are one means of helping this goal become a fact.

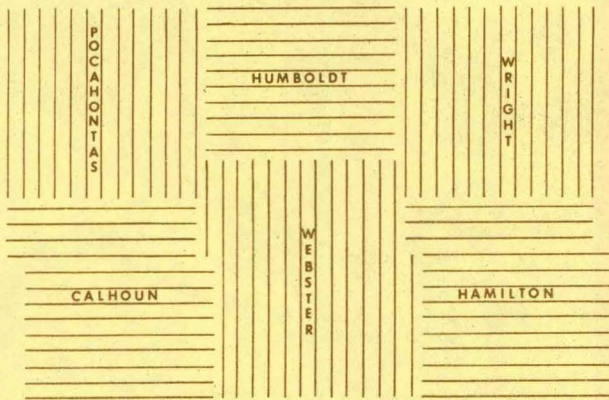
In the plan it is stated: "The knowledge gained by MIDAS through this study process is now offered to the other member communities in the area who have a desire to improve their recreation facilities but don't know how best to proceed . . . we now feel that this study for Badger will be used as a guide by other towns that decide to plan for their recreation system."

MIDAS is presently engaged in similar studies for communities of 1000 to 2500. As these are completed, copies will be sent to the towns lying within that category.

In conclusion, we do feel that these types of studies do have a purpose. Hopefully MIDAS can continue in an advisory function assisting individual communities to plan for their futures.

If your community is interested in developing such a plan, we'd like to hear from you.

Damon Ohlerking
Damon Ohlerking
Landscape Architect



MIDAS

MID IOWA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
12 SOUTH TENTH STREET
FORT DODGE, IOWA 50501
515-576-7183

To the communities of Dakota City, Gilmore City, Livermore, Renwick, Bode, Rutland, Thor, Bradgate, Ottosen, Hardy, Pioneer.

RE: MIDAS Community Recreation Planning Services.

Because MIDAS is presently involved with the Humboldt County Conservation Board in the preparation of an Outdoor Recreation and Open Spaces Plan for your county, we feel there is a special opportunity to help your community plan for your future needs.

We feel that community recreation plans should be an integral part of county plans. As such, the planning work can be performed at one time. Once the plans are completed each community and the county is free to follow at their discretion the plans developed within the study.

If your community is interested in developing such a plan, a recreation planning committee of 5-7 people representing the Mayor and town council, clergyman, service clubs, and town residents should be appointed by the town council. This committee should be prepared to meet with the MIDAS Landscape Architect at least two or three times.

Out of such committee meetings, each community will develop personal goals for attaining a better lifestyle for their town's people.

The plans formulated by the committee will be returned to the individual town councils for approval and subsequent inclusion within the county report. There might be a token \$50 charge to offset some of the additional printing costs.

The first meeting of these communities will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 11th, 1974 at the 1st National Social Center in Humboldt.

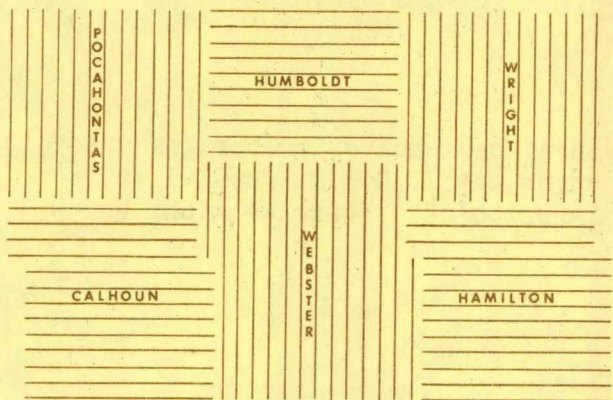
We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to plan for yourselves the future of your community's recreation services.

If there are any questions in advance of the meeting do not hesitate to contact us. This meeting is totally voluntary and only good can result from any effort expended on your community's behalf.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Damon Ohlerking
Damon Ohlerking
Landscape Architect



MIDAS

MID IOWA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
12 SOUTH TENTH STREET
FORT DODGE, IOWA 50501
515-576-7183

Park Board: City of Humboldt Humboldt, Iowa, 50548

RE: MIDAS Community Recreation Planning Services

Because MIDAS is presently involved with the Humboldt County Conservation Board in preparation of an Outdoor Recreation and Open Spaces plan for your county, we feel there is a special opportunity to urge your community to develop such a plan for your city's services.

As stated in Iowa: Region Five, An Outdoor Recreation and Open Spaces Element, we at MIDAS believe that each community in Mid-Iowa can indeed benefit from objectively analyzing its recreation needs and from planning its delivery of recreation services. As a part of this we are engaged in developing, in conjunction with town council-appointed recreation planning communities, recreation plans for all Humboldt county communities under 2500 in population.

Unfortunately, this does not include the City of Humboldt. (The 2500 population figure is a federal and state-prescribed figure, but to us it is very significant. Communities under 2500 would not ordinarily engage in such studies; thus we feel the urgency to assist them within the county planning process.)

However, cities lying in the 2500-5000 population bracket each have very special conditions, problems, and potentials which can best be served by taking advantage of the services of a qualified recreation planning consultant to prepare a five year plan for the recreation system of the City of Humboldt. (MIDAS Regional Planning Commission has available the names of several qualified recreation planning consultants who can be recommended as able to assist your community in the preparation of a community recreation plan.

Besides concisely identifying an approach to five year's action in park development, such a plan enables your city to become eligible to receive cost sharing federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation monies. Without that idea of matching funds, the concept of a plan of action is a highly valid idea; with the aspect of cost-sharing, the plan appears a necessity.

If the idea of developing a plan interests you as park board member, we urge you to come sit in on the meeting we will sponsor at 7:30 p.m. April 11th, 1974 at the 1st National Bank Social Center in Humboldt. There we might be better equipped to convey some of our ideas.

We'll look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,

Damon Ohlerking
Damon Ohlerking
Landscape Architect

BADGER RECREATION PLAN-COST ESTIMATES

ITEM	COST
Staff Personnel	
Director (100 hours @ 6.00/hr.)	\$600
Landscape Architect (75 hours @ 5.00/hr.)	375
Secretary (30 hours @ 2.00/hr.)	60
Printing Expenses	200
Travel Expenses	54
Office Supplies	50
Employer's Share FICA	58
Employer's Share IPERS	35

\$1,432

Badger plan model for recreation

As part of a systematic development of a series of model recreation plans to be used by different sized communities, the Mid-Iowa Development Association (MIDAS) has developed a small-town plan using Badger as a model.

Basic information and suggestions for the plan were supplied by the Badger Recreation Committee of Alvin Pettit, Richard Pederson, Walter Licht and Jerry Nelson. The committee met with MIDAS several times during the planning process.

"The Badger plan was done only as a pilot for that category of community," Damon Ohlerking, MIDAS acting director, said. "The plan is

See BADGER, page 9

BADGER—

(Continued from Page 1)

intended to serve as a format for other small towns."

Different sized towns vary in their recreational planning needs, Ohlerking explained. "For example, Badger has no neighborhoods, where towns the size of Rockwell City and Eagle Grove do have neighborhoods."

Badger, population 465, is described in the plan as a farming community that is also a "bedroom" of Fort Dodge, less than 10 miles to the north.

The citizens of Badger recognized the need to plan for the future because of the rapid influx of new residents and the new demands placed on the community's services and landscape.

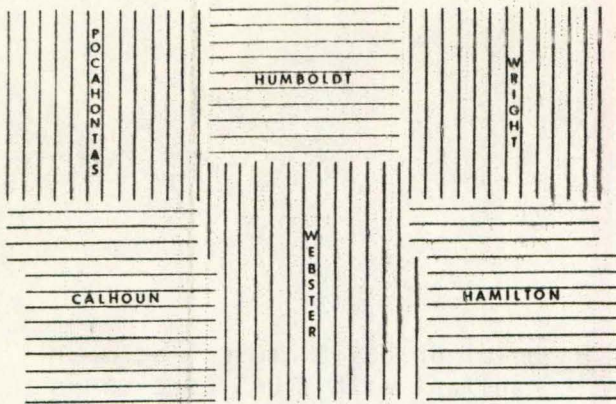
The study includes a definition of the Badger community as a "growing farm service center in a 75 square mile community with a population of about 2,000 persons."

The plan covers socio-economic factors affecting recreation needs, land use patterns, the area of influence, recreation demands, and a design for Knudson Park, the only park in Badger.

A proposed five-year action program of acquisition and development of recreation areas is included, as are recommendations for the community to follow to get the most from its recreation potential.

The town of Badger has no rivers or streams. However, the plan points out that great potential exists for linking the community to the recreational features of the Des Moines River corridor.

"In the future it is totally comprehensible that trailways will be developed for use of hikers, bikers and horseback riders," Ohlerking said. "Canoeists at the present time can use the Des Moines river as a trailway."



MIDAS

MID IOWA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
12 SOUTH TENTH STREET
FORT DODGE, IOWA 50501
515-576-7183

March 21, 1974

Jim Sheffler
Iowa State Conservation Commission, Planning Section
300 4th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

Jim:

Received your letter to Ms. Garst of Fort Dodge. Thanks for the recommendation.

Enclosed please find three copies of the final version of the Badger Community Recreation Plan, submitted for your approval. The plan has been accepted by the town council of Badger and you should be receiving notification from them shortly.

As a plan for a community of 461 people we at MIDAS feel that this plan may be somewhat elaborate, but as a hopefully concise model or pilot plan for communities of this size, we feel that we have defined a level of performance and expectation. The plan cost nearly \$1500 to complete, while the contract for the services was but a third of that.

In our six county area we have 56 communities under 2500 in population, areas that are ordinarily ignored when it comes to amenities planning. We stress that this type of plan, with or without the availability of federal funds, is a vehicle for creating community understanding of the service responsibilities of each community. Time and again we stress that a community has the role of providing such public amenities. If a document such as this can assist in soliciting public funds, so much the better.

We hope, now that we have completed this pilot example, similar communities of under 2500 in population will feel the impulsion to develop such plans for themselves perhaps with the assistance of a consultant with MIDAS as an advisory.

We are developing, in conjunction with Rockwell City and some Iowa State University Landscape Architecture Students a plan for a second level of communities. That is, communities in the population range of 2500-5000 people. Here we feel the planning becomes more complex with neighborhood and a park system.

As well we are working in an advisory role with the town of Manson and John "Mack" Roberts, an instructor at Iowa State University Landscape Architect Department, for the development of another community plan.

We are striving to see a plan done for Humboldt or Eagle Grove. We feel this plan should be done by a qualified consultant with MIDAS as a community advisor.

We are also in the process of developing a Open Spaces & Outdoor Recreation Plan for Humboldt County. In this instance besides completing the customary county level plan, attention is being extended to the communities under 2500 in population. It would seem that while it requires more consultant time at the offset, such attention is meritorious in achieving a more complete planning picture. Each small community is an industrial-commercial service center. By the same token it has the provision of recreation service as a function.

In the future, updates of county plans should include such small communities.

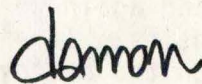
The basic format for preparing a plan such as these is as follows:

- 1) orientation of a council - appointed community recreation planning committee to the idea of developing a recreation plan for the community including solicitation of local desires for recreation.
- 2) a preliminary review of the plan's development.
- 3) a final review of the plan that has been developed. based upon community goals.
- 4) plan presentation to the town council for approval.

We would appreciate your critique of our plan and intentions.

When are we going canoeing?

Sincerely,



Damon Ohlerking
Landscape Architect

Lester C. Fleming

March 26, 1974

Jim Scheffler

Badger 1974-A community recreation plan

The Planning Section has reviewed the above document prepared by the MIDAS Regional Planning Commission. Several weeks ago, we had the opportunity to review and discuss the preliminary copy with Damon Ohlerking and Jim Abrahamson of the MIDAS staff. At that time, our input into the planning process was attained. Our review of the final document reinforces our earliest opinion that the plan will indeed provide excellent guidance to the city. We have no hesitation in our recommendation that a full period of eligibility in the LAWCON program be granted to Badger, based upon the MIDAS plan.

The plan was prepared as more than just a specific plan for one community. Rather, it was done to provide a format for future planning for similar sized towns. This was done as part of the services of the planning commission. We definitely feel that the document does indeed fill a definite need in this regard, MIDAS is probably the most active Regional Planning Commission in the state as far as actual recreational planning assistance to local communities and political sub-divisions goes.

Jim Scheffler

JS/ss

cc: MIDAS ✓
File

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FRED A. PRIEWERT, Director
300 Fourth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319
515/281-5145

An EQUAL OPPORTUNITY Agency

March 26, 1974

Mr. Damon Ohlerking
MIDAS
12 S. 10th Street
Ft. Dodge, Iowa 50501

Dear Damon:

First of all, let me compliment your efforts on the Badger Outdoor Recreation Plan. The final version looks very nice, and should be of use to both Badger and to other communities in your six county area. Of course, it can also act as a model for small communities throughout the state. For these reasons, the money spent on it was spent very well.

Your other complementary efforts should also have similar beneficial results. We are especially interested in the plan for Humboldt County; with especial interest in the inclusion of the smaller communities. This is really the only approach to a true county-wide planning effort.

Enclosed is a copy of our formal review of the Badger plan for your files. Again, we feel that it is an excellent plan and a very effective example for other communities and planning personnel. In regard to your last question concerning canoeing, I feel that this is most affirmative for sometime when both the weather and crisis situations finally break. We will have to engineer some sort of "natural resources survey" for the north central Iowa area, centering upon river corridors.

Sincerely,

Jim Scheffler
Resource Planner

JS/ss

Badger, Iowa, population 465, is located in northern Webster County. This farming community is a "bedroom" of the large city of Fort Dodge which is situated less than 10 miles to the south. The citizens of Badger lately have recognized the need to better plan for the future because of the rapid influx of new residents into the town and the resultant demands placed on the community's services and landscape.

Therefore, in the autumn of 1973 the Badger Town Council contracted with MIDAS Regional Planning Commission of Fort Dodge to first pursue the community's recreational needs. It was generally agreed that Knudson Park, the only park in Badger, was being used increasingly by the school children and by the adult residents who now have more leisure time than ever before. To accomplish the task of this recreation study, the Council appointed a recreation committee to provide more input into the plan development.

MIDAS, which is a relatively new public body, accepted this challenge of studying Badger's recreation potential as a pilot project. Since most small towns have not been involved in long-range planning and since Badger is unique as a growing community and a suburb of Fort Dodge, this study presented special problems to analyze. With the completion of this plan MIDAS intends to use it as a model by which more recreation planning maybe done in other small towns in the area.

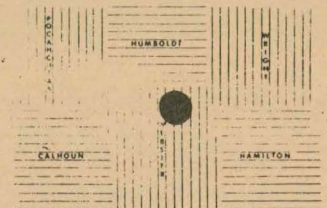
The study includes a unique definition of "community," socio-economic factors affecting recreation needs, land use patterns, area of influence, recreation demands and standards, a design for Knudson Park, and a proposed five year action program of acquisition and development of recreation areas. The report concludes with recommendations of responsibilities and procedures that the community will need to follow to continually maximize its efforts in recreation.

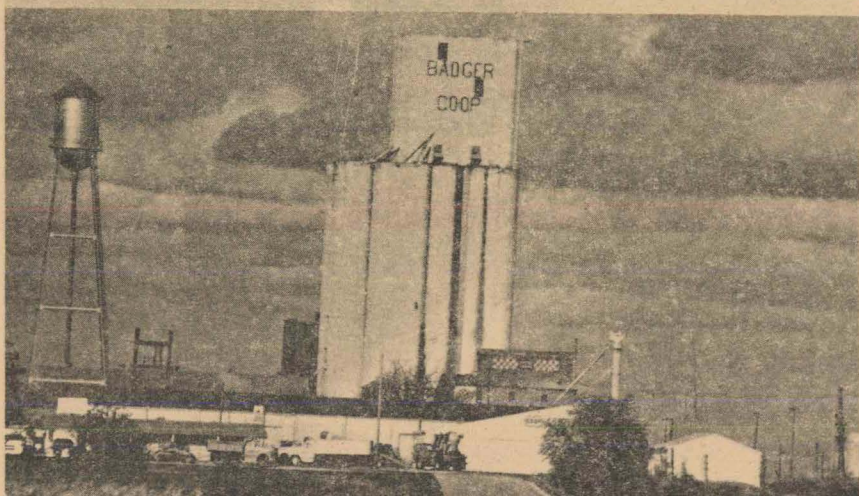
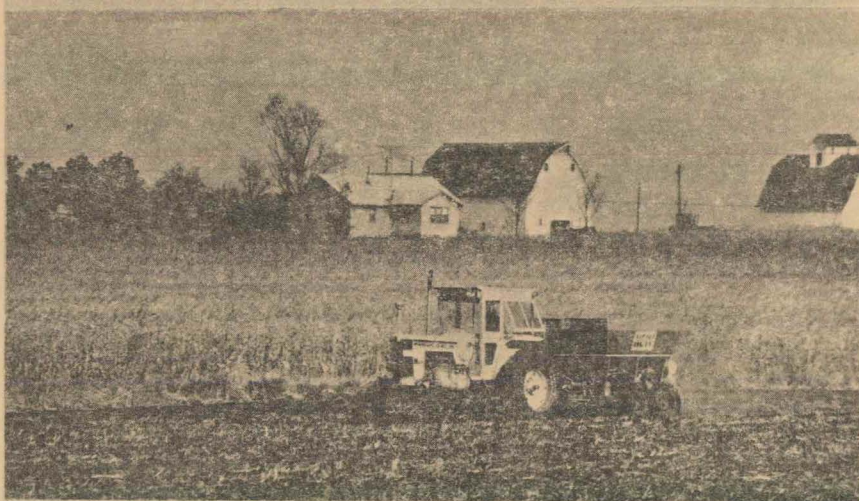
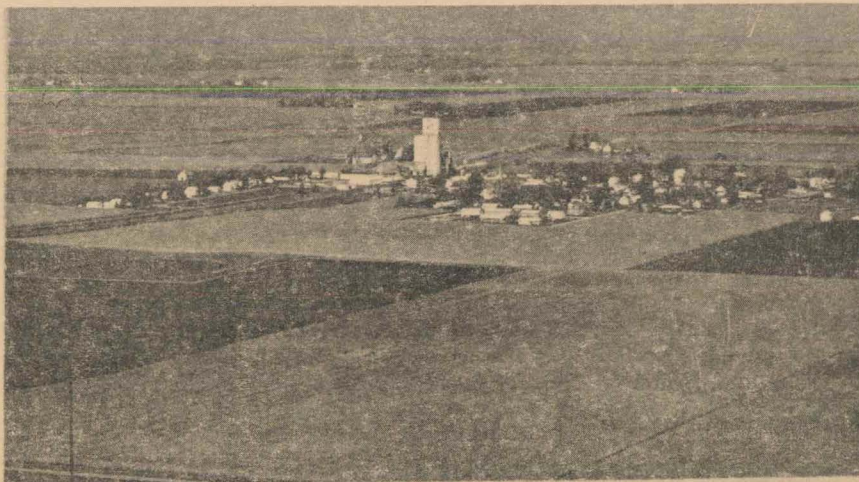
The objectives of this study are then to:

1. Give the Town of Badger an objective view of their present recreational needs and opportunities.
2. Give the community an idea of the social and economic atmosphere regarding recreation which might persist in the future.
3. Show the Town the existing resources they have which may be developed into recreating opportunities by individuals, clubs, or public agencies.
4. Develop a concept toward recreation with guidelines which outline priorities, financing, and administration of the proposed facilities.

BADGER 1974: A COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN PREPARED BY MIDAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT
WAS FINANCED IN PART THROUGH A
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING GRANT
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.





This study finds it erroneous to define the Town of Badger, Iowa, simply as a "farming community of 465 persons." More appropriately, this study defines Badger as a "growing farm service center in a 75 square mile community with a population of about 2000 persons."

Farmers from miles around recognize Badger as their home community because of the Badger Cooperative Elevator, the church, the bank, the school, the post office, the park, the downtown, and even the renowned Messerly's Inn. Many of the residents of Deer Creek, Badger, Cooper, and Newark Townships in Webster County identify closely with Badger. Some of the citizens of Beaver and Corinth Townships in Humboldt County also recognize a kinship with Badger.

Since Badger does represent such close ties with many citizens in outlying areas, added demands are placed on the public services that the Town provides. Knudson Park is often the hub of a tremendous amount of recreational activity, especially in the warm summer months. Often the Park is crowded in the fall and spring as well when school is in session. This study then finds it imperative that special attention be given to Knudson Park to ensure that the "2000 residents" of Badger can recreate in a first class community park.

Badger residents are indeed fortunate to have other recreational activities in close proximity. The Des Moines River corridor to the west only three miles offers a wide variety of both active and passive recreation activities for the enthusiast. The proximity to Kennedy Park and Gotch Park also provide the residents of Badger the opportunity for other recreation endeavors.

The nearness of these other major county parks must be taken into account in this study. Although Badger has a definite need for an expanded community park, it cannot afford to duplicate or compete with the wide number of uses offered in the surrounding parks.

RECREATION CHECKLIST

CHILDREN

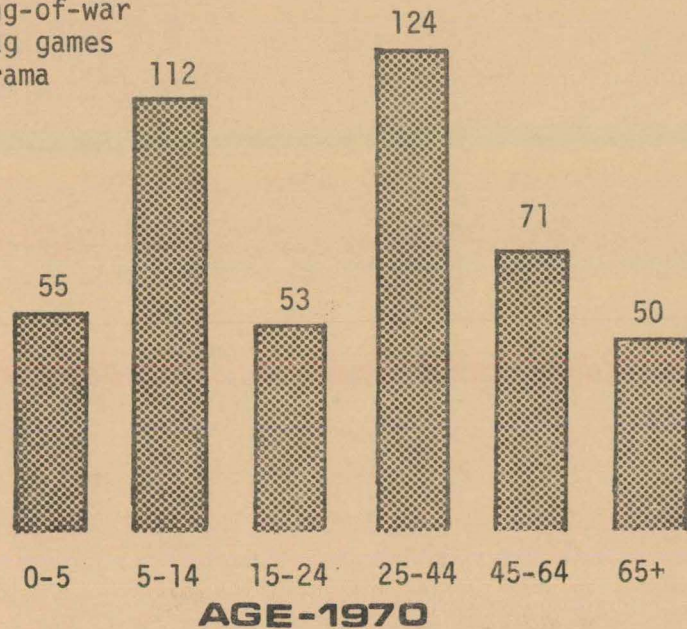
Scavenger hunts
Nature games
Pet Shows
Sand play
Gymnastics
Calisthenics
Rope Jumping
Archery
Bicycle Riding
Field Events
Kite flying
Track events
Hopscotch
Marbles
Stilt walking
Tetherball
Flag football
Soccer
Tug-of-war
Tag games
drama

FAMILIES

Banquets
Reunions
Potluck
Suppers
Picnicking
Skating
Badminton
Croquet
Baseball
Paddle Ball
Tennis
Basketball
Softball
Touch
Football
Volleyball
Fairs
Arts & Crafts

ELDERLY

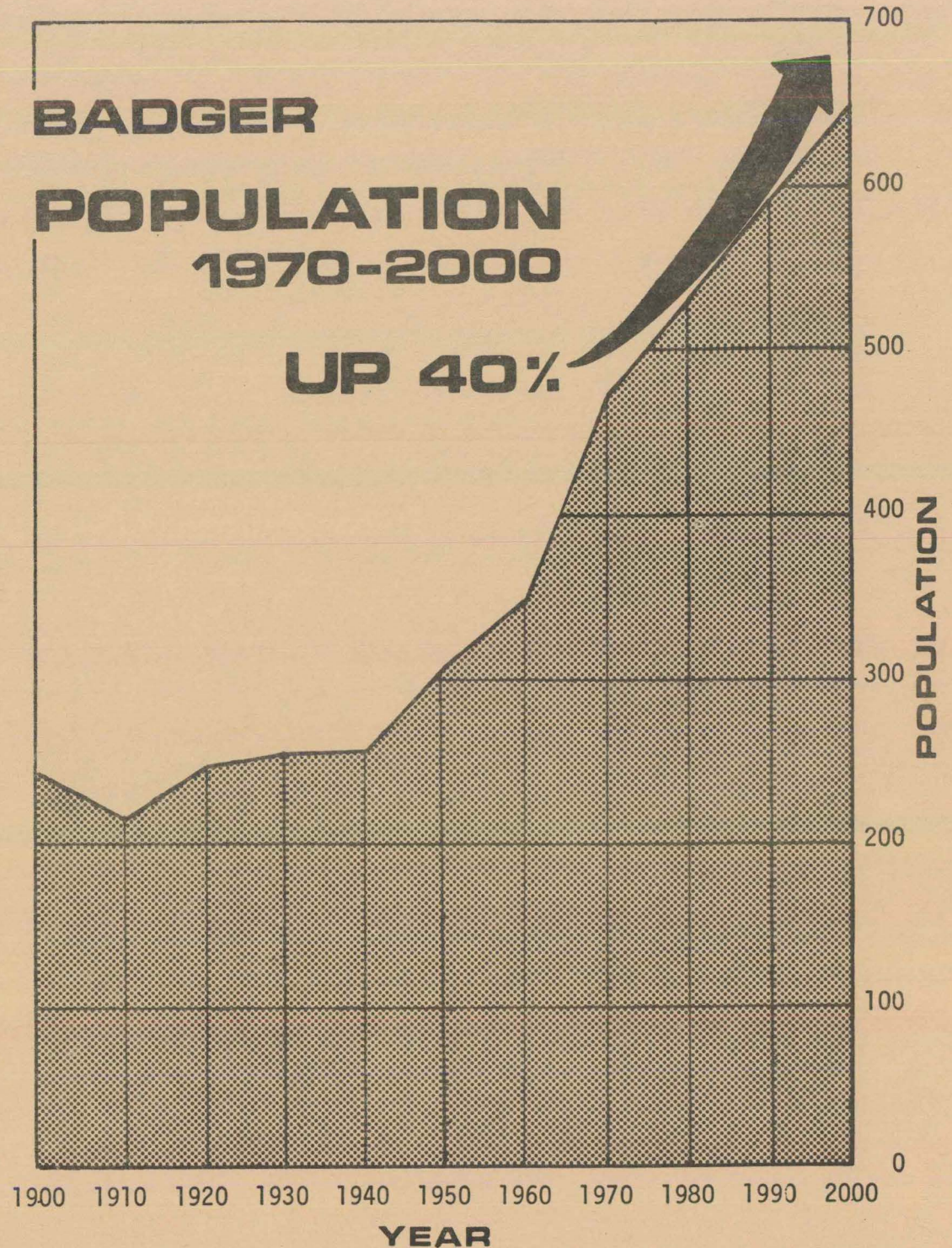
Gardening
Shuffleboard
Horseshoes
Arts & Crafts
Picnicking
Reunions
Banquets
Club meetings
Spectating
Conversation

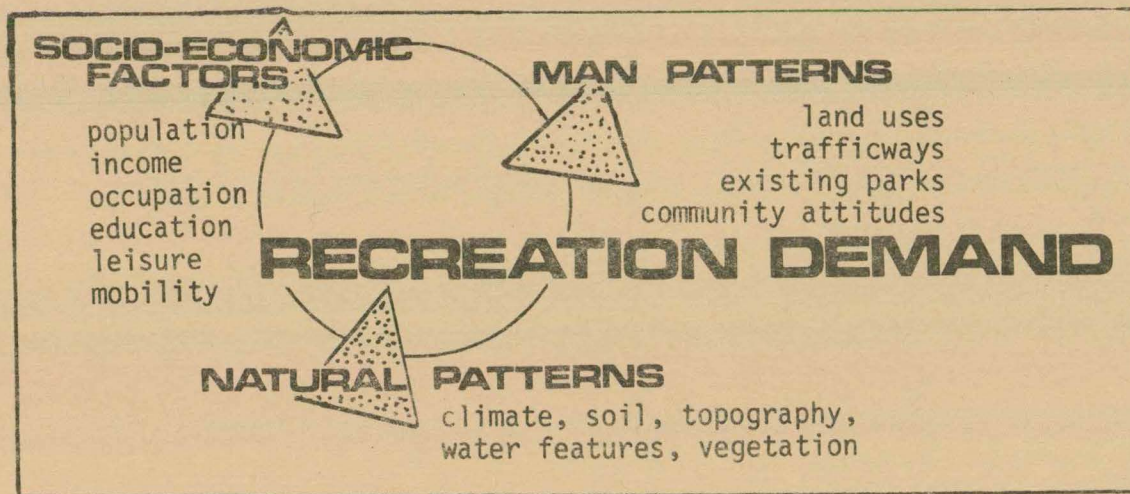


BADGER

POPULATION 1970-2000

UP 40%





The demand for recreation facilities in a community is based on several variables. To be justifiable a recreation use must relate to the natural patterns of the land, man's patterns of land utilization, and the important socio-economic factors. This section is devoted to socio-economic factors only such as population, income, occupation, education, leisure, and mobility.

Since many of the socio-economic variables are not retrievable in terms of our study definition of "community" most of the variables will relate to the 465 "in-town" citizens of Badger.

In the decade of the 1960's, Badger's population increased dramatically from 340 persons in 1960 to 465 persons in 1970, a growth of about 37 percent. In fact Badger grew at the fastest rate of any of the 61 municipalities which encompass Iowa Planning Region Five. Badger is expected to have 650 residents by the year 2000, if current increases continue. This expected gain of 40 percent in the population will place an ever-increasing demand on the town's recreational facilities.

The age of the recreation participant certainly has an effect on his demands for recreation uses. Badger has an unusually large percentage of young families when compared to the other communities in the area. The median age is only 26.6 versus 31.8 for the region as a whole. This would suggest that particular concern should be given to recreational activities that are family-oriented. A Recreation Checklist provides Badgerites with a sampling of the types of activities usually geared to children, families, or senior citizens in a small community. (see page 3)

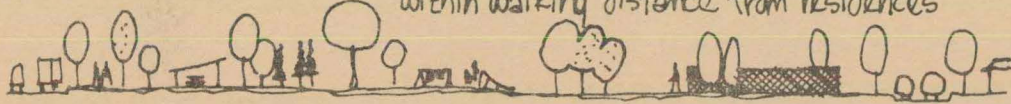
Even if total population were to remain constant, an increase in family income would likely mean an increase in recreation demand. The median family income in Webster County in 1970 was \$9,136. This is expected to rise by about 50 percent by the year 2000.

The occupations and education of the residents of Badger are also socio-economic factors that need to be considered in defining recreation demand. The poor and undereducated tend to have less time for recreational activities and their demands are often different.

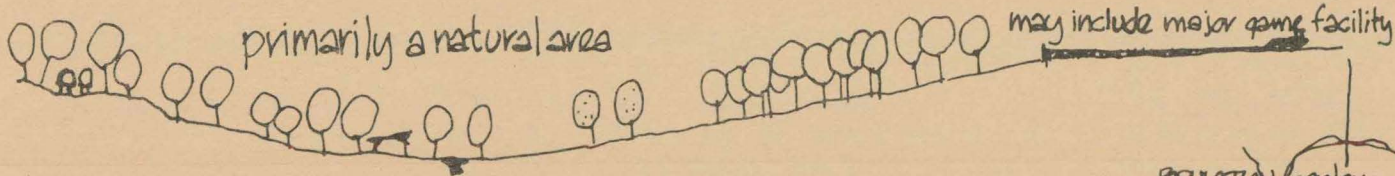
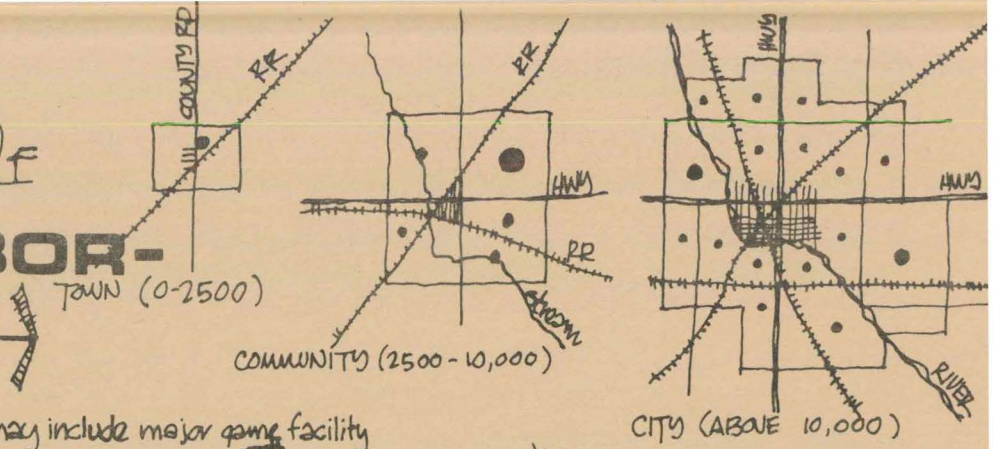
Even if population and income levels remained constant, an increase in the amount of leisure time will increase the demand for recreation. The work day and work week have declined and the number of vacation days has increased steadily over the years. The individual's leisure time is expected to increase by 40 percent from 1970 to 2000.

Mobility is an important factor in recreation demand. The almost total reliance on the automobile presents special problems in this day of "energy crisis." A small community such as Badger should attempt to provide more recreation uses in town than in previous years of lower fuel prices. A small community should also place special emphasis on provision of recreation facilities for the elderly whose mobility is usually rather limited. Finally, the community of Badger should seriously explore other modes of transportation to Fort Dodge and the other recreation areas.

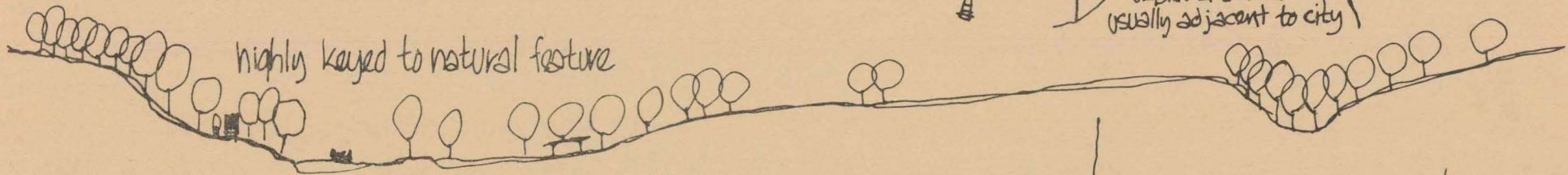
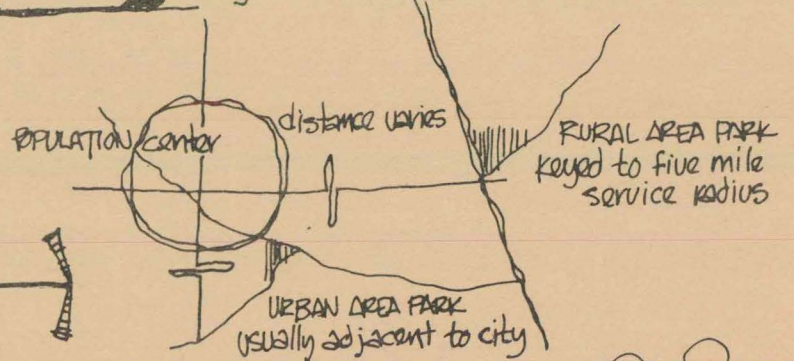
areas designed to meet high density recreation needs; must provide activity areas, picnic & passive uses, landscape plantings within walking distance from residences



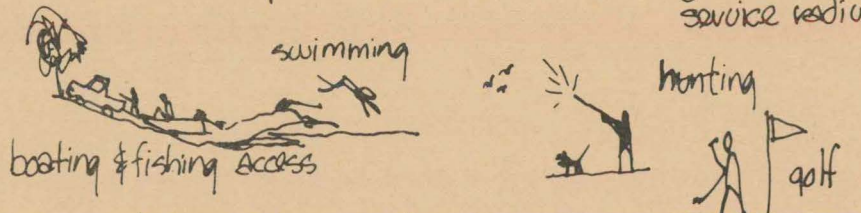
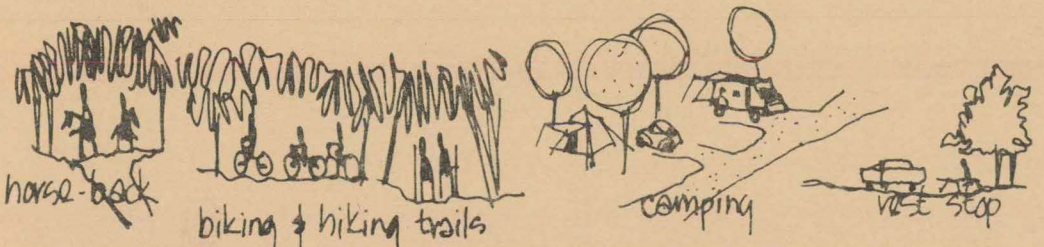
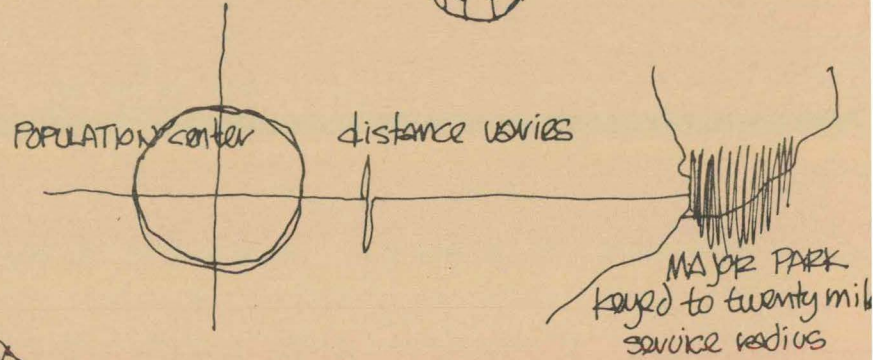
CLASS I: TOWN, NEIGHBORHOOD & CITY PARKS



CLASS II: URBAN AND RURAL AREA PARKS



CLASS III: MAJOR PARKS



SPECIAL USE AREAS

feature-dependent uses or uses requiring special development of facility

OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITIES & AREAS

In terms of identifying recreation use areas, a class system presented in the Outdoor Recreation Review Commission Report of 1966 will be utilized with minor modifications. The adjustments are as a result of an Iowa Region Five Outdoor Recreation and Open Spaces Element of 1973. The major classes of recreation use that affect the small community of Badger are shown on the preceding page.

Class One Parks are town, neighborhood, and city parks and are of immediate concern to Badger. Classes Two and Three and the Special Use Areas are important to Badger in defining recreation demand. The proximity of these other uses varies the demand.

Other Classes mentioned in the ORRC Report are of less importance to Badger's recreation system. They include Class IV, special features; Class V, natural or wild areas; Class VI, preservation and restoration; and Class VII, holding of fragile, key lands. These types of uses are categorized as Special Use Areas in this report. Class VI areas are presently being studied in a regional historic preservation study by MIDAS Regional Planning Commission.

Also in 1966 an Iowa Recreation Survey was conducted by Iowa State University. It was directed toward determining which outdoor recreation activities are most popular in the State of Iowa. The results as shown on the right indicated that driving for pleasure, picnicking, sight-seeing, and walking for pleasure were the most popular activities.

The circled activities are those in which an apparent increase has taken place since 1966. Finally, this study attempts to key the types of activities back to the Class system to assist Badger residents in especially determining the types of Class One activities that a small town usually needs to be directly concerned with.

ACTIVITY TYPE	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	I	II	III	SP
DRIVING FOR PLEASURE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
PICNICKING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SIGHTSEEING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
WALKING FOR PLEASURE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ATTENDING OUTDOOR SPORTS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
FISHING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
PLAYING OUTDOOR GAMES	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SWIMMING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
POWER BOATING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BICYCLING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ATTENDING OUTDOOR PLAYS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
HUNTING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SLEDDING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
NATURE WALKS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
CAMPING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
HORSEBACK RIDING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ATTENDING COUNTY FAIRS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BIRD WATCHING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
GARDENING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MOTORCYCLING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ICE SKATING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
TARGET & TRAP SHOOTING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
WATERSKIING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SUNBATHING & RELAXING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
CANOEING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
HIKING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MUSHROOM & BERRYING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
KITE FLYING, ETC.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MARCHING BAND ETC.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SNOWSKIING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SAILING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MOUNTAIN & ROCK CLIMBING	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
HAWKIDES, ETC.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
TRAMPOLINE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

● apparent increase in activity participation percentage

CALHOUN COUNTY

- 1 Twin Lakes
- ▣ 2 Featherstone Memorial Park

HAMILTON COUNTY

- 1 Briggs Woods
- 2 Bell's Mill

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

- 1 Frank A. Gotch Park
- 2 Joe Sheldon Park
- 3 Lott's Creek Area
- ▣ 4 Bradgate Area
- ▣ 5 Bradgate Access
- ▣ 6 Ottosen Potholes
- ▣ 7 Rutland Dam
- ▣ 8 Humboldt Dam
- ▣ 9 Dakota Access

KOSSUTH COUNTY

- 1 AA Call State Park
- 2 Kossuth County Park
- ▣ 3 DeVine Wildlife Area

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

- 1 Pilot Creek Park
- 2 Lizard Lake
- ▣ 3 Kalsow Prairie
- ▣ 4 Lizard Lake Access
- ▣ 5 Feldman Park
- ▣ 6 Sunken Grove Island Lake

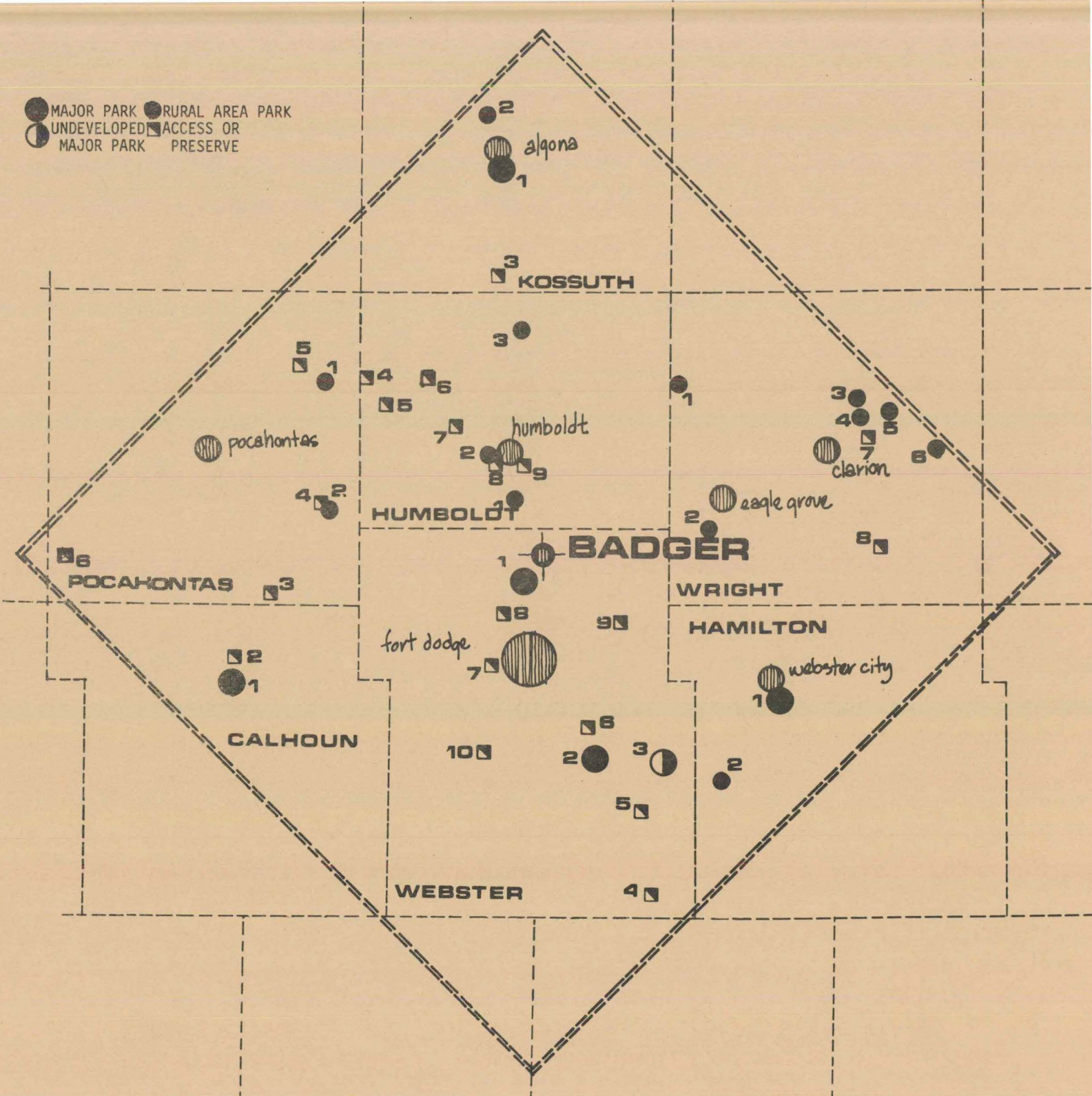
WEBSTER COUNTY

- 1 Kennedy Park
- 2 Dolliver Mem. State Park
- 3 Brushy Creek Project
- ▣ 4 Carlson Tract
- ▣ 5 Deception Hollow
- ▣ 6 Woodman's Hollow
- ▣ 7 Scally Mines
- ▣ 8 Deer Creek
- ▣ 9 Rossow Prairie
- ▣ 10 Liska-Stanek Prairie

WRIGHT COUNTY

- 1 Oakdale Park
- 2 Sportsman's Park
- 3 Morse Lake
- 4 Lake Cornelia
- 5 Pike's Timber
- 6 Bingham Park
- ▣ 7 Elm Lake
- ▣ 8 Big Wall Lake

- MAJOR PARK
- RURAL AREA PARK
- UNDEVELOPED MAJOR PARK
- ▣ ACCESS OR PRESERVE



The functional economic area of influence map on the preceding page reveals the proximity of recreational facilities within a 40 mile environment of Badger. The citizens of Badger cannot and should not meet all the recreation demands within the community. The need for certain facilities must be tempered with the nature of the activity, the community's ability to pay and attitude or desire for such an activity and finally, the proximity of the activity in another recreational area.

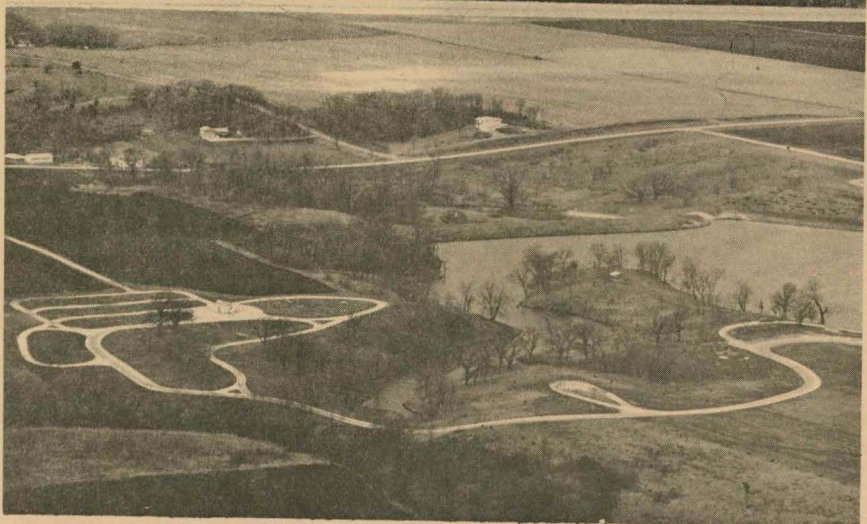
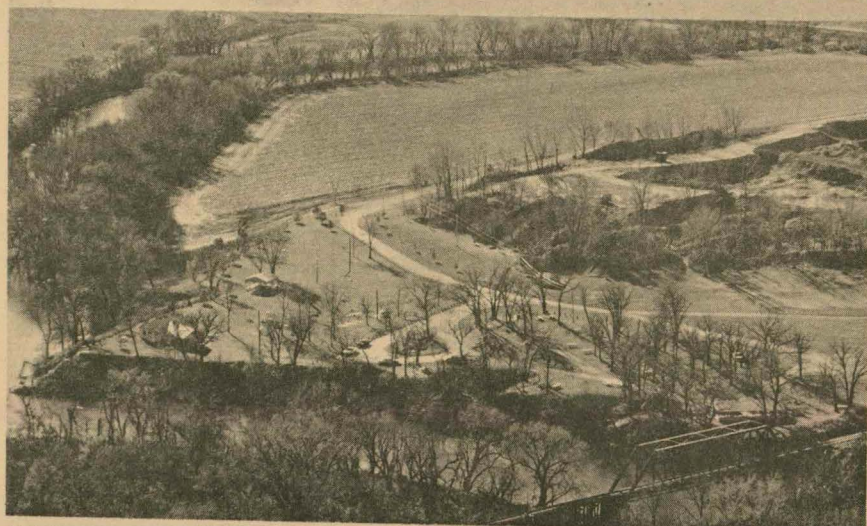
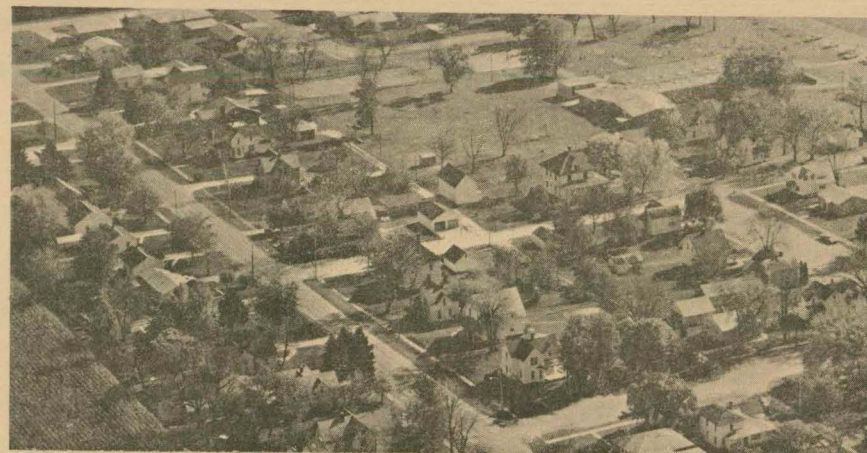
Knudson Park in Badger is a Class One Park. Although each of the towns are not shown on the preceding map, it has been shown in the Iowa Region Five Outdoor Recreation and Open Spaces Element that "...each town, under 2,500 population, because it acts as a service center, not only for its residents, but for the surrounding farms as well, needs to fulfill a portion of the demand for recreation areas. Each town should have at least one Class One Area ("town park") of not less than four acres in size."

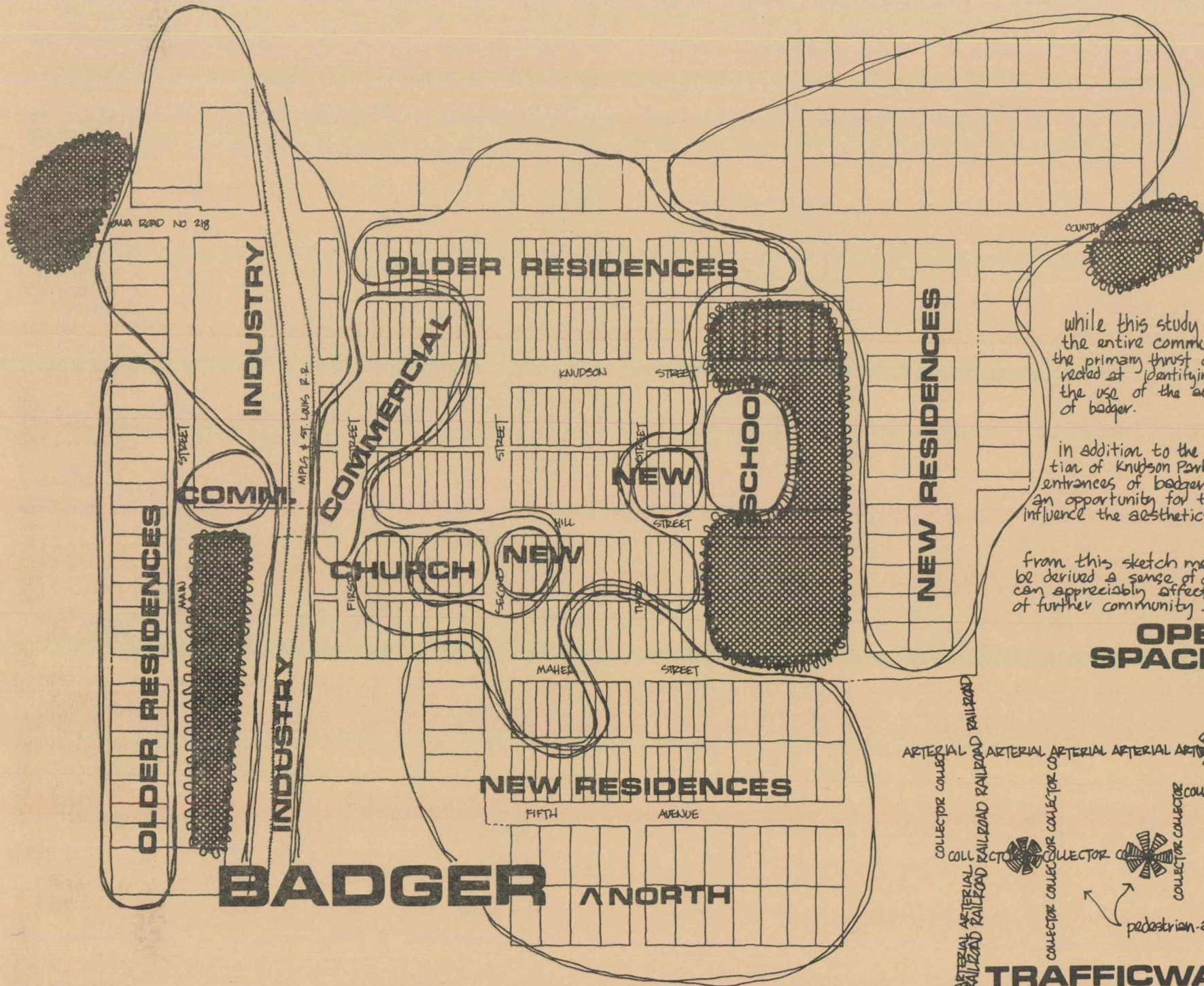
Frank A. Gotch Park, located at the confluence of the East and West Branches of the Des Moines River, is the closest Class Two or Rural Area Park to Badger. Since rural area parks should only be required to serve a radius of five miles, Gotch Park, being seven miles from Badger, provides marginal serviceability.

Kennedy Park, however, is a Class Three Major Park, located less than four miles southwest of Badger. Kennedy Park performs the dual function of a Class Two Park as well, because of its size and facilities. The residents of Badger are fortunate to have such a fine recreation area in close proximity.

Special Use Areas such as camping, boating, fishing, and swimming at Kennedy Park and hunting, fishing, and boating along the nearby Des Moines River provide Badger with a real convenience. The proposed eventuality of a public golf course at Kennedy Park would also provide Badgerites with yet another fine recreational facility.

Now let's turn our attention to the natural and man patterns in Badger which affect the locations of any proposed recreational facilities.



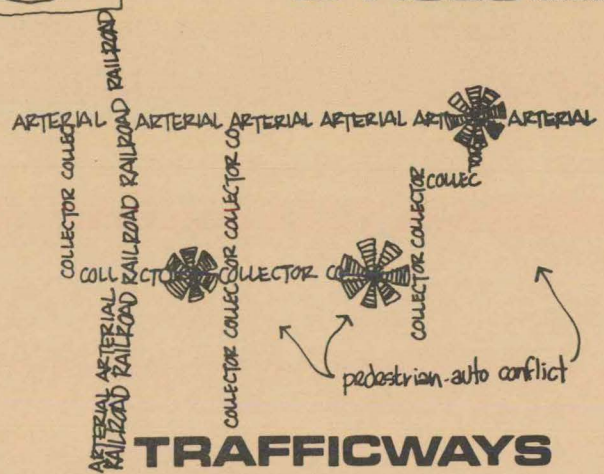


while this study is concerned with the entire community of badger the primary thrust of the study is directed at identifying and defining the use of the available open spaces of badger.

in addition to the obvious consideration of Knudson Park proper, the city entrances of badger also present an opportunity for the community to influence the aesthetics of their town.

from this sketch map, there should be derived a sense of orientation that can appreciably affect the direction of further community efforts

OPEN SPACES



TRAFFICWAYS

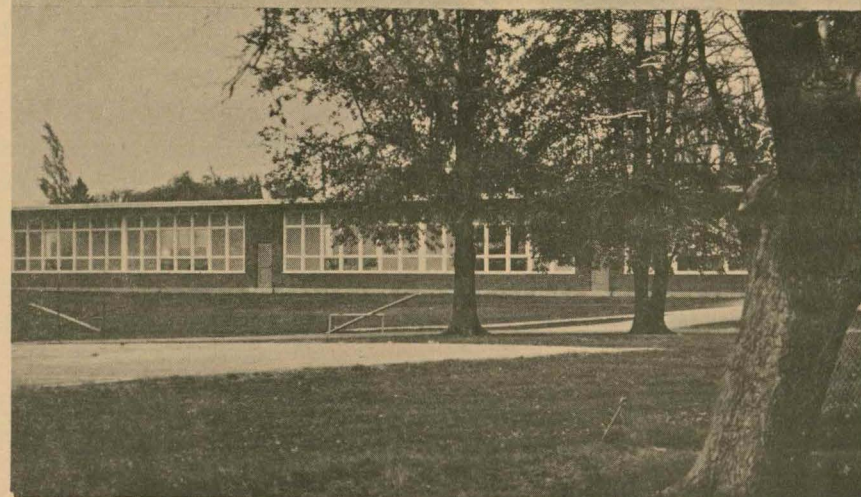
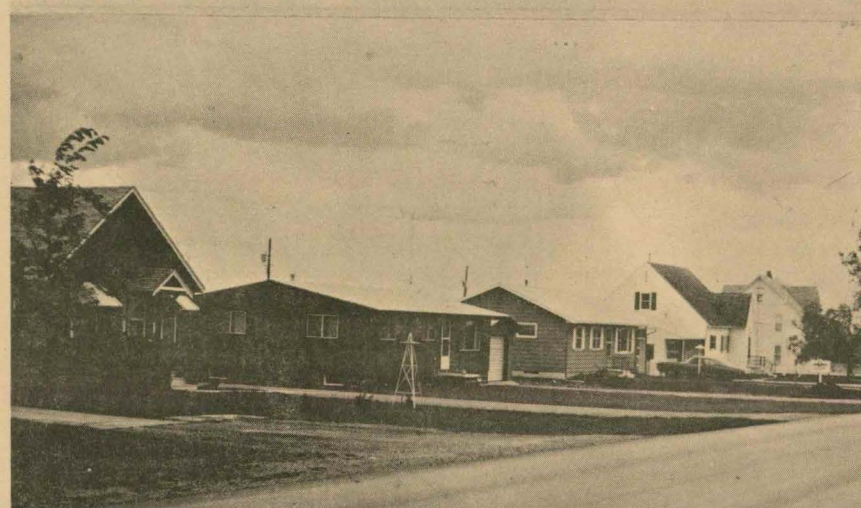
The natural patterns of the land in Badger affecting the locations of recreation facilities include soils, topography, water features, and vegetation. The soils are all upland soils which are well-drained and productive. About 90 percent of the community is situated on a slight knob of Clarion soils. The only other types of soils affecting the town are Webster and Nicolett soils. The townspeople should continue to promote a compact developed area which minimizes infringement on prime agricultural land.

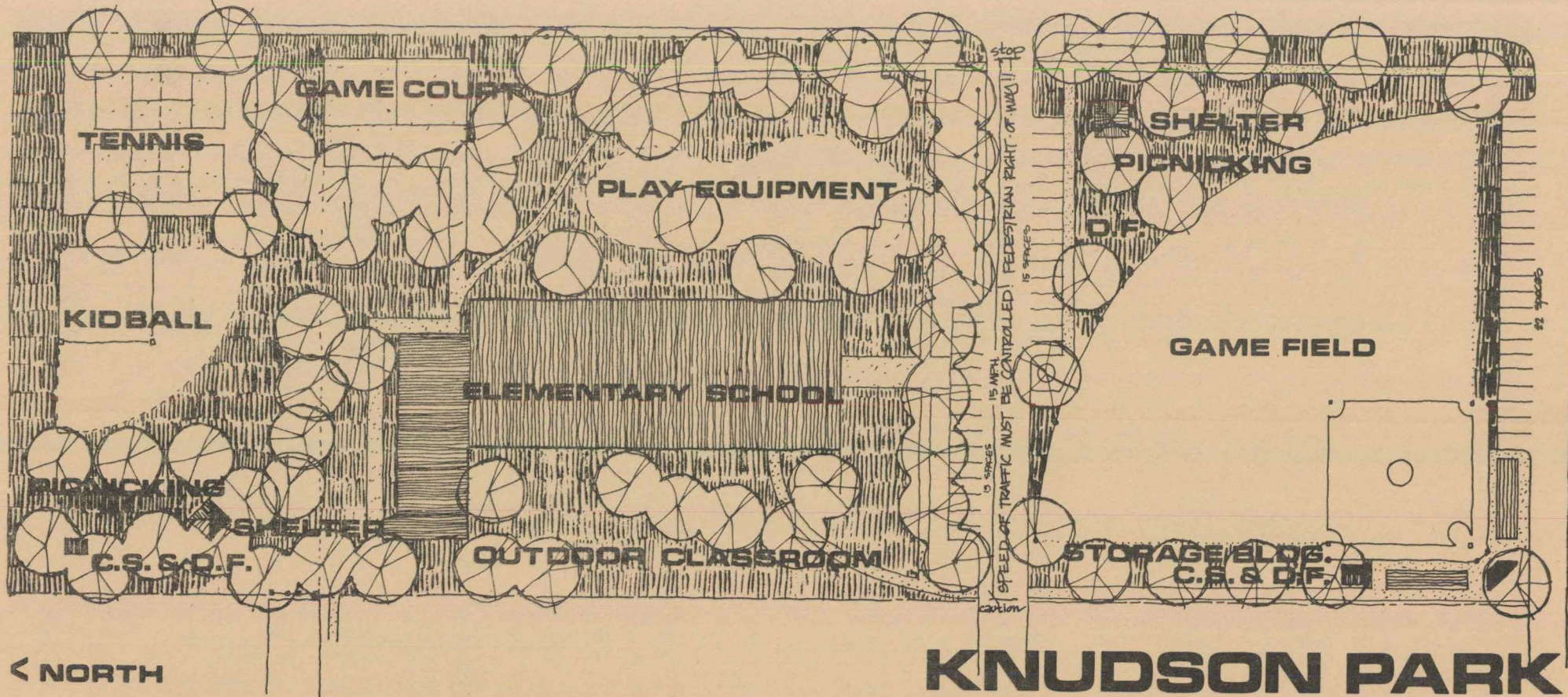
The Town of Badger has very little topographic relief, no rivers or streams, and a vegetation pattern of sparse street and residential tree plantings. A street tree plan is now underway, however. Climatic conditions in Badger include cold winters and hot, humid summers. Annual average temperature is 47.9 degrees, average wind velocity is 11.2 miles per hour generally from the northwest, annual precipitation is 29.3 inches and annual snowfall is 38.8 inches.

The man developed patterns of land use and trafficways are revealed on the preceding page. As the town continues to expand, neighborhoods will slowly emerge. Major trafficways tend to create and separate neighborhoods. Eventually, the town will need to consider neighborhood parks. At this time, however, most attention in recreation should be addressed to the development of Knudson Park. Some promotion of the entrances to the community would also improve the aesthetics.

Although this study is focused on the recreational aspects of Badger only, it behooves us to note the need for further in-depth studies of Badger's land uses, traffic, utilities, and even the downtown. A growing community needs to plan comprehensively to provide for orderly expansion.

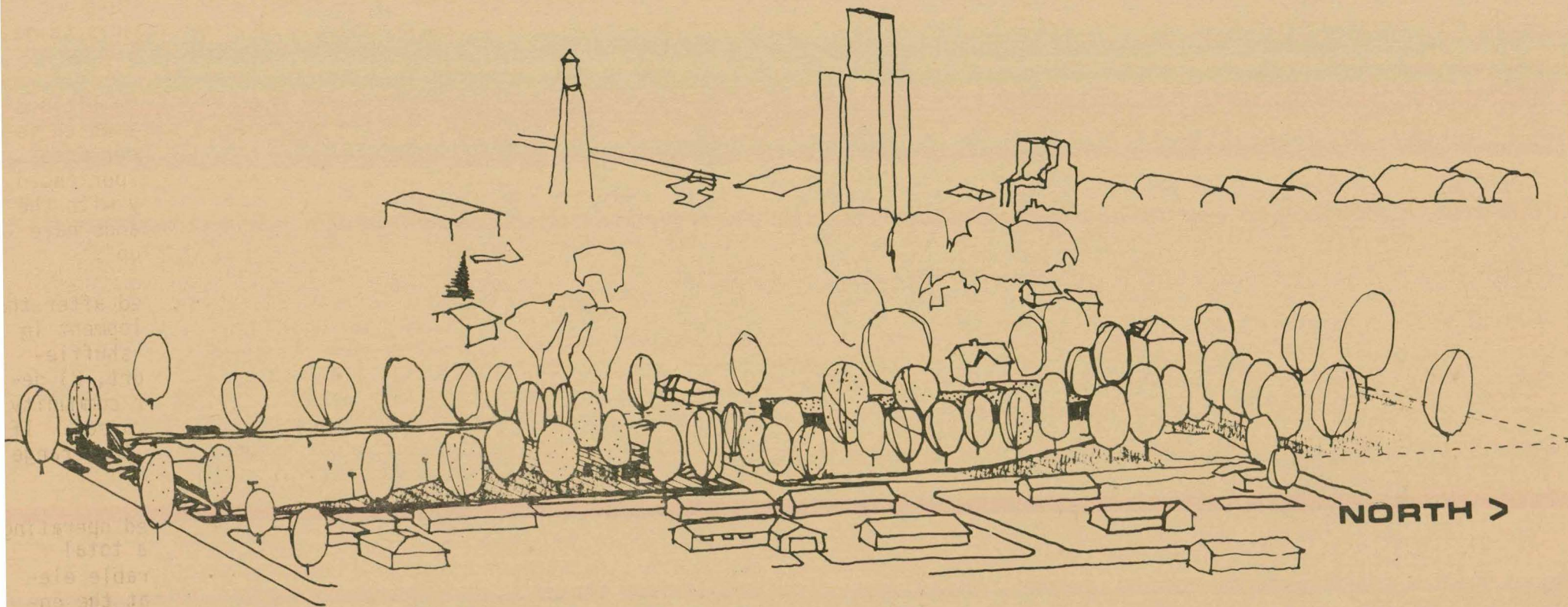
It is the intent of this study to properly analyze the need for recreation facilities in Badger. The report has explored the community in terms of its socio-economic factors and its natural and man patterns in an attempt to provide a concrete basis for the future development of its recreational facilities. So let's now focus our attention on the prime recreation area, Knudson Park.





Knudson Park in Badger is well surrounded by residential development. It has the potential of being one of the finest expressions of a combination school-city park in the entire area. Most of the community's recreation monies should be spent on making Knudson Park a fine "town park." This study proposes the following short-range and long-range ideas for Knudson Park:

1. Acquisition of the block containing the baseball diamond. This area should then be developed into a first-class game field for baseball, soccer, and other field games. Storage buildings, a comfort station, drinking fountains, backstops, bleachers, fences, and lights for night play should be supplemented with adequate parking and landscaping. The remaining area of the block should include a shelter, a picnic area, and further landscaping and tree planting.
2. To tie the new area into the remaining portions of the park, Hill Street should receive attention in terms of speed control and designated crosswalks.
3. Further development of the existing park area north of the school should include a shelter, comfort station, drinking fountain, a second tennis court, and tree planting. The school should be encouraged to maintain the game court and play equipment area, and provide an outdoor classroom setting.
4. Town financed improvements on Maher Street South of the Game Field.



Knudson park can grow and develop to become the sound heart of bedger's community recreation system. while the studies provided in this plan are but preliminary sketches of what appears to be the appropriate development of the park, with detailed site designs construction and planting of the park can create a space for people. it will be possible for the people of bedger to find their mutual identity in the well developed park envisioned in this study. spaces for families to be families, kids to be kids, and for senior citizens to meet and chat, to play shuffleboard or horseshoes, or spaces to hold summer evening pot luck suppers and watermelon frosts are important. just as important as developed game facilities. in essence Knudson park should be developed to accomodate the desires of all age groups. facilities and spaces commensurate to the demands identified in this report should be provided.

PAST FIVE YEAR EXPENDITURES
IN RECREATION

<u>Year</u>	<u>Operating</u>	<u>Development</u>	<u>Total</u>
1969	\$ 82.42	\$.00	\$ 82.42
1970	923.53	1100.00	2023.53
1971	1530.87	2388.98	3919.85
1972	539.61	570.44	1110.05
1973	1130.71	347.77	1478.48
TOTAL	\$4207.14	\$4407.19	\$8614.33

FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
1974-1978

<u>Items</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
1. Game field - grading, bleachers, backstop, storage building-comfort station, fencing, lighting, scoreboard, drinking fountain, site engineering and design, etc.	\$ 13,500
2. Picnic Area - Shelter, picnic tables, grills, drinking fountain, site engineering, etc.	\$ 4,000
3. Site Aesthetics - Planting, seeding, graphics, etc.	2,500
TOTAL	\$20,000
Contingency	2,000
	\$22,000

ACTION PROGRAM 1974-1978

<u>Year</u>	<u>Operating</u>	<u>Development</u>
1974	\$ 1,500.00	↓ 1. One project - general obligation bond. 2. Annual budget in 1 year increments (\$4400 per year)
1975	1,500.00	
1976	1,500.00	
1977	1,500.00	
1978	1,500.00	
TOTAL	\$ 7,500.00	\$22,000.00

With the design of a five-year action program, the community of Badger is now equipped with the rationale with which to proceed in an expanded effort to provide much needed recreation facilities. As with the entire plan itself, however, the proposed budget figures to the left are subject to change to reflect unforeseeable future trends. While the past five year's expenditures for recreation have been on a "hit and miss" basis, with the completion and adoption of this guide, a planned approach will guide future expenditures.

The development program represents a much needed, ambitious program concentrated in the game field-picnic area which is anticipated to be acquired by donation from the Deer Creek Club. For sometime the community of Badger has experienced a lack of recreation development, and consequently with the town's recent growth surge, new and increased demands have become apparent. The name of the game is "catch-up".

The long-range proposals for recreation recommended after the next five year period include: 1) additional development in the north part of Knudson Park such as a shelter, shuffleboard, drinking fountains, and a second tennis court, 2) development of the community entrances, and 3) other community recreation related needs in the downtown or other areas. If the five year program is implemented sooner the long-range proposals should be undertaken ahead of schedule.

The five year action program represents an expanded operating budget needed to maintain the new facilities and a total development package of \$22,000 which is a considerable elevation from the past five years. We recommend that the entire project be undertaken at one time through issuance of a general obligation bond or by other means. If this is not feasible, the development budget should be geared to five one year increments.

Much of this plan can be implemented by donations of funds from community organizations or by volunteer labor which allows more funds to be freed for purchase of materials. The community should as well seek out project matching assistance from the federal government, if funds are available, but the plan recommends the need for continual local support. A community-wide commitment should be made to develop Badger's recreation system for all to enjoy.

ACTION PROGRAM 13

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN SUCH AS THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO CREATE GUIDELINES BY WHICH THE LIFE STYLES OF THE COMMUNITY MAY BE AUGMENTED. HOWEVER, ANY PLAN IS ONLY A PLAN, HOPEFULLY KEYED TO AN OBJECTIVE AND KNOWLEDGEABLE UNDERSTANDING OF EXISTING CONDITIONS. TIMES CHANGE AND A PLAN MUST BE FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO ENDURE SUCH CHANGE...

Now that the study is at its conclusion, the responsibilities and procedures for the implementation of this plan must be discussed. It is the responsibility of the Town Council of Badger and the citizens involved in recreation to accept the charges of this study and to work toward the implementation of the plans on a continuing basis.

After the Town Council adopts this plan, they should appoint an individual to continue as recreation project director to carry out the recommendations in the plan and to coordinate all recreation related activities in the community. The Town Council will need to be receptive to the budget recommendations within their funding capability. The Council should consider surfacing Maher Street south of the ball diamond, and crosswalks along Hill Street in addition to the other proposals in the plan.

Financial assistance for the implementation of the plans developed within the study may be sought from: Superintendent, Grants-In-Aid Section, Iowa Conservation Commission, 300 Fourth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. The assistance, if available, will be in the form of 50 percent cost sharing on the costs of acquisition or development of the proposed project. Other funds might be derived from donations, user fees, endorsed finance bonds, community clubs, or special community fund-raising drives. The objectives are achievable if enough effort backs the project.

The community will need to perform these other important steps prior to implementation of the project:

1. Obtaining appraisal reports on any lands to be acquired.
2. Obtaining more detailed topographic engineering design of the areas to be developed and more landscape design in specific areas.
3. Obtaining plan views and perspectives of any proposed buildings.
4. Obtaining accurate cost estimates for acquisition or development.
5. Filing of detailed applications for outside financial assistance.

The project director can do much to expedite and coordinate the development of the project. This person should also attempt to receive broad community financial support for the implementation. The community organizations involved in community affairs such as the Lions Club, the 39ers Club, and the School are charged with the recommendation of providing both financial and manpower assistance as needed.

MIDAS Regional Planning Commission can be expected to now fulfill an advisory function in recommending more detailed procedures and in assistance in applying for any available federal, state, or private funds. We at MIDAS are encouraged by the amount of local support that this plan has received. Our appreciation is expressed to the Recreation Committee that provided invaluable input into the study process. We would be remiss, however, if we failed to state that this plan may remain only a plan unless an entire, unified community of Badger puts their efforts behind the implementation of this project.

BADGER COUNCIL 1973

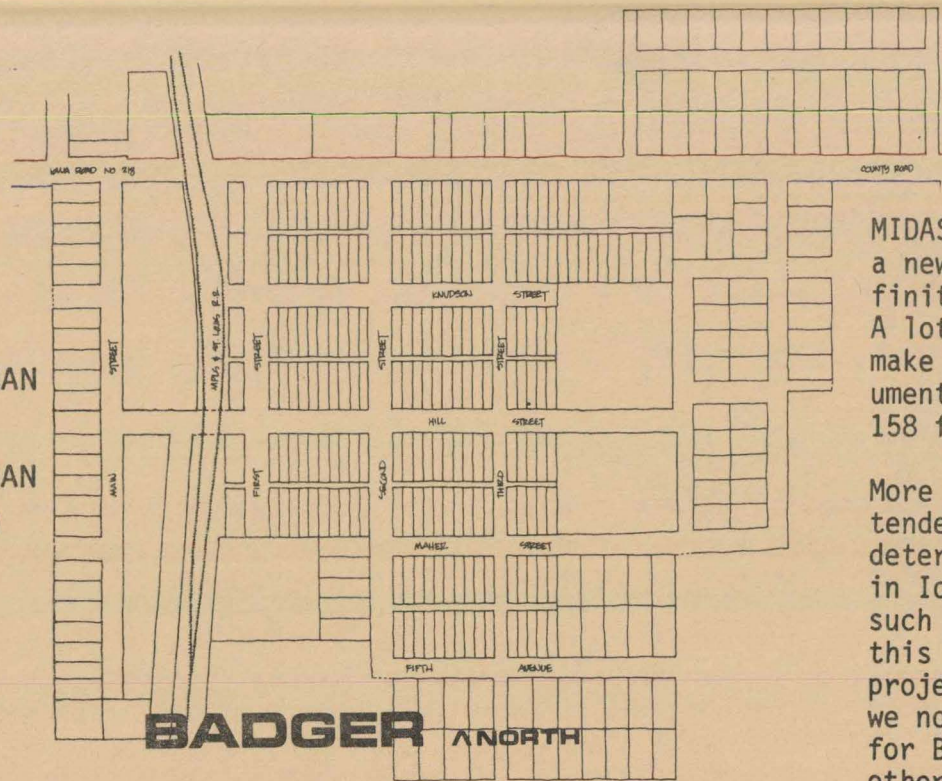
ARTHUR WEST, MAYOR
CLAYTON WILL, COUNCILMAN
RICHARD PEDERSON, COUNCILMAN
WALTER LICHT, COUNCILMAN
DELBERT DENCKLAU, COUNCILMAN
MARVEL MELLING, COUNCILMAN
JAMES TJADEN, CLERK

BADGER COUNCIL 1974

ALVIN PETTIT, MAYOR
RICHARD PEDERSON, COUNCILMAN
WALTER LICHT, COUNCILMAN
KERMIT PETERSON, COUNCILMAN
JERRY MAHRENHOLTZ, COUNCILMAN
ROGER FEVOLD, COUNCILMAN
JAMES TJADEN, CLERK

BADGER RECREATION COMMITTEE

ALVIN PETTIT
RICHARD PEDERSON
WALTER LICHT
JERRY NELSON



We wish to extend our appreciation to the Badger Town Council of 1973 who supplied the necessary funding to support the completion of the plan. Their concern for the betterment of the community's recreation system was indeed gratifying.

The Town Council of 1973 also appointed a fine Recreation Committee consisting of Al Pettit, Richard Pederson, Walt Licht, and Jerry Nelson. The Recreation Committee met several times with MIDAS during the study process. Those four residents of Badger provide much of the information that is contained in the report.

The real credit for implementing this plan, however, rests with the entire community. We hope that every citizen of Badger will contribute to the successful completion of this effort and the continuation and maintenance of fine recreational areas for the Town in the future.

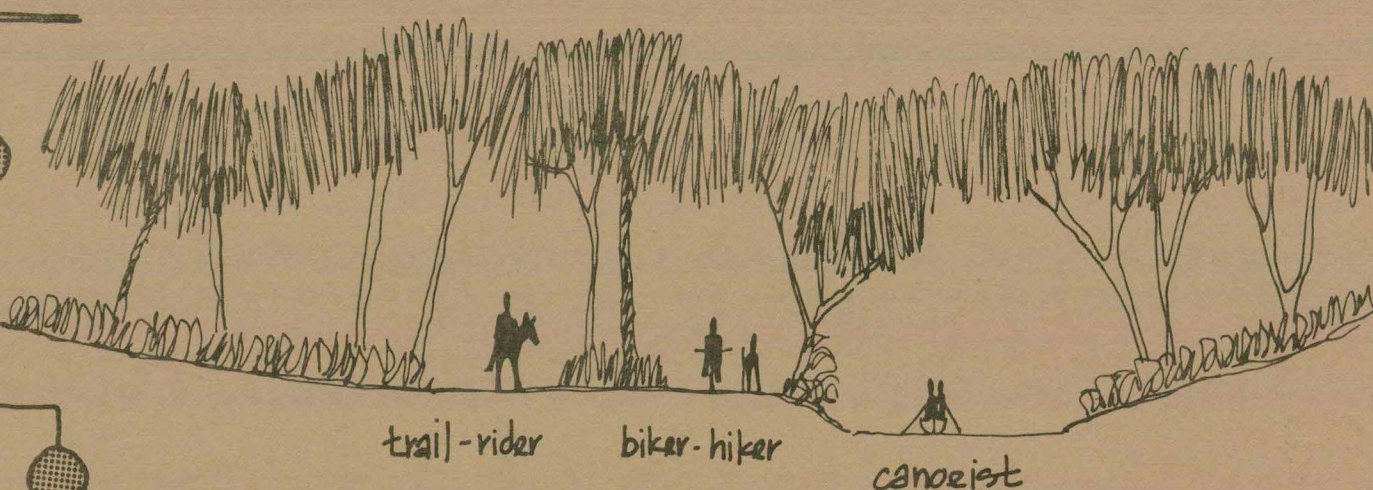
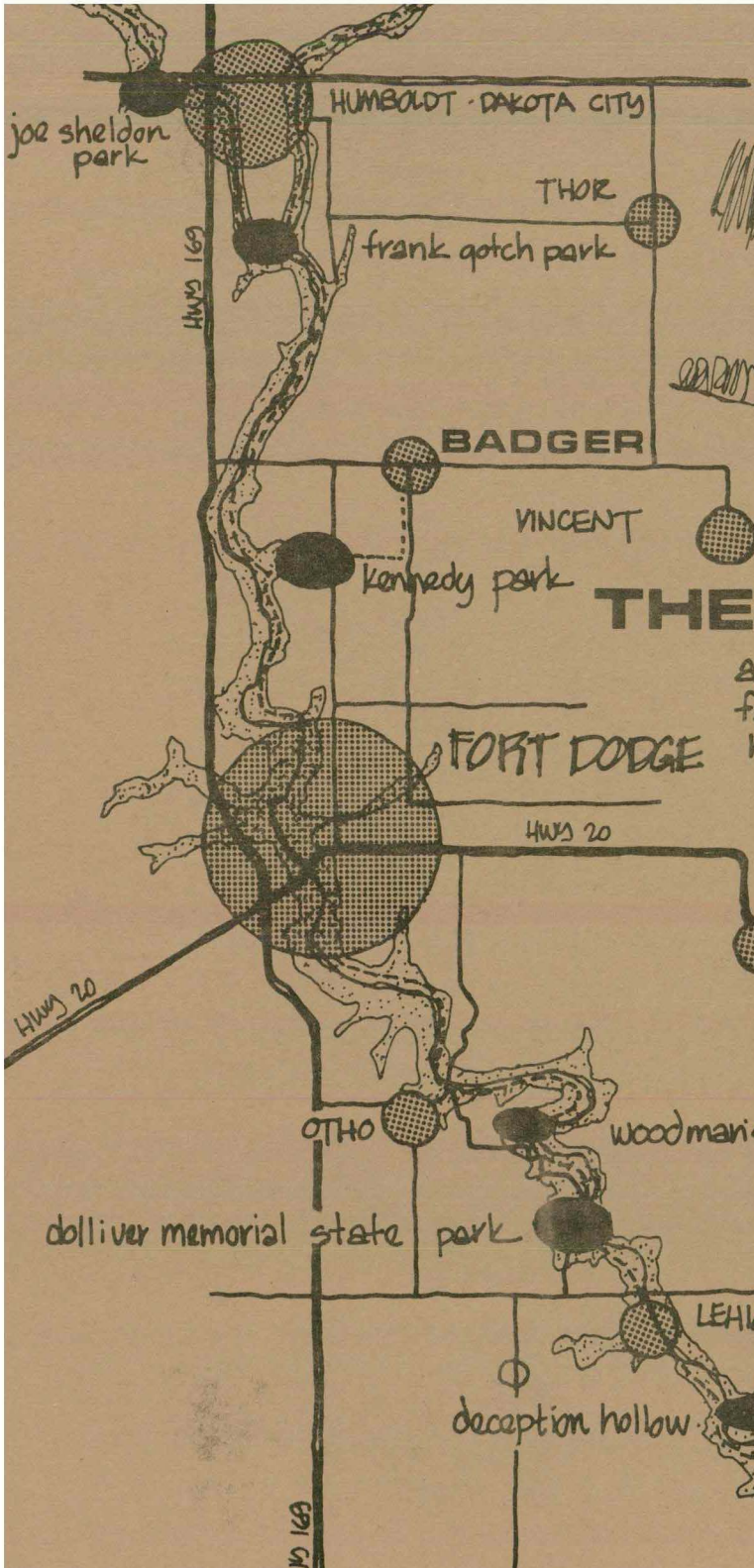
MIDAS Regional Planning Commission is a new public organization with a definite stake in community betterment. A lot of effort was given by MIDAS to make this report a short, concise document that will be read by each of the 158 families in Badger.

More importantly, this report is intended as a pilot project by MIDAS to determine whether the many communities in Iowa Region Five need and deserve such a planning capability. We found this to be the case with our pilot project for Downtown Eagle Grove and we now likewise feel that this study for Badger will be used as a guide by other towns that decide to plan for their recreation system.

The knowledge gained by MIDAS through this study process is now offered to the other member communities in the area who have a desire to improve their recreation facilities but don't know how best to proceed. We would hope that these plans can be included as a part of future County Conservation Plans.

The staff persons who assisted in the preparation of this study are:

James W. Abrahamson, Planning Director,
Planner-In-Charge
Damon Ohlerking, Landscape Architect
Mary Jo DeLanoit, Secretary



THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRAILS

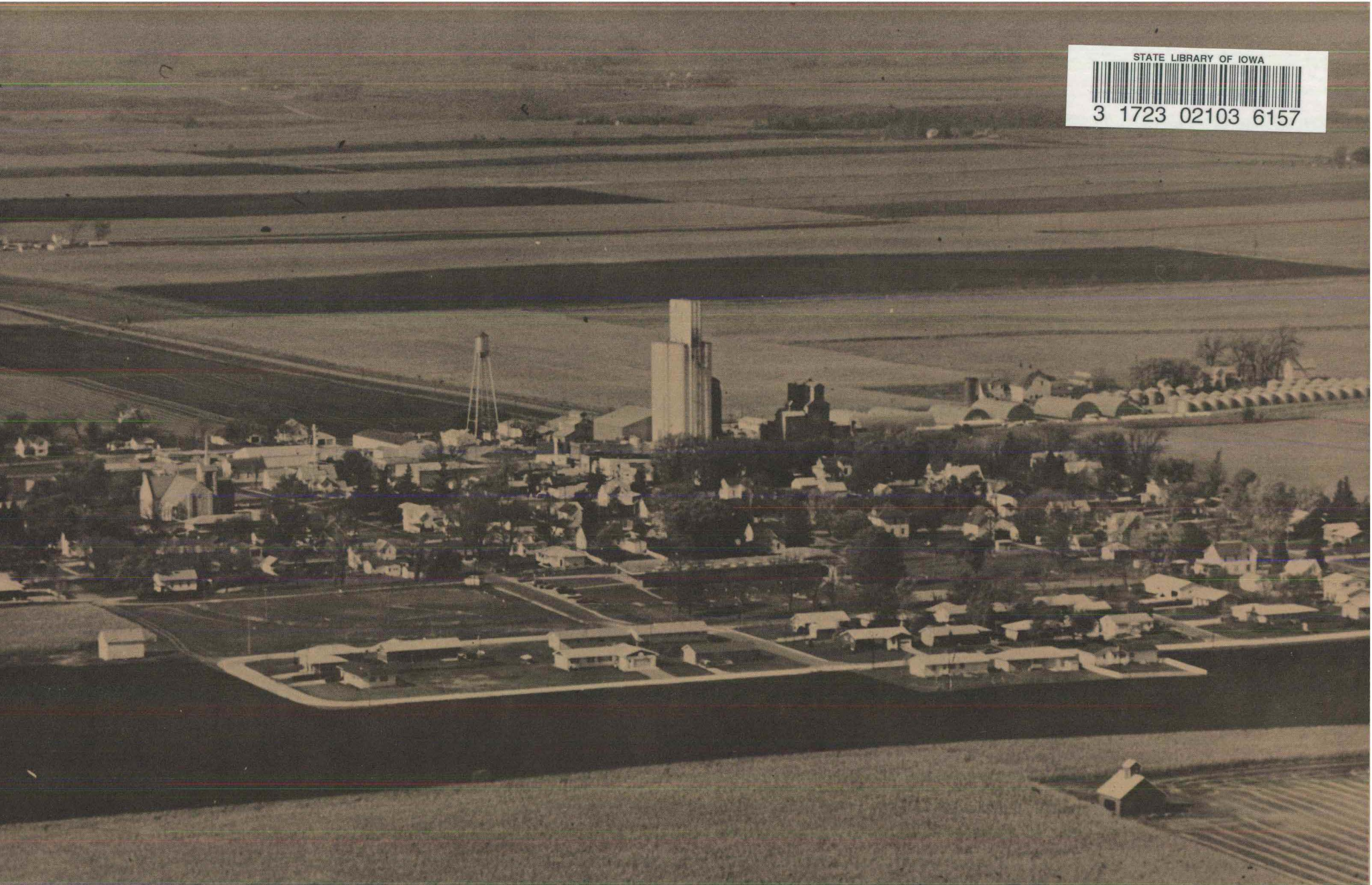
A great potential exists for linking the community of badger to the recreational features of the des moines river corridor. in the future it is totally comprehensible that trailways will be developed for the multi-modal use of hikers, bikers, and horseback riders. canoeists, at present, generally have the ability to use the river as a trailway. all such uses should be both encouraged and facilitated through the development of trails.

in this day of energy shortage, we as a people are again finding our feet and realizing that great experiences are to be had close to home, if we but slow our pace. stopping to see a bumblebee visit a prairie wild-flower enriches the experiences and understanding we gain from a day spent with our land.

in the winter such trails can accomodate the enthusiasts of snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing. where permissible, snowmobilers will find the trail their delightful escape from the rigors of winter-bound city life.

trails are developable! we as a people have only to see their necessity and facility. river lands, timber lands, abandoned railroad rights-of-way, screened easements along secondary roads and even utility rights-of-way offer potential trail development sites. we can have trails if we desire them enough.

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BADGER 1974

A COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN