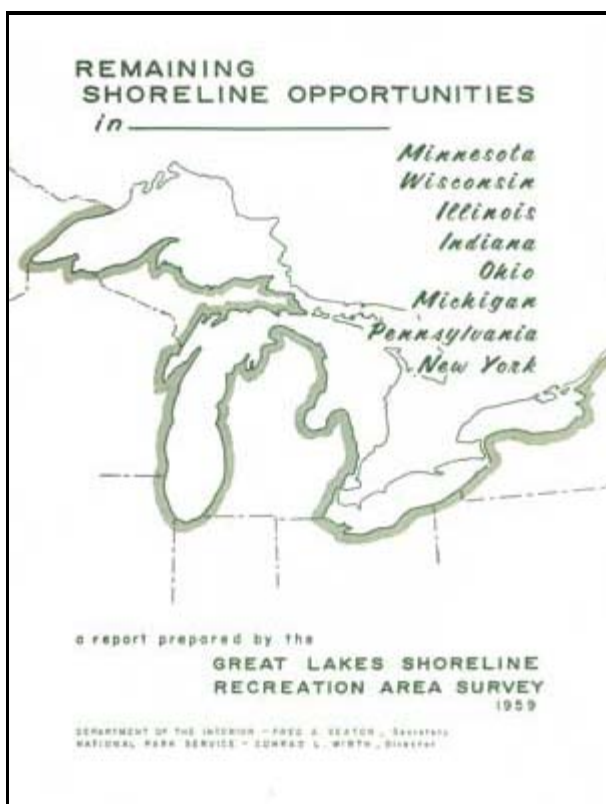


NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey



REMAINING SHORELINE OPPORTUNITIES *in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York*

A Report Prepared by the **GREAT LAKES SHORELINE RECREATION AREA SURVEY**

1959

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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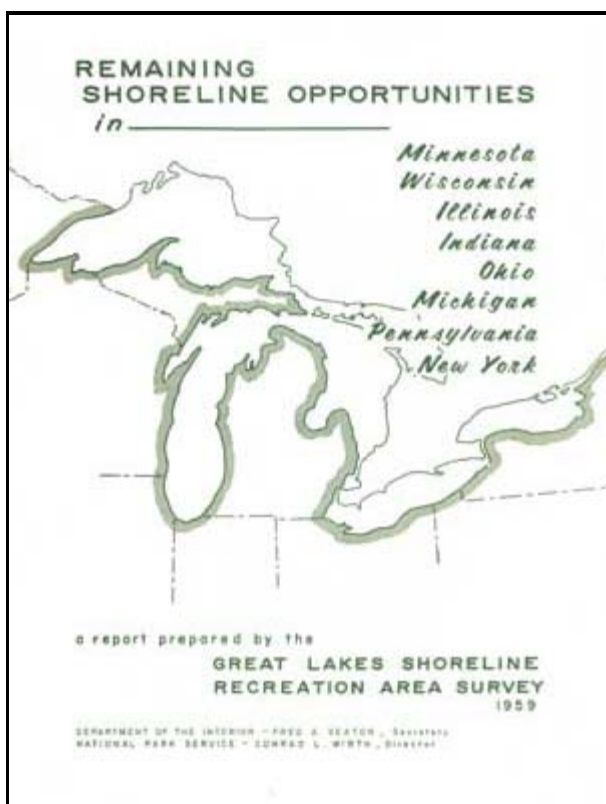
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FOREWORD

Through a generous donation of private funds, the National Park Service made a survey of the United States portion of the Great Lakes shoreline during 1957 and 1958. The objective was to determine what natural lakeshore areas still remained which were worthy of preservation for their scenic, natural or other recreational values.

The over-all situation along the Great Lakes shoreline is discussed in the report, *Our Fourth Shore*. This is a supplement to that report and herein describes the individual shoreline areas suitable for preservation.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.**

January 4, 1960

MEMORANDUM

To: Director, National Park Service

From: Secretary of the Interior

Subject: Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey Report

The draft of the Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Report has been received and is under review in this office. Because of the numerous inquiries concerning availability of the report, please proceed as rapidly as possible with its publication, using non-Government funds which have been donated for that purpose.

Three outstanding areas included in this report--the Sleeping Bear Dunes, Huron Mountains and Pictured Rocks--were recommended for consideration as units of the National Park System by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments at their October 1959 meeting. It should be emphasized, however, that the Department of the Interior is supporting the enactment of legislation to permit the designation by the Secretary of not more than three shore areas as National Shoreline Recreation Areas. The shorelines of the Great Lakes will be considered along with those of the Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf coasts in determining which three areas are worthy of preservation by the Federal Government should Congress enact the legislation. Publication of this Survey Report should not be construed either as approval or disapproval of any recommendations contained herein.

In the Great Lakes area, many State and local governmental agencies have evidenced an interest in the preservation of portions of our vanishing shoreline. Because of their concurrent interest in this field, this comprehensive survey should be of great value to such agencies in their consideration of additions to State and local public shoreline areas.

Secretary of the Interior

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OVERALL SUMMARY

Because the "general" shoreline classification (used by the sea coast surveys) would eliminate the Lake ends, the connecting waters and the outlet to the sea a "total" shoreline figure was used on the Great Lakes Survey. The United States portion of this shoreline equals 5,480 miles--1,480 of which encompass the many offshore islands.

Of the total 710 miles presently in public ownership 16 miles encompass military reservations, municipal water works, public port facilities etc. and thus are not available for recreation. This leaves only 694 miles of existing public recreational shoreline. Distribution of this public shoreline is shown in the table below.

The Survey found that 4,786 miles of the over-all shoreline are in private ownership and hence not usable by the public for recreation. Of this private ownership, 426 miles were identified during the survey as possessing important remaining opportunities for recreation and other public benefits. These were divided among 66 individual areas with 40 in Michigan, 8 in New York, 7 in Wisconsin, 6 in Ohio, 2 in Minnesota, and one each in Illinois, Indiana and Pennsylvania.

The 66 individual areas include 5 with 118 miles of shoreline for possible inclusion in the National Park System, 2 major wildlife areas of possible national significance, 39 areas for state parks, 8 state forest areas, 1 state wildlife area, and 11 areas of local significance. Distribution of these potential public areas is shown in the following table.

Existing & Potential PUBLIC OWNERSHIP of GREAT LAKES SHORELINE

		MINN.	WISC.	ILL.	IND.	MICH.	OHIO	PENN.	N.Y.	Totals
National Park Areas	E	0.6	—	—	—	197.0	0.4	—	—	198.0
	P	30.0	—	—	5.5	82.7	—	—	—	118.2
National Forests	E	2.0	—	—	—	—	42.6	—	—	44.6
	P	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nat'l Wildlife Areas	E	—	small islands	—	—	small islands	small islands	—	—	—
	P	—	25.0	—	—	—	1.7	—	—	26.7
State Park Areas	E	12.3	6.9	2.8	3.3	89.7	6.9	7.8	50.0	179.7
	P	2.8	26.0	3.5	—	90.8	9.3	1.5	27.1	161.0
State Forests	E	—	5.5	—	—	146.0	—	—	—	151.5
	P	—	23.5	—	—	69.0	—	—	—	92.5
State Game	E	—	0.2	—	—	43.1	0.5	—	—	43.8

Areas	P	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
County Parks	E	—	2.0	—	—	*7.8	—	—	1.6	*11.4
	P	—	12.0	—	—	14.8	—	—	1.3	28.1
Township Parks	E	—	0.3	—	—	*4.0	—	—	0.5	*4.8
	P	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Municipal Parks	E	2.0	12.7	17.8	2.7	*15.0	7.8	0.5	1.5	*60.0
	P	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non recreation	E	2.8	0.5	8.6	—	no record	4.6	—	no record	16.5
Totals	Existing	19.7	28.1	29.2	6.0	*545.2	20.2	8.3	53.6	710.3
	Potential	32.8	86.5	3.5	5.5	257.3	11.0	1.5	28.4	426.5

ALL FIGURES INDICATE SHORELINE MILES

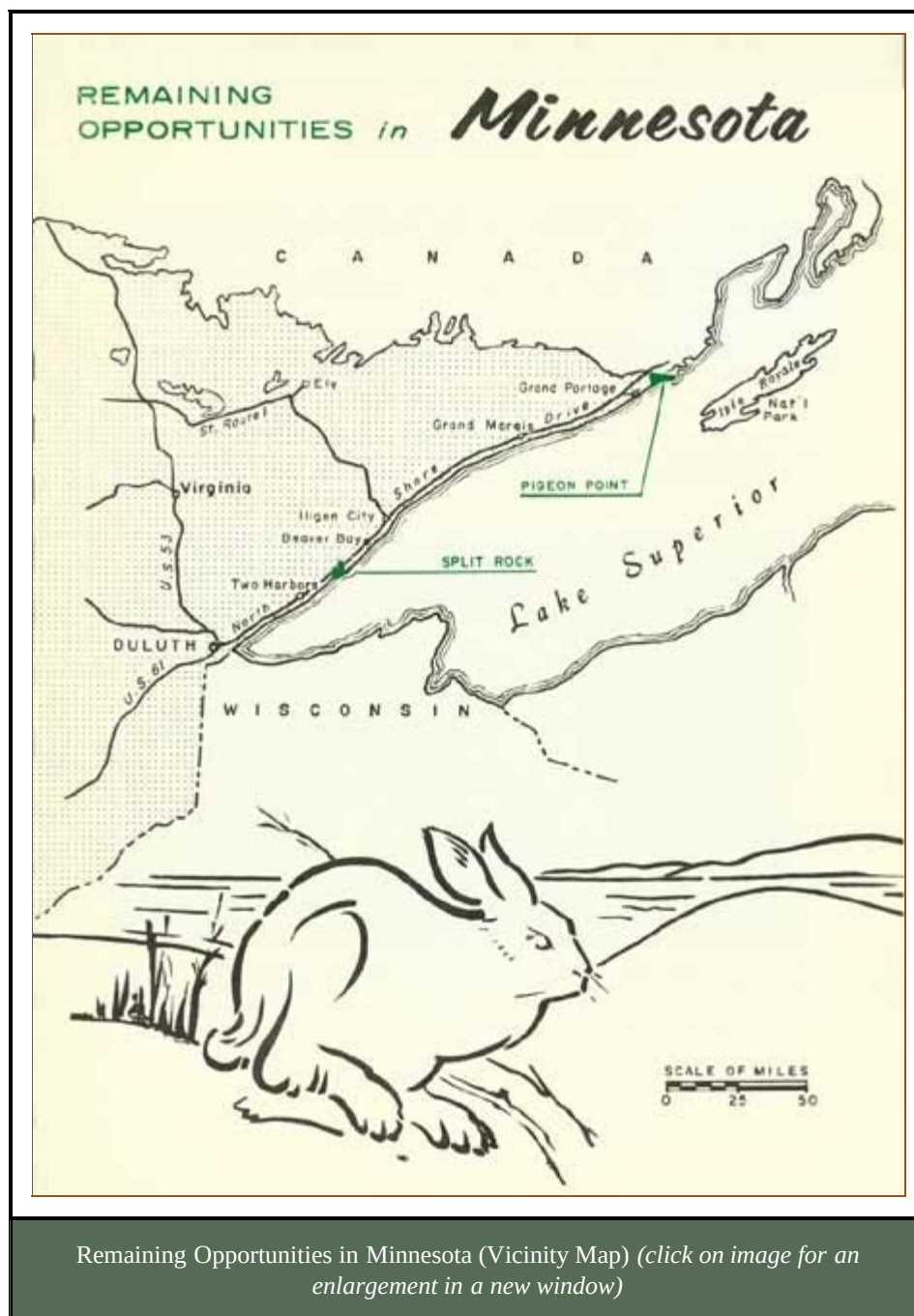
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey



REMAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN MINNESOTA

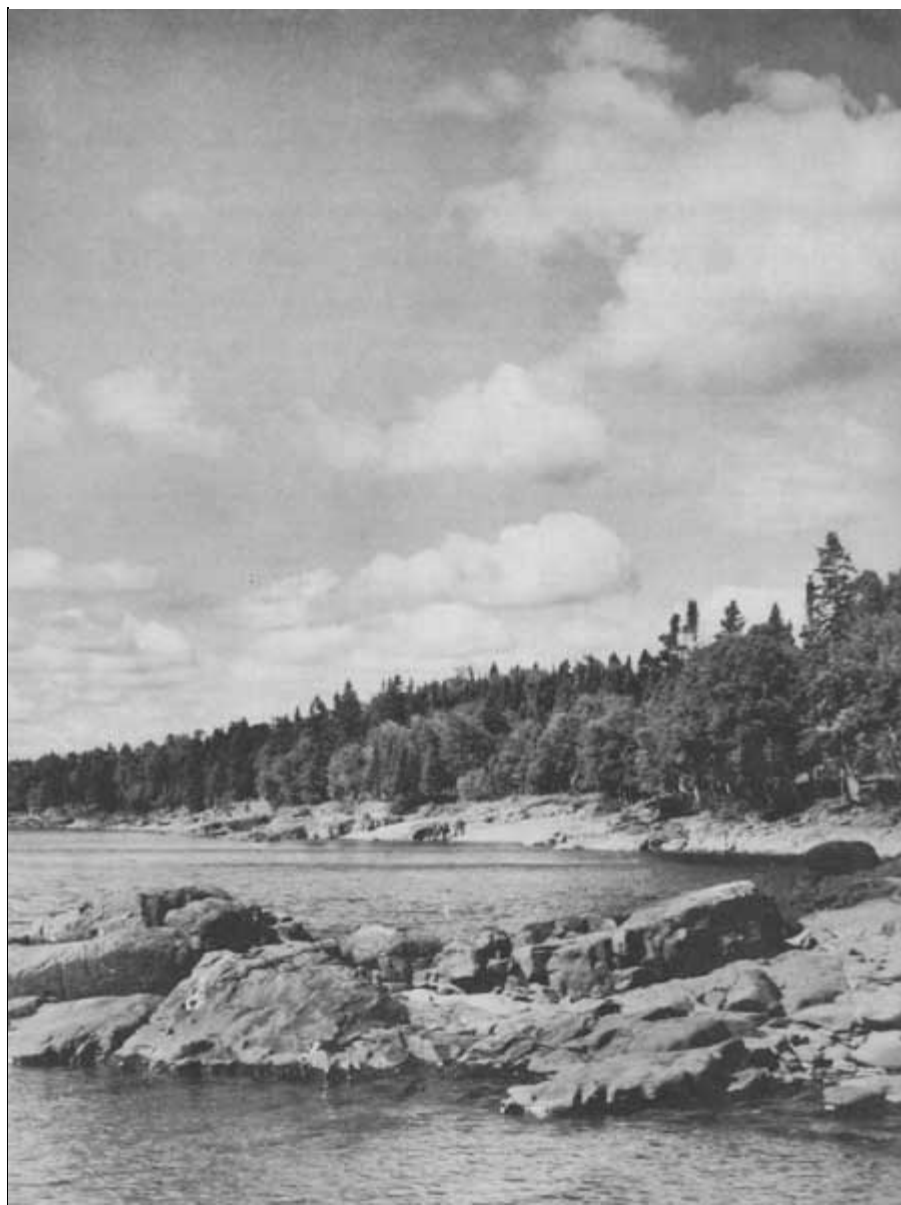


SUMMARY

Minnesota's North Shore of Lake Superior is outstanding. Nearly the entire shore is characterized by numerous lava flows interspersed with dikes and sills of durable igneous rock. These formations--often spectacular and always picturesque--are part of the

Keweenaw rocks, so named for similar exposures on Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula on the south side of the lake. Older Huronian rocks occur at Pigeon Point just south of the Canadian border and are of great geologic interest. Back from the shore, the land slopes up steeply to a mountainous divide, in places over 2,000 feet above sea level. This landscape has resulted in a scenic, irregular shoreline, deriving its principal attractions from the sweeping views of the lake, imposing shore cliffs, thundering waterfalls and rugged terrain.

From Duluth to the Canadian line, U.S. Highway 61--the North Shore Drive--follows, as closely as practicable, the undulations of this shoreline for approximately 150 miles. Expanding private and commercial developments along this highway have pre-empted much of the shore line. The Minnesota Division of State Parks administers 11 areas along this route. Gooseberry Falls State Park has good campground facilities. Less highly developed campgrounds are provided at Temperance and Cascade River State Parks, and potential for future campground developments exists in others. The Highway and Conservation Departments have numerous strategically located picnic areas along the entire route. In many instances, foot trails have been developed for parking areas along the highway to scenic vistas and points of interest. The drive also passes through 40 miles of Superior National Forest, but the Forest Service owns only about two miles of lake frontage along this route. The authorized Grand Portage National Monument will be readily accessible from the relocation of the drive at its northern terminus at the Canadian boundary. Altogether, publicly owned shoreline amounts to about 19 miles, or roughly about 10 percent, of Minnesota's mainland and island Lake Superior shoreline.



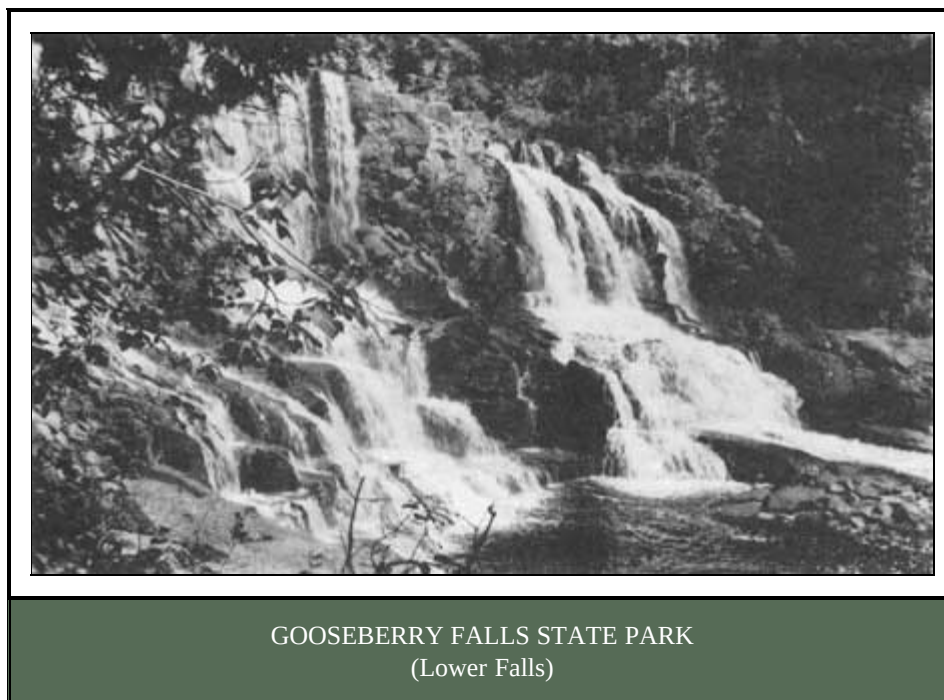
The few beaches that occur in coves and at river outlets are gravel rather than sand. However, this is no particular deterrent because the cold waters of Lake Superior discourage all but the heartiest swimmers. Sport boating, that rapidly expanding recreational pastime elsewhere, is still a minor activity along this rugged shoreline--limited primarily by the treacherous waters of Lake Superior and an insufficient number of refuge harbors. Scenic enjoyment, along with camping, picnicking and hiking in this refreshing, pollen free atmosphere, are still the principal and growing recreation uses of the North Shore.

The existing state parks, plus the North Shore Drive with its recreation access and vistas, have gone a long way toward providing public enjoyment of this important segment of the Great Lakes scene. However, further steps are needed to preserve the scenic integrity that is there. Industrial, commercial and residential development have already consumed over one-third of the shoreline, thus eliminating public enjoyment of the encompassed scenery, waterscapes, and shoreline. Uncontrolled expansion of such development poses a threat to future enjoyment. What is needed is zoning control designed to protect the integrity of the more scenic reaches and provide a harmonious blending of structures and landscape.

Another means for protecting the integrity of existing features and increasing the carrying capacity of this recreation wonderland is through expansion of existing state areas. Most of the prime scenic and scientific features in back of this magnificent shoreline are protected by

state ownership; but, in many cases, additional shore frontage would enhance the over-all enjoyment of these areas. Expansion of inland holdings around the scenic features would provide adequate buffers against conflicting uses and also furnish space for development of additional camping and picnicking areas to meet the steadily increasing demands for these facilities. An increase in area would also provide a better opportunity to eliminate the hazardous conditions existing at those parks where pedestrians are obliged to cross the highway at grade to reach trails to the waterfalls the parks protect.

Specifically, recommendations for treatment of the North Shore Drive and acquisition of the outstanding natural areas at Split Rock and Pigeon Point follow on the succeeding pages. Administrative decisions relative to these areas will be dependent on further studies recommended at both the state and federal levels.



MINNESOTA

NORTH SHORE DRIVE



U. S. Highway 61, the North Shore Drive, was built in the early 1920's primarily to provide motor access to the lake shore villages. To a degree, its recreation potential was also recognized in right of way purchase for highway overlooks and wayside areas. However, expanding private and commercial developments along its borders are seriously threatening its continued usefulness as a public recreation road.

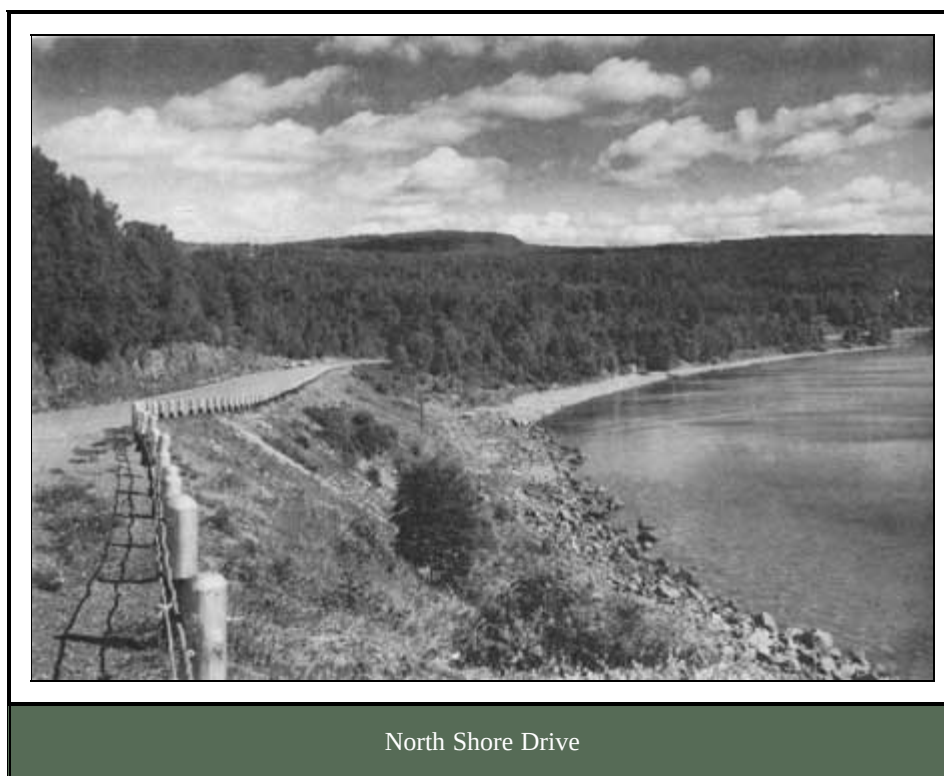
Such development is a major concern not only to the Department of Conservation but also to the Department of Highways. In this

region of outstanding scenic, historic and geologic interest, the North Shore Drive is an important attraction for tourists. It also plays an essential role in tying together, as a unit, the many recreation features of the Lake Superior North Shore. Because of this, some form of parkway treatment is suggested. This concept is further strengthened by Canada's new highway being constructed around the north shore of Lake Superior which will result in much greater tourist traffic.

A special study was conducted to evaluate the feasibility of developing a national parkway along this route. To meet national parkway standards, it would be necessary to provide a commercial highway on the landward side of the parkway and a frontage road between the parkway and the privately developed sections of the lakeshore. It was concluded that private and commercial development was already too extensive and topography too restrictive in many places to permit development of such standards.

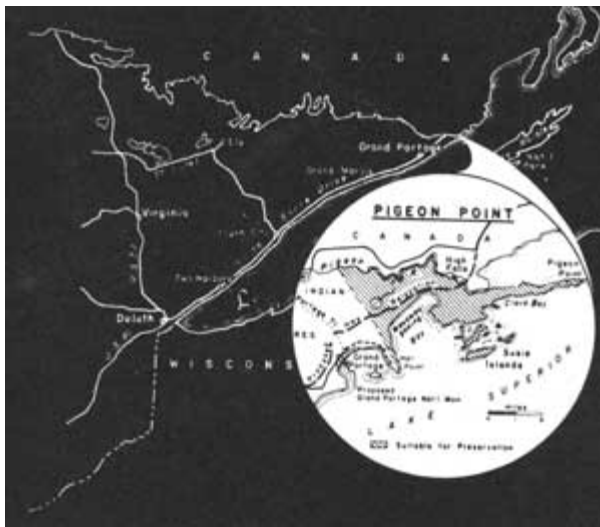
Instead, it is recommended that a parkway-like development be made similar to those for the Great River Road along the Mississippi River. To accomplish this, the following steps are suggested:

1. The Department of Highways and the Department of Conservation should collaborate in preparing a master plan to govern development of the North Shore Drive and the parks as a unit.
2. Each organization could then prepare detailed studies in accordance with the master plan and the Great River Road standards.
3. The Department of Highways would be expected to acquire right of way and the Department of Conservation to acquire additional park lands.
4. Development and improvements could then await the demands of traffic and visitation.



MINNESOTA

PIGEON POINT



LOCATION Pigeon Point lies adjacent to the Canadian Boundary on the north shore of Lake Superior and forms the "point" of Minnesota's "Arrowhead Country." It may be reached by car over U.S. Highway 61 and a side road to Grand Portage. Access to Pigeon Point itself is possible only by boat and foot trail. However, planned relocation of Highway 61 will pass through part of the study area.

DESCRIPTION Pigeon Point, with its 30-mile shoreline and over 6,000 acres of wild land, comprises some of Minnesota's most rugged lakeshore landscape. Massive intrusions of diabase, an igneous rock, rise

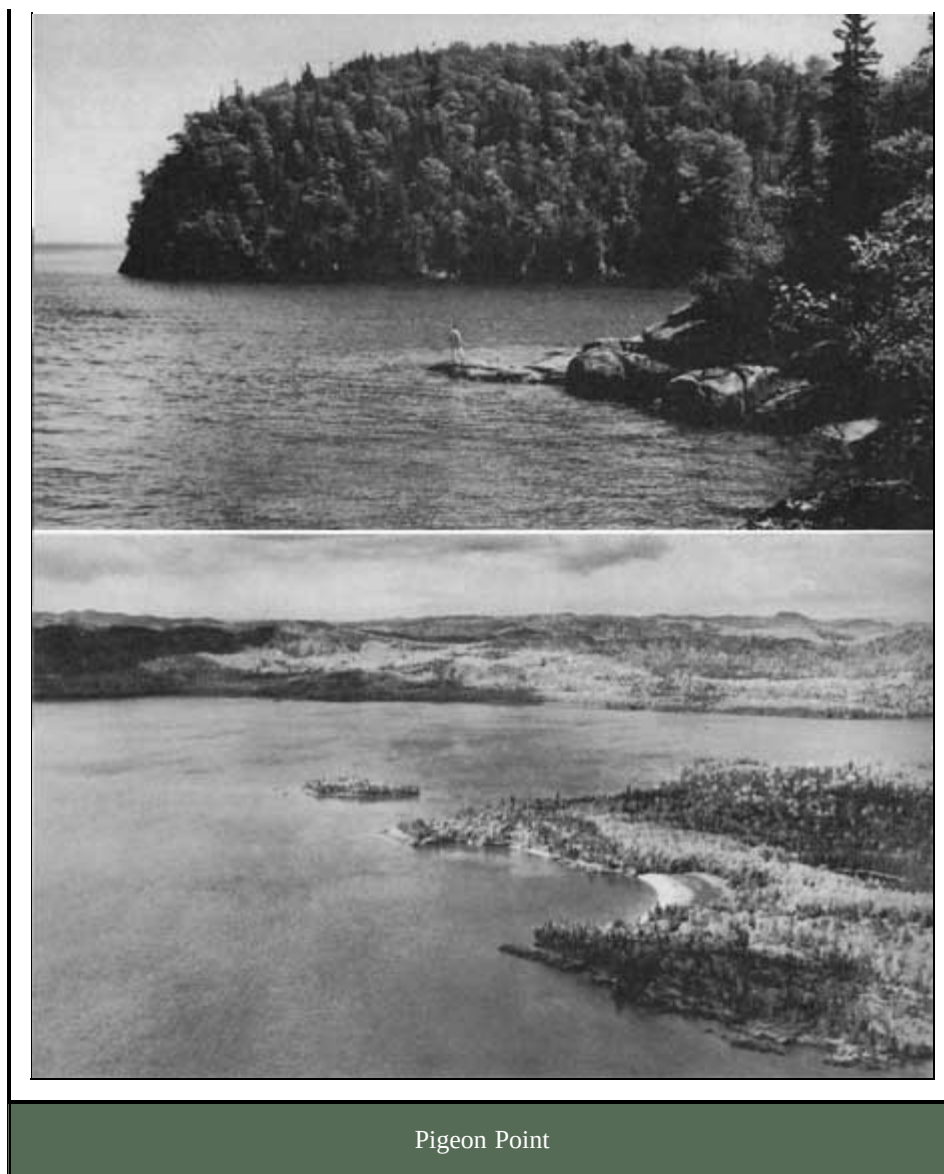
nearly 700 feet above Lake Superior and are covered by trees typical of the northern coniferous forests. White cedar swamps, together with other marshlands, are found throughout the area, and one small lake is present. Deer, bear and, occasionally, moose are found here together with their smaller associates of the northern forests. The picturesque shores of Pigeon Point and its offshore islands are marked by bold rock outcrops, some forming sheer cliffs rising over 100 feet above the water, while elsewhere the rock-clad edge is broken by gravel beaches. One of the principal scenic features is Wausaugoning Bay and the high cliffs bordering its west and north shores.

The 101-foot Pigeon Falls will be a distinctive, climactic feature of the realigned North Shore Drive. The Pigeon River, forming the International Boundary between the United States and Canada in this region is characterized by many high waterfalls and rapids. This made the lower Pigeon River an obstacle to the early fur traders and trappers, and necessitated the location of a portage route. Thus the "Grand Portage" route through a pre-glacial valley came into use, and today lies within the adjacent Grand Portage Indian Reservation. On the offshore islands, evidence of recent and prehistoric mining operations are still evident.

PRESENT USE Today the area is used only as a sporadic hunting ground and intermittent base for declining fishing operations. A major portion of this land is being held in trust for the Grand Portage Band of Chippewa Indians and, as such, is considered private property. Only negligible acreages are in public ownership.

ANALYSIS Pigeon Point is one of the largest undeveloped areas on Minnesota's Lake Superior shoreline and, because of its terrain and location, has a relationship with the events surrounding the "Grand Portage." Its possible national significance should be studied further, along with all lands from the tip of Pigeon Point westerly to the east boundary of the Superior National Forest.



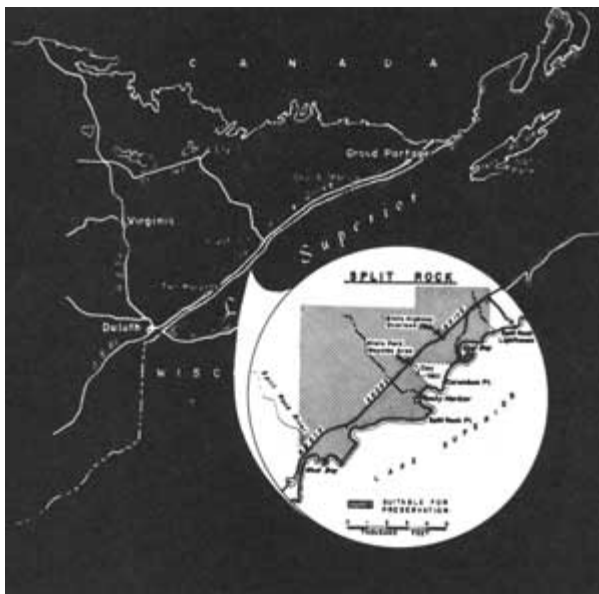


MINNESOTA

SPLIT ROCK

LOCATION Split Rock's bold, rocky headlands rise above the chill waters of Lake Superior approximately 45 miles northeast of Duluth, Minnesota. Access to this region is provided by U.S. Route 61, the "North Shore Drive," which parallels the Lake Superior shoreline between Duluth, Minnesota and the Canadian border. Southward from the Split Rock Lighthouse, a waterfront of 3.3 miles and an inland area of 1,200 acres are included in this proposal.

DESCRIPTION The shore character around Split Rock is dominated by sheer rock cliffs and boulder-lined bays. Atop one



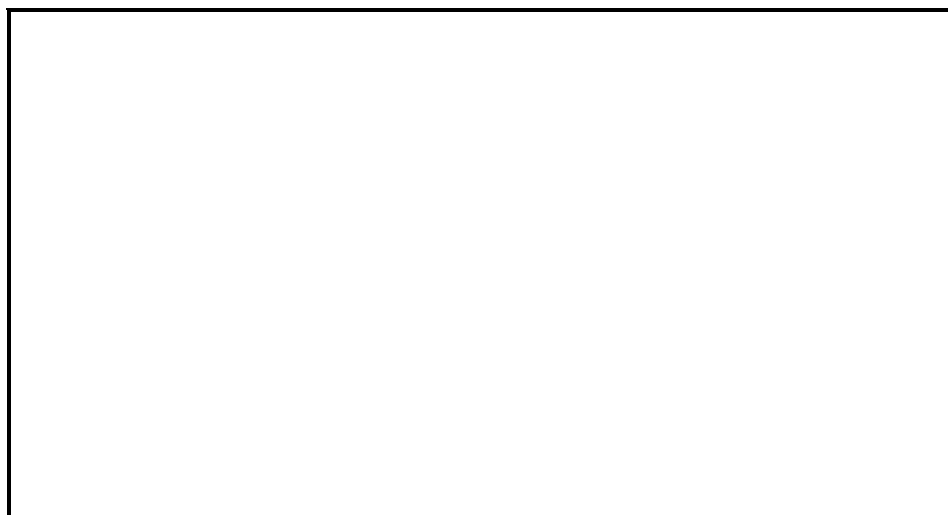
of these headlands stands the Split Rock Lighthouse--the unofficial symbol of the North Shore. The picturesque structure holds a fascination for tourists and natives alike, while its flashing light and foghorn warn mariners of the dangers along this shore during violent storms.

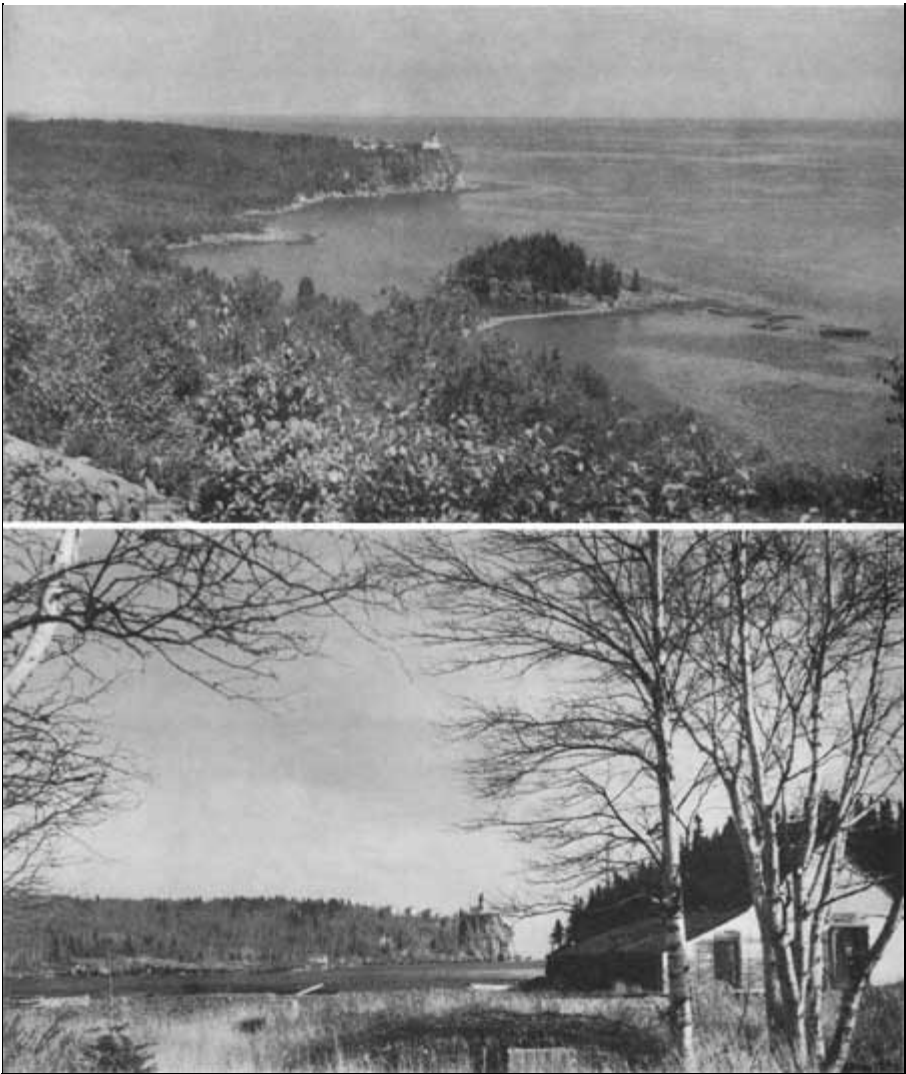
A small rocky point curves partially around East Bay, forming another of this area's scenic shore features. Except for a narrow connecting link of cobblestones, the bulk of this point would be an island of low, rough outline. Contrasting the dark green of the coniferous cover are the orange lichens that cling to some of the rocks that lie awash during storms.

Back of the mainland shore, the land rises moderately to knobs some 200 feet above the lake. From these points, vistas open toward the expanse of Lake Superior and the associated jagged shoreline. A young second growth forest covers most of this region. Birch and aspen are frequently encountered along with a mixture of pine, fir and spruce.

PRESENT USE A small, state scenic wayside presently preserves the view from atop Day Hill. A short trail connects this site with the North Shore Drive, whose right of way passes less than a mile from the shoreline. Some private development has taken place along the highway but the shoreline remains undeveloped.

ANALYSIS Split Rock, its lighthouse and the associated rough and scenic shores are some of the highlights of Minnesota's Great Lakes environment. By virtue of these features and its association with the North Shore Drive, it is recommended that the present state holdings be enlarged to develop this whole study area as a state park.





Split Rock

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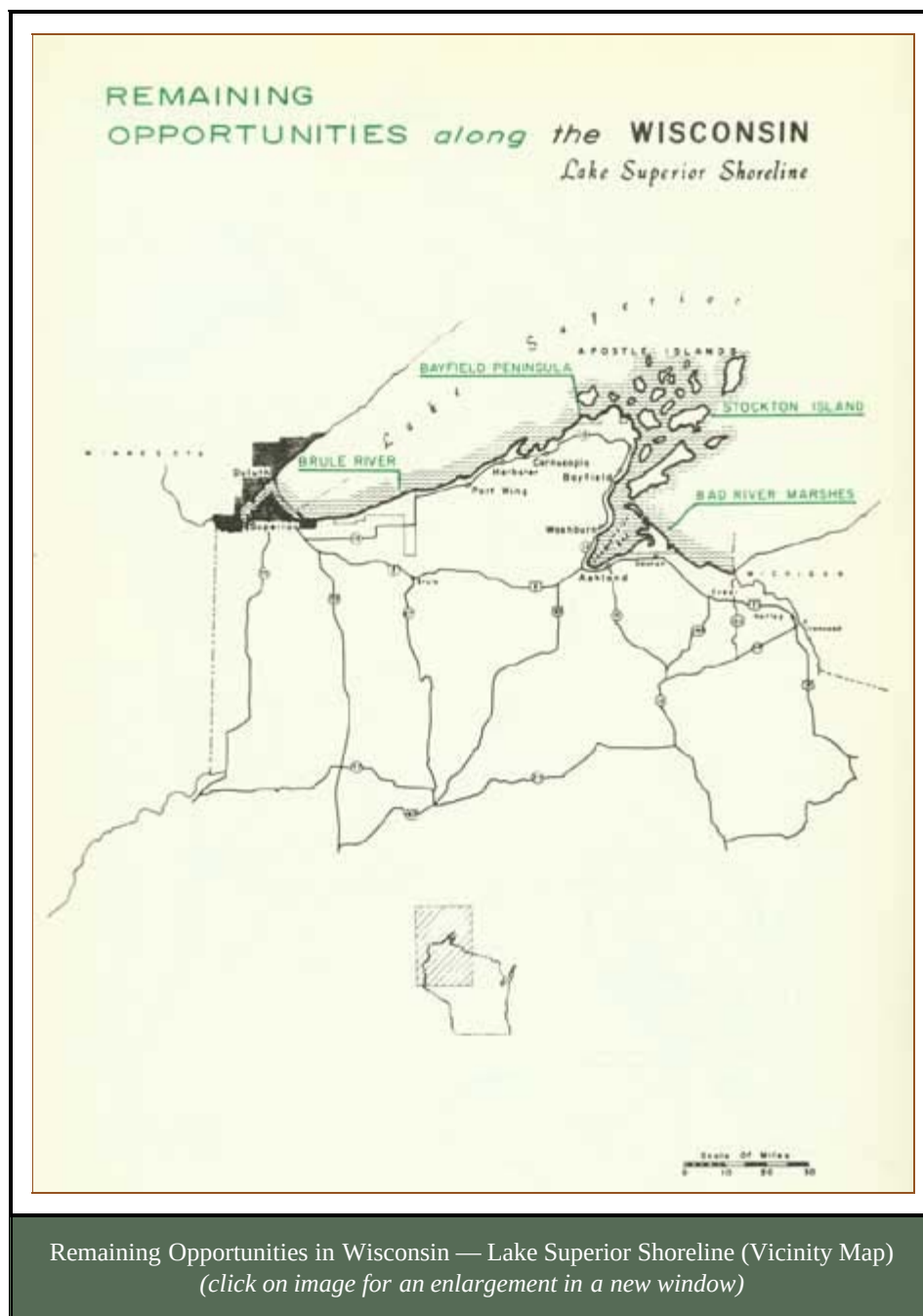
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey



REMAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN WISCONSIN



Remaining Opportunities in Wisconsin — Lake Superior Shoreline (Vicinity Map)
(click on image for an enlargement in a new window)

SUMMARY

Wisconsin has shore frontage on both Lake Superior and Lake Michigan. On Lake Superior, counting the 175 miles of shoreline of the Apostle Islands, Wisconsin has a total of 325 miles of shore frontage. As a geographical unit, it is best considered in four segments, each

sufficiently distinct to pose problems to the recreation planner.

From Superior to Port Wing and from the Michigan state line westward for several miles is a region of shore bluffs. The bluffs vary from 20 to 60 feet in height and are fronted by very narrow beaches, 10 to 40 feet wide, composed of sand, gravel, cobble and rock, and variously littered with driftwood. The soft sand and clays of these old lakebed deposits are easily eroded, and the land back from the lake is cut by ravines and stream beds. Obviously, little recreation value can be attached to beach use, but a number of the streams entering the lake have trout runs of consequence. The Brule River is such an example, and for this and other important reasons it is included as a study area representative of this section.

East of Port Wing is the Bayfield Peninsula, the most scenic portion of the mainland shoreline. Steep sloped, rocky headlands are interspersed with sandy bays. The bays, sometimes backed by small marshlands and nestled between the higher prominences, are the focus of recreation possibilities on this shore segment.

The Apostle Islands are really a partially inundated extension of the Bayfield Peninsula, but their insular position introduces considerations not like the mainland. Not only are the islands valuable for the overt forms of recreations: boating, beach use, camping, hiking, etc., but they can neatly preserve in a small package a characteristic portion of the natural landscape and its biology.

The fourth shore segment includes the Kakagon and Bad River Marshes. Their value for migratory waterfowl is great, and efforts should be made to preserve in public ownership this fine marsh area for the use for which it is best suited. Studies by appropriate state and federal agencies should be undertaken to determine a method of management that would best serve all concerned.

At present, the shoreline is either largely forested with second growth timber or given over to farming. Some cottage development occurs, mainly on the Bayfield Peninsula. Large iron-ore docks occur at both Ashland and Superior. The Red Cliff and Bad River Indian Reservations occupy approximately 48 miles of shoreline.

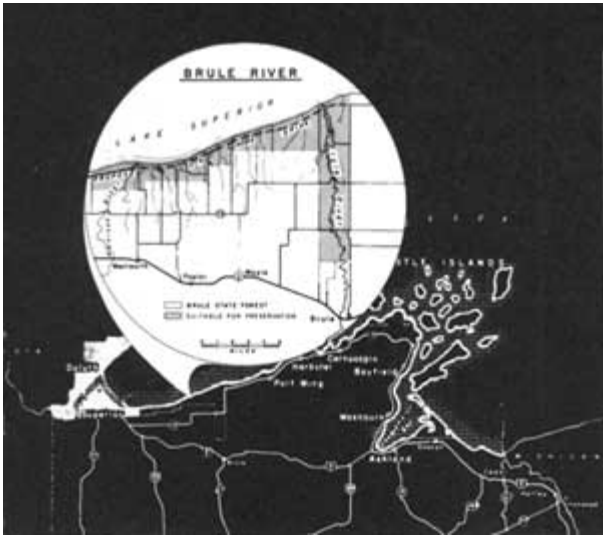
The Wisconsin state park system administers 31 areas, none of which occur on Lake Superior. The opportunity to acquire lands for park use would appear fairly good at present. In a few years time the picture could change considerably.

WISCONSIN

Lake Superior Shoreline

BRULE RIVER

LOCATION One of Wisconsin's principal tributaries to Lake Superior is the Brule River. Flowing northward toward the largest of the Great Lakes, this stream's mouth is approximately 20 miles east of Superior, Wisconsin. State Highway 13 and connecting county routes provide access to the shoreline of Lake Superior between the Brule and the Amicon Rivers. Further access along this shore line will be provided



by a proposed South Shore Drive through the study area. A shoreline of 13.5 miles lies between the Brule and Amicon Rivers; inland, a strip 1 to 2 miles wide along Lake Superior and a 2-mile corridor along the Brule River amounts to 25,000 acres.

DESCRIPTION The Lake Superior shoreline between the Amicon and the Brule Rivers is characterized by low bluffs with narrow beaches. Wider shores are confined to the mouths of the two main rivers (the largest belonging to the Brule River). Here, the beaches are composed of fine sands and average approximately 25 feet in width.

The Brule River, one of the famous rainbow and brown trout streams of the United States, extends inland along a winding course for nearly 66 miles. Its fame as a trout stream is rivaled only by its scenic beauty and its challenge as a "white-water" canoe route. (The rapids of the Brule are a fitting test for the best canoeist.) Covering the banks of the stream and lakeshore north of the settlement of Brule are forests composed primarily of cutover aspen and birch with a light mixture of conifers. Today, the forests along the stream serve as important factors in the protection of the Brule River and its watershed, since the heavy clay soil and rough topography are susceptible to erosion and watershed damage.

Historically, the Brule River was a portion of the route the Indians and voyageurs followed to the portage between Lake Superior and the Mississippi River waterways. Their portage was at the Brule Bog between the Brule and the St. Croix Rivers.

PRESENT USE The southern half of the river is now within the Brule River State Forest, but the northern half has been crowded by farming and some cottage development. The appeal of the stream to canoeist and fisherman has a strong attraction to the sportsman.

ANALYSIS To achieve the objectives of watershed and forest management as well as to protect recreational opportunities, consideration should be given to extension of the State Forest to and along Lake Superior.





Brule River

WISCONSIN

Lake Superior Shoreline

BAYFIELD PENINSULA

LOCATION The blunt tip of the Bayfield Peninsula projects conspicuously into Lake Superior as one of Wisconsin's principal shore prominences. With one exception, the



bays associated with this shoreline proposal lie on the peninsula's northern tip. The nearest communities are Bayfield and Cornucopia. Both settlements are served by State Route 13 which together with county roads provide access into this region. Three separate Bayfield units involve nearly 12 miles of shoreline and an inland area of almost 4,800 acres.

DESCRIPTION Red sandstone and clay bluffs are the typical shore features of the Bayfield Peninsula. Interspersed along these bluffs are a number of bays that account for

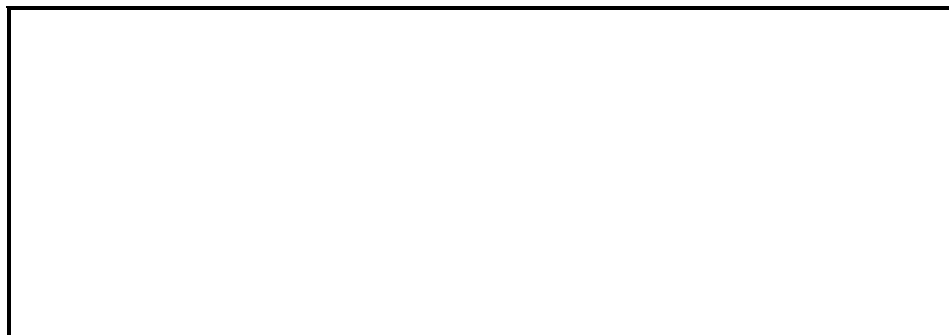
the uneven shore outline. Nearly all the bays that have been cut back into the shores of the peninsula are characterized by sand beaches. These beaches of fine sand vary in width from a narrow strand up to 40 or 50 feet. Some of the finest beaches are located at Frog, Sand and Bark Bays.

Frequently, behind the beaches, marshes are associated with streams draining the inland region and feeding Lake Superior. The three previously named bays are examples of such beach and marsh environment. The trees and shrubs that line these beaches have trapped some of the loose sand, building up the barrier strand between the marsh and bay. Bordering these wetlands will be found stands of pine, spruce and fir; elsewhere, the conifers occur as scattered groups in a predominantly deciduous forest composed primarily of birch and aspen.

A rolling countryside of rounded ridges and shallow valleys characterizes the Bayfield Peninsula. Only the shore points demonstrate a boldness of outline. Battered by Lake Superior's wave action, some of the points have been carved to form arches and caves in the sandstone rock.

PRESENT USE The northernmost part of the Bayfield Peninsula is included in the Red Cliff Indian Reservation; however, private and county lands form a checkerboard pattern with Indian lands. Three of the four bays in the Bayfield proposal are within the reservation, but involve only a small acreage of restricted Indian allotments. Very few developments exist, leaving the region largely in a natural, unspoiled condition.

ANALYSIS The beaches and surrounding terrain of the Bayfield Peninsula offer excellent sites for several small park units. Public acquisition of this portion of Wisconsin's Lake Superior shore would save a scenic region possessing outstanding potential vital to future recreation needs.



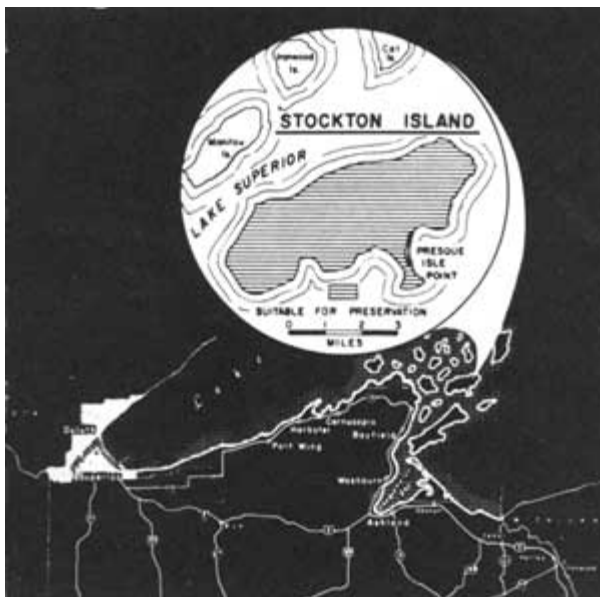


Bayfield Peninsula

WISCONSIN

Lake Superior Shoreline

STOCKTON ISLAND



LOCATION The Apostle Islands lie off the Bayfield Peninsula as one of Lake Superior's principal shoreline features. Occupying an area of nearly 600 square miles, this archipelago has a land area of less than 80 square miles. State Route 13 and U.S. Route 2 provide access to mainland points such as Ashland, Bayfield and Washburn, Wisconsin, where boat transportation to the islands is available. Stockton Island, lying near the middle of the group, is the only unit of the Apostles included in this proposal. Its 10,000 acres inscribe a shoreline of nearly 21 miles.

DESCRIPTION At present, the Apostle Islands include more than 20 islands ranging in size from 175 to 15,000 acres.

Formerly they were part of the Bayfield Peninsula but became separated during the ice age. Today the islands are characterized by low, nearly level outlines of glacial drift lying over their red sandstone foundations. Occasionally, these sandstones are exposed along the shoreline where they form sheer walls, caves or arches; elsewhere, eroding clay banks are typical of the island shoreline.

Stockton, the second largest of the islands, has been selected as the unit incorporating most of the Apostle Islands' features. On the island's Presque Isle Point may be found many typical vegetative types. This includes the bog habitats with sundew, pitcher plant and other bog species. In drier locations, red pine copses along with stands of northern hard woods may be found. Second growth stands are typical of nearly the entire island group.

Sand beaches occur along portions of Stockton's south shore, particularly the east side of Presque Isle Point. These sand beaches average approximately 50 feet in width, terminating in a low barrier dune. Lake Superior's chilly waters discourage all but the hardiest from swimming; however, the beaches have a scenic appeal worthy of recognition.

PRESENT USE Because of its large deer herd, a situation currently true of nearly all the Apostles, hunting is one of the principal autumn activities. The decline of commercial fishing has resulted in the abandonment of several fishing operations on the island, leaving Stockton virtually uninhabited.

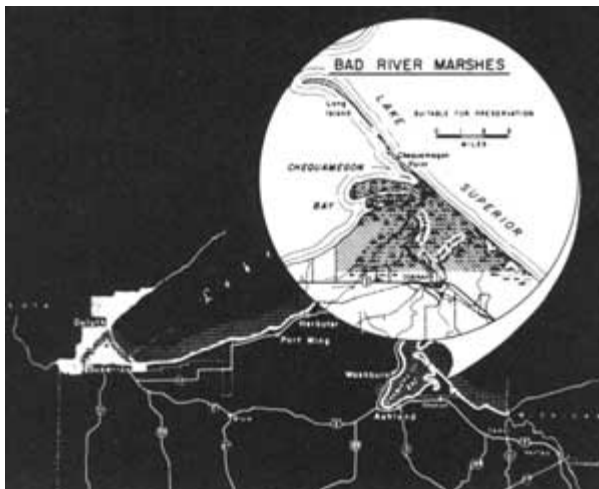
ANALYSIS By virtue of its island setting, Stockton offers a unique experience in many outdoor activities, such as camping and boating, not found on mainland areas. By the inclusion of representative features typical of the Apostle Islands, Stockton possesses recreation potential that should be recognized by public acquisition.



Stockton Island

WISCONSIN
Lake Superior Shoreline

BAD RIVER MARSHES



LOCATION Behind the protection of Chequamegon Point lies the delta-like region of the Bad River and Kakagon River marshes. These wetlands are situated approximately 6 miles north. east of Ashland, Wisconsin and are accessible via U.S. Highway 2 and thence by boat into the interior of the marshes. This area, plus Long Island, involves approximately 11,000 acres north of U.S. Highway 12 and a shoreline of 25 miles.

DESCRIPTION The Bad River region in incorporates two shoreline features rare not only to Wisconsin but Lake Superior as

well. Of primary importance are the interior lands whose marshes have some of the greatest wildlife potential, particularly in terms of waterfowl, that remain unprotected on the Great Lakes. The second unusual feature is the sand beach fronting on Lake Superior, including Chequamegon Point's detached extension--Long Island.

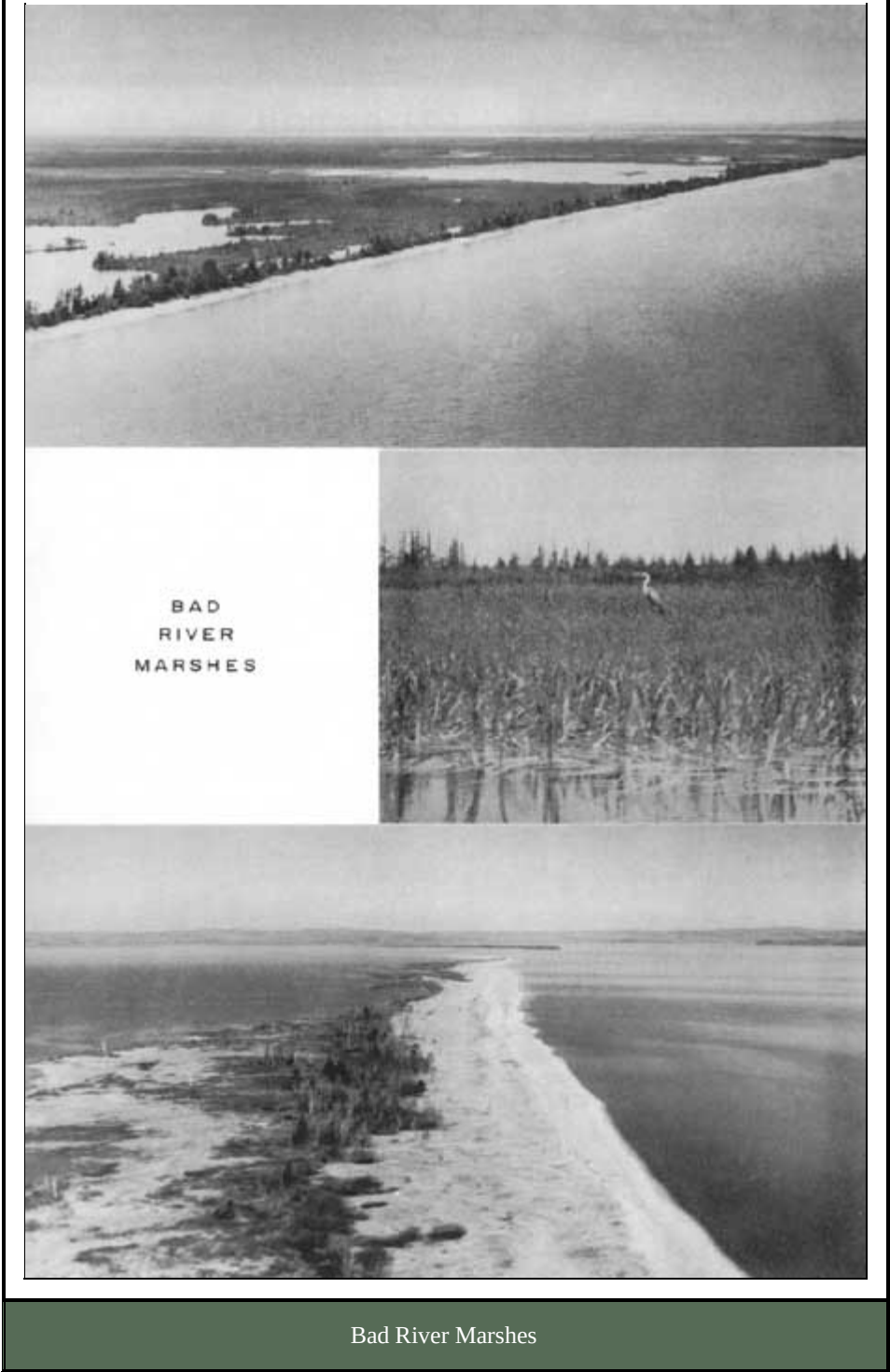
The marsh flats are grown up mainly in wild rice but many other aquatic plants exist, including arrowhead, cattail and water lily. Tamarack bogs and alder thickets also occur, along with scattered sugar maple, basswood, ash and conifers on higher lands. In terms of wildlife, these marshes give evidence of supporting a varied fauna within a favorable northern habitat. Deer occur throughout the area's network of upland hummocks, while muskrat and, possibly, beaver inhabit the marshes. Walleye and great northern pike are popular game fishes of the water courses. Probably the greatest value the area has is to meet waterfowl needs for food, shelter and resting places during migration and breeding seasons.

Along the Lake Superior shore, sand beaches form an effective barrier between the marshes and the lake. These beaches, averaging 50 feet in width, are bolstered by a low barrier dune that has been stabilized by beach grasses.

PRESENT USE The marshlands lie within the boundaries of the Bad River Indian Reservation; however, the pattern of ownership is a checkerboard of Federal, State County, Indian and private lands. Conflicting property claims have arisen, leaving a clouded picture of land ownership. Hunting and fishing camps, some on floats, have been located in the area while the marshlands are also the scene of annual wild rice harvests in the autumn by Indians from the Bad River Reservation.

ANALYSIS Because of the marshes' conservation values, this region should receive further study to determine its national significance in order to formulate a plan for preservation and management of the wildlife and recreation values for future public use.





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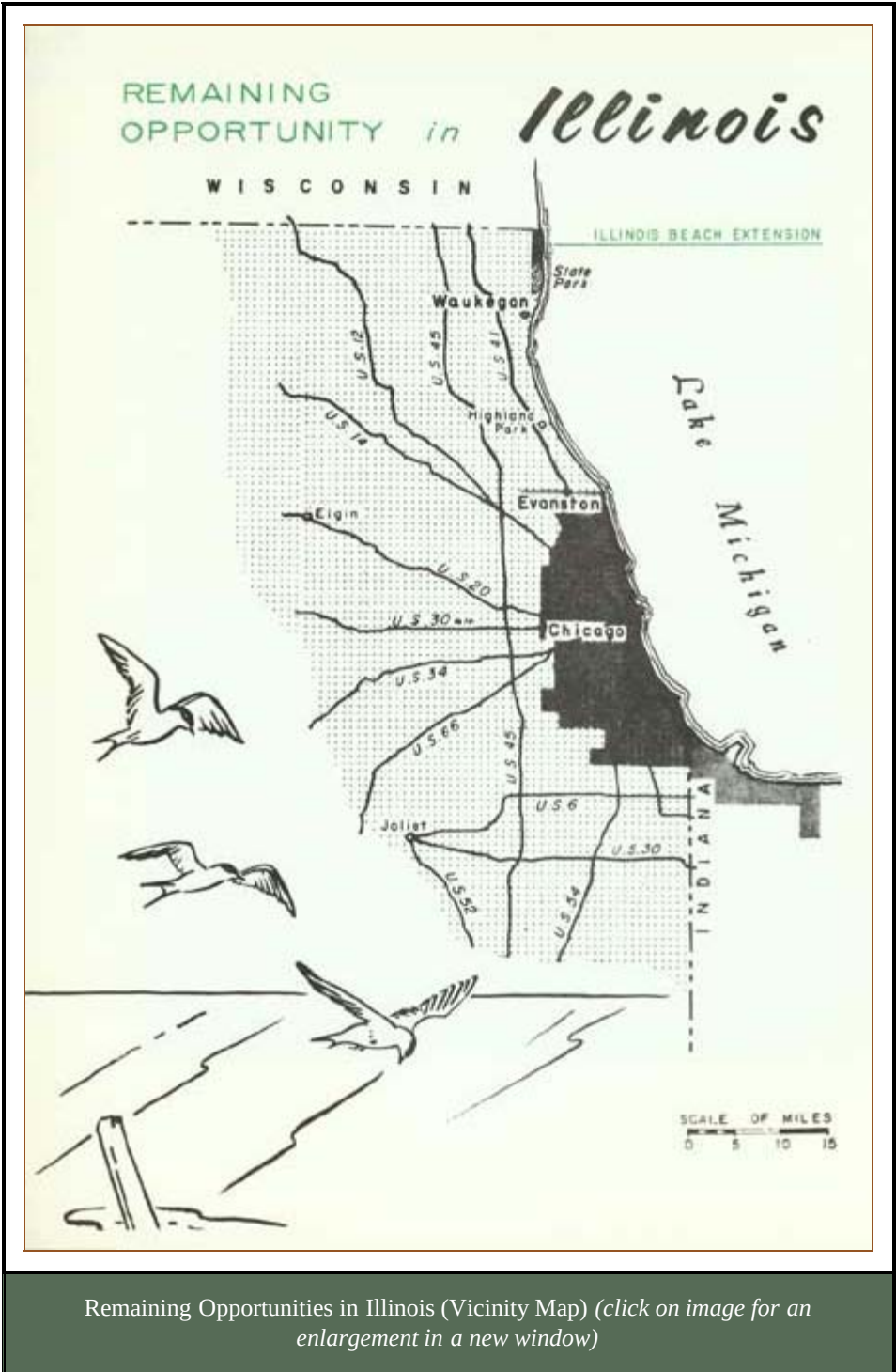
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey



REMAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN ILLINOIS



SUMMARY

As summer approaches the southern shores of Lake Michigan and the shallow offshore water begins to store the sun's warmth, the people of Chicago--like people everywhere--begin to long for a place in the sun, preferably on a sandy beach. Happily, beneath the virulent Chicago skyline, the city maintains nearly 16 miles of highly landscaped lake frontage. Designed for intensive use by the area's millions, they are outstanding in every way. On the 11 city beaches, youngsters, teen-agers and adults may fill spare hours with healthy outdoor recreation. Evanston and other shoreline towns also provide for local beach needs, and private clubs and resorts maintain beaches for their patrons.

The Cook County Forest Preserve, preserving a ring of green around Chicago, is known to park and conservation men throughout the country. Its record for providing fine recreation facilities and resisting nonconforming use of Preserve lands is the envy of less fortunate park organizations. The preservation of these natural areas is of inestimable value to all the people of the Chicago area. In like manner, public hunting and fishing grounds, arboretums, reservoirs and city parks are important for the area's recreation needs.

Here, however, is a case where a lot is not enough. The burgeoning population of Chicago--now at an estimated 4 million people--is literally busting its recreation seams. Great numbers of Illinois cars fill the parking lot at Indiana Dunes State Park. The more adventuresome and the solitude seekers have moved out into surrounding states in search of new recreation outlets.

The greater Chicago metropolitan area has occupied nearly all of Illinois' 61 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. Only north of Waukegan is there any semblance of natural shoreline. In acquiring two and three-quarter miles of lake frontage in 1948 for the Illinois Beach State Park, the state of Illinois took an active and affirmative hand in assuring the people of Illinois--and in particular those of the Chicago area--a scenic fragment of Lake Michigan for a state park.

Now under way is a fine development program including the construction of a large resort hotel. Natural features, however, are being respected and preserved--the south half of the 1,408-acre park is designated as a nature preserve. This prairie-marsh is wonderfully rich botanically and is a favorite haunt of ornithologists. It should certainly be preserved inviolate.

There is, however, the ominous factor of increasing pressure on existing facilities and space. The park needs to be big enough not just for the present but for the future, and it needs to be maintained in its current natural condition. To assure such results, the park needs to be extended northward to the Wisconsin line to provide for ever expanding use.





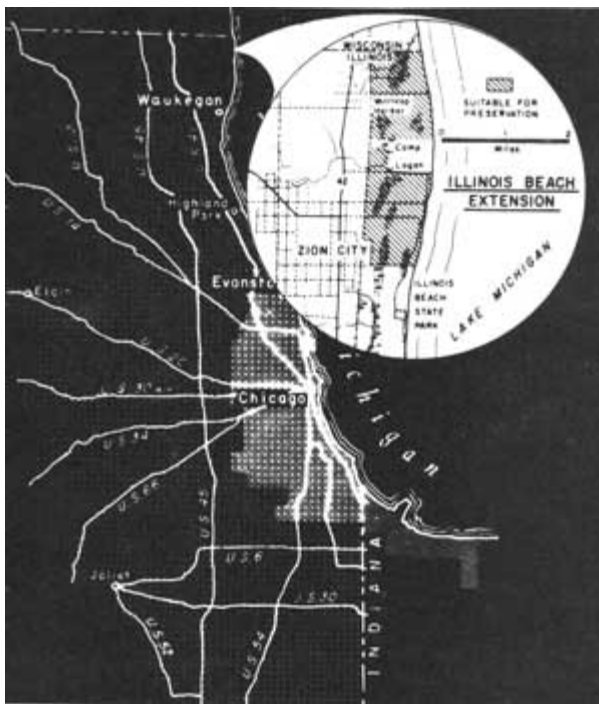
Illinois Shore

ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS BEACH EXTENSION

LOCATION This area lies in Lake County, Illinois along the west shore of Lake Michigan between the Wisconsin state line and Illinois Beach State Park. The study area, involving some 4 miles of shoreline and less than 2,000 acres, lies approximately 45 miles north of Chicago's Loop and about the same distance south of Milwaukee.

DESCRIPTION The beaches along this



section of Lake Michigan offer outstanding opportunities to help meet the water recreational requirements of northeast Illinois. Though of varying size, many of the beaches exceed 100 feet in width. Mixed with the fine, white sands are small pebbles that offer no objectionable deterrent to beach use. These sands extend off shore into the moderately shallow waters that border the beach. Warmed by the summer

sun, the water offers excellent bathing conditions several months each year.

Low sand ridges border the lake as an ineffective barrier dune. Along the narrow beaches, the stormy Lake Michigan waves frequently cut into this ridge, eroding and refashioning the shore of glacial till.

Inland, marshes occur over the predominately level terrain for a mile back of the shoreline. Breaking the pattern of marshes into fingers are the low sand ridges which were associated with old beach lines. In the marshes a variety of flowering plants abounds, while grasses and other plants serve to stabilize the adjacent sand ridges. Open stands of black oak and other deciduous trees occur sporadically over this old lakebed.

PRESENT USE Lying in the middle of this extension is the state-owned Camp Logan, now used as a training site for the National Guard. Between Camp Logan and the Wisconsin state line is a shoreline of nearly one and one-half miles that is marked by blocks of private home development, some having Lake frontage. South of Camp Logan, a shoreline of one and three-quarter miles extends to the state park with private development in scattered groups. Development in the south portion of the extension is not so extensive as that found to the north.

ANALYSIS This Illinois beach, together with its immediate environs, possesses potential recreational features capable of meeting the pressing public use requirements of nearby metropolitan areas. The addition of this area to the Illinois Beach State Park allows the expansion of existing recreational facilities to meet these needs without destroying the fine natural area already present in the existing park.





Illinois Beach Extension

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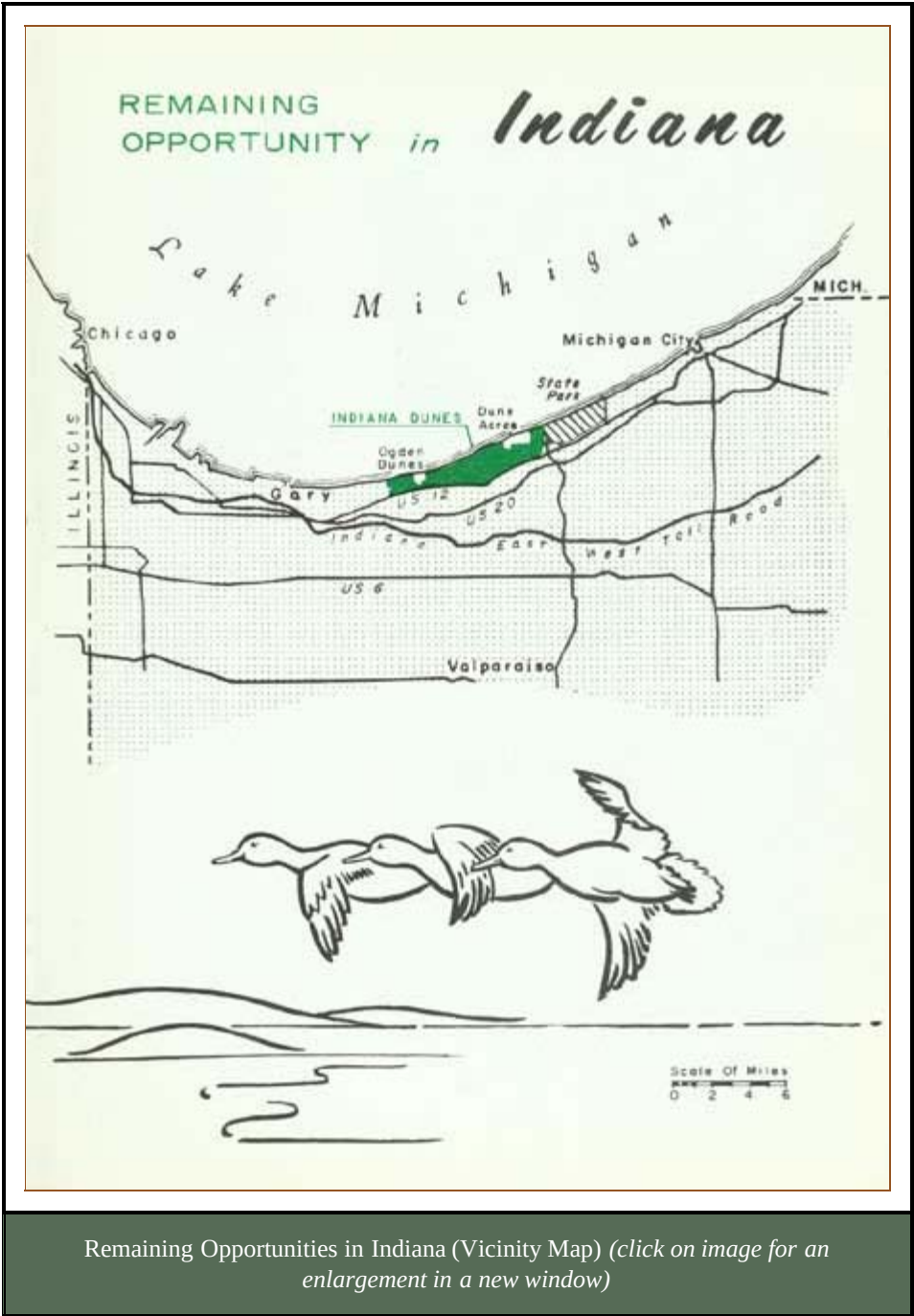
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey



REMAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN INDIANA



SUMMARY

The area around Indiana's 45 miles of frontage on Lake Michigan has long been an arena where recreational, residential and industrial interests have jostled for control. Location,

terrain and resources are favorable for all three, but space is insufficient to supply the maximum demands of each.

In 1916, Stephen Mather, serving as Director of the National Park Service, recommended establishment of a National Park in this area. At that time, the site under consideration contained a 25-mile strip of uninhabited sand beach backed up by 15 square miles of tree-covered dunes and wildlife marshes. But World War I intervened, and the same features that appealed to nature enthusiasts also encouraged residential development. Before concrete action on the federal park project could be resumed, two communities (Ogden Dunes and Dune Acres) became solidly established in the heart of the area.

In 1923, however, local and state conservation groups succeeded in establishing Indiana Dunes State Park, thus securing three miles of excellent beach plus 2,200 acres of dunes and marshland for public use and enjoyment. The popularity of this outstanding park has increased steadily and the existing facilities are no longer able to handle the crowds. Last July 4th the overcrowded conditions necessitated turning hundreds of people away because of inadequate facilities to accommodate them. The state now plans to provide additional beach access at the east end of the park where a minimum alteration will be made on the natural scene. However, to meet the ever increasing demands of the future, more space will be needed unless the splendid natural values--for which this park was established to preserve--are to be impaired by replacing some of the dunes with parking areas and converting forest area to campsites and picnic grounds.

Today, only five and one-half miles of undeveloped shoreline and about 5,000 acres remain which are suitable of consideration for public acquisition and control. Much of this area is owned by industrial corporations that have plans for utilizing this space for steel mill sites. In conjunction with such operations, there are pressures to create a major harbor development in the area. This latter project is designed to give Indiana's production and economy a "place on the sea"--an increased opportunity to benefit from advantages offered by the St. Lawrence Seaway.

It is estimated that by 1960 nearly 1 million people--or about one-fifth of Indiana's citizens--will be living within 50 miles of this shoreline. Across the line in Illinois another 6 million people will be clamoring for outdoor recreational space--especially of the beach type. Rapidly increasing population growth is going to make future recreation needs even greater. The conversion of the following undeveloped shoreline to park use would aid materially in meeting a part of these recreation needs. Also, such action would serve to preserve the natural values there as well as those in the Indiana Dunes State Park.



INDIANA

INDIANA DUNES



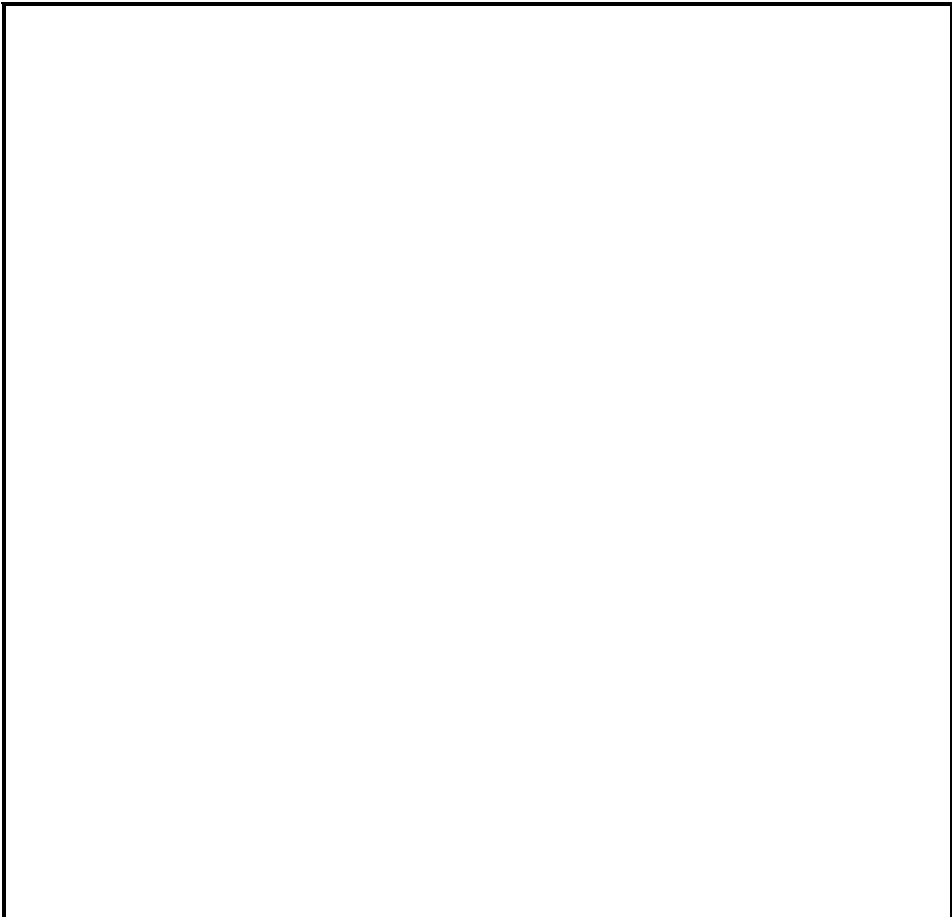
LOCATION Indiana's undeveloped Lake Michigan shoreline is located in Porter County between its western boundary and Indiana Dunes State Park. It is bounded on the south by the main lines of the New York Central and Chicago South Shore railroads. Access is available over several roads just south of the area which funnel into Chicago, 35 miles to the west. Excluding the communities of Ogden Dunes and Dune Acres, this study area encompasses 5-1/2 miles of shoreline backed up by 5,000 acres of beach, dunes, woodland and marshes.

DESCRIPTION The shallow waters are warm enough for pleasant swimming for several months each summer. The clean, white sand beaches vary in width with the level of Lake Michigan but are seldom less than 200 feet wide. Rising behind the beaches are the sand dunes, some reaching more than 100 feet above the lake. Behind the barrier dunes lie marshes interspersed with cross ridges of tree-covered dunes.

This region along southern Lake Michigan lies in a belt where a number of plants and animals are associated near their northern or southern limits of distribution. Several reptiles and amphibians are near the periphery of their northern range. The flowering dogwood of more southern climes mingles with the white pine, a characteristic tree of the northern Great Lakes. Part of the floral composition is also associated with the prairie peninsula. Bogs and marshes behind the dunes provide a habitat for a variety of marsh plants, while on the dunes and other sandy areas a number of Atlantic Coastal Plain plants appear.

PRESENT USE In two separate locations, over 350 acres of duneland have been leveled or altered by sand removal operations with their attendant railroad sidings and grading activities. A half mile east of Ogden Dunes is Burns Ditch. Originally constructed as a drainage channel, it is utilized today primarily as a passage and harbor for private pleasure boats. Between Dune Acres and Ogden Dunes, a large number of frame cottages are scattered along the barrier dune. The natural character of the dunes has been further altered by annual forest fires that have ranged over much of the dunes and marshes during the past two decades.

ANALYSIS Few other places on the Great Lakes exhibit a greater need for additional recreation sites than the vast Chicago Metropolitan Area. This remaining portion of Lake Michigan shoreline represents a potential major contribution toward the fulfillment of these recreational needs. Its early acquisition for park uses would be in the best interest of public recreation.





Indiana Dunes

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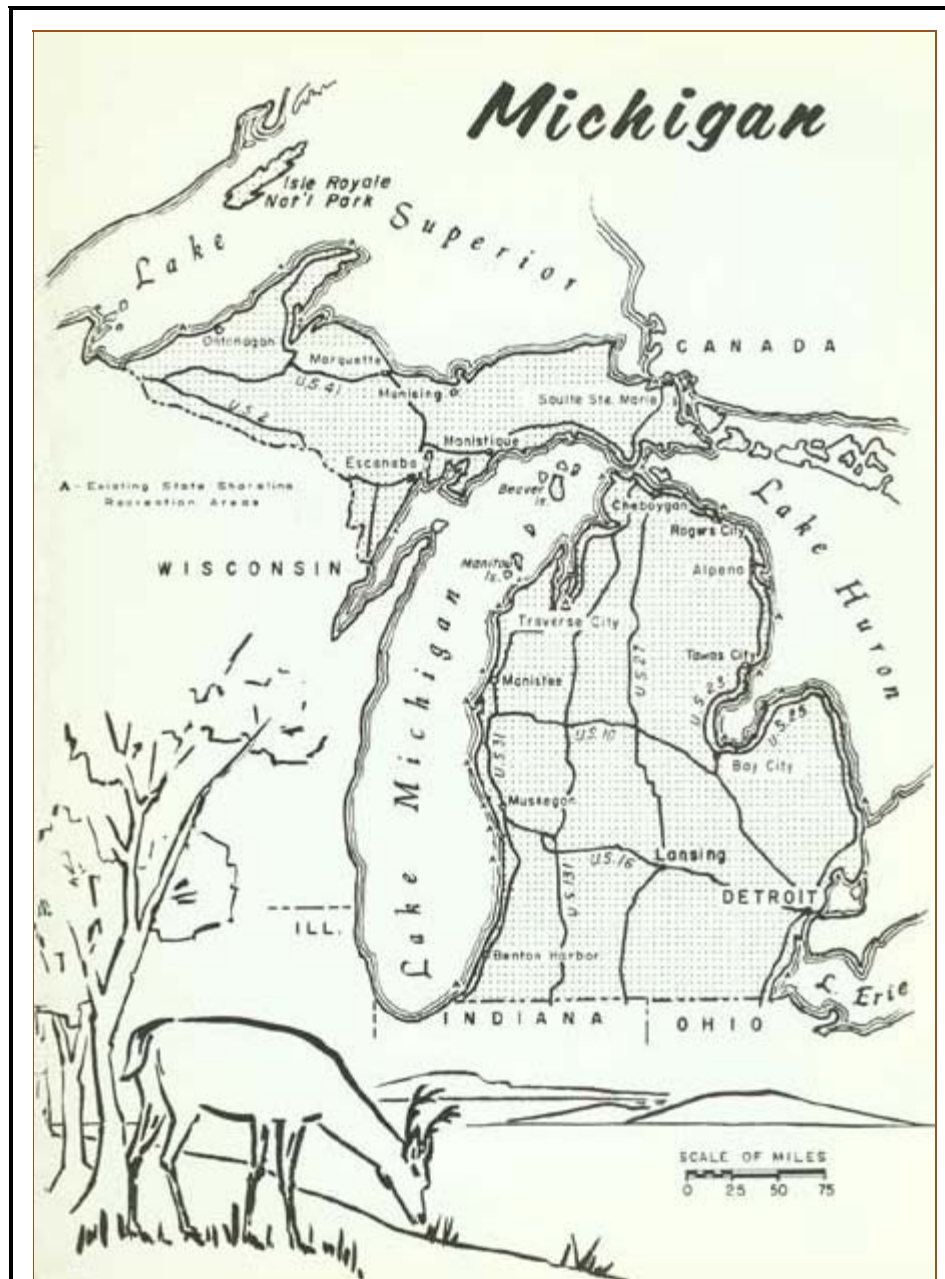
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey



REMAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN MICHIGAN



Michigan (State Map) ([click on image for an enlargement in a new window](#))

OVERALL SUMMARY

Though Michigan's 3,200-mile shoreline lost to Alaska its distinction as the longest in the United States, its scenic charm and beauty as a water wonderland cannot be challenged.

Encompassing parts of Lakes Erie, Huron, Michigan and Superior, the shores follow the infinite variety of marsh, sand, cobble and rocky headland.

The Great Lakes have not only been responsible for fashioning Michigan's scenic heritage, but they have also influenced the discovery and development of a huge inland empire. The search for the Western Sea brought the white man to the lakes' shores, while later the quest for fur rekindled his interest to push farther into the frontier. The passing of the fur trade found the fur-laden canoe supplanted by the ore and grain freighters. Today, a new horizon is opening over the Great Lakes--soon to be the world's eighth sea. Detroit and other cities on the Great Lakes will take their place among the ports of call for ocean-going vessels. The promise of this new era by the St. Lawrence Seaway has eclipsed in many respects a second significant achievement on the Great Lakes--the opening of the Straits of Mackinac Bridge in November 1957.



Long separated as two relatively isolated regions, the Upper and Lower Peninsulas are now only ten minutes apart by automobile. The feeling of remoteness associated with Lake Superior and northern Lakes Michigan and Huron will one day disappear as improved access becomes more common. When this atmosphere is gone, something else will probably have disappeared also--undeveloped shoreline. But today an opportunity still remains to set aside

outstanding shore features for public benefit.

The history of conservation has all too often been written in the tone of "too little, too late." Already the populated regions of southern Michigan have proven this, and it is only as we move north that the opportunities for public shoreline increase. The culmination of undeveloped shoreline resources is found in the vastness of the Upper Peninsula. But, with our society geared to a jet age and the era of "count downs" virtually upon us, the many undeveloped resources of today may be only ephemeral situations.

This is the challenge that faces Michigan. The Upper Peninsula presents an opportunity for the study of a recreation land use plan unhampered by many conflicting uses. This same opportunity no longer exists on the Lower Peninsula where many uses have gained control and others seek to eliminate additional shoreline from public use.

During the course of this Survey, 13 areas with a combined shoreline of nearly 195 miles were selected on the Upper Peninsula. They represent not only some of the finest shore features of Michigan but of the Great Lakes as well. The scenic cliffs of the Pictured Rocks and the granite domes of the Huron Mountains represent superlative elements of the Great Lakes that should receive national recognition. The beaches and hinterlands of Seul Choix on the northern shores of Lake Michigan show promise as one of the outstanding state park possibilities along the Great Lakes.

On the Lower Peninsula, 27 shoreline sites with approximately 100 miles of shoreline were selected along Lakes Michigan, Huron, St. Clair and Erie, as well as the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers. Paramount among these areas was Lake Michigan's Sleeping Bear with its unusual scenic and natural values commanding attention as an equal to the Upper Peninsula's Pictured Rocks and Huron Mountains. However, often confined to limited frontages, many of the areas were found pinched between developments that threaten to completely engulf them. In some instances, recommendations involve existing state parks where additional area is necessary to adequately provide for growing public use and essential to protect significant park values. Also, from time to time some lands now in public ownership, principally held by the U. S. Coast Guard, are declared surplus to the needs of the administering agency. Frequently these sites occupy areas suitable for recreation or other conservation uses. No effort should be spared to retain them in public ownership, for such areas as Sturgeon and Tawas Points on Lake Huron have outstanding potential to meet public recreation needs.

With Michigan's command of the largest portion of the Great Lakes shoreline, it is natural that most of the undeveloped shore opportunities also occur here. Consequently, this situation is responsible for the tremendous scope of the problem of preserving an unspoiled shoreline for public use. The challenge of the problem must be met by all citizens, for in the final analysis it is by their action and support that the public's interest in the conservation of its shoreline can serve as a model for preserving a great natural heritage.



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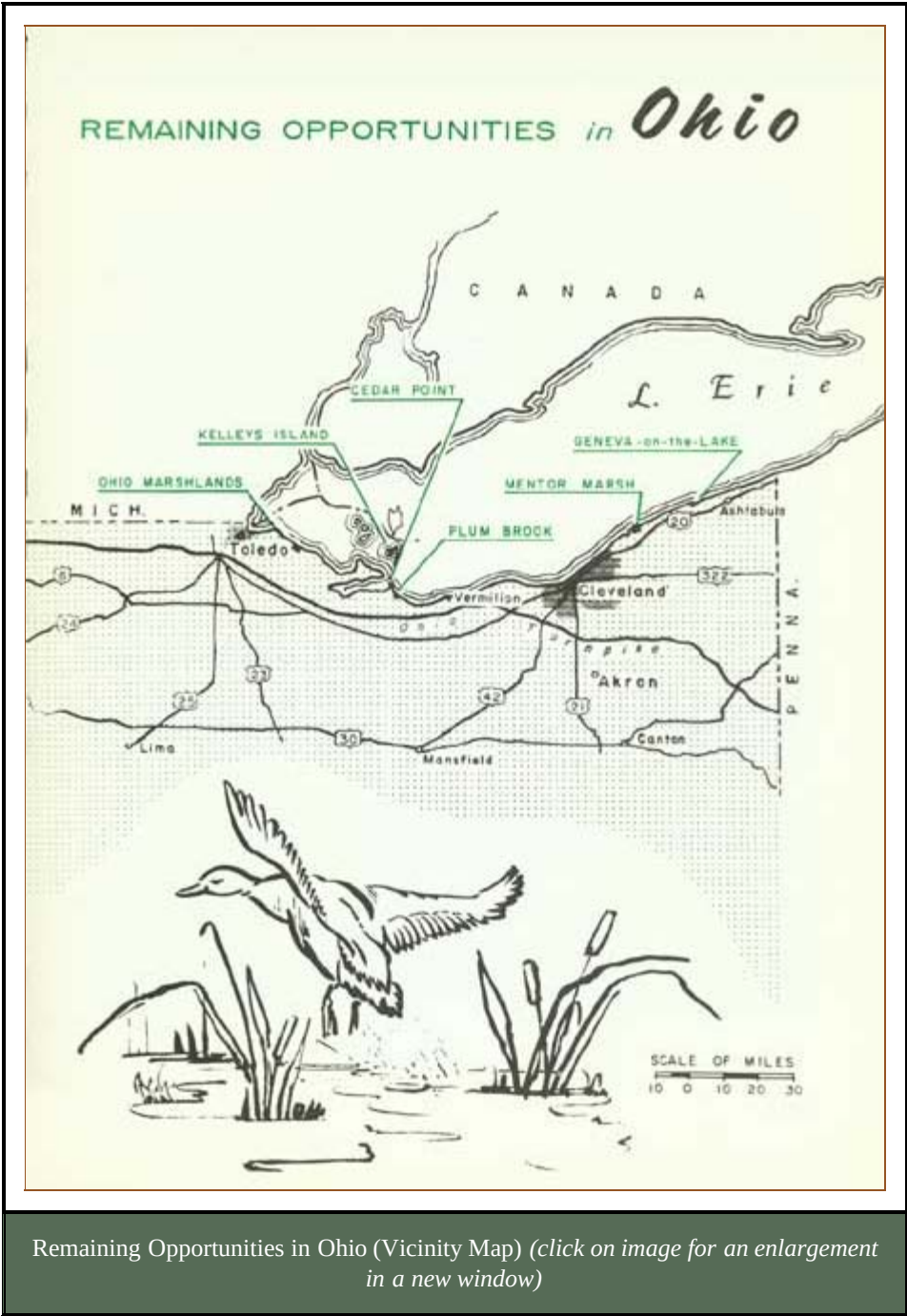
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey



REMAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN OHIO



Remaining Opportunities in Ohio (Vicinity Map) *(click on image for an enlargement in a new window)*

SUMMARY

Lake Erie has some unique distinctions among the Great Lakes--distinctions that fashion its character, and create special problems in relation to recreation. It is the southernmost of the

Great Lakes, lying entirely below the 43rd parallel. The waters of Lake Erie are the shallowest of the Great Lakes, their maximum depth being 210 feet. The more southerly position of the lake plus the shallowness of its waters combine to make it the warmest of the Great Lakes.

Lake Erie lies in a rich industrial region, and tributary rivers pour into its basin a constant stream of industrial wastes. Lake Erie lies in a rich agricultural region, and tributary rivers pour into its basin a constant load of silt. Lake Erie is shallow, particularly its western end, and wind agitated waves hold the silt in suspension.

The shallow, warm waters encourage the growth of Algae, plankton and bottom organisms, so that only along Erie's shores of the Great Lakes are shells of molluscs common. Lake Erie probably has the greatest amount of fish life on the Great Lakes, both in number of species and individuals. Therefore, it is, to a much greater extent than the other lakes, Everyman's fishing hole where, with a minimum of expense and equipment, a fisherman may feel sure of some luck. Where beaches exist along the shoreline, the shallow, temperate waters add to the swimming appeal.

Over half of the United States shore of Lake Erie lies in Ohio, which, counting islands and Sandusky Bay, amounts to 312 miles. Generally, this shoreline has three facets. From the Michigan line eastward to Vermilion, the landscape is monotonously flat. Rich farmland occupies this former lakebed. Along the shoreline are marshes, usually separated from the lake by narrow barrier beaches. These marshes are of great importance to migrating waterfowl, but with two exceptions these are private lands of hunting clubs. The only break in the continuity of marshy shoreline is the Marblehead Peninsula and the so-called Catawba Island on the north side of Sandusky Bay. The Silurian limestone of this area is also characteristic of the islands of Lake Erie--the second region.

There are four main islands in American waters: Kelleys Island, South Bass, Middle Bass and North Bass Islands. Agriculture, fishing and tourism are their principal economic stays. An island vacation has great appeal, and state parks of sufficient size, stressing camping as a primary feature, could be expected to receive considerable visitation.

From the vicinity of Vermilion to the Pennsylvania line is the shore bluff sector. This segment of Lake Erie compares with the most heavily developed shores on the Great Lakes. A vast complex of marinas, private beaches, exclusive developments, and industrial operations crowd to the edge of the eroding bluffs. Since the natural scene has long been altered, since development is essentially complete, little possibility exists of obtaining natural frontage for public recreation along this section.

Of the five states with more than 100 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, Ohio probably has the greatest degree of lakeside development. There are no extensively forested lands fronting Erie's shores. There are no long, untouched tracts of beach. Farmland, cottage and resort development, industrial frontage, highways and cities have long since appropriated the vast majority of the shoreline. Ohio has a population of over 9,000,000 people, and the need for public recreation areas on Lake Erie is undeniably great.

The State of Ohio maintains 54 areas in its Division of Parks. In addition, the Ohio Department of Highways operates one of the country's outstanding Roadside Park systems. On Lake Erie there are six areas administered by the Division of Parks. One area, Kelleys Island, currently is not developed, leaving five park areas with 2,070 acres of land and 8.9 miles of lake frontage. Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial National Monument with 20 acres and 3,100 feet of shoreline on South Bass Island is administered by the National Park Service.

Of these, only East Harbor State Park and South Bass Island State Reserve permit camping. However, with the addition of Mentor Marsh to Headlands State Park, the acquisition and conversion of Sandusky's Cedar Point, the consolidation of holdings and development at Crane Creek, Ohio would have six first-rate parks on Lake Erie. These would be parks with sufficient diversity to appeal to a great variety of people: campers, bathers, picnickers, fishermen and nature enthusiasts. Specific recommendations are not made here for any areas in Sandusky Bay, but further study may reveal some possibilities for swimming development. With the addition and improvement of beaches at Geneva-on-the-Lake and Plum Brook, the Division of Parks would have coverage on all but the critical Cleveland area. Even so, the distance from Cleveland to these areas--80 miles at most--is not enough to deter today's highway-oriented vacationists.

A further consideration that would provide benefits for innumerable Ohio citizens would be the extension of the Division of Wildlife holdings on the Ohio Marshlands of western Lake Erie. Provision for public fishing sites on heavily fished portions of Sandusky Bay and elsewhere, while not studied specifically in this Survey, may merit study by the appropriate state organization.

All told, the Ohio study areas recommended in this Survey (exclusive of the Cleveland project) would add 5,772 acres of land and 11 miles of public shoreline frontage. Immediate development of these areas is not necessarily imperative. However, acquisition to provide for future needs of the ever expanding population is important and should not be delayed until existing areas are used to capacity.

OHIO

OHIO MARSHLANDS



LOCATION The marshes in this report lie between Toledo and Port Clinton on the boundary of Lucas and Ottawa Counties. Metzger Marsh and Magee Marsh, operated by the Ohio State Division of Wildlife, lie on the west and east, respectively. The area comprises 2,195 acres and spans 1.7 miles of shoreline.

DESCRIPTION Western Lake Erie shores are quite unlike the portions lying east of Vermilion. The region is part of an old lakebed plain without noticeable relief. Shore bluffs are nonexistent; and, commonly, narrow barrier beaches front on marshes of varying width. The region was known as the "Black Swamp" to early

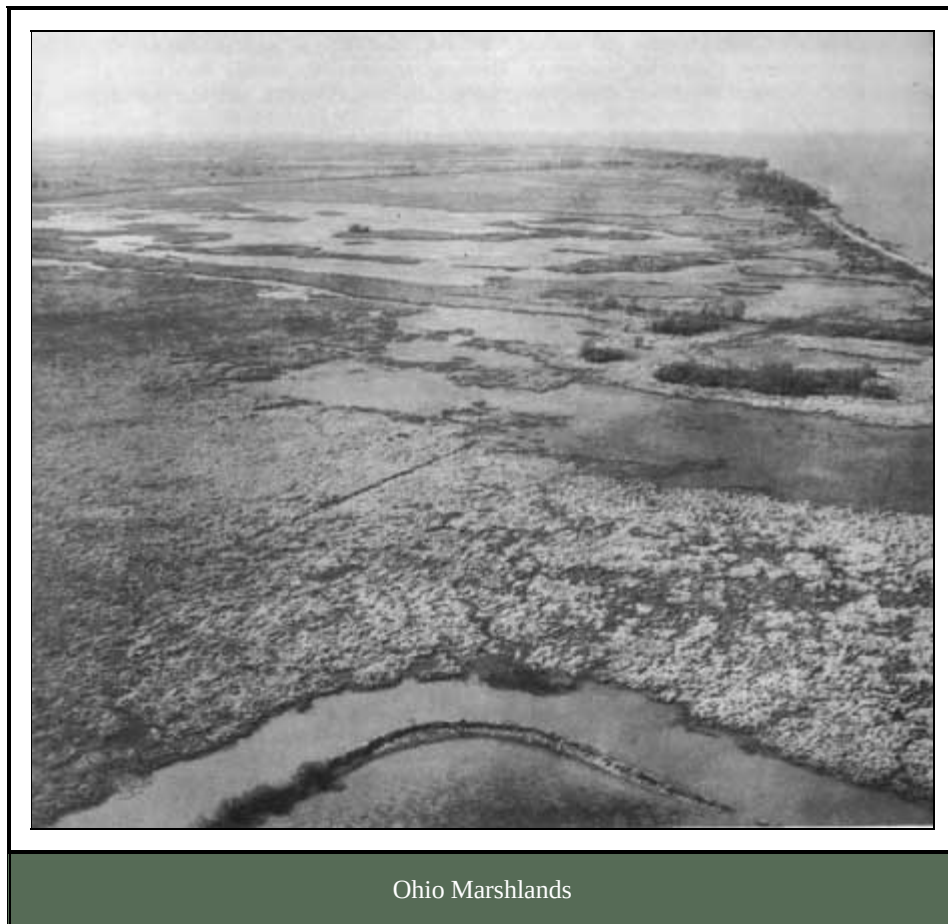
Ohioans and was originally largely timbered. Today, nearly all of the timber has been cut and the swamps and marshes drained. Most of the remaining marsh is impractical to farm because of its low elevation and the vagaries of the level of Lake Erie.

Waterfowl from two major flyways pass through the area during migration. Consequently, the marshes are significant resting and refueling stops for ducks and geese. During the breeding season, several species nest in the area. Besides ducks, black terns, herons, coots and other

water birds frequent the marsh. Muskrats exist in large numbers.

PRESENT USE Because of their natural importance, plus their proximity to large centers of population--Detroit and Cleveland are both less than 100 miles distant--the marshes on the study area were long ago acquired by private and commercial duck clubs. Most of the land is diked and ditched to control water levels for growth of duck foods. About 700 acres of farmland within the study area are important geese feeding grounds and should be procured by the state for that purpose.

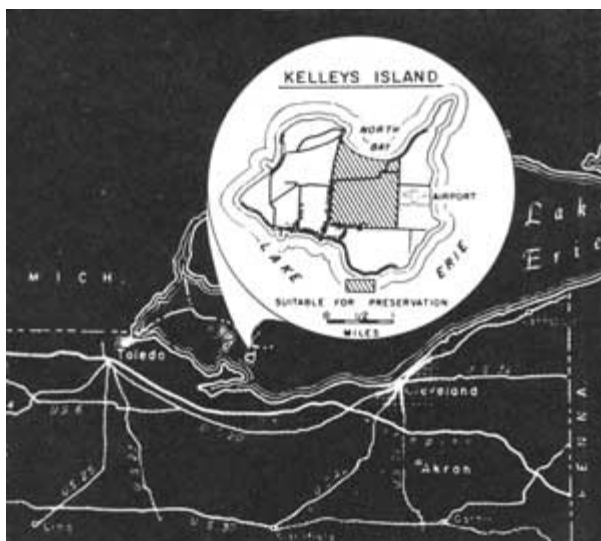
ANALYSIS Because of their position on the flyways, and because of their extent, the Ohio Marshlands comprise the most important waterfowl habitat on the Great Lakes--and are of national significance. The Ohio State Division of Wildlife has undertaken a program of intensive marsh management consisting of control of water levels, growing of desirable waterfowl foods, encouragement of greater local nesting, research investigations in various phases of marsh management and creation of public hunting and refuge areas. In order to consolidate the two areas under their management, to acquire needed agricultural land for production of forage for geese, and to provide for more public hunting facilities, the state needs to acquire the lands included in the study area. The feasibility of a joint state and federal waterfowl project in these highly productive marshlands is being studied.



OHIO

KELLEYS ISLAND

LOCATION Kelleys Island lies 10 miles north of Sandusky in Erie County.



Regularly scheduled auto and passenger ferries from Lakeside and Sandusky call on the island during the spring, summer and fall months. Plane flights may be chartered from Peninsular Airport near Port Clinton. The 670-acre study area occupies 1.1 mile of sandy beach on North Bay.

DESCRIPTION Kelleys Island, like the several other islands of the Lake Erie group, is composed of highly fossiliferous limestone. A great variety of invertebrate marine fossils, many of large size, characterizes this rock. The island is about three and one-half miles long by one and

three-quarters miles wide with a maximum elevation not in excess of 100 feet. Most of the shores are of shelving rock, shingle beach, or fronted by low cliffs. North Bay, however, has a mile of sand beach of medium width--roughly 50 feet.

The forest cover has long been removed for farming, and rock quarrying has stripped off large areas of topsoil and underlying strata. In quarried areas, small red cedar are the common trees. Elsewhere, almost pure stands of hackberry occur.

On the northeast part of the island are the famous glacier grooves, where overriding glacial ice has worn smooth grooves in the limestone as deeply as three feet. These and a large rock inscribed with Indian petroglyphs are preserved by the Ohio State Archeological and History Society. Another feature of interest is the deserted winery. Built of native stone, this roofless structure is falling in decay as the forest grows up around it.

PRESENT USE Kelleys Island at present has considerable allure for tourists who reach the island by private boat, ferry and plane. Farming, vineyards and quarrying are--or have been--important to the island's economy. Cottontails and pheasants are hunted in season, and the island is a sometimes base for both sport and commercial fishermen. The Ohio Division of Parks owns several hundred acres of land on the island but possesses no desirable beach frontage. No park development currently exists.

ANALYSIS The small pond at the west end of North Bay could be dredged out and expanded to form an excellent, well protected harbor of refuge and large boat camping area. By acquiring the North Bay beach properties and consolidating lands through the center of the island, a highly desirable park could be developed.

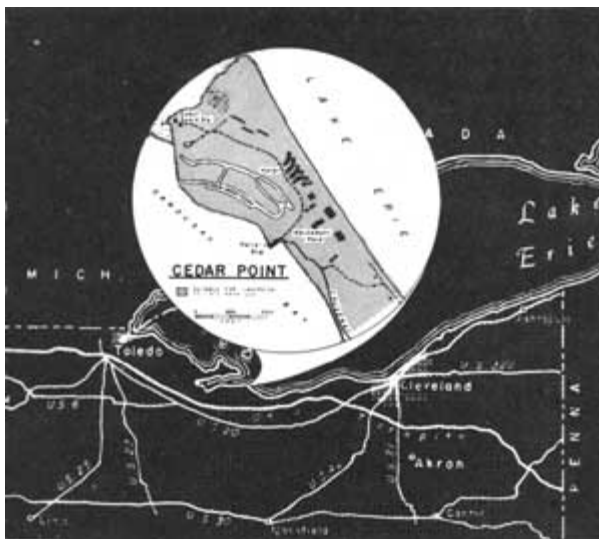




OHIO

CEDAR POINT

LOCATION The Cedar Point study area includes the whole outer tip of the peninsula that separates Sandusky Bay from Lake Erie. Lying entirely within the city limits of Sandusky, the area is accessible by road over a causeway across the eastern arm of the bay. Included in this study area are 325



acres encompassed by 3.4 miles of shoreline.

DESCRIPTION Cedar Point is the outer extremity of a sand spit and barrier beach built up by wave action in shallow water. In many places the natural connection with the mainland narrows down to about 100 feet in width, but, at the tip it is nearly 2,000 feet across. Here the Lake Erie side is faced with

some of the finest and widest natural sand beaches in Ohio.

The offshore waters are very shallow some 500 feet out from the water line, and the gently sloping beaches (some up to 250 feet in width) are backed up by a band of ten-foot sand dunes. Behind these dunes the terrain is low, heavily wooded and tends to become swamp mixed with mud flats on the Bay side. Cottonwoods and willows predominate in the tree species and are mixed with ailanthus, ash, red and white oaks and a few sycamores. Cattails, spatterdock, iris, jewelweed and wild grape appear in the marshy areas. Poison ivy is fairly prevalent throughout the area.

As along much of the Lake Erie shoreline, snail and two species of clam are abundant. Great blue herons and American egrets occur in the marshes along with the red winged blackbirds, killdeer and gulls that frequent the area. Perch, smelt and sheepshead are plentiful in the surrounding waters.

PRESENT USE A large amusement park has been operating on the study area for many years along with a large, sprawling and antiquated resort. Northwest of the resort much of the area has been subdivided and some new construction has been accomplished. A Coast Guard lifeboat station is located on the western rip of the point. Here, also, are two fishing piers, both of which are badly deteriorated.

ANALYSIS The high quality of the beaches, rare along Lake Erie's shoreline, justify public acquisition of this area to meet growing recreation needs.

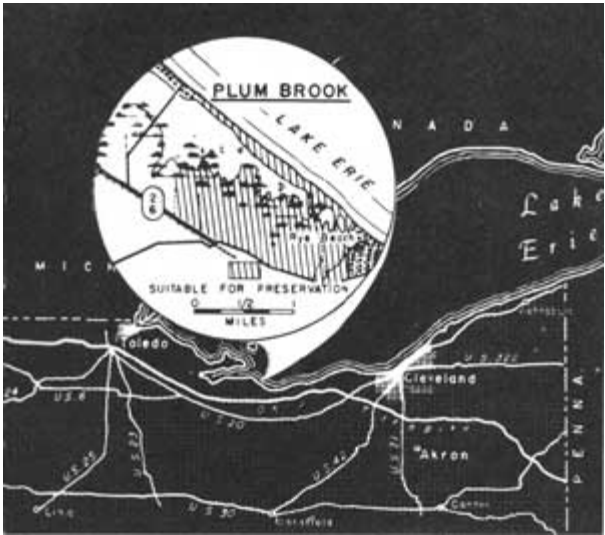




Cedar Point

OHIO

PLUM BROOK



LOCATION Plum Brook lies about 2-1/2 miles northwest of Huron and 6-1/2 miles southwest of Sandusky. It may be reached from State Route No. 2 by two roads: one is a locked government road leading to the pumping station on the study area, and the other is a private road. The study area contains 1,400 acres of land, occupying 2.3 miles of shoreline on Lake Erie.

DESCRIPTION The sand spit on which Plum Brook is located terminates at Cedar Point. It is 7.6 miles long and varies from nearly one-half mile to less than 60 feet in width. The Plum Brook segment has approximately 2.3 miles of shoreline

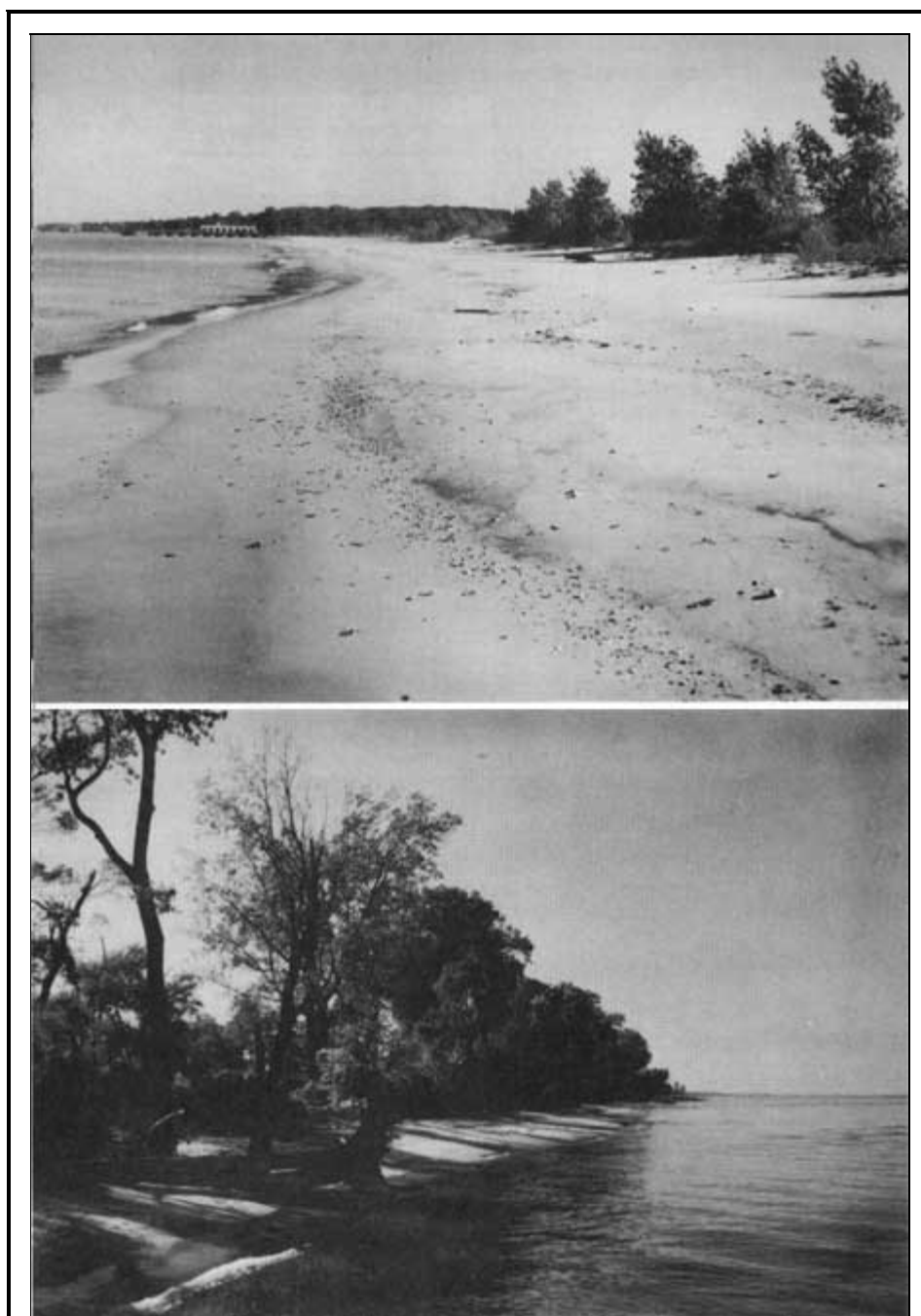
divided into three general sections. The north one-fifth is a narrow vegetated strip with small dunes backed by open water. The trees that line this beach are being toppled over by wind and wave and, consequently, litter the beach. The middle two-fifths is free of vegetation, washed over by waves at high water, and is therefore lower and wider. The eastern two-fifths abuts on low farmland, ponds and woodland. Low dunes occur along this stretch and the beach varies greatly in width. Downed trees also line this beach in places.

An inactive government pumping station on the beach once supplied water to a former Army

ordinance depot in the vicinity. The open water behind the beach is shallow with a muddy, sparsely vegetated bottom. Marsh exists around the land fingering in from the south. The water areas, periodically drained by the fluctuations of Lake Erie, are favorite feeding places for great blue herons and common egrets, both of which have breeding colonies near by.

PRESENT USE Farming occurs on the lands along the south margin of the study area. A development company has lots for sale along the west end of the barrier beach, but because of the continual erosion and narrowness of the beach, few have been sold. A hunting club owns land on the marshes, and hunting and fishing on other lands doubtlessly occur.

ANALYSIS The land adjoining Lake Erie has a high population and few beaches. Plum Brook represents an opportunity to preserve a 2.3-mile stretch of good sand beach in an undeveloped state. In fact, because of its transient nature, the beach is fit for little else. Development of bathhouse facilities and related structures would be limited to the dry land on the east boundary. The marsh is good wildlife habitat, particularly as a feeding ground for herons, egrets and waterfowl.



Plum Brook

OHIO

CLEVELAND



Ohio's Lake Erie shoreline is dominated by the huge metropolitan area centered around Cleveland--the third largest city on the Great Lakes. Together with its highly populated suburbs, this industrial giant covers 44 miles of lake frontage with industry, shipping and residential provisions.

Of these three, residential development consumes the major portion. For mile after mile private homes line the bluffs that rise abruptly 40 to 50 feet from the water's edge. Here, the benefit derived from proximity to the lake is limited primarily to summer breezes and water panoramas. Except during periods of low water, beaches along

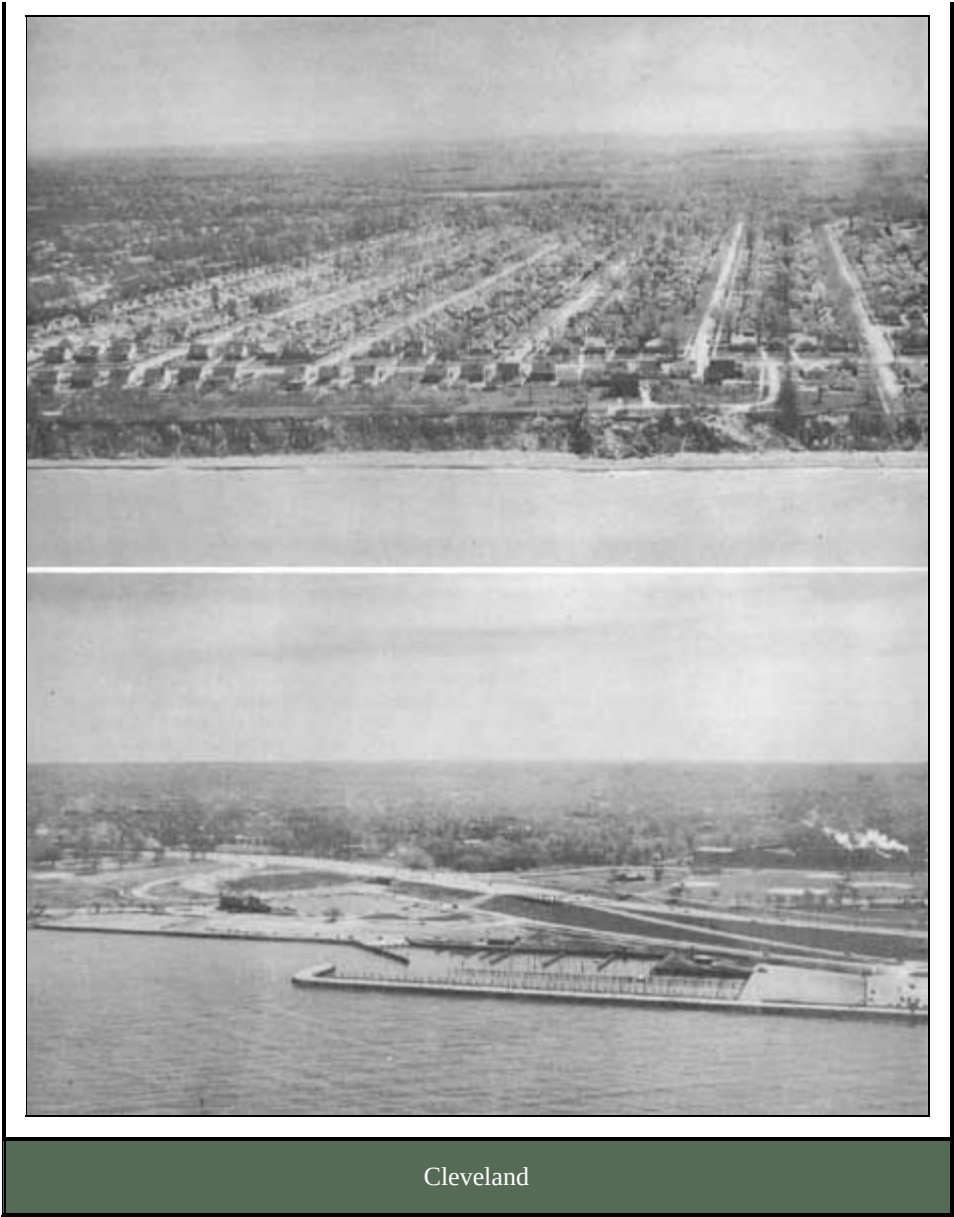
this section are practically nonexistent, and active water erosion of the bluffs is threatening to undermine some homes near the edge.

Public access to Lake Erie's shoreline is also limited by these factors. Within this metropolitan area, slightly more than ten percent of the shoreline is devoted to park-type use, but bathing beach frontage is less than four percent, providing less than one-tenth of an inch per person living within ten miles of the lake. This situation, of course, is already inadequate to answer present demands for access to this recreation resource along the city's doorstep. Here is a case where natural shoreline is not only "vanishing"--it's already gone!

High real estate values and development along Cleveland's waterfront preclude possibilities for acquisition of additional public frontage. However, another solution to the problem appears to be more feasible. This alternative is based on the construction of a lakeshore drive in front of the shore bluffs, thus reclaiming much of the lake frontage lost through the years of relentless erosion.

From an engineering standpoint, the situation is favorable. The shallow bedrock shelf extending offshore would provide a solid base for construction. With substantial riprap along its outer face, backfill could be readily obtained by dredging abundant and suitable clay from the lake bottom. Lying close to the foot of the bluff, the highway traffic would not interfere with vistas from the homes above and the whole project would put an end to the shore erosion problem.

Not only would such a project create a splendid scenic drive along the city's waterfront but, in conjunction, additional public recreation space could be created along with ample, protected beaches. To a city already noted for its Civic Center, Mall and "Emerald Necklace," this would add one of the most attractive waterfronts in the world.



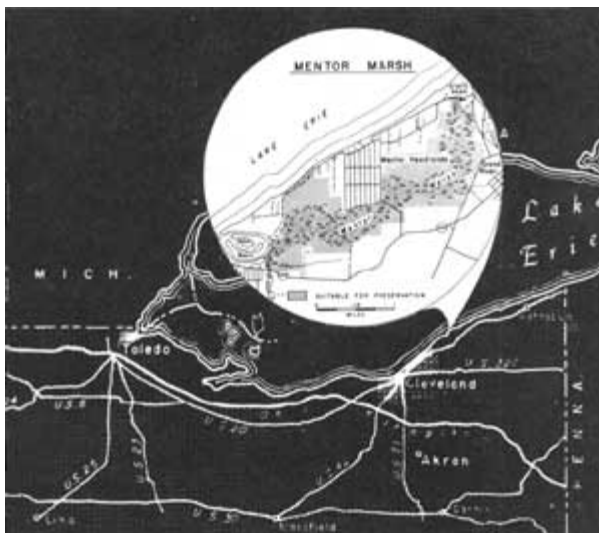
Cleveland

OHIO

MENTOR MARSH

LOCATION Mentor Marsh adjoins Painesville in Lake County and is nearly encircled by several roads. Approximately 1,350 acres of land and 1.6 miles of shoreline are involved. Cleveland, Akron, Canton and Youngstown are within a 75-mile radius.

DESCRIPTION Mentor Marsh, a former Channel of the Grand River which now drains into Lake Erie east of the marsh, is three and one-half miles long and averages 2,000 feet in width. It is flanked by gentle



slopes topped by flat land. More swamp than marsh, the channel is generally vegetated with elm, ash, silver maple and

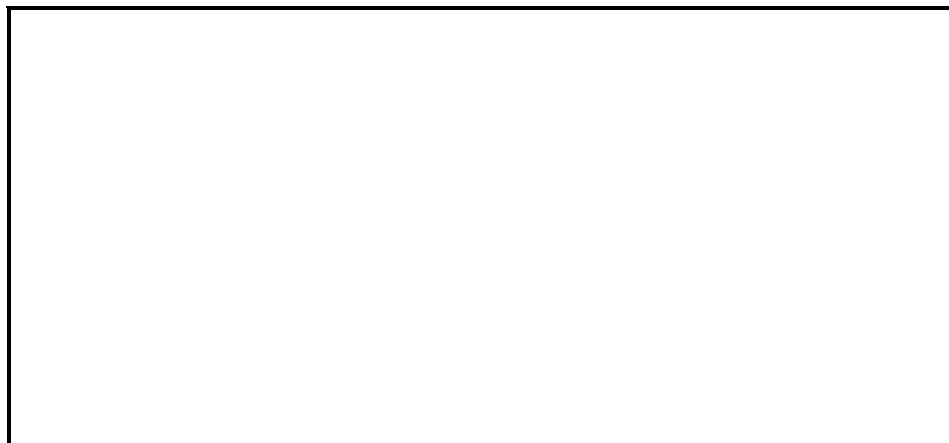
black willow. The channel slopes and marsh contain about 50 species of deciduous trees of the central forest region, making the area in terms of species the richest encountered on the survey. The commonest and largest species is the red oak, followed by yellow poplar, cucumber tree, hickory and beech.

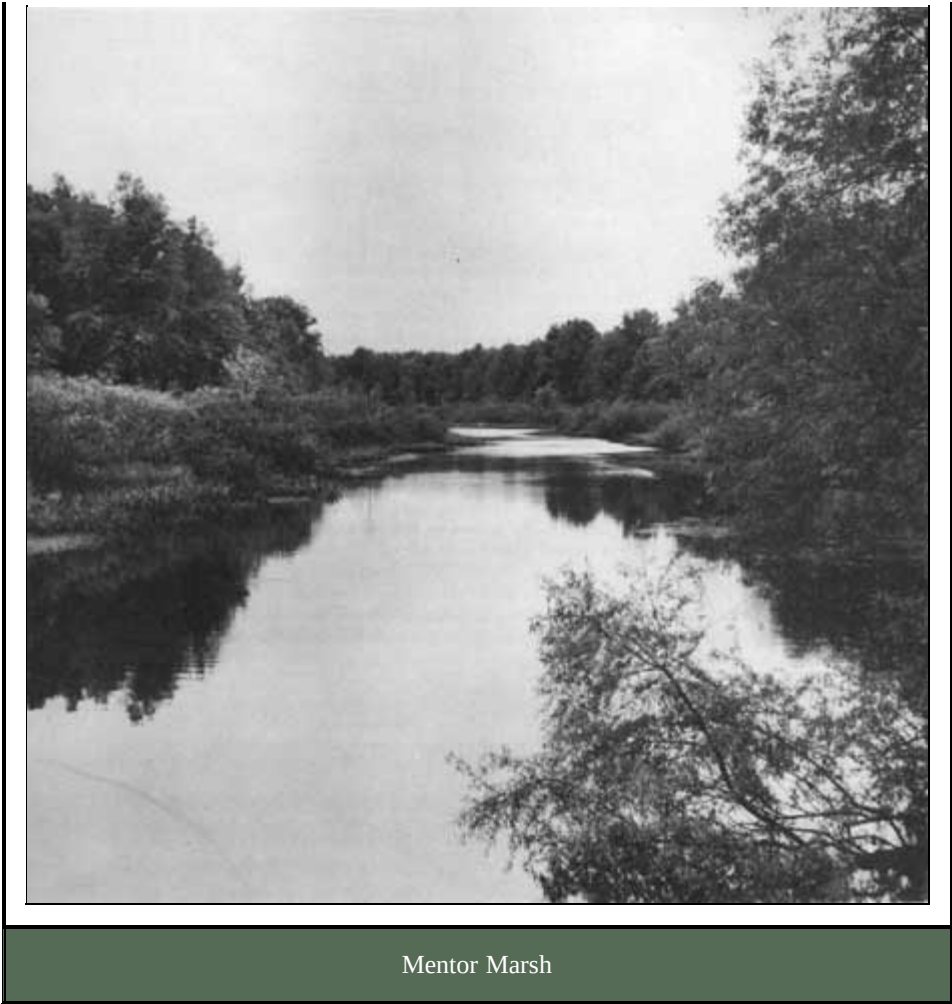
Wildlife includes raccoon, woodchuck, opossum, cottontail and, probably, fox. Ducks use the marsh during migration and some may nest. Songbirds are common, and the pileolated woodpecker may nest in the swamp. Numerous amphibians and reptiles depend upon the area for their continued existence.

Between the yacht basin and Mentor Headlands is a strip of largely cleared land, 2,000 feet deep with one and one-quarter miles of lake frontage. The beach is narrow to nonexistent, backed by actively eroding shore bluffs, 30 to 40 feet high.

PRESENT USE Most of the marsh is owned by the Morton Salt Company, presumably for the salt deposits which underlie it. No use is currently made of these wetlands, but the lands above the slopes have been largely cleared of timber. Farmland, in places, comes to the edge of the slopes. A golf course lies along part of the south boundary, and the community of Mentor Headlands crowds to the very edge of the marsh.

ANALYSIS Mentor Marsh has great significance as a biological area where many phases of the natural sciences could be studied firsthand. Trails along the slopes and a boardwalk over the marsh would permit access to an environment new to most people. The area's features are enhanced when it is realized that it lies in a region where recreation land is scarce. Camping is feasible along the shore of Lake Erie, and the adjacent Headlands State Park suggests a logical administrative tie-up of the two areas.

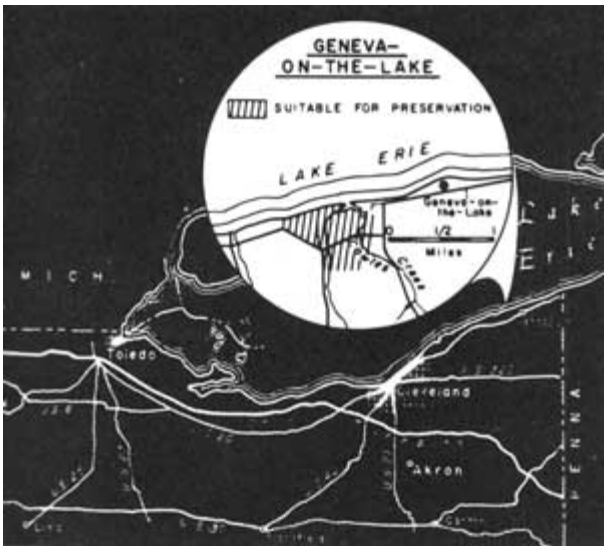




Mentor Marsh

OHIO

GENEVA-ON-THE-LAKE



LOCATION Geneva-on-the-Lake is a 244-acre area occupying .9 mile of shoreline on Lake Erie. It lies 5 miles north of Geneva, Ohio in northwestern Ashtabula County on State Route 534. The distances from Cleveland and Youngstown, respectively, are about 40 and 60 miles.

DESCRIPTION The study area is located around the spot where Cowles Creek and a smaller stream to the westward enter Lake Erie through a common outlet. The two streams form a crescent-shaped lagoon immediately behind the shoreline with the horns of the crescent pointing south. The streams are edged by marsh vegetation at this point; the rest of the area is either in

forest or has been cleared.

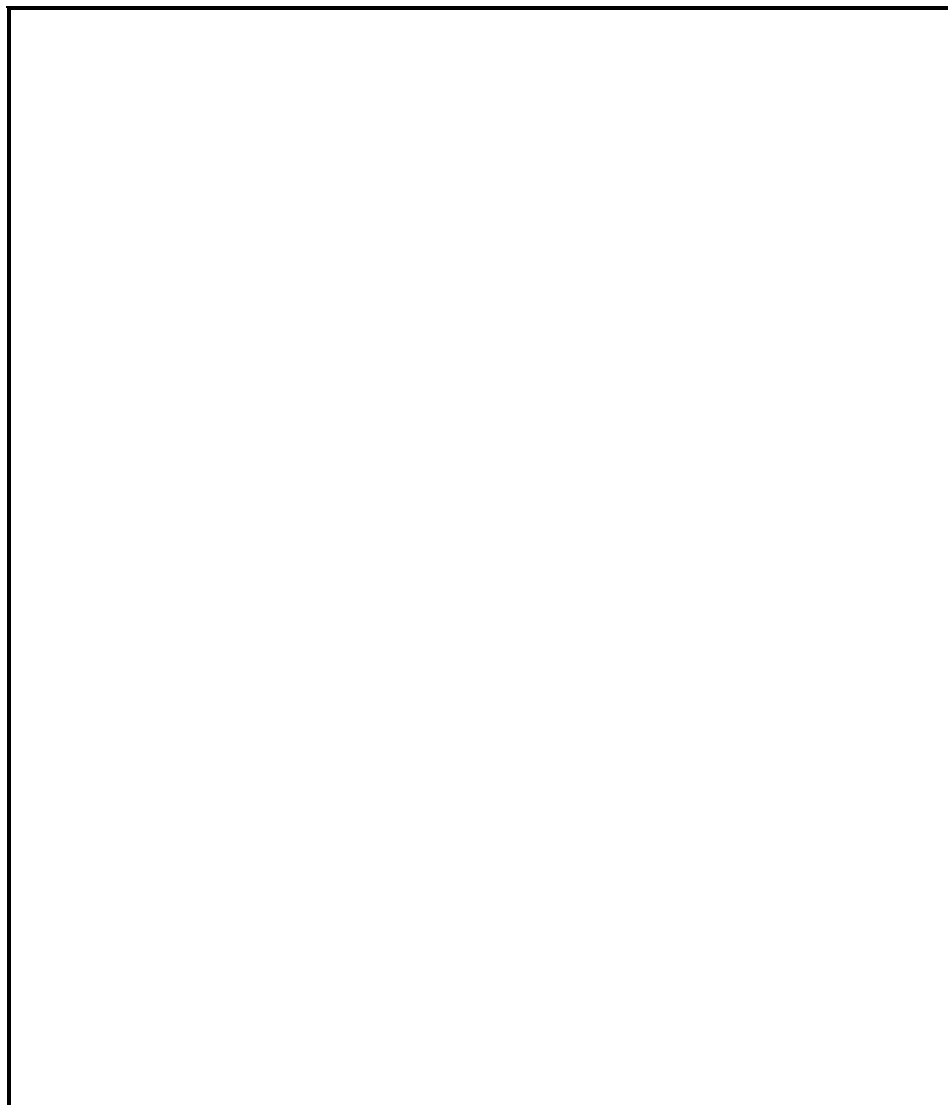
The area is fronted by nearly a mile of beach averaging from 75 to 100 feet wide. It is composed primarily of sand, although some gravel occurs along the water line. Behind the beach, sand banks and low dunes rise about 20 feet.

The woodland bordered by the two streams is primarily composed of red and white oaks with a scattering of beech and other species. Young trees are mainly hickory, which seems to indicate that the stand is arriving at a climax stage of oak and hickory. Most of the trees are large, ranging to 75 feet high, and the understory is open and airy. The soil is well drained and it appears a campground might well be established in such a location without greatly altering the forest cover.

The lagoon, though not deep, could easily be dredged to create a harbor of refuge and public launching site capable of handling a goodly number of boats. A series of such harbors combined with camping areas would serve to meet a growing demand for facilities for these two popular forms of recreation.

PRESENT USE The area is currently used by bathers and fishermen. There appear to be no other important uses, and no structures occur on the study area.

ANALYSIS Geneva-on-the-Lake has a fair beach and could help alleviate the recreation problem for heavily industrialized northeastern Ohio. Development of a harbor of refuge is a possible use with the further possibility of a campground and picnic area in the wooded and cleared portions of the area.





Geneva on the Lake

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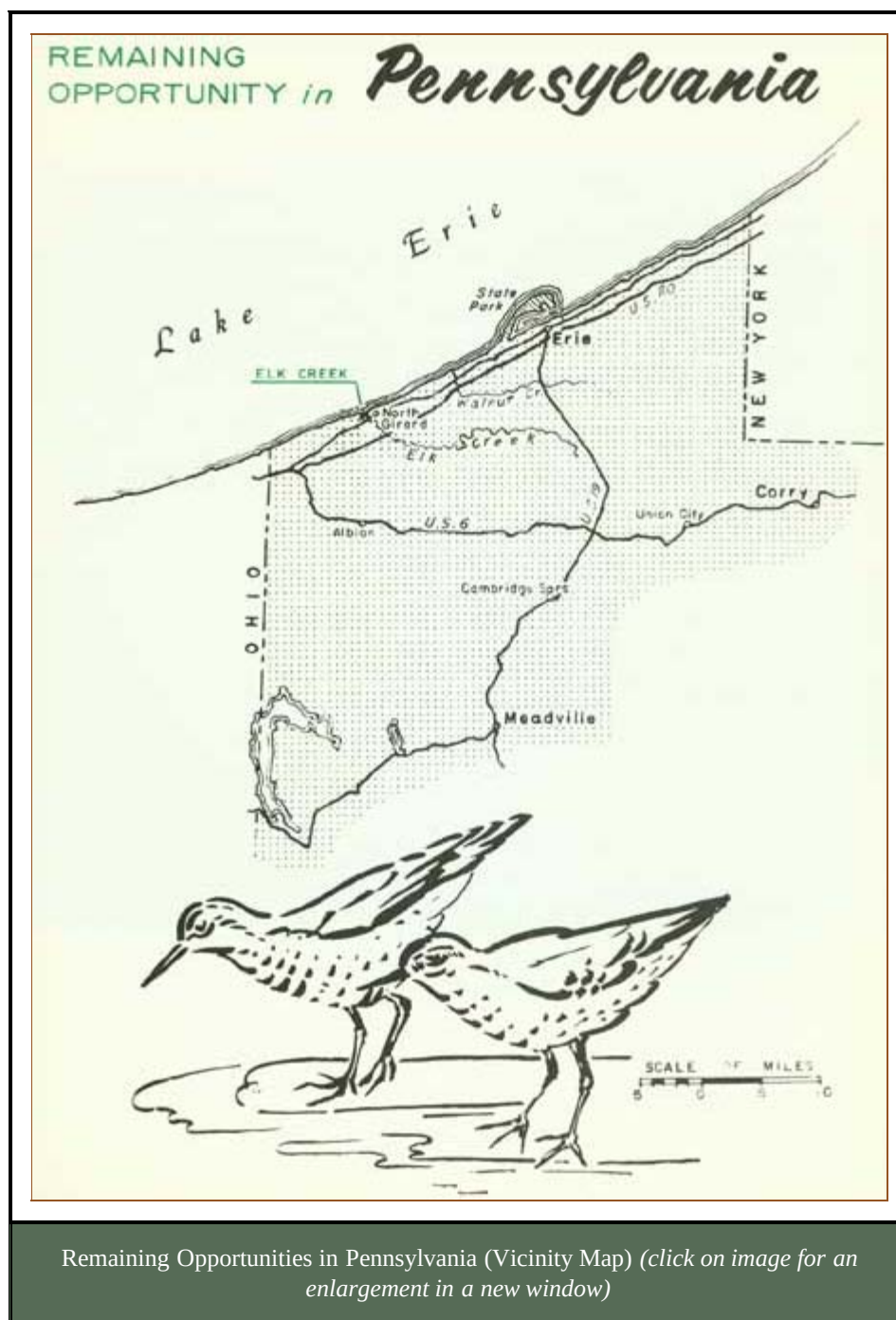
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey



REMAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN PENNSYLVANIA



Remaining Opportunities in Pennsylvania (Vicinity Map) ([click on image for an enlargement in a new window](#))

SUMMARY

When the State of Pennsylvania purchased the 200,000-acre Erie triangle from the Federal Government in 1778, undoubtedly there was little concern over recreation values. Probably no one considered that the great sand spit, enclosing the harbor of the future city of Erie, possessed some of the finest beaches on Lake Erie. Nor could they foresee the historic events that were to take place in that harbor in connection with Commodore Perry and the War of 1812.

Now, 181 years later, school children study those historic events, and people from as far away as Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Buffalo, know and enjoy the beaches. Today the entire peninsula forms the Presque Isle State Park. And it is a truly outstanding park, rich in history, wildlife and recreation values. The spit sweeps along the lake for 7.8 miles in a continuous beach backed by ponds, vegetated dunes, and the waters of the bay. With all this it would appear that Pennsylvania has ample recreation coverage on its 51 miles of Lake Erie shore. Yet this is not necessarily true when one considers all the factors.

The eastern end of the peninsula is closed to public access to give needed protection to a fine colony of nesting common terns and to other wildlife. The city of Erie, with a population of 134,000 people, lies adjacent to the park. This factor exerts a continuous pressure on the area throughout the season. The bay waters afford excellent opportunity for ice fishing in the winter. Finally, with the providential exception of the park, good sand beaches are practically nonexistent along the Pennsylvania shore and those of adjacent New York and Ohio. Thus, people from as far away as Pittsburgh take regular weekend jaunts to enjoy the sand, water and sun of Presque Isle State Park. All of these factors tend to funnel large numbers of people into an excellent, but limited, recreation area. To meet this demand, the Department of Forests and Waters in cooperation with the U.S. Beach Erosion Board and U.S. Army Engineers have recently completed a huge restoration project along the 7-mile beach area. A multi-million dollar park improvement program is now under way to provide much needed facilities for public recreation.

Not everyone, however, goes to Lake Erie to swim or sun bathe. Picnicking, nature study, hiking, boating, fishing, painting and simply getting away from the confines of the city are all legitimate recreation uses. Other areas along the lake that could supply these facilities would tend to alleviate the pressure on the State Park. The most likely places for such parks would be where streams cut through the high shore bluffs that line this stretch of Lake Erie. Access to the lake is possible in such instances, and beaches of sorts occur at the mouths of the streams. Boat launching sites, harbors of refuge and camping are other possibilities. These narrow valleys are usually wooded, while the lands above the bluffs are ordinarily in farmland. Such an area is the Elk Creek site described on the following page.





Presque Isle State Park

PENNSYLVANIA

ELK CREEK



LOCATION The study area lies in Erie County about midway between Conneaut, Ohio and Erie, Pennsylvania. It may be reached by following a road 3 miles north from Girard along Elk Creek. About 1-1/2 miles of shore frontage and 850 acres of land are involved.

DESCRIPTION Elk Creek is the largest stream flowing in to Lake Erie in Pennsylvania. Along most of its course it is swift flowing, dropping 677 feet in 25 miles through deep ravines. Near the lake it becomes a series of riffles and pools, forming a continuous pool near its mouth. The stream valley is about 100 feet deep and topped by flat land, mainly agricultural.

The stream is of interest for its fish life. In late May, numerous gar and suckers were seen, along with spiny-rayed fish. The stream may be important to spawning fish from Lake Erie, and its significance will be expanded if attempts by the State Fish Commission to establish spawning runs of rainbow trout succeed. Fishing appears to be popular near the mouth of the stream. The area has a large variety of

bird life. Small mammals, amphibians and reptiles in considerable numbers also occur.

Along the stream, black willows, sycamores and ash trees grow in a park-like stand. Beneath them, a large growth of cinnamon fern adds an almost tropical touch. On the valley slopes, an attractive second growth hemlock-hardwood forest occurs with sugar maple predominating. Stumps to three feet in diameter indicate the size the trees once attained. The beach is backed by bluffs over 50 feet high. East along the shore, the area is extended to include the 80-acre community-owned park near North Girard.

PRESENT USE A small marina development occurs at the creek's mouth. Some agricultural land is included and perhaps two or three structures. The 80-acre township park mentioned above lies at the east end of the study area. Some intermittent logging probably takes place, and fishing occurs at the mouth of Elk Creek.

ANALYSIS Because of its biological diversity, the stream and surrounding lands would serve ideally as a natural area. Sport fishing would be a compatible use, and the existing community park could be expanded to accommodate camping, picnicking and possibly swimming. Under such conditions, this area would offer recreational diversity along the Lake Erie shoreline and supplement the resources of the state park at Erie.



Elk Creek

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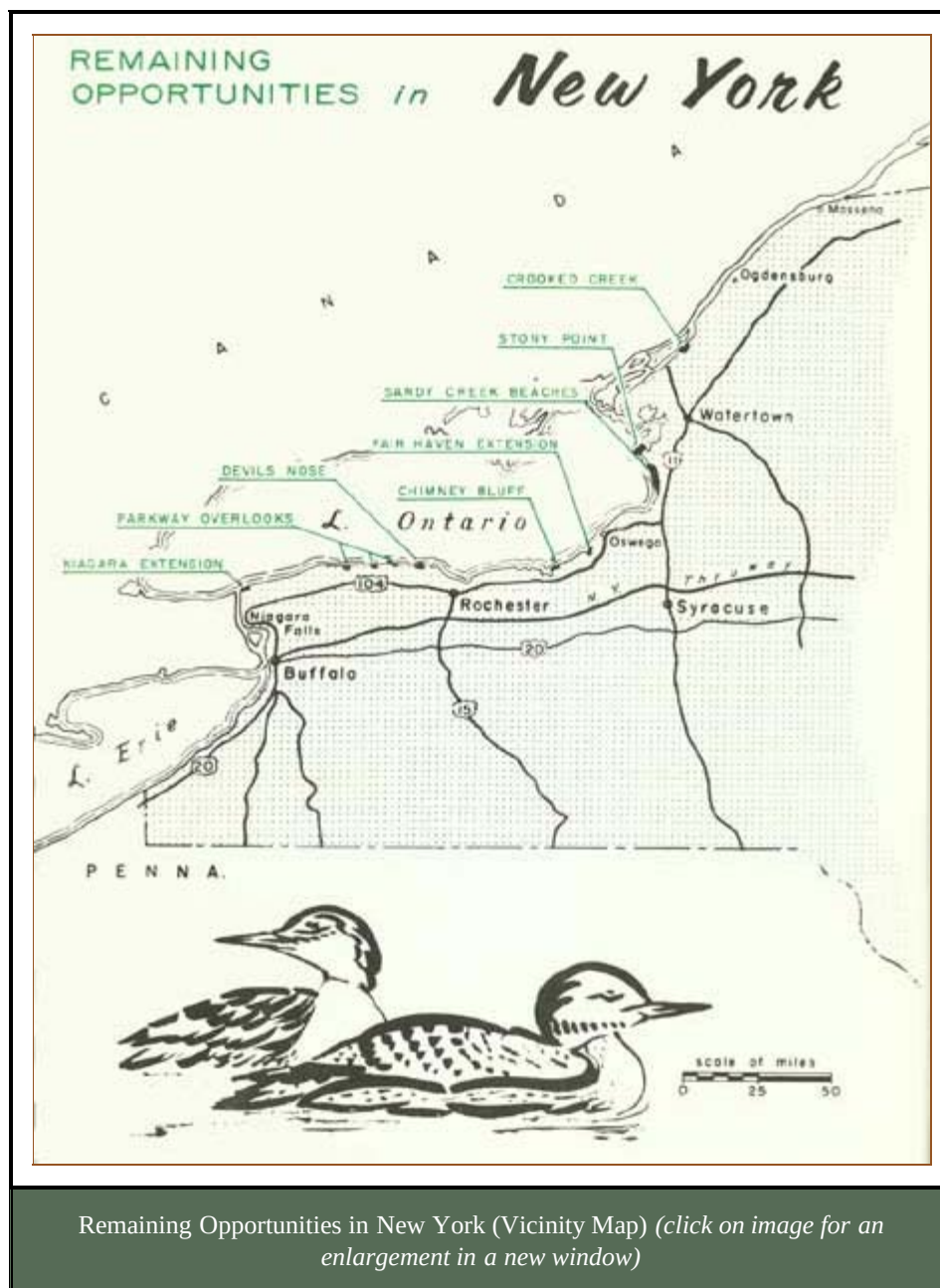
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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Great Lakes Shoreline Recreation Area Survey



REMAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN NEW YORK



Remaining Opportunities in New York (Vicinity Map) *(click on image for an enlargement in a new window)*

SUMMARY

The cold, blue waters of the St. Lawrence River, draining the entire basin of the Great Lakes, are currently the scene of a great seaway development program--a program destined to bring increased material wealth and population growth to New York State's second seacoast. Such cities as Buffalo, Rochester, Oswego, Ogdensburg and Massena cannot help but benefit from

such a program. With this new industrial impetus will come an acceleration of related construction activities: new homes, shops, schools and churches. Also needed will be additional highways and park areas to insure that the increasing population will always have access to the benefits and aesthetic values offered along the shoreline. This applies not only to the St. Lawrence River but to the Great Lakes as well.

The extensive St. Lawrence State Park will be established on lands created by the Seaway, and New York now has 23 other state parks located along the 775 miles of shoreline covered by this report. However, lest this picture be misleading, it should be stated that 12 of these are closely grouped in the Watertown-Thousand Island Area, and six others are closely clustered along the Niagara River, leaving only five parks scattered over the remaining shoreline. With more and more people flocking to the shores every year, there is no denying the need for expansion.

To many people, the Thousand Islands and the St. Lawrence are synonymous. The island-studded river and surrounding country have long been a tourist mecca; and most of the islands, even the most ludicrously small, are occupied by private homes ranging from modest summer cottages to palatial mansions. This "granite knob" country is of great geologic interest, for here the ancient Pre-Cambrian rocks linking the Adirondacks to the Laurentian Highlands are exposed.

A large mainland study area and island have been designated by the Survey on the St. Lawrence--not through any lack of existing parks, but because the preservation of a major natural area is particularly desirable in this region. The mainland portion offers excellent opportunities for preserving natural biological and geological attributes of the St. Lawrence scene. The island has wildlife value as a rookery for great blue herons.

Nearly half of New York's mainland frontage on the Great Lakes system is on Lake Ontario. From the St. Lawrence River, this shore extends westerly and southerly for 294 miles to Fort Niagara at the mouth of the Niagara River. For the purpose of convenience, it might be best to think of the shore in terms of three segments: from the St. Lawrence River to Pulaski, from Pulaski to Rochester, and from Rochester to Fort Niagara.

The St. Lawrence to Pulaski region can be broken down a second time into a northern section of low lying limestone headlands, bays, peninsulas and islands; and the sandy beaches and marshes south of Stony Point. For retention of natural values, this segment of shore is the best on Lake Ontario. Two study areas occur here: one in the limestone areas at Stony Point and one in the sand beach and marsh portion referred to as Sandy Creek Beaches.

The Pulaski-Rochester region lies along the northern edge of the largest drumlin field in the United States. These curious, glacier-moulded hills lie on a north-south axis. Along Lake Ontario, particularly east of Oswego, the waves of the lake have truncated these hills, leaving a series of high shore bluffs alternating with bays, streams, ponds or marshes. The two study areas of this portion of shoreline both contain drumlins. One is a recommended extension of Fair Haven State Park. The second area is a wave-eroded drumlin with high scenic values and geologic interest.

Except for a few drumlins around Braddock Bay, the region from Rochester to Fort Niagara is characterized by post-glacier lakebed topography. The land, rising gently back from the lake, is affected by the moderating influence of the lake on the region's climate. Consequently, this is one of the great orchard regions of the eastern United States. It is a pleasant country of prosperous looking farmland, orchards and woodlots. The lake shore, however, is backed by shore bluffs, and beaches are narrow and largely of cobble. The three study areas of this section are all tied in with the projected extension of the Lake Ontario

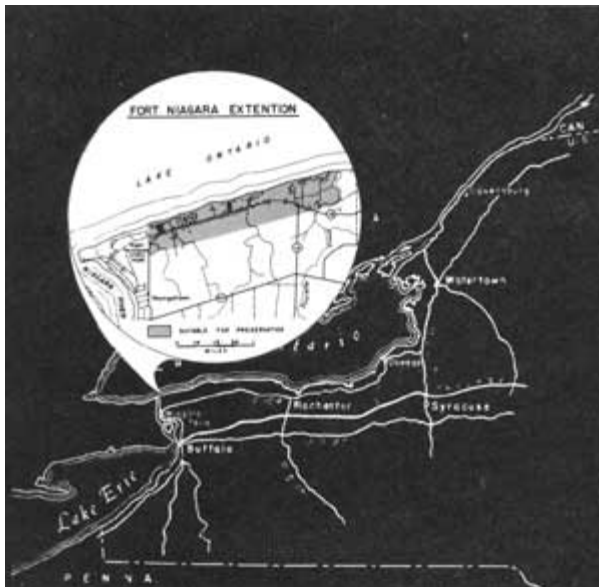
State Parkway; two are extensions of existing state parks, and the third provides for scenic overlooks along the Parkway at strategic intervals.

The Niagara River, with its world famous falls, has no study areas designated because of ample coverage in the existing state parks. The 77 miles of Lake Erie shoreline in New York have already been developed to such an extent as to nearly preclude further possibilities. Two state parks already exist along this shore.

On Lakes Erie and Ontario, New York has but slightly over 11 miles (less than two percent) of mainland shoreline in state parks. The total water frontage of the various island and mainland parks on the Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers raises the total to 50 miles. In this report, eight study areas with 28.4 miles of shoreline and 11,400 acres of land are recommended for further study as inclusions within the state park system. This would give the state a total of 78.4 miles of the over-all 775 miles of shoreline. Yet this would amount to only slightly over 10 percent, still far short of the 15 percent considered optimum to satisfy public recreation needs.

NEW YORK

NIAGARA EXTENSION



LOCATION The study area lies on Lake Ontario in the extreme northwest corner of Niagara County, New York. It extends along the shoreline for 2.3 miles from the present Fort Niagara State Park to the mouth of Fourmile Creek. Niagara Falls is just over 12 miles away and Buffalo and Rochester are about 35 and 85 miles distant, respectively. State Routes 18 and 18F traverse the study area and define its southern boundary.

DESCRIPTION The 648 acres of proposed extension comprise a linear area, about 1,000 feet deep, along the shore of Lake Ontario. The beaches fronting this 2.3-mile stretch range from narrow to practically nonexistent and are composed of sand,

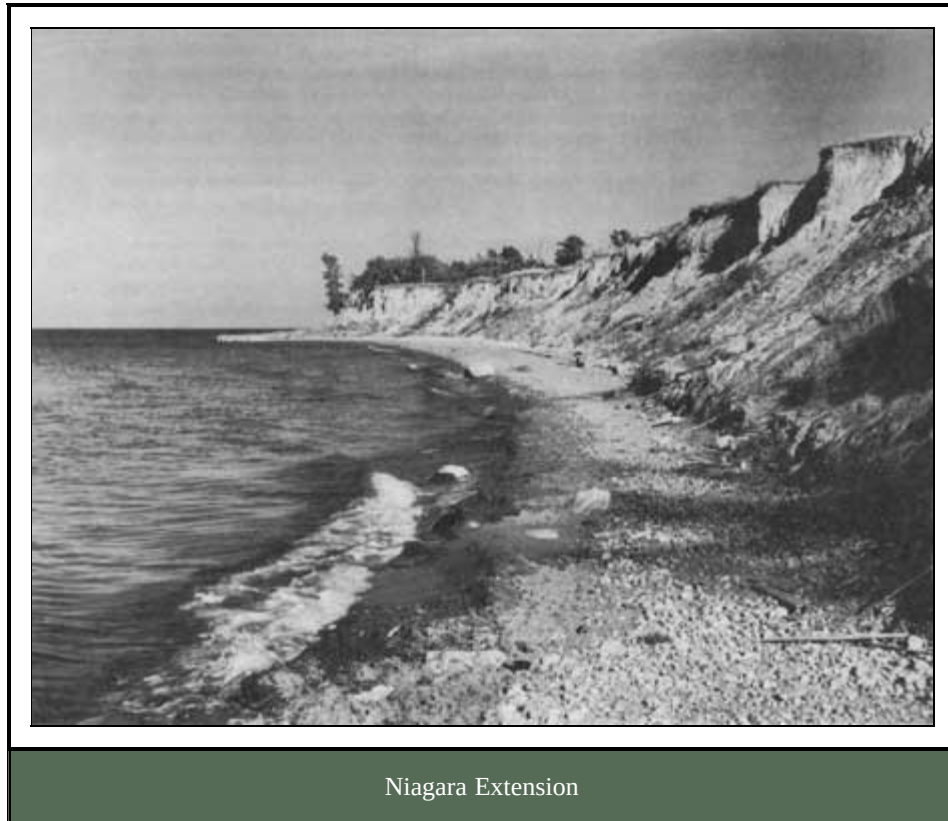
cobble and clay derived from the eroding shore bluffs behind them. In spite of attempts to control it through concrete groin construction, active erosion on these 20 to 30-foot bluffs has proceeded to the point where some structures near the edge are in danger of being under cut.

The nearly level land behind these bluffs is broken at two places by the outlets of Fourmile Creek and a smaller creek about one mile to the west. Fourmile Creek widens to about 200 feet near its mouth but is constricted there by a sand bar typical to streams in this vicinity.

PRESENT USE Within the bounds of the study area there are approximately 100 summer cottages and permanent homes, a few of which are of fairly substantial quality. These are primarily clustered into four groups separated by orchards and farmland. A fairly extensive amusement park occupies about 20 acres at the west end of the study area just outside the existing boundary of Fort Niagara State Park.

ANALYSIS As a result of increased power output from Niagara operations, industry is spreading north along the Niagara River and investigating expansion possibilities along the Lake Ontario shoreline. Fort Niagara State Park, presently squeezed into a small triangular area at the mouth of the river, needs additional space.

The area encompassed in this report would serve as a buffer against the impending industrial expansion. Although its natural values are limited, additional lakeshore frontage is also badly needed. Careful landscaping could restore the natural appeal, and a swimming beach could be created by sloping the bluffs and effectively utilizing erosion control measures to create sand fill.

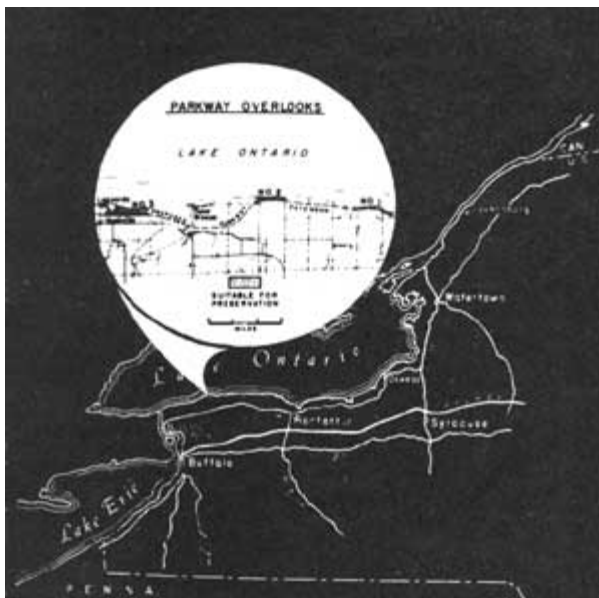


Niagara Extension

NEW YORK

PARKWAY OVERLOOKS

LOCATION The three study areas are all located in Orleans County in the path of the proposed westward extension of the Lake Ontario State Parkway. They lie along a 16-mile stretch of shoreline between Lakeside and Kendall. Number One is 3 miles north of Kendall; Number Two is adjacent to and west of Transit Road, roughly 4 miles north of State Route 18; and Number Three is paralleled by State Route 18 east of Lakeside. In aggregate they contain 821 acres of land and 4 miles of shoreline.



DESCRIPTION The region of Orleans County in which the Parkway Overlooks are located is former lakebed topography. The land has little relief except along stream courses. The three Overlooks have been

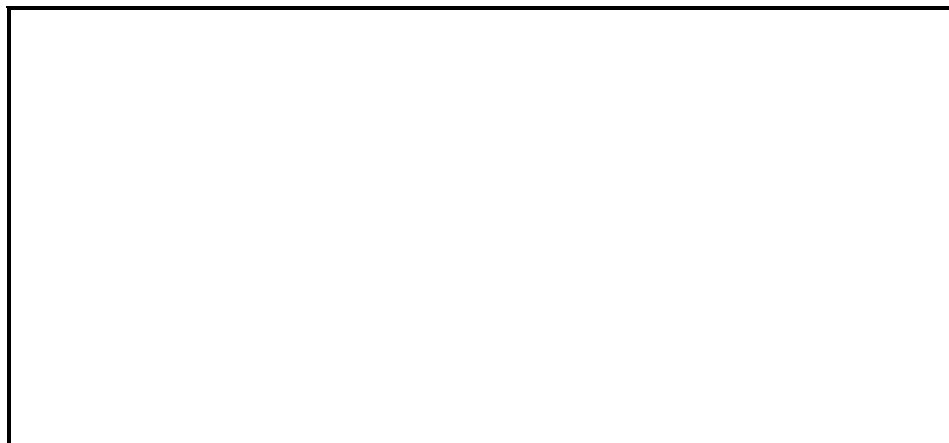
largely cleared of their original forest cover, as, indeed, has most of the surrounding land. Only Number Three has any forest cover, the remaining timber being mainly beech, maple, elm, hophornbeam and ash.

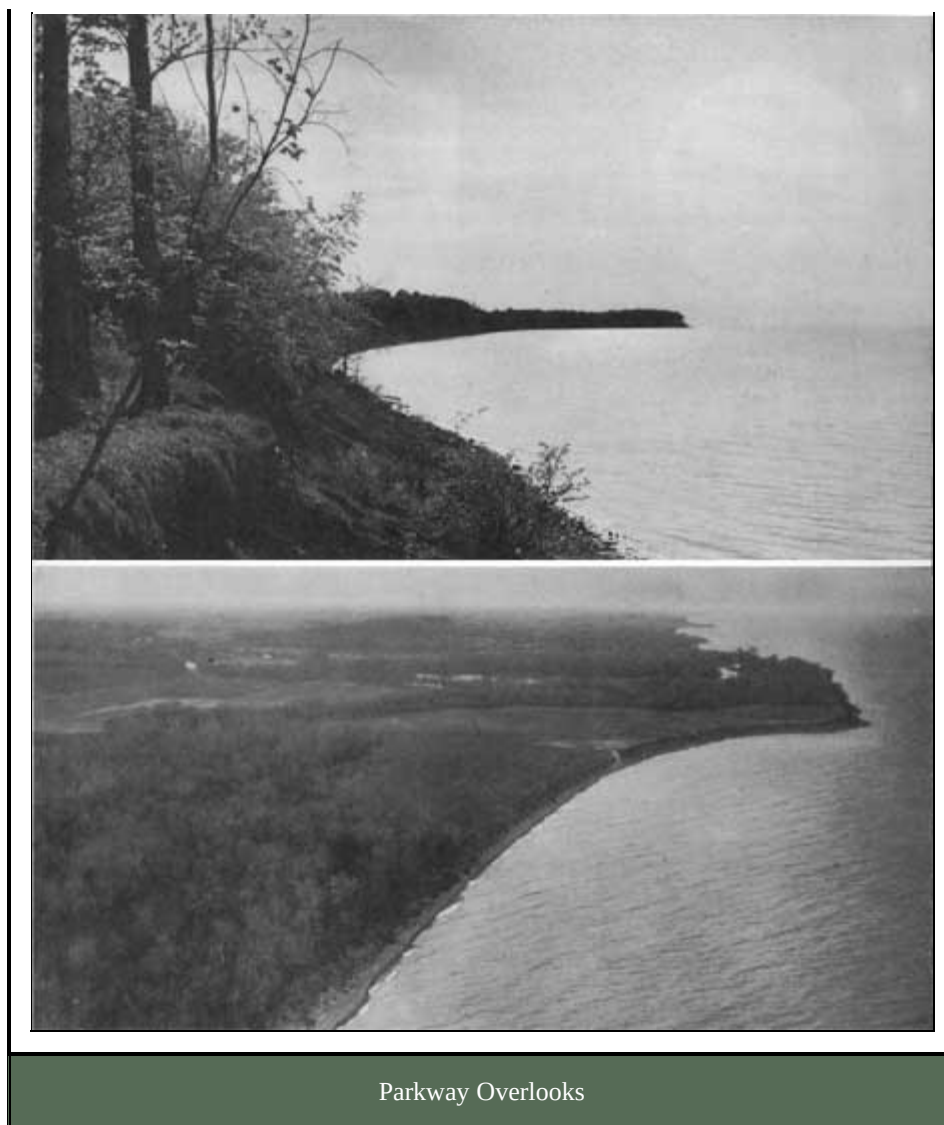
Like much of southern Lake Ontario, the shoreline along the Parkway Overlooks is being gradually eaten away by the relentless action of the waves. Consequently, shore bluffs are a common feature. Overlooks One and Two are fronted by 10-foot bluffs, while Number Three has bluffs to 40 feet high. The beaches below these bluffs are narrow and formed primarily of cobble. The lake bottom along the shore is rocky and during May of 1958 was covered by unsightly growth of green algae.

During the spring, thousands of migrating Canada geese and gulls are an attraction along this portion of Lake Ontario.

PRESENT USE The three sites are given over almost entirely to farmlands. Number One has two farmhouses with attendant outbuildings. Number Two has four cottages, and Number Three has no structures. Bathing is not a feature along the shore because of the narrow cobble beach.

ANALYSIS Routing the Parkway through these Overlooks offers the motorist sweeping scenic vistas of the lakeshore and Lake Ontario with its ships and water birds. Thus variety is added to the inland sections of right of way where views may be restricted by the flat topography and adjacent developments. Only Overlook Number Three would be developed for such active uses as picnicking, swimming and camping.



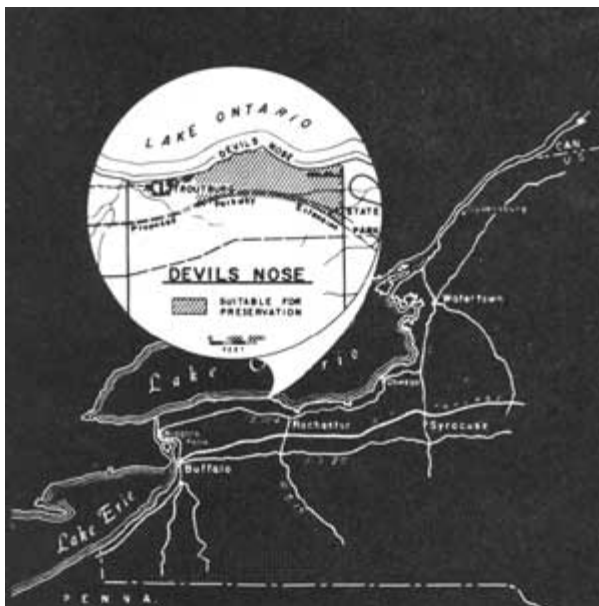


NEW YORK

DEVILS NOSE

LOCATION Devils Nose lies between Troutburg and Hamlin Beach State Park at the present western terminus of the Lake Ontario State Parkway. This area would add 1.5 miles of shoreline to Hamlin Beach State Park. There are approximately 190 acres in the proposed addition.

DESCRIPTION Devils Nose receives its name from a 75-foot high bluff projecting out slightly into Lake Ontario. The bluff is primarily of sand but rests on a resistant projection of conglomerate just above the water line. Most of the gently undulating topography atop the bluff has been cleared and is occupied by about 65 acres of



orchard. Two woodlots remain near the shore of the lake, aggregating 20 acres.

Though they are small, the woodlots are attractive additions to the study area.

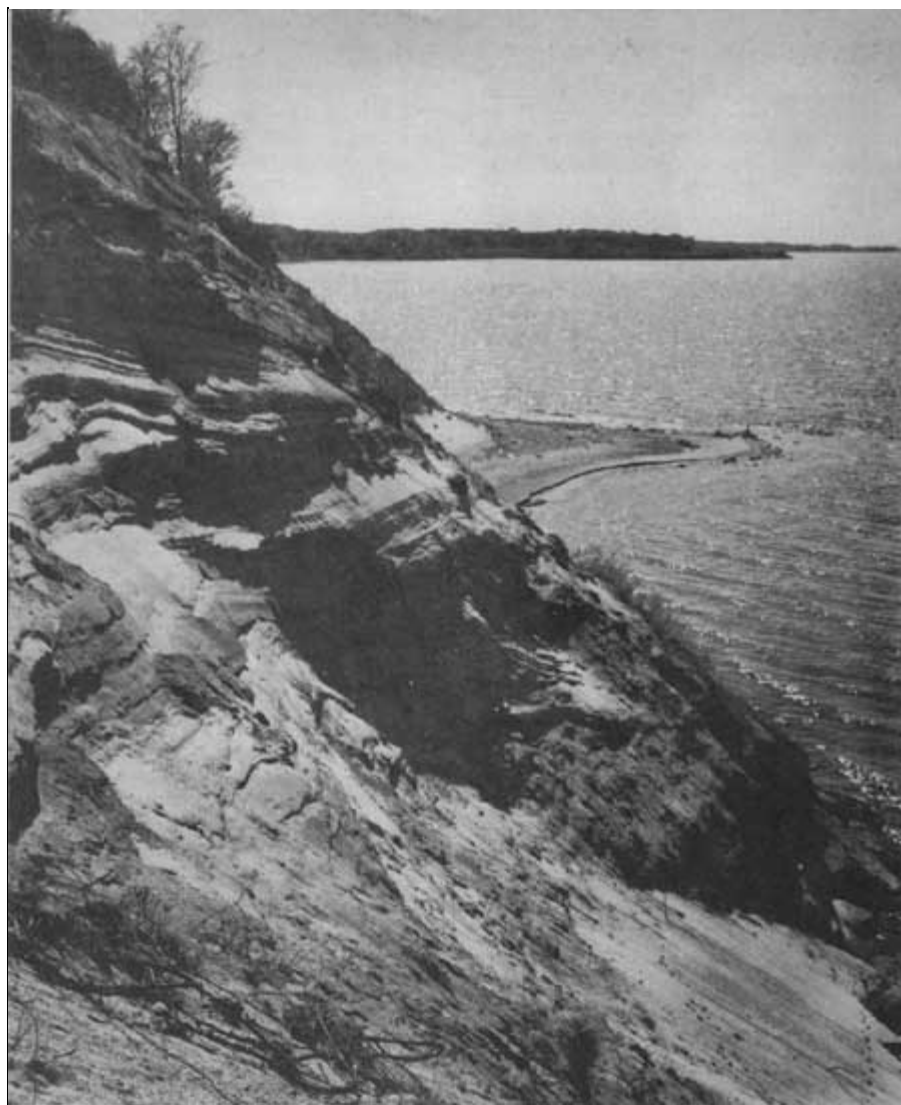
Fronting a shallow shoreline indentation east of Devils Nose is a sand beach. It is approximately a half mile long and is from 75 to 100 feet wide. This beach is significant because it occurs along a stretch of shoreline generally devoid of bathing beaches and would be a significant addition to Hamlin Beach State Park.

Backing the beach is a steep, sandy bluff averaging 40 feet in height. Along the top of the bluffs, large colonies of bank swallows have excavated their nesting holes. At the time of field investigations in late May, a constant stream of gulls were moving west along the shore, making use of the updrafts along the shore bluffs. In April, large flocks of Canada geese were observed near the shore along this same general region.

PRESENT USE Nine cottages are grouped at the east end of the beach. Orchards occupy about a fourth of the area. The remainder of the land, except the woodlots, is cleared but fallow.

ANALYSIS This area is needed as an extension of the Hamlin Beach State Park. The Lake Ontario State Parkway will eventually be constructed through the area. Scenic lake views, picnic areas and day use of the beach would be the important features of the area.





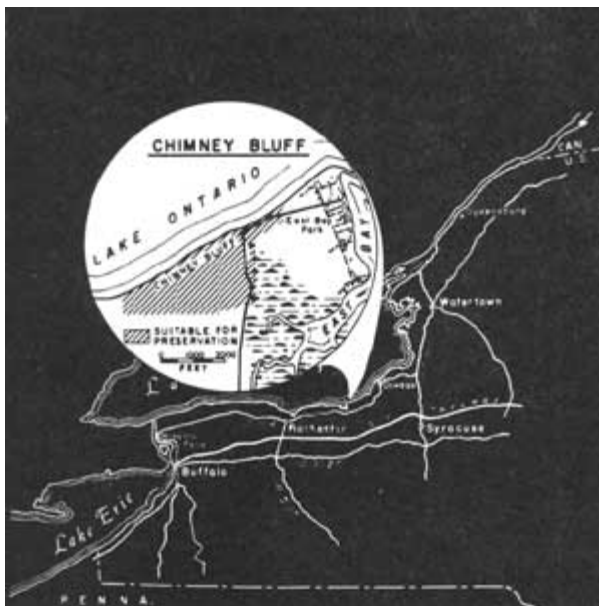
Devils Nose

NEW YORK

CHIMNEY BLUFF

LOCATION The study area is located 8 miles from Wolcott off U.S. Highway 104 on the road leading to East Bay Park. The total shoreline included in the study area is 1.3 miles. The bluff itself fronts on the lake for 1/2 mile. Approximately 150 acres comprise the study area.

DESCRIPTION Like Sitts Bluff in the Fair Haven Extension study area, Chimney Bluff is a wave truncated drumlin. The resultant erosion is the most spectacular on Lake Ontario. The rim of the bluff stands 130 feet above the water and extends inland 500 feet



from the shore in a series of knifeedged ridges and chimneys. From the beach and from trails along the rim, scenic views of the bluff, the surrounding terrain and Lake

Ontario may be obtained. Because the drumlin is exposed in cross section, it is valuable to geologists in studying the manner in which these interesting glacial deposits were formed.

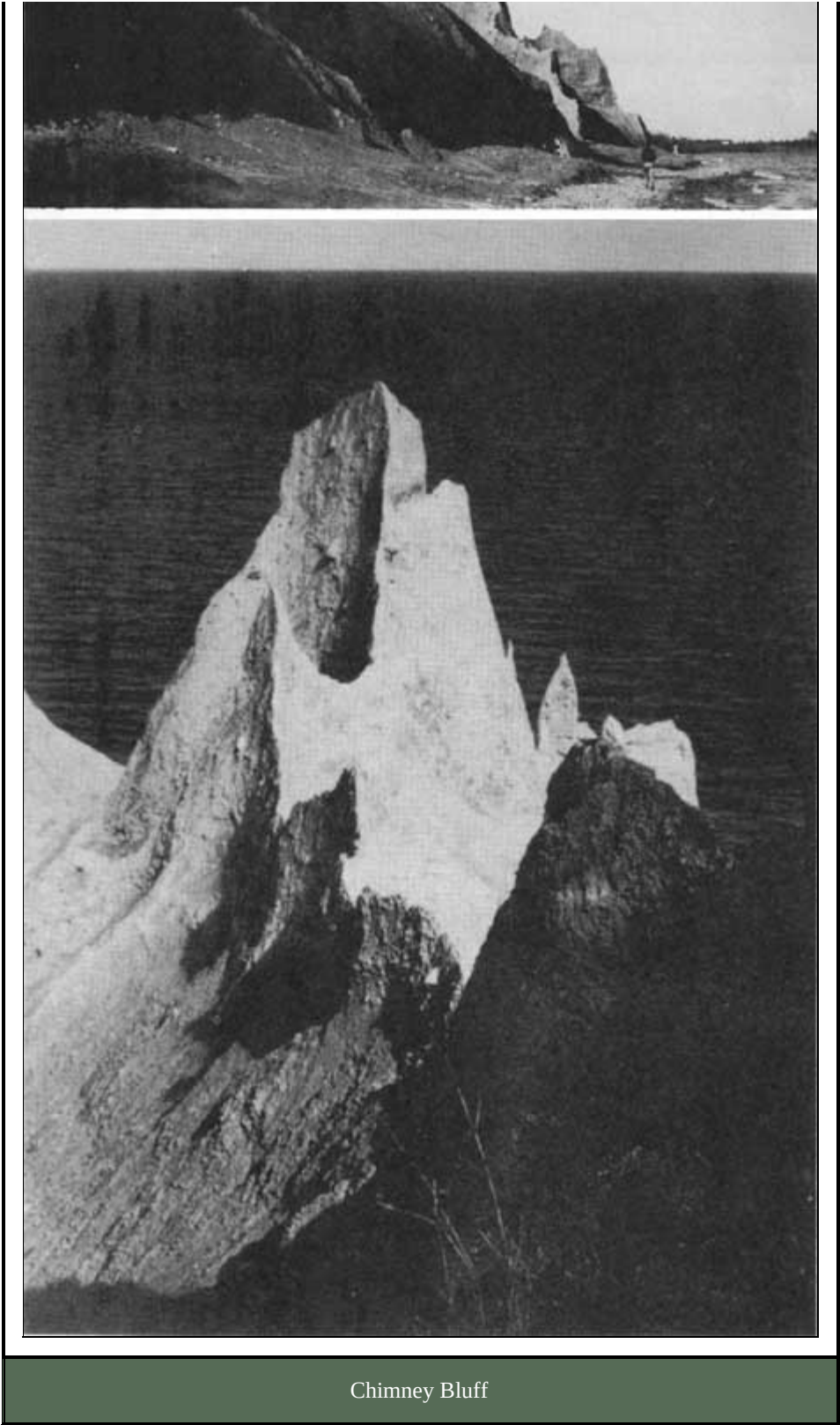
The land contained within the study area is covered with an attractive and vigorously growing hemlock-hardwood forest. Large maple, ash, elm and hemlock shade an open understory containing a large variety of interesting forest floor species. Along the rim, hophornbeam is a common tree, and eastern columbine is a common spring flower.

The area is not large and could not be expected to support any but the smaller and commoner species of birds and wildlife. However, along the bluff, a large colony of bank swallows has excavated their nesting holes in the safety of the nearly perpendicular banks. During the summer months, their coming and going animates the natural scene.

PRESENT USE The only structure in the main area is a tavern; however, in the shore extension to the east are one or two houses. Some timber cutting is occasionally done, but the area probably receives practically no use except informal sightseeing.

ANALYSIS First of all, the area's primary value lies in the scenic qualities of the strangely eroded drumlin. Preservation of these features is important. The small size of the area suggests county or local administration which can supply day-use provisions for picnicking, and trails above and below the bluff for hikers. A low lying area extending along the east boundary might possibly be developed for beach use, thus adding to the area's drawing power.



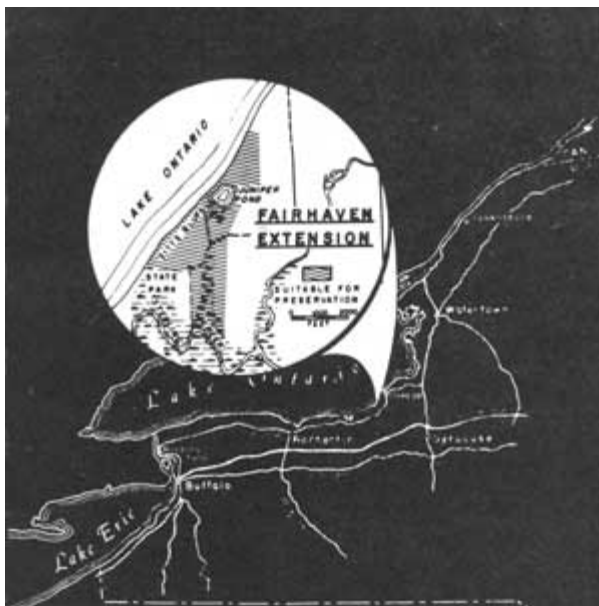


Chimney Bluff

NEW YORK

FAIR HAVEN EXTENSION

LOCATION The area lies adjacent to Fair Haven Beach State Park near the village of



Fair Haven in Cayuga County. It can be reached by McIntyre Road via Sterling Center and Old State Roads from Fair Haven. The Extension would add 1-1/2 miles of shoreline and 386 acres to the state park.

DESCRIPTION Between Oswego and Rochester lies a portion of the largest drumlin field in the United States. The landscape is distinctive, particularly along Lake Ontario. In the maturing of the shoreline the waves of the lake have eroded away the headlands and stretched barrier beaches across the mouths of shore indentations. The resultant shoreline is one

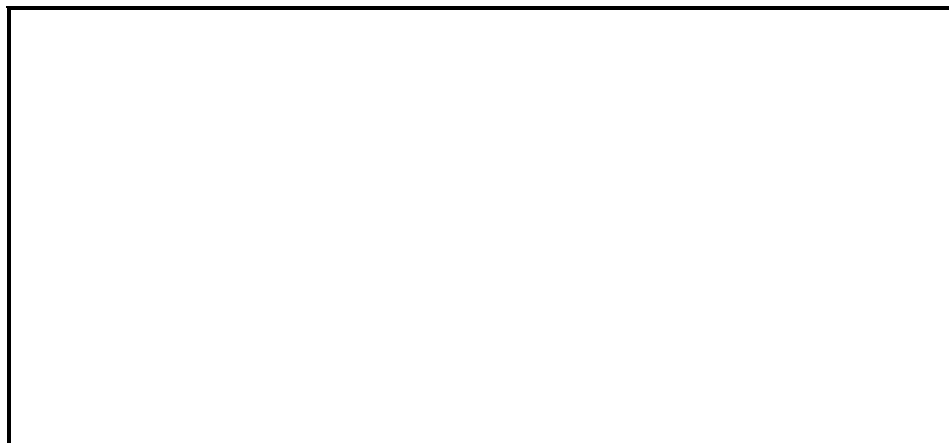
of high bluffs alternating with a series of ponds, swamps, marshes, bays and streams.

Fair Haven Extension would include Sitts Bluff, the highest drumlin along the entire shoreline, rising 164 feet above the lake. It would also include an interdrumlin area containing Juniper Pond--an 11-acre body of water adjoined by a fine heath bog--and a section of marsh along Sterling Creek. The beach is narrow and composed mainly of cobble and small boulders. Since the importance of the area is as a natural area extension for the present park, this is not a discouraging factor.

On the steep back slopes of Sitts Bluff is a vigorous second growth hemlock-hardwood forest. In the spring this hillside is covered with trillium, columbine, may-apple, violets, foamflower and other flowers. Because of the variety of ecological niches, a variety of wildlife can be expected to occur, particularly birds, but also deer, smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles of an innocuous sort.

PRESENT USE Some logging and grazing occurs, and probably hunting and fishing. There are no structures in the area.

ANALYSIS The present state park is already largely developed. This extension is needed to supply a completely natural area and to preserve a unique and interesting landscape. The diversity of the area would lend itself to an interpretive program designed to explain the drumlins and other features. Hiking or nature trails could serve to introduce the park visitor to a varied and highly interesting flora and fauna. The addition of this extension would greatly enhance an already extremely attractive, but heavily used state park.



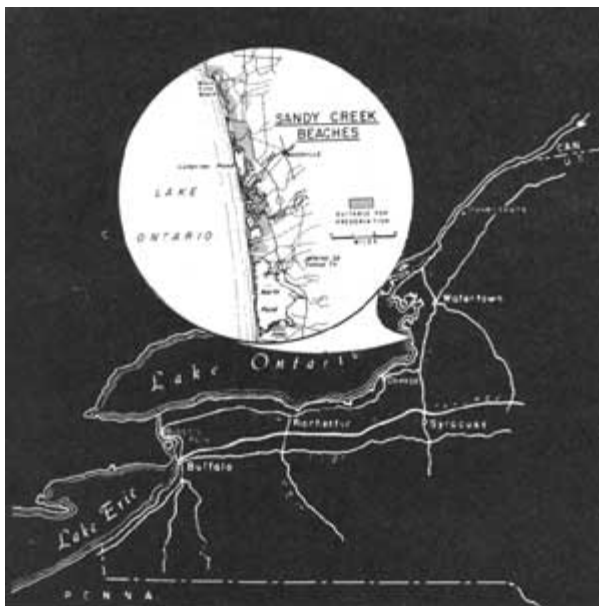


Fair Haven Extension (New York Division of Parks Photo)

NEW YORK

SANDY CREEK BEACHES

LOCATION This long linear area of beaches and marshes begins about 10 miles north of Port Ontario in Oswego County and continues north almost to Stony Creek in Jefferson County. The area may be reached from a number of access roads feeding off State Highway 3. However, much of the area is accessible only by boat or on foot. The length of the study area from the south end of North Pond to the north boundary is 12.2 miles. Of this, 3.4



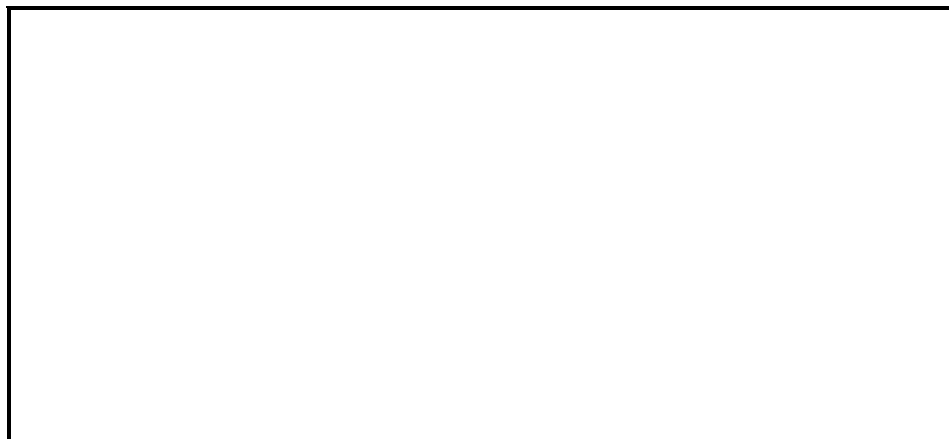
miles are excluded because of intensive development, leaving a total of 8.8 miles of shoreline in the study area. Seldom more than a mile deep, the area contains 2,969 acres, mainly marshland.

DESCRIPTION The eastern end of Lake Ontario contains not only the finest beaches on the entire lake, but also the finest wildlife habitat. The study area encompasses the best of both. The main marsh area is four and one-half miles long and one-half to one mile wide. Ponds and open meandering channels are interspersed with the marsh vegetation, and are popular fishing areas. Bird life is abundant both on the marshes and along the sandy beaches. The inland edges of the marshes are generally without development, and border on farmland. Around North Pond, however, cottage development is heavy.

The sand beaches, ranging from 75 to 200 feet in width, are among the finest found anywhere on the Great Lakes, and are backed by a line of wooded, partly stabilized dunes up to 40 feet high. Along practically their entire extent they are bordered by marsh or water areas, a factor hindering cabin developments.

PRESENT USE Aside from the developed areas which have been ringed and excluded from the study area, the principal uses would be hunting, fishing and swimming. Fishing is an important use on all open water areas behind the barrier beach. Only a few, low class structures are found on the barrier beaches. No ownership data was obtained for the Oswego County section, but the rest is all private land with 13 principal owners.

ANALYSIS Important to both migrating and nesting waterfowl and to marsh birds, muskrats and other wildlife, the area is of prime importance for wildlife refuge or game management use. The beaches should be maintained for day use with only the barest essential development for providing access and maintenance. Campers could stay at Stony Point and commute to the beach.





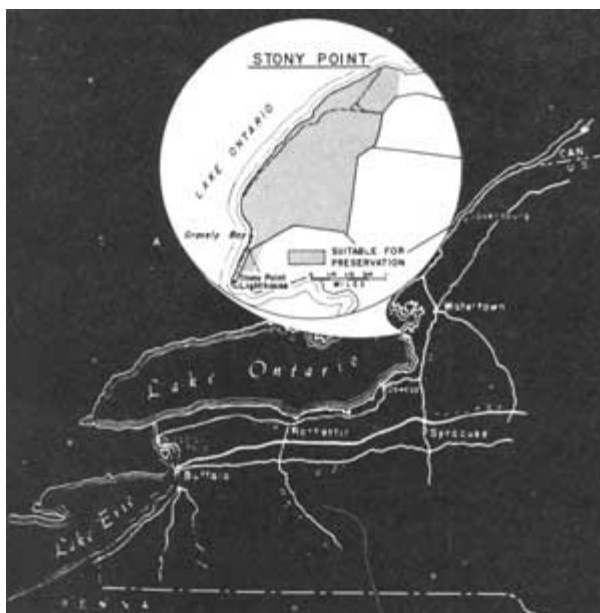
Sandy Creek

NEW YORK

STONY POINT

LOCATION Stony Point lies 7 miles west of the town of Henderson in Jefferson County and is accessible by road via State Route 178. The study area comprises approximately 1,600 acres with 3.9 miles of shoreline on Lake Ontario.

DESCRIPTION Stony Point is the southernmost extension of the limestone



region of eastern Lake Ontario. It is a region of little marked relief, but forms a series of islands, headlands and bays which add variety to the landscape.

The study area lies in a transition zone between the central and northern forest regions and possesses species characteristic of each. Much of the area was formerly occupied by a U.S. military reservation and

considerable land had been cleared, resulting in large meadow areas. In places, these are growing back profusely to white and red cedar. Deciduous woods and boggy depressions occur.

The entire area rests on glacier-scoured limestone which forms scenic cliffs to 60 feet high near the north boundary. Southward they subside to low bluffs and finally to flat, gently shelving beaches of solid rock. Glacier transported boulders on the south end of these rocky shores add geological interest. No sand beaches occur. The alternating patches of meadow and woodland create an edge effect favorable to birds and other wildlife. Many species of songbirds nest in the area and small mammals, such as cottontail and woodchuck, occur. The rich limestone soil grows an abundance of wildflowers.

PRESENT USE Stock grazing is the obvious use at present. The cottage development on Gravelly Bay has been excluded from the study area but the lighthouse at the south end has been included. Besides the five acres of lighthouse property, the remainder of the area is divided between three owners.

ANALYSIS The area has considerable charm and would serve well as a natural area. The over-all area is also large enough, and topographically suited, to also supply an abundance of campsites so vitally needed to meet the growing demand in this general region. Such a development could also be utilized in connection with the recommended day-use of the beaches and fishing opportunities at Black Pond and Sandy Creek Beach.





Stony Point

NEW YORK

CROOKED CREEK

 **LOCATION** Crooked Creek lies adjacent to Kring State Park on the boundary of St. Lawrence and Jefferson Counties. The study area contains 4,425 acres and 4.1 miles of shoreline. Most of the area is accessible only by foot or boat.

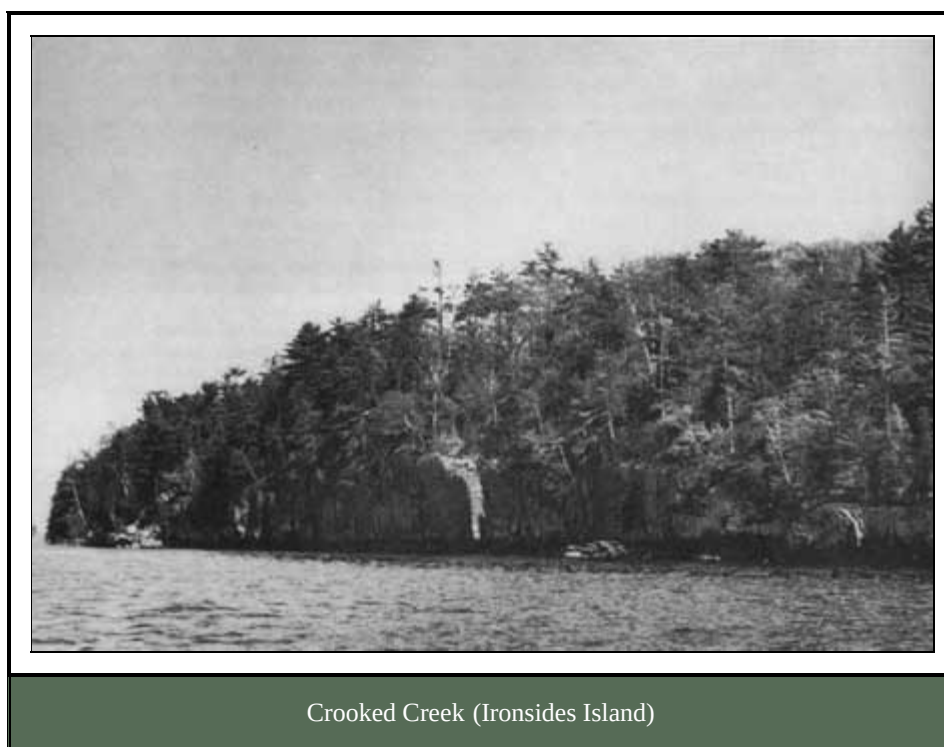
DESCRIPTION The Thousand Island region has long been known for its scenic beauty. Here, the St. Lawrence River cuts through an area of glaciated crystalline rocks that forms an isthmus between the ancient Laurentian Highlands of Canada and the Adirondacks of New York. This "granite knob" country, though low in relief, has a jumbled topography that gives the countryside a picturesque appearance. The St. Lawrence flowing through this area creates the Thousand Islands.

The area is in a mixed deciduous-coniferous forest that has been logged or cleared for farming in the past. Boggy areas occur in the hollows, and pink granitic rock is exposed on the prominences. White pine is the prominent shoreline tree. The soil mantle is shallow, and little glacial debris occurs. Spring flowers are abundant and bird life is varied.

The marshes of Crooked Creek and Goose Bay are significant for wildlife: muskrats, waterfowl, shore birds and waders. Ironsides Island, included in the study area, has a large nesting colony of great blue herons. Fishing for bass and perch is popular in the river, and Crooked Creek yields good catches of bullheads.

PRESENT USE Kring State Park, to which Crooked Creek is a recommended addition, occupies a rocky peninsula at the extreme southwest end of the area. This small park is utilized almost completely for camping. Running northeastward for two miles from the park is a strip of shoreline with considerable development; this has been excluded from the study area. Elsewhere, a small commercial fishing dock occurs on Crooked Creek, and a number of cottages have been built along Goose Bay. The bulk of the area is privately owned with about 20 principal owners.

ANALYSIS Because of their high values for camping, wildlife and botanical preservation, Crooked Creek and Ironsides Island should be added to the overused Kring State Park. The inclusion of Ironsides Island would not only assure protection to its large heronry, but give the State of New York title to an entire island in the St. Lawrence for primitive camping.



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