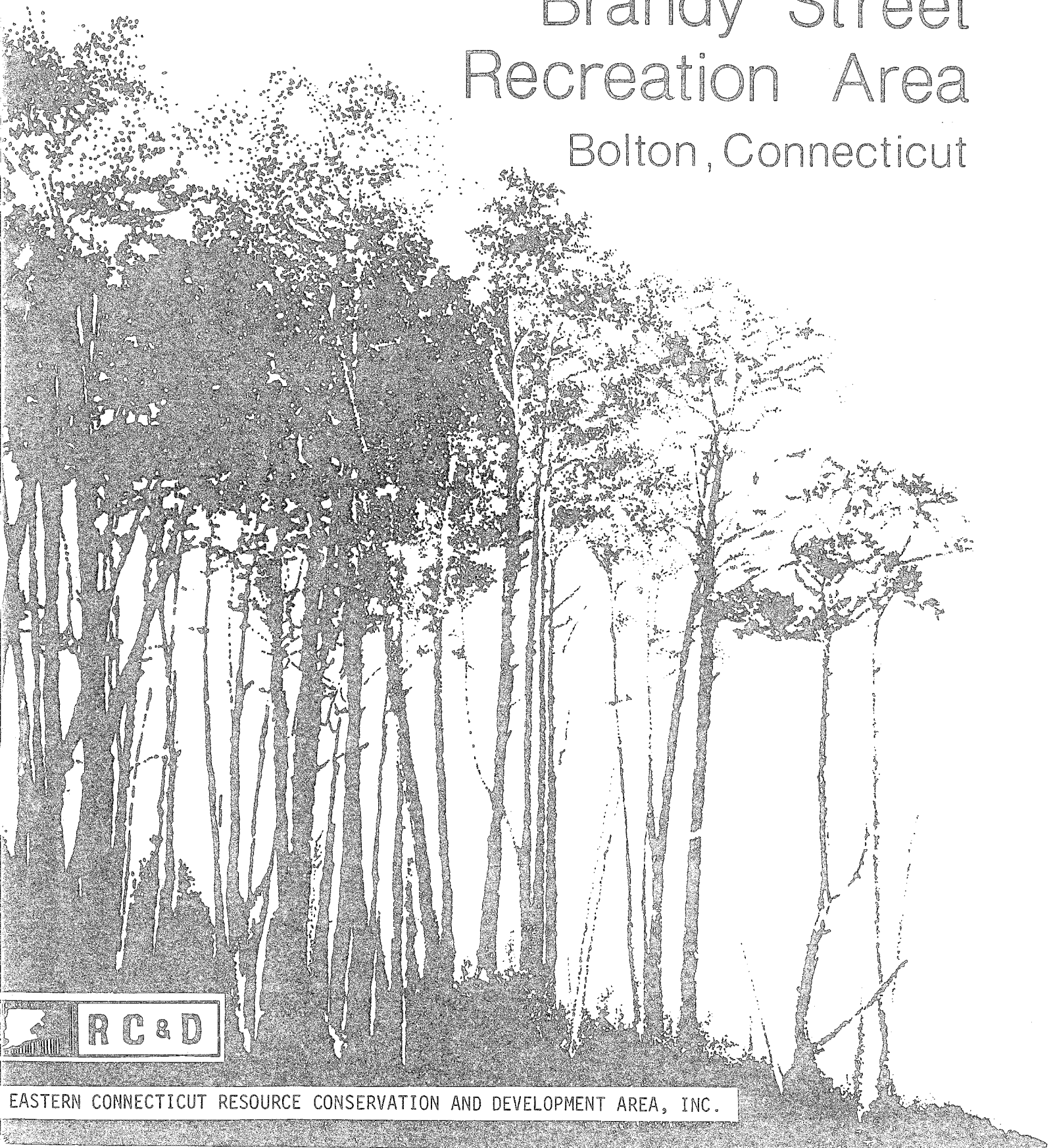
Environmental Review Team Report

Brandy Street Recreation Area

Bolton, Connecticut



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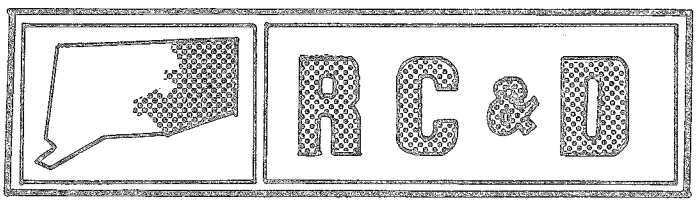
EASTERN CONNECTICUT RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREA, INC.

Environmental Review Team Report on Brandy Street Recreation Area Bolton, Connecticut

October 1980

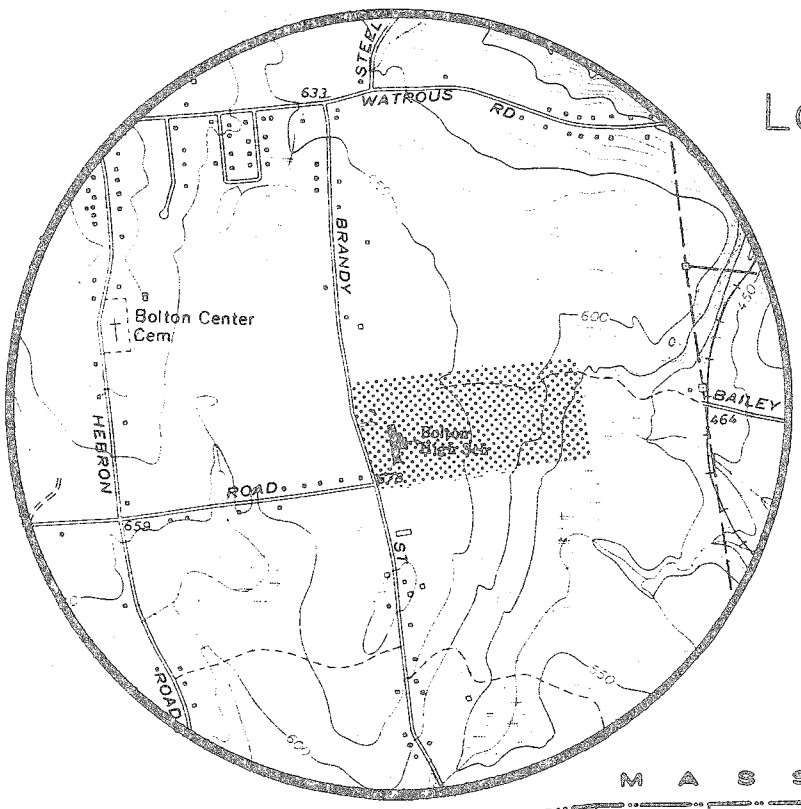


eastern connecticut resource conservation & development area

environmental review team
139 boswell avenue
norwich, connecticut 06360

Location of Study Site

BRANDY STREET RECREATION AREA
BOLTON, CONNECTICUT



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TEAM REPORT
ON
BRANDY STREET RECREATION AREA
BOLTON, CONNECTICUT

This report is an outgrowth of a request from the First Selectman of Bolton to the Tolland County Soil and Water Conservation District (S&WCD). The S&WCD referred this request to the Eastern Connecticut Resource, Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Executive Committee for their consideration and approval. The request was approved and the measure was reviewed by the Eastern Connecticut Environmental Review Team (ERT).

The soils of the site were mapped by a soil scientist from the United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service (SCS). Reproductions of the soil survey map, a table of soils limitations for certain land uses and a topographic map showing property boundaries were distributed to all Team members prior to their review of the site.

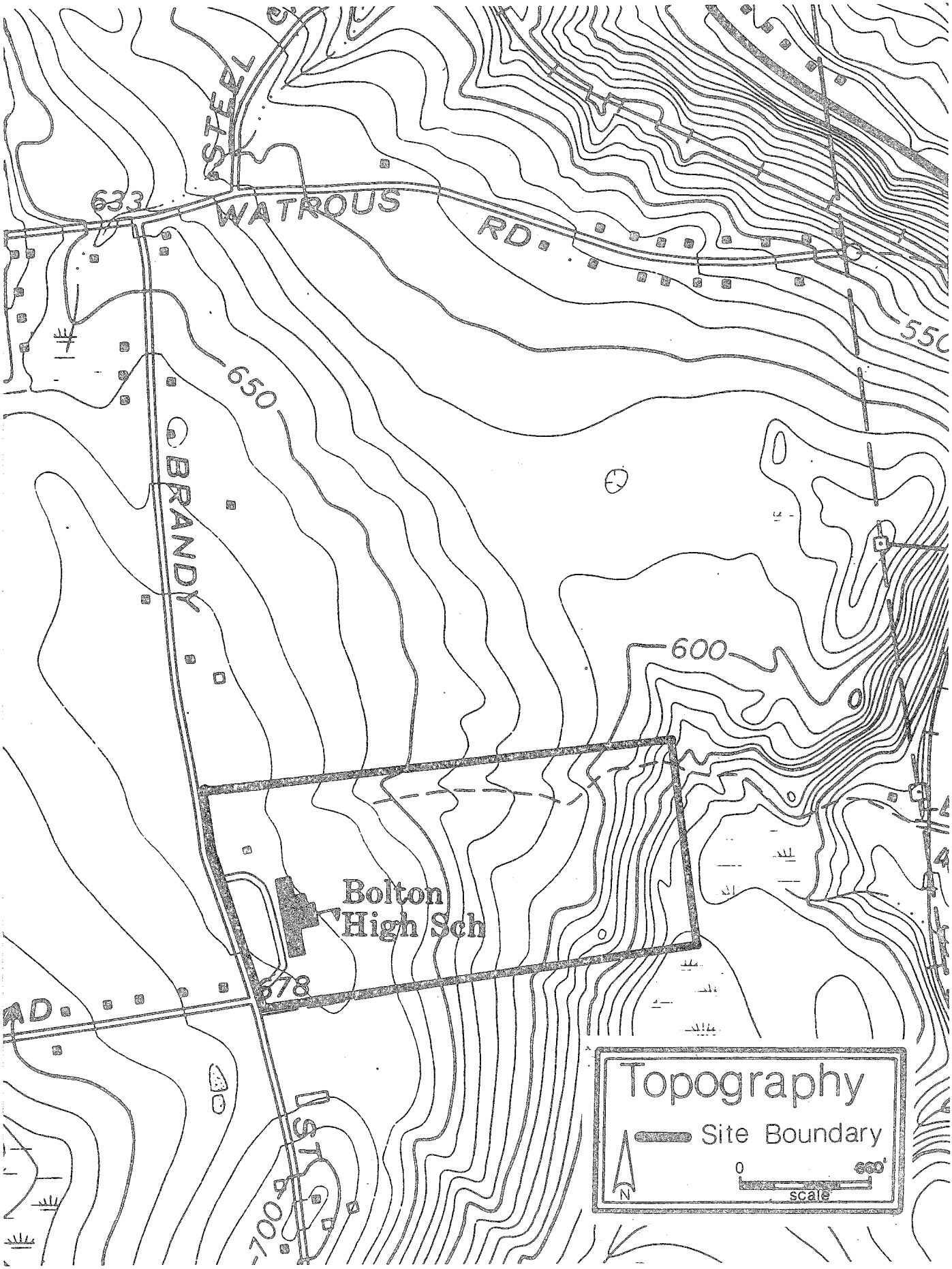
The ERT that field-checked the site consisted of the following personnel: Joseph Neafsey, District Conservationist, SCS; Rob Rocks, Forester, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); Michael Zizka, Geologist, DEP; Andy Petracco, Recreation Specialist, DEP; and Jeanne Shelburn, ERT Coordinator, Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area.

The Team met and field checked the site on Thursday, August 14, 1980. Reports from each contributing Team member were sent to the ERT Coordinator for review and summarization for the final report.

This report is not meant to compete with private consultants. As requested by the Town, this report, which identifies the existing resource base of the Brandy Street Recreation Area, shall constitute the environmental assessment portion of the Town's open space application for Federal Department of the Interior, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service funds to assist in the development of this property.

The Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area Committee hopes that this report will be of value and assistance in making any decisions regarding this particular site.

If you require any additional information, please contact: Ms. Jeanne Shelburn, Environmental Review Team Coordinator, Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area, 139 Boswell Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut 889-2324.


STEEL
633
WATROUS
RD
550
650
BRANDY
600
Bolton
High Sch
678
AD
650
700
Topography
Site Boundary
N
0
660'
scale

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

The Town of Bolton is applying for development funding assistance from the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS) for improvement of an existing field used for soccer. Soccer is a popular sport in the town and existing facilities are not adequate for the demand which is generated. The existing facility is poorly drained, making use of the field impossible after heavy rains.

The site is approximately 60± acres in size, located on the east side of Brandy Street directly adjacent to Bolton High School. Only a small section of the site will be used for development of the soccer facilities, however additional comment has been made as to the best use of the remaining undeveloped sections of the 60± acre site.

There are four state-owned open space areas within the town. These include Gay City State Park, Bolton Notch State Park, Bolton Lakes boat launch area and Bolton Notch Pond boat launch area. Town owned open space land includes Herrick Memorial Park, Freja Park and a 15 acre tract on Toomey Road. Herrick Park is currently developed with an overlapping baseball and football field. None of the other town owned facilities are developed with active recreation fields. The proposed soccer field will be the only soccer area available for use in the Town of Bolton.

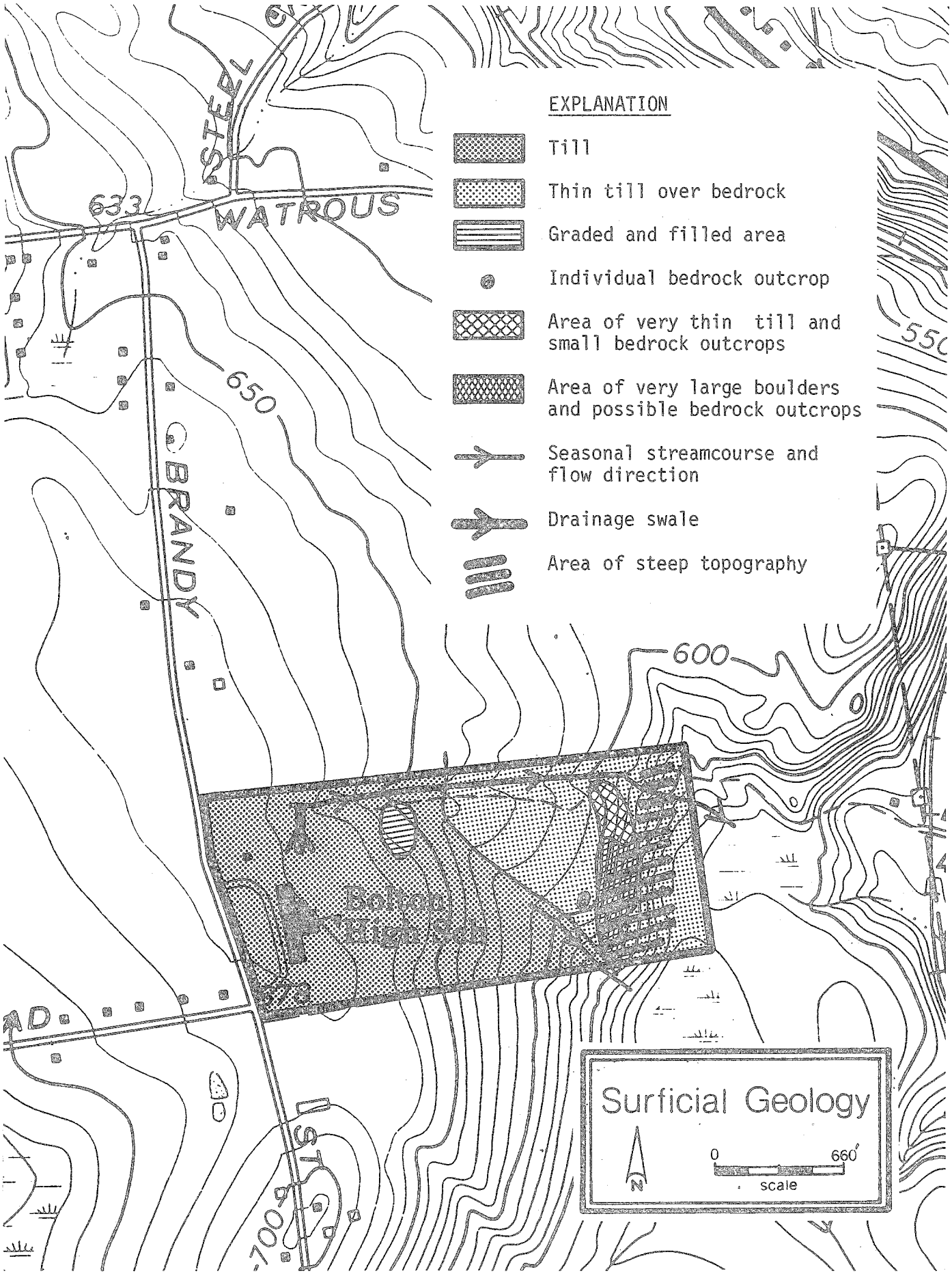
DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

PRESENT/PAST LAND USES

The site is presently a series of open fields and woodlands used as a recreation area for the adjacent Bolton High School. It is developed in the western portion with the school building, a baseball field and a soccer field. The site may have formerly been used for some type of farming operation such as field crops, hay production or grazing.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The 1971 Plan of Development for Bolton compares income brackets for the Town and the Capitol Region and has found them to be quite similar. The modal income bracket (36% of all families) for both Bolton and the Capitol Region was $3,000-$6,999 annually. One fifth of Bolton's families earned $10,000 per year or more. In Bolton 8.5% of the families earned less than $3,000 per year. The most probable cause for this is agricultural income, which is often under reported and in non-cash form. Median income in Bolton was $7,487 and ranked twelfth in a survey of 29 regional towns. All figures should be adjusted for inflation during the past decade. Primary income source was from "white-collar" employment, with the majority of the labor force employed in the clerical and sales category. Twenty-seven percent of Bolton's labor force was engaged in professional and managerial positions.


EXPLANATION
Till
Thin till over bedrock
Graded and filled area
Individual bedrock outcrop
Area of very thin till and small bedrock outcrops
Area of very large boulders and possible bedrock outcrops
Seasonal streamcourse and flow direction
Drainage swale
Area of steep topography
STEEL
633
WATROUS
650
BRANDY
600
550
700
Surficial Geology
0
660'
scale
N

TRANSPORTATION ROUTES

The site is located on Brandy Street, a well maintained two-lane local road. It is within a mile of the "town center" and within several miles of Routes 44A, 84 and 6, major connectors to the Hartford and Willimantic areas. The site appears to be within walking distance for a majority of the Bolton population.

TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES

The Bolton High School recreational field is located on the eastern flank of Bolton Hill. The school, near the western boundary, is situated on a fairly flat secondary crest of the hill. Eastward from the school, the property begins to slope gradually, then more steeply. The steepest slopes are located east of the clearing for the septic leaching field.

SURFACE/SUBSURFACE GEOLOGIC CONDITIONS

The recreational field is located in an area encompassed by the Rockville topographic quadrangle. A bedrock geologic map and report for that quadrangle have been prepared by J.M. Aitken and published by the Connecticut Geological and Natural History Survey (Quadrangle Report No. 6). Aitken describes the bedrock underlying the site as part of the Hebron Formation, which consists largely of medium- to fine-grained banded augen gneisses. These are crystalline rocks that show a distinct linear pattern in their mineral makeup: the minerals hornblende or biotite have become aligned under pressure to form thin bands. Quartz, oligoclase, and muscovite form light-colored bands, and the first two minerals also occur as "augen," or lenticular, enlarged crystals. None of the gneisses were observed in outcrop on the site, but several exposures of intrusive granitic rocks (pegmatites) were seen in the eastern section of the site (near the septic leaching field) and along the northern boundary. A steep slope with a jumble of numerous large boulders and possible outcrops is located immediately east of the leaching field clearing.

Bedrock is generally covered by till, a nonsorted, nonstratified glacial sediment. Till is composed of rock particles ranging in size from clay to boulders. These materials were scraped, broken, or otherwise removed from the preglacial soils and bedrock surfaces by an ice sheet as it expanded through southern New England. The sediment was later deposited directly from the ice without subsequent transport by meltwater streams. Till has a variable texture but it is commonly silty, stony, and compact.

SOILS

Soil series typical of this site include the Charlton series, the Paxton series, the Woodbridge series and the Leicester, Ridgebury and Whitman series. A large bedrock outcrop at the western side of the property is not shown on the accompanying soil map, but was located during the field review. Erosion hazards on all soil types are low to moderate.

The Charlton series consists of deep, well drained soils on uplands, they

formed in glacial till derived mainly from schist and gneiss. Typically these soils have a dark brown fine sandy loam surface layer 6 inches thick, the subsoil from 6 to 26 inches is yellowish-brown and light olive brown fine sandy loam. The substratum from 26 to 60 inches is grayish brown gravelly fine sandy loam. Slopes range from 0 to 45%.

The Paxton series consists of deep, well-drained soils that occupy drumlins or rounded hills of uplands. They formed in compact glacial till. Typically these soils have a very stony or extremely stony very dark grayish-brown fine sandy loam surface layer about 8 inches thick. The subsoil extending to 22 inches is yellowish-brown fine sandy loam in the upper part and light olive brown fine sandy loam in the lower part. The underlying pan layer to a depth of 41 inches is grayish-brown, platy, very firm fine sandy loam. Slopes range from 0 to 35%.

The Leicester series consists of deep, poorly and somewhat poorly-drained soils on uplands. They formed in glacial till. Typically, these soils in a wooded area have a black fine sandy loam surface layer 6 inches thick. The mottled subsoil from 6 to 23 inches is grayish-brown, light brownish-gray and pale brown fine sandy loam. The mottled substratum from 23 to 60 inches is dark yellowish-brown fine sandy loam. Slopes range from 0 to 8%.

The Ridgebury series consists of deep, poorly and somewhat poorly drained soils on uplands. They formed in glacial till. Typically these soils have a black sandy loam surface layer 6 inches thick. The mottled subsoil from 6 to 16 inches is olive gray sandy loam. The mottled substratum from 16 to 42 inches is a very firm fragipan that is light olive brown and olive sandy loam. Slopes range from 0 to 15%.

The Whitman series consists of deep, very poorly drained soils on uplands. They formed in glacial till. Typically, these soils have a black fine sandy loam surface layer 8 inches thick. The mottled subsoil from 8 to 15 inches is gray sandy loam. From 15 to 35 inches the mottled substratum is a very firm fragipan that is gray and olive gray sandy loam. From 35 to 60 inches the substratum is also a fragipan that is olive gray loamy sand. Slopes range from 0 to 8%.

Woodbridge series consists of deep, moderately well drained soils on uplands. They formed in glacial till. Typically these soils have a dark brown fine sandy loam surface layer 7 inches thick. The fine sandy loam subsoil from 7 to 18 inches is dark yellowish brown in the upper part and yellowish brown in the lower part. A layer of olive sandy loam is at 18 to 21 inches. The substratum from 21 to 26 inches is olive fine sandy loam. From 26 to 42 inches is a very firm fragipan that is olive gravelly fine sandy loam. Slopes range from 0 to 35%.

WATER RESOURCES

No permanent streams or ponds are found on the site. A gully follows an abandoned road along the northern boundary of the site. Excess groundwater from around the school's foundation is artificially channeled via a swale into the roadway-gully. A bed of large stones indicates that the gully seasonally carries moderate flows. Another seasonal streamcourse originates in the southeastern portion of the property.

The till and bedrock that comprise the geology of the site have only a limited

potential for water supplies. The school presently draws its water supply from a 400-foot-deep bedrock-based well, which has provided adequate quantities of groundwater. Drinking-water and sanitary facilities in the school would be used to accommodate expanded use of the recreational field; no additional facilities would be required.

WILDLIFE

No rare or endangered species or habitats of such were found during the field review. The site has a good mix of open fields, native grasses, legumes and forbs were present. Wooded areas have a fair to poor understory. Their value to wildlife is moderate. The scattered arrangement and irregular shapes of the fields provide high quality edge areas. Adjacent parcels which include wetlands, wooded areas and fields compliment the wildlife value of the site. Elements of habitat exist for indigenous bird, mammal, reptile and amphibian species. In the more highly developed area near the school building, the value of the site for wildlife use decreases.

VEGETATION

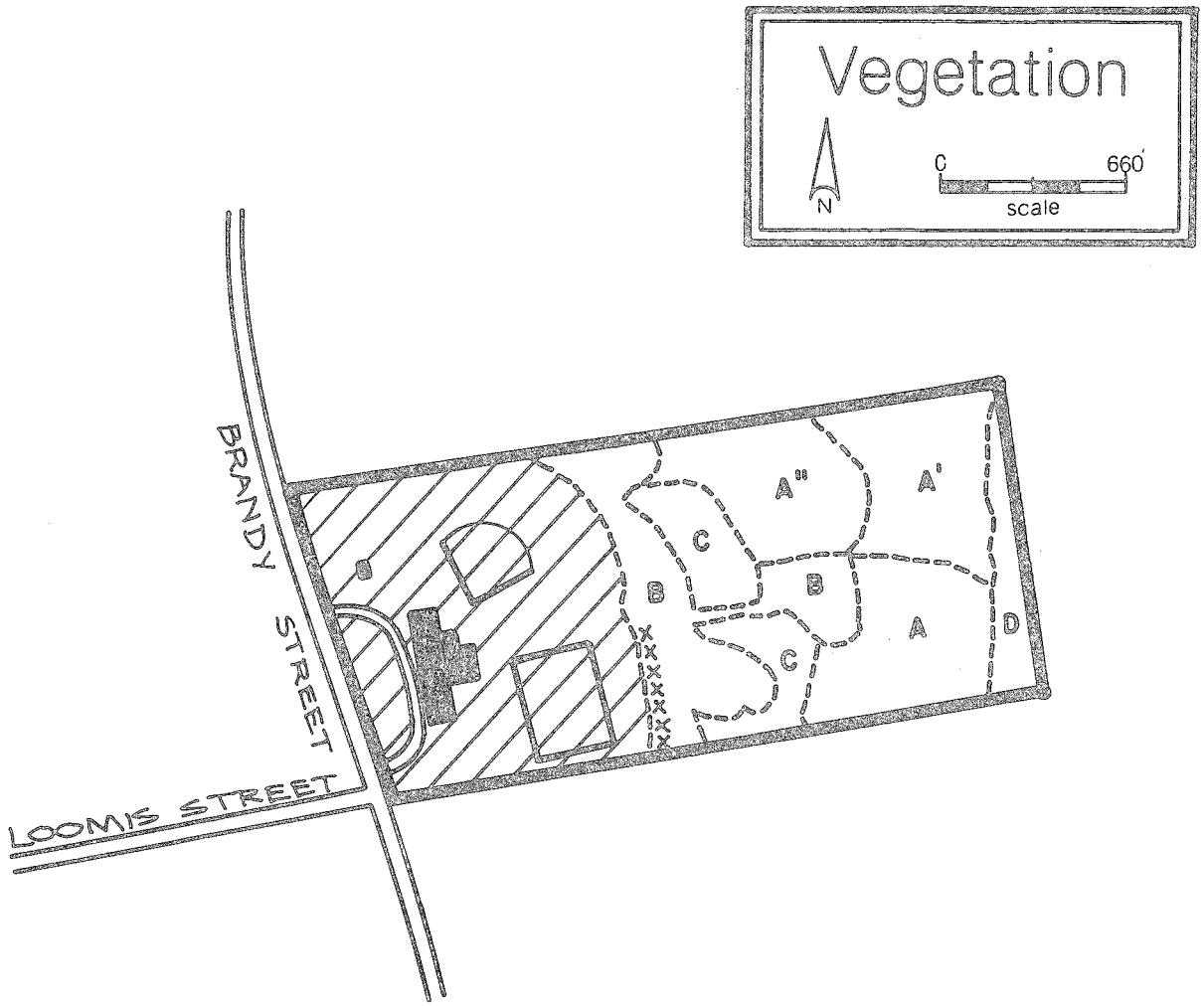
Typical vegetation types found on the site are described as follows:

Type A, A', and A". (Mixed Hardwoods.) This 19± acre fully-stocked stand is made up of high quality pole and occasional sawtimber-size red oak, black oak, white oak, shagbark hickory, mockernut hickory, pignut hockory, black birch and occasional sugar maple. These trees are beginning to become crowded and as a result their growth rates are slowing down. The understory and shrub layer present in this stand includes hardwood tree seedlings, witch-hazel, flowering dogwood, shadbush, arrowwood and maple-leaved viburnum. Grasses, clubmoss, Canada mayflower, huckleberry, Virginia creeper, poison ivy, wild sarsaparilla, bracken fern, Christmas fern and hayscented fern form the ground cover vegetation in this area. This area may be divided into three 6 1/3 acre stands for the purpose of woodlot management demonstration.

Type B. (Open Fields.) Open fields make up approximately 8± acres of this tract. Grasses dominate the vegetation in this area along with goldenrod, hawkweed, Queen Anne's lace, clover, black-eyed-Susan, ox-eye-daisy, purple vetch, pasture thistle and sensitive fern. The western edge of this area is bordered by a strip of sapling to pole size black cherry, red oak, gray birch, red maple, white ash, gray stemmed dogwood, multiflora rose, fox grape and poison ivy.

Type C. (Mixed Hardwoods.) Poor quality seedling to sapling-size red maple, black birch, big tooth aspen and occasional shagbark hickory and white oak are present in this 5± acre understocked stand. Gray birch, highbush blueberry, and old field juniper are also present. Poison ivy, Virginia creeper, wild sarsaparilla and goldenrod form the ground cover in the drier portions of this stand. Spice bush, skunk cabbage, wild geranium, jack-in-the-pulpit, rue anemone, cinnamon fern and sensitive fern are present in the wet portions of this stand. Scattered sawtimber-size den trees including white oak and red oak are also present in this area.

Type D. (Hardwood Swamp.) Pole size red maple with scattered white ash,



LEGEND

Road

Property Boundary

Vegetation Type Boundary

Stonewall Separating Field and School Zone

School Zone and Athletic Fields 25±acres

Building

VEGETATION TYPE DESCRIPTIONS*

TYPE A+A'+A".	Mixed hardwoods, 19±acres, fully stocked, pole with occasional sawtimber.
TYPE B.	Open fields, 8±acres.
TYPE C.	Mixed hardwoods, 5±acres, under-stocked, seedling to sapling-size.
TYPE D.	Hardwood swamp, 3±acres, variable-stocking, pole to sawtimber-size.

* Seedling-size = Trees less than 1 inch in diameter at 4 1/2 feet above the ground (d.b.h.)
Sapling-size = Trees 1 to 5 inches in d.b.h.
Pole-size = Trees 5 to 11 inches in d.b.h.
Sawtimber-size = Trees 11 inches and greater in d.b.h.

black birch, yellow birch and sugar maple are present in this 3± acre fully stocked stand. The understory is dominated by spice bush, and highbush blueberry with hawthorn present around the edges. Skunk cabbage, enchanter's nightshade, jack-in-the-pulpit, poison ivy, barberry, wild sarsaparilla, Christmas fern, cinnamon fern, hayscented fern, sensitive fern and silvery spleenwort form this stands' ground cover.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

QUANTIFIABLE LAND USE CHANGES

This project as proposed will cause no major land use change on-site or in the surrounding area. Land on the site is already being used for a soccer field and this same area will be improved for soccer if funding is available. The site will remain in recreational use, even though there may be more development in future years.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHANGES

This project will cause no appreciable change in socio-economic conditions within the town.

TRANSPORTATION ROUTES

This project will have no appreciable effect on transportation routes in the immediate vicinity of the site.

EFFECT ON WATER RESOURCES

Although the dewatering of the recreational field would theoretically lessen the amount of available groundwater, no practical adverse effects would be felt. As stated above, the groundwater resources of the site have only a moderate value, and the best available aquifer, the bedrock underlying the property, would not be affected as a water source by the planned drainage system.

EFFECT ON WILDLIFE

This project will have no substantial effect on existing wildlife species.

EFFECT ON VEGETATION

Reconstruction of the soccer field will have no negative impact on the vegetation in the area.

A nature of interpretive trail developed through the eastern half of this property will have little effect on vegetation. Some vegetation losses however

may come about through soil compaction, mechanical root injury, direct trampling and vandalism along the trails. These vegetation losses may reduce the aesthetic quality of the area and potentially cause accelerated erosion in the more steeply sloped sections. These disturbances may also accelerate mortality of low vigor, unhealthy trees. Dead and dying trees along trails may be hazardous to people using the area.

MITIGATING MEASURES

Careful planning and wise layout of potential nature trails is essential to minimize possible future problems. In general, trails should follow natural land contours, avoid steep slopes and wet areas. Where steep slopes and wet areas are unavoidable, wooden steps and bridges should be constructed. Trails should be clearly marked and well defined. This will limit extensive soil compaction, root injury and trampling of herbaceous vegetation outside the trail system.

Signs used to mark trails, points of interest and identify vegetation should be designed to withstand vandalism.

Soil compaction may be reduced by spreading woodchips several inches deep along heavily used trails. As woodchips rot, they lose their effectiveness and should be replaced. Crushed stone or cinders spread over these areas also reduce soil compaction and are more permanent than woodchips, however they are usually more costly.

Eventual loss of some trees caused by soil compaction, even with the addition of woodchips, crushed stone or cinders is unavoidable. As these trees die they should be removed to prevent a possible hazard.

It is extremely important that provisions for trail maintenance, trail use (hiking, cross-country skiing, etc.) and enforcement of trail use should be established before the trails are actually developed.

The development of a woodlot area to demonstrate proper woodlot management is feasible in Vegetation Type A. The trees in this mixed hardwood stand are beginning to decline in vigor, and should respond well to management. A thinning, demonstrating the "Crop Tree Selection Method" would reduce the competition between crop trees for space, sunlight, nutrients and water, resulting in a healthy high vigor stand over time.

This stand should be divided into three parcels of approximately 6 1/3 acres each. These parcels are designated as A, A' and A" on the vegetation type map. The "Crop Tree Selection Method" should be practiced on each of these parcels starting with parcel A. Three years after parcel A is completed, the thinning in parcel A' should be started, and after three more years, the thinning in parcel A" should be started. The three year intervals between thinnings will allow time for the negative aesthetic impact of these thinnings to all but disappear. Under this plan it will take approximately 9 years to complete one cycle of thinning, at which time the first parcel will be ready to receive another thinning.

Proper timing of this procedure will not only demonstrate the "Crop Tree Selection Method" of woodlot management, but also allow a progressive comparison of thinned and unthinned lots.

Control over the quality of these thinnings could best be accomplished by having one operator for an entire parcel, rather than many. Starting with the most difficult parcel will give the operator the incentive to do a quality job, so he might be able to harvest the easier, more accessible parcels in the future.

For the purposes of this demonstration thinning, 100 of the highest quality trees in each acre should be identified (trees spaced about 20'x20' will equal 100 trees per acre), and one, two or three trees that are in direct competition with each of those identified should be removed. The 100 trees per acre that are selected as crop trees should be healthy, large crowned, and show little or no signs of damage. Trees which are not competing with the 100 selected trees should not be removed, unless they are severely damaged or of very poor quality. Dead trees may be removed during this thinning, however their removal will not directly improve the condition of the residual trees in the stand. This thinning if implemented will provide between 4 and 6 cords of fuelwood per acre. Revenues from these thinnings could fund the development and maintenance of the proposed nature interpretation trails. A publically employed service forester should be contacted to help the town implement these thinnings.

IRREVERSIBLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

No unavoidable adverse effects on geological or water resources is foreseen. No irreversible or irretrievable commitments of such resources is involved.

RECREATION POTENTIAL

The study area includes two ballfields, one of which is to be upgraded into a more appropriate soccer field. The majority of the tract is woodland lying to the east of the school and with access only via the immediate school area.

The woodland is on an east-facing slope and would lend itself to passive recreational pursuits. Selective tree removal would enhance the options for recreation via the creation of tote roads which could become the core of a trail network. Selective tree removal would make for a more attractive and vigorous stand of trees and make possible a program of school studies to monitor the growth patterns of trees and the potential for wildlife habitat improvement. A control plot of similar features, would help in making a comparison and to substantiate whether, in fact, forest management is responsible for any alteration in growth patterns. A less accessible (to vehicles) portion of the tract could serve the control plot function.

Trail related activities such as birdwatching, jogging, nature studies, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing track, etc., could make use of trails produced. A nature study trail could be installed and maintained by the students. Layout of tote roads and trails should be with an eye toward minimizing erosion and maintenance potential by using the slightest gradients possible. The tract is sloped and has some wet areas, so that careful routing may forestall erosion and maintenance problems.

Some of the educational opportunities presented by a silvicultural operation might be:

1. To illustrate differential growth rates by species and location (wet, dry, shallow soils. etc.).

2. Species identification (flora).

3. Showing how site characteristics determines the prevalent flora and fauna found in that habitat and how site modification can alter that distribution.

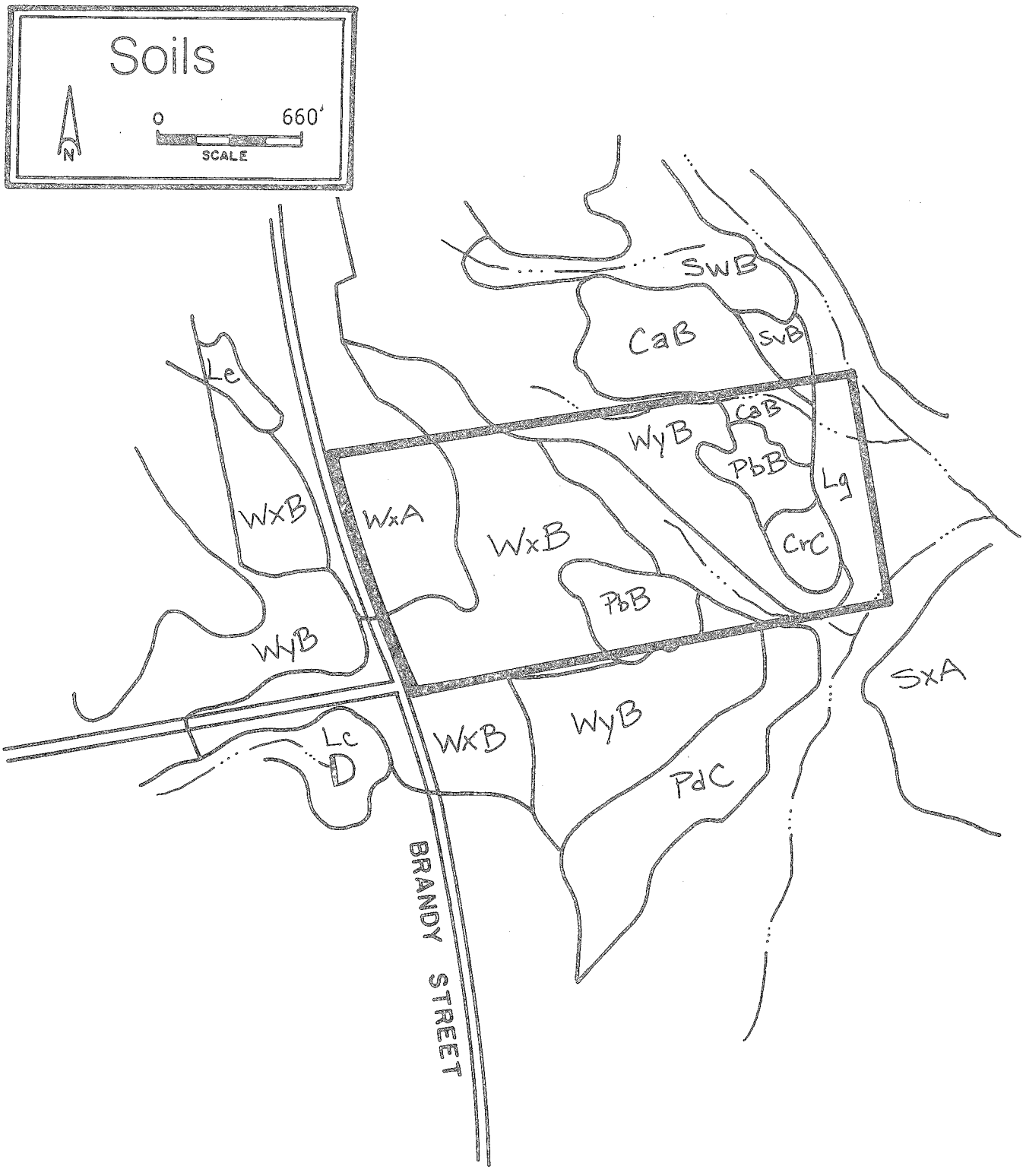
Students could collect data and make charts to illustrate growth curves comparing a control plot to a managed woodlot. Growth rates, tree shape and vigor differences can be assessed by the students through annually updated charts. Other characteristics such as fuel value and construction strength and workability of the various wood species can be illustrated through this program which could be tied into biology class work.

The ballfield lying on the southern end of the school property (and aligned north-south) appears to be suitable for establishment of the soccer field. In conjunction with the establishment of a soccer field, consideration should be given to installing a track around it. This could be used by future track teams and gym class students, as well as local residents for jogging. As previously mentioned, a network of tote roads and paths could be used as a component of a cross-country track course if such a track program is undertaken by the school. Any problems with water drainage which may be present in the existing ballfield should be corrected at the time a soccer field and perimeter track (if incorporated) are installed.

The hillside meadow immediately east of the present ballfields has a rather slight slope but may offer some limited potential for sledding, toboganning, and learning downhill skiing.

A vehicular access road tying Brandy Street to the east side (rear) of the tract should be so routed that minimal conflict and hazard will be posed to the students in the school area. Routing along the tract's northern boundary appears to be the most likely line of access for wood cutters.

Appendix


Soils
N
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660'
SCALE
SwB
CaB
SvB
Le
WyB
CaB
PbB
Lg
WxB
WxA
WxB
CrC
PbB
WyB
SxA
Lc
D
WxB
WyB
PdC
BRANDY STREET

SOILS

**CaB	Charlton fine sandy loam, 3-8% slope
CrC	Charlton very stony fine sandy loam, 3-15% slope
*Lg	Leicester-Ridgebury-Whitman very stony complex
**PbB	Paxton fine sandy loam, 3-8% slope
**WxA	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 0-3% slope
**WxB	Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 3-8% slope
WyB	Woodbridge stony fine sandy loam, 3-8% slope

* Inland Wetlands as defined by P.A. 155 as amended

** Prime Farmland Soil

LIMITATIONS

Symbol	Lawns-Landscaping	Playgrounds
CaB	Slight	Mod. - Small Stones, Slope
CrC	Mod. - Large Stones	Severe - Large Stones
Lg	Severe - Wetness	Severe - Wetness
PbB	Slight	Mod. - Wetness, Percs Slowly, Small Stones
WxA	Mod. - Wetness	Mod. - Percs Slowly, Wetness
WxB	Mod. - Wetness	Mod. - Percs Slowly, Slope, Wetness
WyB	Mod. - Large Stones, Wetness	Severe - Large Stones

SOIL INTERPRETATIONS FOR URBAN USES

The ratings of the soils for elements of community and recreational development uses consist of three degrees of "limitations:" slight or no limitations; moderate limitations; and severe limitations. In the interpretive scheme various physical properties are weighed before judging their relative severity of limitations.

The user is cautioned that the suitability ratings, degree of limitations and other interpretations are based on the typical soil in each mapping unit. At any given point the actual conditions may differ from the information presented here because of the inclusion of other soils which were impractical to map separately at the scale of mapping used. On-site investigations are suggested where the proposed soil use involves heavy loads, deep excavations, or high cost. Limitations, even though severe, do not always preclude the use of land for development. If economics permit greater expenditures for land development and the intended land use is consistent with the objectives of local or regional development, many soils and sites with difficult problems can be used.

Slight Limitations

Areas rated as slight have relatively few limitations in terms of soil suitability for a particular use. The degree of suitability is such that a minimum of time or cost would be needed to overcome relatively minor soil limitations.

Moderate Limitations

In areas rated moderate, it is relatively more difficult and more costly to correct the natural limitations of the soil for certain uses than for soils rated as having slight limitations.

Severe Limitations

Areas designated as having severe limitations would require more extensive and more costly measures than soils rated with moderate limitations in order to overcome natural soil limitations. The soil may have more than one limiting characteristic causing it to be rated severe.

About the Team

The Eastern Connecticut Environmental Review Team (ERT) is a group of professionals in environmental fields drawn together from a variety of federal, state, and regional agencies. Specialists on the Team include geologists, biologists, foresters, climatologists, soil scientists, landscape architects, archeologists, recreation specialists, engineers and planners. The ERT operates with state funding under the supervision of the Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area.

The Team is available as a public service at no cost to Connecticut towns.

PURPOSE OF THE TEAM

The Environmental Review Team is available to help towns and developers in the review of sites proposed for major land use activities. To date, the ERT has been involved in reviewing a wide range of projects including subdivisions, sanitary landfills, commercial and industrial developments, sand and gravel operations, elderly housing, recreation/open space projects, watershed studies and resource inventories.

Reviews are conducted in the interest of providing information and analysis that will assist towns and developers in environmentally sound decision-making. This is done through identifying the natural resource base of the project site and highlighting opportunities and limitations for the proposed land use.

REQUESTING A REVIEW

Environmental reviews may be requested by the chief elected officials of a municipality or the chairman of town commissions such as planning and zoning, conservation, inland wetlands, parks and recreation or economic development. Requests should be directed to the Chairman of your local Soil and Water Conservation District. This request letter should include a summary of the proposed project, a location map of the project site, written permission from the landowner allowing the Team to enter the property for purposes of review, and a statement identifying the specific areas of concern the Team should address. When this request is approved by the local Soil and Water Conservation District and the Eastern Connecticut RC&D Executive Council, the Team will undertake the review on a priority basis.

For additional information regarding the Environmental Review Team, please contact Jeanne Shelburn (889-2324), Environmental Review Team Coordinator, Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area, 139 Boswell Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut 06360.