

Environmental Review Team Report

Aspinall Property

Lebanon, Connecticut

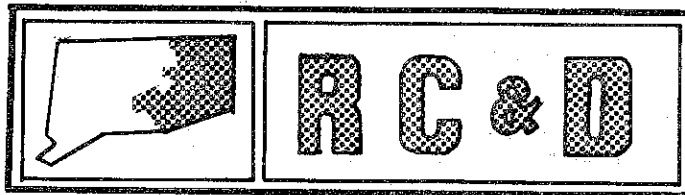


Environmental Review Team
Report

on

Aspinall Property
Lebanon, Connecticut

July 1980

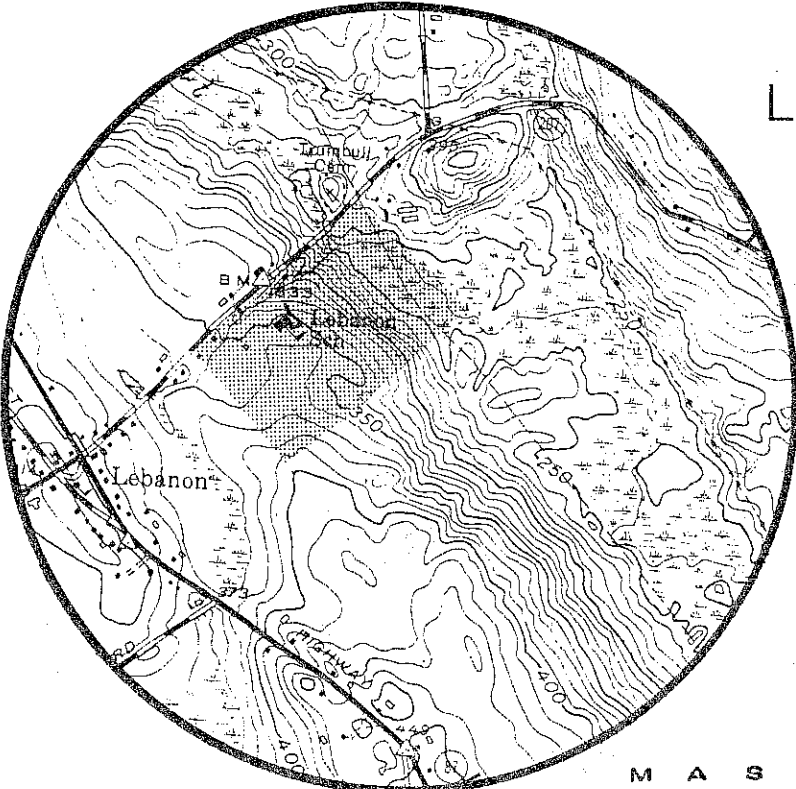


eastern connecticut resource conservation & development area

environmental review team
139 boswell avenue
norwich, connecticut 06360

Location of Study Site

ASPINALL PROPERTY
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TEAM REPORT
ON
ASPINALL PROPERTY
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT

This report is an outgrowth of a request from the Lebanon Conservation Commission to the New London 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.

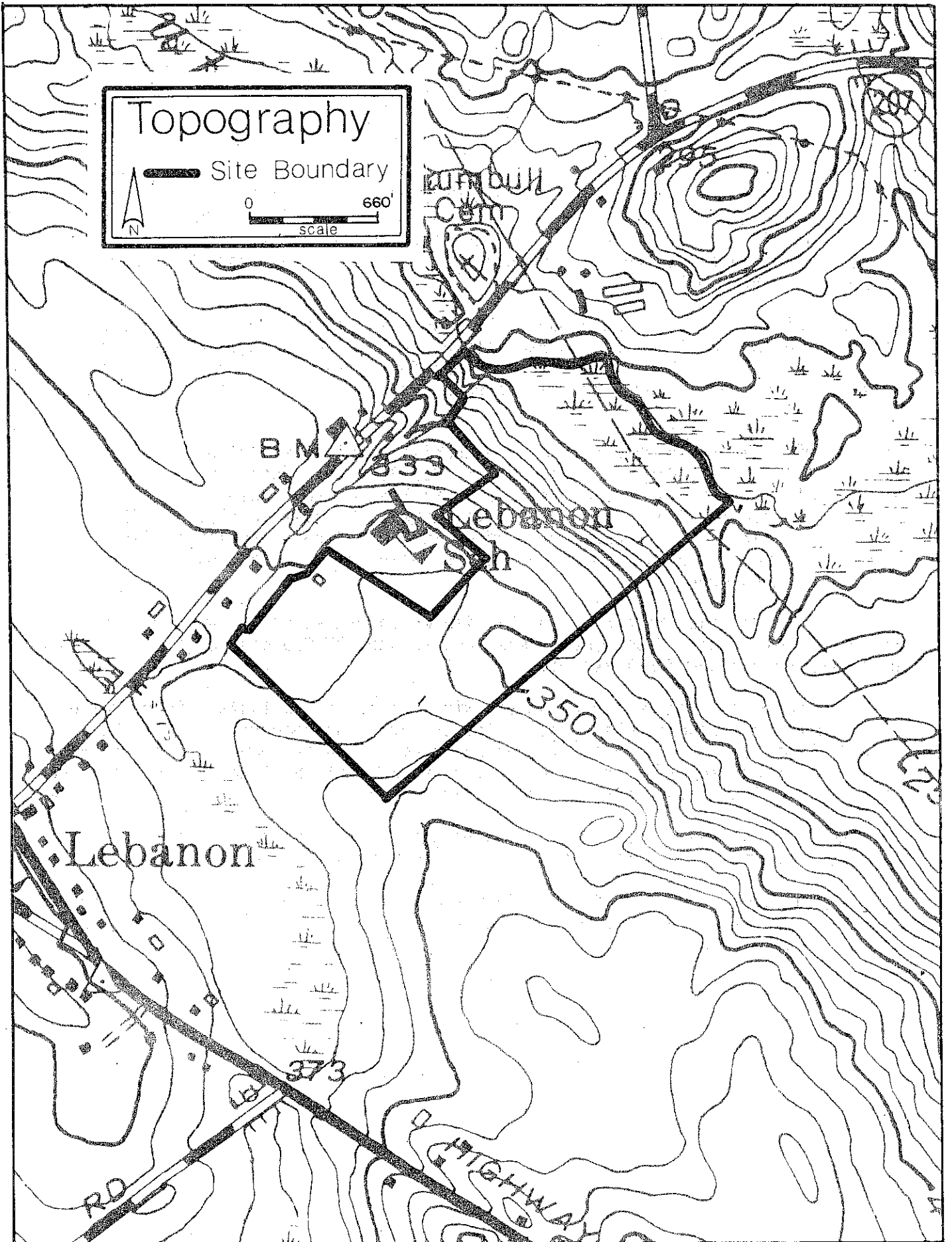
The ERT that field-checked the site consisted of the following personnel: Gary Domian, District Conservationist, SCS; Rob Rocks, Forester, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); Michael Zizka, Geologist, DEP; Andy Petracco, Recreation Specialist, DEP; Nels Barrett, Wildlife Ecologist, DEP; Frank Homiski, Sanitarian, State Department of Health; Les Barber, Regional Planner, Windham Regional Planning Agency; and Jeanne Shelburn, ERT Coordinator, Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area.

The Team met and field checked the site on Thursday, April 24, 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 Aspinall Property, 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 acquisition 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.



DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

The Lebanon Conservation Commission is seeking Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service funding for recreational development of a Town-owned 60± acre tract. The property is located on the east side of Route 207, directly behind the Lebanon Elementary School. The Town intends to develop the parcel for a variety of active and passive recreation pursuits for Town residents. These activities would range from playing fields to nature study trails. Development timetables would undoubtedly be dependent upon available funding.

The northwest portion of the property is extremely wet with water at or near the surface. The property rises gradually in elevation until it reaches its apex directly behind the school. From this point, the property slopes steeply downward in a easterly direction to a wetlands with a small pond and a brook along the eastern boundary.

Lebanon has no comprehensive public recreational park. There are field game facilities associated with the elementary and high schools and the Lion's Club maintains some ancillary facilities associated with its fairgrounds. This proposal would initiate development of such a comprehensive community park in anticipation of a growing need for such a facility in the years ahead. There are no other on-going recreational development efforts in the Town of Lebanon. Because of the park's location, the facilities will be readily available to the population at the adjacent elementary school.

Comprehensive planning efforts at the regional and local level have been conducted in the past. The Town Plan of Development, now more than 15 years old, recommends expansion of open space around the elementary school and protection of the adjacent Susquetonscut Brook streambelt. The recreation proposal would be consistent with the Plan of Development objective which is still valid today.

The Regional Plan, recently updated, and the State Plan of Conservation and Development recommend encouraging the Lebanon Green area as the civic focus for the community. This proposal would advance that objective clearly (the site is a quarter mile south of the Green) without endangering the historic ambience of the Green.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

PAST/PRESENT LAND USES

The site has been actively used agriculturally, for rough pasture on the northern end, and corn fields on the southern two-thirds. This use continues and seems to have been so used for an extensive period of time. The surrounding land uses are dominated by agricultural to the east and residential and school uses to the west along Route 207. As in most Connecticut towns, the trend is for the conversion of agricultural land to urban uses.

The applicable zoning is a typical Rural-Agricultural Residence District which requires two acre lots for residences and normally associated land uses (e.g., churches, schools, etc., farming is permitted without restriction).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Lebanon is a very large town geographically with only a modest population (56.1 square miles, 1980 population estimate 4,800 persons). Population density is therefore rather low. The facility is some distance from the limited concentrations of people found in the south and southwest of the town (it is possible to be six or eight miles from the center of town if you live in the south). New housing development is, however, occurring throughout the town so that in the future more people will be more conveniently located to the facility. The concentrations of population in the south and southwest are not sufficiently large to encourage a shift in the location of the park for that reason alone, and that concentration will become less significant as the town's population increases in a pattern of scattered, low density development.

Lebanon, like most of the adjacent towns, is an agricultural and commuting town. Agriculture plays a much larger role in the town's economy than is the case for most of the towns in eastern Connecticut, with dairy and poultry farming the predominant activities.

Commutation to Hartford and New London is the principal source of employment for a growing segment of the population, and if past trends are an indication, they will come to dominate in the future. There is no significant indigenous source of commercial or manufacturing employment and such employment is likely to be limited for some time into the future.

EXISTING TRANSPORTATION ROUTES

The site has direct access to a state numbered highway adequate to serve any anticipated demands likely to be placed on it by the recreation facility. The site is easily reached from all areas of the town by Routes 87 and 207.

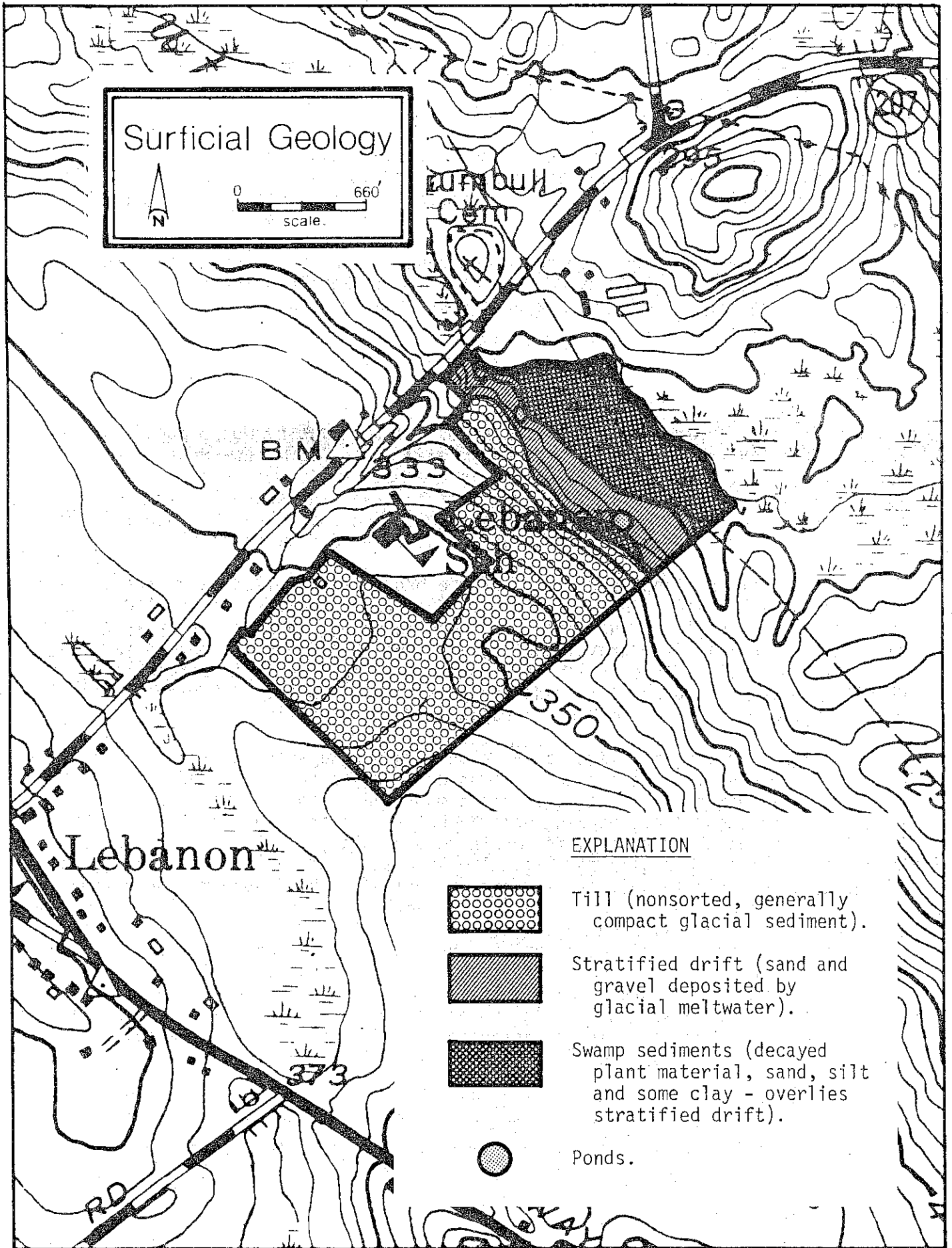
TOPOGRAPHY

The site is located on a hill that slopes to the northeast. The southwestern section of the property is largely flat. A moderate to steep slope exists in the central section, grading to a low, rolling plateau near the wetland. The wetland itself is a flat, swampy area bordering Susquetonscut Brook, which forms the north-eastern boundary of the site. Although the plateau is especially visually attractive, it does not represent an unusual topographic feature.

SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE GEOLOGIC CONDITIONS

The southwestern and central sections of the property consist largely of till. Till is a glacial deposit composed of rock particles and fragments that range in size from clay to boulders, and in shape from rounded to angular to flat. The till is typically compact and has a silty to fine-sandy texture. A somewhat less compact till may be present throughout the upper few feet of the deposit. The coarseness of the till and the roundness of the constituent rock particles probably increases from southwest to northeast (downhill). A well drilled at the school building penetrated 80 feet of till before reaching bedrock.

A low terrace-plateau near the site's major wetland is composed partly of sand



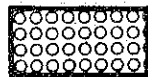
Surficial Geology

N

0 660
scale.

Lebanon

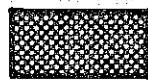
EXPLANATION



Till (nonsorted, generally compact glacial sediment).



Stratified drift (sand and gravel deposited by glacial meltwater).



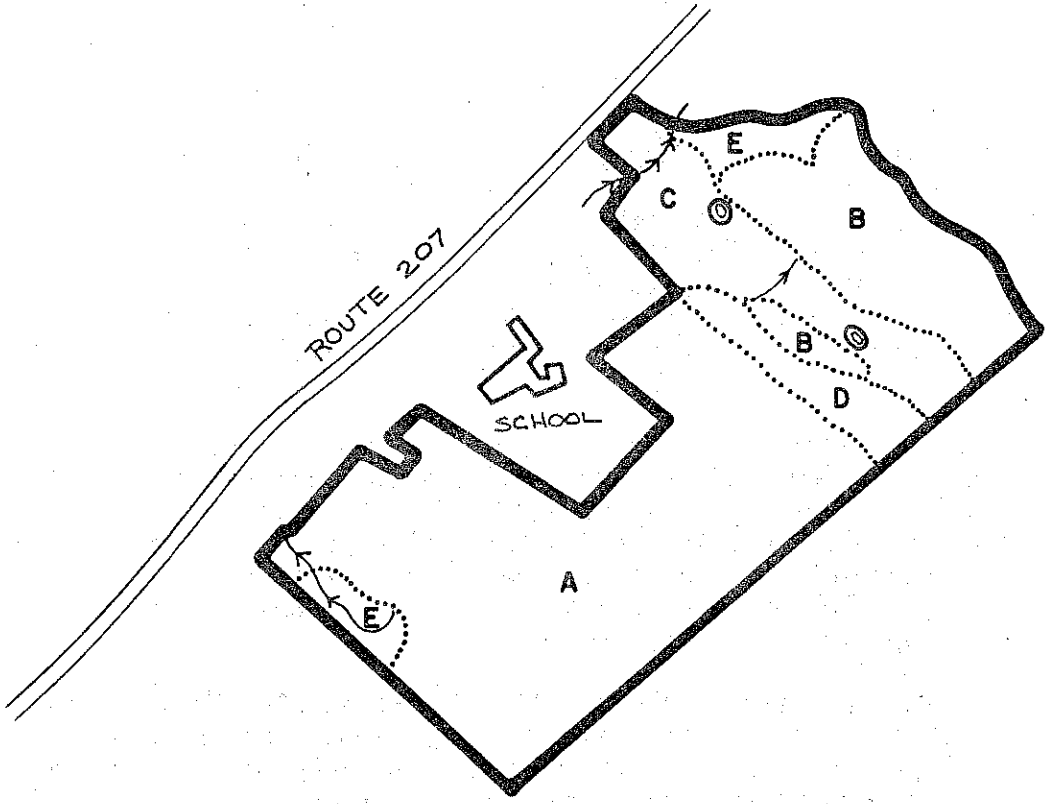
Swamp sediments (decayed plant material, sand, silt and some clay - overlies stratified drift).



Ponds.

Vegetation

0 660
scale



LEGEND

- Road
- Property Boundary
- Vegetation Types
- Streams
- Ponds

VEGETATION TYPE DESCRIPTIONS

- TYPE A. Agricultural Land, 33 acres, grasses.
- TYPE B. Hardwood Swamp, 10 acres, Fully-stocked, sapling-size.
- TYPE C. Old Field, 9 acres, old field shrubs.
- TYPE D. Old Field, 3 acres, Fully-stocked, sapling-size (Eastern Red Cedar).
- TYPE E. Open Swamp/Open Marsh, 2 acres, wetland shrubs.

4. Wet meadow.
5. Abandoned pasture thicket.
6. Grazing pasture.
7. Alder/maple swamp.
8. Hedgerow.

Based on habitat, wildlife can be divided into four groups: wilderness, late successional, midsuccessional, and early successional. Due to the agrarian history of the site and other recent antropic influences, the Aspinall Tract supports mostly early successional, and midsuccessional wildlife species.

Early successional species must depend upon grasses interspersed with invading forbs and shrubs. Field evidence suggests that the large annual seed production of upland weeds and herbs (areas of disturbed vegetation, grasslands, including the cultivated area) support many ground-feeding songbirds (sparrows, bobolink, eastern meadowlark) and bob white, an important game bird. Swallows also frequent these areas, flycatching early insect hatches. Passages under the grasses indicate the common meadow vole to be the principal small mammal. Although not seen, the red-tailed hawk would be the likely top carnivore.

Midsuccessional species occupy those areas created by land abandonment and grazing. During the field review, various songbirds, such as the catbird and warbler species, were present. Tracks and droppings of deer were observed as well as occasional light browsing. Existing, but incomplete, fencing most likely deters their appearance.

The adjacent alder swamp is the exclusive habitat of the alder flycatcher. The Susquetonscut Brook and adjacent wetlands provide an important water source for the habitat requirements of the wildlife of the area.

Raccoon tracks and scats were found throughout most of the Aspinall Tract. Raccoons most likely explore the stream margins looking for frogs. Although partial to open woodlands, raccoons frequent farms and seriously raid ripening corn. Second only to crows, raccoons can be considered a pest species within the cultivated areas. In the fall, production of oaks and hickories in the hedgerows provide the mainstay of the raccoons diet.

Three active woodchuck burrows were noted along the hedgerows during the field review. Strictly an herbivore, upland weeds and grasses form the basis of the woodchuck's diet.

The eastern chipmunk can be seen frequently associated with the stone walls located in much of the hedgerow. Using the stone walls as "highways," the chipmunks can also spot potential predators from this stone wall perch and seek immediate refuge in crevices between the stones.

A common omnivore of the area, the striped skunk, was not seen, but may likely visit the site feeding on horsetail berries and searching for amphibians, rodents, and insect larvae.

PROBABLE FUTURE ENVIRONMENT

If the project is not initiated, future land use considerations are to be made. Corn for silage may continue to be cultivated. Grasslands should be har-

WILDLIFE HABITAT COMMUNITY TYPES

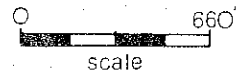
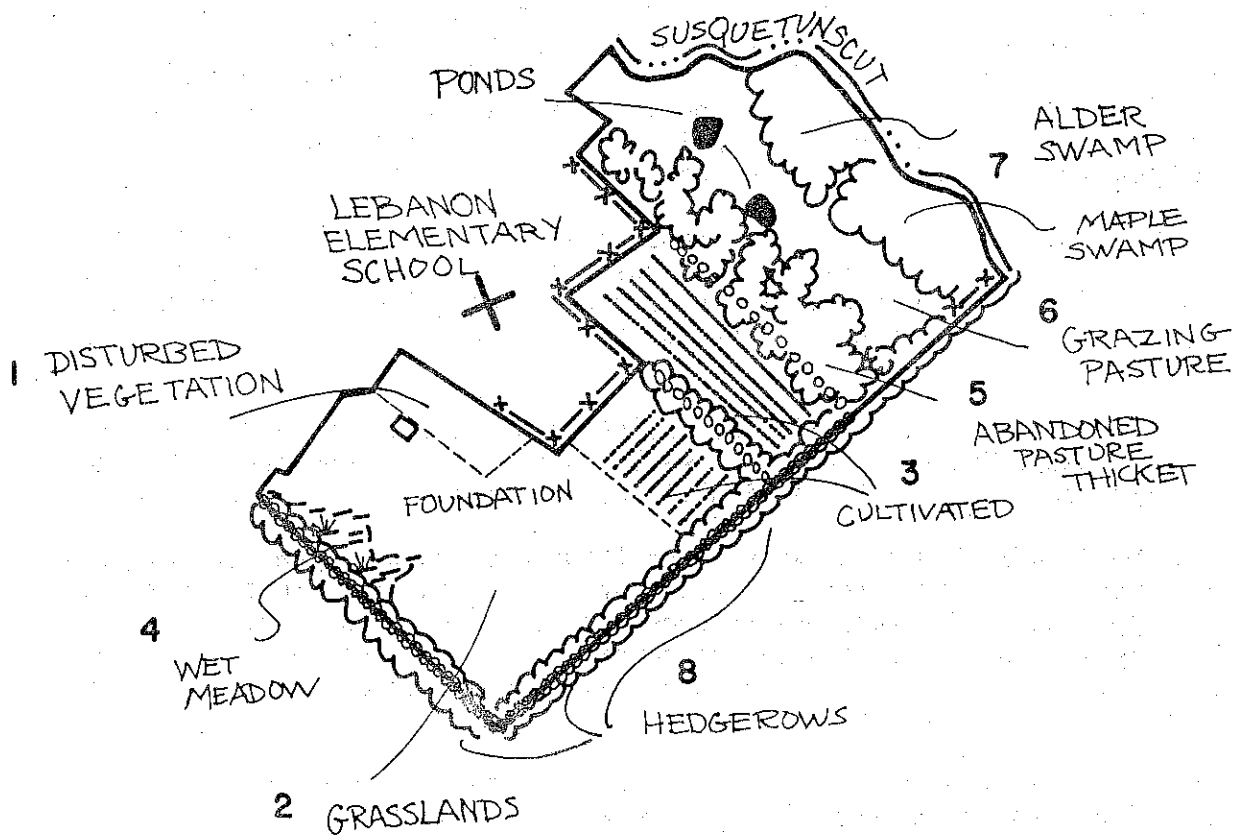


TABLE 1: VEGETATIVE COMPOSITION OF MAJOR COMMUNITIES AND AREA PERCENTAGES

1. Disturbed Vegetation - 4% of Total Area.

Ragweed, foxtail, orchard grass, horse nettle, love grass, thistle.

2. Grassland - 33% of Total Area.

Orchard grass, curled dock, wild carrot, boneset, milkweed, mint sp., goldenrod spp., aster spp.

3. Cultivated - 21% of Total Area.

No cover crop.

4. Wet Meadow - 4% of Total Area.

Composite sp., meadowsweet, sedge sp., deer tongue, blueflag iris, sensitive fern, multiflora rose, red maple, elm (saplings), red-osier dogwood, pussy willow.

5. Abandoned Pasture Thicket - 13% of Total Area.

Red cedar, pasture juniper, honeysuckle, sp., milkweed, raspberry sp., white ash, wild black cherry, black birch, Japanese barberry, little blue stem.

6. Grazing Pasture - 12% of Total Area.

Red cedar, pasture juniper, multiflora rose, milkweed, goldenrod spp., mullein, apple, sycamore (near flood plain), little blue stem.

7. Alder Swamp Maple Swamp - 10% of Total Area.

Common alder, red maple, Indian Poke, skunkcabbage, Tulip-tree, fern spp., Jack in the Pulpit, red trillium.

8. Hedgerows - 3% of Total Area.

Wild black cherry, mockernut hickory, bitternut hickory, red maple, white ash, common alder, red cedar, black oak, red osier dogwood, sassafras, grey birch, shagbark hickory, red oak, pasture juniper, smooth sumac, multiflora rose, elderberry, poison ivy, vibernum sp., meadowsweet, Japanese barberry, horse nettle, maleberry, elm, dogwood spp., highbush blueberry, thistle, catalpa, white oak.

vested annually to maintain their productivity. The grazing pasture should also be used. Further cutting of trees along the hedgerows should be ceased. A small revenue could be collected from these activities to compensate for the property being taken off the tax roles as open space. Such activities would not be detrimental to existing wildlife.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

The Lebanon Green has been nominated for designation as a National Register Historic District; a number of individual structures within the district have been individually designated. The site itself is not included within the district but lies about one-quarter mile southeast of the center of the District. Inappropriate uses could negatively impact the District because the site is located at one of the principal vehicular entrances to the Green area. All uses as currently proposed are compatible with the register district setting.

The most visible portion of the site from the public highway is now a handsome, park-like meadow/red cedar landscape apparently maintained through frequent grazing of cattle. Combined with the adjacent wetlands of the Susquetonscut Brook and undeveloped school property, this portion of the site provides a positive buffer and handsome setting for the Village district as it is approached from the north on Route 207. It also provides a valuable natural setting for the historic Trumbull Cemetery diagonally across the road.

EFFECT ON LAND USE

The effect on land uses in the neighborhood should be minimal, and generally favorable. The general character of the site will probably not change dramatically. The higher, flat portion of the site is now open corn field and when developed will remain open as play fields. Some landscaping and revegetation will most likely occur. Depending on the uses chosen the lower portions of the site may remain variably wooded or it may progress to a more forested state.

Development of the site for recreation should have no effects on the current uses of adjacent properties or any prospective use. The recreation area is not expected to stimulate any adjacent residential, or commercial development; it might, in fact, make it marginally more desirable to be resident near the facility. The proposed recreation development will provide a community facility for outdoor gatherings and community social functions. It will complement the indoor community center located on the Green a quarter mile away.

EFFECT ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

No persons will be displaced-the parcel is town-owned and was unoccupied when purchased; no subsidiary private enterprises will be stimulated and no impact on the town's tax structure will result except, of course, the continuing expense to maintain and operate the facility.

EFFECT ON TRANSPORTATION ROUTES

Access to the site will be along the present elementary school entrance which leads off of Route 207. The times of greatest use of the park will tend to be evenings and weekends when the school facility is not used; the traffic patterns of the two uses will tend to complement rather than conflict. No congestion will be caused on the adjacent highway and its carrying capacity will in no way be approached with the addition of the park-destined traffic.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Proper sanitary facilities are necessary features for the recreational area.

The installation of an on-site subsurface sewage disposal system would be needed with the use of conventional water flush toilets and hand washing fixtures. High ground water conditions would tend to impose a limitation on the area for subsurface sewage disposal purposes. Therefore, the system should be based on proper testing, good engineering design and proper construction with close supervision and inspection.

Soil mapping data and visual observations indicate that the most suitable area for the installation of a subsurface sewage disposal system may be directly behind the Lebanon Elementary School.

In remote and areas of limited use, subsurface sewage disposal could be supplemented with a type of non-water carriage sewage disposal.

SOLID WASTES

An adequate number of conveniently located refuse containers should be provided for the sanitary storage of refuse. This will help in the prevention and control of rodent and insect problems. Refuse should be collected on a regular basis with final disposition at an off-site sanitary landfill.

WATER SUPPLY

A water supply will be needed to supply the sanitary facilities and for use in conjunction with other activities such as drinking fountains at tennis courts, baseball and softball fields and in the picnic area.

The water supply can be developed by the installation of on-site drilled wells. It is necessary that any well site be located properly in order to be afforded protection from sewage or other types of pollution.

EFFECT ON WATER RESOURCES

Recreational development of the property would not be expected to have any significant adverse impacts on the local water resources. A high groundwater table in the flat southwestern section of the site may necessitate tile drainage or other control measures. Such drainage would not reduce the available quantity or quality

of groundwater. Engineering would be required for the placement of a new septic leaching field in the same area in order to avoid contaminating the groundwater and surface waters.

Erosion and subsequent sedimentation is a problem on the site at the present time, but this problem in itself does not threaten the quality of the two streams. While at least one sizable rut had been eroded in the cornfield in the steep central section of the property, most of the sediment was deposited at the down-slope edge of the field. Increased runoff from impermeable surfaces (e.g. tennis courts, additional parking facilities) is likely to cause more erosion unless mitigating measures (such as planting grass in the cornfield) are used. There is an adequate buffer to keep most sediment from reaching Susquetonscut Brook. There is not as much protection for the tributary stream, so concentrated drainage from any new facilities should be planned to avoid it.

EFFECT ON VEGETATION

The establishment of the proposed athletic fields should have little if any impact on surrounding vegetation. The areas proposed for development are at present open fields, therefore vegetative losses will be minimal. Areas that are disturbed as a result of grading should be revegetated with sod as soon as possible to reduce runoff and erosion.

The passive recreational activities proposed for the northeastern portion of this property will have a very limited impact on the vegetation. If trails for hiking are constructed some loss of vegetation cover may come about as a result of direct trampling, soil compaction, and also vandalism. These losses may be reduced by the construction of clearly marked, well defined trails; the use of wood chips or cinders spread on trails to reduce soil compaction; and also education of users through guided tours, signs and handouts.

The inland wetland soils present in the hardwood swamp (Stand Type B) and the open swamp (Stand Type E) are not suitable for any form of recreation, unless it is extremely light or unless boardwalks are constructed. If boardwalks are constructed to the edge or through these wet areas, a high quality nature study area would be possible.

Areas such as the old fields are suitable for other forms of recreation such as horseback riding and jogging trails, from a soils standpoint, however, the limited size of these areas causes such use to be impractical.

EFFECT ON WILDLIFE

If the project is initiated, the recreation area will occupy approximately 60% of the grasslands and 40% of the cultivated area. Such a project will eliminate those early successional species using that section of those sites. Present residents will be disturbed enough and will migrate into adjacent undisturbed remaining habitat or be forced to select a less desirable habitat.

A proposed nature trail, designed to circumvent much of the Aspinall Tract, and to loop into the abandoned pasture thicket and grazing pastures which contain two ponds, will have little effect upon flora or fauna.

EFFECT ON ENERGY CONSUMPTION/AIR QUALITY

There are no recreational facilities of the type being proposed in the general area, so energy consumption could be positively impacted by providing these facilities closer to the user's homes.

Concentrations of people and the vehicles they drive usually have a negative impact on air quality and noise levels. Traffic control and strategic placement of screen plantings on the site can help lessen these impacts.

MITIGATING MEASURES SUITED TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

More intensive site management will be necessary to minimize the potential negative impacts on the vegetation caused by increased human activity on the site. Routine fertilization, mowing, etc., to establish wear resistant turf must be planned upon. Reduction in tree vigor and/or mortality often occurs where high levels of human activity take place. The use of wood chips, prevention of willful destruction of trees, and strategic location of activities can help minimize negative impacts on the trees.

Erosion control becomes particularly important in wet and sloped areas such as are found in the east portion of the tract. Layout of facilities in this area should consider minimizing site degradation by overuse and erosion. Paved parking areas would increase water runoff and accentuate erosion potential.

RECREATION POTENTIAL

The Aspinall Property is being managed for dairy herd food production and contains hay fields, corn fields, reverting pastures, and swamp. The topography of the western half of the tract is relatively level and open and consists of hay and corn fields rimmed in part by stone walls. The eastern half of the tract contains a hillside corn field which slopes toward a reverting pasture. The easternmost part of the tract is comprised of swamp through which Susquetonscut Brook flows.

A hay field comprises the westernmost part of the property and is seasonally wet. A method of draining the field, possibly tied in with construction of a shallow pond at its lowest point might enhance the options for meeting the recreational activities sought. A shallow pond would provide a suitable ice skating area. The drained portion of the field could then be utilized for ball fields.

Establishment of playing courts and ball fields would logically be on the more level terrain. Locating a toilet building fairly close to the school property might provide greater ease of servicing, surveillance, and utility connection. A multi-purpose structure such as a combination senior citizens hall and toilet building may be economically more practical if there is a need for a senior citizens facility of this type. Parking area(s) should be situated as centrally as possible to provide easy access to the bulk of the high use facilities. The location of the facilities and toilet building will help determine where the parking

lot(s) should logically be located. Soil limitations will help determine where particular facilities might best be situated.

Using the soils and terrain as the primary determinants of the location of activities could give the following distribution of activities:

Western half. Establishment of playing fields for baseball, softball, soccer, and football. Establishment, too, of tennis courts and an ice skating area appear feasible. The wet area in the northwest corner would lend itself to ice skating with some site work. A few picnic tables could be located near the playing fields. Senior citizen activities, parking areas, and sanitary facilities should probably be located in close proximity to each other in the area near the school.

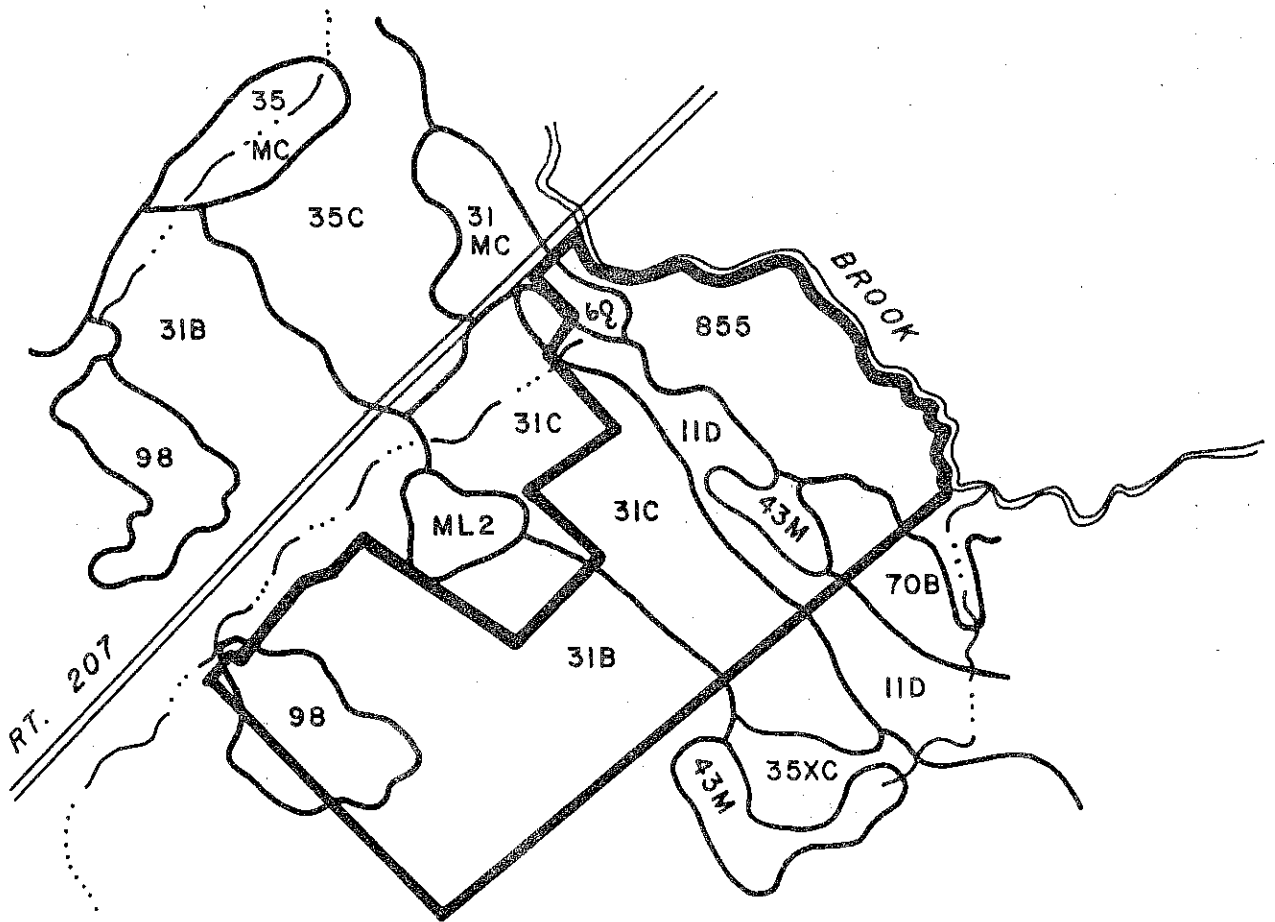
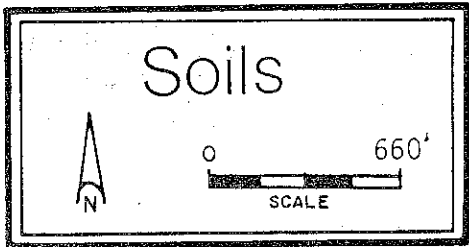
Eastern half. This portion could be used for horseback riding, toboggan runs, nature study, picnicking, and horseshoe toss. Fishing might be provided by Susquehuncut Brook on the property's eastern boundary. Providing parking space and an access road to parking areas from Route 207 must be considered, especially if picnic sites are located here.

Cross-country running and jogging trails could utilize the entire tract so long as their layout does not disrupt other facilities. Routing trails along the property boundaries could help maximize their length.

Regarding the two ponds on the tract, their potential for use appears limited. The southernmost pond may be prone to algal blooms because of fertilizer and/or manure runoff from the corn fields above. Their size is inadequate to provide suitable ice skating opportunities.

Appendix





ASPINALL PROPERTY
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT

PROPORTIONAL EXTENT OF SOILS AND THEIR LIMITATIONS FOR CERTAIN LAND USES

Soil Series	Soil Symbol	Approx. Acres	Percent of Acres	Principal Limiting Factor	Urban Use Limitations*				
					On-Site Sewage	Picnic Areas	Playing Fields	Paths and Trails	
Canton-Charlton	11D	5	9	Slope	3	2	3	1	
Hinckley	60C	2	3	Slope, to sandy, small stones	2	2	3	2	
Merrimac	70B	2	3	Slope	1	1	2	1	
**Ridgebury	98	4	7	Wetness	3	3	3	3	
**Ridgebury, Leicester Whitman	43M	2	3	Wetness, large stones	3	3	3	3	
**Rumney	855	13	23	Wetness, floods	3	3	3	3	
Woodbridge	31B	21	36	Slope, percs slowly	3	1	2	1	
Woodbridge	31C	9	16	Slope, percs slowly	3	2	3	1	

* Limitations: 1=slight, 2-moderate; 3=severe.

** Regulated Inland Wetland Soils Under P.A. 155.

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.