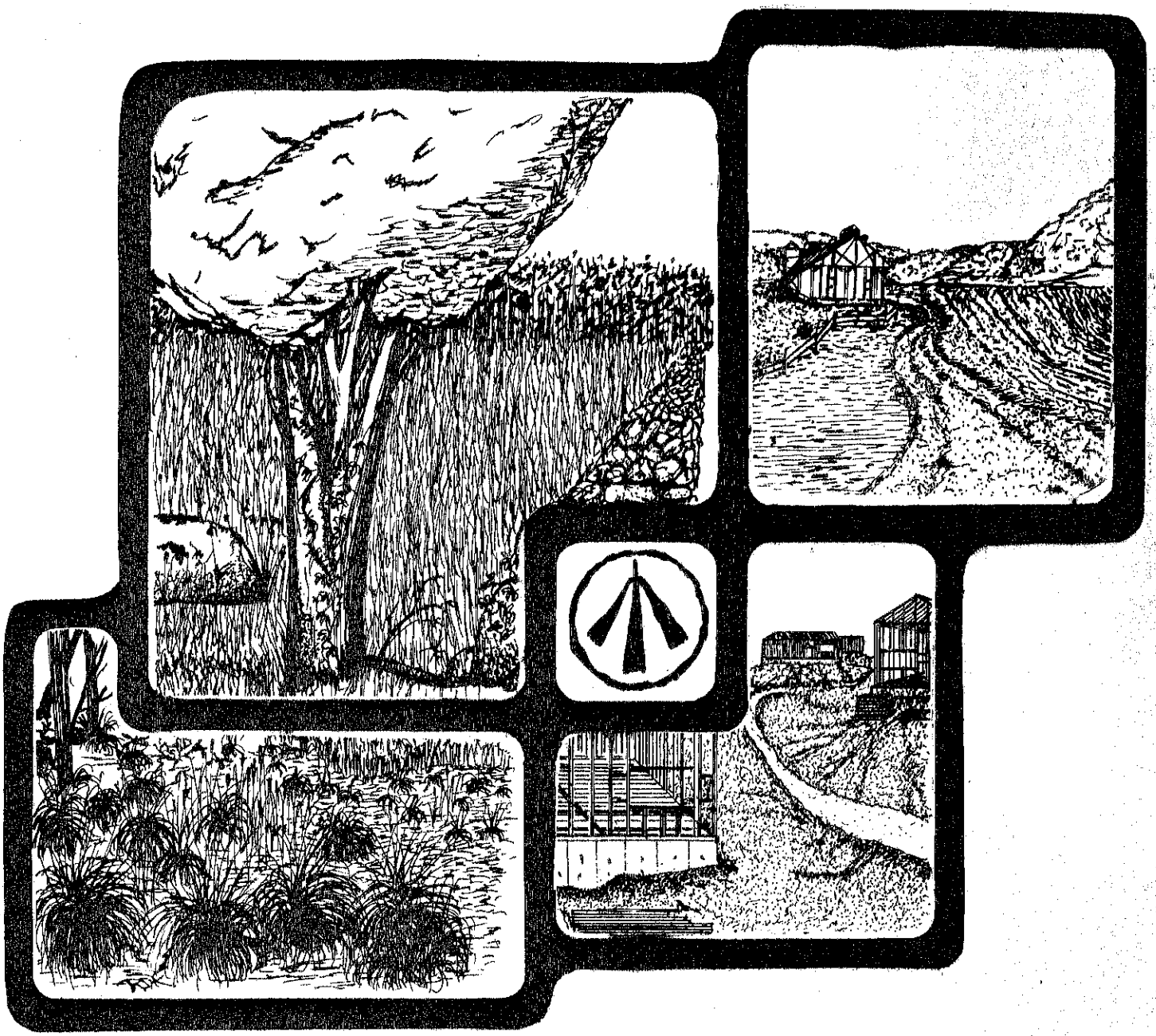
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TEAM REPORT



LEGION POOL
SEYMOUR, CONNECTICUT

KING'S MARK
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREA

KING'S MARK
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TEAM REPORT

On

LEGION POOL
SEYMOUR, CONNECTICUT

SEPTEMBER 1979

King's Mark Resource Conservation & Development Area

Environmental Review Team

P.O. Box 30

Warren, Connecticut 06754

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Town of Seymour is interested in purchasing a ± 2.5 acre parcel of land for recreational use. The subject parcel, known as Legion Pool, is located in the northeastern corner of town off Chatfield Street.

Bladens River transects the Legion Pool site. In the late 1920's, a cement dam and stone retaining wall were constructed on the site creating Legion Pool. The pool was used for public swimming until 1955, when water quality of the Pond was determined to be unsatisfactory for public bathing.

Much of the Legion Pool drainage area has now been sewered and the town is investigating the feasibility of acquiring the property from a private landowner to once again open the area for municipal swimming. The town of Seymour presently has no outdoor municipal swimming facilities.

The First Selectman from the Town of Seymour requested the assistance of the King's Mark Environmental Review Team to help the town in analyzing the suitability of the Legion Pool site for municipal swimming. The team was asked to comment on the water quality of the pool and the general suitability of the surrounding land for supporting a community swimming facility.

The ERT met and field reviewed the site on July 24, 1979. Team members for this review consisted of the following:

Pamela Hall.....Site Planner.....Valley Regional Planning Agency

Frank Indorf.....District Conservationist.....U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service

Robert Orciari.....Fishery Biologist.....State Dept. of Environmental Protection

Edward Rizzotto.....Recreation Specialist.....State Dept. of Environmental Protection

Richard Werner.....Sanitarian.....Valley Health Department

Michael Zizka.....Geohydrologist.....State Dept. of Environmental Protection

Prior to the review day, each team member was provided with a summary of the proposed project, a checklist of concerns to address, a detailed soil survey map, a soils limitation chart, a topographic map, and an existing land use map. Following the field review, individual reports were prepared by each team member and forwarded to the ERT Coordinator for compilation and editing into this final report.

This report presents the team's findings and recommendations. It is important to understand that the ERT is not in competition with private consultants, and hence does not perform design work or provide detailed solutions to development problems. Nor does the team recommend what ultimate action should be taken on a proposed project. The ERT concept provides for the presentation of natural resources information and preliminary development considerations--all conclusions and final decisions rest with the town. It is hoped the information contained in this report will assist the Town of Seymour in making environmentally sound decisions.

If any additional information is required, please contact Richard Lynn, (868-7342), Environmental Review Team Coordinator, King's Mark RC&D Area, P. O. Box 30, Warren, Connecticut 06754.

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II. SUMMARY

The ERT considered the following factors in evaluating the suitability of Legion Pool for public swimming: 1) the sanitary quality of the incoming water, 2) the amount of dilution water flowing through the pond, 3) the size of the beach and swimming area, and 4) access and needed support facilities. Legion Pool shaped up as follows with regard to these considerations:

- The sanitary quality of the incoming water ranged from fair to poor during two days of testing by the Valley Health Department. Based upon these test results, the overall quality of water at Legion Pool is considered marginal for the purposes of swimming. Additional water quality testing in the area would be advisable.

- The amount of dilution water flowing through the pond is an important consideration as swimmers themselves will introduce a considerable amount of contamination into the swimming area while swimming. The amount of dilution water flowing through Legion Pool is considered adequate for the anticipated user population of the Pool.

- Preliminary analysis of Legion Pool's physical characteristics indicates that a beach area of 100' x 100' could be created which would support about 134 persons at one time without overcrowding. The pool area could be excavated to a size of about 150' x 100' which would support about 75 persons at one time without overcrowding.

- Access to the parcel is good. Additional support facilities such as a parking lot and bathhouse will be necessary if the area is to be developed for municipal swimming.

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The marginal water quality test results are significant. If additional water quality testing confirms a pollution problem at Legion Pool, the area will be considered unsafe for public swimming by the State Health Department.

To develop the area for swimming purposes, it will be necessary to replace the present dam and excavate about 3,932 cubic yards of sediment from the Pool area (this would create a $\pm$ 1/2 acre pool area with a maximum depth of 8 feet). It is estimated that such pond dredging and dam reconstruction would cost in the neighborhood of $100,000 to $200,000.

Regardless of the feasibility of swimming at Legion Pool, acquisition of the parcel would make a nice addition to Chatfield Park. The Pool offers opportunities for fishing and ice skating and the parcel is aesthetically attractive.

III. THE SITE

The Legion Pool site is located about one mile northeast of downtown Seymour, off Chatfield Street. The topography and land use patterns surrounding the Legion Pool site are portrayed in Figure 1.

The subject property is comprised of approximately 2.5 acres and is privately owned. The land to the immediate north is Chatfield Park, a town-owned neighborhood park of about 5 acres. Elsewhere, the surrounding land is primarily a mixture of moderate density residential, 2-8 families per acre, and open space. An auto body shop is located across the street from the site.

Bladens River Tributary cuts through the site from the north, and Bladens River flows in from the southeast. Legion Pool is located at the confluence of these two rivers near the center of the site (see Figure 2).

Flat, cleared land within the parcel is limited to the portion of land accessible from Chatfield Street. Elsewhere, steep banks overgrown with vegetation slope up from the water and continue to the site boundaries. Concrete steps and a concrete platform remain from the days when the swimming hole was a popular gathering place (see Figure 2).

IV. SURFICIAL GEOLOGY

The surficial geology of the Naugatuck quadrangle, an area which includes Legion Pool, has been mapped and described in Quadrangle Report No. 35 of the Connecticut Geological and Natural History Survey, by R. F. Flint (1978). The pool itself and much of the surrounding area east of Chatfield Street is underlain by sand and gravel deposits, the product of glacial meltwater activity. Large excavations flank the pool to the east; cutting and filling has also occurred in the shore area of the site and in Chatfield Park to the north. Alluvial (recent stream) deposits of sand, gravel, and silt form a thin cover on the glacial deposits in a narrow band along Bladens River and its tributary.

V. SOILS

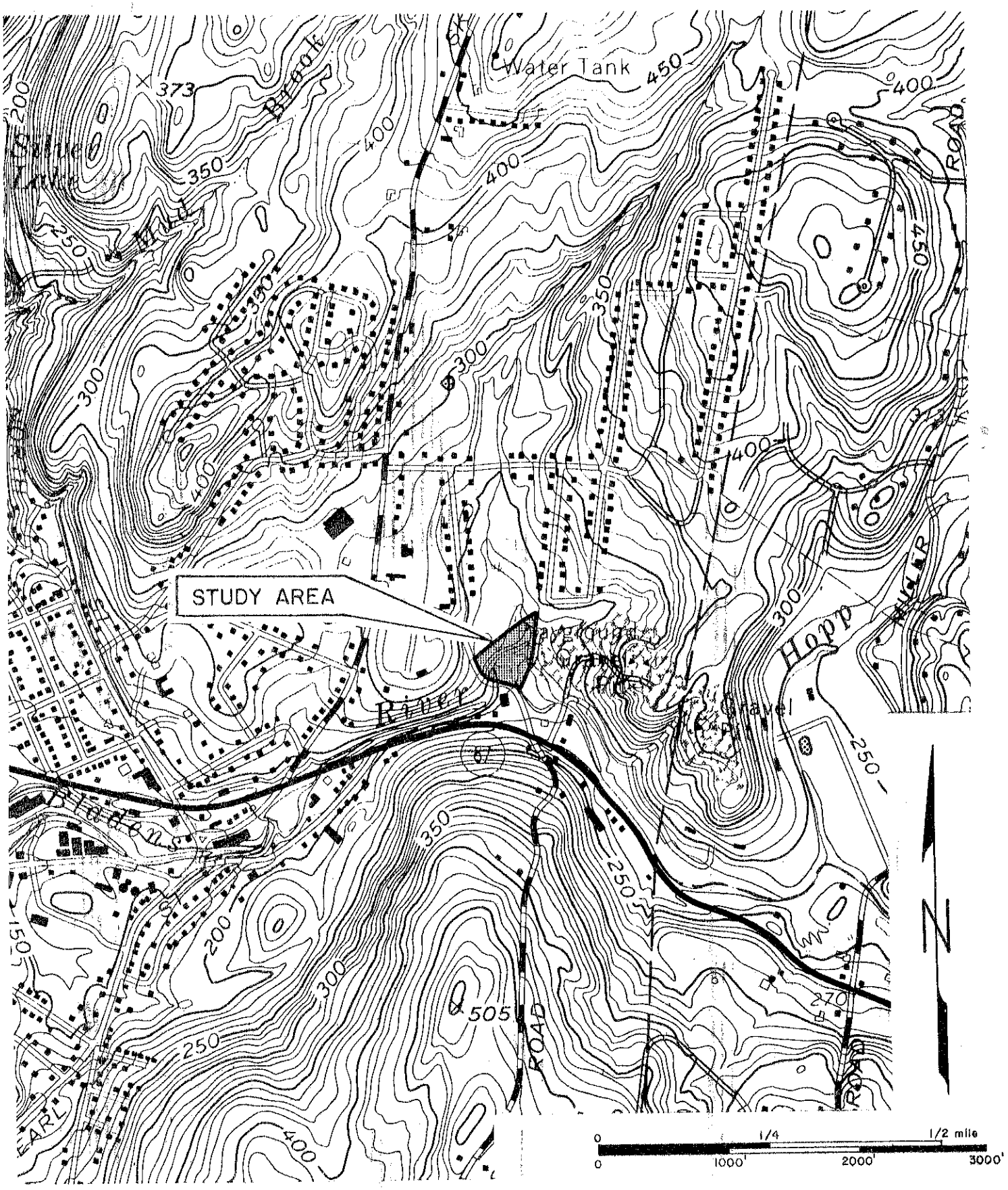
According to the New Haven County Soil Survey, two soil types are present at the Legion Pool site. Hinckley soils occupy the southern portion of the site, including the present beach area. The steep northern portion of the site is underlain by Charlton soils. The southern portion of Chatfield Park, which abuts the Legion Pool site on the north, is also underlain by Charlton soils. Presented below is a brief discussion of these two soil types and their general suitability for recreational development.

Hinckley Soils: These soils are well suited to recreational development. They are deep, excessively drained, coarse textured soils that developed in stratified sandy, gravelly and cobbly deposits. Surface textures range from gravelly sandy loam or fine sandy loam to gravelly loamy sand.

Permeability is rapid in the surface layer and subsoil and very rapid in the substratum. The soil has a low available water capacity. Runoff is medium. The soil has a low shrink swell potential. Unless the soil is limed, the reaction

FIGURE I.

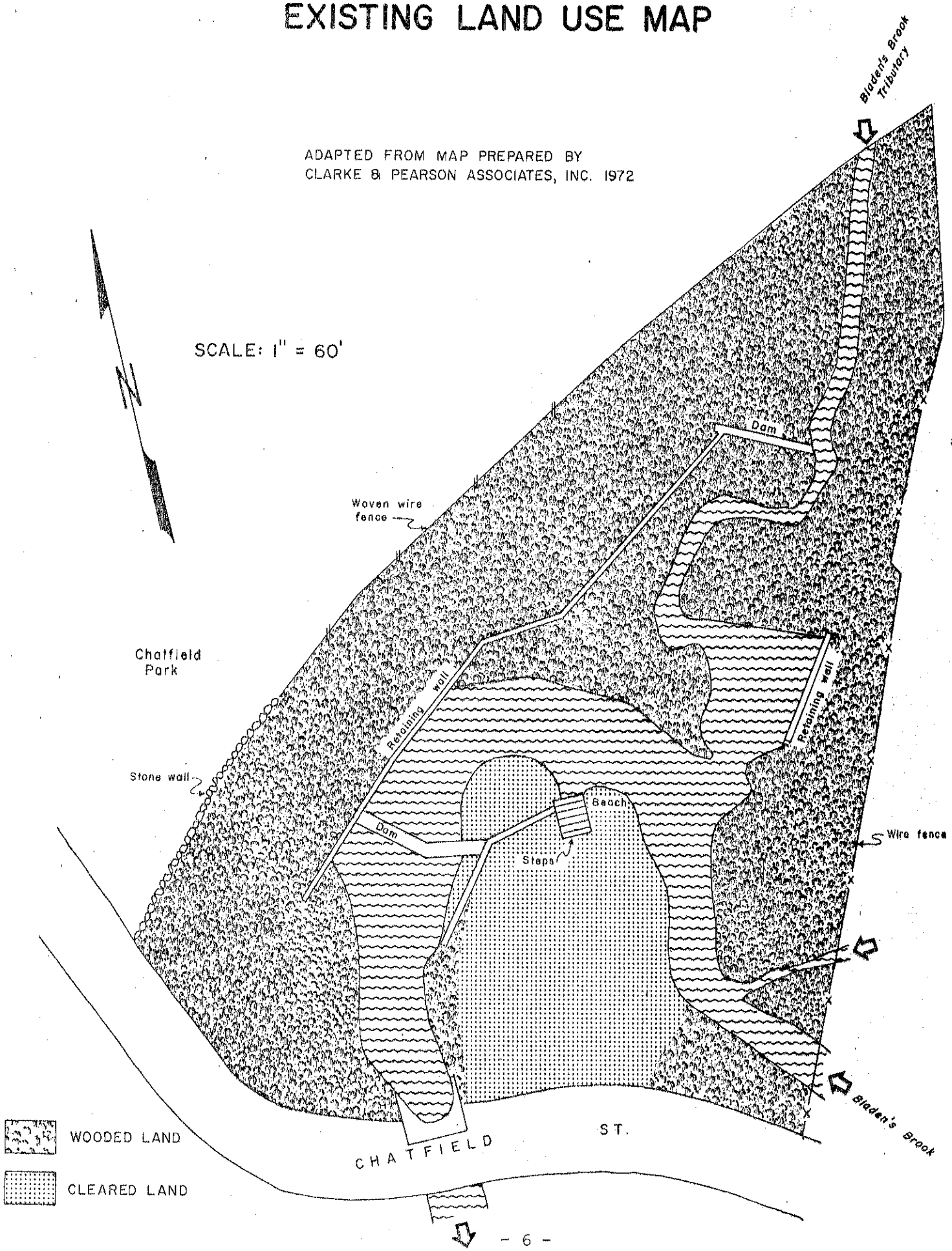
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP



SCALE: 1" = 1000'

FIGURE 2.

EXISTING LAND USE MAP



ranges from medium acid through very strongly acid. Although this soil is fairly well suited to growing trees, productivity is low because the soil is droughty. Also, seedling mortality is severe because the soil lacks sufficient moisture to sustain the seedlings. The droughtiness of this soil is a major concern in landscaping. Trees to favor in existing woodlots are Eastern White Pine, Northern Red Oak and Sugar Maple. Trees to plant in open areas are Eastern White Pine and European Larch. During periods of construction, simple conservation measures generally are adequate to prevent excessive runoff, erosion and siltation.

Charlton Soils: The Charlton soils are well drained upland soils which developed in very friable to firm glacial till. The surface and subsoil textures are friable to very friable fine sandy loam to a depth of 24 to 30 inches. The underlying till is sandy loam, fine sandy loam or the gravelly counterparts of these. Permeability is moderate or moderately rapid. This soil has a high available water capacity and runoff is rapid. It has a low shrink-swell potential. Unless limed, the soil is very strongly acid through medium acid. On this particular site, severe limitations are posed by steepness of slope. Intensive conservation measures are needed to prevent excessive runoff, erosion and siltation, if any construction should take place in this area. The Charlton soils are well suited to trees and productivity is moderate. Trees to favor in existing woodlots are Eastern White Pine, Northern Red Oak, and Red Maple. Trees to plant in open areas are Eastern White Pine, European Larch, White Spruce and Eastern Hemlock.

VI. POND IMPROVEMENT MEASURES

To enhance the Legion Pool site for swimming, it would be advisable to remove approximately 3,932 cubic yards of sediment which has accumulated in the Pool area. This figure was arrived at based upon creating a ± 1/2 acre pool area with a maximum depth of 8 feet. This type of excavation will require a drag line. During excavation the spoil material should be stock piled in order for it to have time to dry out before it is hauled off the site. The optimum time for construction is during the dry season, which is the months of July, August, and September. During the excavation, it is important that a minimum 3:1 side slope be made from the existing retaining wall. This will prevent any undermining of the wall. Hay bales should be staked across the stream's channel during the operation to prevent silt from travelling downstream. Upon completion of the operation, the side slopes along the edges of the pool should be approximately 3:1. This will prevent weed growth and also have the borders safe for children. The swimming area should have approximately a 4:1 slope.

The dam at Legion Pool is in ruins and will need to be replaced. Due to the physical characteristics of the site, a concrete dam is recommended. This dam should be designed to 50-year storm specifications, and should include a pipe so that the pond can be drained periodically to remove accumulated sediment. The amount of sediment depositing in the pool in future years will largely depend upon the type of activities occuring upstream. Due to the size of the watershed, an Army Corp of Engineer's Permit will be required to construct the dam. This permit is required under Section 404 of P.L. 92-500, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972.

It is estimated that the proposed pond dredging and reconstruction of the dam would cost in the neighborhood of $100,000 to $200,000. With implementation of this project it would be desirable to replace the present retaining walls at

the site and to regrade those portions of the steep slope areas where erosion is a problem. It would also be desirable to clean up the area surrounding the pond (brush clearing, hazardous tree limb removal, etc.).

VII. HYDROLOGY

Bladens River, flowing west, and Bladens River Tributary, flowing south, meet within the site to form Legion Pool. Downstream of the dam, Bladens River continues its westward course toward Naugatuck River. The watershed of Bladens River upstream from the dam is shown in Figure 3. The watershed consists of approximately 9.9 square miles (6320 acres). Of this area, approximately 1.3 square miles (820 acres) contains stratified drift deposits; that is, sand and gravel that was deposited by glacial meltwater.

Although Bladens River is ungaged, low flows in the stream may be estimated by techniques and data described in Connecticut Water Resources Bulletins 19 and 21. The method involves a consideration of the size of the watershed, the average rainfall in the area, and the percentage of the watershed that contains stratified drift. The last factor is important because stratified drift tends to release groundwater to surface streams at a more even rate than till does. Till, a nonsorted, nonstratified accumulation of rock debris that was deposited directly from glacier ice, covers most upland areas in Connecticut.

Table 1 lists the estimated 7-day low flows (flows that would not be exceeded for seven consecutive days) at Legion Pool dam for average recurrence intervals of 2 years, 10 years, and 31 years. These flows could be expected to be exceeded 95 percent, 99 percent, and 99.5 percent of the time, respectively. Figure 4 shows the two areas of Bladens River that were considered, for the purposes of this study, to be usable for swimming. Assuming an average water depth of 3 feet with a repaired dam, the smaller area would have a volume of approximately 25,060 cubic feet (187,420 gallons) while the larger area would have a volume of approximately 34,130 cubic feet (255,280 gallons).

Table 1. Estimated low flows at Bladens River Dam (Legion Pool outlet). Flows are given in gallons per day.

7-day, 2-year	7-day, 10-year	7-day, 31-year
852,489 gpd	431,640 gpd	345,312 gpd

The size of a pond and the amount of water entering a pond during periods of low flow are important considerations in evaluating the suitability of a pond for use as a bathing area.

Experience has shown that the bathers themselves will introduce a considerable amount of contamination into the bathing area during bathing activity. In order to prevent a build-up of bacteria in the bathing waters, it is found desirable that there be approximately 1,000 gallons of dilution water flowing through the bathing area for each person using it during the course of the day. The amount of dilution water necessary is based on the average number of bathers, and peaks up to twice the number may be accommodated without producing a significant bacterial deterioration, providing the peak usage does not exceed two

FIGURE 3.

WATERSHED OF LEGION POOL

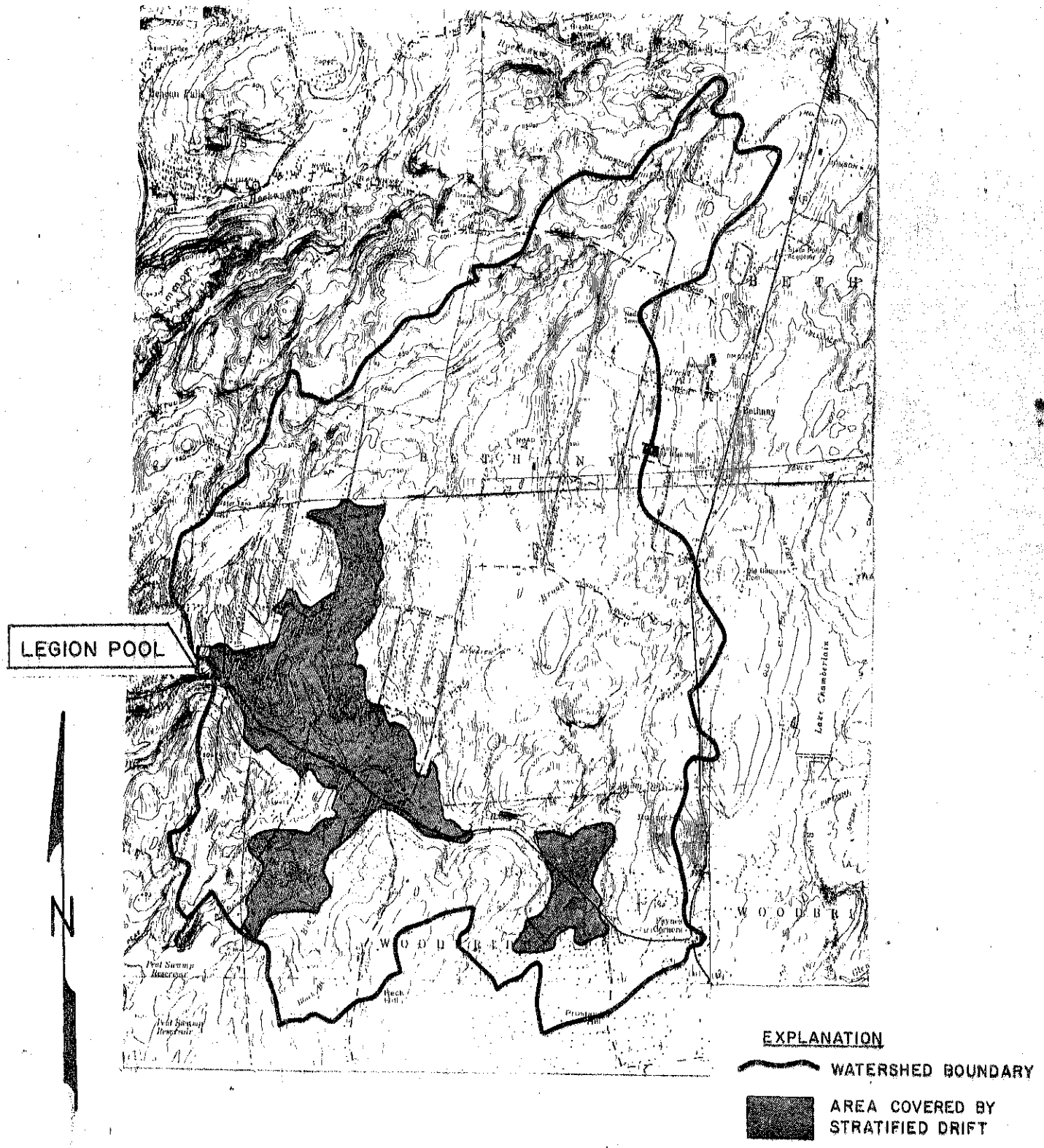
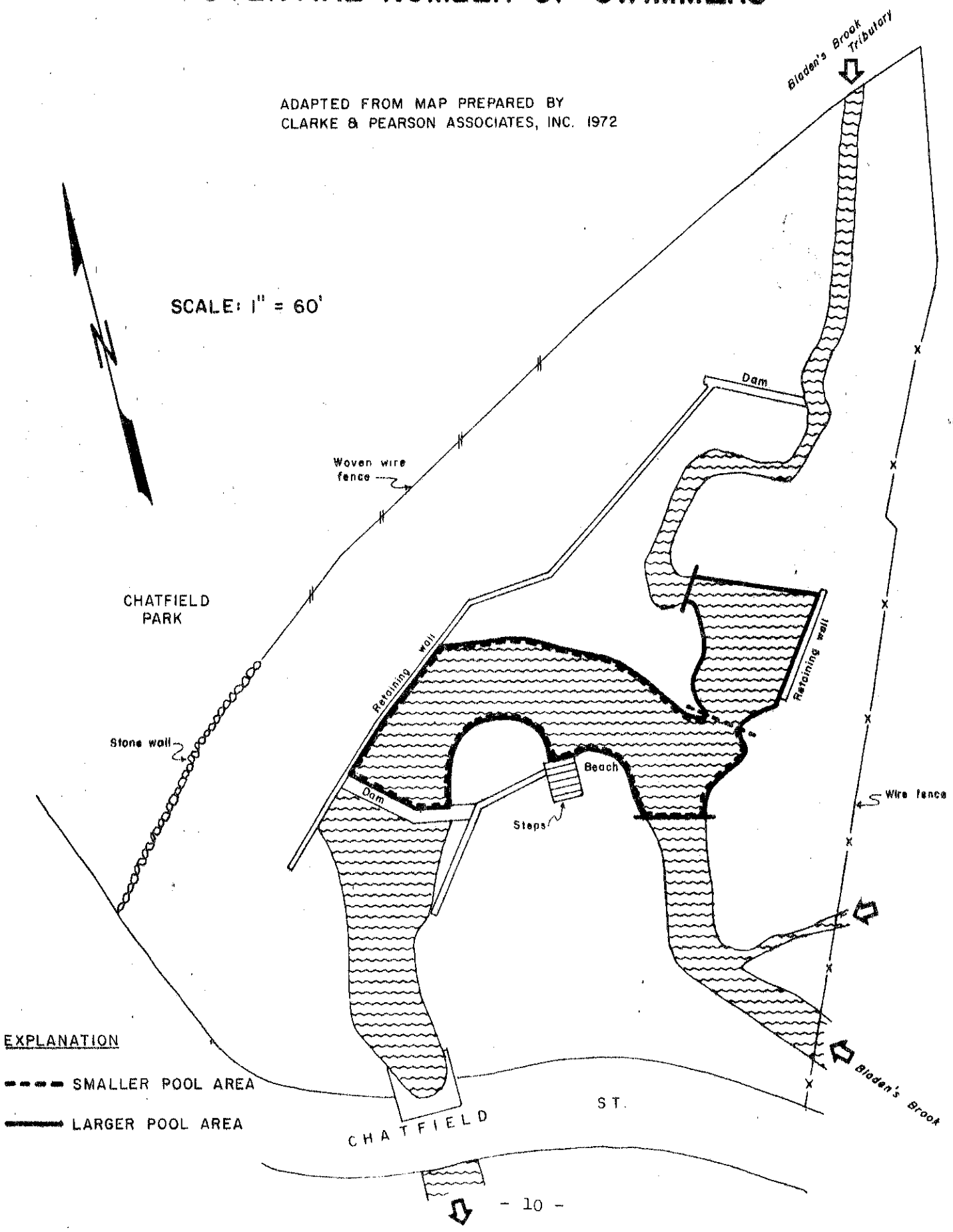


FIGURE 4.

POOL AREAS USED FOR CALCULATING POTENTIAL NUMBER OF SWIMMERS



or three days. It is evident that the amount of dilution water flowing through the bathing area will vary considerably during the course of the season. The critical consideration, therefore, would be the minimum amount of dilution water available during a normally dry period.

The Connecticut Department of Health Services uses the formula N=(V/180) + F)/1000 to estimate the number of swimmers that can be accommodated in a stream-fed pond. In this formula, N is the number of swimmers per day, V is the volume of the pond in gallons, and F is the streamflow in gallons per day. Table 2 shows the number of swimmers that would be able to use Legion Pool for the stream flows and pool volumes estimated above, assuming inflowing water is of good quality (see Water Quality section of this report). It is noteworthy that pool volume alone is a negligible factor with regard to number of swimmers possible at this site. Doubling the average depth of the pool to 6 feet would allow only 1 extra swimmer; hence, dredging would be necessary only if the present depth physically obstructed swimmers or if a higher-grade pool were desired.

Table 2. Estimated number of swimmers that could use Legion Pool based on Connecticut Department of Health Services formula. (Note: estimates assume inflowing water is of good quality - see Water Quality portion of this report).

	Larger pool area	Smaller pool area
7-day, 2-year low flow	854	854
7-day, 10-year low flow	433	433
7-day, 31-year low flow	346	347

VIII. WATER QUALITY

Based upon recent water quality testing by the Valley Health Department, the overall quality of the water at Legion Pool is considered marginal for the purposes of swimming.

Samples of water were taken upstream from the proposed swimming site in Bladens River, Bladens River tributary, and near the corporate limits of Seymour in Bladens River. Samples were also taken of the spring at the swimming site and at a point below the swimming area where Bladens River flows under Chatfield Road. Results of the samples are presented on the following page.

Date of test	Location	TEST RESULTS Coliform (MF)	Coliform (MPN)	Fecal Coliform (MPN)
7/24	Bladens River Tributary	1200	11,000	1100
7/24	Bladens River (just upstream of pool)	250	460	43
7/24	Bladens River (at Chatfield Road)	180	460	240
7/24	Spring pipe near dam	less than 10	less than 3	less than 3
8/14	Bladens River Tributary	1100	--	430
8/14	Bladens River Tributary	1200	--	430
8/14	Bladens River Tributary	800	--	930

MF = membrane filter coliform count per 100 ml of sample
MPN = most probable number per 100 ml of sample

Interpretation of Laboratory Results:

Coliform organisms are normally present in all surface waters. However, the presence of any significant amount of such bacteria is taken to indicate the presence of sewage and the possibility of sewage-borne disease organisms. The coliform content of any surface water will characteristically fluctuate depending on such factors as size of water body, water flow over spillway, number of bathers, rainfall, watershed survey, population concentration, sewage discharge, commercial and industrial development, farms and farm animals. Therefore, the average coliform content of a number of water samples collected from several locations in the area is considerably more significant than the results of individual samples in evaluating the sanitary quality of any bathing water.

The following interpretation is recommended as to suitability for bathing purposes:

Average Coliform Content Per 100 ml (MF)	Sanitary Quality for Bathing Purposes
0 - 200	Good
201 - 1,000	Fair - Final evaluation should be based on sanitary survey information.
Greater than 1,000	Poor - Public bathing area should be closed if results are confirmed by additional sampling and a sanitary survey.

It should be noted that a membrane filter (MF) count of 1,000 per 100 ml corresponds to an MPN value of 2300 per 100 ml, which is generally considered to be the maximum allowable coliform MPN for acceptable bathing waters.

It is clear upon comparing water quality test results with sanitary standards that on the two sampling days, Bladens River had fair sanitary quality while Bladens River tributary had fair to poor sanitary quality for bathing purposes. Coliform counts on Bladens River tributary are generally in excess of that which is considered acceptable for bathing.

Although a river survey was conducted on Bladens River tributary, no cause for the excessive coliform count was found. The marginal results may be due to non-point sources of pollution located in Seymour and Woodbridge.

As mentioned above, ponds are subject to short term deterioration of water quality. In light of this, it would be advisable to undertake a more comprehensive water quality survey in the watershed and pool area. If additional water quality testing in the Pool area indicates that coliform counts of 1000 per 100 ml or less can be attained, the Pool will be considered acceptable for bathing purposes according to State Department of Health criteria. If however, the results confirm a pollution problem, the area will be judged unsafe for bathing purposes. The Valley Health Department and State Department of Health Services are available to provide additional advice and assistance on this issue.

IX. FISHERIES

Legion Pool is presently a short length of deep water on the lower portion of Bladens River. The Pool is a running water habitat that would be inhabited by such stream species of fish as white suckers, blacknose dace, fallfish, tessellated darters and redfin pickerel. Bladens River is considered a good trout stream and being part of the River, the Pool is stocked with yearling brown trout or brook trout during the spring, by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. Legion Pool is a very popular fishing area on Bladens River, especially for youngsters, during the early trout fishing season.

Re-constructing Legion Pool into a swimming area could alter its characteristics from a stream habitat to a pond habitat. Thus, the Pool may become more suited to sunfish and largemouth bass. These species would provide only limited fishing opportunities, considering the small area involved. However, the stocking of yearling trout on an annual put-and-take basis would likely continue after construction is completed. Although species composition and abundance may change, re-construction of the swimming area should not alter the value of Legion Pool as a recreational fisheries resource. Town ownership of the 2.5 acre site would also insure public access in the future. Finally, re-construction of the swimming area should have little impact upon Bladens River, as long as adequate precautions are carried out during necessary silt removal operations.

X. PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The area surrounding the Legion Pool site is served by city water lines and sanitary sewers, which increases the likelihood of development in the area. Also, the entire northeast corner of Seymour is zoned for townhouses and much of the watershed area in the neighboring towns of Bethany and Woodbridge is undeveloped.

Consequently, the potential for large-scale development upstream is great, as is the potential for soil erosion and petroleum runoff (from additional blacktop surfaces). Thus, the possibility of polluting Bladens River (and Legion Pool) with these substances is a conceivable outcome with future development in the watershed.

The Town of Seymour presently owns approximately 320 acres of open space. Based on National Recreation Association data, as a general guide, twenty (20) acres of recreational open space is recommended per 1,000 population, distributed among small neighborhood recreation areas, major athletic fields, community parks and regional State parks. Using Seymour's projected population for 1980 (± 16,500) 320 acres is sufficient. However, as the Open Space Regional Plan of 1971 for the Valley stresses, the geographic locations and the types of open space (i.e. numerous small playgrounds, but few community parks) indicate deficiencies in the public recreational facilities. As indicated in the Open Space Plan, "there is an apparent undersupply of swimming and other water-based recreational opportunities" in all the Valley towns. Seymour presently has no outdoor municipal swimming facility and limited use of the High School pool.

The Open Space Regional Plan offers specific recommendations for enlarging or creating particular types of open spaces in each of the Valley towns. One of the proposals for Seymour is the expansion of Chatfield Park by about 10 additional acres, and the creation of swimming in this area, too. Also proposed in the Open Space Plan is fishing in Bladens River/Hopp Brook. While the acquisition of the Legion Pool site would expand Chatfield Park by only 2.5 acres (if the two sites were linked), it would provide the Town of Seymour with additional water based recreational opportunities.

The State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan of 1978 (SCORP) recognizes a major statewide deficiency of swimming opportunity, but their recommended actions to correct these shortcomings (on both the State and local level) is the acquisition and/or expansion of freshwater ponds and lakes and saltwater beaches. The State specifically excludes semi-artificial impoundment or bypass pools as viable swimming facilities and has excluded them from all future plans for Statewide swimming facilities. The State realizes their use in State parks and in small inland communities lacking large water bodies, but believe their shortcomings outweigh their benefits. The liabilities suggested are: lack of control of water quality, a steadily degrading water quality on urbanizing watersheds due to increased pollution and turbidity, an undependable supply of water to permit needed flushing, and weed and turbidity problems.

While the population of Seymour is presently about 14,300 it is not expected that a swimming facility at Legion Pool would service this many people. The useage will be limited, due to both the location and size of the site. If boundaries are set for projected users of the swimming hole, they would probably be the Seymour town lines to the north and east, the Naugatuck River to the west, and Moss Avenue and Peat Swamp Road to the south. A demographic profile reveals a population of about 5,180 in this area (or a little more than 1/3 of Seymour's population), with about 35% of this population under 18 years of age, probably the age group that would most utilize the pool. It is important to realize that the majority of new population growth in Seymour is taking place in the southwestern portion of the town. It is therefore unlikely that residents from this section of town would utilize a swimming hole at the Legion Pond/Chatfield Park site.

Access to the Legion Pond site is primarily from Chatfield Street, a local road which intersects with Route 67. Roadway capacity appears adequate for current and anticipated growth in this area.

XI. GENERAL RECREATION CONSIDERATIONS

Bathing Area and Beach Size

The restricted area available for swimming and sun bathing at the Legion Pool site represents a significant limiting factor for town-wide recreational use of the parcel.

Based upon recreational planning standards, 1/3 of the attendees at a swimming facility may be expected to be in the water at any one time. Each bather requires about 200 square feet of effective swimming area to avoid overcrowding. (effective swimming area is that area from shore to perhaps 8' deep) In calculating suitable beach area, one must provide for the "other 2/3" attendees at 75 square feet each (preferably 1.5' beach footage per sunbather, 50' back from shore).

Preliminary analysis of the Legion Pool's physical characteristics indicates that a beach area of 100' x 100' could be created (supporting 134 persons at one time) and a pool area of about 150' x 100' could be created (supporting about 75 persons at one time). The present pool area, at about 30' x 120', could support only about 18 swimmers without overcrowding.

Facilities

Assuming a design user load of 433 persons per day (the number of swimmers that could use Legion Pool during a 7-day, 10 year period of low flow), the following facilities would be desirable.

. A Bathhouse with 4 showerheads (cold), and a small area for changing (note: changing space may not be needed if pool is used only locally). The Bathhouse should also provide sanitary facilities in the form of either flush toilets (4 male and 4 female units suggested) or vault type toilets. A drinking fountain would be another desirable amenity.

. A Parking Lot will also be needed if Legion Pool is developed as a swimming facility. While it is hoped that many park users will walk or bicycle to the area, car traffic is bound to increase on neighborhood streets. Presently, parking for Chatfield Park is located off Legion Road, but the lot is small and inadequate for increased patronage at the park or swimming hole. Additionally, it is located in a residential area. A limited amount of additional parking could be located on Chatfield Street (presently posted for no parking). It is suggested that parking not be permitted on the present cleared area of the Legion Pool site, as this is the only flat, sandy area of the site and should be reserved for use as a beach.

One area which could be considered for both bathhouse and parking facilities is the land abutting the Legion Pool site at Chatfield Town Park. This land is flat and could service the activities at both the Park and Legion Pool. If a parking lot is created in this area, it will be necessary to improve sight line distances along Chatfield Street looking south from the parking lot's access point.

Recreation Alternatives

Regardless of the feasibility of swimming at Legion Pool, acquisition of the parcel would make a nice addition to Chatfield Park. Although the area is too small to lend itself to much dry land development, the Pond and feeder streams offer an attractive aesthetic backdrop and area for nature study. During summer months, the area could be used for fishing, and during the winter months, for ice skating.

* * * * *

ABOUT THE TEAM

The King's Mark Environmental Review Team (ERT) is a group of environmental professionals drawn together from a variety of federal, state, and regional agencies. Specialists on the team include geologists, biologists, foresters, climatologists, soil scientists, landscape architects, recreation specialists, engineers, and planners. The ERT operates with state funding under the aegis of the King's Mark Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area - a 47 town area in western Connecticut.

As a public service activity, the team is available to serve towns and developers within the King's Mark Area --- free of charge.

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 the review of a wide range of significant activities including subdivisions, sanitary landfills, commercial and industrical developments, and recreation/open space projects.

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 official of a municipality or the chairman of an administration agency such as planning and zoning, conservation, or inland wetlands. Requests for reviews should be directed to the Chairman of your local Soil and Water Conservation District. This request letter must include a summary of the proposed project, a location map of the project site, written permission from the landowner/developer 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 King's Mark RC&D Executive Committee, the team will undertake the review. At present, the ERT can undertake two reviews per month.

For additional information regarding the Environmental Review Team, please contact your local Soil Conservation District Office or Richard Lynn (868-7342), Environmental Review Team Coordinator, King's Mark RC&D Area, P.O. Box 30, Warren, Connecticut 06754.