

## Jarrett Prairie Nature Preserve

## Ogle County

### Location and Access:

This nature preserve is a part of the larger Byron Forest Preserve District Prairie Preserve located south of Byron just across the Rock River on IL Rt. 72, then west 0.5 mile on River Road to the forest preserve main entrance. Parking, trail access and trail maps are available at the Jarrett Prairie Center at the top of the hill.

The ridges and swales of the nature preserve are defined by the shallow underlying dolomite. Dry prairie is present on the thin soils of the ridges and upper slopes. Lower slopes and swales are characterized by more moist soils. The nature preserve also includes two sites where large bur oaks with spreading branches suggest a more savanna-like community.

### Description:

The Byron Forest Preserve District "Prairie Preserve" is a large complex of dry dolomite and dry-mesic dolomite prairie remnants. Much of the prairie preserve is currently undergoing restoration. The best quality prairie, including those areas that are habitat for endangered and rare species, and the best of the restored prairie all together make up an important core area that has been dedicated as the Jarrett Prairie Nature Preserve.

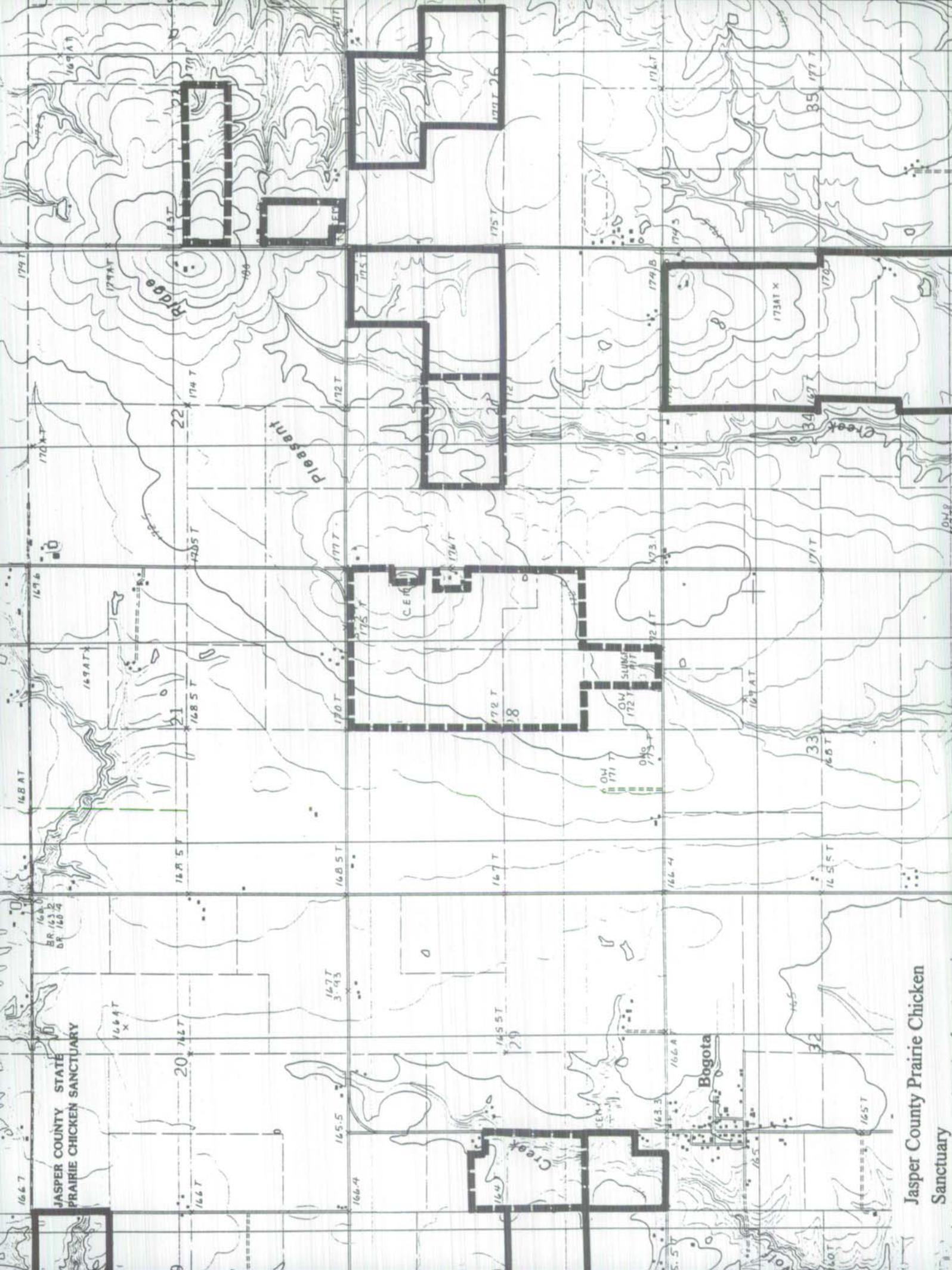
**Ownership:** Byron Forest Preserve District

**Dedicated:** December 1992

**Size:** 115.8 acres nature preserve with 25.2 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Oregon 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Byron Forest Preserve District, 7993 River Road, Byron, IL 61010 (815/234-8535)



JASPER COUNTY STATE  
PRAIRIE CHICKEN SANCTUARY

Jasper County Prairie Chicken  
Sanctuary



## Jasper County Prairie Chicken Sanctuary Nature Preserve

### Jasper County

#### Location and Access:

From Newton at jct. Hwys. 33 & 130, take Hwy. 33 west 2.5 miles to blacktop road, then turn and go south 4 miles. The nature preserve is in several tracts in the vicinity.

Special Note: Entrance to this preserve is by permission only to minimize disturbance to the prairie chicken population.

#### Description:

This nature preserve is an example of an area dedicated primarily to maintain a population of an endangered animal. In Illinois, efforts to save the greater prairie chicken began in 1959 with the organization of the Prairie Chicken Foundation of Illinois. This group, along with The Nature Conservancy, and the Department of Natural Resources purchased several blocks of property to protect the prairie chicken population. Today, two sanctuary systems, one in Jasper County and one in Marion County, are maintained as grassland habitat for prairie chickens. Fewer than 100 prairie chickens remain in Illinois. One problem that threatens the existence of the prairie chicken is the introduced ring-necked pheasant, native to Asia. The pheasant

parasitizes the prairie chicken nest with its own eggs, which then hatch earlier than the chicken's. The confused prairie chicken hen leaves her nest with the young pheasants, unaware that her parasitized nest will not produce any young prairie chickens to repopulate the sanctuary. Due to this disastrous situation, intensive management practices are vital for the continued existence of the prairie chicken in Illinois. Several other rare or endangered species of grassland birds occur at the prairie chicken sanctuaries including Henslow's sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, dickcissel, upland sandpiper, short-eared owl and northern harrier. Northern crayfish frogs can be heard calling in the preserve in early spring.

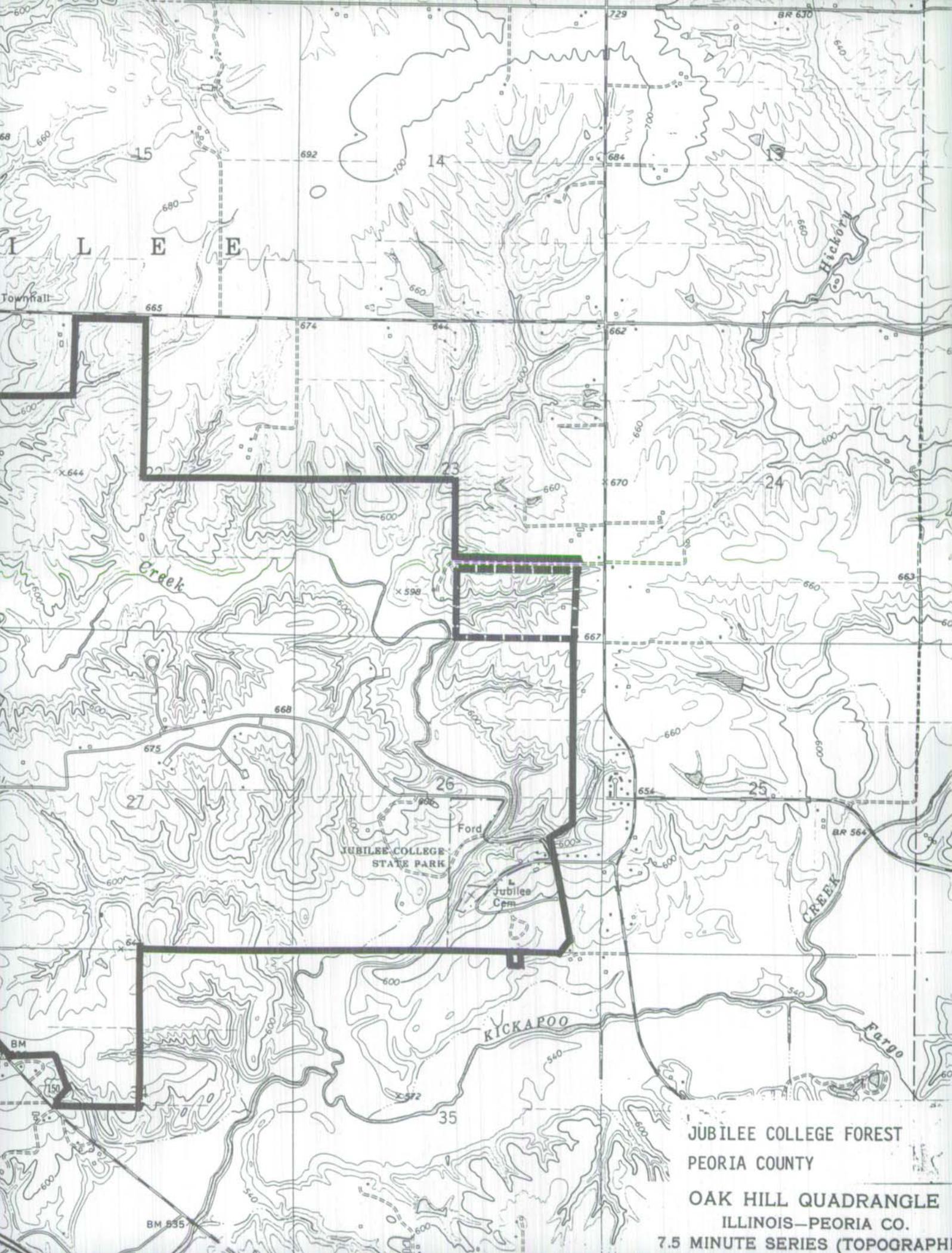
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** February 1972

**Size:** 407 acres

**Topo Map:** Newton 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Prairie Chicken Sanctuary, Route 3, Box 74, Newton, IL 62448 (618/783-2685)



I L L E E

Townhall

Hickory

Creek

JUBILEE COLLEGE STATE PARK

Ford

Jubilee Cem

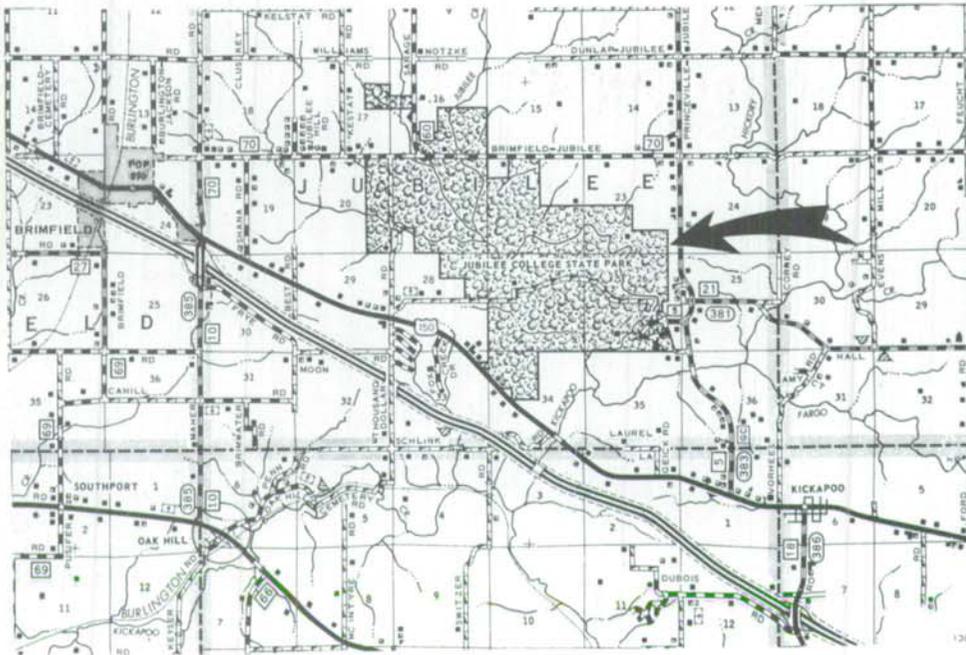
CR. CREEK

KICKAPOO

Fargo

JUBILEE COLLEGE FOREST  
PEORIA COUNTY

OAK HILL QUADRANGLE  
ILLINOIS—PEORIA CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



## Jubilee College Forest Nature Preserve

## Peoria County

### Location and Access:

From Peoria, take I-74 west to Jubilee College State Park. The preserve is on the east side of the park.

### Description:

Jubilee College Forest is located on the northeastern edge of the Galesburg Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division. Significant natural communities include high quality mesic and dry-mesic upland forests dominated by oaks, hickories and maples. Other exceptional features are shale and sandstone seepage outcrops that have allowed for intermittent stream development. The forest provides excellent habitat for wildlife species. Nine species of mammals and eighty-six species of birds, including the veery, have

been observed. Jubilee College Forest has largely recovered from past grazing and logging damage.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** May 1987

**Size:** 64 acres

**Topo Map:** Oak Hills 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 215 N. 5th, Suite D, Pekin, IL 61554 (309/347-5119) or Site Superintendent, Jubilee College State Park, 13921 West Route 150, Brimfield, IL 61517 (309/446-3758)





## Kinnikinnick Creek Nature Preserve

## Boone County

### Location and Access:

From Caledonia at jct. Hwy. 173 and Caledonia Road, take Caledonia Road 3.5 mi. north to Kinnikinnick Creek Conservation Area, which is west of the road. The nature preserve is in the county conservation area. A parking lot is on the east side of the preserve.

### Description:

This 57 acre preserve is typical of the forests found in the Rock River Valley at the prairie-forest border. It contains a spring-fed creek, upland forest, floodplain forest, and bedrock outcrops of the Winnebago Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division. In presettlement times, oak savannas were probably very common in Boone County, and this preserve contains some savanna remnants. The dominant canopy species is white oak, with ironwood, cherry, ash, and basswood as common associates. The upland community gives way to a floodplain forest along Kinnikinnick Creek. It contains black willow, butternut, and box elder. Some of the associated wetland plants include skunk cabbage,

great angelica, blueflag iris, sedges and rushes. Kinnikinnick Creek is a spring-fed stream, and although it drains a watershed of about 11,520 acres, it retains a high quality status. The creek supports two unusual fish species: mottled sculpin and Ozark minnow. Other woodland wildlife is abundant; great horned owl, red-tailed hawk, raccoon and deer, are just a few of the area residents. Exotic species control (multiflora rose, buckthorn, and honeysuckle) and erosion control are management priorities.

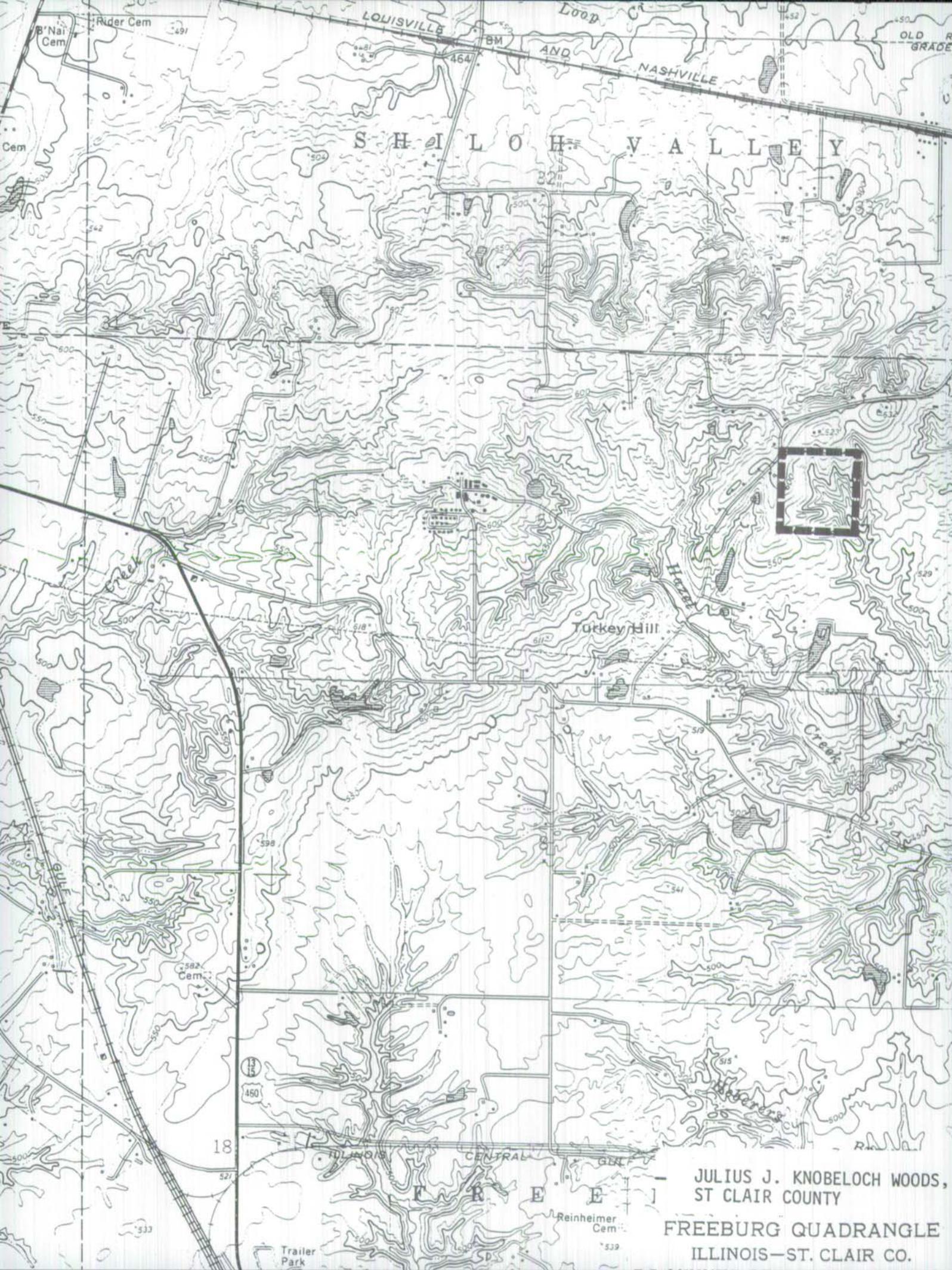
**Ownership:** Boone County Conservation District

**Dedicated:** November 1974

**Size:** 57 acres with an additional 45 acre buffer

**Topo Map:** Belvidere 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Boone County Conservation District, 7600 Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL 61008 (815/547-7935)



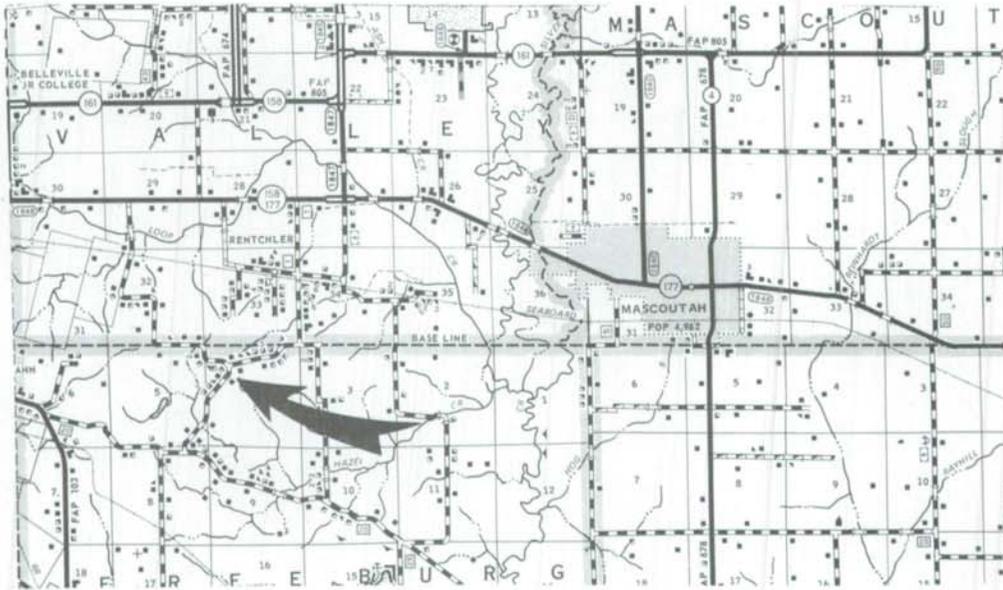
S H A L O H V A L L E Y

Turkey Hill

F R E E B U R G

JULIUS J. KNOBELOCH WOODS,  
ST CLAIR COUNTY

FREEBURG QUADRANGLE  
ILLINOIS-ST. CLAIR CO.



## Julius J. Knobeloch Woods Nature Preserve

## St. Clair County

### Location and Access:

From Mascoutah at jct. Hwys. 4 & 177, take Hwy. 177 west 4.5 miles to Rentchler Road, then turn and go south 1.5 miles and then turn and go west 0.8 mile. The nature preserve is southeast of the road.

Special Note: The preserve is located 6 miles east of Belleville. An entrance sign has been erected. A parking lot and 0.75 mile loop trail have been developed.

### Description:

Knobeloch Woods contains dry-mesic upland and wet floodplain forest communities representative of the Effingham Plain Section of the Southeastern Till Plain Natural Division. The upland forest supports white oak and hickories. The floodplain forest lies in the floodplain of a tributary to Hazel Creek. Floodplain trees extend up into the shallow ravines where they

overlap the upland species. The location of this preserve provides educational opportunities to those who might otherwise never experience a natural area. Management of the area is primarily concerned with the control of exotic species.

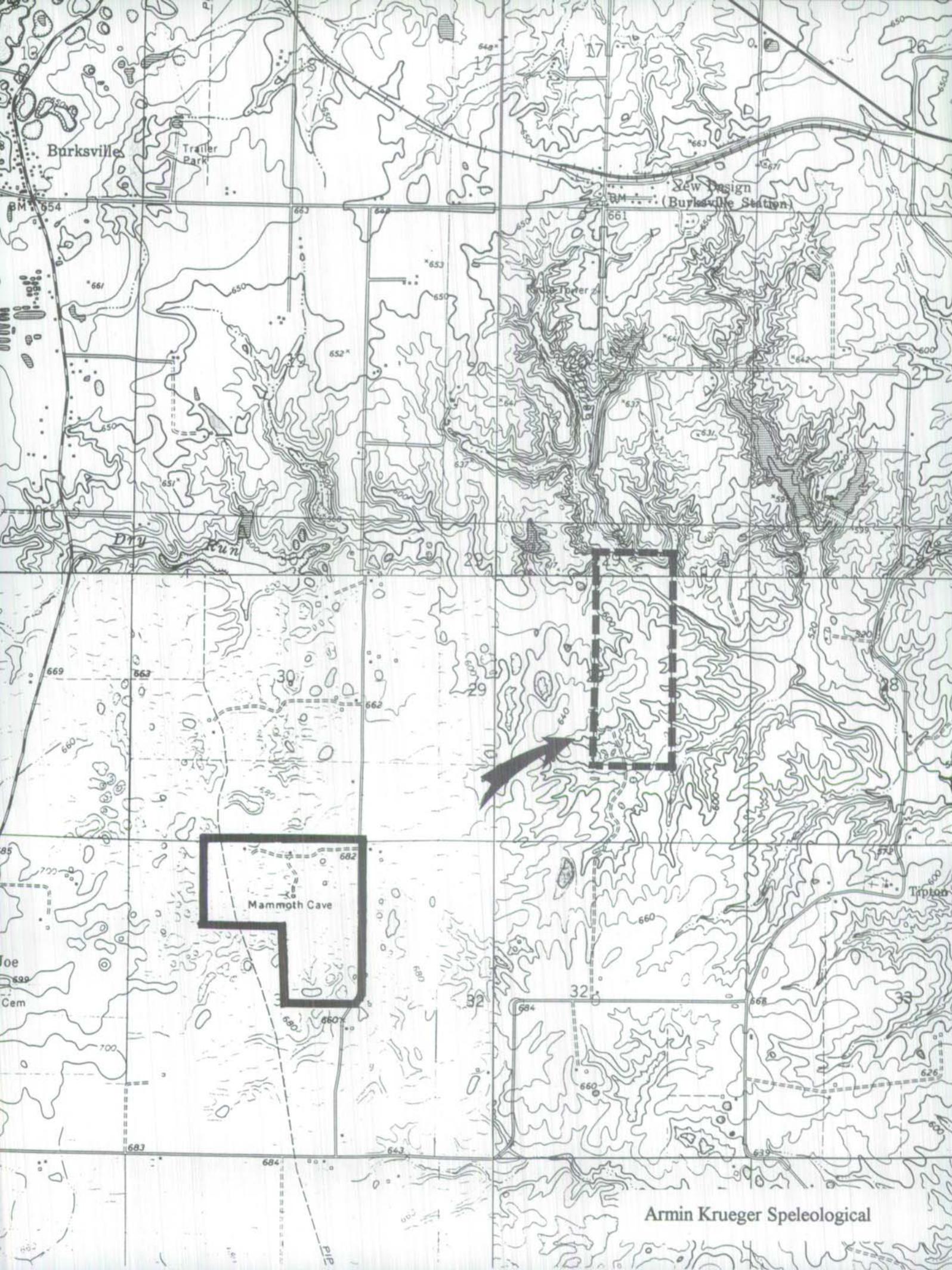
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** February 1983

**Size:** 35.1 acres

**Topo Map:** Freeburg 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 4521 Alton Commerce Parkway, Alton, IL 62002 (618/462-1181)



Burkville

Trailer Park

New Design  
(Burkville Station)

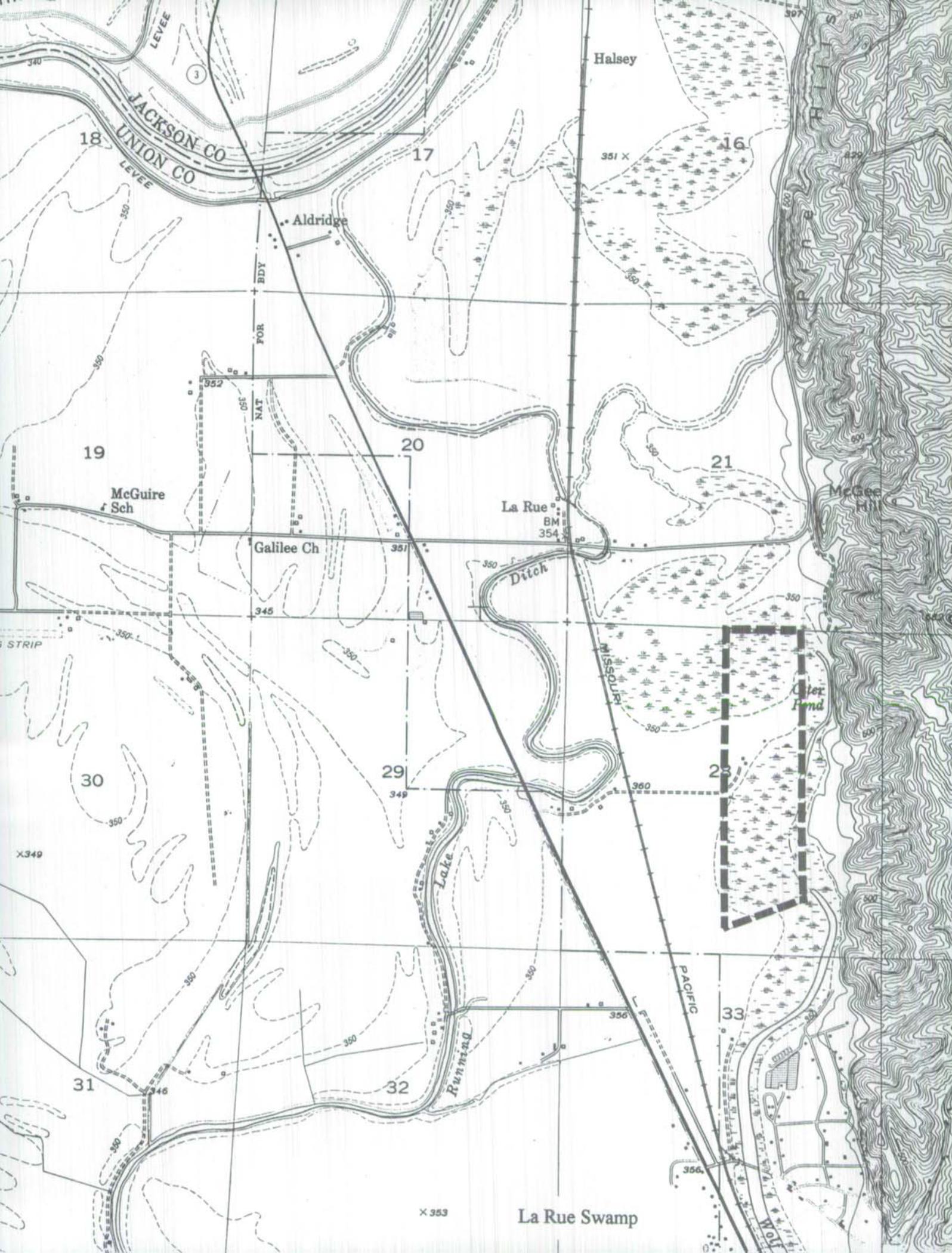
Dry Run

Mammoth Cave

Joe Cem

Armin Krueger Speleological





JACKSON CO  
UNION CO  
LEVEE

Halsey

Aldridge

19

McGuire Sch

20

Galilee Ch

La Rue  
BM  
354

21

Ditch

McGee Hill

STRIP

30

29

28

MISSOURI

Cler Pond

X349

31

32

33

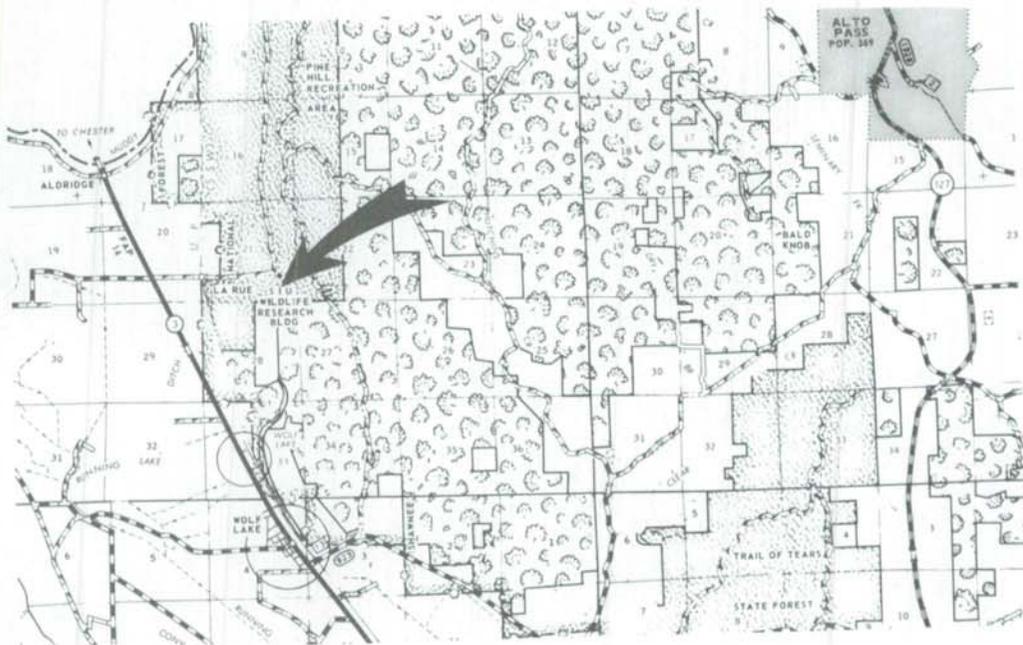
Lake Running

PACIFIC

X353

La Rue Swamp

WOLF



## La Rue Swamp Nature Preserve

## Union County

### Location and Access:

From the town of Wolf Lake on Highway 3, take Highway 3 north 3 miles to a county road. Turn east on the county road and go 1 1/4 mile to where the road comes to a "T" at the base of the bluff. Turn south on the road and go 1/4 mile. The preserve is south and west of the road.

Hills and from springs along the base of the bluffs. Some of the rare, relic or unusual species that occur in the preserve are golden mouse, green water snake, bluehead shiner, and bantam sunfish.

### Description:

La Rue Swamp in combination with the adjacent Pine Hills is one of the richest, most biologically diverse areas in Illinois. The Pine Hills/La Rue Swamp area contains 43% of all the plant species known from Illinois. The preserve contains mesic floodplain forest, shrub swamp and pond communities once characteristic of the Mississippi River bottomlands of southern Illinois, but now nearly all cleared and drained. The primary source of the swamps' water is runoff from west-facing wooded slopes and bluffs of the adjacent Pine

La Rue Swamp has been designated a National Natural Landmark.

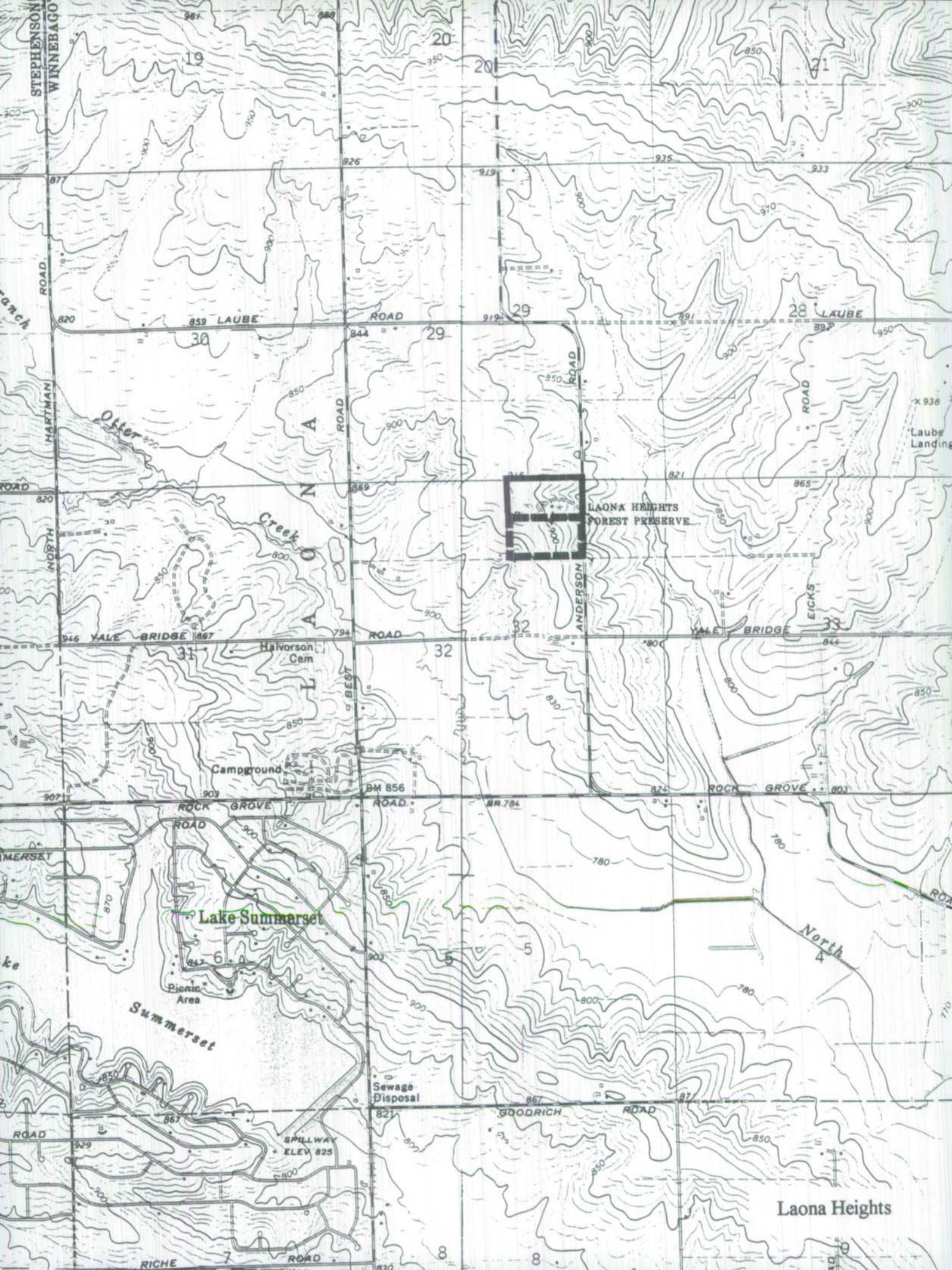
**Ownership:** Southern Illinois University-Carbondale

**Dedicated:** March 1989

**Size:** 140 acres

**Topo Map:** Wolf Lake 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Vice-President for Campus Services, Anthony Hall Rm 214, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901 (618/536-7777)



STEPHENSON ROAD  
WINNEBAGO ROAD

19

20

21

LAUBE ROAD

859 LAUBE ROAD

844

29

29

28

LAUBE ROAD

HARTMAN ROAD

Otter Creek

A

N

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

A

LAONA HEIGHTS FOREST PRESERVE

ANDERSON ROAD

YALE BRIDGE

EICKS ROAD

Halvorson Cem.

Campground

BM 856

BR 784

ROCK GROVE

SUMMERSET ROAD

Lake Summerset

Summerset

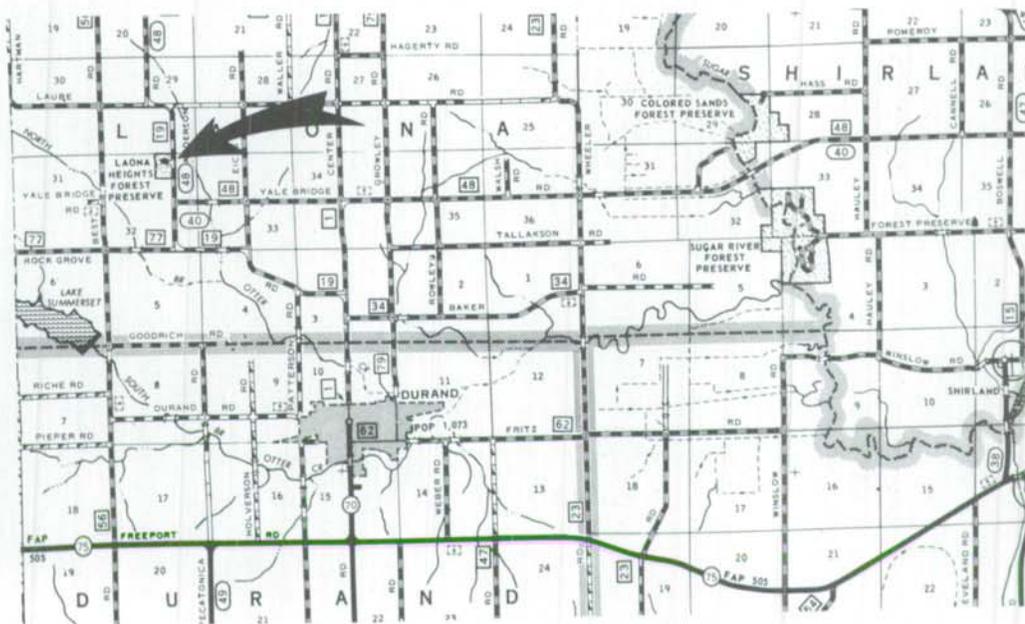
Sewage Disposal

GOODRICH ROAD

North 4

Laona Heights

RICHE ROAD



## Laona Heights Nature Preserve

### Location and Access:

From Durand, take Center Road north 2.2 mi. to Yale Bridge Road, then turn and go west 1.7 mi. to Anderson Road, then turn and go north 0.3 mi. to Laona Heights Forest Preserve. The nature preserve is in the forest preserve and is west of the road.

### Description:

Laona Heights is an example of dry-mesic upland forest once common in the Freeport Section of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division. The preserve is located in the rolling uplands above the Otter Creek floodplain. Here, the native forest community is dominated by white oak, white ash, and basswood, but sugar maple prevails in the damper ravine. A rich herbaceous under-

## Winnebago County

story includes bloodroot, prairie trillium, bellwort and puttyroot. Data from this area was included in the classic book Vegetation of Wisconsin by John T. Curtis.

**Ownership:** Winnebago County Forest Preserve District

**Dedicated:** September 1982

**Size:** 19.5 acres

**Topo Map:** Durand 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Winnebago County Forest Preserve District, 5500 Northrock Dr., Rockford, IL 61103 (815/887-6100)





## Loda Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve

## Iroquois County

### Location and Access:

From center of Loda, go west on blacktop road 0.3 mile, then north 0.6 miles to Loda (Pine Ridge) Cemetery. The nature preserve is north of the cemetery.

### Description:

Loda Cemetery Prairie is an outstanding example of the original mesic black soil prairie in the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. For many years the prairie at Loda Cemetery was idle. The grasses were mowed regularly but were never cultivated or pastured. In 1981, the Cemetery Association ran out of burial space and made plans to expand into the prairie. The Natural Land Institute negotiated an alternative plan that would allow for expansion of the cemetery while preserving the prairie. The Institute acquired 5 acres of farmland adjacent to the cemetery to give to the Cemetery Association. In turn, the Association agreed to dedicate the prairie as a nature preserve. The prairie contains over 130 species of native plant species. The dominant grasses are Indian grass and big bluestem.

Common spring flowers include shooting star, downy phlox and yellow star grass. Rattlesnake master, compass plant and wild quinine are typical during the summer while goldenrods and asters are abundant in the fall. The small size of the preserve limits its value as a wildlife refuge since most birds and mammals require more extensive habitat, but grasshopper sparrow, yellowthroat and meadowlark have nested in the prairie. Also, many uncommon butterflies restricted to prairies may reside here.

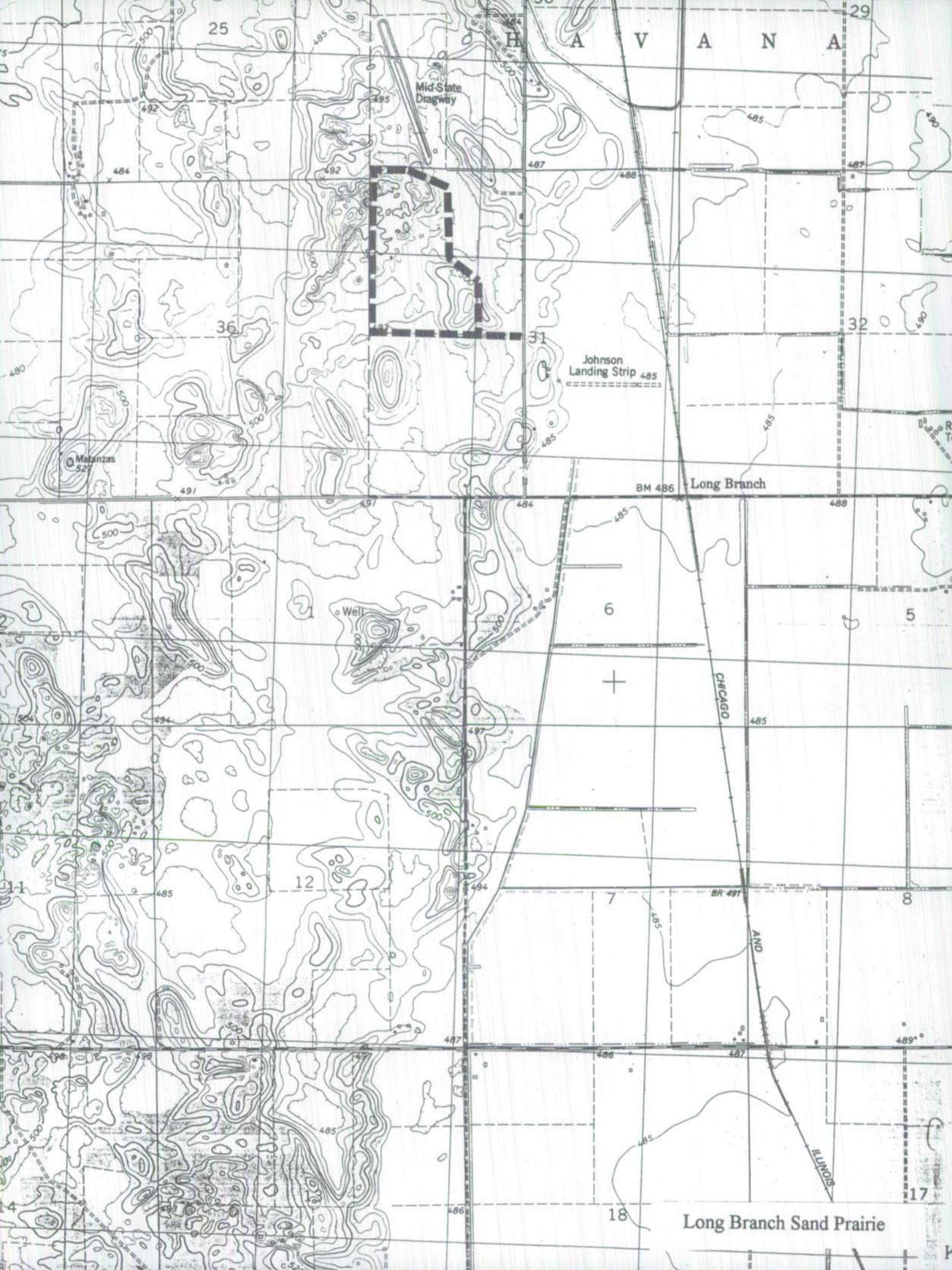
**Ownership:** The Nature Conservancy

**Dedicated:** June 1983

**Size:** 3.4 acres

**Topo Map:** Buckley 7.5

For Further Information Contact: The Nature Conservancy, 8 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 900, Chicago, IL 60603 (312/346-8166)

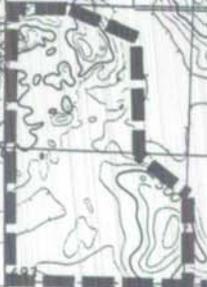


25

29

H A V A N A

Mid-State Dragway



Johnson Landing Strip

BM 486

Long Branch

6

5

CHICAGO

12

7

BR 491

8

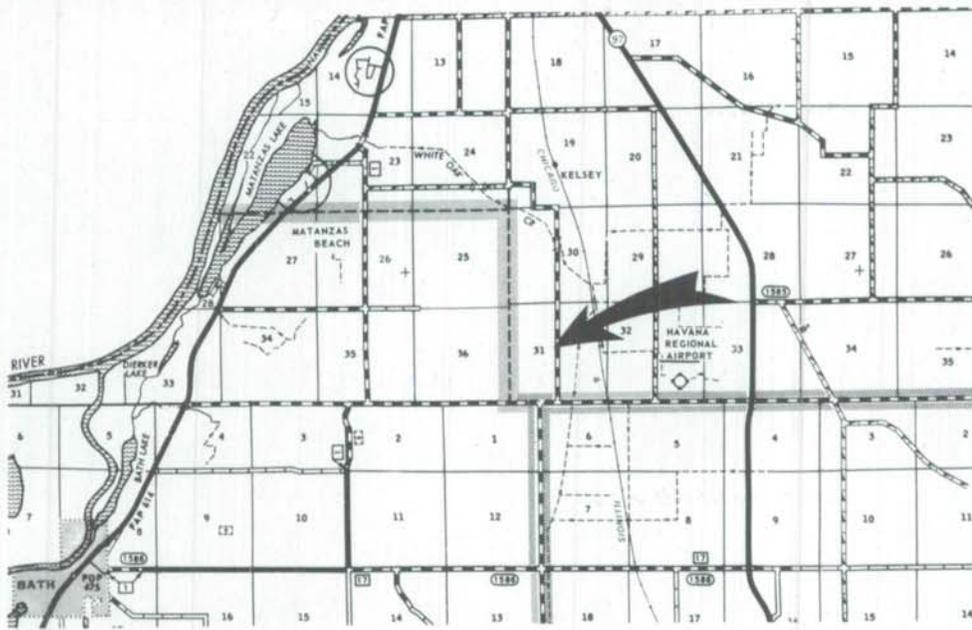
AND

18

Long Branch Sand Prairie

17

ILLINOIS



## Long Branch Sand Prairie Nature Preserve

## Mason County

### Location and Access:

From Kilbourne, take Highway 97 north 4 miles to a county road. Turn west on the county road and go 2 miles to another county road. Turn north on this road and go 0.5 mile. The preserve is on the west. The preserve is reached by walking west along the hedgerow 0.1 mile to the preserve.

### Description:

This preserve contains sand prairie typical of the Illinois River Sand Areas. Large, gently rolling dunes are covered with little bluestem, goats rue and prickly pear cactus. An inventory of plant species, completed in 1989, resulted in the discovery of the rare hairy bead grass.

Lark sparrows, bluebirds, six lined racerunners, coyotes and plains pocket gophers are also present on the site.

Approximately ten acres of pines were removed in 1989. Efforts are now underway to restore the former pine plantation area back to native sand prairie vegetation.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

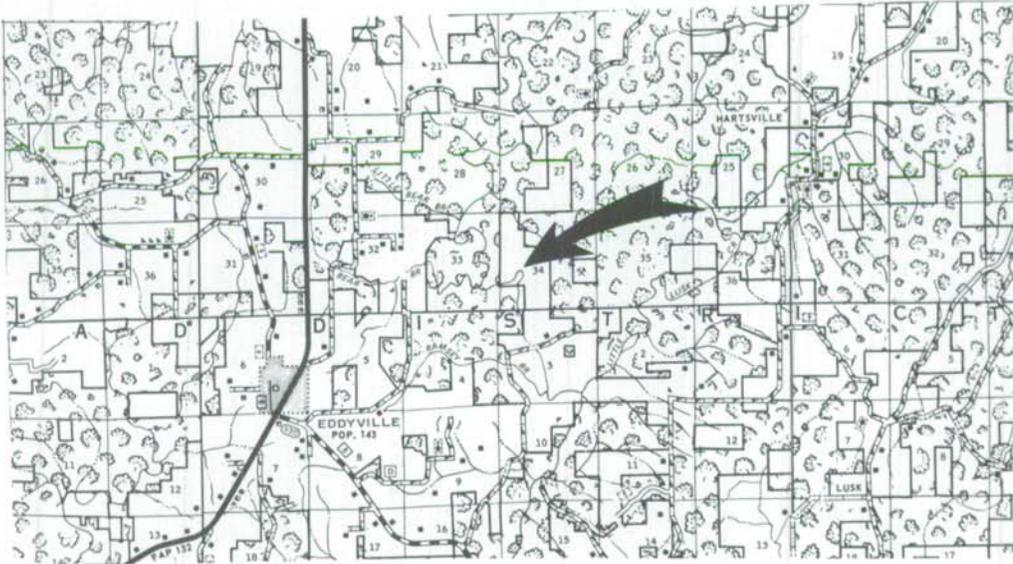
**Dedicated:** August 1989

**Size:** 93 acres

**Topo Map:** Kilbourne 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Sangchris Lake State Park, R.R. #1, Rochester, IL 62563 (217/498-9208)





## Lusk Creek Canyon Nature Preserve

## Pope County

### Location and Access:

From the intersection of Highway 145 and a county road at the south edge of Eddyville, take the county road east for 0.25 mile to another county road. Turn north and follow this road east and north for 1.5 miles to a parking lot on the west side of the road. The preserve is east of the road and is reached by walking 1.25 miles down a trail. The trailhead is directly across the road from the parking lot.

**Special Note:** This preserve is in the middle of the 4,796 acre Lusk Creek Wilderness area, owned by the US Forest Service.

### Description:

This large and very scenic canyon contains a high quality stream which flows by some high sandstone cliffs. Several rare plants such as arching dewberry,

superb lily and several fern and clubmoss species grow in this area.

Timber rattlesnakes plus several unusual plants inhabit the forests or the sandstone canyons. Sandstone glade and sandstone cliff communities are also present.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** October 1970

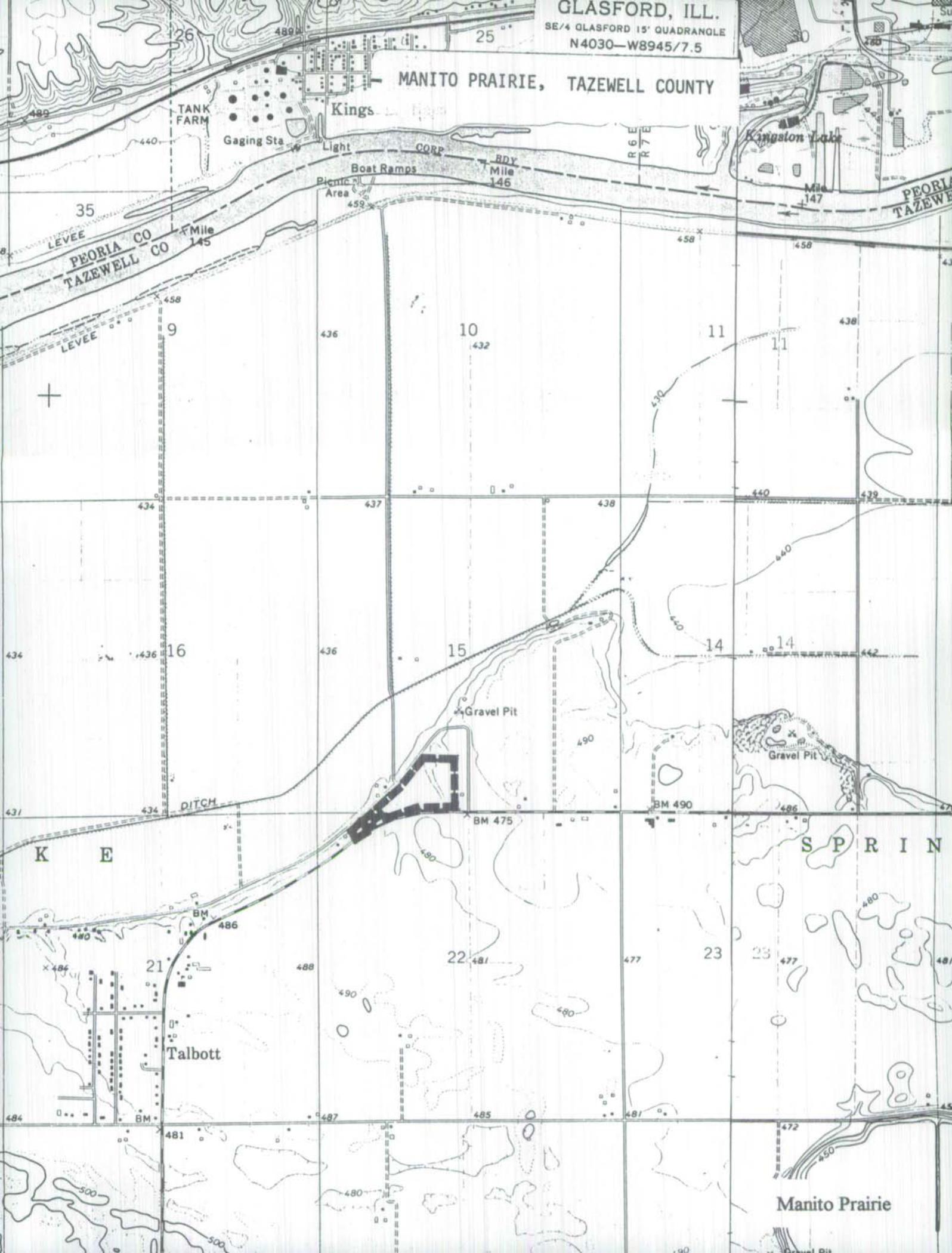
**Size:** 125 acres

**Topo Map:** Eddyville 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Dixon Springs State Park, R.R. #2, Golconda, IL 62939 or Site Superintendent, Saline County Conservation Area, Equality, IL 62934 (618/276-4405)

GLASFORD, ILL.  
SE/4 GLASFORD 15' QUADRANGLE  
N4030-W8945/7.5

MANITO PRAIRIE, TAZEWELL COUNTY



TANK FARM

Kings

Kingston Lake

35  
LEVEE  
PEORIA CO  
TAZEWELL CO  
1 Mile  
145

Gaging Sta  
Light  
CORP  
Boat Ramps  
Picnic Area  
RDY Mile  
146

PEORIA  
TAZEWELL

9

10

11

16

15

14

K E

S P R I N G

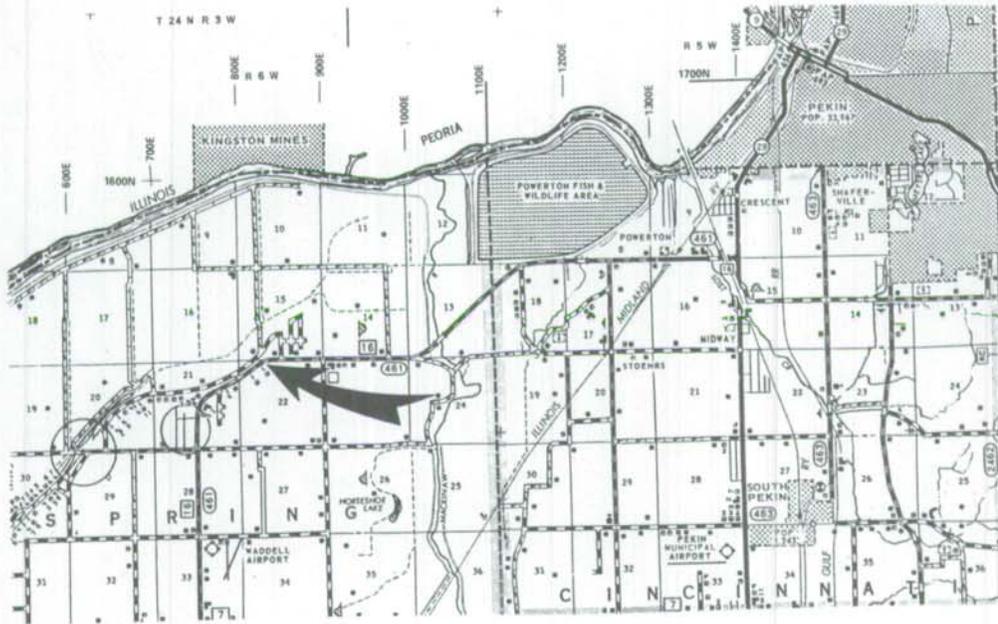
21

22

23

Talbott

Manito Prairie



## Manito Prairie Nature Preserve

### Location and Access:

From Manito, take blacktop road north 7.5 miles to where the road turns straight east. The nature preserve is north of the road.

### Description:

Manito Prairie is located on a sand and gravel terrace above the Illinois River floodplain. The bulk of the terrace was formed during the post-glacial period of the Wisconsin glacial period with some sand deposition occurring later. This preserve is the last remaining area in Illinois containing high quality gravel hill prairie and sand prairie that represent the Illinois River Section of the Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Area Natural Division. Dry-mesic forest and successional field communities also occur at the site. Over 200

## Tazewell County

species of vascular plants have been observed within the preserve. Two of the prairie species, Tennessee milk vetch and kitten-tails are rare. Franklin's ground squirrel is one of the more unusual mammals. Current management practices include prescribed burning, brush cutting, fencing and monitoring rare species.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** December 1985

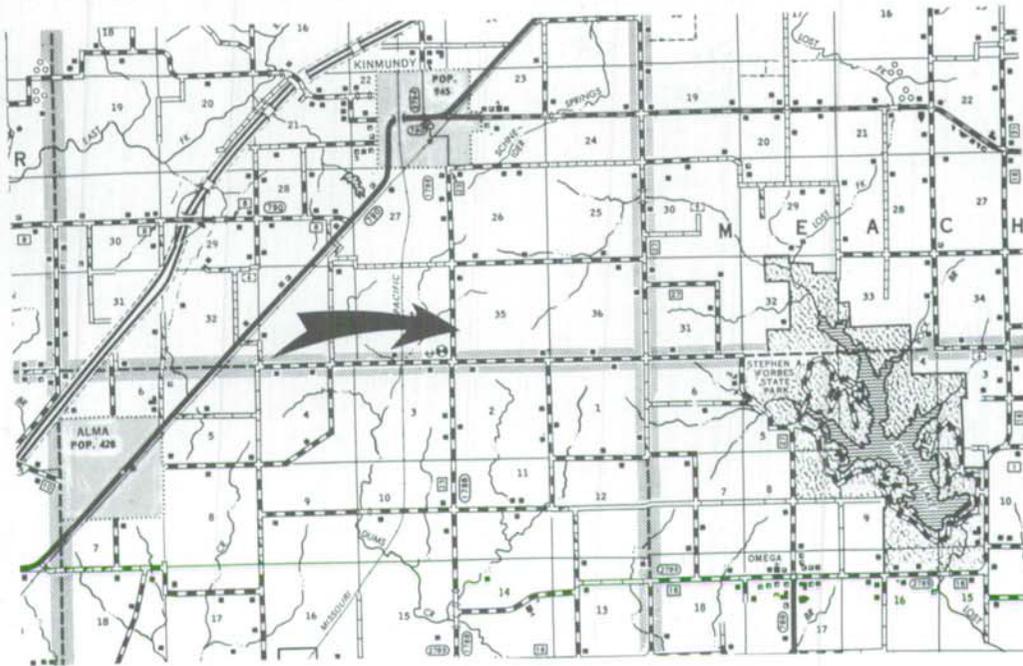
**Size:** 19.6 acres

**Topo Map:** Glasford 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 215 N. 5th, Suite D, Pekin, IL 61554 (309/347-5119)



Marion County Prairie Chicken  
Sanctuary



## Marion County Prairie Chicken Sanctuary Nature Preserve

### Marion County

#### Location and Access:

From Highway 37 in Kinmundy turn south on a county road and go 2 miles. The preserve is on the east side of the road.

Special Note: Entrance to this preserve is by permission only to minimize disturbance to the prairie chicken population.

#### Description:

The greater prairie chicken was once a very abundant bird in Illinois, but only two populations remain in the state. Unfortunately the Marion County population has been declining for the last four or five years.

This site is a mixture of native warm season and cool season grasses. In addition to providing favorable

habitat for prairie chickens, upland sandpiper, grasshopper sparrow, dickcissel and northern harriers also nest at the preserve. Prescribed burning is used to maintain the grass communities. Management practices are being implemented to increase the population of grassland birds.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

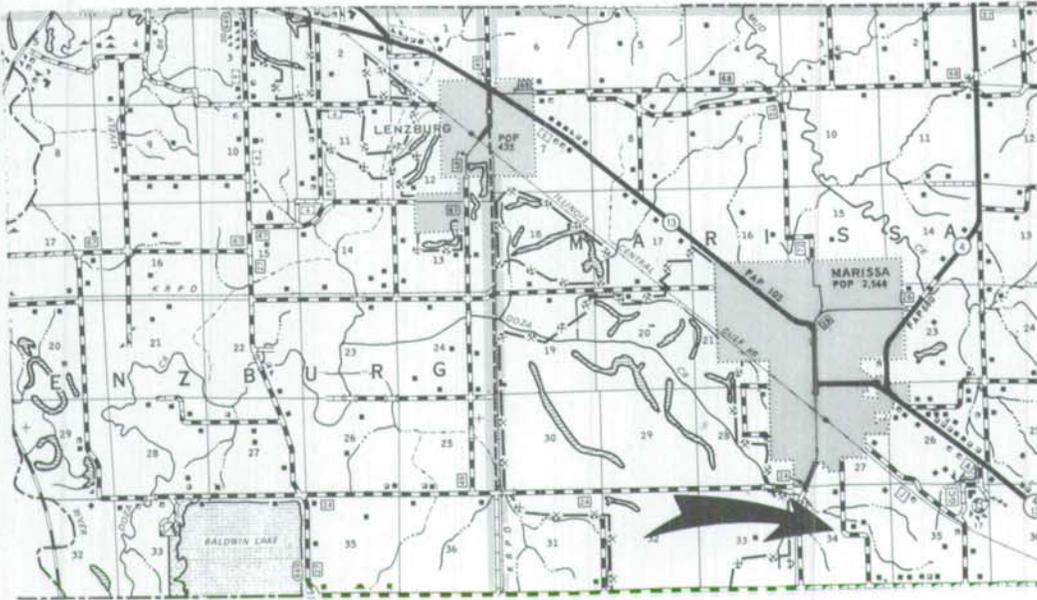
**Dedicated:** February 1972

**Size:** 160 acres

**Topo Map:** Omega 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Prairie Chicken Sanctuary, R.R. #3, Box 74, Newton, IL 62448 (618/783-2685).





## Marissa Woods Nature Preserve

## St. Clair County

### Location and Access:

From Marissa at jct. Main Street (Hwy. 13) & Lyons Street (also Hwy. 13), take Main Street south 0.7 mile to John Hotz Street, then turn and go east 0.3 mile to Wilke Road, then turn and go south 0.8 mile. The nature preserve is west and south of the curve in the road.

**Special Note:** Access to Marissa Woods is via the easement to the northeast corner of the preserve. No trails have been developed.

### Description:

Marissa Woods was acquired by the Department of Natural Resources in 1981 for the preservation of its relatively undisturbed forests. Specifically, the best areas are dry-mesic upland forest and flatwood communities that represent the Mt. Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southeastern Till Plain Natural Division. The dry upland forest supports several species of oaks and hickories. It is separated from flatwoods and in-

tegrating communities by slopes of shallow ravines. The flatwoods are on relatively flat sites and are underlain by claypan soils. They are dominated by post oak while white oak is of some significance. Some prairie species occur within the forest including little bluestem, asters and goldenrods. These and the present brushy character of the understory seem to suggest a presettlement savanna, now changing due to a lack of fire.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

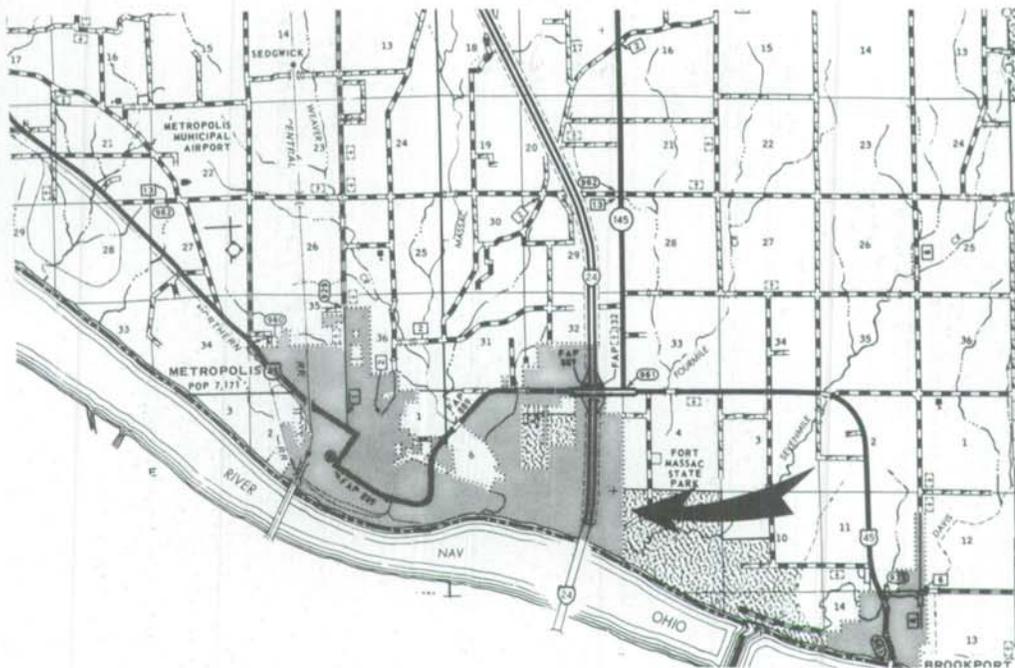
**Dedicated:** February 1983

**Size:** 25 acres

**Topo Map:** Baldwin and Tilden 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 4521 Alton Commerce Parkway, Alton, IL 62002 (618/462-1181)





## Massac Forest Nature Preserve

## Massac County

### Location and Access:

From the Intersection of I-24 and Highway 45 in Metropolis take Highway 45 east 0.5 mile to a county road. Turn south on the county road and go 1 mile. The preserve is to the south. The preserve is part of Ft. Massac State Park.

### Description:

This preserve contains cypress swamp, wet-mesic floodplain forest, mesic floodplain forest and southern flatwoods. The flatwoods comprises the largest acreage. It is composed of pin oak, swamp white oak and an occasional post oak growing on very poor dry soils derived from ancient glacial lakebed sediments. The relatively small tree size reflects the harsh soil conditions more than the age of the trees. The floodplain forest along Seven-Mile Creek is sycamore, cottonwood, black willow, sweet gum and cherrybark oak. Seep springs along the base of the terrace add

diversity to this community and help keep it wet. The swamp is in a small depression in the upland lakebed sediments. In spite of its small size, the swamp is rich in species such as bald cypress and water elm. A segment of riverbank community and creek add to the diversity of the preserve.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

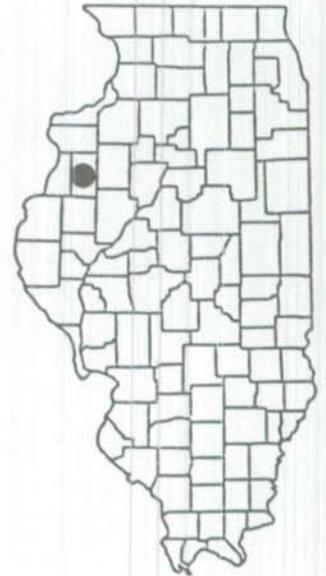
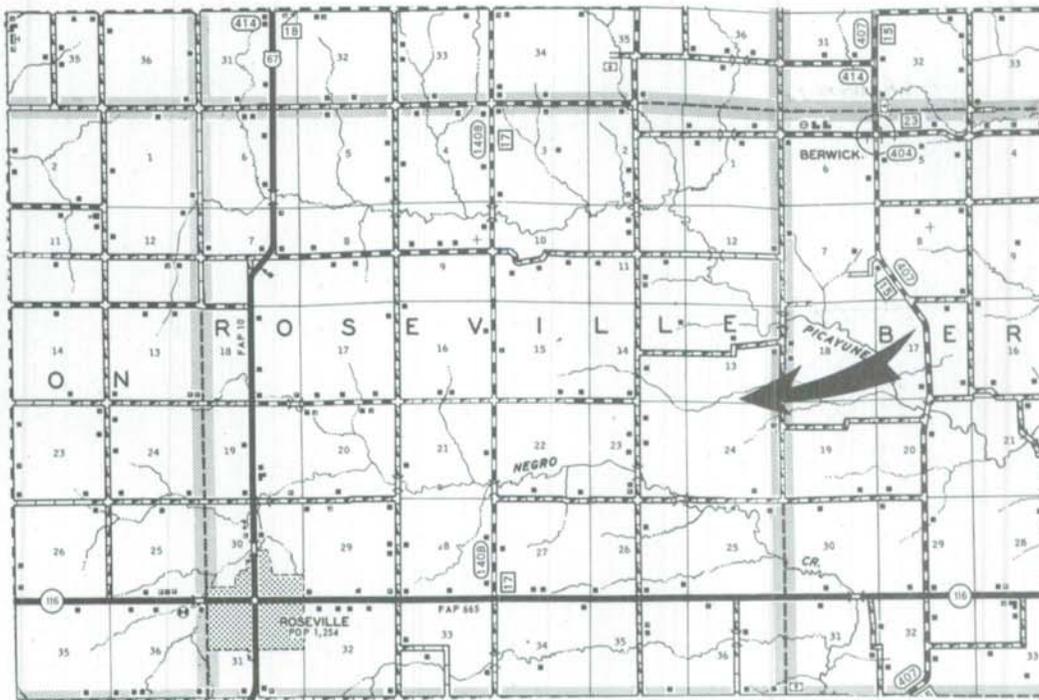
**Dedicated:** November 1981

**Size:** 244.6 acres nature preserve, 22.6 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Metropolis 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Dixon Springs State Park, R.R. #2, Golconda, IL 62938 (618/949-3305), or Site Superintendent, Fort Massac State Park, P.O. Box 708, Metropolis, IL 62960 (618/524-4712)





## Massasauga Prairie Nature Preserve

## Warren County

### Location and Access:

From Roseville at jct. Hwys. 67 & 116, take Hwy. 116 east 4 miles to gravel road, then turn and go north 2.5 miles, then turn and go east 1 mile. The nature preserve is 0.35 mile south by way of an access easement. (Five miles northeast of Roseville)

### Description:

Massasauga Prairie is along a small valley in the Galesburg Section of the Western Forest-Prairie Natural Division. This area, where prairie and forest intermingled, is now mostly cultivated farmland and pasture. However, the steepest slopes found in the Massasauga Prairie area escaped the plow and still contain woodlands, thickets and wet and mesic prairie. Two outstanding features include a colony of eastern massasauga rattlesnakes and areas of high quality prairie. The wet prairie habitat and eastern massasauga

go hand in hand. With the disappearance of wet prairie, the range of the snake became widely scattered. Other notable species include a variety of plants such as bunchflower, closed gentian, downy gentian and Turk's cap lily. Interesting animals observed in the area include blue racer, western fox snake, short-billed marsh wren, masked shrew and meadow vole.

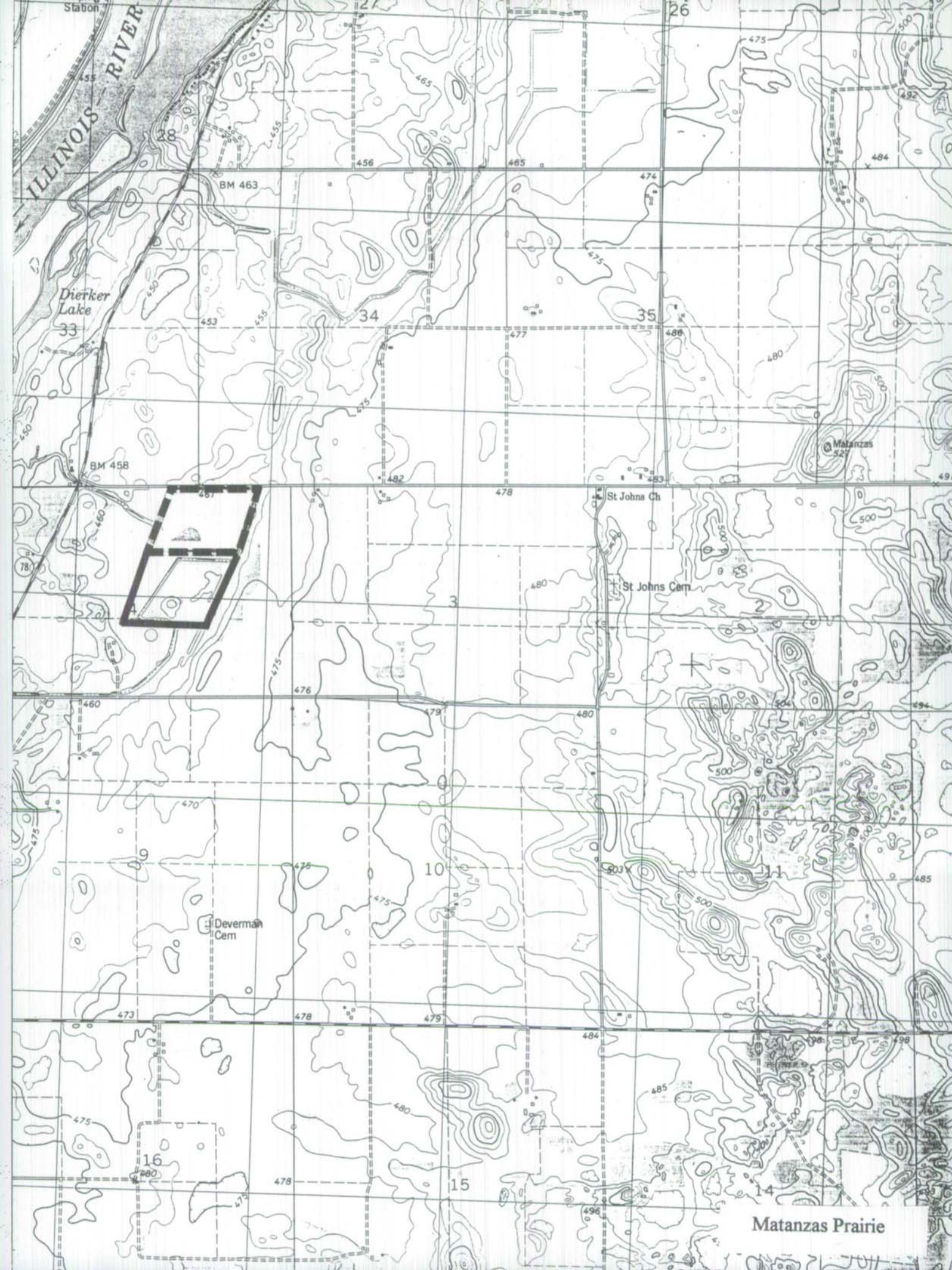
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** August 1983

**Size:** 6.2 acres

**Topo Map:** Berwick 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 215 N. 5th, Suite D, Pekin, IL 61555-0735 (309/347-5119)



ILLINOIS RIVER

Dierker Lake

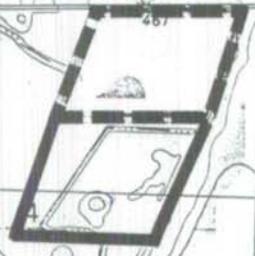
Matanzas 527

St Johns Ch

St Johns Cem

Deverman Cem

Matanzas Prairie





## Matanzas Prairie Nature Preserve

## Mason County

### Location and Access:

From Bath, take Hwy. 78 north 1.5 mi. to blacktop road, turn and go east 0.3 mi. The nature preserve is south of the road.

### Description:

Matanzas Prairie is the only remaining high quality wet prairie in the Illinois River Section of the Illinois and Mississippi River Sand Area Natural Division. This site was once covered with sand and gravel deposited from the meltwaters of the last glaciation. On the relatively level areas water filled depressions were formed and eventually became marshes, sand ponds, and wet sand prairie. The wet prairie is characterized by blue-joint grass and cordgrass, while Indian grass, big bluestem, and blue joint-grass dominate the wet mesic prairie. A

threatened variety of orchid is also found here. Notable wildlife species include the threatened Illinois chorus frog, sedge wren, and common yellowthroat. Current management practices include prescribed burning, brush removal, and wet prairie restoration.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Conservation

**Dedicated:** June 1985

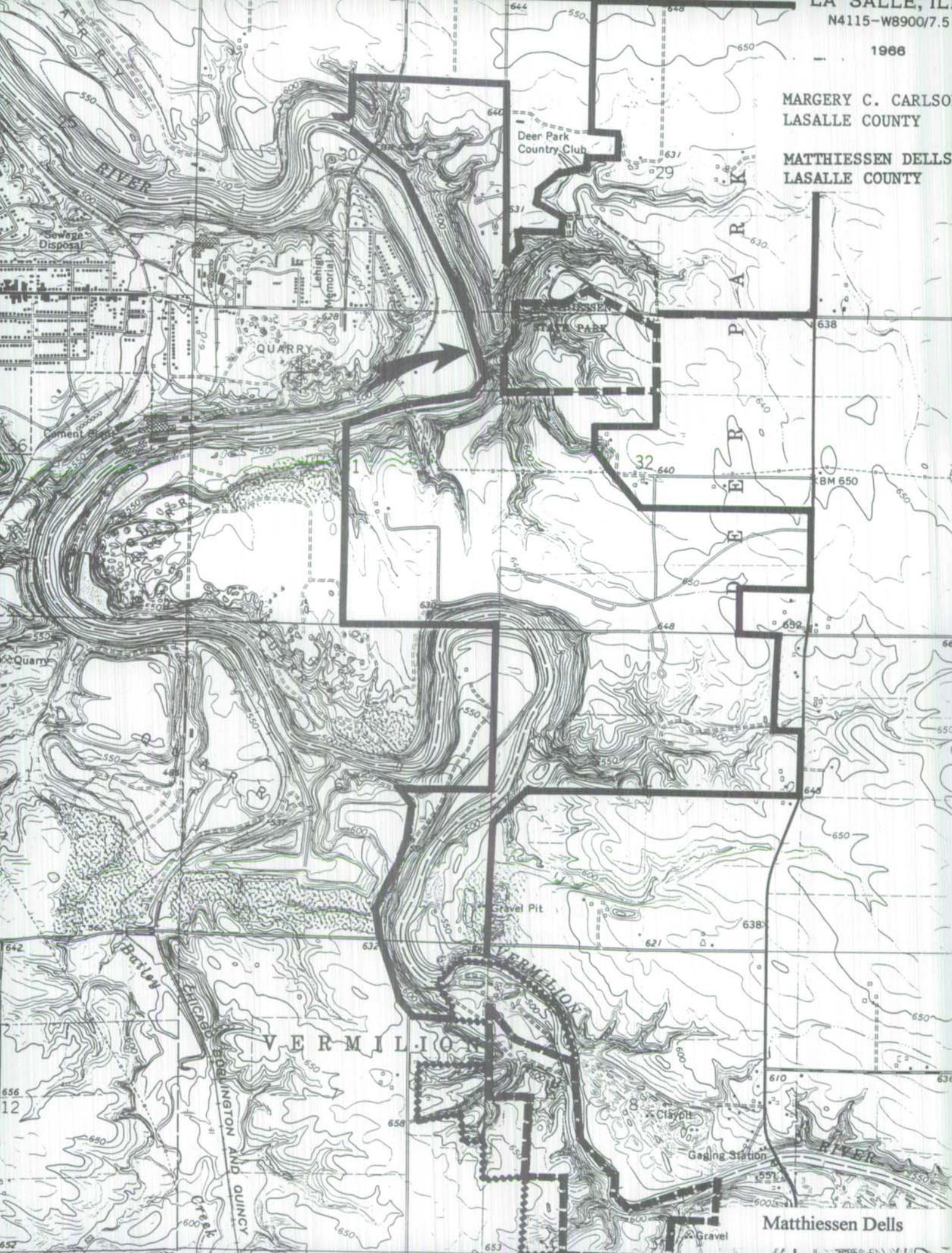
**Size:** 27.6 acres

**Topo Map:** Kilbourne 7.5

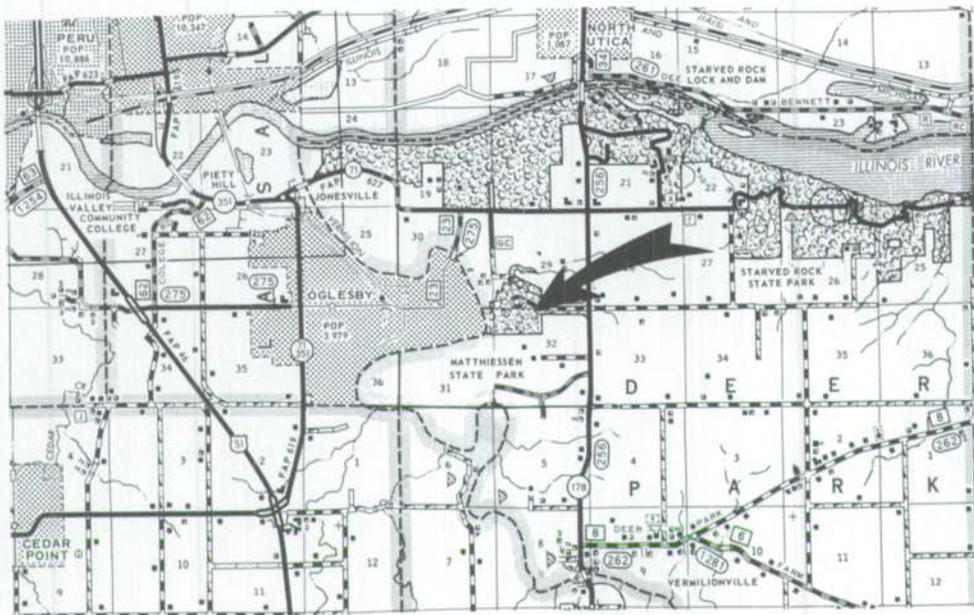
For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Conservation, Natural Heritage Biologist, Sangchris Lake State Park, R.R.#1, Rochester, IL 62563 (217/498-9208)

MARGERY C. CARLSON  
LASALLE COUNTY

MATTHIESSEN DELLS  
LASALLE COUNTY



Matthiessen Dells



## Matthesen Dells Nature Preserve

## LaSalle County

### Location and Access:

This preserve is located within Matthesen State Park along the deep sandstone canyon which is a prominent feature of the site.

climates, including white pine, Canada yew, northern white cedar, marginal wood fern and Canada mayflower. Several bird species are known to inhabit the site, including the blue-gray gnatcatcher, ovenbird, scarlet tanager, red-eyed vireo and wood thrush.

### Description:

The "Dells" area within Matthesen State Park lies within the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division. The most common forest type in the area is characterized by white oak, black oak, white ash, black walnut and American elm. Shrubs such as witch hazel, prickly ash, chokeberry and black haw are present in the understory. A relatively undisturbed sandstone cliff community present within the nature preserve contains plant species more commonly found in northern

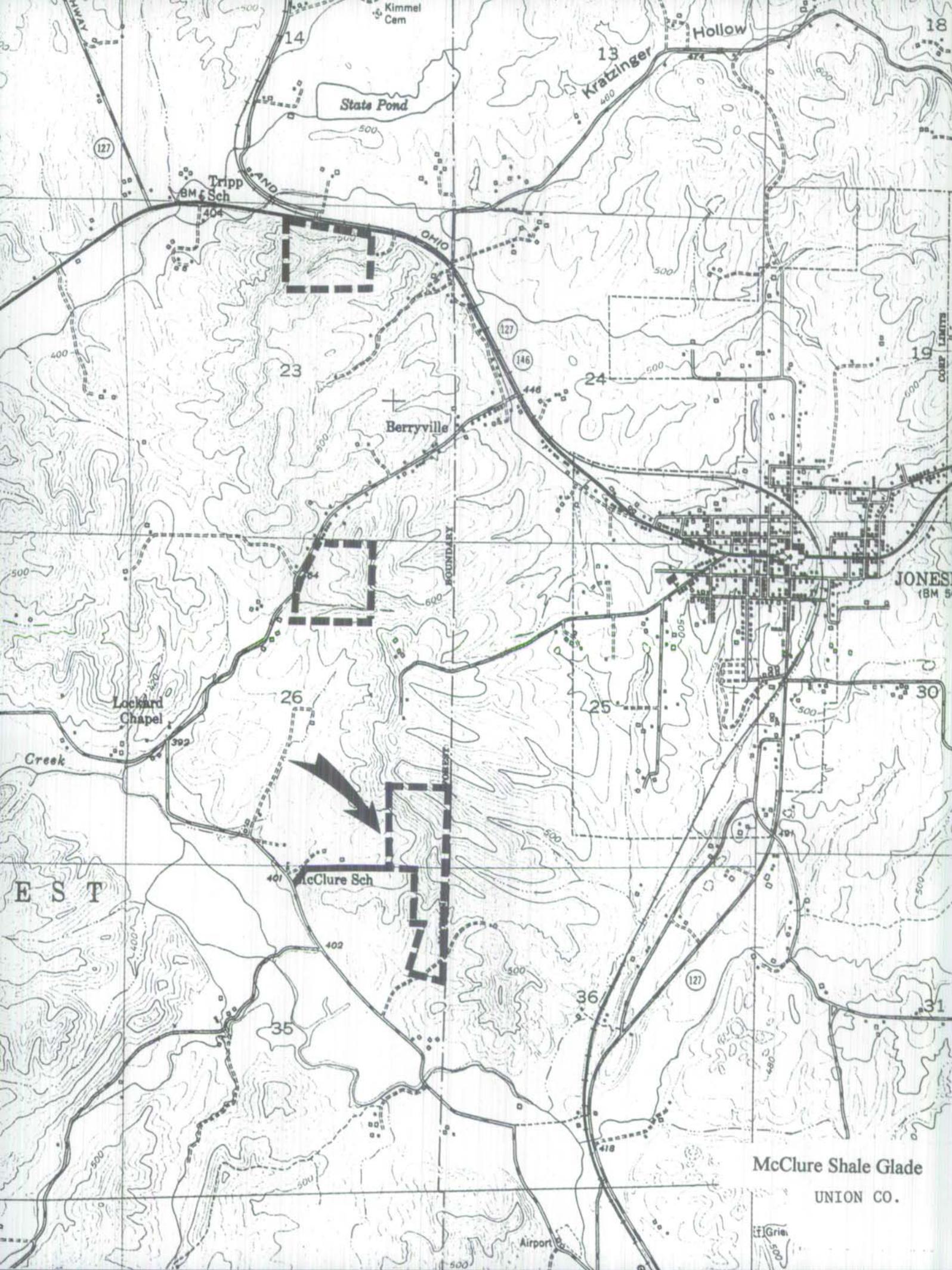
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** June 1991

**Size:** 86.4 acres

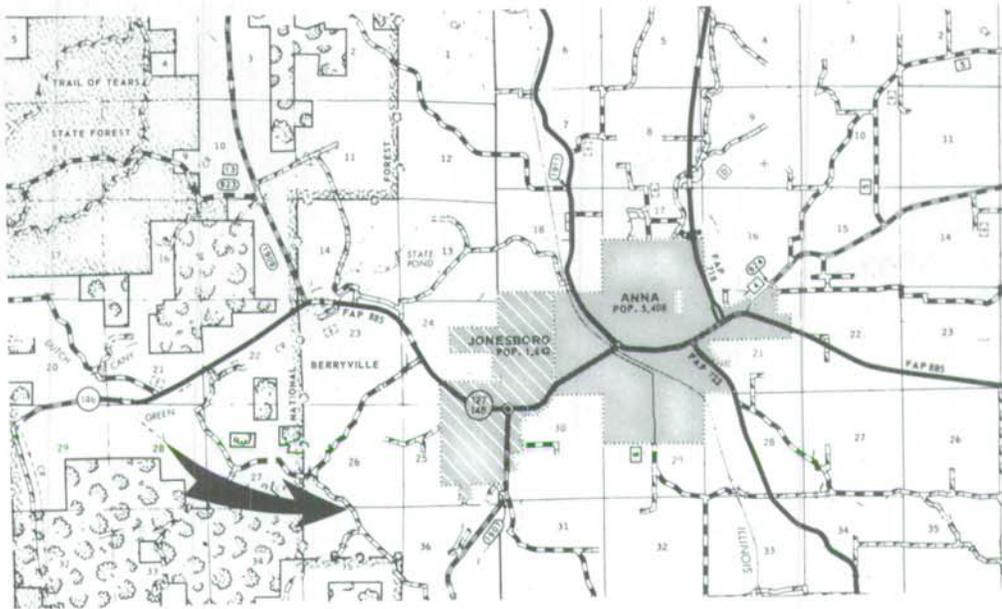
**Topo Map:** LaSalle 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Castle Rock State Park, 1365 W. Castle Road, Oregon, IL 61061 (815/732-6185)



McClure Shale Glade  
UNION CO.

Grig



## McClure Shale Glade Nature Preserve

## Union County

### Location and Access:

From Jonesboro take Highway 127/146 west 0.5 mile to a county road (Berryville Road). Take this road 1.5 miles to another county road. Turn south on this county road and go 0.5 mile. The preserve is on the east side of the road. The preserve is 0.5 mile east of the road. Access to the preserve is by walking down the lane.

### Description:

This shale barrens is one of only three shale barrens in Illinois. This plant community was not known from Illinois until the completion of the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory. The trees present here are stunted and gnarled due to the moisture and mineral deficiencies of the shale. Trees which grow in this site are hickory, white oak, blackjack oak and post oak. Dwarf hackber-

ry, a plant of arid sites is scattered throughout the preserve.

The herbaceous plants present in this site are little bluestem, goats rue, butterfly weed, goldenrods and sunflowers. Like the trees and shrubs, the dry shale limits the development and growth of these plants.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

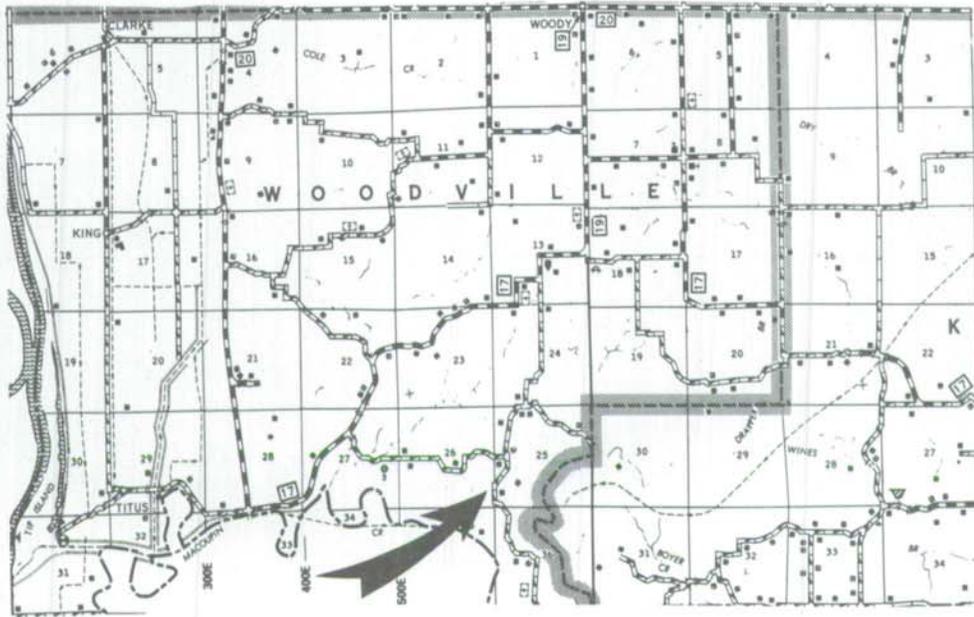
**Dedicated:** August 1989

**Size:** 41.3 acres

**Topo Map:** Jonesboro 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Ferne Clyffe State Park, P.O. Box 67, Goreville, IL 62939 (618/995-2568)





## William and Therese McMaster Woods Nature Preserve

### Greene County

#### Location and Access:

From the junction of Hwys. 108 and 267 in Carrollton, go south 2.8 miles on Hwy. 267, turn west on road 1000 N and go 4.3 miles, turn south on road 700 E and go 2.5 miles, turn west on road 750 N and go 0.5 mile, turn south on road 650 E and continue south/southwest 1.6 miles, turn west on gravel road at T junction and go west/southwest 0.9 mile. The preserve is on the west side of the road.

#### Description:

McMaster Woods is a beautiful oak woodland and barrens that occurs on deep ravines, steep slopes and a ridgetop. Limestone bedrock outcrops along the bases of ravines and an intermittent stream crosses the northwest corner of the preserve. Dry-mesic upland forest, found on mid to upper slopes and ridgetops, is dominated by white oak and black oak. Shagbark hickory, mockernut hickory, redbud and chinquapin oak are also present. Mesic forest, found on lower slopes and ravine bottoms, is a diverse community dominated by red oak and sugar maple with occasional bitternut hickory, American elm and hackberry. A great variety of wildflowers, grasses, sedges and ferns occur here, in-

cluding large-flowered bellwort, spikenard, false dragonhead, wood reed and maidenhair fern. A small, but interesting barrens remnant occurs on the ridgetop adjacent to an abandoned field. Here, widely scattered white oaks stand above a wide diversity of native grasses and wildflowers such as Indian grass, woodland brome, tall coreopsis, slender mountain mint, New Jersey tea, bristly sunflower and showy goldenrod. The abandoned field on the ridgetop and bordering the road is being restored to a barrens community. Prescribed burning is used to retain and restore the open nature of this woodland.

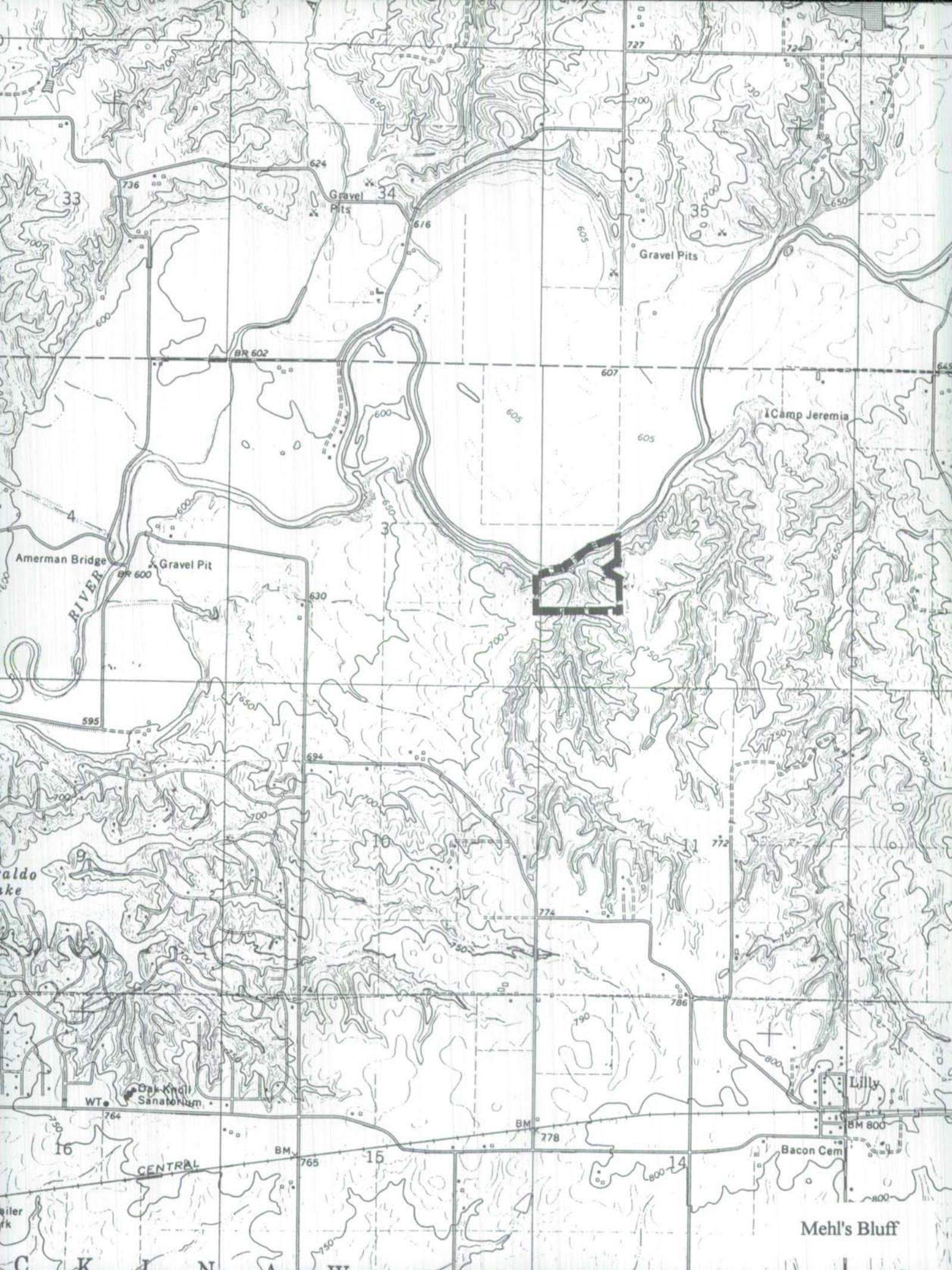
**Ownership:** The Nature Conservancy

**Dedicated:** October 1992

**Size:** 40 acres

**Topo Map:** Hardin 7.5

For Further Information Contact: The Nature Conservancy, Central Illinois Field Office, Commerce Bank Building, 416 Main Street, Suite 1600, Peoria, IL 61602 (309/673-6689)



34

35

33

Amerman Bridge

Gravel Pit

Gravel Pits

Gravel Pits

Camp Jeremia

aldo  
lake

Day-Kindl  
Sanatorium

Lilly

Bacon Cem

Mehl's Bluff

CENTRAL

C K I N A

16

15

14

11

10

727

722

736

624

616

609

607

605

630

624

774

772

750

786

778

765

764

800

800

750

800

800



## Mehl's Bluff Nature Preserve

## Tazewell County

### Location and Access:

From Hwy. 9 at east edge of Mackinaw, take Hwy. 9 east 2.9 miles, turn and go north 1 mile, turn and go east 0.1 mile, turn and go north 0.5 mile, then turn east and park at site office of Mackinaw River State Fish and Wildlife Area. The nature preserve is a 1 mile walk northwest of the office.

**Special Note:** This preserve is privately owned. It is surrounded by Mackinaw River State Fish and Wildlife Area, owned by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Visitation is generally allowed.

### Description:

Mehl's Bluff occurs on a deeply dissected bluff bordering the Mackinaw River in the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. This diverse site contains upland forest, floodplain forest, seep and creek communities. High southwest facing bluff exposures support plant species typical of savanna and hill prairie remnants. Seep springs occur in a steep ravine that bisects the preserve. The preserve provides habitat for

a great diversity of native plants, including the heartleaf plantain. As part of a much larger forest complex, Mehl's Bluff provides habitat for numerous area-sensitive, forest interior birds, including the Acadian flycatcher, woodthrush, scarlet tanager, red-eyed vireo and veery. Unusual patterned ground features occur in the floodplain near the mouth of a creek that drains into the Mackinaw River. These ground features are polygonal patterns that formed during mechanical weathering processes in very old soil.

**Ownership:** Harry Lyle Mehl and Jean L. Mehl

**Dedicated:** September 1988

**Size:** 24.6 acres nature preserve, 2.0 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Mackinaw 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, 524 S. 2nd St., Springfield, IL 62706 (217/785-8686)



MERDOSIA HILL PRAIRIE, MORGAN COUNTY

CHAPIN QUADRANGLE  
ILLINOIS



## Meredosia Hill Prairie Nature Preserve

## Morgan County

### Location and Access:

From 2.5 miles east of Meredosia at jct. Hwys. 64 (100) & 104, take Hwy. 67 north 0.7 mile to blacktop road, then turn and go east and northeast 2.5 miles. The nature preserve is south of the road.

### Description:

Marais d'Osier, meaning willow swamp, was the original French name given to the area in the early 1800's. At that time, the dissected uplands supported both mesic and dry oak-hickory forests, while wet prairies occupied the floodplains and hill prairies dominated the steep, loess covered slopes. Today, Meredosia Hill Prairie remains one of the least disturbed areas within the Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Natural Division. It is characterized by loess covered hillsides and elevations that vary from 600 feet on the ridge tops to 500 feet in the ravines. The vegetation is typical of loess hill prairies with sideoats grama, little bluestem and silky aster predominant. Unusual plants to see are pink milkwort and Hill's thistle. Like

most hill prairies, Meredosia is being invaded by woody vegetation. Therefore, current management of the prairie involves the removal of black locust and shrubs and an occasional prescribed burn. This site has a long history of study and observation. The prairie was visited by A. G. Vestal of the University of Illinois in 1931 and was studied by R. A. Evers of the Illinois Natural History Survey beginning in 1949. Evers described this site in the publication Hill Prairies of Illinois which was published in 1955.

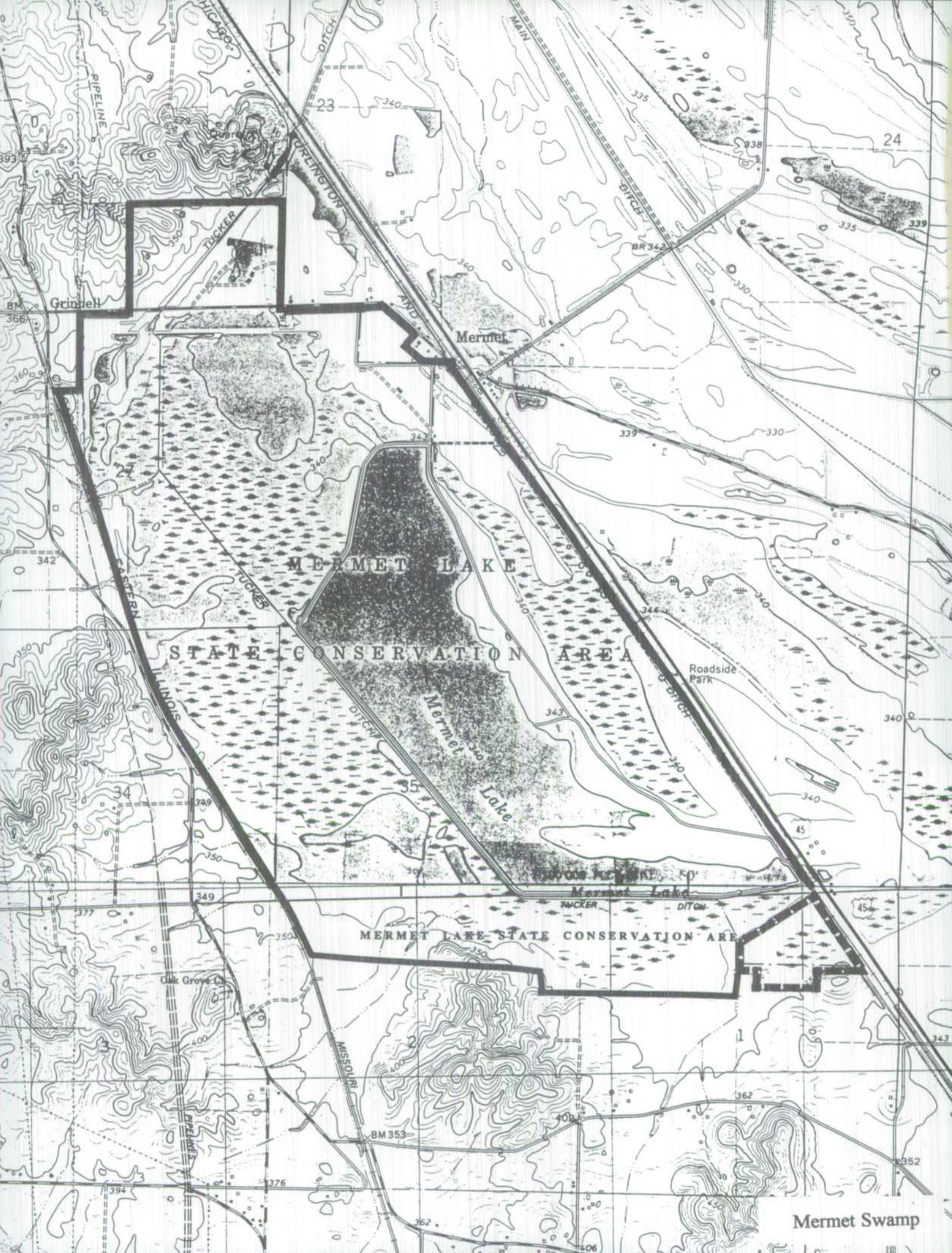
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** September 1986

**Size:** 30 acres

**Topo Map:** Chapin 7.5

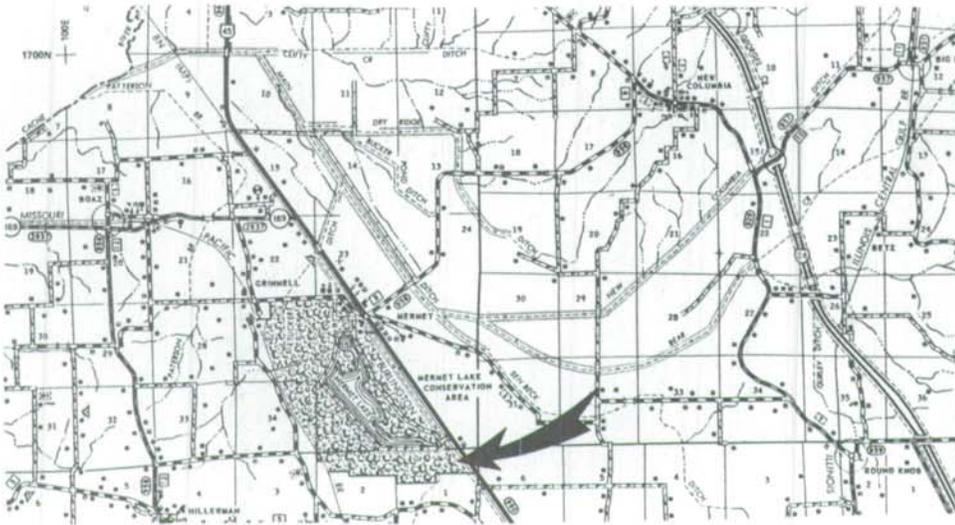
For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Sangchris Lake State Park, R.R.#1, Rochester, IL 62563 (217/498-9208)



MERMET LAKE  
STATE CONSERVATION AREA

MERMET LAKE STATE CONSERVATION AREA

Mermet Swamp



## Mermet Swamp Nature Preserve

### Location and Access:

From Mermet, take Hwy. 45 southeast to Mermet Lake State Conservation Area. The nature preserve is in the southeast corner of the conservation area.

**Special Note:** Informational signs, trail and parking are present.

### Description:

Mermet Swamp contains original vegetation once typical of the Bottomland Section and Cretaceous Hill Section of the Coastal Plain Natural Division. The preserve is a level, wooded, bottomland swamp, with a small part of the preserve extending up a steep hillside. The swamp is under water most of the year and is characterized by a thick stand of young cypress trees, most of which are less than 15 inches in diameter. Buttonbush and Virginia willow are dominant shrubs, while unusual plants include storax, arrow alum and red iris. Many

## Massac County

common mammals are found here as well as unusual and rare species including swamp rabbit, golden mouse and rice rat. The swamp also provides habitat for a wide diversity of birds, amphibians and reptiles.

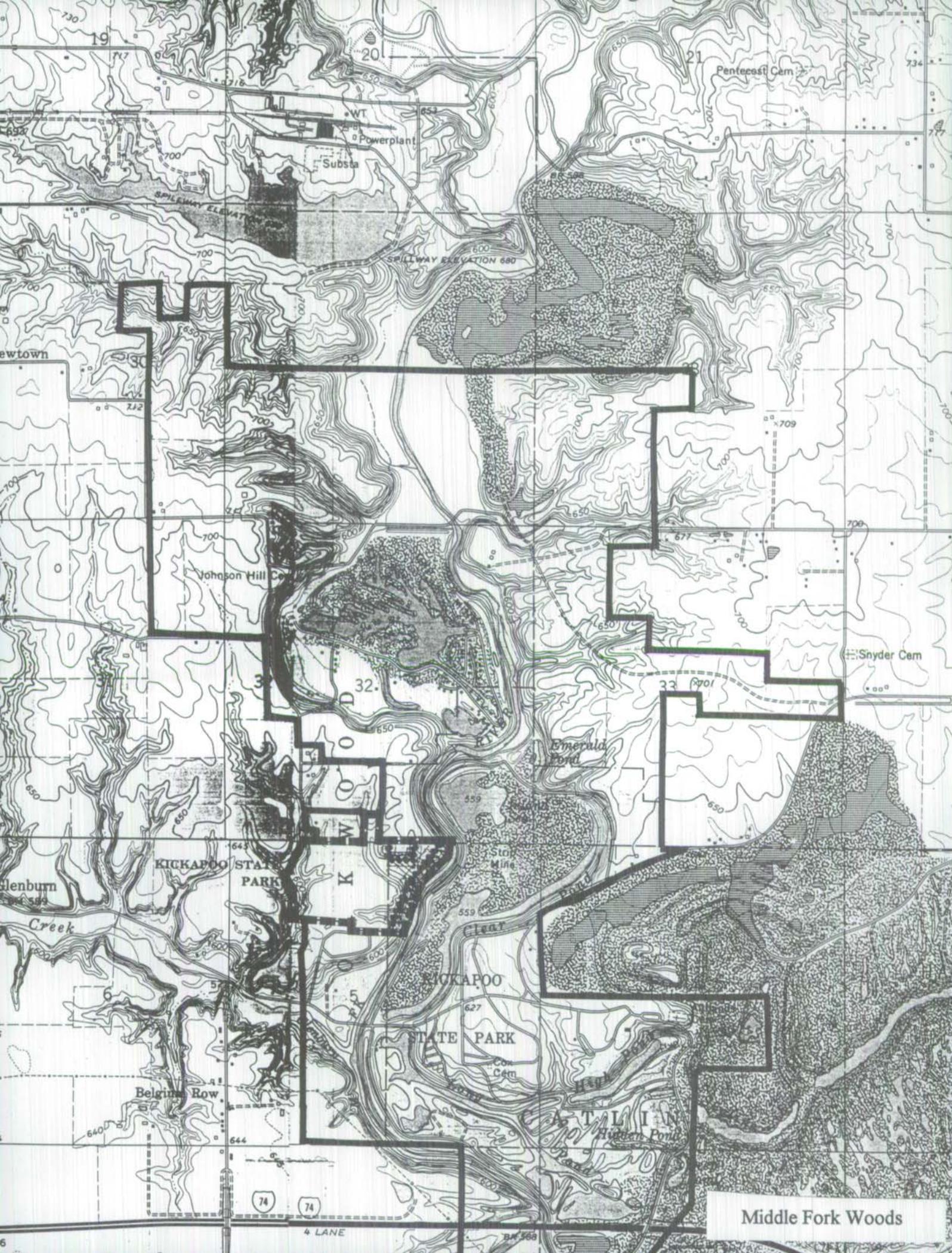
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** May 1969 as the 20th Illinois Nature Preserve

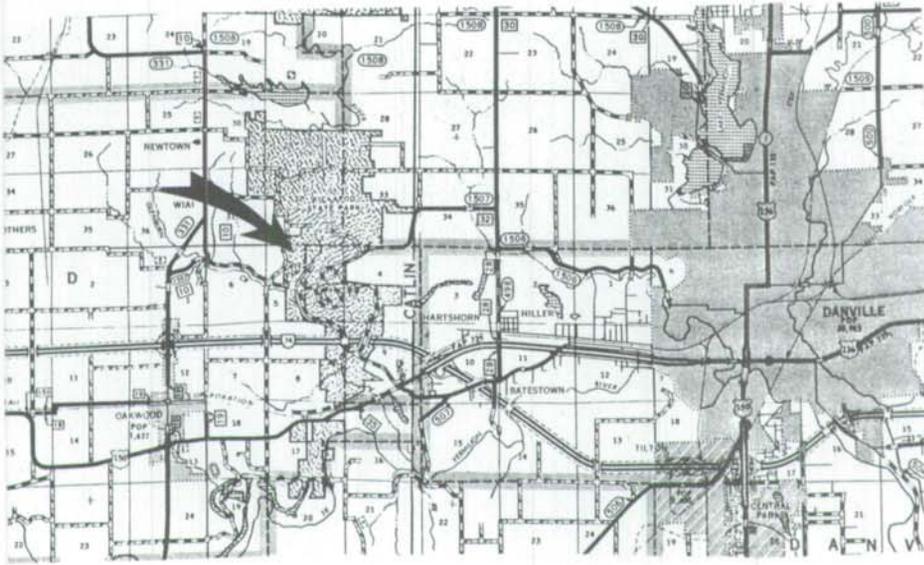
**Size:** 43 acres

**Topo Map:** Joppa 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Site Superintendent, Mermet Lake Conservation Area, Belknap, IL 62908 (618/524-5577) or Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Dixon Springs State Park, R.R.#2, Golconda, IL 62938 (618/949-3305)



Middle Fork Woods



## Middle Fork Woods Nature Preserve

## Vermilion County

### Location and Access:

From 2.5 miles west of Danville at jct. I-74 & Hwy. 150, take Hwy. 150 southwest 0.4 miles to blacktop road, then turn and go northwest 0.7 mi. to Kickapoo State Park.

Special Note: The preserve is located within Kickapoo State Park. Many facilities are available to visitors.

### Description:

Middle Fork Woods is a remnant of a once vast mesic upland forest of the Vermilion Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division. Prior to glaciation Vermilion County was characterized by wide valleys and rolling hills. A preglacial river that originated in Virginia entered Illinois near Hoopston. The ancient waterway was known as the Teays. When the glaciers advanced into the state the Teays, along with many other significant landforms, disappeared. The glaciers deposited huge quantities of material, known as glacial drift, throughout the county in thicknesses ranging from 50 to 200 feet. The material included unsorted ice-laid debris (till), sorted meltwater, sand and gravel (outwash), fine grained wind-blown silt (loess), and coarse-grained sediments (alluvium) along streams. These deposits

were extremely important; they became the parent material of the 4 soil types presently found in the preserve. The plant and animal populations found in this Section are distinct from those found elsewhere in Illinois. Several forest communities have been recognized: upland forest with black and white oak, slopes with sugar maple and basswood, and ephemeral ponds with swamp white oak. The understory includes ironwood, redbud, sassafras, and blue beech. A total of 45 mammal species, 40 bird species, and 13 herptile species have been observed in the Kickapoo-Middle Fork complex.

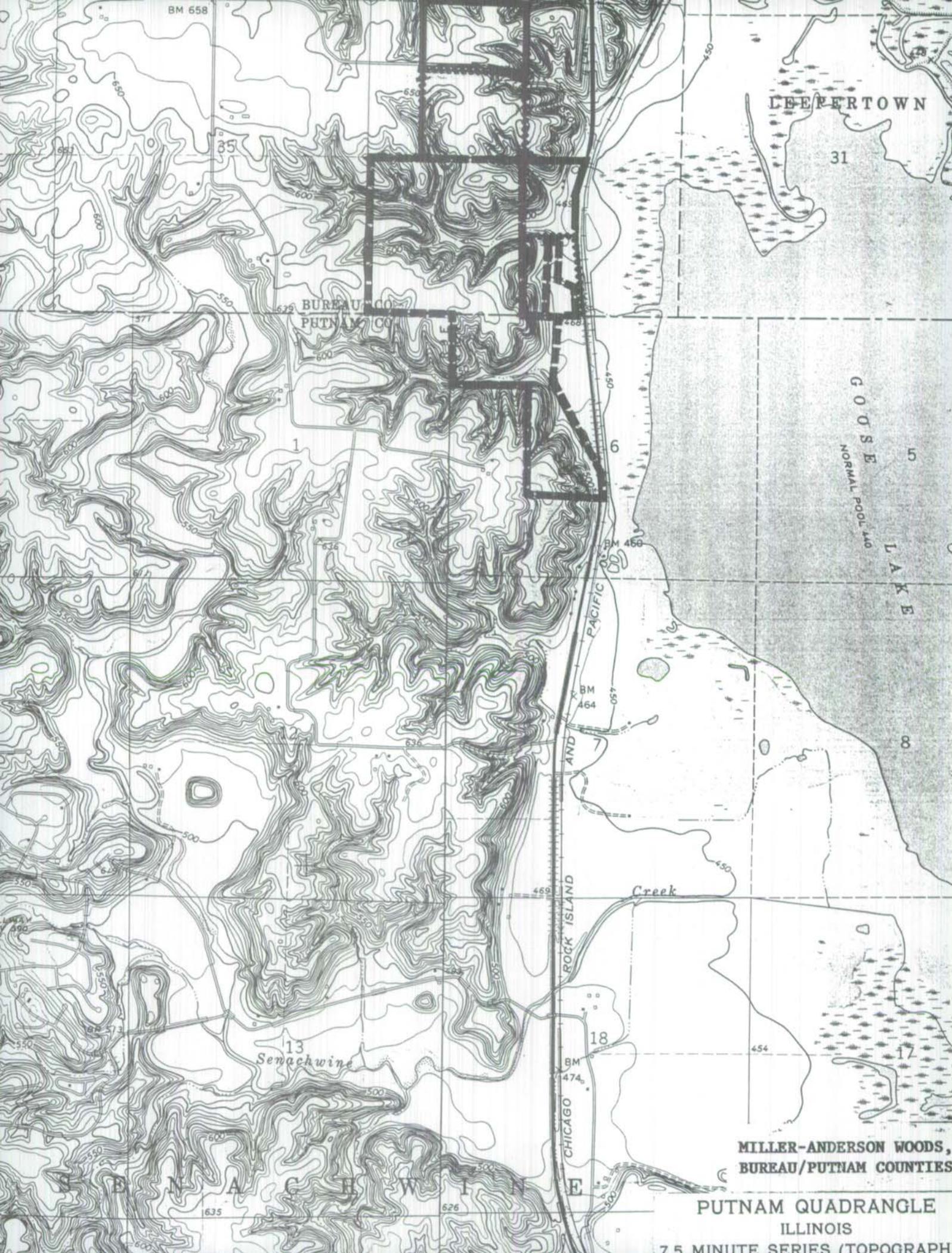
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Conservation

**Dedicated:** May 1979

**Size:** 69.2 acres with an additional 9.8 acres of buffer

**Topo Map:** Collison and Danville NW 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Site Superintendent, Kickapoo State Park, Oakwood, IL 61858 (217/442-4915) or Natural Heritage Biologist, R.R.#2, Box 108, Charleston, IL 61920 (217/345-2420)



BM 658

LEPERTOWN

31

BUREAU CO.  
PUTNAM CO.

GOOSE  
NORMAL POOL AND  
LAKE

PACIFIC

AND  
ROCK ISLAND

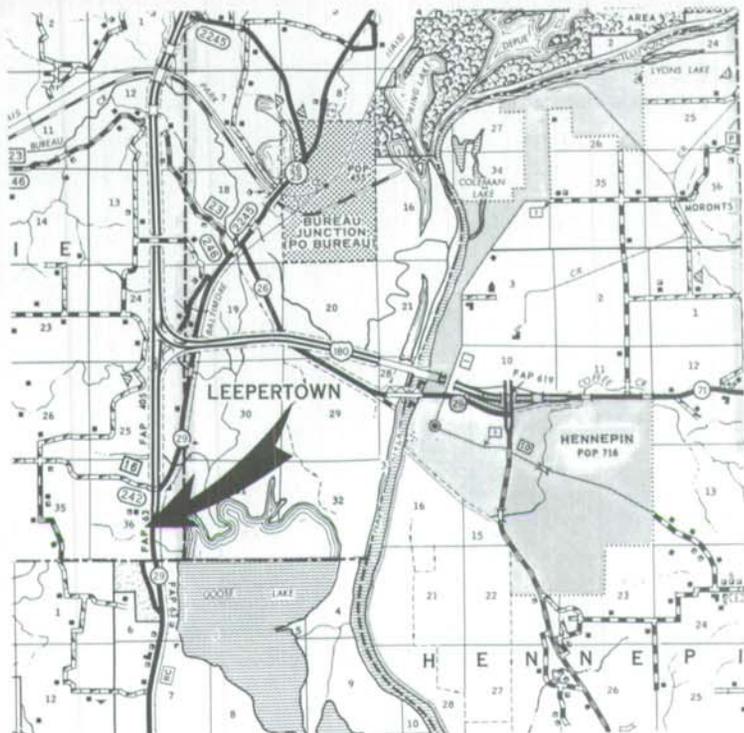
Creek

13  
Semachwine

MILLER-ANDERSON WOODS,  
BUREAU/PUTNAM COUNTIES

PUTNAM QUADRANGLE  
ILLINOIS

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



## Miller-Anderson Woods Nature Preserve

## Bureau & Putnam Counties

### Location and Access:

From Putnam take Highway 29 north 3.6 miles to the Bureau/Putnam county line. The nature preserve is in both counties and just west of Highway 29.

Special Note: Trails have been developed. Parking, informational signs and toilet facilities are available along the abandoned part of Route 29.

### Description:

This large preserve contains natural communities representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. The majority of the bluff area consists of old-growth oak-hickory upland forest with maple-basswood forest occurring in the eroded ravines. Other small, recently acquired communities such as sedge meadow, seep spring and hill prairie add unique vegetation to the already rich diversity. Notable plants

include showy orchid and Schreber's aster. Seep areas with large accumulations of peat support marsh marigold and skunk cabbage. Ohio buckeye and queen-of-the-prairie are also present.

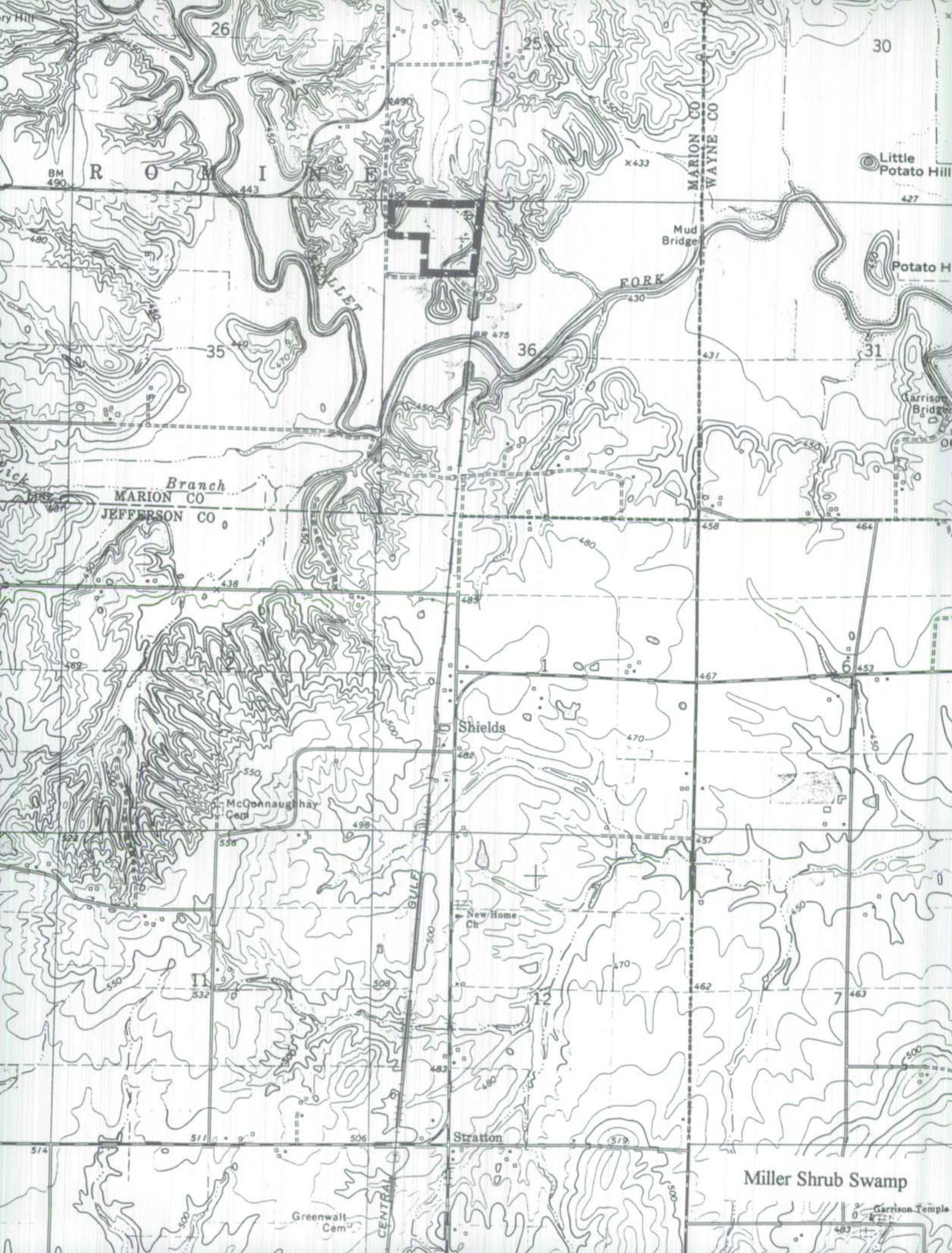
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** November 1969

**Size:** 268.7 acres with an additional 71.4 acres of buffer

**Topo Map:** Putnam 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Site Superintendent, Donnelley State Fish and Wildlife Area, Box 52, DePue, IL 61322 (815/447-2353) or Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Dearborn Hall, 205 E. Seminary Street, Mt. Carroll, IL 61053 (815/244-3655)



30

Little Potato Hill

427

Potato H

31

Garrison Bridge

R O I E

MARION CO  
WAYNE CO

Mud Bridge

FORK

35

36

Branch  
MARION CO  
JEFFERSON CO

Shields

McConaughay Capi

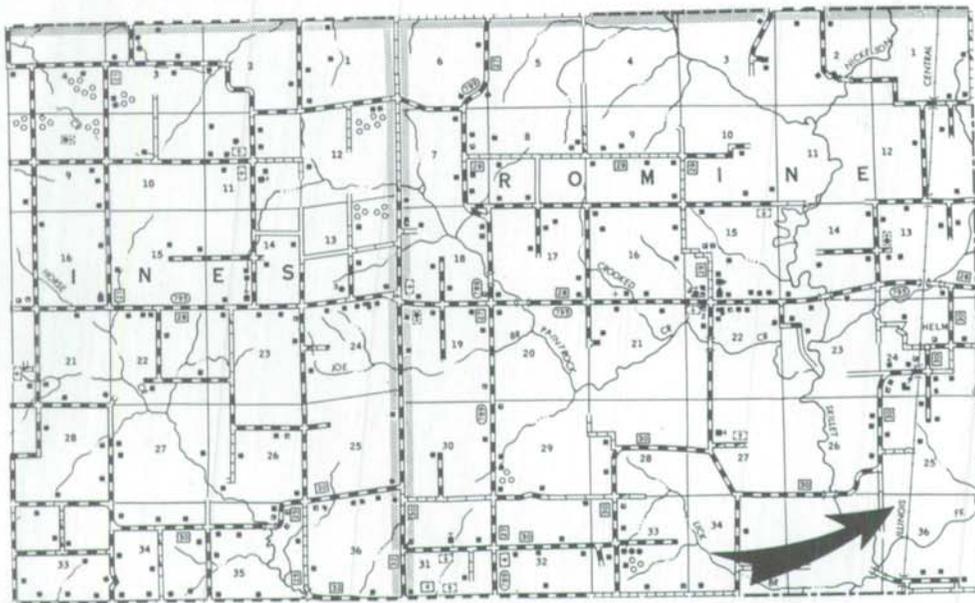
New Home Ch

Stratton

Miller Shrub Swamp

Garrison Temple

Greenwalt Cem



## Miller Shrub Swamp Nature Preserve

## Marion County

### Location and Access:

From Helm, follow Rt. 30 south for 1.5 miles to where the highway turns west. Continue south on an unimproved road for 0.25 mile. This preserve is located along the bluff line of the Skillet Fork in southeastern Marion County.

### Description:

This preserve contains shrub swamp and pond communities representative of the Mt. Vernon Hill Country of Southern Illinois. This spring-fed wetland, located at the base of a hill, is characterized by well defined plant communities. Within the shrub swamp the most abundant plants are buttonbush, black willow and water

pepper, an herbaceous plant. The most common plants in the pond community are yellow pond lily, duckweed and dock. Colonies of sensitive fern are present throughout the entire marsh.

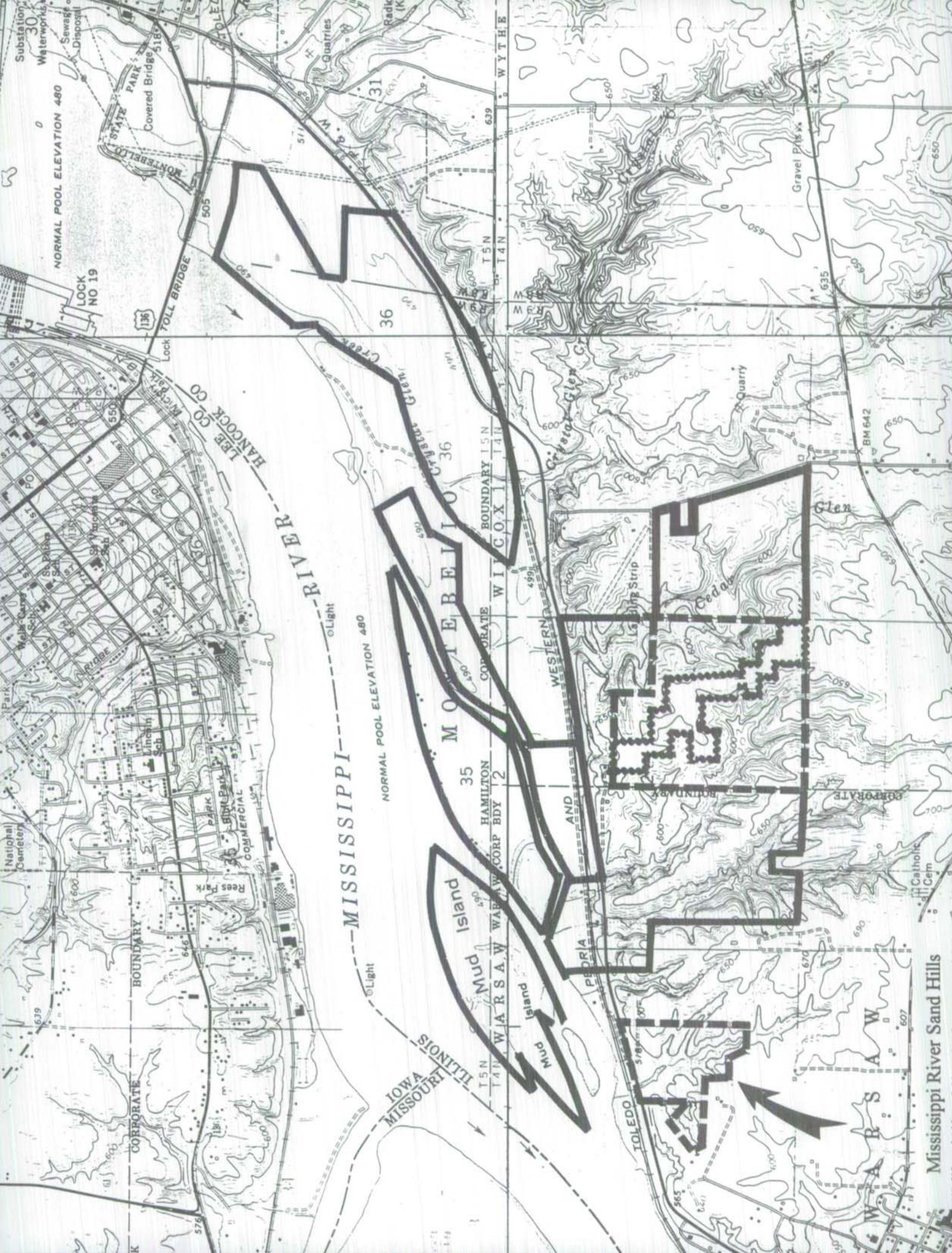
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** April 1990

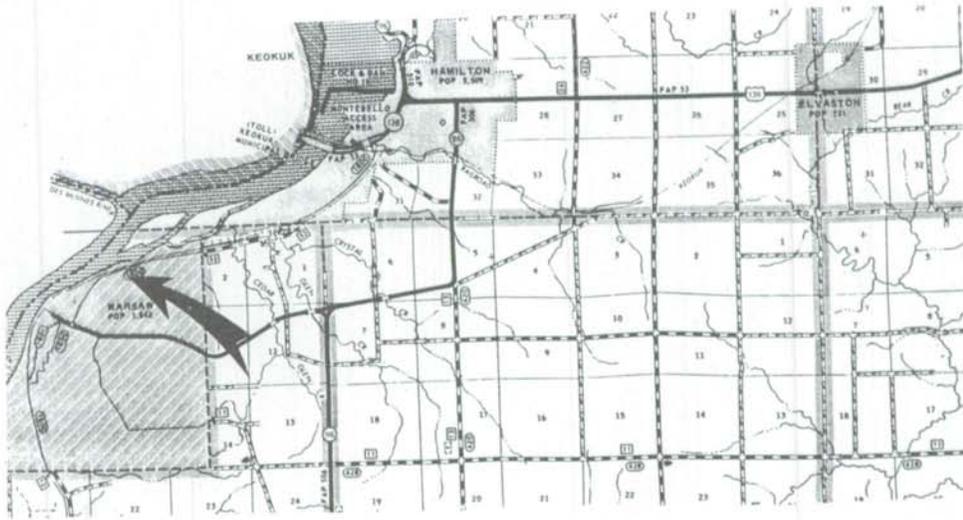
**Size:** 35.7 acres

**Topo Map:** Shields 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Prairie-chicken Sanctuary, R.R. 3, Box 74, Newton, IL 62448 (618/783-2685)



Mississippi River Sand Hills



## Mississippi River Sand Hills Nature Preserve

## Hancock County

### Location and Access:

From Hamilton at jct. Hwys. 96 & 136, take Hwy. 136 west and southwest 1.3 miles to jct. with blacktop road going south, then turn and go south-southwest 3.7 miles. The nature preserve is south of the road.

Special Note: Access is by permission only and no trails have been developed.

### Description:

Mississippi River Sand Hills lies within the Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Natural Division. The area is characterized by deeply dissected river bluffs, with sand hills rising 40 feet above the surrounding land. The slopes of the sand hills support upland forest dominated by post oak, black oak and hickory. A small dry prairie exists in a small opening at the top of the hill. Little bluestem is the dominant

grass species, while associated forbs include blazing star, tick clover and lespedeza. The preserve is managed as part of Western Illinois University's Kibbe Life Science Station and is used primarily for research purposes.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** December 1972

**Size:** 45 acres

**Topo Map:** Warsaw 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Director, Kibbe Life Science Station, WIU, Warsaw, IL 62379 (217/256-4583) or Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, P.O. Box 477, Pittsfield, IL 62363 (217/285-2221)



596

583

28

582

Melville

Rocky Fork Ch

Savage Disposal Ponds

Valhalla Cem

593

602

Hollow

Radio Tower W00KZ

Greenwood Cem

100

626

635

637

1 Mile  
207

North Alton

ILLINOIS  
MISSOURI

M I S S I S S I P P I  
R I V

Mile  
205

Dresser Island

Brick House Slough

Spatterdock Lake

Confederate Cem

West Jr High Sch

Ursuline Convent

Waterworks

CITY BDY

Mississippi Sanctuary

433

27

26

422



## Mississippi Sanctuary Nature Preserve

## Madison County

### Location and Access:

From the Rte. 3 and Rte. 67 junction in Alton, take Rte. 3 approx. 1 mile northwest to Levis Lane. Continue along Levis Lane approx. 0.5 mile to second road on left. Follow this road into the preserve.

**Special Note:** This area is a privately owned nature preserve. Entrance is by prior permission only.

### Description:

Overlooking the Mississippi River and the Great River Road, Mississippi Sanctuary is part of the same large forested tract which includes Oblate Fathers' Woods and Olin nature preserves. This dry to mesic upland forest is representative of the Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Natural Division. It has

been maintained by its owners as an arboretum and nature sanctuary for over 20 years. The sheltered ravine forests provide potential winter roost sites for bald eagles. A small, loess hill prairie which occurs on a south facing bluff is responding well to management including prescribed burns.

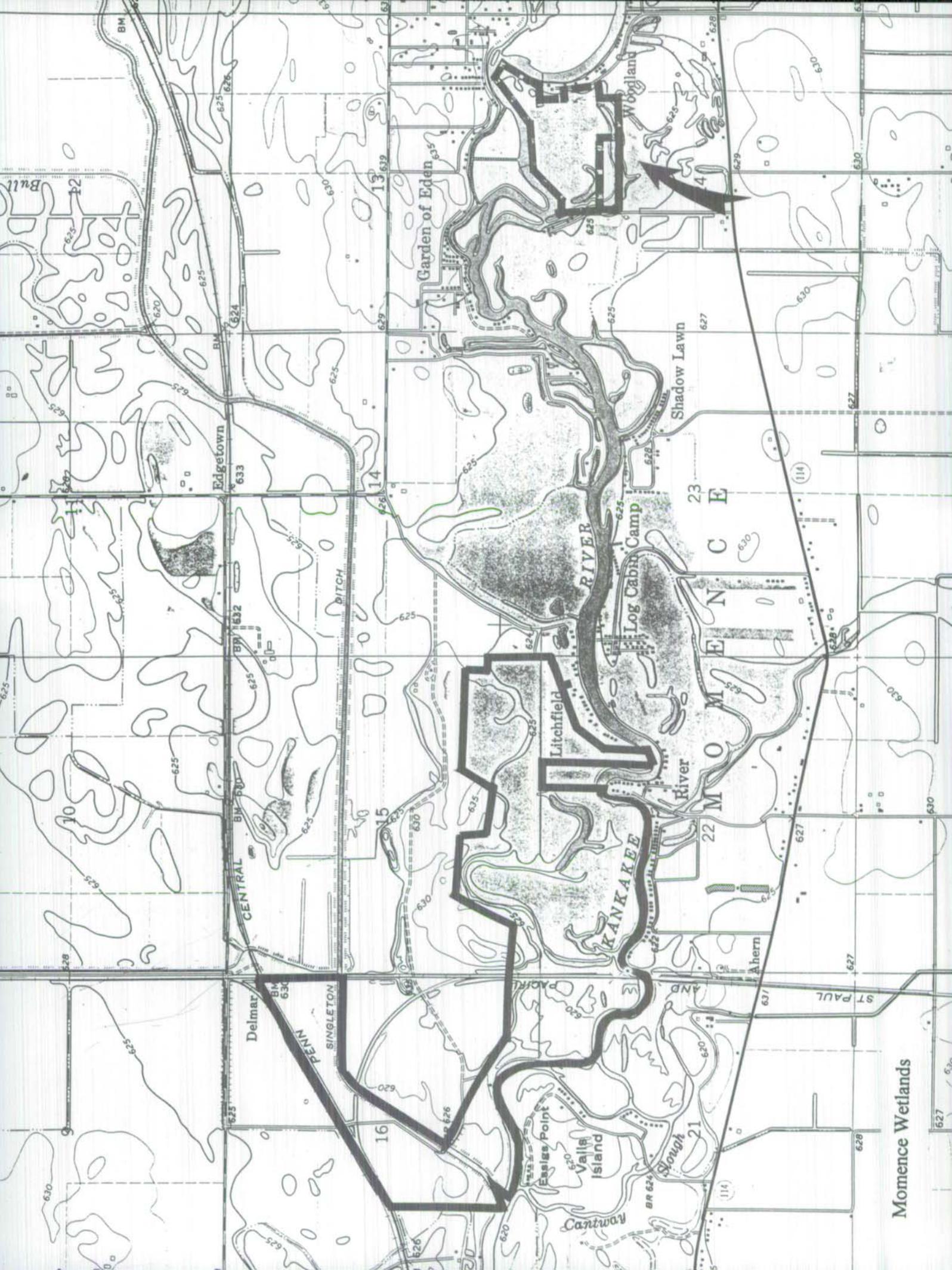
**Ownership:** Aune P. Nelson

**Dedicated:** December 1993

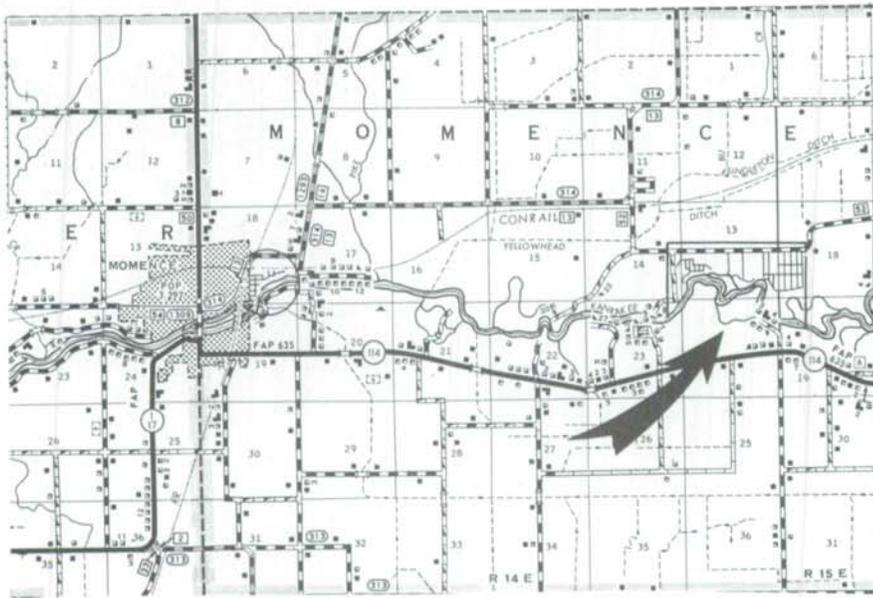
**Size:** 15 acres with an additional 26.2 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Alton 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, 524 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, IL 62706 (217/785-8686)



Momence Wetlands



## Momence Wetlands Nature Preserve

## Kankakee County

### Location and Access:

From Momence, take Highway 114 east 6 miles to a county road. Turn north on this road and go 0.75 mile. The preserve is on the west side of the road.

confined to the counties in the extreme southern part of the state.

### Description:

These wetlands along the Kankakee River contain trees commonly associated with floodplains. These include green ash, sycamore, silver maple and eastern cottonwood. Other trees present in the area are pumpkin ash and swamp cottonwood, species which are more commonly associated with southern Illinois. Storax was discovered here last year. In Illinois, this plant is largely

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** September 1988

**Size:** 72 acres

**Topo Map:** Illiana Heights 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 100 First National Bank Plaza, Suite 10, Chicago Heights, IL 60411 (708/709-3300) or Site Superintendent, Iroquois County Conservation Area, Beaverville, IL 60912 (815/435-2218)



POTNAM CO.  
LA SALLE CO.

MERIDIAN

PRINCIPAL

Mt Palatine  
Cm

Mt Palatine

Immaculate Conception  
Cm

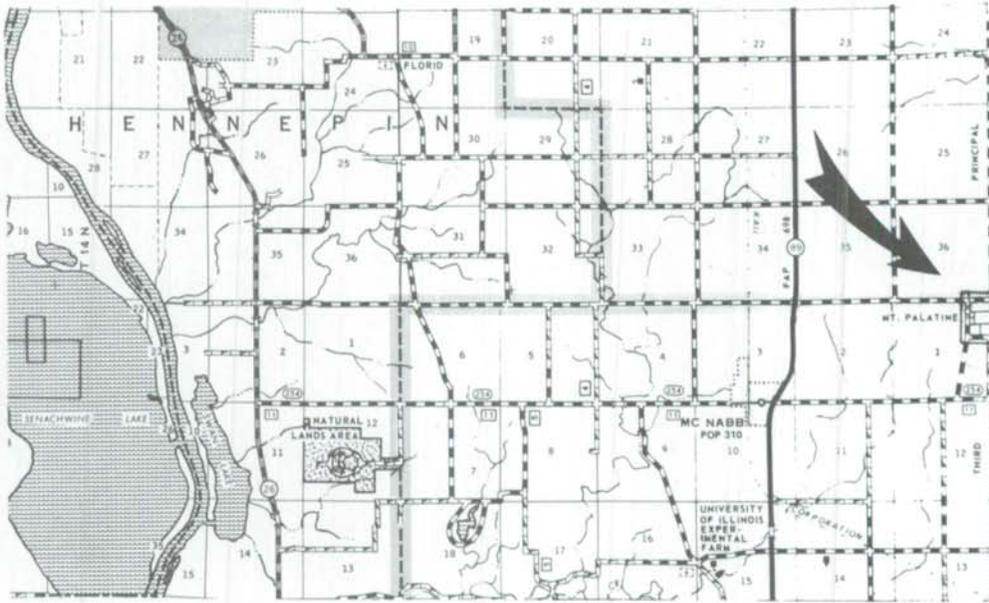
Hartenbower Hectarea  
Landing Strip

Immaculate Conception  
Cm

Mt. Palatine Cemetery Prairie

MC

75 MIN



## Mt. Palatine Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve

## Putnam County

### Location and Access:

Mt. Palatine Cemetery is located 1 mile north of Mc-Nabb on IL Rt. 89, then 1.5 miles east to the access lane, then north 0.1 mile to the cemetery.

### Description:

This mesic prairie remnant in the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division is a tall-grass prairie. Dominant grasses include both big and little bluestem, Indian grass and switchgrass. Among the forty or more native prairie forbs that bloom are prairie violet, yellow

coneflower, hoary puccoon, creamy indigo, lead plant and New England aster.

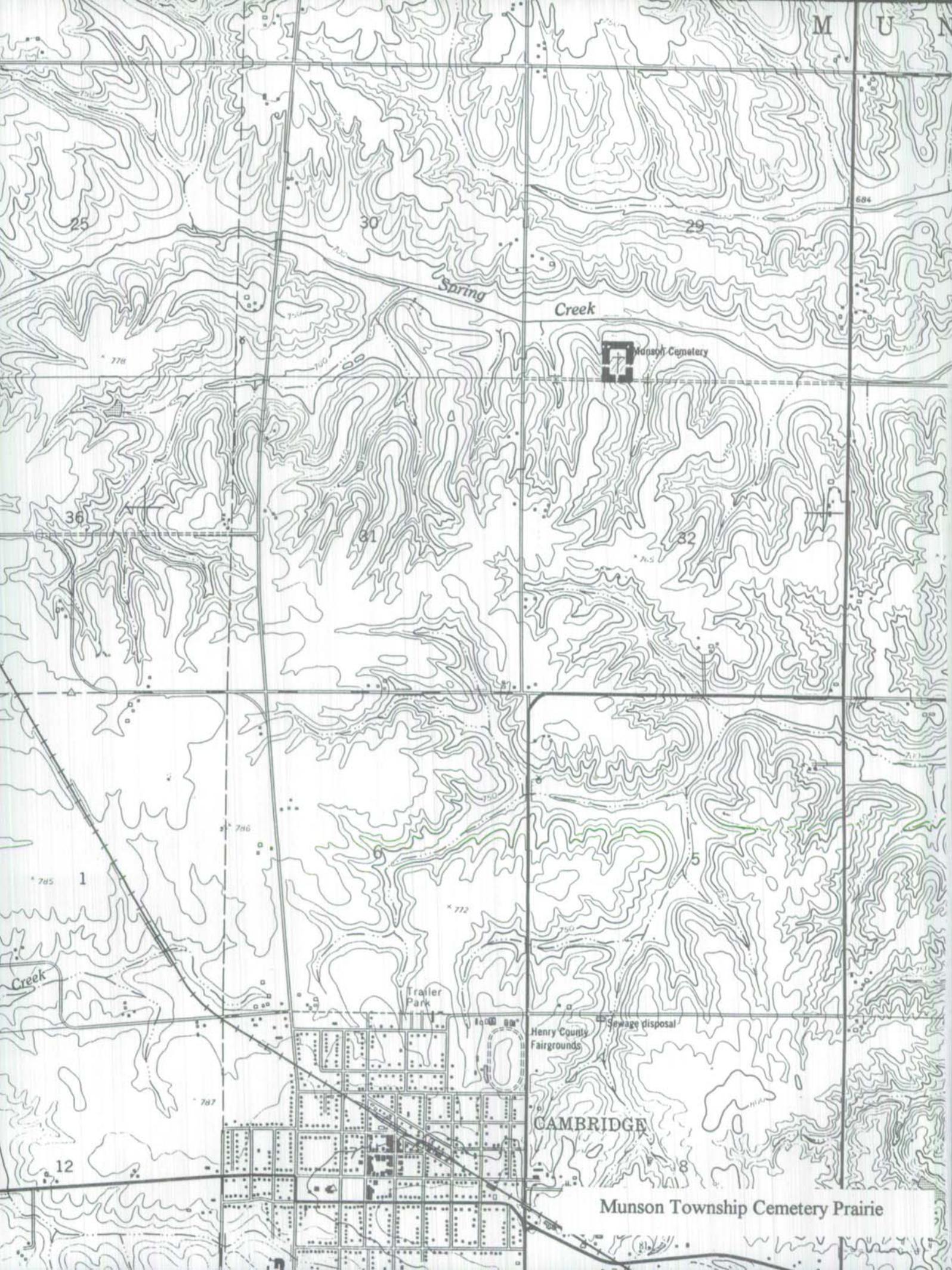
**Ownership:** Mt. Palatine Cemetery Board of Trustees

**Dedicated:** March 1992

**Size:** 1.5 acres

**Topo Map:** McNabb 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Putnam County Conservation District, RR # 1 - Box 127, Hennepin IL 61327 (815/882-2319)



684

25

30

29

Spring

Creek



Munson Cemetery

778

750

36

31

32

765

785

1

786

6

772

750

5

Creek

Trailer Park

Henry County Fairgrounds

Sewage disposal

787

CAMBRIDGE

12

8

Munson Township Cemetery Prairie



## Munson Township Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve

Henry County

### Location and Access:

From the intersection of I-80 and IL Rt 82 (south edge of Geneseo), travel south on Rt 82 a distance of 5.25 miles, then west (right) on a graded, gravel road (1400N) exactly 1 mile, then south 1 mile, then east approximately 0.25 mile to the cemetery entrance. A small parking area and entrance to the prairie are visible at that point. Please follow the path.

### Description:

This black soil prairie remnant is representative of the Western Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. Big bluestem, little bluestem and Indian grass are the dominant grasses with a variety of interesting and unique forbs including yellow star grass, Hill's thistle and one-flowered broomrape. Some historical accounts indicate that many years ago the cemetery was mowed

for hay, but the prairie has remained undisturbed in recent years. It is now carefully managed with a combination of brush removal and prescribed burning.

**Ownership:** Munson Township

**Dedicated:** August 1983

**Size:** 5 acres

**Topo Map:** Cambridge 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Alan Yager, Supervisor of Munson Township, R.R. 2, Box 85, Cambridge, IL 61238 (309/944-6212); Henry County Natural Area Guardians, County Soil and Water Conservation District, 301 E. North, Cambridge, IL 61238 (309/937-3376)



Coal Hollow

16

15

Creek

17

Edget Creek

Brush

Edget

Gravel Pit

Gravel Pit

Gravel Pit



ELBY

29

28

27

500

Pearl Ridge Cem

BM 645

32

33

20

34

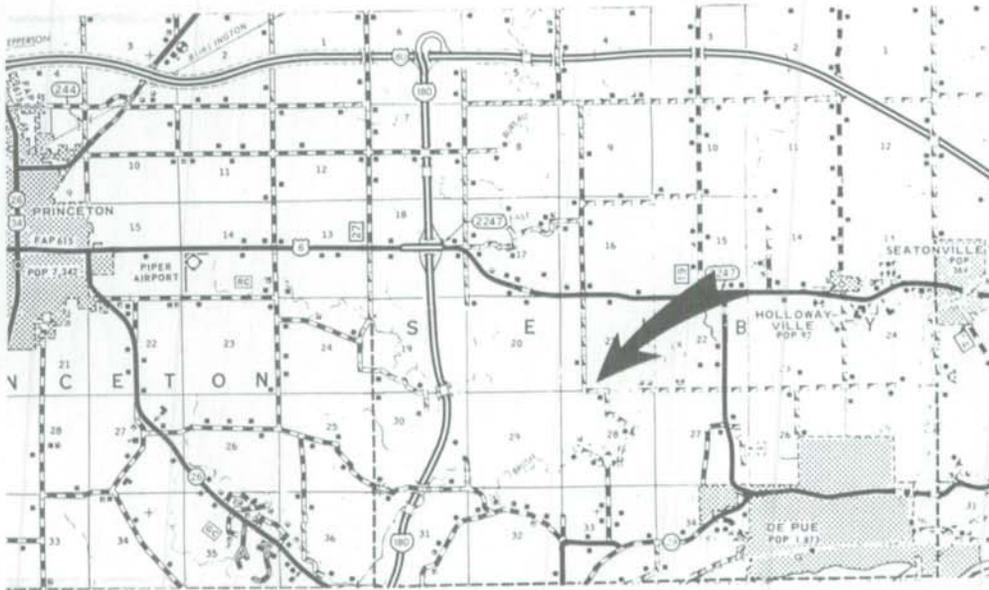
Trailer Park

BM 471

PACIFIC

Myer Woods

Par  
Sew Disp



## Myer Woods Nature Preserve

## Bureau County

### Location and Access:

From the east edge of Princeton, travel 5.25 miles east on US Rt 6; then south on a gravel road 1 mile; then east 0.25 mile to the south edge of the nature preserve.

### Description:

Myer Woods is a dry-mesic old-growth woodland dominated by black oaks, and to a slightly lesser extent by white oaks. Much of the 20 acre tract is relatively flat, but wooded ravines divide the south portion and the northeast corner. The site was deeded to the Princeton Park District in 1959 by the Myer family "to be kept as close to its natural state as practical". It was sub-

sequently dedicated as an Illinois nature preserve by the Park District.

**Ownership:** Princeton Park District

**Dedicated:** June 1977

**Size:** 20 acres

**Topo Map:** DePue 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Princeton Park District, 10 Park Avenue West, Princeton, IL 61356 (815/879-8146)



Trailer Park  
Melville

Rocky Fork Ch

Valhalla Cem

Sewage Disposal Ponds

Hollow

Radio Tower (WOKZ)

Greenwood Cem

North Alton

Confederate Cem

Hop Hollow

Partinops

Ursuline Convent

West Jr High Se

Waterworks

Oblate Fathers' Woods

Mile 207

Mile 205

433

420

422

27

26

28

596

583

582

593

602

500

563

626

635

100

537

620

635

609

535

636

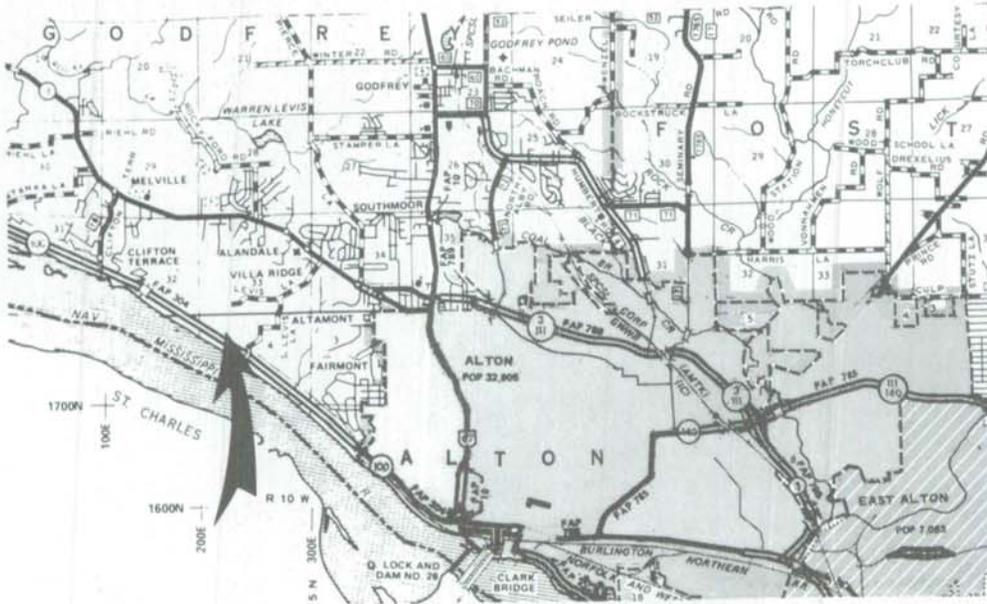
420

21

420

420

420



## Oblate Fathers' Woods Nature Preserve

## Madison County

### Location and Access:

From the Rte. 3 and Rte. 67 junction in Alton, take Rte. 3 approx. 1 mile northwest to Levis Lane. Continue along Levis Lane approx. 1.25 mile to fourth road on left. Follow this road into the preserve.

Special Note: This area is a privately owned nature preserve. Entrance is by prior permission only.

### Description:

Oblate Fathers' Woods is part of the same large forested tract overlooking the Mississippi River which includes Mississippi Sanctuary and Olin nature preserves. This dry to mesic upland forest is on a south facing slope of

a large ravine. It is representative of the Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Natural Division. Bald eagles have been known to use the area, primarily in the winter.

**Ownership:** Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

**Dedicated:** November 1993

**Size:** 16.5 acres

**Topo Map:** Alton 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, 524 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, IL 62706 (217/785-8686)



Melville

Rocky Fork Ch

Hollow

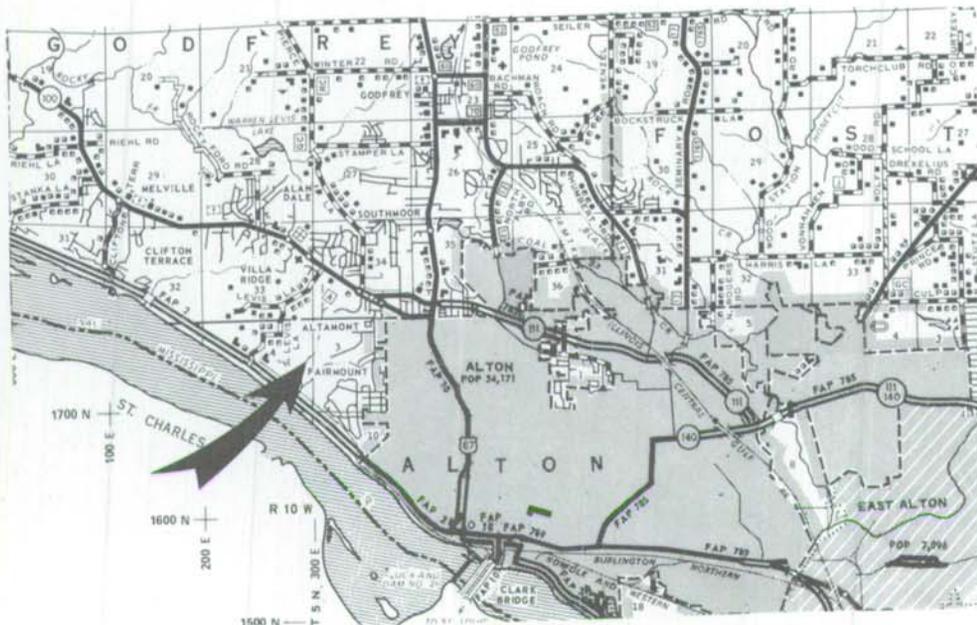
North Alton

ILLINOIS MISSOURI

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

Dresser Island  
Brick House Slough  
Spatterdock Lake

John M. Olin



## John M. Olin Nature Preserve

## Madison County

### Location and Access:

From the Rte. 3 and Rte. 67 junction in Alton, take Rte. 3 approx. 1 mile northwest to Levis Lane. Continue along Levis Lane approx. 0.5 mile to second road on left. Follow this road 0.25 mile to the entrance of the preserve.

### Description:

Steep limestone bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River as well as sink holes, ravines, bedrock outcrops, small streams, a waterfall, upland forest and loess hill prairie characterize this area. Dry upland forest occurs on the ridges and bluff tops and grades from dry to mesic on the slopes and along the streams. The forest is mostly young to mature second growth with the largest trees found on the lower slopes and bottoms of the ravines. Scattered old second growth trees occur in some of ravines. The forest has a high diversity of tree species with the dry and dry-mesic woods dominated by post, black, white and chinquapin oaks. Mesic woods contain

white, red and chinquapin oak and sugar maple, hickory, ash and hackberry. The sheltered ravine forests provide potential winter roost sites for bald eagles.

A small, diverse hill prairie occurs on a southwest facing loess bluff. Little bluestem and sideoats grama are the most common prairie grasses with purple coneflower, bluets and purple prairie clover among the most common forbs.

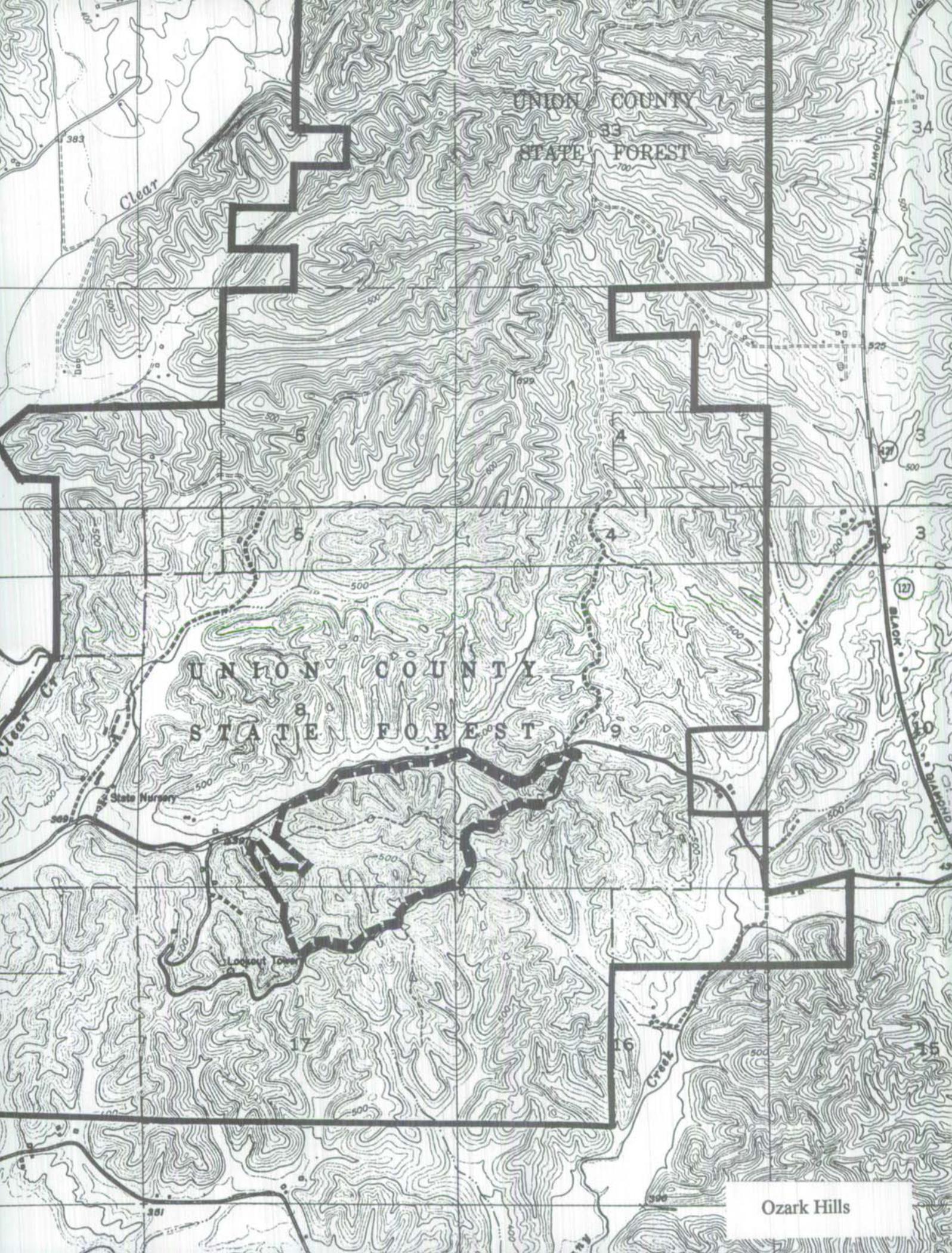
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** December 1990

**Size:** 213 acres with an additional 79.6 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Alton 7.5

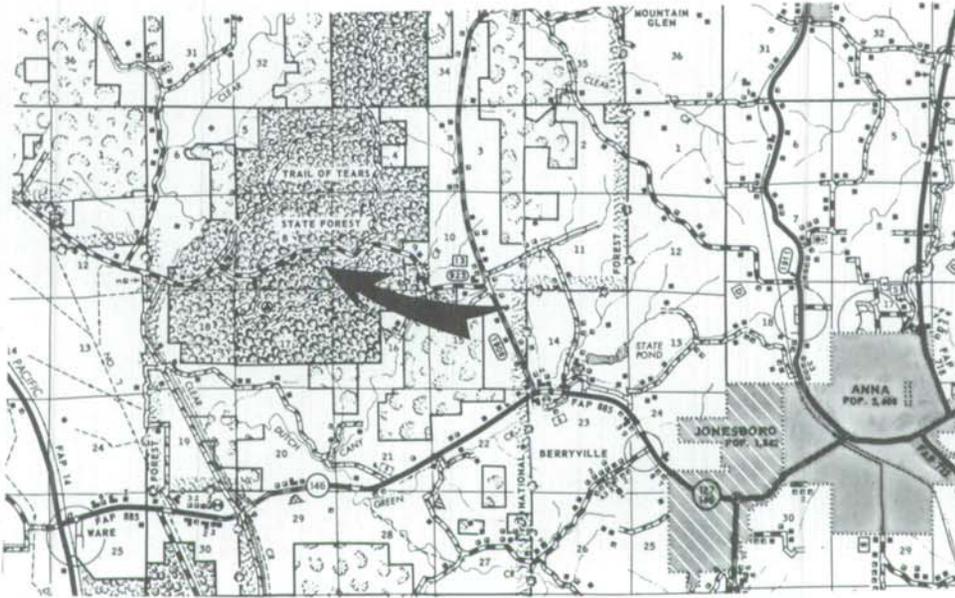
For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 4521 Alton Commerce Parkway, Alton, IL 62002 (618/462-1181)



UNION COUNTY  
STATE FOREST

UNION COUNTY  
STATE FOREST

Ozark Hills



## Ozark Hills Nature Preserve

### Location and Access:

From Jonesboro, take Highway 127 north 3 miles to a county road. Turn west on this road and go 0.5 mile to the entrance to Trail of Tears State Forest. Stay on the road for 1 mile. The preserve is on the south side of the road.

### Description:

This preserve is located in the Southern Section of the Ozark Division, that part of Illinois that is geologically similar to the Ozark Region of Missouri. The site is mature second growth forest. It contains several unusual plant species such as red buckeye, azalea and cucumber magnolia. These plants have a very limited distribution in Illinois. The community that these plants occur in is dry-mesic and mesic upland forest. The dry-mesic forest contains white oak, black oak and hickories while American beech, tulip tree, sugar maple and sweet gum comprise the mesic upland forest. In the

## Union County

spring the forest floor is blanketed by colorful wildflowers including phlox, Dutchman's breeches, spring beauty, bellflower, celandine poppy and squirrel corn. This preserve provides habitat for scarlet tanager, summer tanager, hooded warbler, worm-eating warbler and Kentucky warbler.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

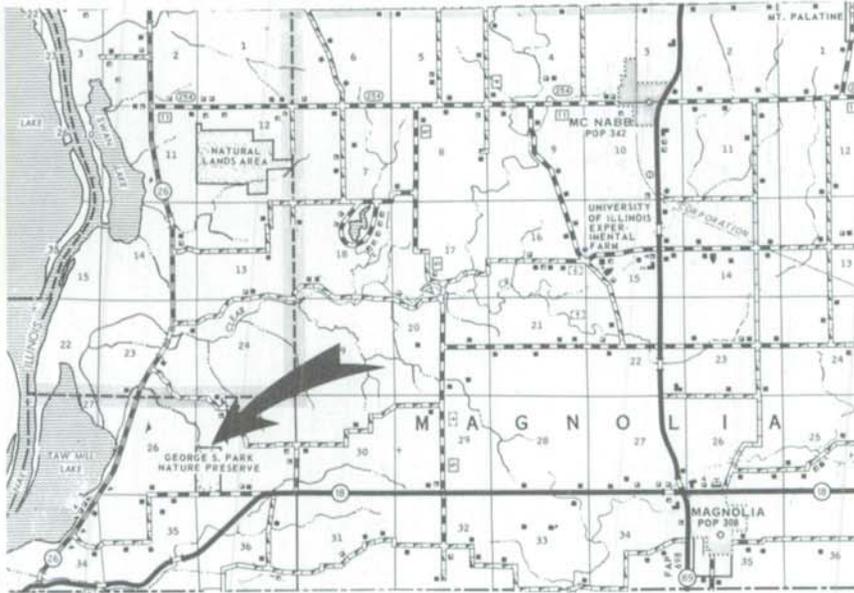
**Dedicated:** December 1974

**Size:** 222 acres

**Topo Map:** Jonesboro 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Ferne Clyffe State Park, P.O. Box 67, Goreville, IL 62939 (618/995-2568) or Site Superintendent, Trail of Tears State Forest, R.R. #1, Box 1331 Jonesboro, IL 62952 (618/833-4910)





## George S. Park Memorial Woods Nature Preserve

## Putnam County

### Location and Access:

From Henry, take Hwy. 18 east 4.1 miles to blacktop road, then turn and go west 0.5 mile. The nature preserve is on the north side of the road.

### Description:

George S. Park Memorial Woods is an excellent example of the native forests once found in the Grand Prairie Natural Division. These forests were typically restricted to the bluffs of the Illinois River while the flat, drier areas were claimed by the prairie communities. The early pioneers living amidst a sea of grass had a great respect for their forests. The scattered woods provided settlers with firewood, building materials and a cool place to escape from the heat of the prairie. A result of the settlers needs for these areas was that several small, scattered, high quality woodlots were deliberately protected. Today, the story about the Grand Prairie has changed. Native forests are extremely rare due to the clearing of trees for cultivation and the use of the woodlots for grazing. Fortunately, George S. Park Memorial Woods was one of the protected areas. The land was donated to the state in 1961 by Rebecca Lowrie

in memory of her grandfather, George S. Park, who lived and owned the property during the 1800's. The preserve displays a fairly uniform hardwood forest with gradual to moderately steep slopes. The drier hilltops are dominated by white and black oak. The mesic slopes support a sugar maple and red oak community. The well-drained ravines have a mixture of many tree species such as elm, oak, walnut and Kentucky coffee. The herbaceous layer is abundant with native woodland plants. Many common animals species may be observed.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** January 1967

**Size:** 80 acres

**Topo Maps:** Henry and Florid 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 215 N. 5th, Suite D, Pekin, IL 61555 (309/347-5119) or Putnam County Conservation District, R.R. 1, Box 52A, Hennepin, IL 61327 (815/882-2319)





## ParkLands Nature Preserve

## Tazewell County

### Location and Access:

From Interstate 55, take IL Route 9 west to the Mackinaw River State Fish and Wildlife Area near the Village of Mackinaw. The preserve lies within this site.

### Description:

This site along the Mackinaw River was established to protect the habitat of the heart-leaved plantain which inhabits the gravel beds of the tributaries of the river. This plant once grew in 20 counties, but its populations have declined precipitously, and it is now known from only four counties. The populations in the stream beds at ParkLands are located within forests. These forests are beneficial to the plantain because they reduce erosion and slow the runoff of water during rains. Al-

though these forests are not old growth, they do contain a high diversity of woody and herbaceous plant species. The Mackinaw River, at this location, is very scenic and its waters are clear as they flow over sand and gravel.

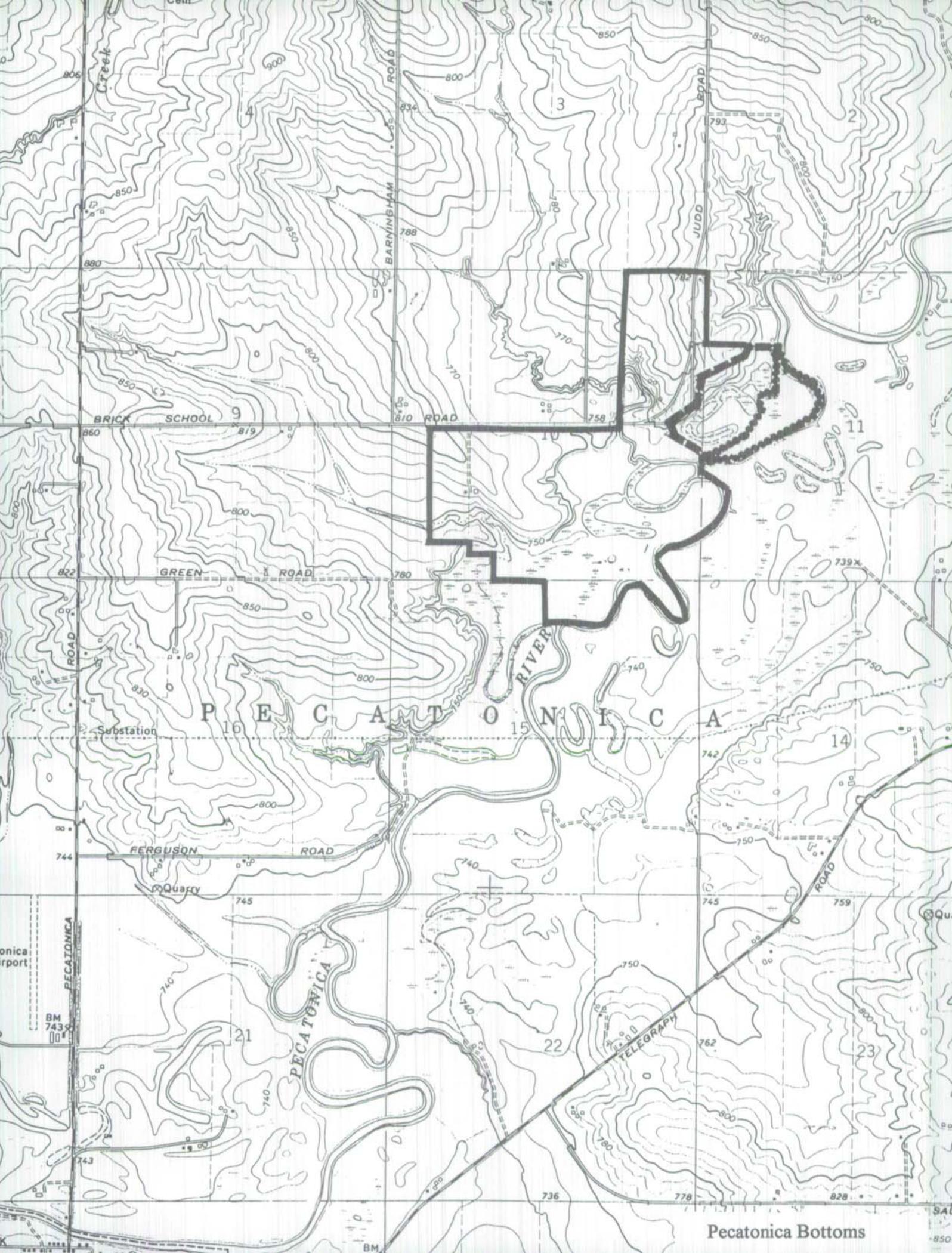
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** April 1990

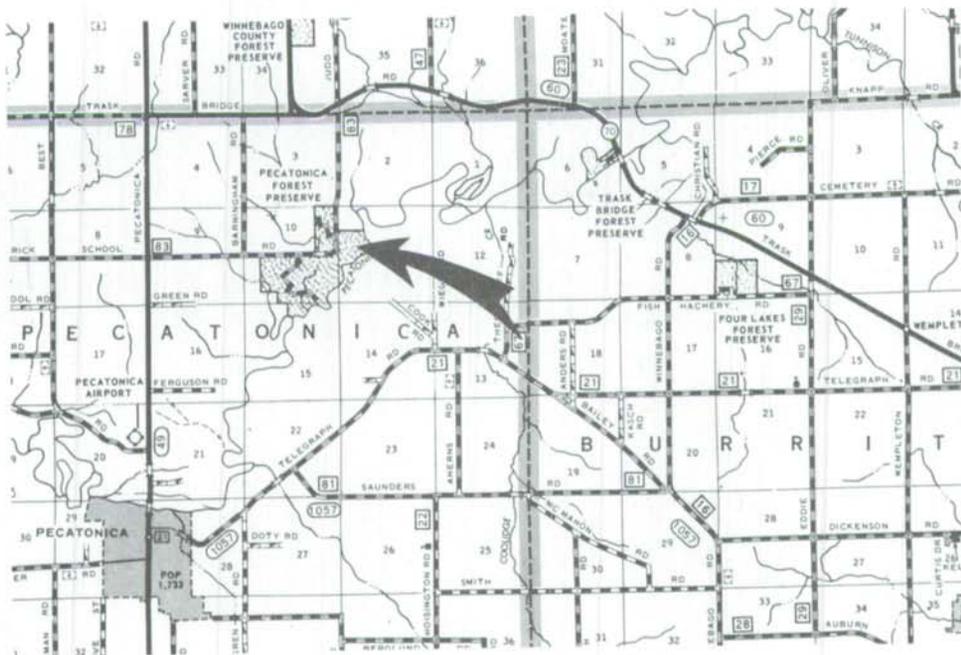
**Size:** 40 acres

**Topo Map:** Mackinaw 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 215 N. 5th, Suite D, Pekin, IL 61554 (309/347-5119)



Pecatonica Bottoms



## Pecatonica Bottoms Nature Preserve

## Winnebago County

### Location and Access:

From US Rt 20 approximately 13 miles west of downtown Rockford, travel north on Pecatonica Rd. (County 18) through Pecatonica, a total of 4.5 miles to Brick School Road (County 83); then east 2 miles and around the curve to the north to the main entrance to Pecatonica River Forest Preserve. Walking trail to the Nature Preserve begins at the picnic shelter.

### Description:

Situated on the floodplain of the Pecatonica River, in the Freeport Section of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division, Pecatonica Bottoms includes wet and mesic floodplain forest, dominated by black maple, basswood and black walnut. Pileated woodpeckers and bald eagles have been sited along the river in or near the floodplain woods. The preserve also protects an oxbow lake and shrub swamp, and habitat for the blue-spotted salamander.

The preserve is part of a larger forest preserve area that is used primarily as an environmental education resource. An observation deck along the marked trail provides a beautiful overview of the oxbow. In late winter/early spring, the maple trees are tapped for limited production of maple syrup.

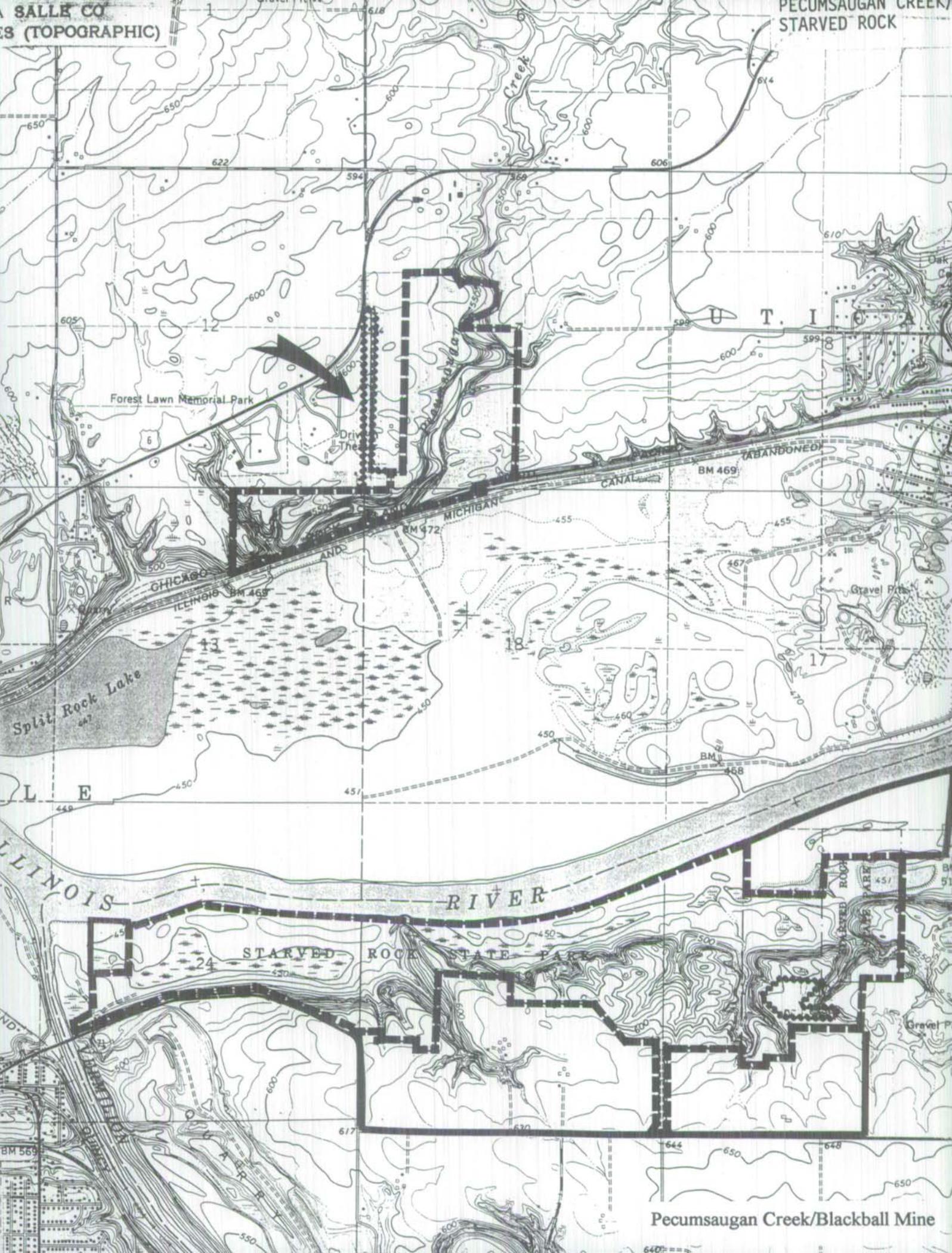
**Ownership:** Winnebago County Forest Preserve District

**Dedicated:** September 1982

**Size:** 36.4 acres nature preserve, 22.4 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Pecatonica 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Winnebago County Forest Preserve District, 5500 Northrock Dr., Rockford, IL 61103 (815/877-6100)



Pecumsaugan Creek/Blackball Mine



## Pecumsaugan Creek-Blackball Mines Nature Preserve

LaSalle County

### Location and Access:

From the Hwy. 178 bridge over the Illinois & Michigan Canal in Utica, go south about 2 blocks, then turn and go west 2 miles along the south side of the canal. The nature preserve is north of the canal and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad tracks.

Special Note: Due to the sensitive nature of hibernating bat colonies, entrance to this preserve is by permission only.

### Description:

The Pecumsaugan Creek area has beautiful dolomite cliffs, dolomite prairie, upland forest, floodplain forest and savanna communities of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. The preserve is best known for the large abandoned limestone mine and its colonies of bats. Blackball Mine is one of the largest bat hibernacula in Illinois. Five species of bats are known to use the mines, including the federally endangered Indiana bat. Bats in Illinois are strictly insectivorous and one bat can devour up to 4,000 insect pests in a single evening. Generally

speaking, bats are the nocturnal counterpart of the diurnal purple martin. Other notable animals in the preserve include a relic population of timber rattlesnake and the mottled sculpin, an unusual fish found in Pecumsaugan Creek. The preserve also provides a variety of habitats for threatened and endangered plants species. Visitors can see many of the unique natural features of this preserve from the I & M Canal towpath, however, entrance to the preserve requires a permit.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

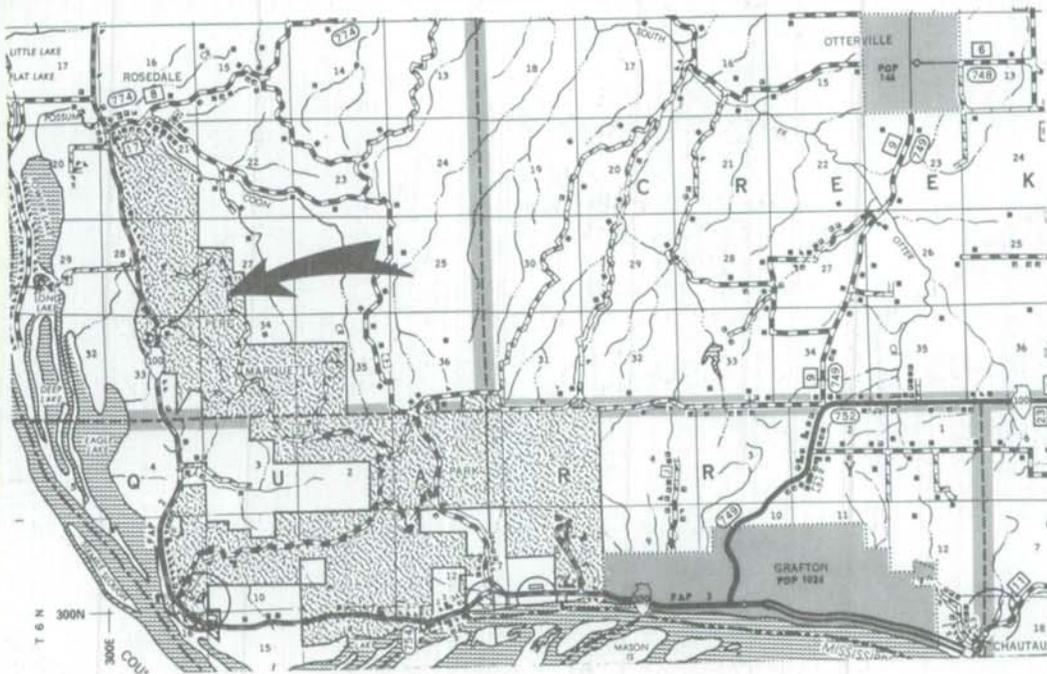
**Dedication:** July 1984

**Size:** 205 acres plus an additional 6.1 acres of buffer

**Topo Map:** LaSalle 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 100 First National Bank Plaza, Suite 10, Chicago Heights, IL 60411 (708/709-3300)





## Pere Marquette Nature Preserve

## Jersey County

### Location and Access:

From Grafton, take Highway 100 6.1 miles to Pere Marquette State Park. The nature preserve is in the north part of the state park just east of Camp Piasa.

### Description:

Pere Marquette Nature Preserve is within the 7,245 acre Pere Marquette State Park. At the present time, the preserve is the only protected area that characterizes the Driftless Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Natural Division. The park and adjacent lands were not covered by any of the four glacial stages. However, the glacial meltwaters, which drained into the nearby Illinois River, did influence the land. Rock, sand and finely ground "rock flour" or loess were carried by the river until deposited in the lowlands. When the water receded, these deposits dried out and blew onto nearby uplands. In some places loess deposits reach 150 feet thick. The five distinct plant communities recognized here are wet to dry-mesic forest, limestone outcrops, loess hill prairie and spring-fed streams. The predominant trees in the dry forest are white and black oak, while red oak and white ash occur in the mesic area.

The wet-mesic forest, located in the lower elevations of the ravines and along the streams, are dominated by sugar maple, red elm and sassafras. The limestone outcroppings provide habitat for several fern species not found anywhere else in the preserve. The loess hill prairie on the southwest slope supports native dry prairie species such as little bluestem, Indian grass, leadplant and purple prairie clover. The fauna of the area is quite diverse with over 234 species of birds, 19 species of mammals and several species of reptiles and amphibians recorded.

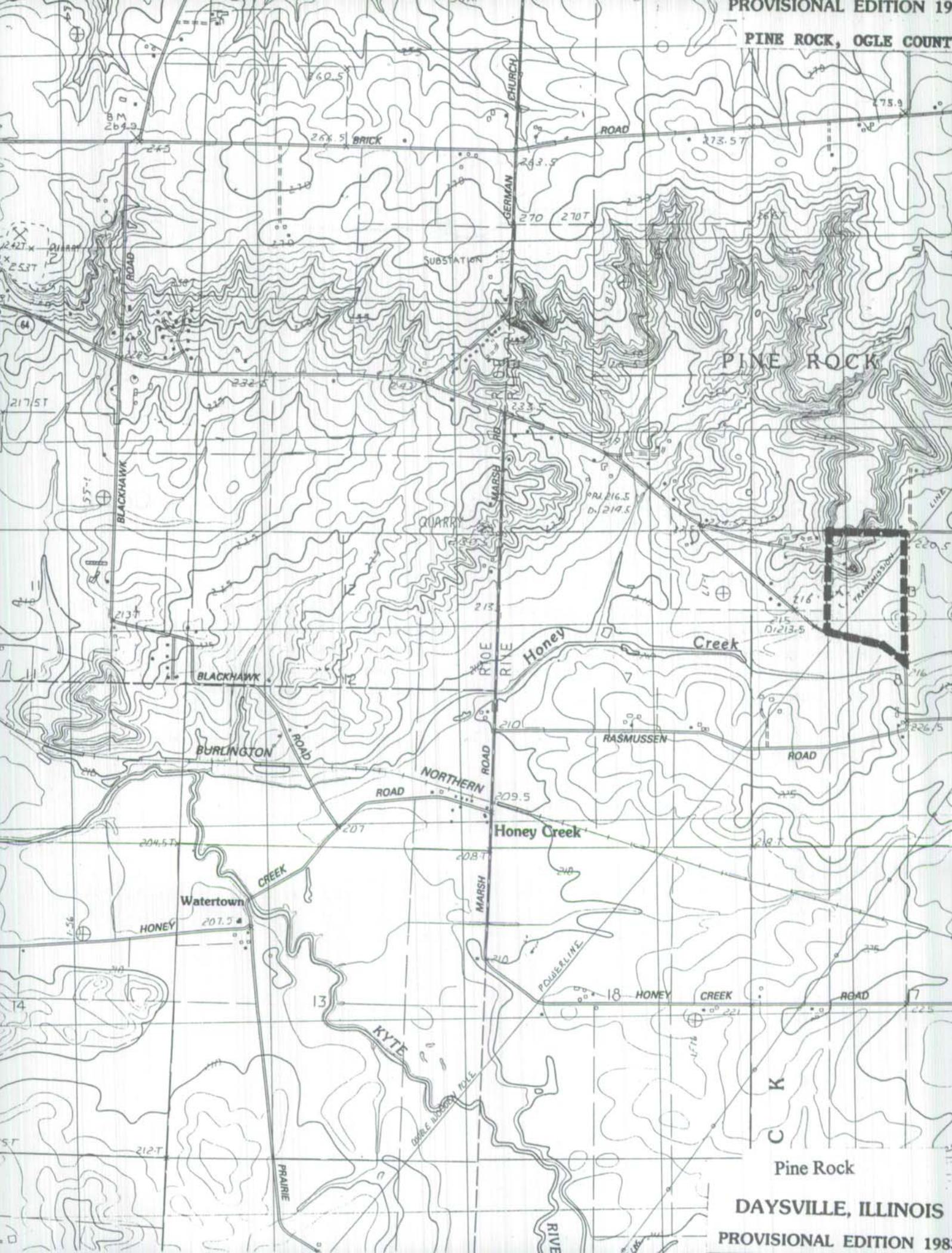
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

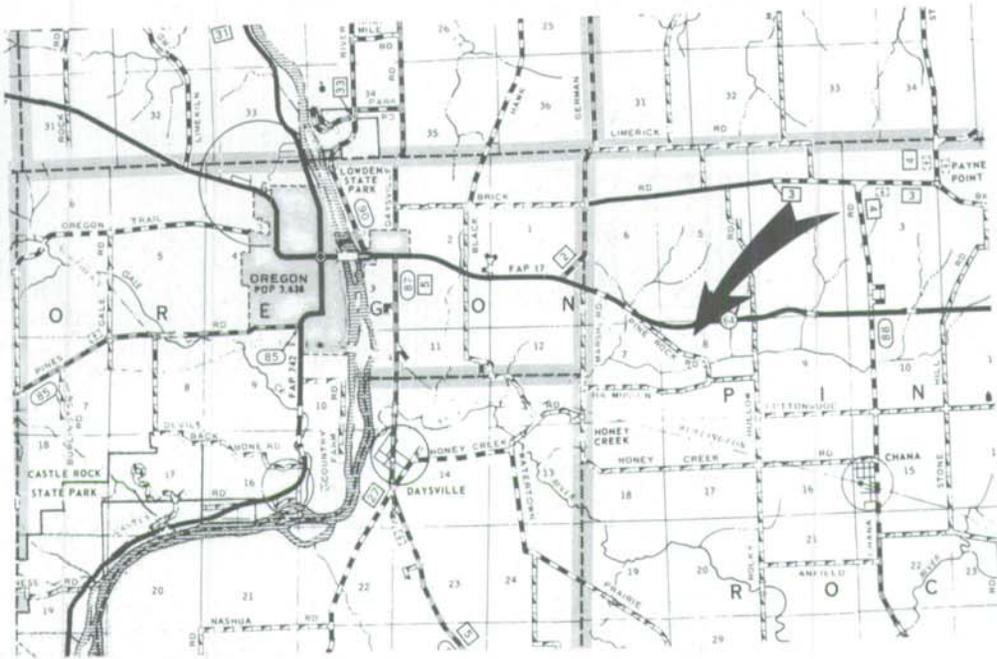
**Dedicated:** November 1979

**Size:** 297.4 acres with an additional 6.6 acres of buffer

**Topo Map:** Nutwood 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Site Superintendent, Pere Marquette State Park, Grafton, IL 62037 (618/786-3758) or Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 4521 Alton Commerce Parkway, Alton, IL 62002 (618/462-1181)





## Pine Rock Nature Preserve

## Ogle County

### Location and Access:

Pine Rock is located approximately 4 miles east of Oregon on IL Rt 64, primarily on the south side of the highway, between Rt 64 and Pine Rock Rd. Preserve entrance is on the south side of Rt 64 near the east edge of the preserve.

### Description:

This unique and diverse preserve includes dry upland black oak forest/savanna in the northern one-third of the tract on bluffs that rise sixty feet above the low flat plain to the south. Pine Rock itself is an outcropping of St. Peter sandstone rising 40 or so feet above the high bluffs. The flat plain across the southern two-thirds of the preserve is mostly mesic and wet-mesic prairie dominated, for the most part, by big bluestem grass and

various sedges. The preserve is located in the Oregon Section of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division. It is managed as a nature preserve as well as an education and research site by the faculty and students of Northern Illinois University.

**Ownership:** Northern Illinois University

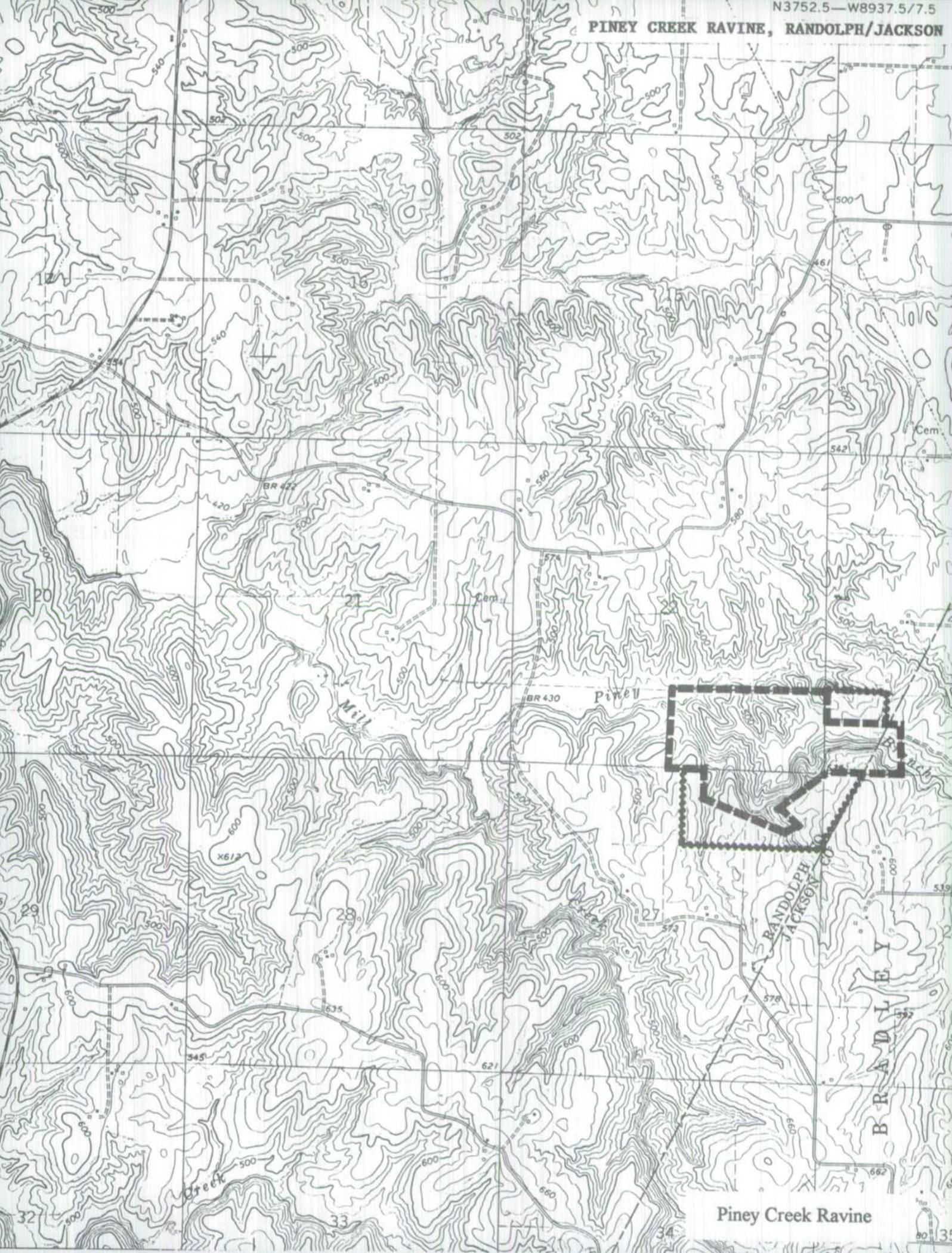
**Dedicated:** November 1966

**Size:** 59 acres

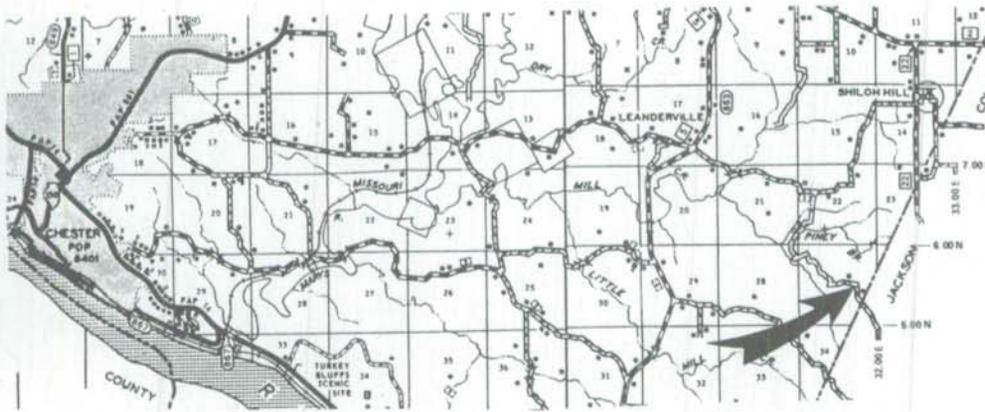
**Topo Map:** Oregon and Daysville 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115; Pine Rock Committee, Northern Illinois University, Lorado Taft Field Campus, Oregon, IL 61061 (815/732-2111)

PINEY CREEK RAVINE, RANDOLPH/JACKSON



Piney Creek Ravine



## Piney Creek Ravine Nature Preserve

## Randolph and Jackson Counties

### Location and Access:

From Hwy. 4 at northwest end of Campbell Hill, take blacktop road west 3.8 miles, then turn and go north 0.7 mile to Shiloh Hill, then continue south 1.8 miles to West Point Church Cemetery. The nature preserve is 0.4 mile west of the road.

### Description:

Piney Creek Ravine is 111 acres of forest, stream and sandstone habitat of the Central Section of the Ozark Natural Division. This area was glaciated during the Illinoian stage of the Pleistocene glaciation. When the glaciers retreated, windblown loess covered the glacial till and meltwaters carved through sandstone, creating Piney Creek Ravine. The dry upland forest on rocky slopes and canyon bluff tops are, for the most part, undisturbed and contain the most notable features.

Within the post oak-black oak forest, scattered xeric forest/sandstone glade communities exist. The exposed rock and thin soil conditions are ideal for shortleaf pine, farkleberry, lowbush blueberry and sedge species.

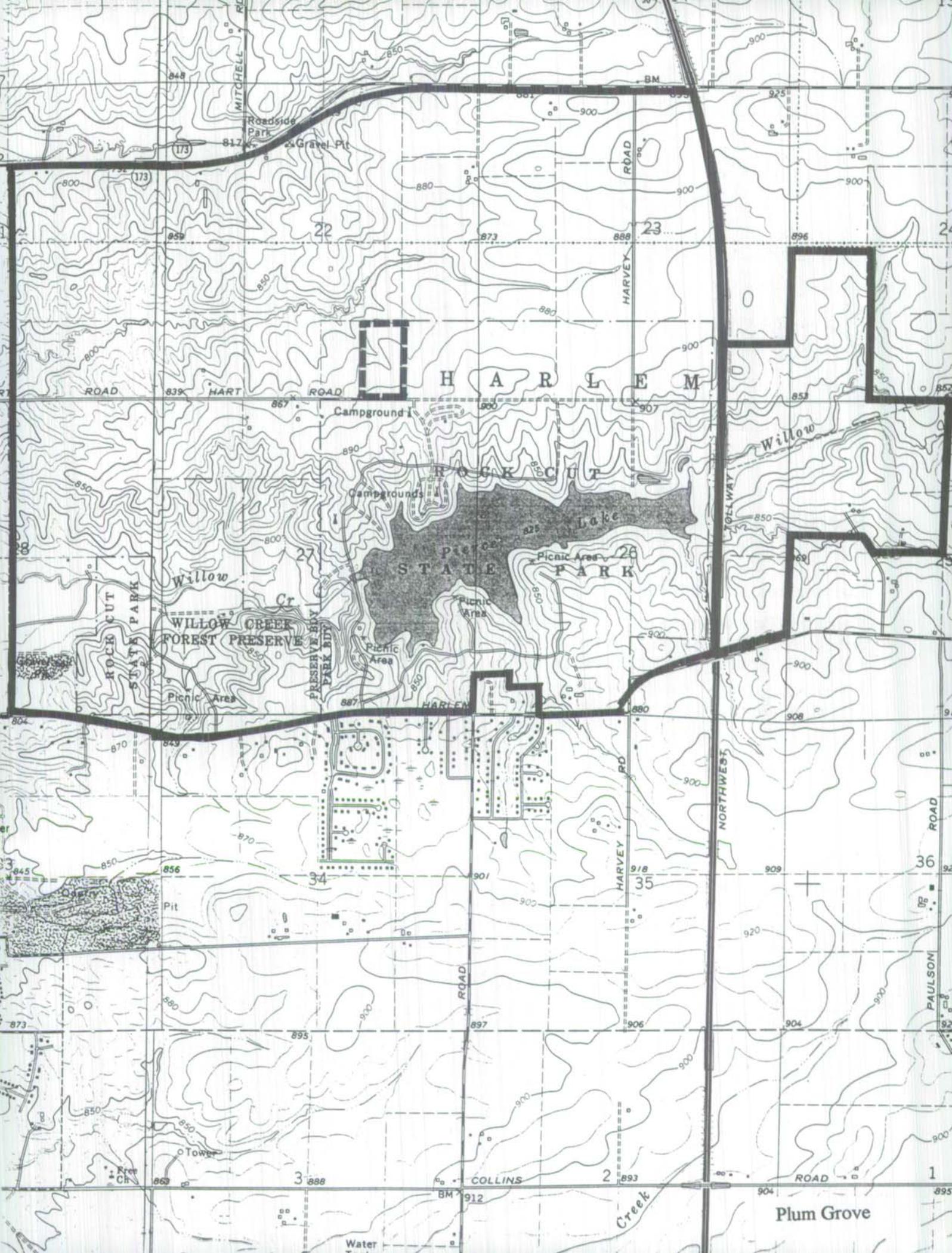
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** June 1978

**Size:** 111 acres with an additional 84 acres of buffer

**Topo Map:** Welge 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Site Superintendent, Randolph County Conservation Area, Route 1, Box 345, Chester, IL 62233 (618/826-2706) or Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 4521 Alton Commerce Parkway, Alton, IL 62002 (618/462-1181)



WILLOW CREEK FOREST PRESERVE

HARLEM

ROCK CUT STATE PARK

173

22

23

27

26

34

35

36

3

2

1

Plum Grove

Water

Creek

NORTHWEST

904

ROAD

COLLINS

BM

912

HARVEY RD

HARVEY ROAD

Pit

Cr

Willow

Roadside Park

MITCHELL

848

859

835

850

804

845

873

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

817

850

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

848

859

867

800

870

856

895

850

863

895

912

904

906

909

908

907

906

905

904

903

902

901

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

912

904

906

909

908

907

906

905

904

903

902

901

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

900

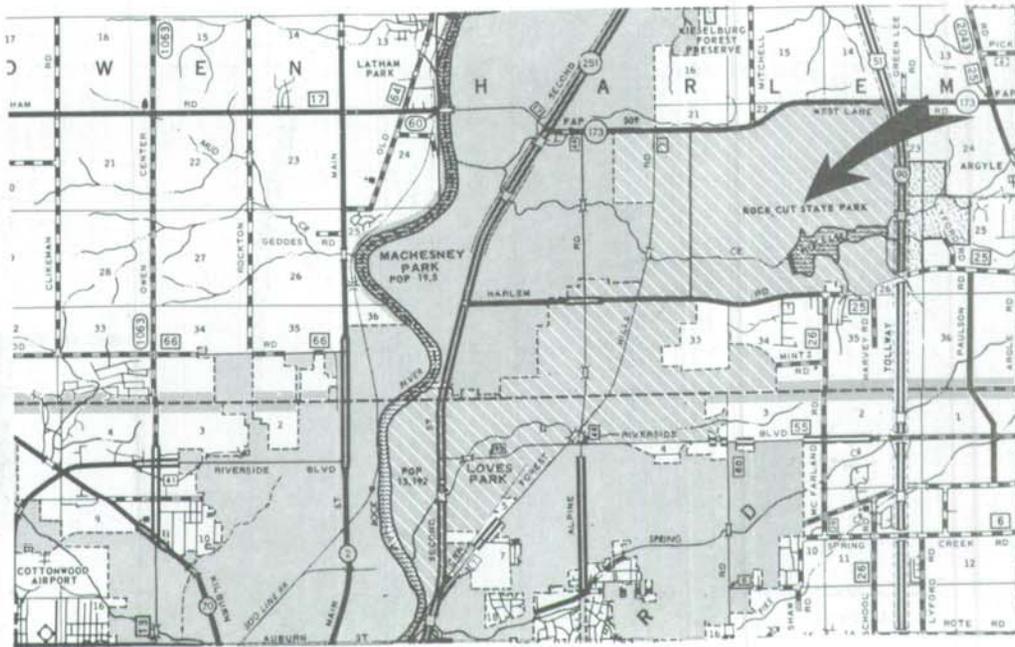
900

912

904

906

909



## Plum Grove Nature Preserve

## Winnebago County

### Location and Access:

From Loves Park take Highway 173 north to the main entrance to Rock Cut State Park. Take the park entrance road 1 mile. The preserve is on the east side of the road.

**Special Note:** The preserve is within Rock Cut State Park where many recreational opportunities exist.

### Description:

Plum Grove is located in the Winnebago Drift Section of the Northeastern Morainal Natural Division. This division is dominated by morainal systems which account for the rough, hilly and rolling terrain. The topography at Plum Grove is characterized by a gently sloping, glacial till plain. The land supports a dry-mesic upland forest, the best of its kind in this section. The canopy trees are mature to old second growth in age. White oak is the dominant species with black oak, red oak and shagbark hickory as subordinates. Common understory plant species include arrowwood, black cherry, gray dogwood and bitternut hickory. Wildlife species in the area include 33 species of mammals such

as red and gray fox and flying squirrel. Over 32 species of summer resident birds are also known in the area. Several of the birds are forest sensitive species that require large contiguous areas of woodland habitat for nesting. The yellow-billed cuckoo, wood thrush and Kentucky warbler are just a few examples. The preserve is damaged by overbrowsing by deer.

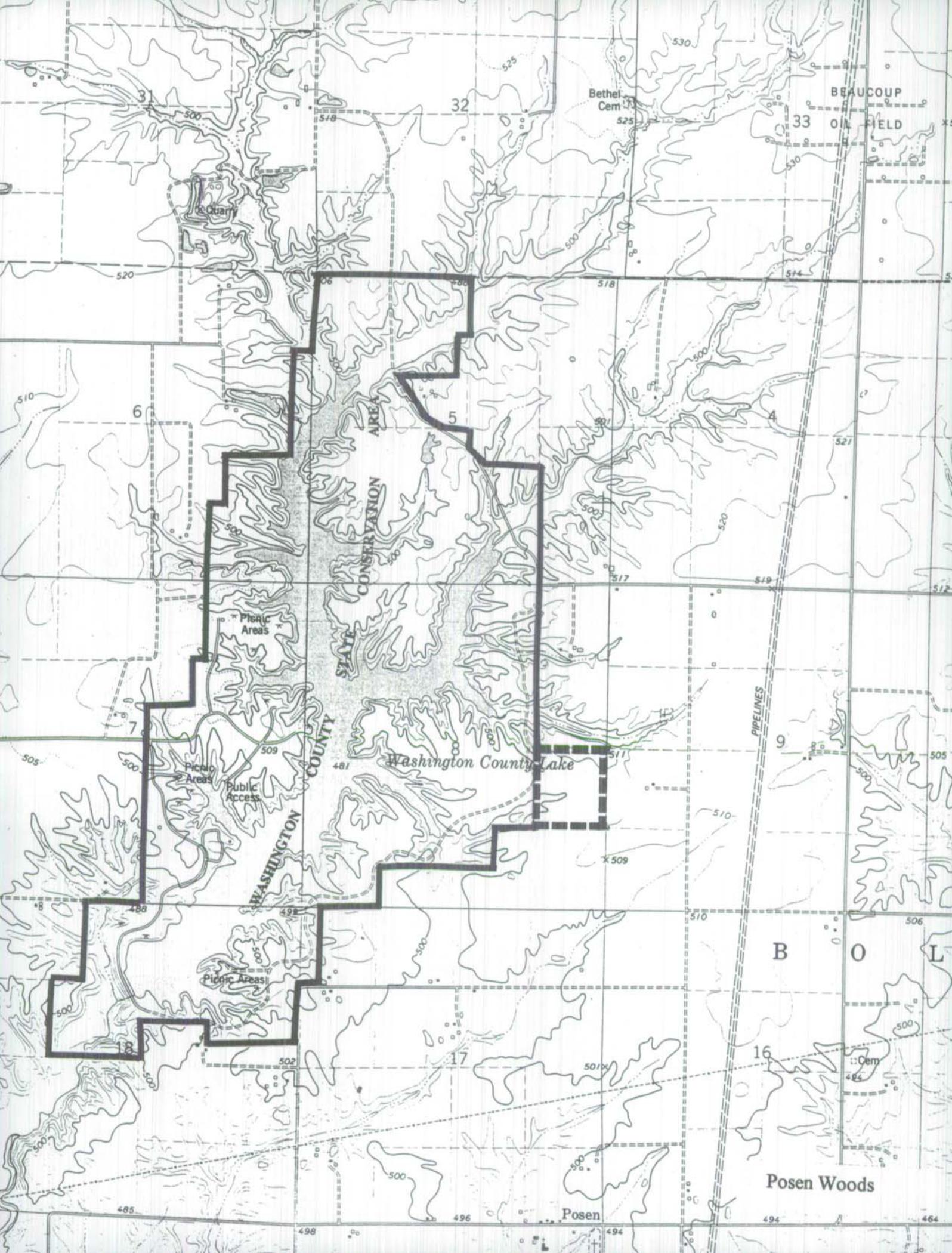
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** May 1987

**Size:** 20 acres

**Topo Map:** Caledonia 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Site Superintendent, Rock Cut State Park, 7318 Harlem Road, Caledonia, IL 61011 (815/885-3612) or Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Castle Rock State Park, 1365 W. Castle Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 (815/732-6185)



Bethel  
Cem

BEAUCOUP  
OIL FIELD

STATE  
CONSERVATION  
AREA

WASHINGTON  
COUNTY

Washington County Lake

PIPELINES

B O L

Posen Woods

Posen



## Posen Woods Nature Preserve

### Location and Access:

From Nashville at jct. Hwys. 15 & 127, take Hwy. 127 south 4.5 mi. to Washington County State Conservation Area. The nature preserve is in the conservation area east of Washington County Lake and is east of the conservation area access road.

### Description:

Posen Woods has southern flatwoods, dry-mesic upland forest, and intermittent stream communities of the Mt. Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division. It is one of only two preserved flatwoods left in this section. The claypan sub-soil, derived from glacial deposits and loess, is the major reason for the unique character of the flatwoods because the very compact and impermeable soils impedes drainage and reduces root penetration. As a result, severe drought

## Washington County

conditions stunt the growth of the trees which are very old but of diminished size. The unique features of the trees have made Posen Woods a very valuable area for tree ring research.

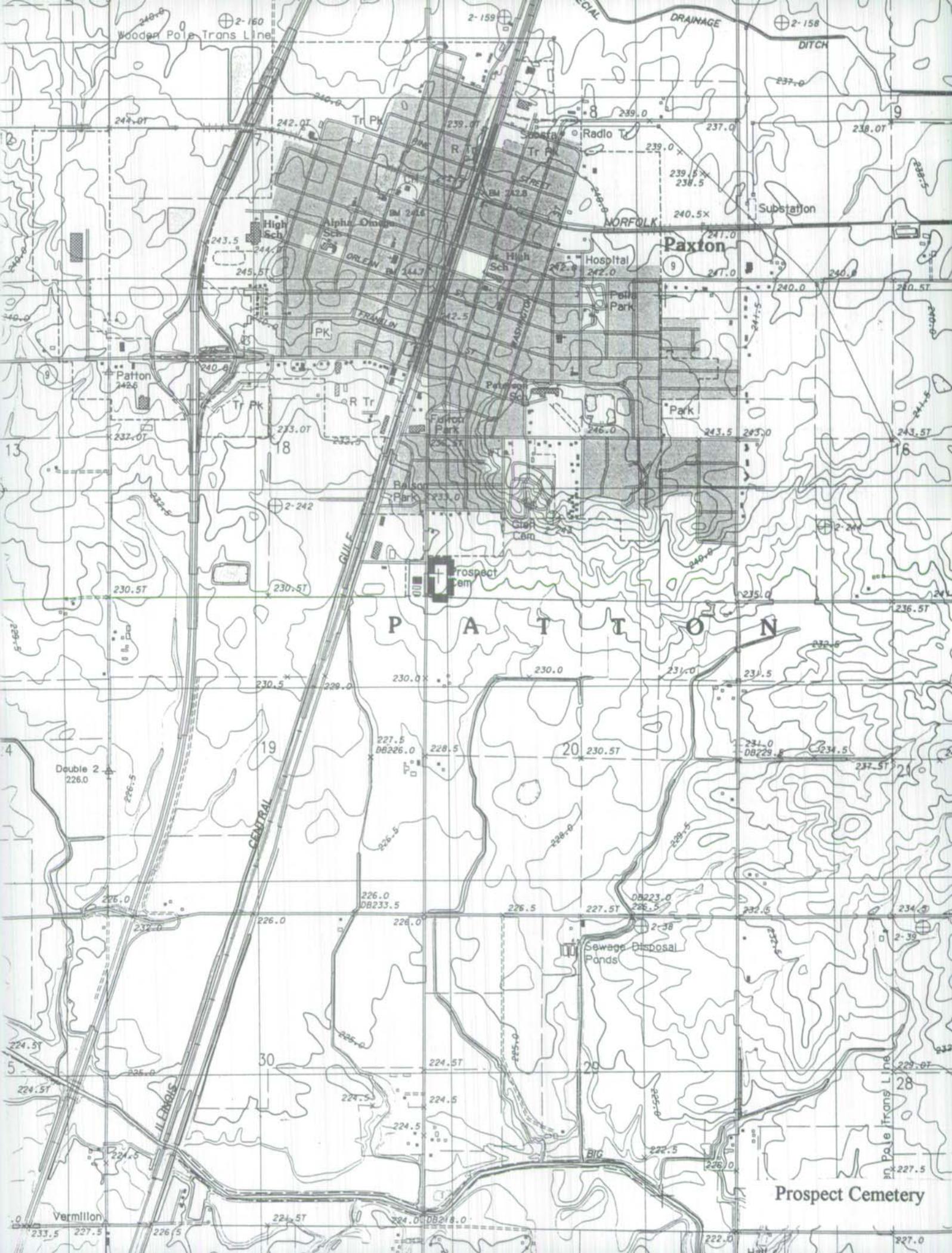
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Conservation

**Dedicated:** August 1975

**Size:** 40 acres

**Topo Map:** Beaucoup 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Site Superintendent  
Washington County Conservation Area, Nashville, IL  
62263 (618/327-3137) or Natural Heritage Biologist,  
4521 Alton Commerce Parkway, Alton, IL 62002  
(618/462-1181)



Woodpole Trans Line

SPECIAL DRAINAGE

DITCH

NORFOLK

Paxton

P A T T O N

CENTRAL

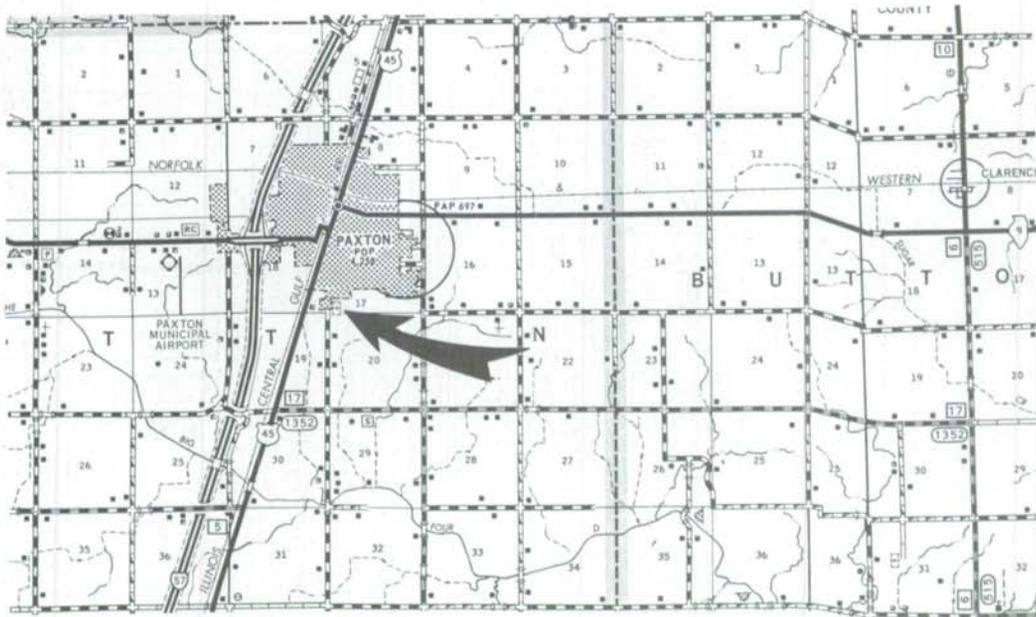
IL ENNIS

BIG

Prospect Cemetery

Vermilion

Woodpole Trans Line



## Prospect Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve

## Ford County

### Location and Access:

From Paxton at jct. Hwys. 9 & 45, take Hwy. 45 south 1 mi. to Green Street, then turn and go east 0.2 mi. to an intersection. The nature preserve is to the east.

### Description:

Prospect Cemetery Prairie is a 5 acre cemetery with a remnant mesic black soil prairie of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. Created in 1859, Prospect Cemetery was the first cemetery in the county. Burials continued until 1914 and possibly later, but no burial records have been located. The preserve has a natural appearance in the southern third of the site, where the high quality prairie reflects presettlement conditions. Some 80 species of native herbaceous forbs and grasses have been identified, of which 21 occur

nowhere else in the county. A few of these unusual plants are yellow star-grass, green milkweed, cream wild indigo, prairie gentian and prairie blazingstar. Common occurring species include big bluestem, Indian grass, little bluestem, and prairie dropseed.

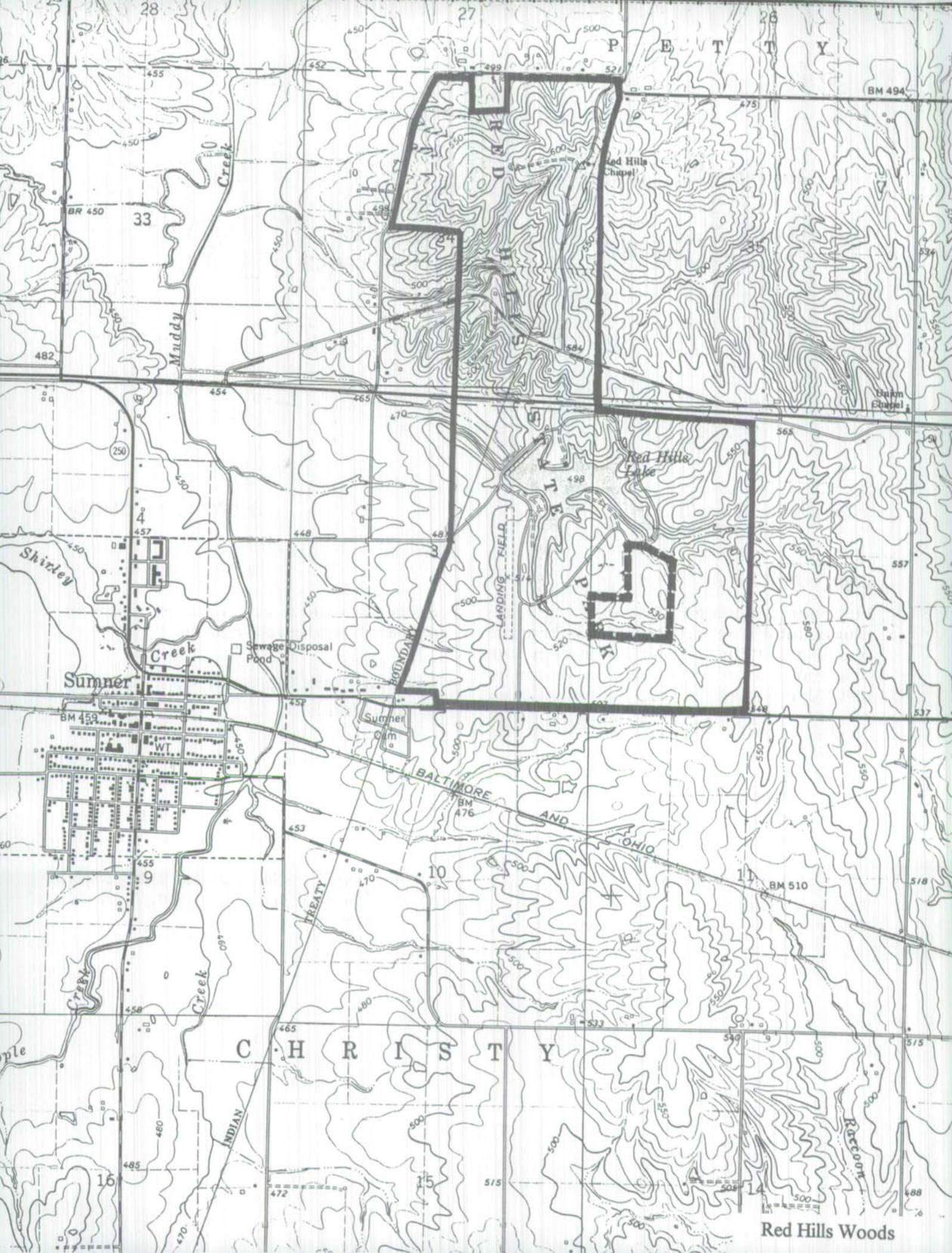
**Ownership:** Paxton Township Cemetery Association

**Dedicated:** October 1976

**Size:** 5 acres

**Topo Map:** Paxton 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Paxton Township Cemetery Association, Paxton, IL 60957 (217/379-2676)



P E T T Y

BM 494

BR 450

33

Muddy Creek

Red Hills Chapel

Burn Chapel

4

Shirley Creek

Creek

Sewage Disposal Pond

Sumner

Sumner

Red Hills Lake

LANDING FIELD

BALTIMORE

AND

OHIO

TREATY

10

11

BM 510

C H R I S T Y

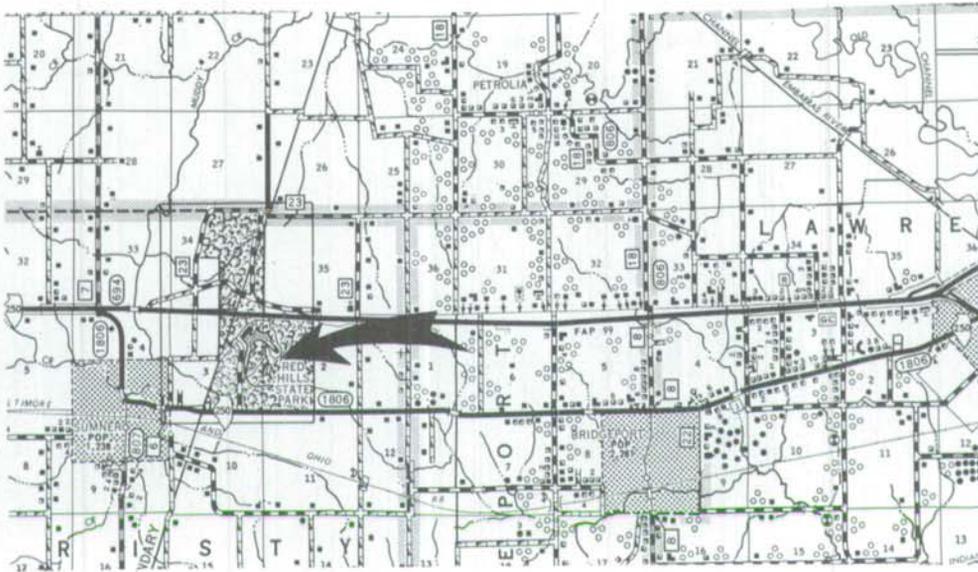
16

15

515

14

Red Hills Woods



## Red Hills Woods Nature Preserve

## Lawrence County

### Location and Access:

From Sumner, take Highway 250 east 0.75 mile to the entrance to Red Hills State Park. Take the park entrance road north for 0.25 mile then turn east on another park road. Take this road 0.5 mile, the preserve is on the south side of the park road.

### Description:

This preserve contains high quality upland forest representative of the Mount Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Till Plain Division. This 32 acre site contains bitternut hickory, mockernut hickory, shagbark hickory, white oak, post oak and black oak. Black gum and tulip tree are often present in the ravines.

The preserve also provides habitat for several woodland birds and mammals. Red-headed woodpeckers, wood

thrushes, tufted titmice, eastern chipmunks and eastern gray squirrels have been observed here.

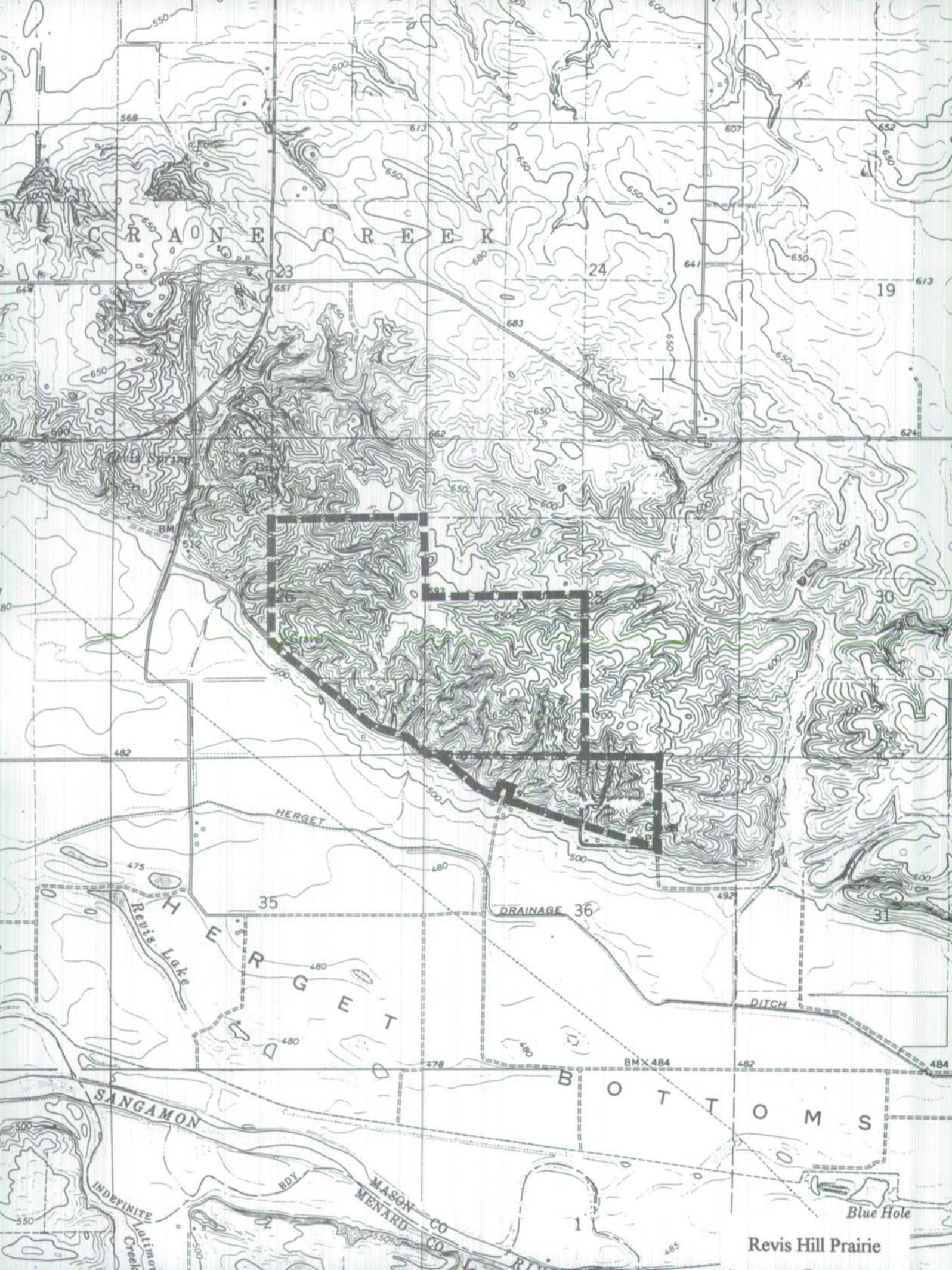
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** June 1985

**Size:** 32.0 acres

**Topo Map:** Sumner 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Dixon Springs State Park, R.R. #2, Golconda, IL 62938 (618/949-3305), or Site Superintendent, Red Hills State Park, R.R. #4, P.O. Box 132, Sumner, IL 62466 (618/936-2469)



CRAON CREEK

HERGET

Revis Lake

HERGET

DRAINAGE 36

DITCH

SANGAMON

MASON CO  
MENARD CO

Blue Hole

Revis Hill Prairie



## Revis Hill Prairie Nature Preserve

## Mason County

### Location and Access:

From 0.5 mile north of Kilbourne on Hwy. 97, turn and go east on blacktop road 7.5 miles to gravel road, turn and go southeast 1 mile. The nature preserve is on the northeast side of the road.

Special Note: Trails are established. Parking is available on the roadside.

### Description:

Revis Hill Prairie is one of the largest and finest loess hill prairies in the state. Geologically, the area was created after the retreat of the last glacier when meltwaters carried finely ground silt or "rock flour" which was deposited throughout the river valleys as mud flats. During periods of drought, the dried loess was blown onto adjacent uplands. Revis Hill Prairie is located on one of these ancient loess bluffs above the Sangamon River. Much of the vegetation found at Revis is typical of hill prairies, although several rare species do occur. Little bluestem, side oats grama, silky aster, scurf pea, ladies tresses orchid, purple coneflower,

tickseed and leadplant are just a few of the common grasses and forbs, while oaks and hickories dominate the upland forest communities. In between the prairie and the upland forest, a band of savanna occurs. Unusual animals present at this preserve include turkey vulture, bank swallow, bluebird, western hognose snake, western slender glass lizard, prairie walking stick and Ottoe skipper. Management practices currently being implemented at the preserve include prescribed burning, brush removal and alien species control.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

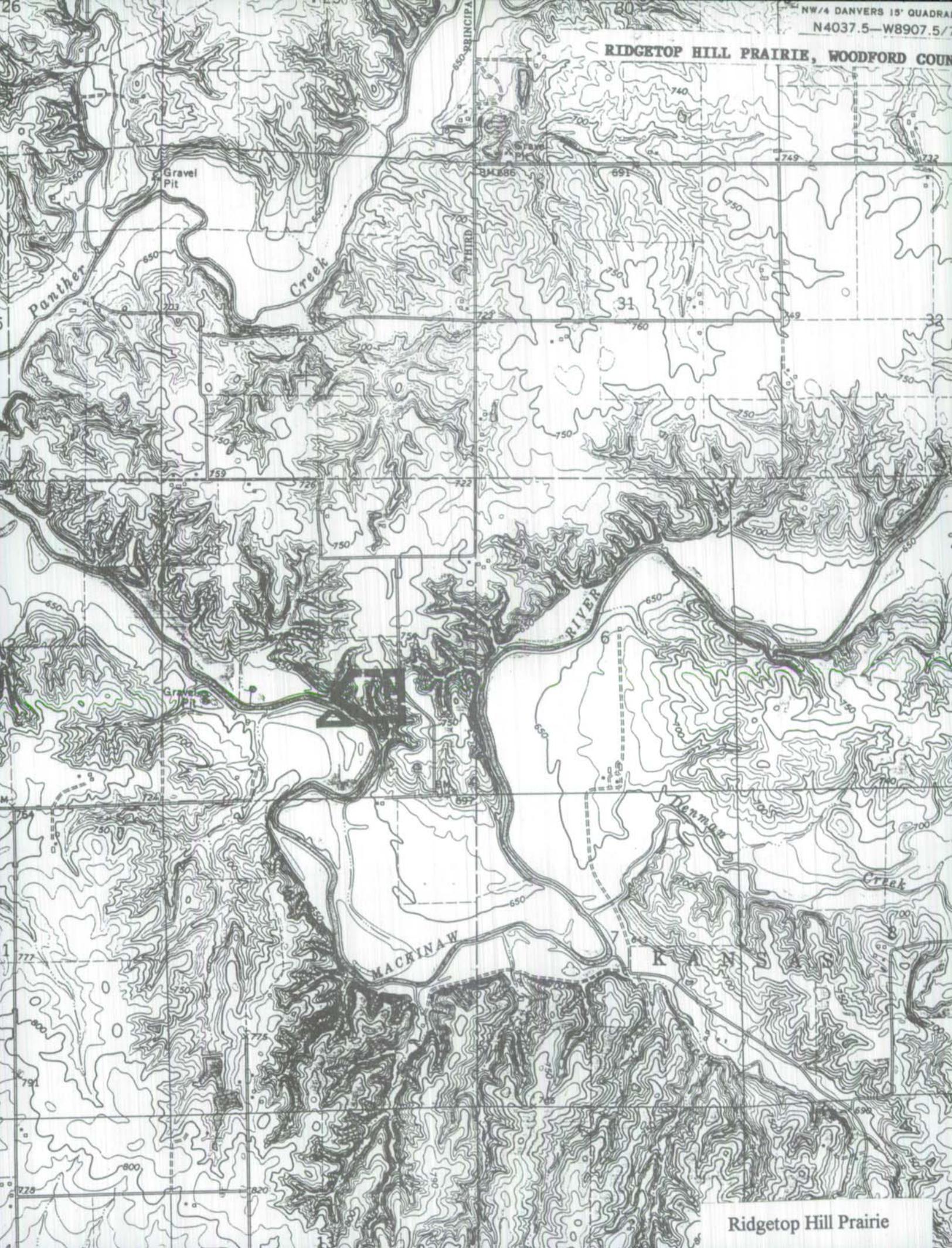
**Dedicated:** August 1973

**Size:** 417 acres

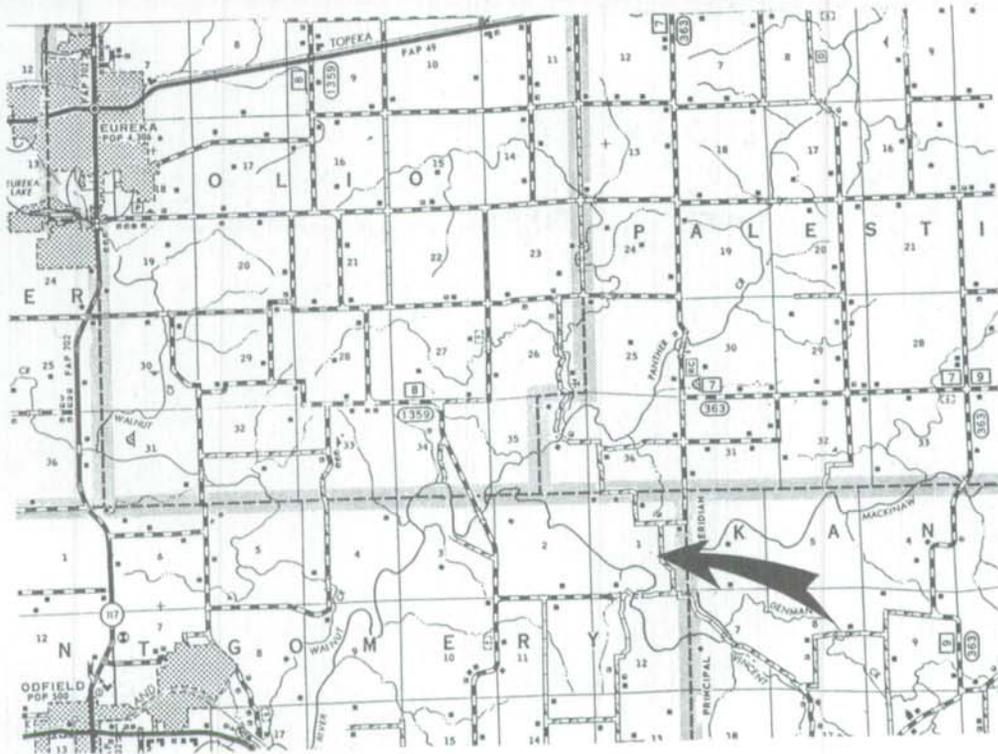
**Topo Map:** Easton 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Sangchris Lake State Park, R.R.#1, Rochester, IL 62563 (217/498-9208)

RIDGETOP HILL PRAIRIE, WOODFORD COUNTY



Ridgtop Hill Prairie



## Ridgetop Hill Prairie Nature Preserve

## Woodford County

### Location and Access:

From Eureka at jct. Hwys. 24 & 117, take Hwy. 24 east 6.2 miles to blacktop road, then turn and go south 5.25 miles to gravel road, then turn and go west 0.25 mile and south 0.3 mile. The nature preserve is to the west of the road.

Special Note: The preserve is on rough terrain along the Mackinaw River, five miles southeast of Eureka, south of County Road 475W and west of County Road 1975E.

### Description:

Ridgetop Hill Prairie contains glacial drift hill prairies and forest communities once abundant in the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. The prairie supports over 40 species of plants and is dominated by little bluestem and side oats grama. Typical prairie forbs include aromatic aster, purple prairie clover and goldenrods. The prairie opening on the long narrow ridge closest to the river is richest in composition. The dry-mesic upland forest, occupying about 10

acres, is dominated by white oak, shagbark hickory and ironwood. A narrow belt of bottomland forest occurs along the Mackinaw River and contains silver maple, sycamore, black walnut and elm. The preserve, although small, has a great diversity of habitats that support typical animal species found in upland forest, forest edge, brush, bottomland and river bank areas. Of particular interest are migrating hawks and nesting lark sparrows on nearby properties. Management of the preserve includes prescribed burning and fencing.

**Ownership:** ParkLands Foundation

**Dedicated:** June 1984

**Size:** 16 acres with an additional 1.4 acre as buffer

**Topo Map:** Secor 7.5

For Further Information Contact: ParkLands Foundation, Box 261, Bloomington, IL 61702 (309/438-5567)



ZANESVILLE

Townhall

22

22

23

24

Pleasant Hill Ch

27

27

26

25

Five Mile Lake

Five Mile Lake

SR 664

Cem

NORFOLK AND WESTERN

Shop Creek Disp Pond

Trailer Park

660

34

34

35

36

Branch

Threemile Branch

655

615

657

654

Trailer Park

Cem

Roberts Cemetery Savanna

Honey Bend

NORTH LITCHFIELD

661

3

Honey Bend

3

2

650

1

I E L D

Roberts Gem



## Roberts Cemetery Savanna Nature Preserve Montgomery County

### Location and Access:

Take the Highway 108 exit from I-55. Turn south on the eastern frontage road along I-55 and go 1.5 miles. Turn east on a county road (1750 north) and go 2 miles to a "T" intersection. Turn south at the "T" on a county road (500 east). Go 0.25 mile south and turn east at the first side road. Follow the road until it curves. Park on the curve, the preserve is on the east side of the road.

Special Note: The preserve is fenced, entrance is through a gate at the southwest corner.

### Description:

Roberts Cemetery Savanna contains one acre of mesic savanna vegetation once typical of the Effingham Plain Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division. This lone acre, protected from the plow and disturbance since the cemetery's first burial in 1807, represents about 50% of the total high quality savanna remaining in this natural division. Savannas are characterized as prairies interspersed with trees. Due to periodic fires the community retains a canopy cover of 10 to 50%,

almost totally lacks a sapling layer, and is dominated by prairie grasses and herbs. The Roberts Cemetery Savanna is dominated by little bluestem, Indian grass and New Jersey tea, while big bluestem and coneflower are abundant. Mature post oak, blackjack oak and shingle oak are common at the edge of the cemetery. Current management practices taking place at Roberts Cemetery Savanna include prescribed burning.

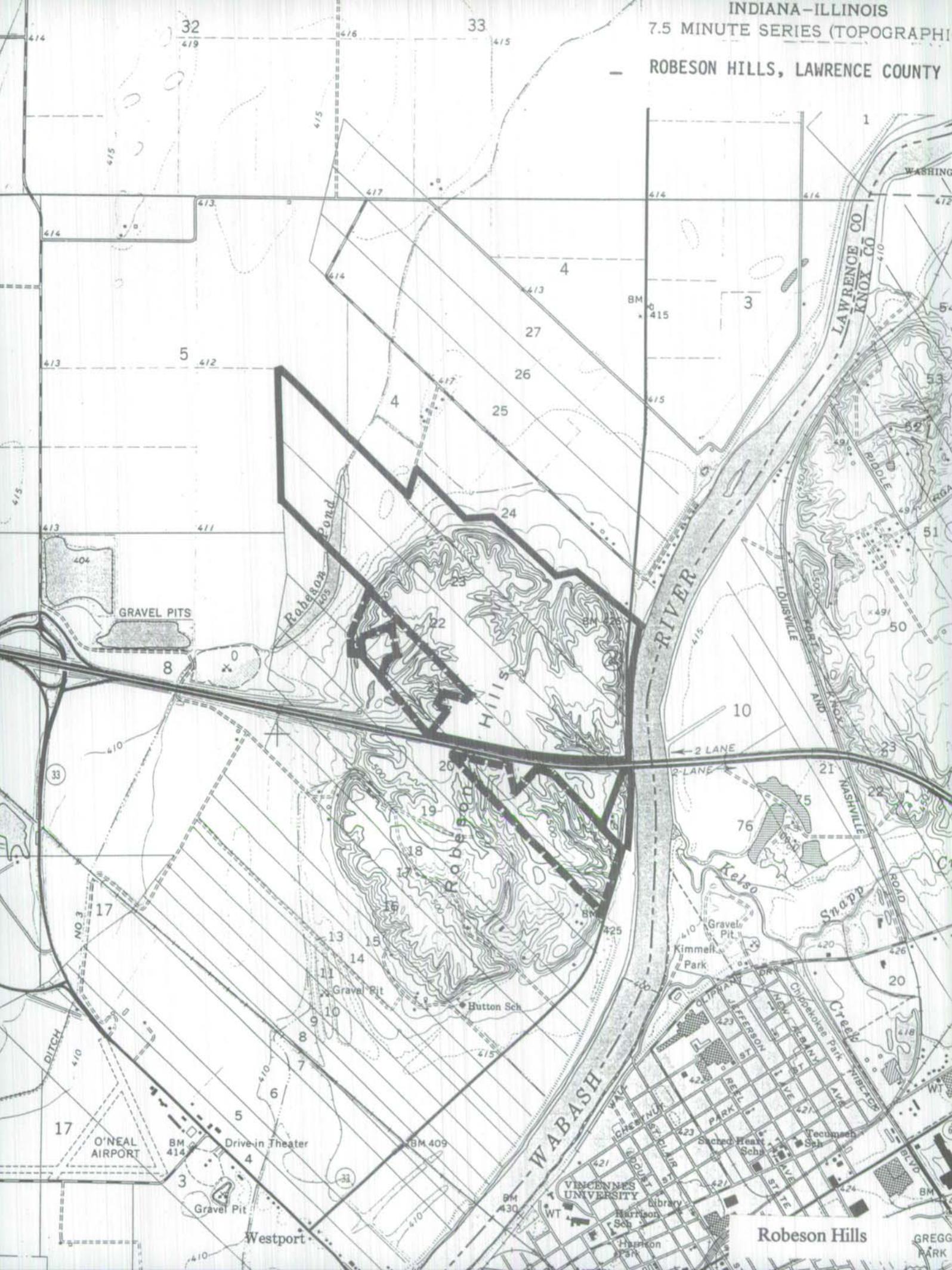
**Ownership:** Montgomery County Board

**Dedicated:** July 1987

**Size:** 1.7 acres

**Topo Map:** Raymond 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Montgomery County Board, Paul Hamerock, Chairman, Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL 62049; Larry Simmons, Roberts Cemetery Association, R.R.#3, Box 310, Litchfield, IL 62056; for information call the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (217/785-8686)





## Robeson Hills Nature Preserve

### Location and Access:

From jct. Hwys. 1 and 50 in Lawrenceville, take Hwy. 50 east 8 mi. to the Business Route 50 interchange, then turn and go south and southeast 2.1 mi., then turn and go northeast 1.6 mi. on Hwy. 33. The nature preserve is west of the road. Part is on the north side of Hwy. 50 and is accessible from the rest stop on the westbound lane of Hwy. 50.

Special Note: The topography is rugged and challenging. Trails have been established and an interpretive pamphlet is available.

### Description:

Robeson Hills is a 120-acre (two tracts) remnant of mesic upland forest of the Southern Upland Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division. The preserve is part of a 545 acre outdoor laboratory and environmental education site managed by Vincennes University. The area is located on Robeson Hills, a prominent topographic feature of the Wabash River bottomlands. The rugged terrain is characterized by narrow flat-

topped ridges, steep slopes, and deep ravines. These features not only provide diverse habitats, but help to protect them as well. The most significant feature of the preserve is a beech-maple forest on dissected, deep loess deposits overlooking the Wabash River. Other important canopy species include ash, tulip tree, oaks, basswood, and hickories. Woodland wildflowers are abundant. Robeson Hills also has significant archeological and historical features; shell middens of an Archaic Indian culture occur on the river bluffs.

**Ownership:** Vincennes University

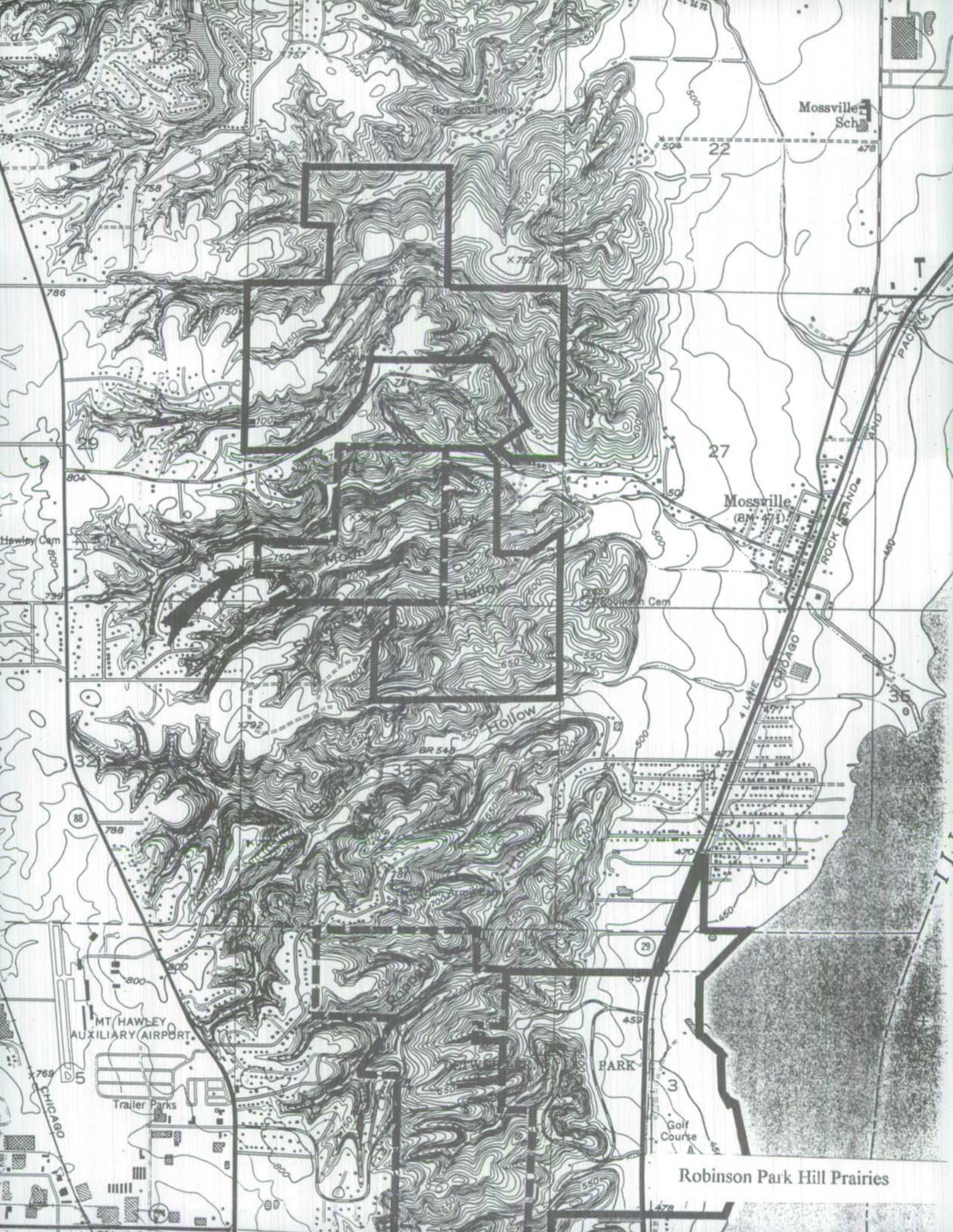
**Dedicated:** April 1972

**Size:** 120 acres

**Topo Map:** Vincennes 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Vincennes University,  
1002 North 1st St., Vincennes, Indiana 47591-9986  
(812/882-3350)

## Lawrence County



Mossville Sch.

22

27

Mossville (BM 471)

ROCK ISLAND R.R.

CHICAGO

4 LANE

29

3

Golf Course

Robinson Park Hill Prairies

Robinson Cem.

Hollow

Hollow

Hollow

BR 548

PARK

MT HAWLEY AUXILIARY AIRPORT

Trailer Parks

CHICAGO

PACIFIC



## Robinson Park Hill Prairies Nature Preserve

## Peoria County

### Location and Access:

From Peoria at jct. Hwys. 29 (Galena Rd.) & 150 (War Memorial Drive), go north on Hwy. 29 6.8 mi., then turn and go west on Mossville Rd. 1.8 mi. The preserve is 0.2 mi. south of Mossville Rd.

Special Note: Public access is not available to the preserve from any public road. Check at Forest Park Nature Center (5809 Forest Park Drive, Peoria) for directions on access to the preserve.

### Description:

Robinson Park Hill Prairies Nature Preserve contains forest and high-quality, glacial drift hill prairies characteristic of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. The preserve occurs on two long, narrow ridges and steep valley slopes drained by Moon Creek. A series of small glacial drift hill prairies occur on steep southwest-facing slopes along the two major ridges. Upland forest covers the slopes and valleys.

Prairie openings are dominated by little bluestem and side-oats grama. Common prairie wildflowers include scurf pea, pale purple coneflower, yellow false foxglove, golden alexanders, purple prairie clover, and birdsfoot violet. Forested upper slopes are dominated by white oak, red oak, and shagbark hickory, while predominant trees on lower slopes and moist ravines are sugar maple, red oak, and basswood. Spectacular displays of wildflowers grace some of the rich, wooded slopes in the spring.

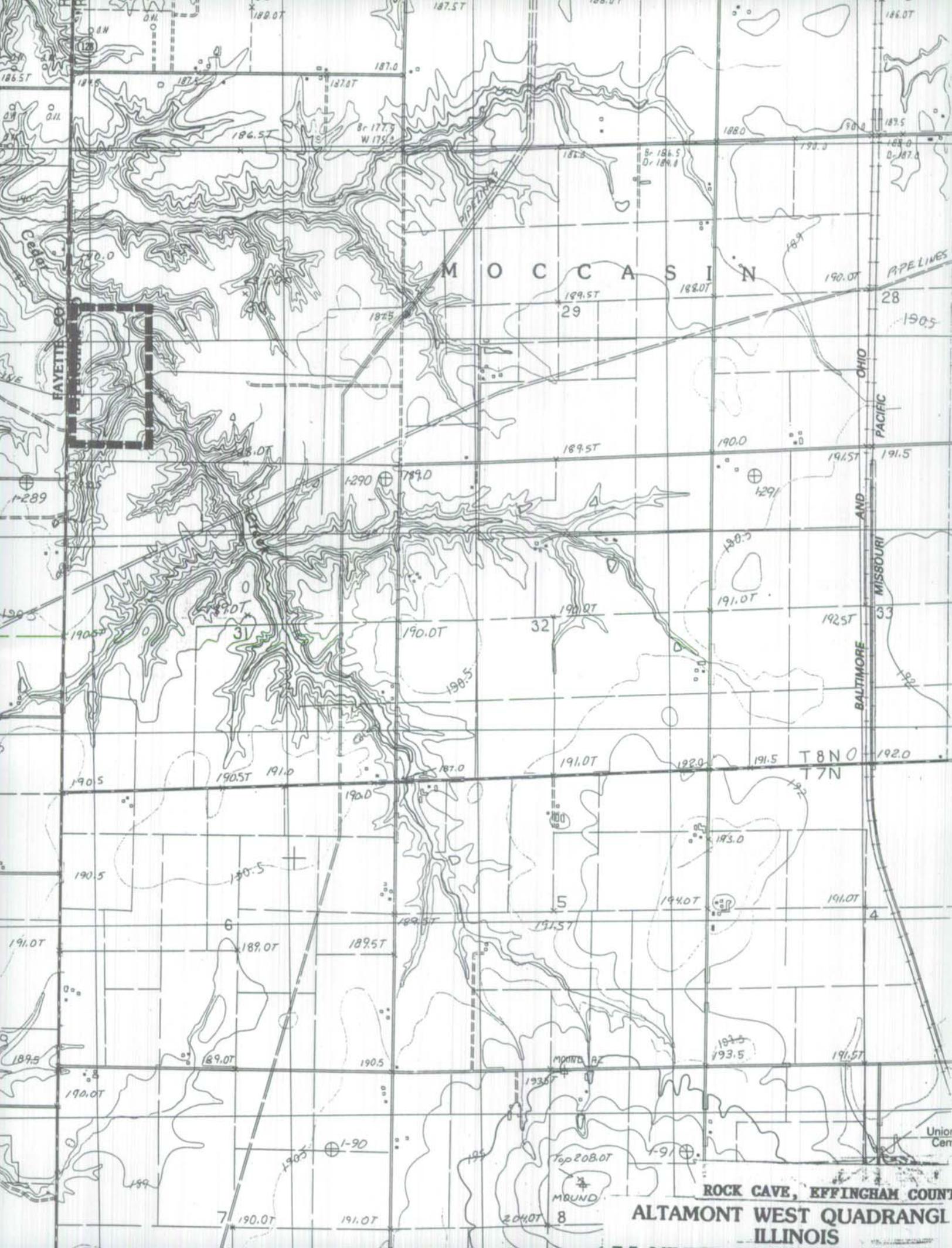
**Ownership:** Peoria Park District

**Dedicated:** September 1988

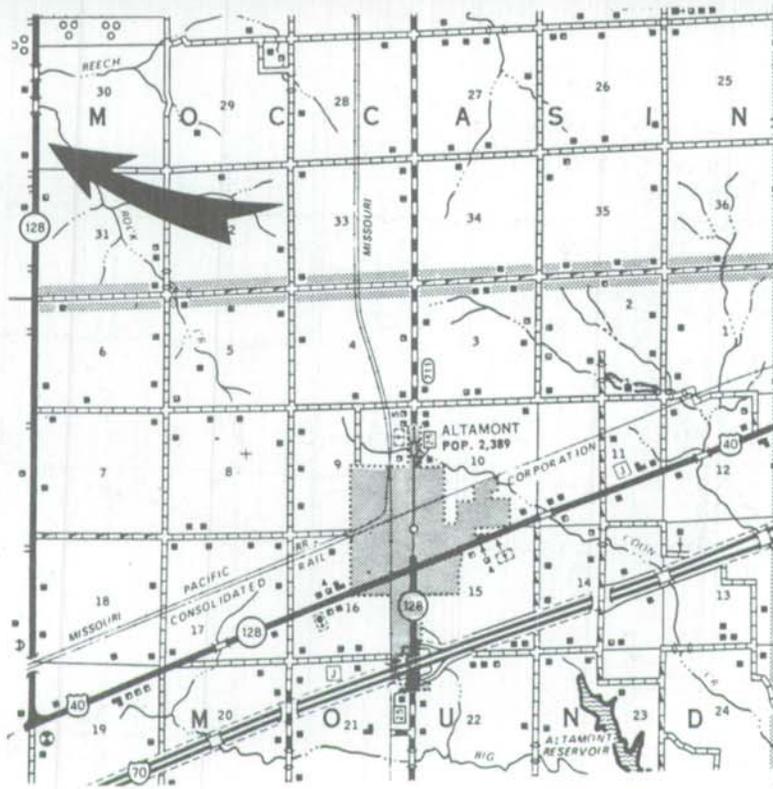
**Size:** 151.5 acres

**Topo Map:** Spring Bay 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Forest Park Nature Center, Peoria Park District, 5809 Forest Park Drive, Peoria, IL 61614 (309/686-3360)



ROCK CAVE, EFFINGHAM COUNTY  
ALTAMONT WEST QUADRANGLE  
ILLINOIS



## Rock Cave Nature Preserve

### Location and Access:

From Beecher City at jct. Hwys. 33 & 128, take Hwy. 128 south 5.6 miles. The nature preserve is east of the highway.

### Description:

Rock Cave lies in the Effingham Plain Section of the Southern Till Plain Natural Division. Upland and ravine forests, a permanent stream, sandstone outcrops and rock formations are found here. Presently, Rock Cave is the only area of its kind in the Illinois Nature Preserve System. The deep ravines and series of sandstone outcrops provide a diversity of habitats. They support a rich forest community along with several plant species that are far from their normal range or are uncommon in Illinois. The sandstone cliffs support a plant community characterized by hydrangea and Christmas fern. The mesic forest includes sugar maple, red oak and basswood. The dry-mesic forest contains white oak, black oak and hickories. Small stands or isolated in-

dividuals of American beech are associated with the ravine crests over bedrock. Many spring wildflowers, a scenic view, rugged topography and notable vertebrate species such as Fowler's toad, northern leopard frog and eastern box turtle are present. The area attracts many visitors.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** June 1983

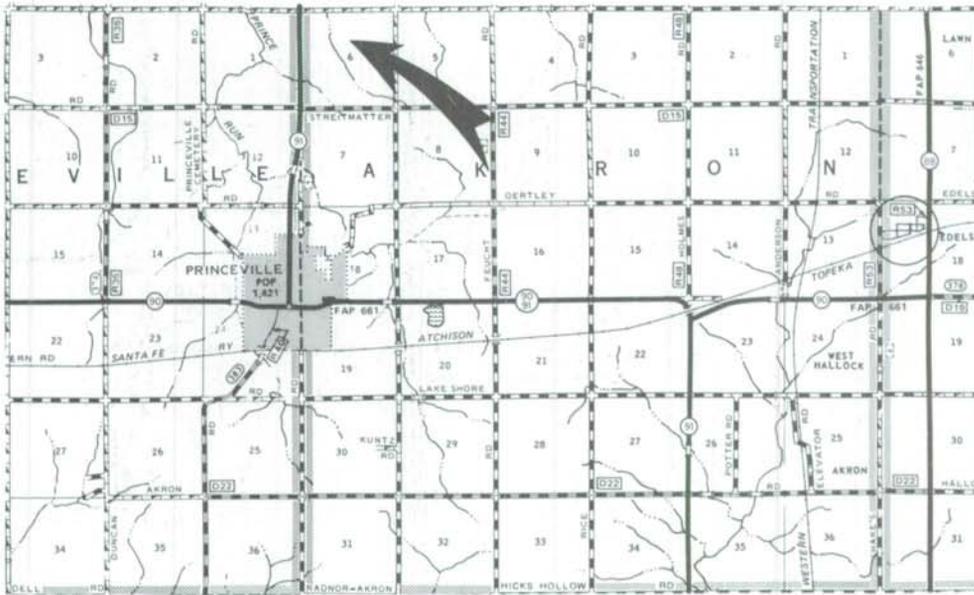
**Size:** 79 acres

**Topo Map:** Altamont West 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Site Superintendent, Ramsey Lake State Park, R.R.#1, Ramsey, IL 62080 (618/423-2215) or Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Prairie-chicken Sanctuary, R.R. 3, Box 74, Newton, IL 62448 (618/783-2685)

## Effingham County





## Rock Island Trail Prairie Nature Preserve

## Peoria County

### Location and Access:

From the junction of Rts. 90 and 91 in Princeville, proceed north for 3 miles on Rt. 91 to the County Line Road. Turn east and travel 0.5 mile to the abandoned railroad right-of-way where the prairie is located.

### Description:

The mesic prairie remnant at this site is representative of the prairies of the Grand Prairie Division of Illinois. Big bluestem, Indian grass, northern dropseed and bluejoint are grasses which are present along with numerous prairie wildflowers, including prairie dock, compass plant, leadplant, pale coneflower, rattlesnake master, prairie gentian and rough and prairie

blazingstars. Recent management efforts, including prescribed burning and brush removal, have improved the quality of the prairie.

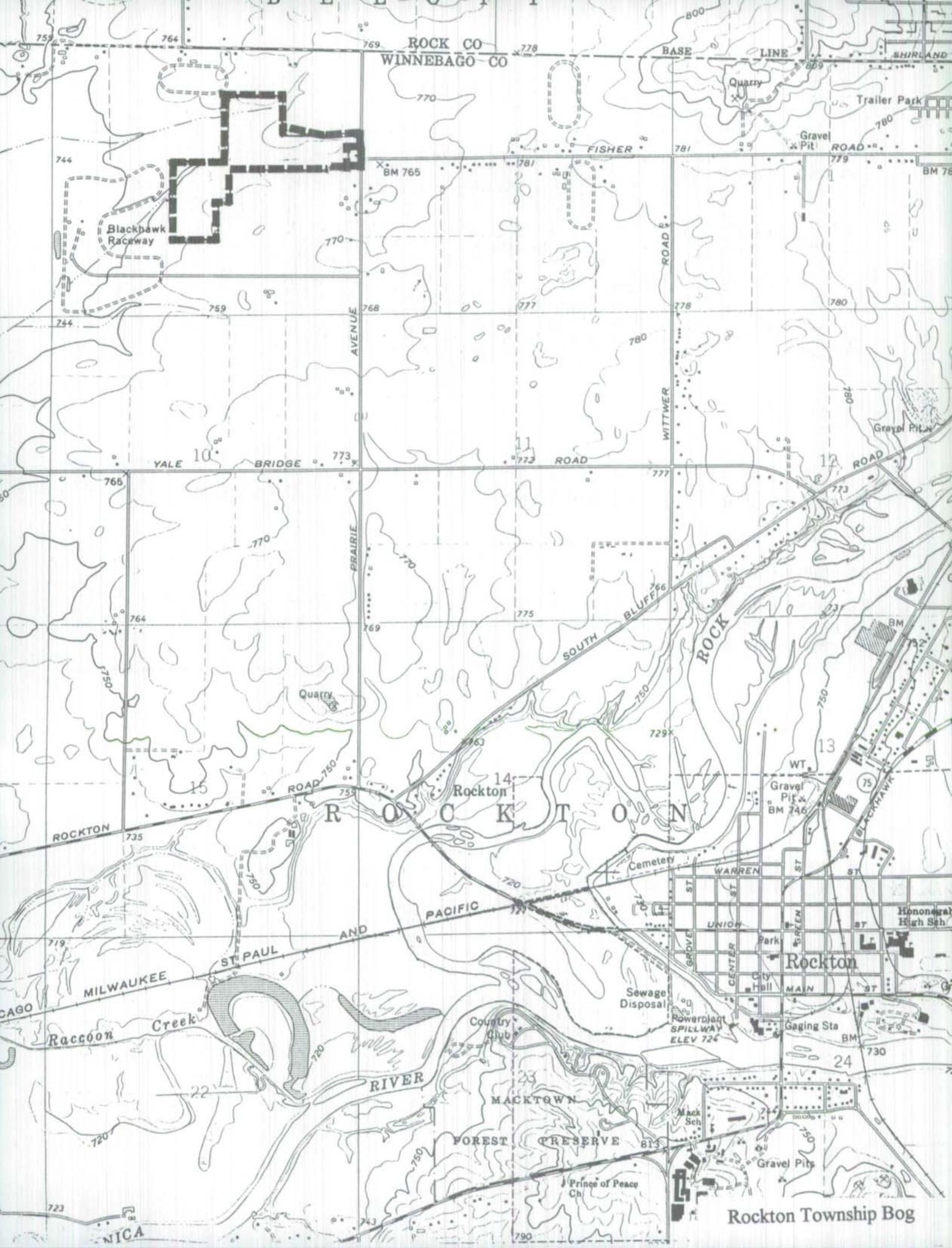
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** April 1993

**Size:** 5.1 acres

**Topo Map:** Edelstein 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 215 N. 5th, Suite D, Pekin, IL 61554 (309/347-5119)



ROCK CO  
WINNEBAGO CO

Blackhawk Raceway

Rockton

Rockton

Rockton Township Bog



## Rockton Bog Nature Preserve

## Winnebago County

### Location and Access:

From Rockton take Rockton Road west 1 mile to a county road (Prairie Ave.). Take this road north 2 miles. The preserve is on the west side of the road.

### Description:

In Rockton and Shirland Townships in Winnebago County, there is a sand deposit approximately four miles wide and twelve miles long. Although much of it has been destroyed, a portion of this area known as the Rockton Sedge Meadow, remains in a relatively undisturbed condition. This area contains sedge meadow, prairie and open sand forest.

The sedge meadow contains sedges, blue-joint grass, sensitive fern and rushes. Various shrubs such as bridal

wreath, prairie willow, dwarf birch and black chokecherry are scattered throughout the preserve.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

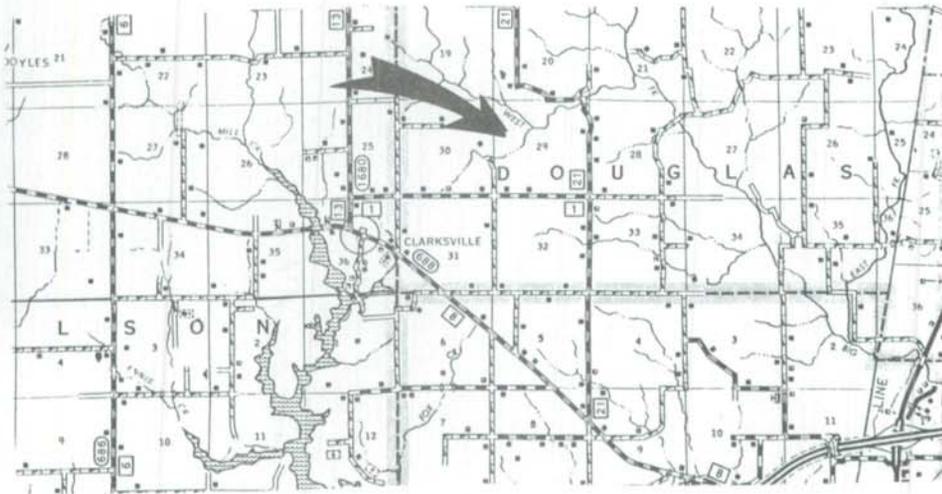
**Dedicated:** May 1972

**Size:** 67 acres

**Topo Map:** South Beloit 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Castle Rock State Park, 1365 W. Castle Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 (815/732-6185), or Site Superintendent, Rock Cut State Park, Caledonia, IL 61011 (815/885-3311)





## Rocky Branch Nature Preserve

### Location and Access:

From Clarksville, go north 0.3 mi., then turn and go east 1.5 mi., then turn and go north 0.4 mi. The nature preserve is east of the road.

Special Note: A parking area is available next to the preserve.

### Description:

Rocky Branch Nature Preserve is a 130 acre remnant of dry-mesic, mesic upland, floodplain forests permanent stream, and sandstone outcrops representative of the Southern Upland Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division. Dominant trees of upland forests are oaks and hickories with scattered sugar maple while sycamore is more predominant in the floodplain. An unusual sandstone cliff community provides special habitat for

several species of mosses, liverworts, and lichens. The wood frog and long-tailed salamander have been observed here. Rocky Branch is used primarily for outdoor education and scientific study by Eastern Illinois University students and staff.

**Ownership:** Eastern Illinois University Foundation

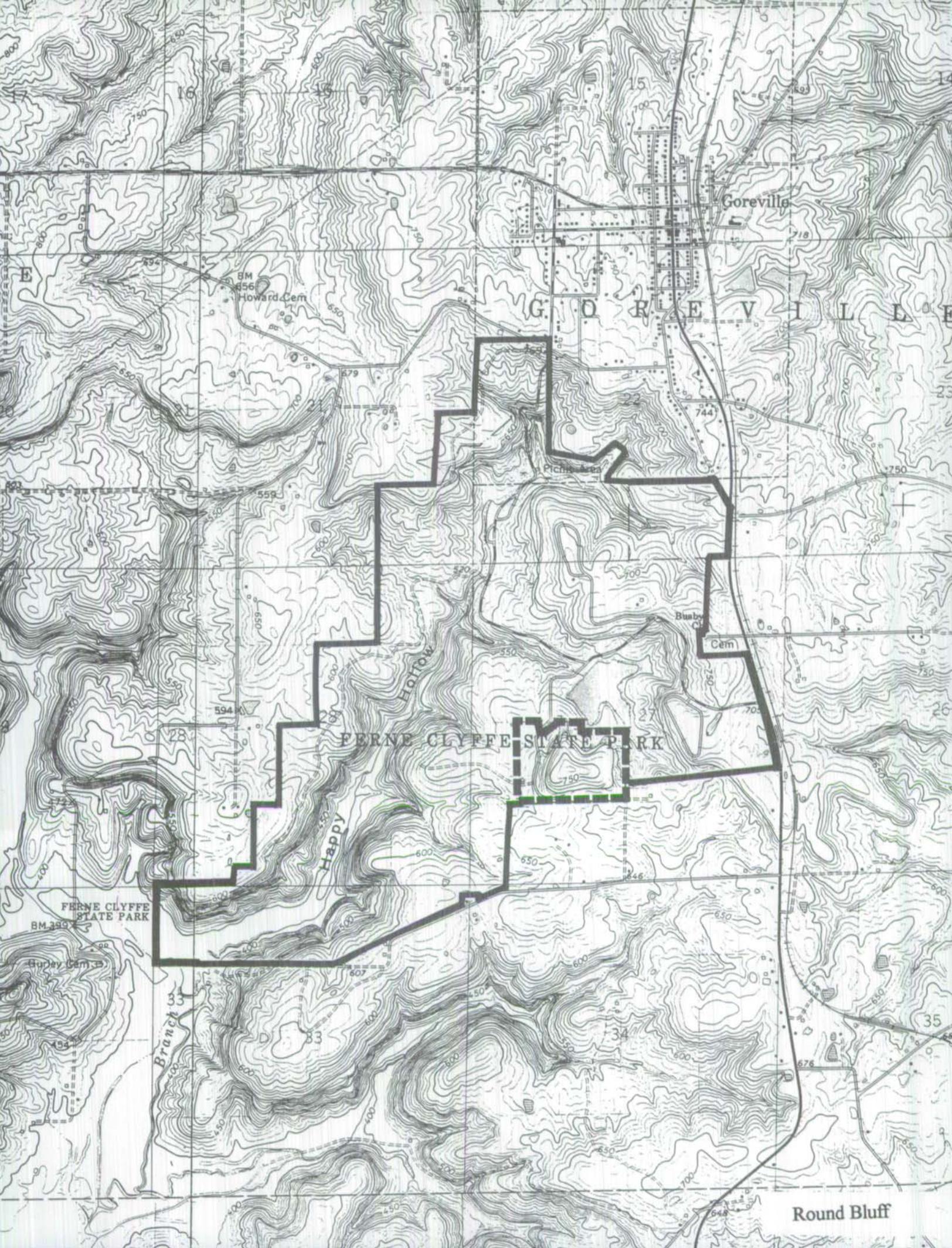
**Dedicated:** March 1983

**Size:** 138 acres nature preserve, 13 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Clarksville 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Division of Life Sciences, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL 61920 (217/581-3011)

## Clark County



Goreville

G O R E V I L L E

FERNE CLYFFE STATE PARK

FERNE CLYFFE STATE PARK

Round Bluff

BM 556  
Howard Cem

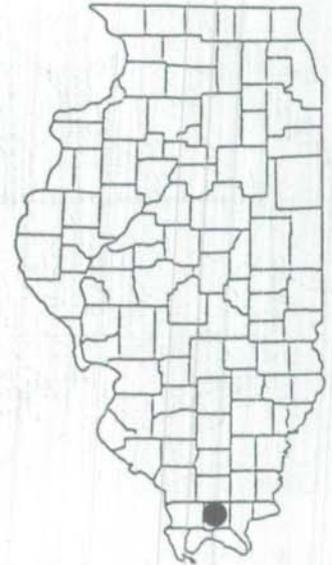
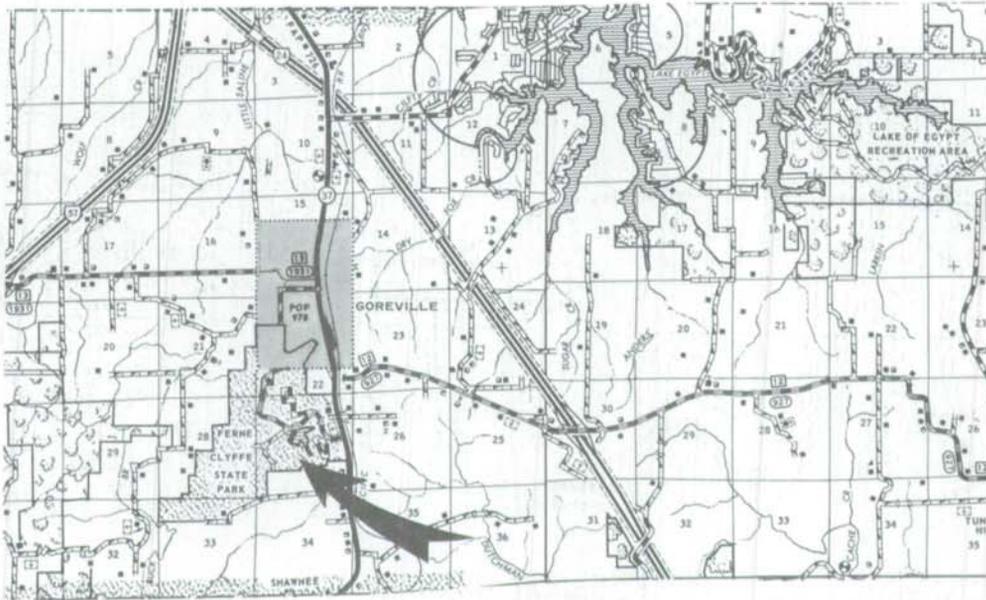
Picnic Area

Bunby Cem

Happy Hollow

Branch

BM 399  
Bunby Cem



## Round Bluff Nature Preserve

## Johnson County

### Location and Access:

From Goreville, take Highway 37 south 1 mile to the entrance to Ferne Clyffe State Park. Take the entrance road through the park for 1 mile to another park road. Turn south on this road and go 0.25 mile. The preserve is on the east side of the road.

### Description:

Round Bluff is an isolated outlier of the massive Pennsylvanian sandstones that form the canyons of Ferne Clyffe. It stands like an island, separated from the principal bluffs of the park and contains an outstanding assemblage of plants not found elsewhere in the region. Northeastern relict plants such as bottle gentian, black chokecherry, hay scented fern and bartonia grow on the shaded sandstone outcrops. Sandstone glades along the south side of the bluff support prickly pear cactus, rock pink and blue curls. High quality remnants of the sandstone cliff and sandstone glade natural com-

munities of the Greater Shawnee Hills Section of the Shawnee Hills Natural Division are represented.

The forested portions of the preserve support a variety of songbirds. These include the yellow-billed cuckoo, eastern wood pewee and red-headed woodpecker. Black vultures are often sighted overhead.

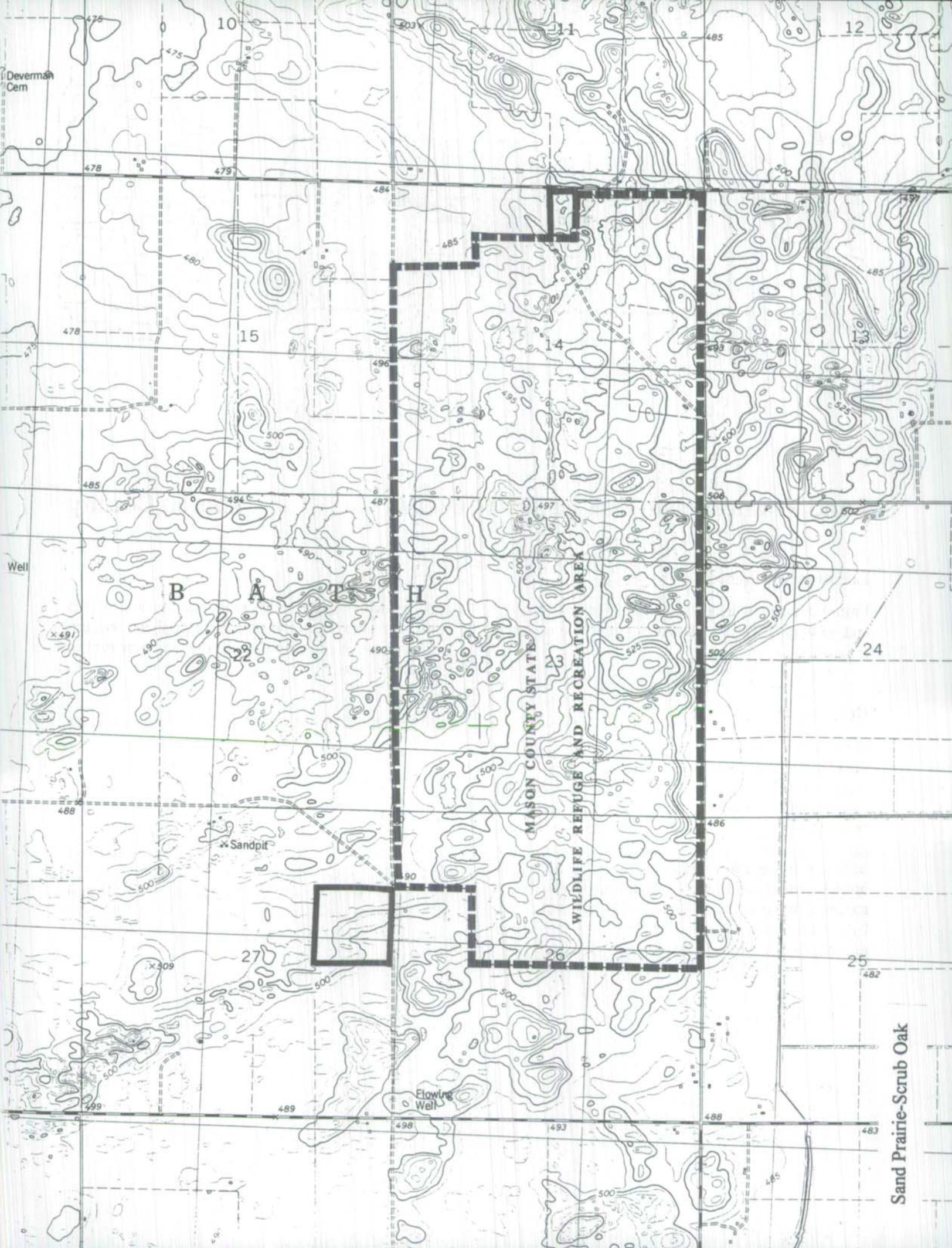
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** August 1973

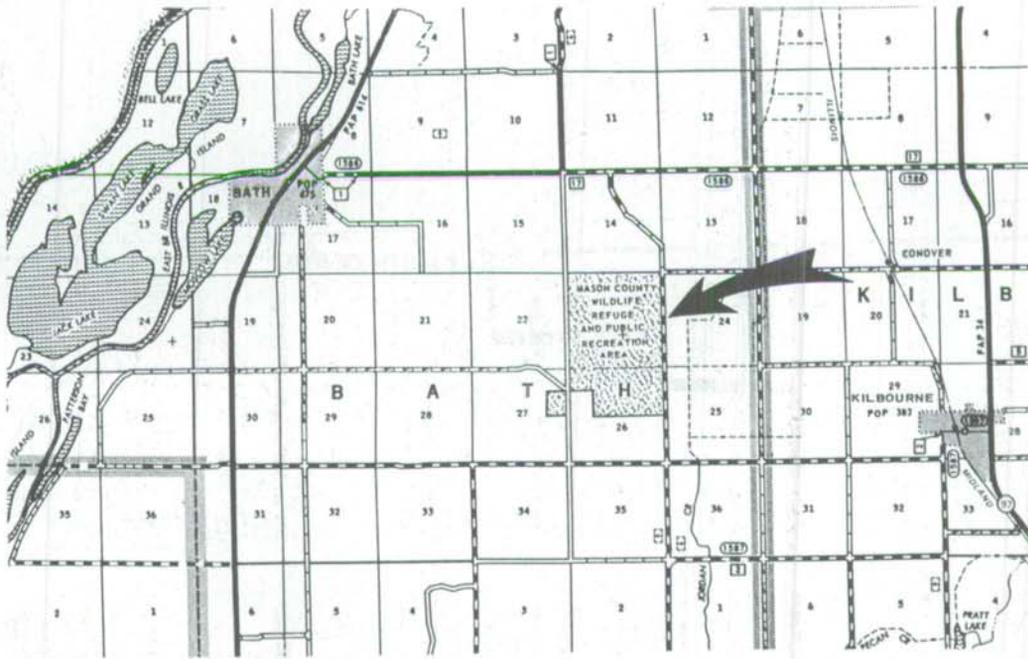
**Size:** 53 acres

**Topo Map:** Goreville 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Ferne Clyffe State Park, P.O. Box 67, Goreville, IL 62939 (618/995-2568), or Site Superintendent, Ferne Clyffe State Park, Goreville, IL 62939 (618/995-2411)



Sand Prairie-Scrub Oak



## Sand Prairie-Scrub Oak Nature Preserve

## Mason County

### Location and Access:

From Bath, take blacktop road east 3.6 miles, then turn and go south 1.3 miles. The nature preserve is west of the road.

### Description:

This preserve is a mixture of dry sand prairie, dry sand savanna and dry sand forest. Little bluestem, goats rue, eastern prickly pear cactus, sand love grass and porcupine grass characterize the sand prairie. Blowouts, areas of actively moving sand, are sites where beach grass, three-awn grass and Mohlenbrock's sedge may be found. Blackjack and black oaks plus mockernut and black hickories are present in the forest. Due to the arid nature of the soils, these trees remain small and "scrubby". Prairie plants are often present in the herbaceous understory of the forested land.

Lark sparrows nest in the sand prairies which also provide homes for badgers, pocket gophers, western hognose snakes and many insects that are more typical of western states.

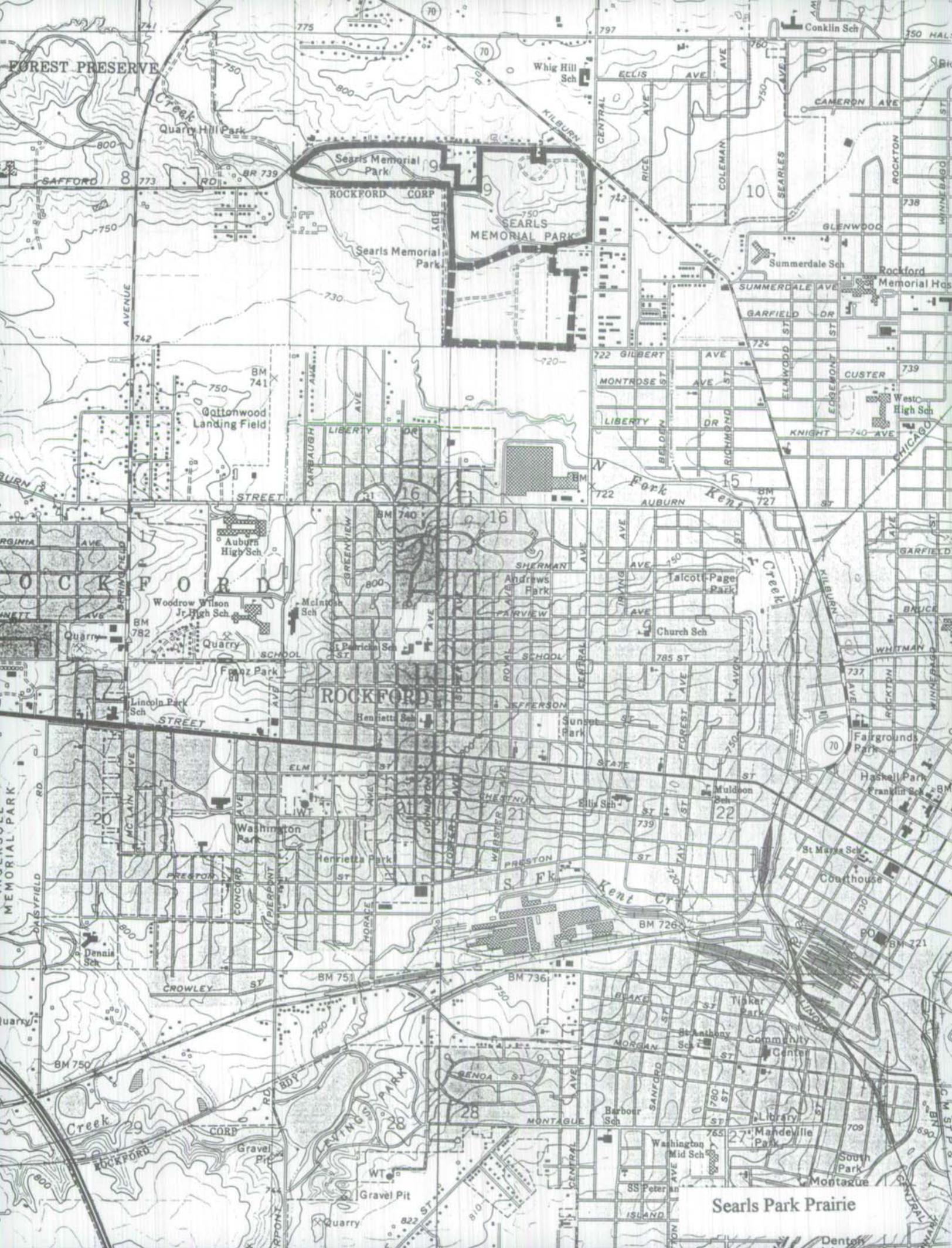
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** April 1970

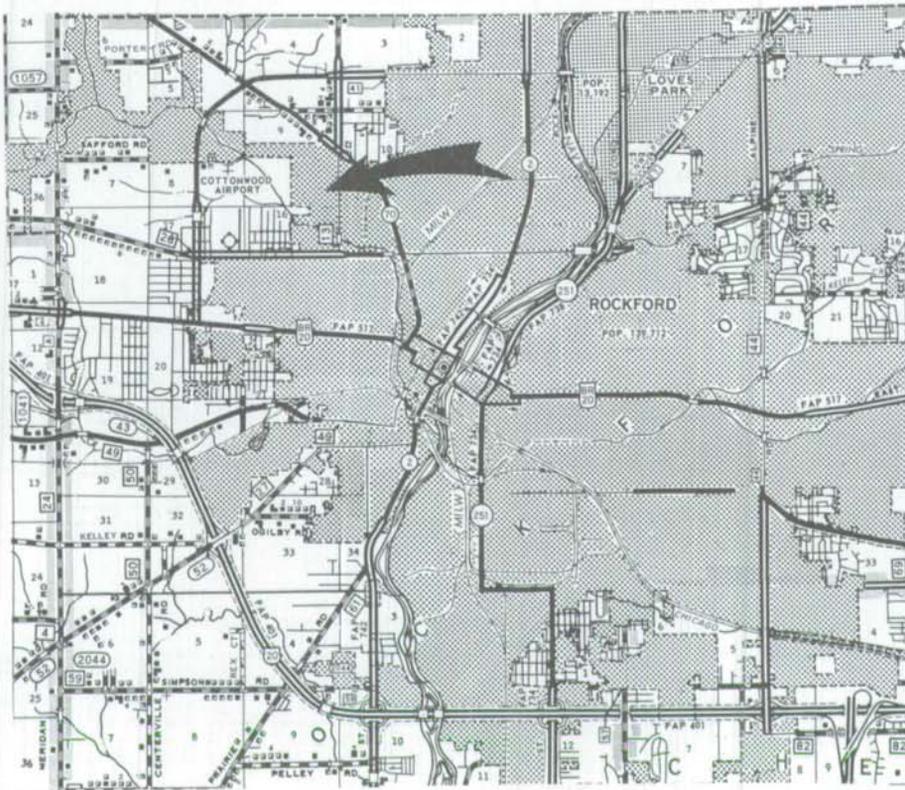
**Size:** 1,460 acres

**Topo Map:** Kilbourne 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Site Superintendent, Sand Ridge State Forest, Forest City, IL 61532 (309/597-2260) or Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Sangchris Lake State Park, R.R.#1, Rochester, IL 62563 (217/498-9208)



Searls Park Prairie



## Searls Park Prairie Nature Preserve

## Winnebago County

### Location and Access:

From Rockford at jct. Bus. Hwy. 20 (West State Street) & Central Avenue, take Central Avenue north 1.8 mi. to Searls Memorial Park. The nature preserve is in the south part of the park and is west of Central Avenue.

natural community in the preserve. Dominant grasses are prairie dropseed, Indian grass, and little bluestem. The wet prairie is dominated by tussock sedge, blue-joint grass, and cord grass.

### Description:

Searls Park Prairie is a significant black-soil prairie within Searls Memorial Park in northwest Rockford. It contains wet and wet-mesic prairie representative of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division. Originally, this park was a 230 acre farmstead owned by the Searls family who settled in Winnebago County during the 1850's. In 1944, Emily J. Searls donated the land to the Rockford Park District. Mesic prairie is the main

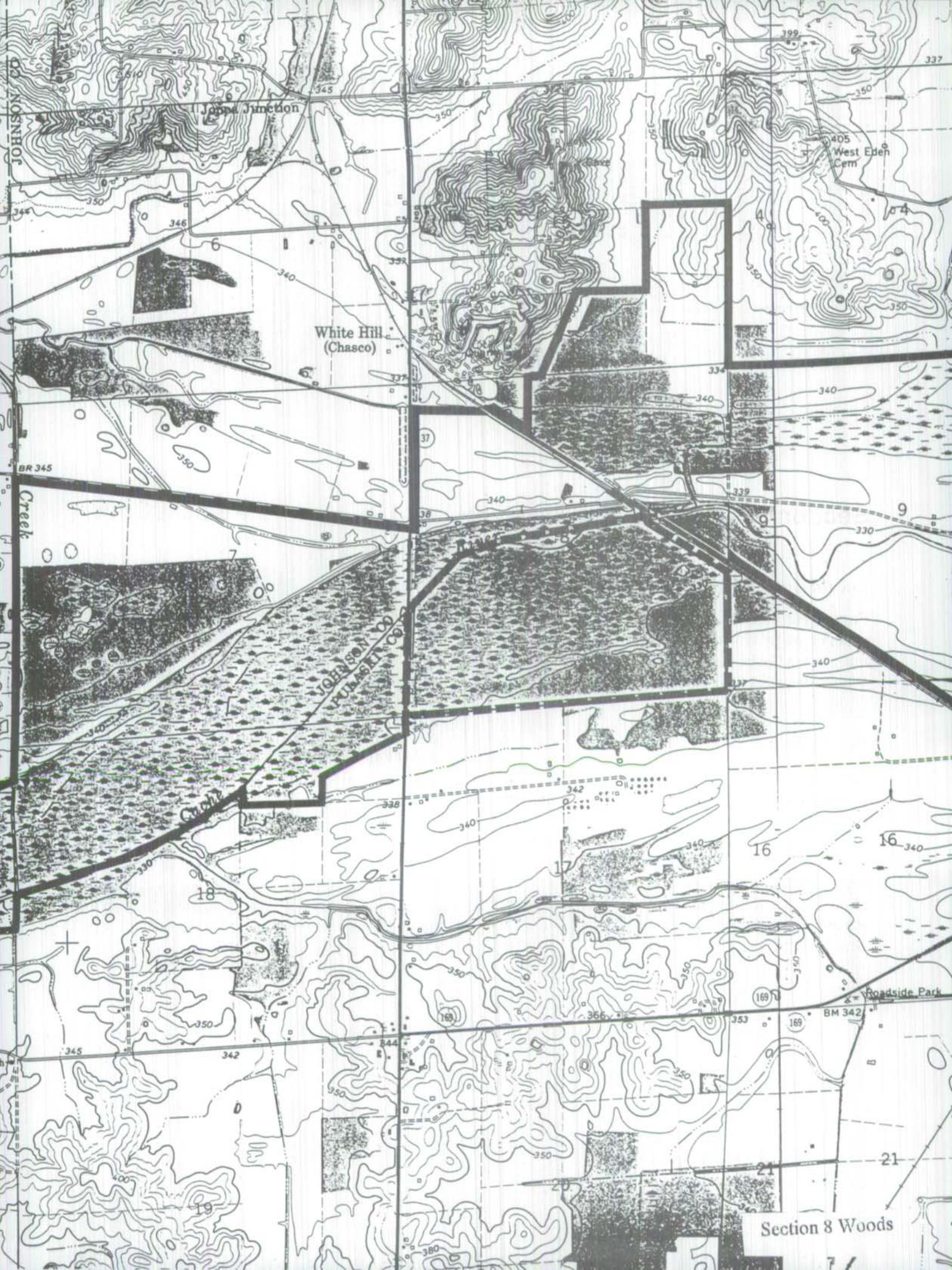
**Ownership:** Rockford Park District

**Dedicated:** April 1984

**Size:** 66 acres

**Topo Map:** Rockford North and Winnebago 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Rockford Park District, 1401 N. 2nd Street, Rockford, IL 61107 (815/987-8800)



JOHN S. JOHNSON

Joppa Junction

White Hill  
(Chasco)

405  
West Eden  
Cem

BR 345

Creek

JOHN S. JOHNSON

18

17

16

16

169

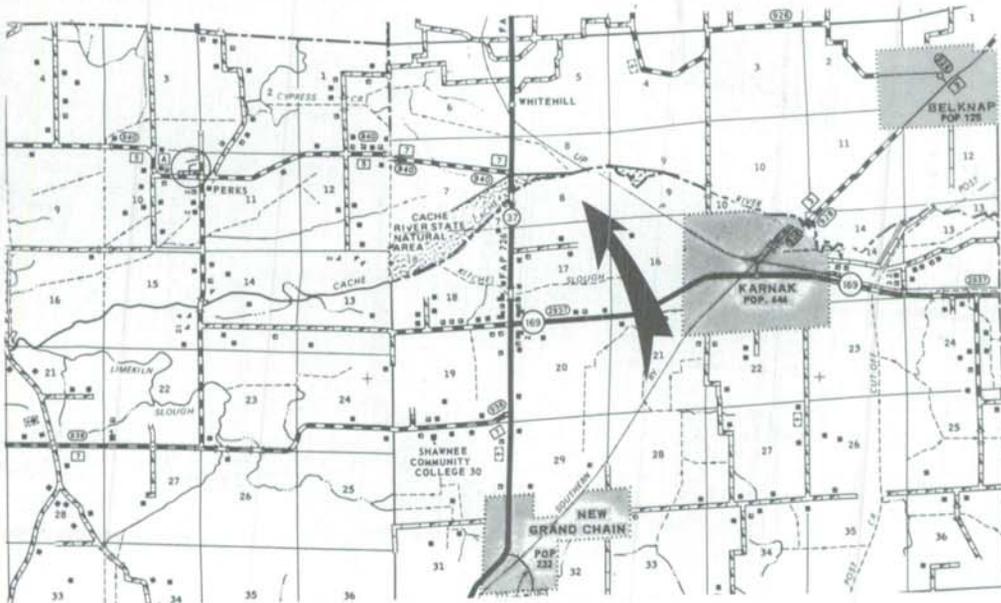
BM 342

Roadside Park

21

Section 8 Woods

7 /



## Section 8 Woods Nature Preserve

## Pulaski County

### Location and Access:

From Vienna take IL Route 146 to IL Route 37. Turn south on route 37 and continue south approximately 9 miles to the Cache River State Natural Area. Section 8 Woods lies east of Route 37 along the Cache River.

Some exceptionally large cypress trees are present throughout the area. The site is also a haven for birds, including Acadian flycatchers, pileated woodpeckers, prothonotary warblers, Cerulean warblers, tree swallows, herons and black vultures.

### Description:

This forest is an important component of the Cache River lands in Pulaski County. The plant communities present here include cypress/tupelo swamp and pond communities representative of the Coastal Plain Division. Some of the best examples of these communities in Illinois are present here. The swamp community consists of bald cypress and tupelo with scattered red maples, buttonbush and Virginia willow which often grows on logs or in areas of shallow water.

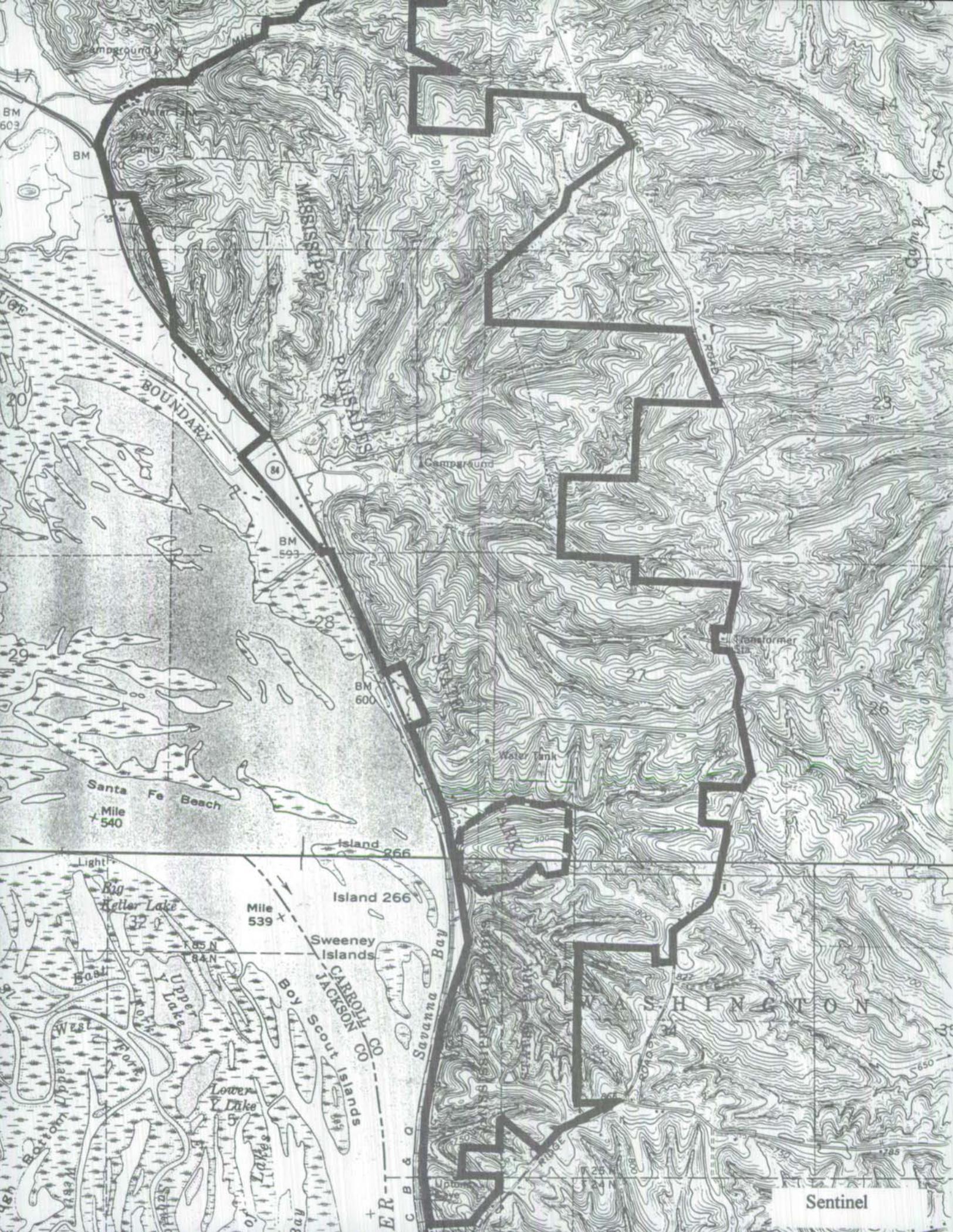
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** April 1990

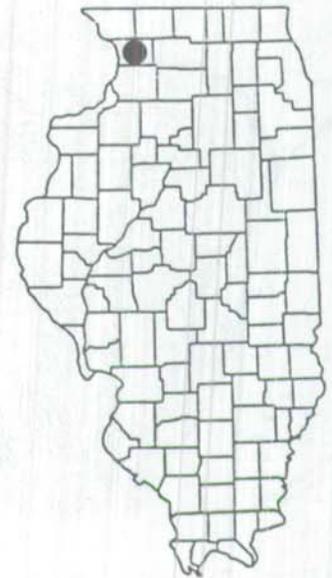
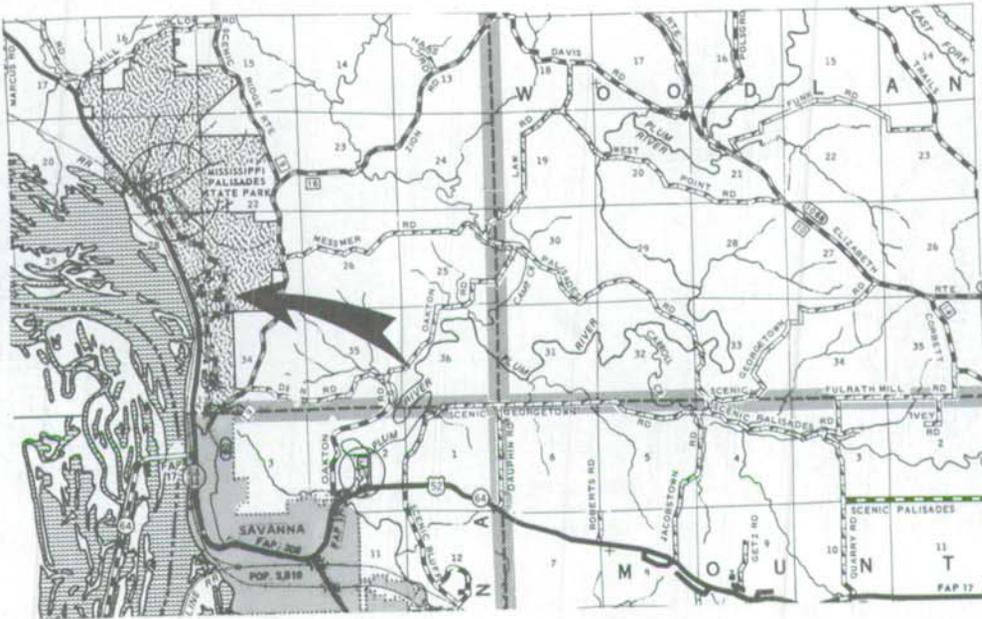
**Size:** 326.8 acres

**Topo Map:** Cypress 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Ferne Clyffe State Park, P.O. Box 67, Goreville, IL 62939 (618/995-2568)



Sentinel



## Sentinel Nature Preserve

## Carroll County

### Location and Access:

Sentinel Nature Preserve is located in Mississippi Palisades State Park in Carroll County in northwestern Illinois. This park is located on Illinois Route 84 along the Mississippi River north of Savanna. The nature preserve is located on the Sentinel trail system.

### Description:

This preserve is named after a large limestone promitory known as the Sentinel. Many rare plants are present within the preserve, including Canada violet and jewel shooting star. However, much of the preserve is upland forest which consists of red, white and black oaks, plus sugar maple and basswood. A small loess hill prairie, containing side-oats grama, little bluestem and

leadplant, is also present. The park itself contains other large rocks of a similiar nature, causing the area to be known as the "Palisades of the Mississippi".

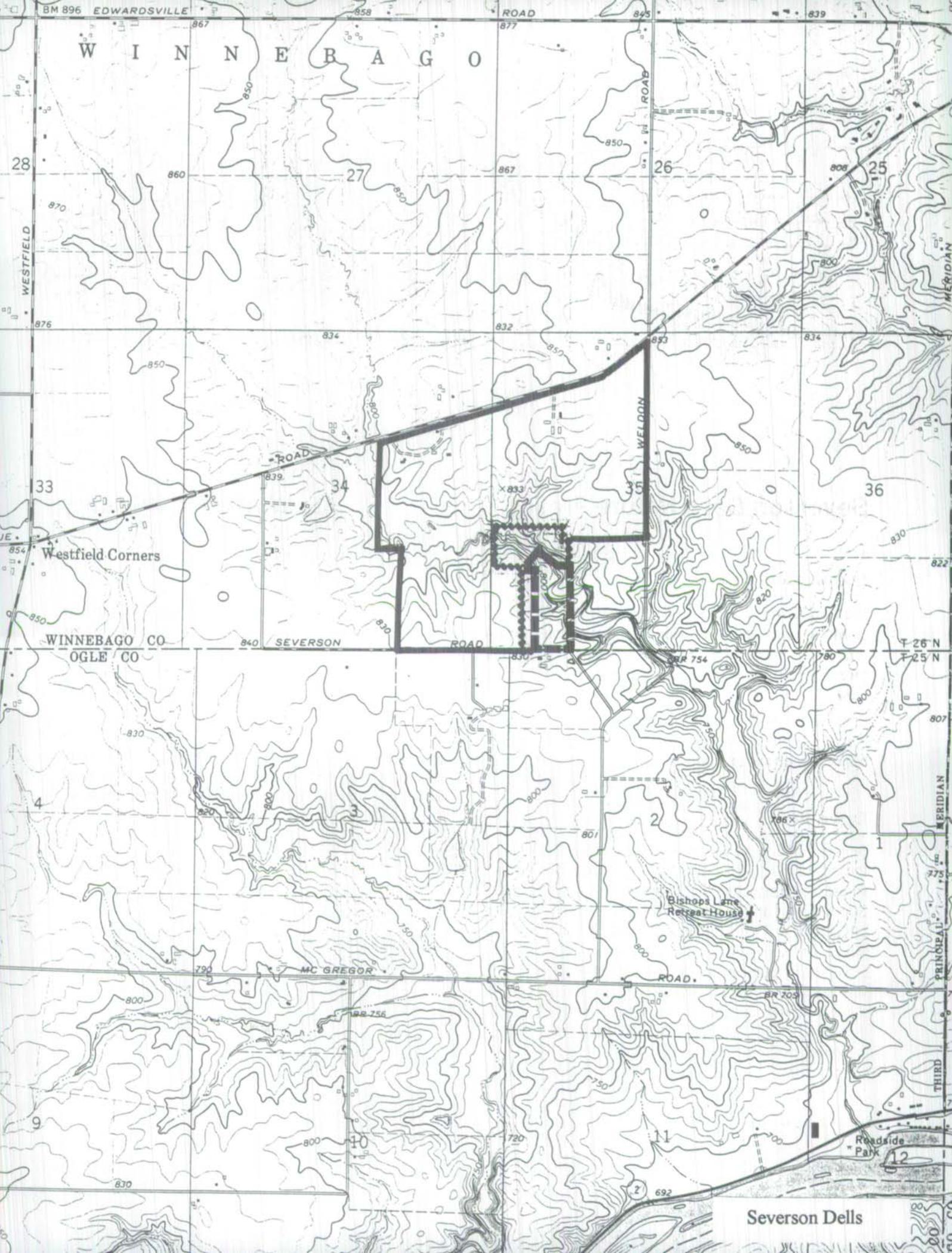
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** June 1991

**Size:** 48.4 acres

**Topo Map:** Blackhawk and Savanna 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Dearborn Hall, 205 E. Seminary Street, Mt. Carroll, IL 61053 (815/244-3655)



BM 896 EDWARDSVILLE

# W I N N E B A G O

28

WESTFIELD

33

Westfield Corners

WINNEBAGO CO  
OGLE CO

4

9

830

867

860

27

834

34

ROAD

SEVERSON

ROAD

877

832

830

720

26

ROAD

WELDON

BR 754

ROAD

692

845

834

780

BR 703

800

25

36

T 26 N  
T 25 N

2

1

11

12

20

MERIDIAN

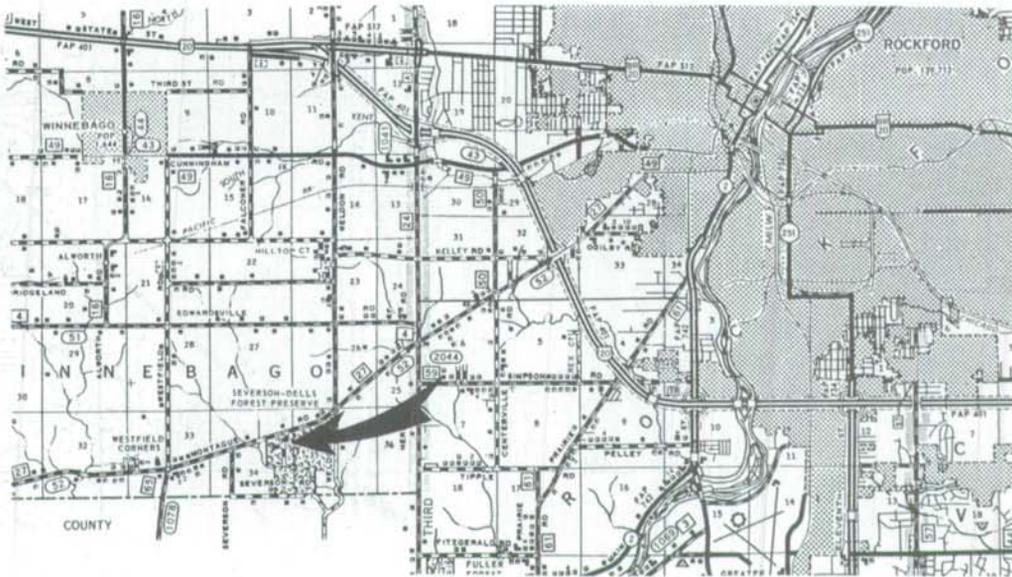
MERIDIAN

THIRD

Severson Dells

Roadside Park

Bishops Lane Retreat House



## Severson Dells Nature Preserve

## Winnebago County

### Location and Access:

From southwest of Rockford at interchange of Hwy. 20 & Montague Road, take Montague Road southwest 4 mi. to Severson Dells Forest Preserve. The nature preserve is in the forest preserve, which is south of the road.

Special Note: The original Severson house has been converted into an interpretive center. Many educational opportunities exist and weekend programs are provided.

### Description:

Severson Dells Nature Preserve contains remnants of the original dry-mesic upland forest, mesic floodplain forest, and dolomite cliff communities of the Freeport Section of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division. In 1975, the area was donated to the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District by Fannie Severson in memory of her husband. The conditions of this donation was that the area be maintained in its natural condition. One of the attractive features at the preserve is a series of cliffs known as the dells which were formed by receding glacial meltwaters. The cliffs reach to 40 feet in some places. Many unique plants

restricted to limestone and dolomite outcrops such as bullet fern, smooth cliffbrake, and maiden hair fern are found here. Northern relict plants such as Canada yew and white pine occur on north facing cliffs. The upland forest is dominated by white oak, hickory, and cherry, while the floodplain is dominated by bur oak, swamp white oak, walnut and box elder. Dolomite prairie containing porcupine grass and little bluestem also occur in this preserve. Aldo Leopold and Paul Riis conducted some early deer studies in an area including this preserve in the mid 1930's.

**Ownership:** Winnebago County Forest Preserve District

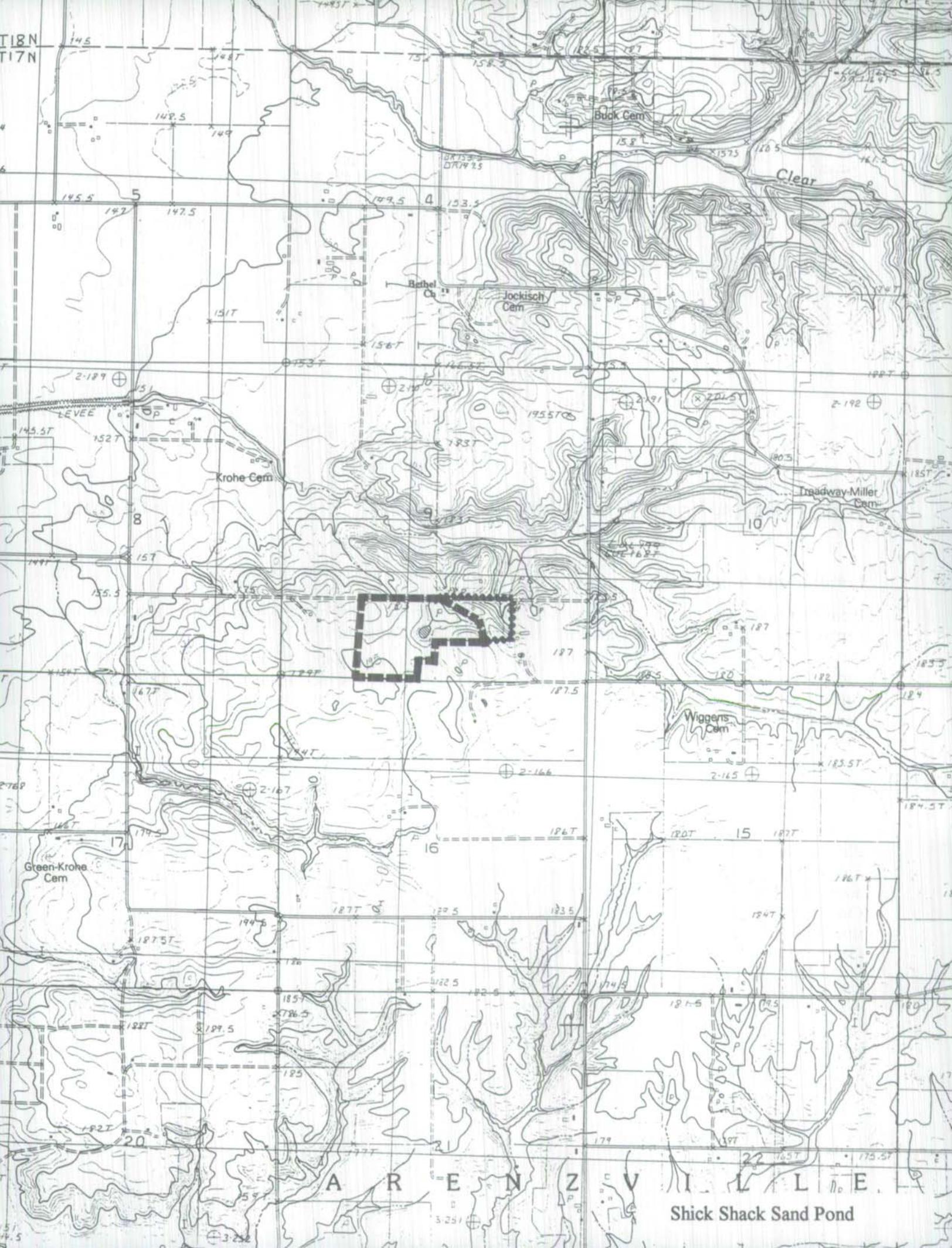
**Dedicated:** September 1982

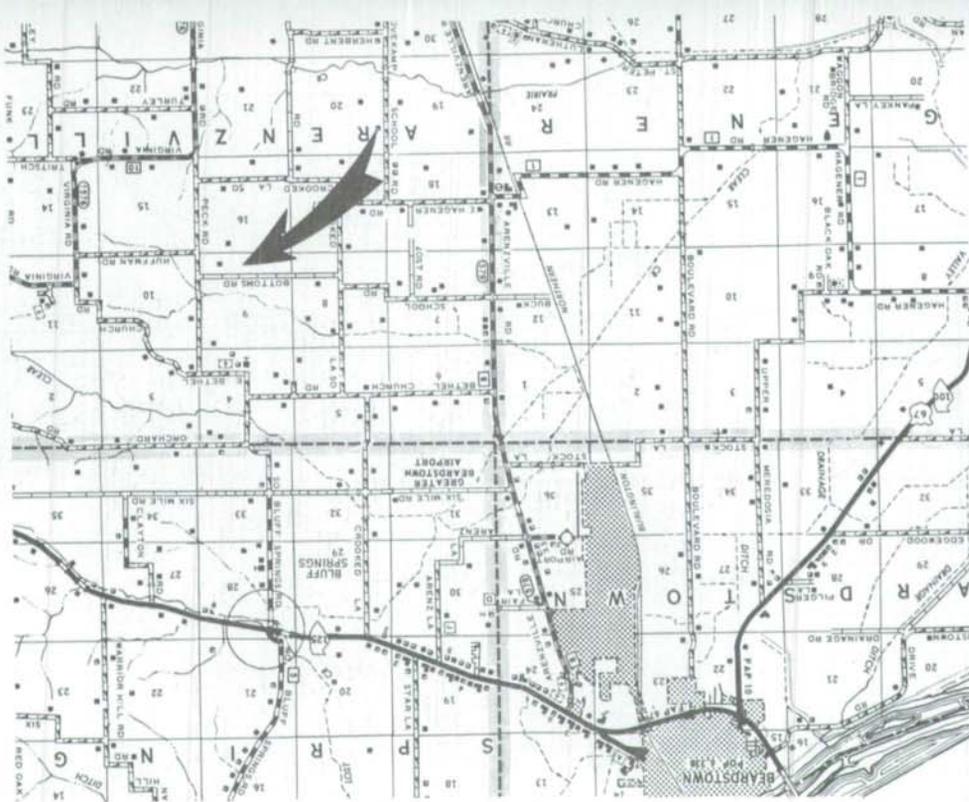
**Size:** 21.7 acres nature preserve, 18.1 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Kishwaukee 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Winnebago County Forest Preserve District, 5500 Northrock Dr., Rockford, IL 61103 (815/877-6100)

T18N  
T17N





## Shick Shack Sand Pond Nature Preserve

## Cass County

### Location and Access:

From Arenzville, take road toward Beardstown north-northeast and north 3.6 miles to junction of E. Hagener Road, then turn and go east 1.6 miles, then turn and go north 0.8 mile, then turn and go east 1 mile. This last 1 mile is a dirt road that is not passable in wet weather. Visitors may have to walk part of this last mile. The nature preserve is south of the road.

### Description:

The Illinois River Sand Area, like other sand areas in Illinois, was once characterized by numerous marshes and sand ponds. Most of these areas have been greatly altered, but this one is relatively undisturbed. Pond and shrub swamp are the primary plant communities. The shrub swamp contains buttonbush and willows which exist in a dense 10 to 20 foot zone around the periphery of the pond. Duckweed, a floating aquatic plant, and

numerous submerged aquatic plants characterize the pond community.

Due to the presence of the pond, this site supports an interesting amphibian population. Mudpuppies, tiger salamanders and Illinois chorus frogs inhabit the site.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** June 1985

**Size:** 45.7 acres nature preserve, 11.3 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Arenzville East 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Sangchris Lake State Park, R.R.#1, Rochester, IL 62563 (217/498-9208)



G O O S E L A K E

Dell Abbey

Short Cemetery

S P R I N G F E L I X M I N E

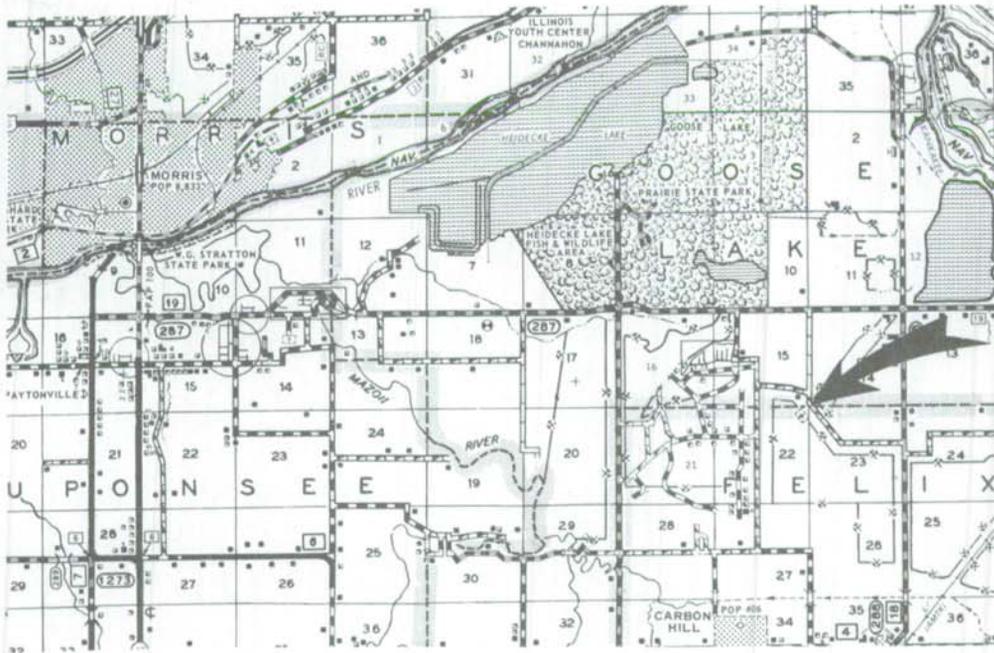
F E L I X

Short Pioneer Cemetery Prairie

Mine Dump

Mine Dump

DITCH BR 547



## Short Pioneer Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve Grundy County

### Location and Access:

From IL Rt 47 approximately one mile south of Morris; travel east on County road 19 approximately 6 1/4 miles; then south on a surfaced road 1/2 mile to a "T"; east on gravel road 1/4 mile to curve; south 1/4 mile to first road on left; east again on that gravel road 1/2 mile; south again 1/8 mile to intersection; finally west 200 yards to Cemetery (north side of dirt road).

### Description:

Short Pioneer Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve is a dry-mesic sand prairie that lies at the western edge of the Kankakee Sand Area Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. Grasses include little and big blues-tems, Indian grass and porcupine grass interspersed with forbs such as cleft phlox, western sunflower, prickly

pear cactus, poppy mallow, round-headed bush clover, leadplant and goat's rue.

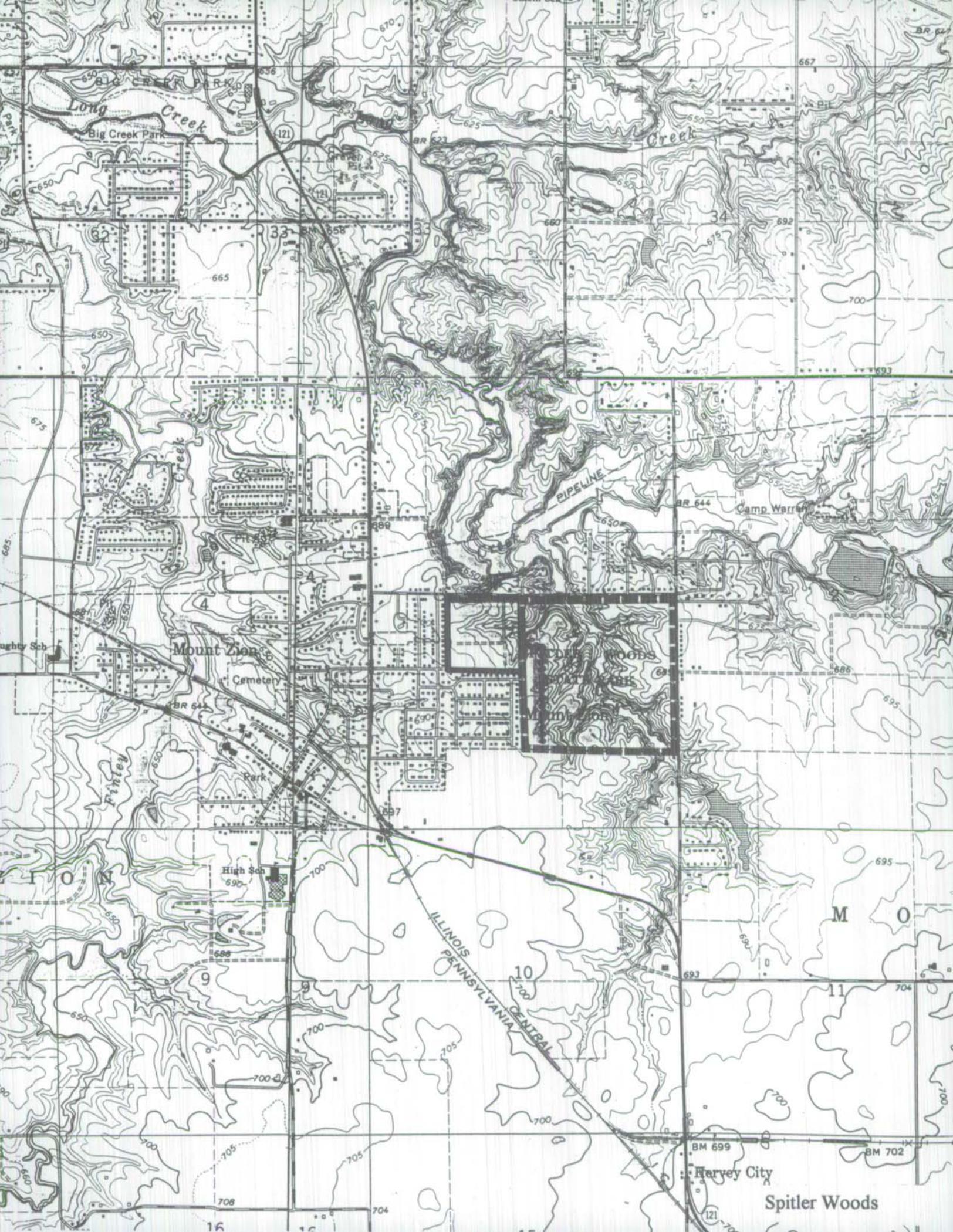
**Ownership:** Oak Ridge Cemetery Association

**Dedicated:** May 1988

**Size:** 1.3 acres

**Topo Map:** Coal City 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Virginia S. Carper, Secretary of Oak Ridge Cemetery Association, 506 Calhoun Street, Morris, IL 60450; Goose Lake Prairie Partners, c/o Goose Lake State Park, 5010 North Jugtown Road, Morris, IL 60450 (815/931-2899)



Big Creek Park  
Long Creek

Mount Zion  
Cemetery

SPLITLER WOODS

Camp Warren

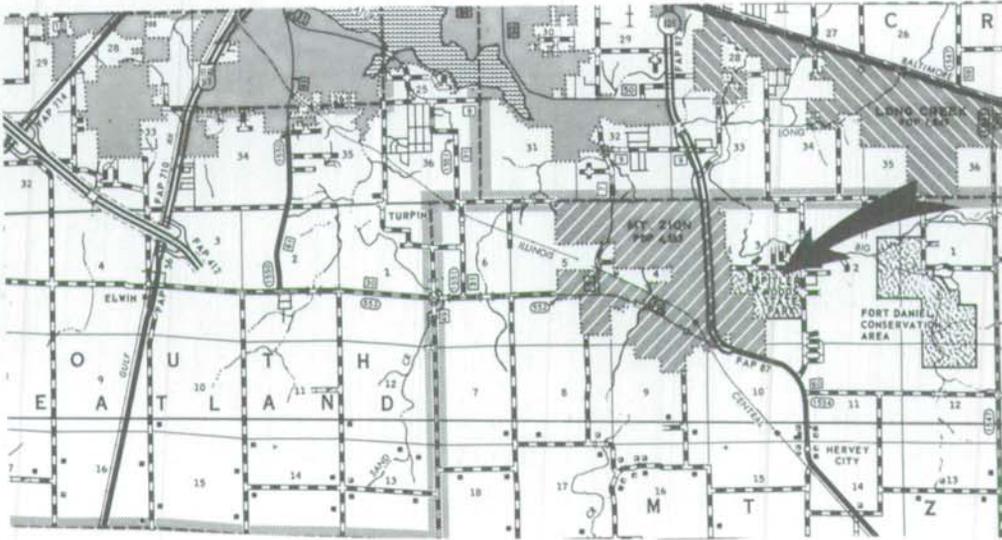
Harvey City

Spitler Woods

ILLINOIS  
PENNSYLVANIA  
GENERAL

ION

M O



## Spitler Woods Nature Preserve

## Macon County

### Location and Access:

In Mount Zion, take Highway 121 to Spitler Park Dr. Turn east on Spitler Park Dr. and go 0.5 mile to the entrance to Spitler Woods State Natural Area. The preserve is on the east side of the park road.

### Description:

This forest contains one of the largest acreages of old growth woods in central Illinois. Mesic upland forest which contains red oak, sugar maple, black walnut and basswood is present on the hillsides and slopes. Dry mesic forest containing white oak, red oak and shagbark hickory is present on the higher elevations. Wet-mesic floodplain forest containing sycamore, hackberry and Ohio buckeye is present along the creek which flows through the preserve. The site has a spectacular display

of spring wildflowers, including false rue anemone, wild geranium, trillium, spring beauty and mayapple.

Several songbirds also inhabit the preserve. Yellow-billed cuckoo, gray catbird, eastern wood pewee and red-bellied woodpecker may be observed here.

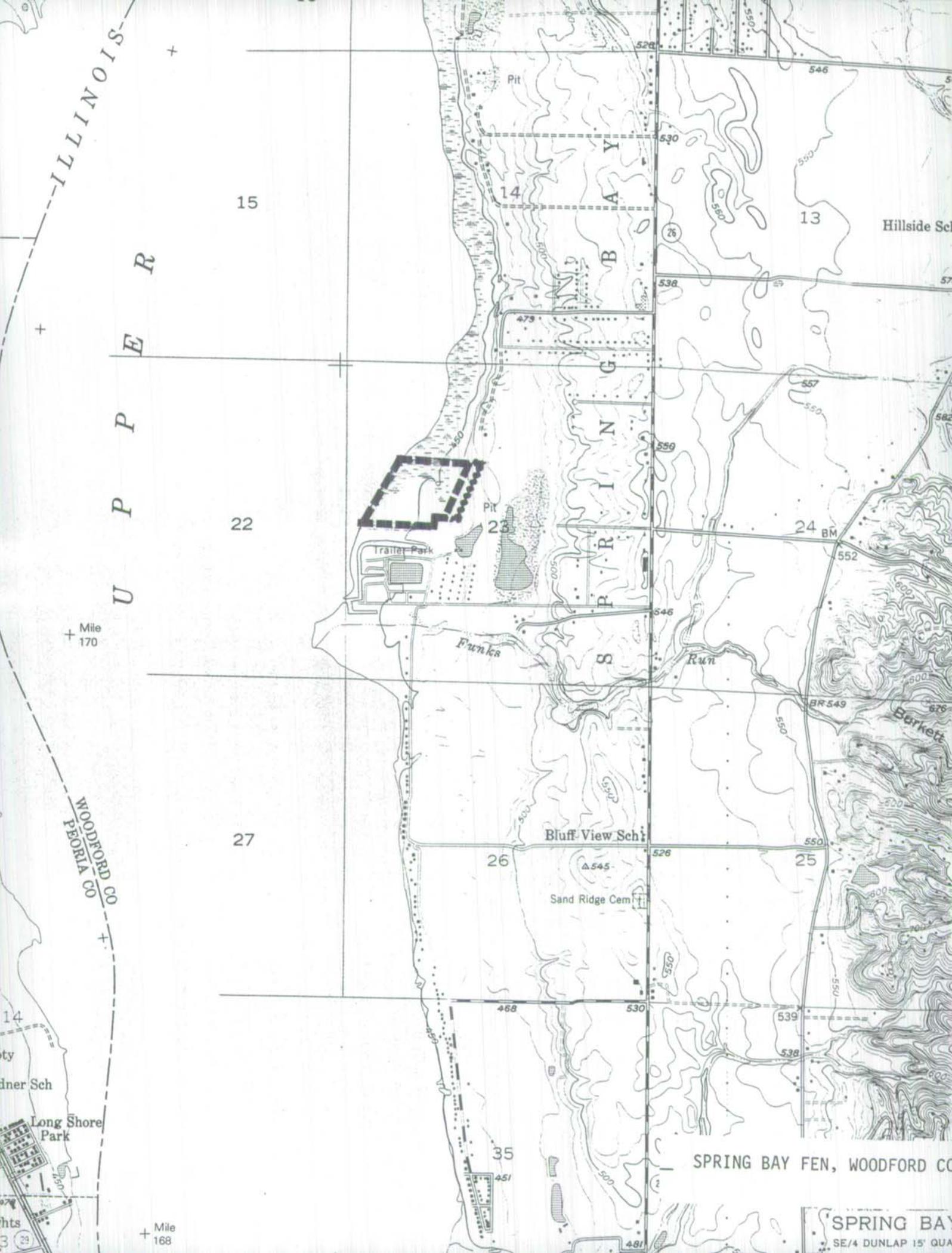
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** May 1982

**Size:** 146 acres nature preserve, 13 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Long Creek 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, R.R. #2, Box 108, Charleston, IL 61920 (217/345-2420), or Site Superintendent, Spitler Woods State Park, Box 705, Mt. Zion, IL 62549 (217/864-3121)



ILLINOIS

U P P E R

Mile 170

WOODFORD CO  
PEORIA CO

Mile 168

15

22

27

14

26

35

13

24

25

Hillside Sch

Trailer Park

Bluff View Sch

Sand Ridge Cem

Furness Run

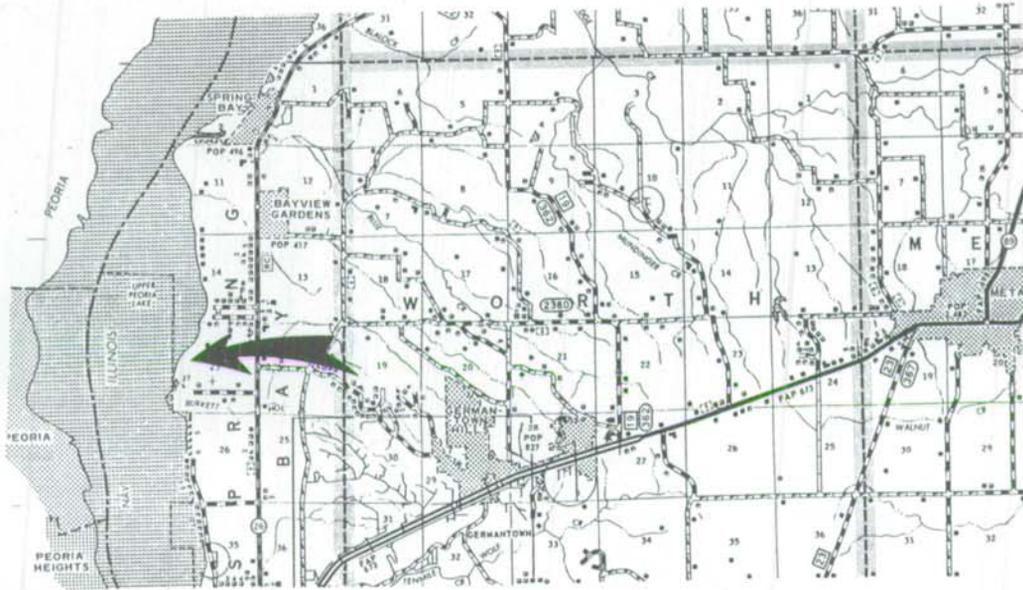
Run

Burkett

SPRING BAY FEN, WOODFORD CO

SPRING BAY

SE/4 DUNLAP 15' QU



## Spring Bay Fen Nature Preserve

## Woodford County

### Location and Access:

From east Peoria at jct. Hwys. 24 and 116, take Hwy. 116 northeast 1.1 miles to Hwy. 26, then go north 3.7 miles on Hwy. 26, then turn and go west on road to mobile home park 0.7 mile. The nature preserve is north of the mobile home park. It is about 2 miles south of Spring Bay and 0.75 mile west of Illinois Route 26.

### Description:

Spring Bay Fen is the only remaining example of an Illinois River cold water tall shrub fen in the state. The fen is a "bog-like" community dominated by several shrub species: red-osier dogwood, nannyberry, poison sumac and pussy willow. This community is similar to a bog in the structure of the peaty soil and springs, however, the pH of the spring water is different. The calcareous water flowing through the soil creates an alkaline pH to the soil-water, resulting in a fen community rather than an acidic bog. The plant communities have rare plants such as black ash, spotted

phlox and highbush cranberry. More typical plants include skunk cabbage, blue iris, spreading goldenrod and spotted touch-me-not. Wood duck, heron, egret, bullfrog, garter snake and beaver are just a few common animal inhabitants. Record floods occurring in both 1983 and 1984 seemed to have had little adverse impact on the significant features.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** November 1979

**Size:** 26.6 acres with an additional 4.7 acres of buffer

**Topo Map:** Spring Bay 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Site Superintendent, Marshall County Conservation Area, Lacon, IL 61540 (309/246-8351) or Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 215 N. 5th, Suite D, Pekin, IL 61554 (309/347-5119)





## Spring Grove Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve Warren County

### Location and Access:

From the intersection of US Rt 67 and US Rt 34 on the north edge of Monmouth - travel north on Rt 67 approximately 6 miles; then left (west) on gravel road (2600N) 1/8 mile. Cemetery is on the north side of the road.

### Description:

Spring Grove Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve is managed and used for occasional education programs by the faculty and students of Monmouth College. The site was originally deeded for church use in 1859, thereby protecting it from cultivation or grazing. The cemetery prairie is preserved today as a remembrance of those buried there and of our prairie heritage. The

mesic black soil prairie site is dominated by Indian grass and big bluestem, with over fifty-five prairie species protected in all.

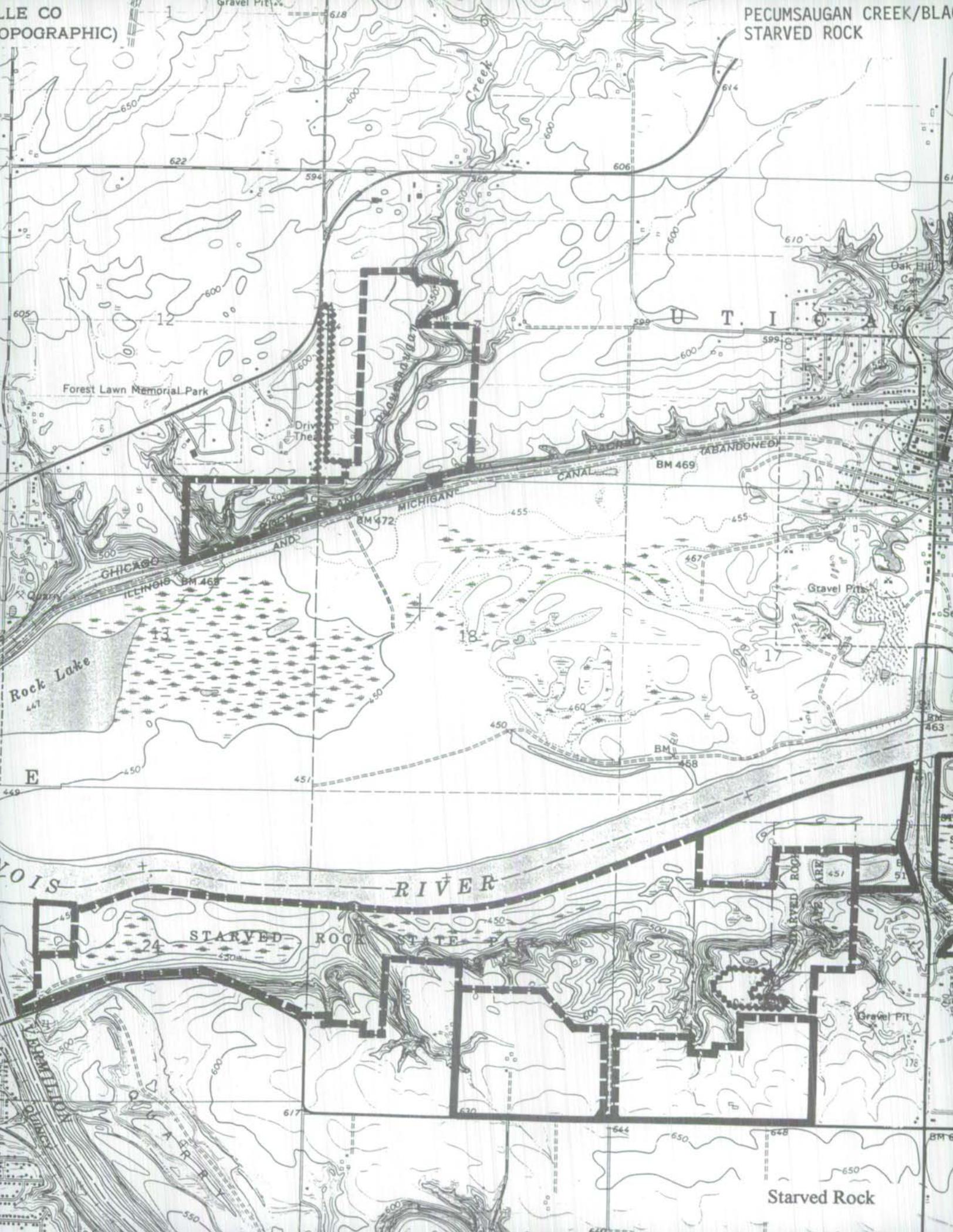
**Ownership:** Spring Grove Cemetery Trustees

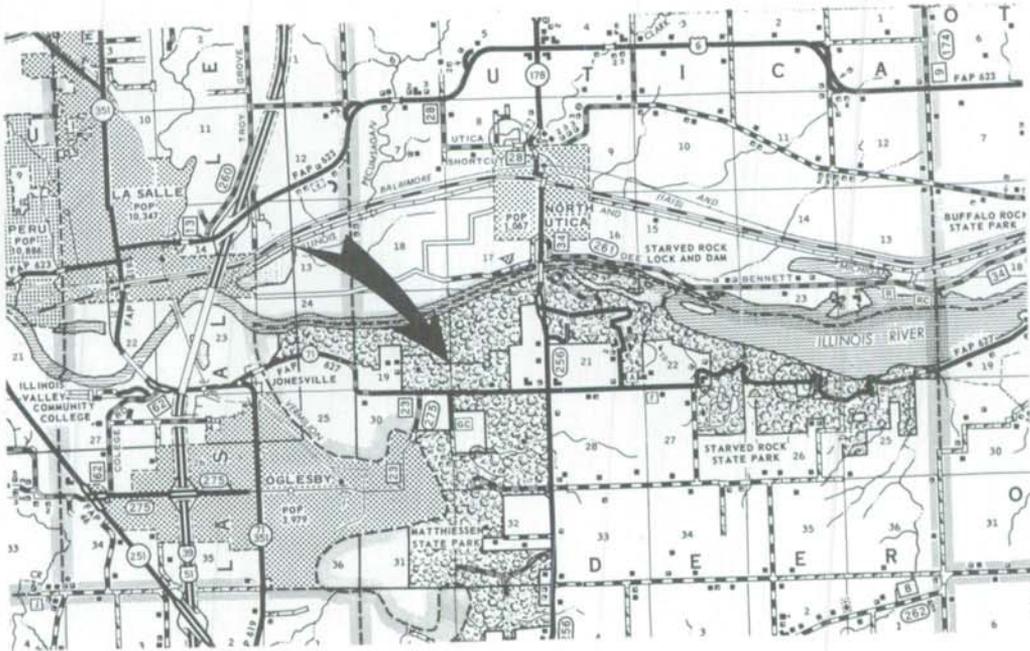
**Dedicated:** August 1983

**Size:** 1.1 acres

**Topo Map:** Little York 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Spring Grove Cemetery Trustees, c/o David C. Allison, Prof., Department of Biology, Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL 61462 (309/457-2349)





## Starved Rock Nature Preserve

## La Salle County

### Location and Access:

From Oglesby, take Highway 71 east and cross the Vermilion River. The preserve is on the north side of the road after crossing the river.

### Description:

This site, with its deep canyons and sandstone cliffs, has a rich cultural and biological history. Native Americans used the site, and a fort was built here by the French in the 1700's. White pine, Canada yew, and northern white cedar, plants that are more common farther north, occur on the sandstone cliffs.

The least disturbed plant communities are dry-mesic upland forest, mesic upland forest and dry upland forest. White oak, red oak and black oak are common in all

three plant communities. Many very old trees are present in the canyons throughout the park.

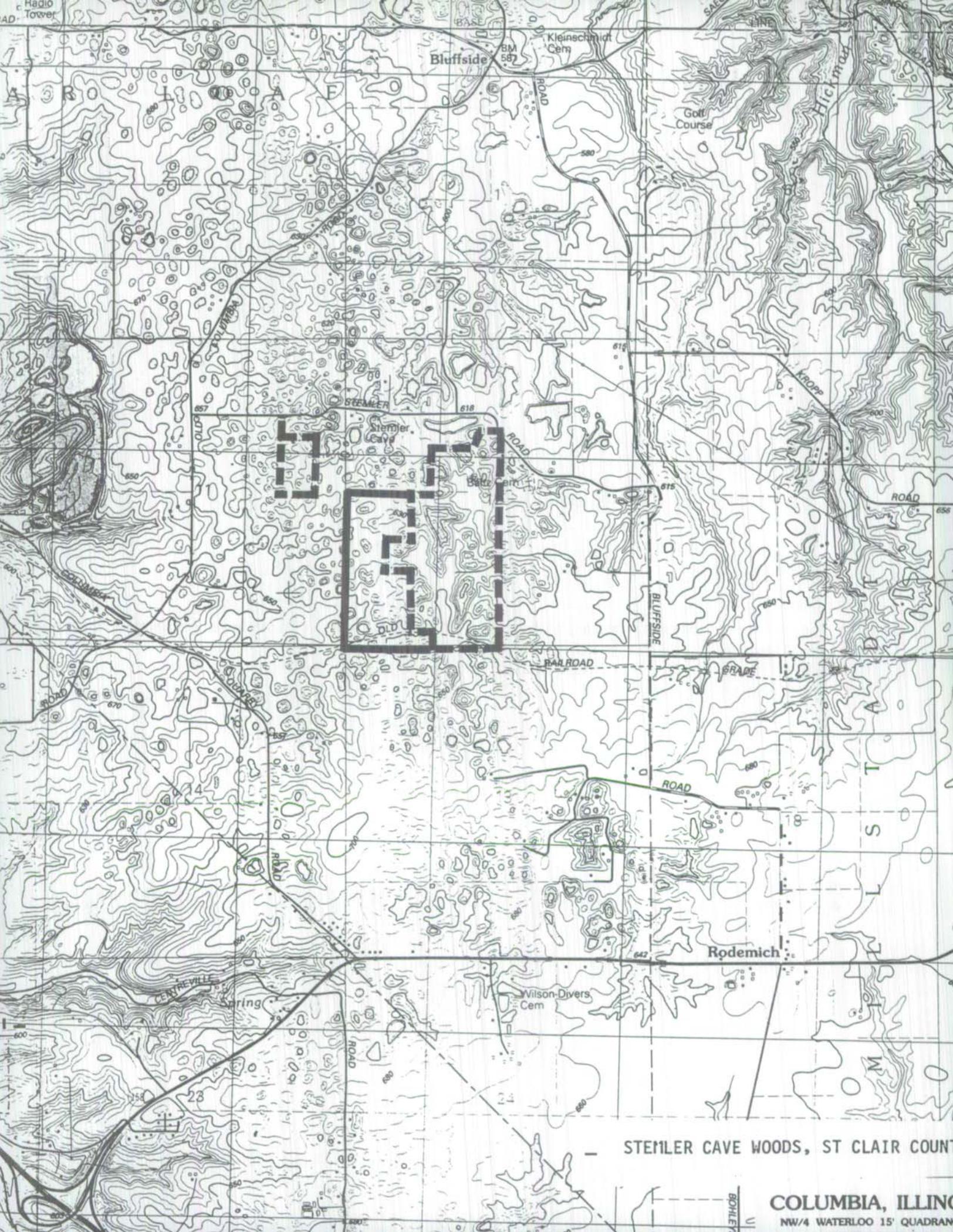
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** May 1967

**Size:** 582 acres nature preserve, 10 acres buffer

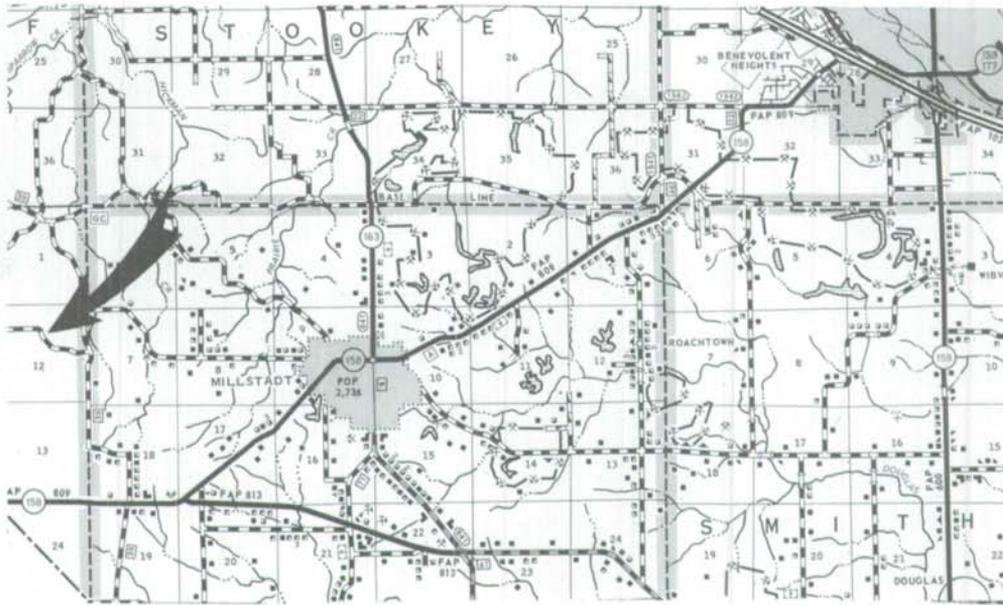
**Topo Map:** La Salle 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Castle Rock State Park, R.R. #2, Oregon, IL 61061 (815/732-6185), or Site Superintendent, Starved Rock State Park, Utica, IL 61373 (815/667-4726)



STEMLER CAVE WOODS, ST CLAIR COUNTY

COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS  
NW/4 WATERLOO 15' QUADRANT



## Stemler Cave Woods Nature Preserve

## St. Clair County

### Location and Access:

From Millstadt, take Highway 158 two miles to a county road. Turn north on this road and go two miles (the road goes north 0.5 mile, then west 0.5 mile then north again for 1 mile). Turn west on this county road and go 0.5 mile. The preserve is on the south side of the road.

### Description:

This old growth forest remnant is located on a sinkhole plain near the entrance to Stemler Cave. This dry upland forest community contains white oak, post oak, red oak, pignut hickory and white ash. Several sinkholes create localized variations in topography and microclimate, resulting in a change in the species composition of the forest near these sites. White and black oaks are most

common on the upper two-thirds of the sinkhole while red oak is common in the lower one-third of these depressions.

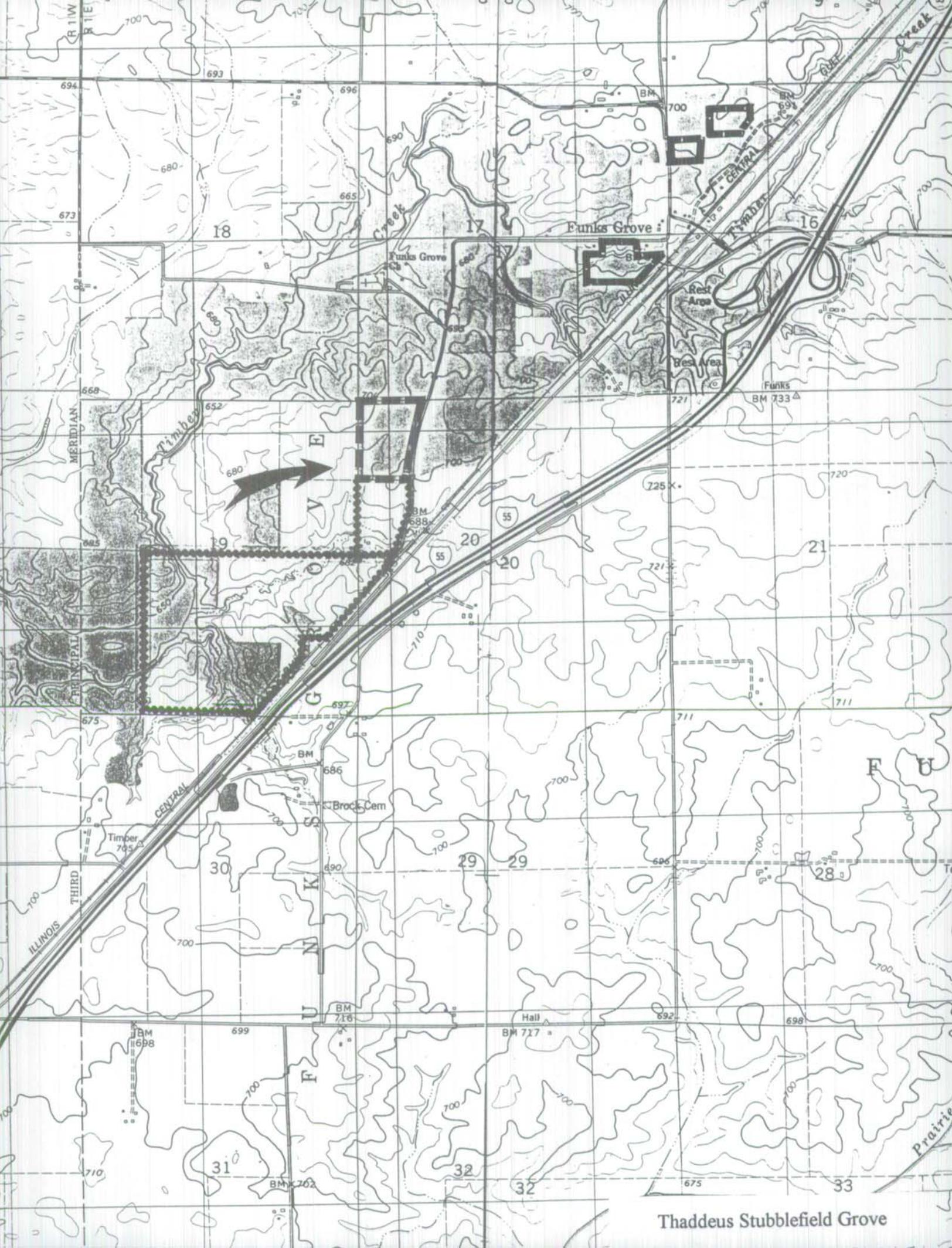
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** April 1986

**Size:** 120 acres

**Topo Map:** Columbia 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 4521 Alton Commerce Parkway, Alton, IL 62002 (618/462-1181), or Site Superintendent, Baldwin Lake Conservation Area, R.R. #1, Baldwin, IL 62217 (618/785-2555)



Thaddeus Stubblefield Grove



## Thaddeus Stubblefield Grove Nature Preserve

## McLean County

### Location and Access:

From Bloomington, take I-55 south to the Shirley exit. Take the Shirley exit and proceed south to Funk's Grove. Follow the signs to the Funk's Grove Church and Cemetery. The nature preserve lies on the south side of the road across from the church. From McLean, travel north on old route 66 to Funk's Grove. Follow the signs as described above.

### Description:

For many years, Funk's Grove has been known for its large, majestic trees. The Thaddeus Stubblefield Nature Preserve lies in the center of the grove, and it contains many of the largest trees within Funk's Grove. White and bur oaks reach diameters of nearly six feet and heights in excess of 100 feet. Individuals of sugar maple have diameters of three to four feet, as do individuals of white ash. The herbaceous understory consists of waterleaf, false rue-anemone, blue-eyed Mary, wild ginger

and Virginia bluebells. The bluebells provide one of the most spectacular spring woodland wildflower displays in central Illinois. During October, the maples and oaks provide an impressive display of autumn colors. The buffer area which lies to the south of the preserve is being restored to forest similar to that found in the central part of the grove.

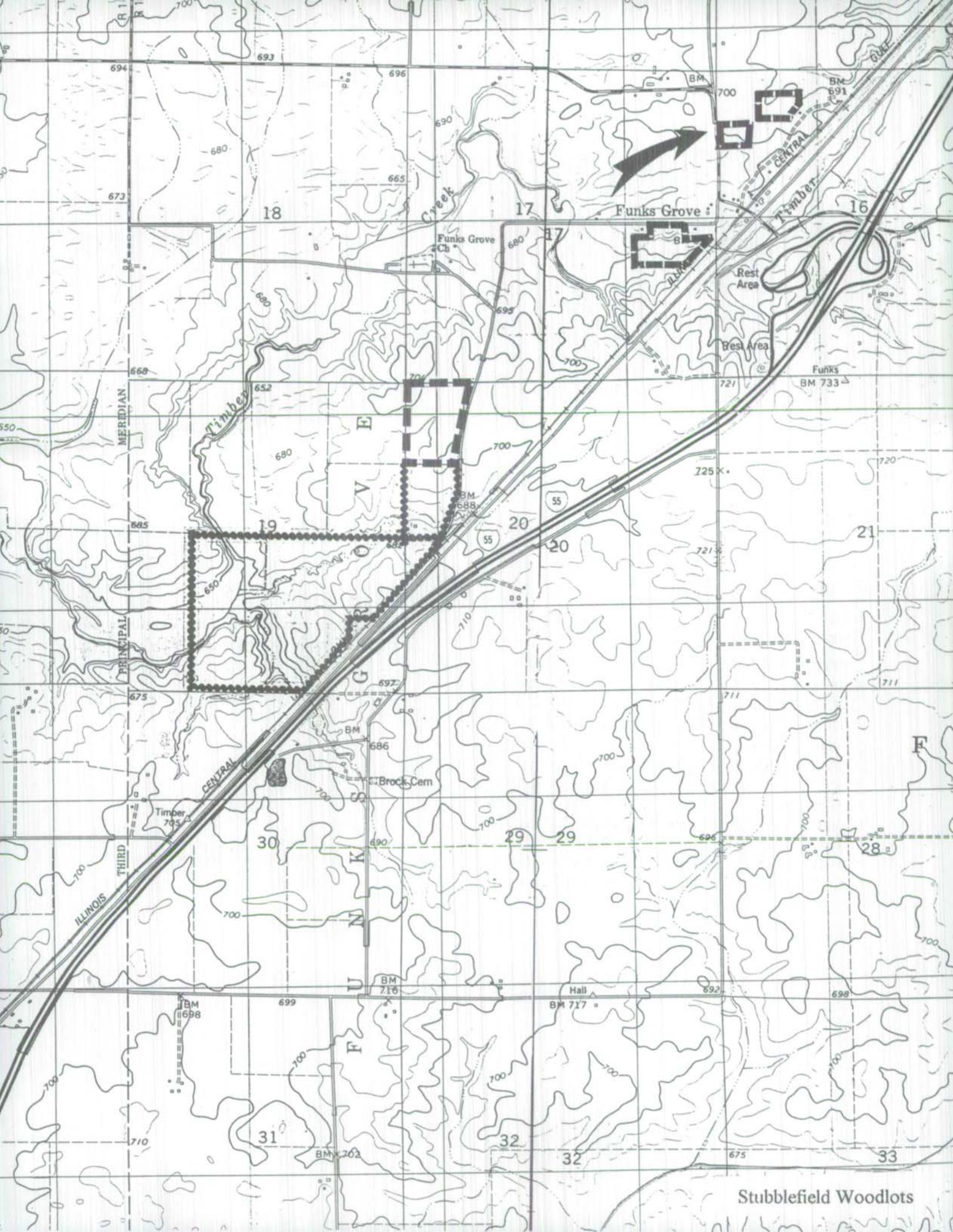
**Ownership:** Trustee for Estate of Thaddeus Stubblefield, Funks Grove Cemetery Association and Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** October 1993

**Size:** 30 acres with an additional 207.7 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** McLean 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, R.R.#2, Box 108, Charleston, IL 61920 (217/345-2420)



Stubblefield Woodlots



## Stubblefield Woodlots Nature Preserve

## McLean County

### Location and Access:

From Funk's Grove, take the county road going north out of town 1/4 mile. The preserve is on the east side of the road.

### Description:

Stubblefield Woodlots contains a mesic upland forest representative of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. This Division once supported several prairie groves which were isolated tracts of timber completely surrounded by a sea of prairie grasses and forbs. Stubblefield Woodlots is located within one of these old groves known as Funk's Grove. Prior to settlement Funk's Grove contained over 3,000 acres of forest. Today the grove has been reduced to 1,000. The dominant trees in the area are sugar maple (the original surveyors named the tract "Sugar Grove") and white oak. Many of the white oaks and bur oaks are sig-

nificant, as they are well over four feet in diameter. The preserve also supports many colorful woodland wildflowers such as bluebells, trout lily, phlox and trillium. Over 53 species of birds have been observed in the forest, some of which are forest interior breeding species. Many mammals also reside here. A few common species are deer, fox squirrel, and red fox.

**Ownership:** Park Lands Foundation

**Dedicated:** August 1987

**Size:** Two tracts of 5.2 acres and 6.6 acres

**Topo Map:** Funk's Grove 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Park Lands Foundation, Box 261, Bloomington, IL 61762 (309/438-5567)



GRAPHIC)

LE EQ  
STON CO

CONRAIL

Budd

CONRAIL

Katy-Did

St Bernard

Applegate  
Landing Strip

RAILROAD

GRADE

Sunbury  
Sch

Sunbury Railroad Prairie



## Sunbury Railroad Prairie Nature Preserve

## Livingston County

### Location and Access:

From I-55 Exit 217 at Dwight, take Hwy. 17 west 9 miles, then turn and go south 0.5 mile.

### Description:

Sunbury Railroad Prairie is representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. It is located on the Ransom Moraine of the Marseilles Morainial System which formed during the Wisconsin glacial period. The prairie is characterized by a gently rolling topography. Characteristic plants of the mesic prairie include northern dropseed, big bluestem, leadplant and purple prairie clover. Plants characteristic of wet prairie include cord grass and bluejoint grass. Nearly 60 other native prairie plant species have been observed at Sunbury. The preserve provides important habitat for a number of mammals such as Franklin's

ground squirrel, meadow vole and short-tailed shrew. Grassland birds inhabiting the area include dickcissel and vesper sparrows.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Prairie Lands Foundation

**Dedicated:** March 1983

**Size:** 12 acres

**Topo Map:** Odell 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, 100 First National Bank Plaza, Suite 10, Chicago Heights, IL 60411 (708/709-3300) or Prairie Lands Foundation, c/o Richard Miller, R.R.#2, Box 41, Forrest, IL 61741 (815/832-5573)

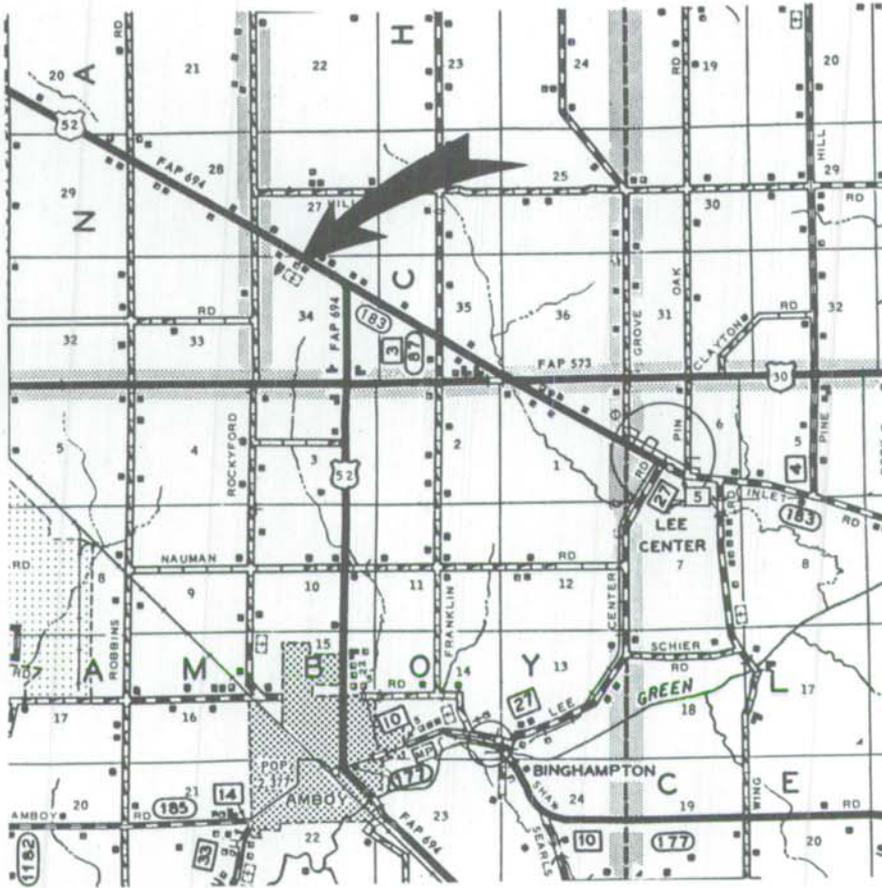


Temperance Hill Cemetery Prairie

A M B O Y

52

FRANK



## Temperance Hill Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve      Lee County

### Location and Access:

From the intersection of US Rt 30 and US Rt 52 - travel north on Rt 52 approximately 3/4 mile, then continue northwest on Rt 52 just over 1/2 mile. The nature preserve is south of Rt 52, separated from the highway by private property. Access is by a lane to a house at the northwest corner of the preserve.

**Ownership:** Lee County Board of School Trustees

**Dedicated:** August 1983

**Size:** 0.8 acres

**Topo Map:** Franklin Grove 7.5

### Description:

This cemetery prairie nature preserve is a portion of Temperance Hill Cemetery. It is a fragment of mesic prairie dominated by big bluestem, Indian grass, and various sedge species - and is representative of the original mesic prairie vegetation of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division.

For Further Information Contact: Lee County Board of School Trustees, 211 E. Everett, Dixon, IL 61021; Lee County Natural Areas Guardians, c/o Lee County Soil and Water Conservation District, 319 S. Mason, Amboy 61310 (815/857-3223)



CARROLL CO  
WHITESIDE CO

POTTE RIVER  
UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
BOAT RAMP

Ebner

LEVEE Johnson

LEVEE

LEVEE

PUMPING STATION

LIFT PUMPS

PUMPING STATION

PUMPING STATION

BR. -182.6  
W. -177.4

LEVEE

LEVEE Otter SAND

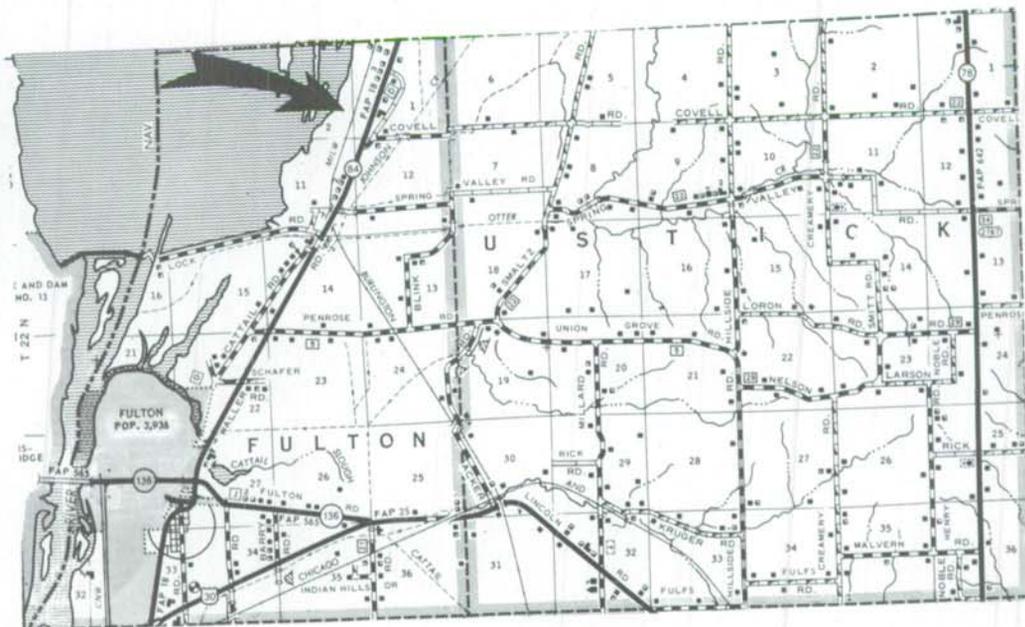
F  
U  
L  
T

Blind Charleys Corner

QUARRY

QUARRY

Thomson-Fulton Sand Prairie



## Thomson-Fulton Sand Prairie Nature Preserve Whiteside County

### Location and Access:

From the intersection of Highway 84 and Highway 136 in Fulton, take Highway 84 north for 3 miles to a county road (Lock Rd.). Turn west on this road, cross the railroad tracks and turn north again on the sand road that parallels the railroad. Drive north on this sand road 1.25 miles. The preserve is on the west side of the road.

### Description:

This site contains 212 acres of sand prairie that is recovering from past grazing. Little bluestem, three-awn grass, plains prickly pear cactus and June grass are some of the common plants in the preserve. The big-flowered penstemon also occurs on this site.

The preserve is also habitat for several unusual reptile species. The western hog-nosed snake, six lined racerunner and bullsnake are known to occur here.

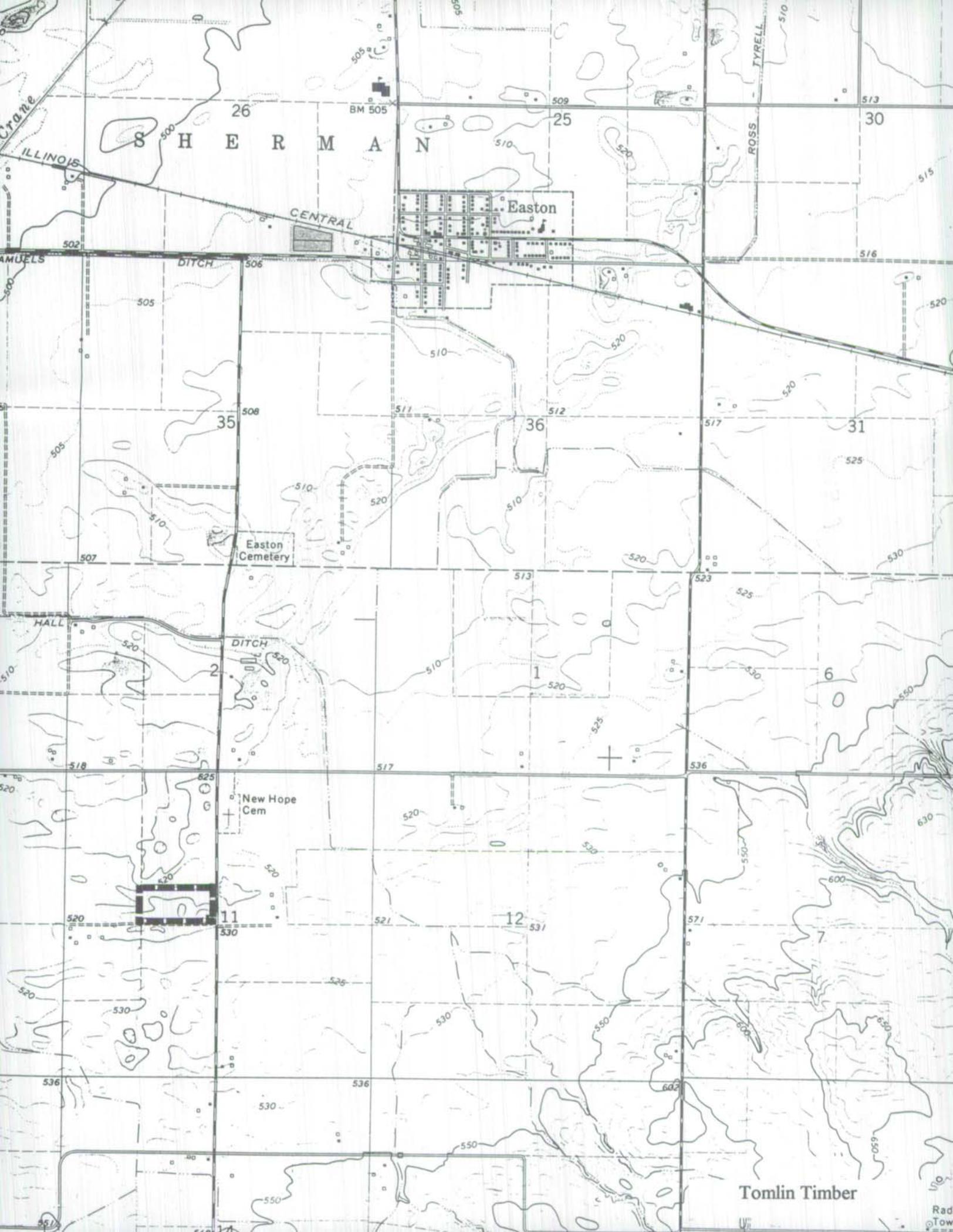
**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** October 1970

**Size:** 37 acres

**Topo Map:** Clinton 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Dearborn Hall, 205 E. Seminary St., Mt. Carroll, IL 61053 (815/244-3655); Site Superintendent, Morrison-Rockwood State Park, R.R. 4, Morrison, IL 62330 (815/772-4708)



Crane  
ILLINOIS

SHERMAN

CENTRAL  
Easton

ROSS  
TYRELL

AMUELS

DITCH

35

36

31

Easton Cemetery

HALL

DITCH

1

6

New Hope Cem

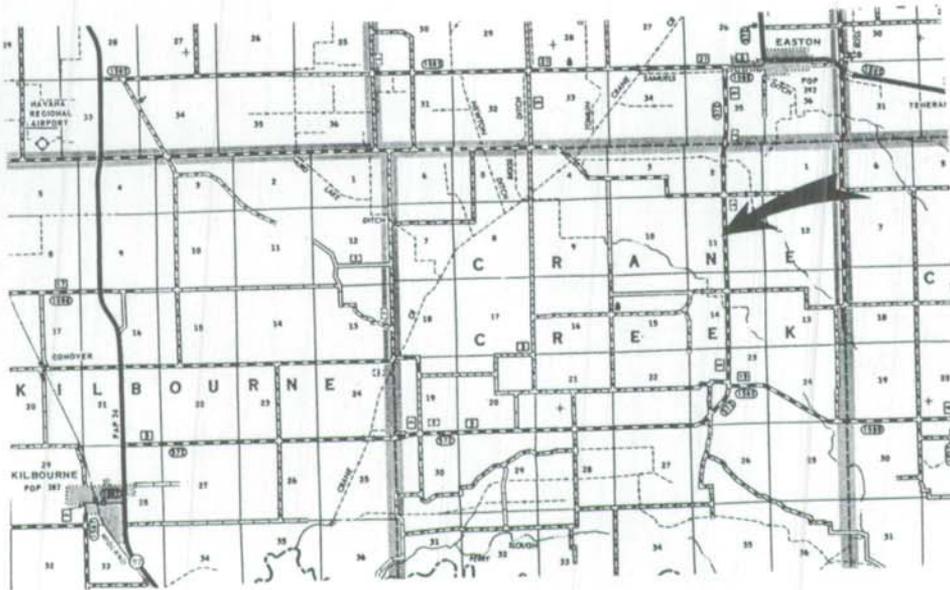
11

12

7

Tomlin Timber

Rad  
Tow



## Tomlin Timber Nature Preserve

## Mason County

### Location and Access:

From Highway 10 in Easton, take a county road south at the southwest edge of town. This road curves west at the edge of Easton. Follow the county road west 0.5 mile to another county road (Kilbourne-Easton black-top). Turn south on this road and go 2 miles. The preserve is on the west side of the road.

Special Note: Tomlin Timber is a privately owned nature preserve. Entrance is by permission only.

### Description:

Tomlin Timber contains eighteen acres of high quality dry sand forest. This type of forest exists due to the unique conditions left by glacial meltwaters. As tremendous volumes of water reached the wide open floodplain near Hennepin, the water lost its velocity and deposited huge quantities of sand and gravel. When the floodwaters retreated, the dried sand was blown about, creating dunes and large sections of sandy deposits. Here, in this desert-like environment, the sand forest

communities became established. They once extended throughout the Illinois River Sand Section of the Illinois and Mississippi River Sand Areas Natural Division. Typically, the trees of a sand forest are generally slow growing, and display a poorly developed form. The 18-acre area was purchased by the Tomlin family in 1912, but it appears that very few vegetative changes have occurred over the past 164 years. Black oak, mockernut hickory and black hickory are the predominant trees.

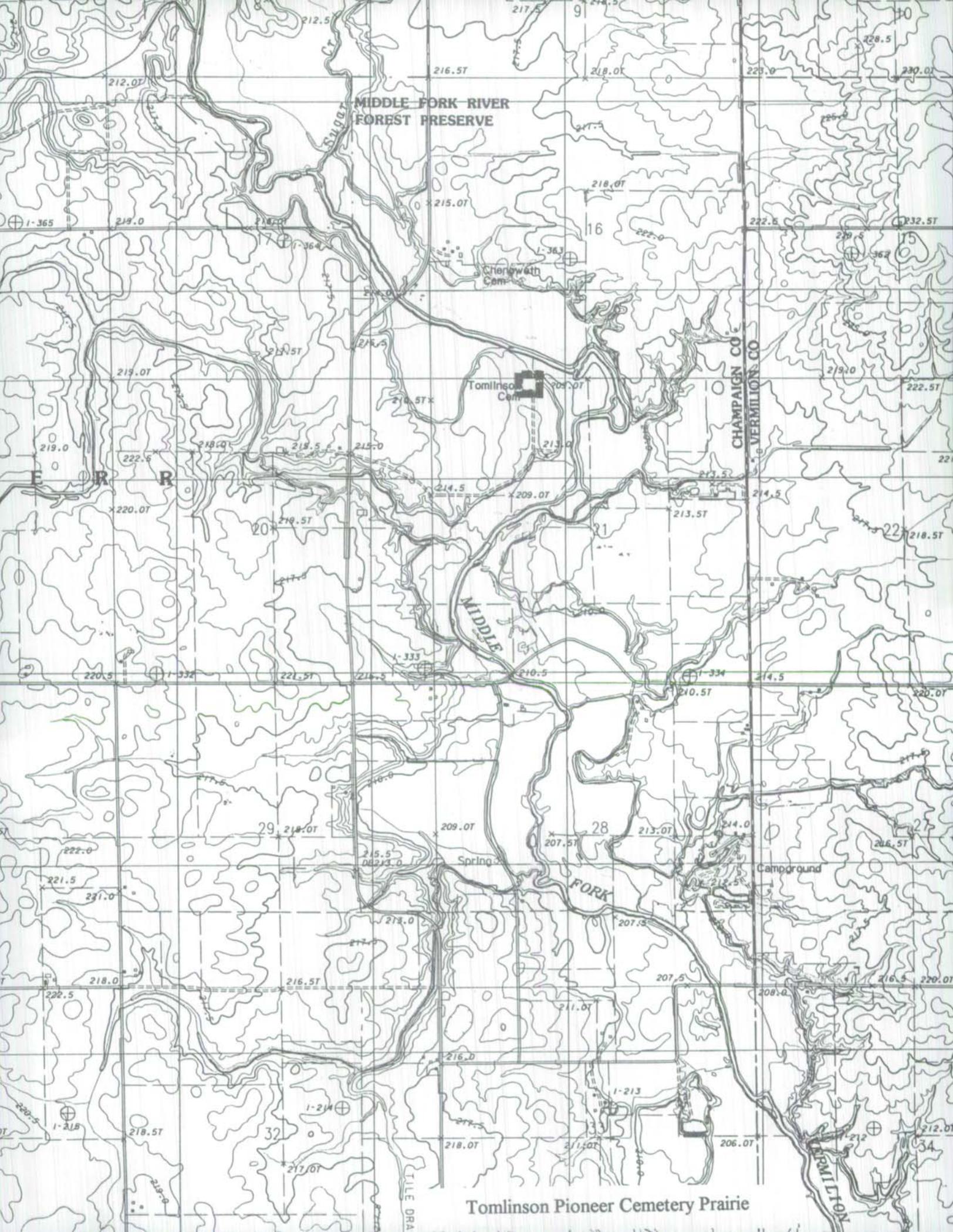
**Ownership:** Dr. Ramona T. Mattson

**Dedicated:** August 1987

**Size:** 19.6 acres

**Topo Map:** Easton 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, 524 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, IL 62706 (217/785-8686)



MIDDLE FORK RIVER  
FOREST PRESERVE

MIDDLE  
FORK

Tomlinson Pioneer Cemetery Prairie

CHAMPAIGN CO.  
VERMILION CO.

SUGAR CR.

HAMILTON

Spring

Campground

TILE DRA

ERRR

29

28

32

34

16

17

22

27

212.0

216.5

218.0

222.5

230.0

219.0

218.0

215.0

218.0

222.5

232.5

219.0

222.5

218.5

215.0

213.0

213.0

214.5

214.5

222.5

220.0

219.5

214.5

209.0

213.5

214.5

218.5

220.5

221.5

216.5

210.5

210.5

214.5

214.5

220.0

222.0

218.0

215.5

209.0

207.5

213.0

214.0

218.5

221.5

231.0

215.5

213.0

213.0

214.0

218.5

222.5

218.0

216.5

216.0

211.0

207.5

208.0

216.5

220.5

218.5

217.5

218.0

211.0

206.0

208.0

212.0

220.5

218.5

217.0

218.0

211.0

206.0

212.0

212.0



## Tomlinson Pioneer Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve

### Champaign County

#### Location and Access:

From the north edge of Gifford, take Hwy. 136 east for 3.8 mi., then turn and go north on blacktop road for 3.0 mi. The preserve is 0.6 mi. east of the road.

Special Note: Access to the preserve is poor. Prior permission is required from the Champaign County Forest Preserve District for access.

#### Description:

Although Tomlinson Pioneer Cemetery is called a prairie, the natural community present is more accurately termed a dry-mesic savanna. Large, open grown bur oak and shingle oak are the dominant trees, while big bluestem and Indian grass dominate the groundcover. Typical prairie wildflowers such as leadplant and shooting star occur along with characteristic savanna plants including starry campion, wild quinine, hazelnut, and catbrier. The natural area, located on sand and gravel outwash, occupies a gently sloping ridge above the

Middlefork of the Vermilion River. This preserve is one of only two savannas protected as nature preserves in the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. Tomlinson Cemetery was originally established as a family burial ground and burials date from 1846 to 1945.

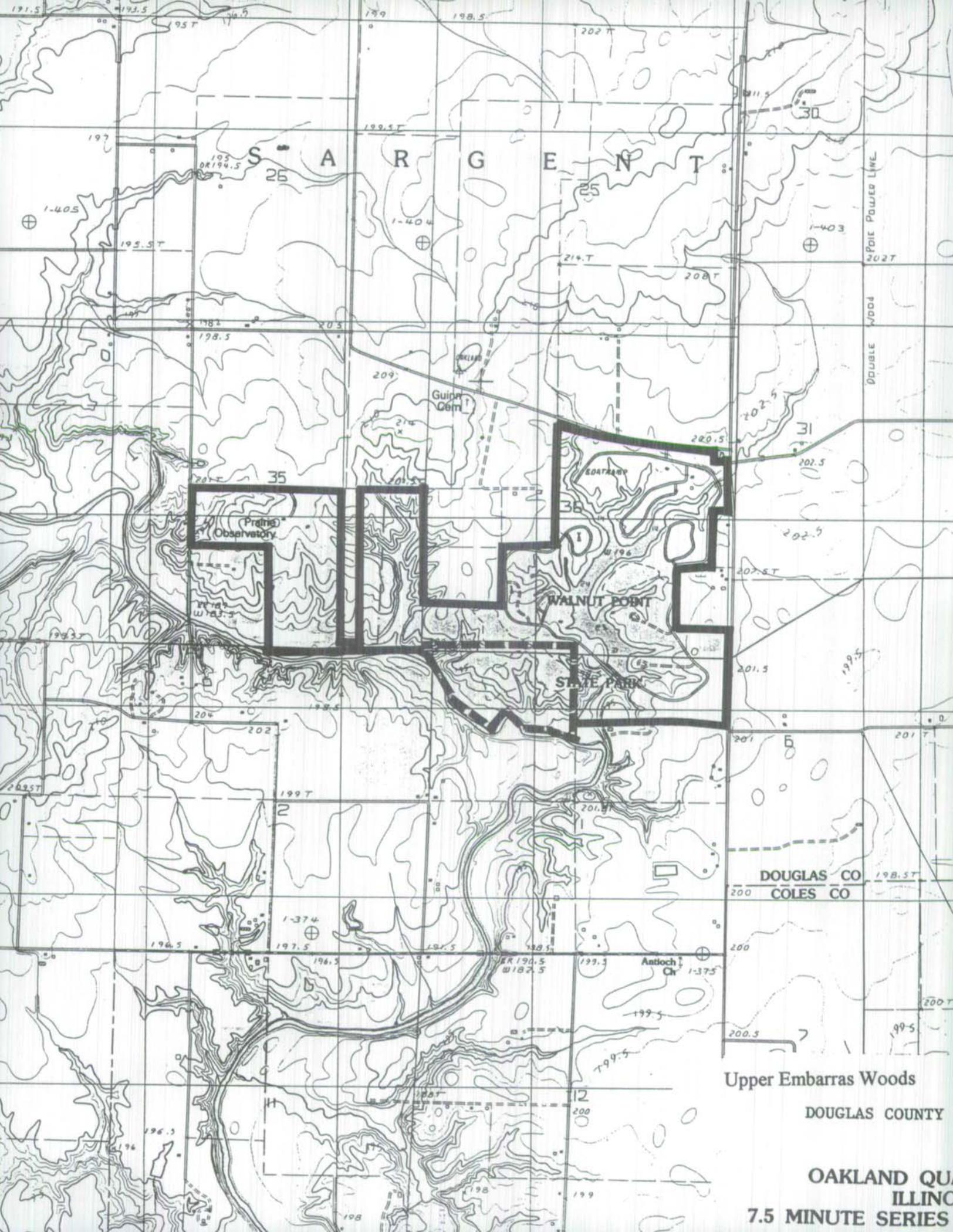
**Ownership:** Champaign County Board

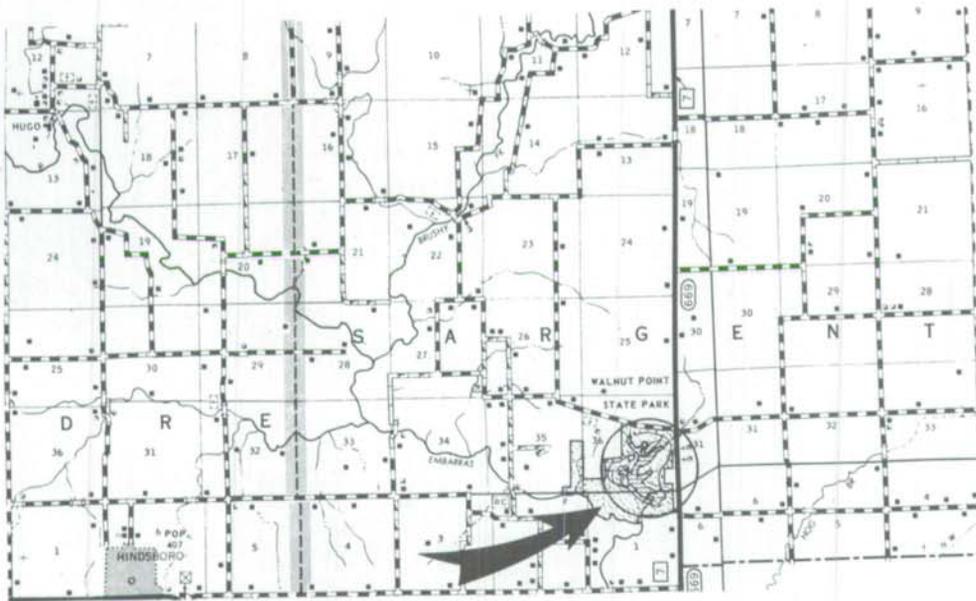
**Dedicated:** September 1985

**Size:** 1.0 acres

**Topo Map:** Penfield 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Champaign County Board, Court House Annex, 204 East Elm, Urbana, IL 61820; for permission to enter contact Roger Kirkwood, Champaign County Forest Preserve District (217/586-2612)





## Upper Embarras Woods Nature Preserve

## Douglas County

### Location and Access:

From Oakland in Coles County continue north on county road 2360E to Walnut Point State Park. Once in the park the preserve, which is situated on the north side of the Embarras River, can be reached by the park trails.

spring beauty, Dutchman's breeches, bloodroot, toothwort, maidenhair fern, sensitive fern and grape fern. Pileated woodpeckers, scarlet tanagers and several other bird species inhabit this area.

### Description:

The forest community within this nature preserve is a dry-mesic forest representative of the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division. The primary plant community of this site is a white oak, black oak and red oak forest located on bluffs near the Embarras River. This old growth forest contains several large oaks in excess of 40 inches in diameter. The spring woodland wildflower population includes trilliums,

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**Dedicated:** March 1993

**Size:** 65 acres

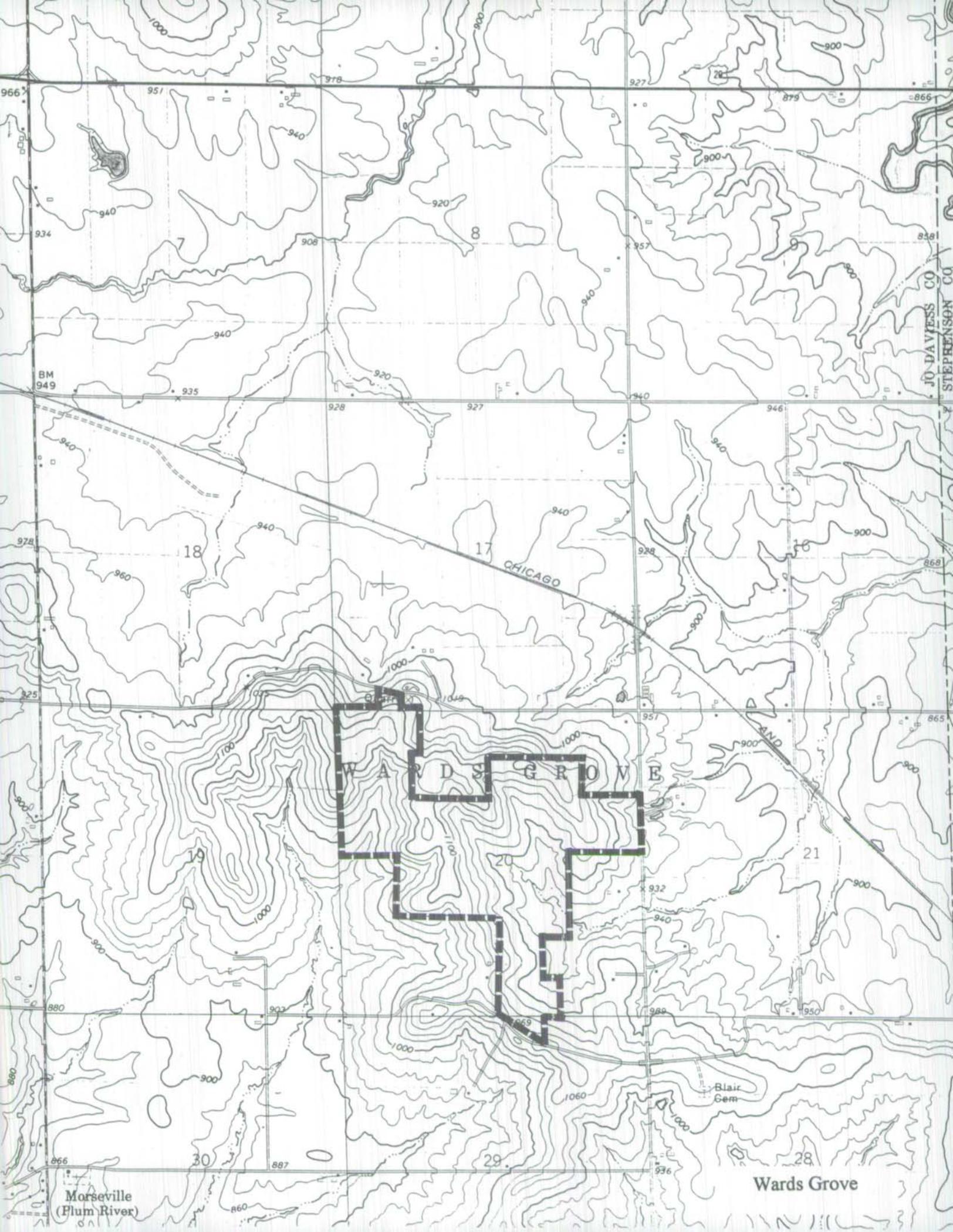
**Topo Map:** Oakland 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, R.R. 2, Box 108, Charleston, IL 61920 (217/345-2420)



Douglas A. Wade Prairie





JO DAVISS CO  
STEPHENSON CO

WARDS GROVE

CHICAGO

Wards Grove

Morseville  
(Flum River)

Blair Gem

18

17

19

20

21

30

29

28

966

951

918

927

879

866

934

940

940

908

920

940

900

838

BM  
949

935

928

927

940

946

868

978

940

940

928

900

868

925

1000

1040

1000

928

900

865

880

900

932

940

950

860

900

1060

980

950

866

887

936

866



## Wards Grove Nature Preserve

## Jo Daviess County

### Location and Access:

From Stockton, take Highway 78 south 1 mile to a county road (Airport Road). Turn east on the county road and go 2.5 miles. The preserve is on the south side of the road.

### Description:

Dry-mesic and mesic upland forest communities representing the Freeport Section of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division cover this dolomite ridge near the eastern edge of the driftless region. White oak, red oak, basswood and sugar maple are the predominate trees, with both red and white baneberry, blue cohosh and shinleaf in the herbaceous layer. The forest has experienced logging and other disturbances in the past, but the previous owners, the Philip Keister family of Freeport, protected the area and enabled it to recover significantly.

Wards Grove is a large forested island between extensive rowcrop areas to the east and forest areas to the

west. Its large size, unbroken canopy, mature understory and position with respect to other regional forested areas, make Wards Grove a very valuable site for area sensitive bird species. Acadian flycatcher, ovenbird, American redstart, scarlet tanager, veery, pileated woodpecker and black and white warbler inhabit the forest.

**Ownership:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

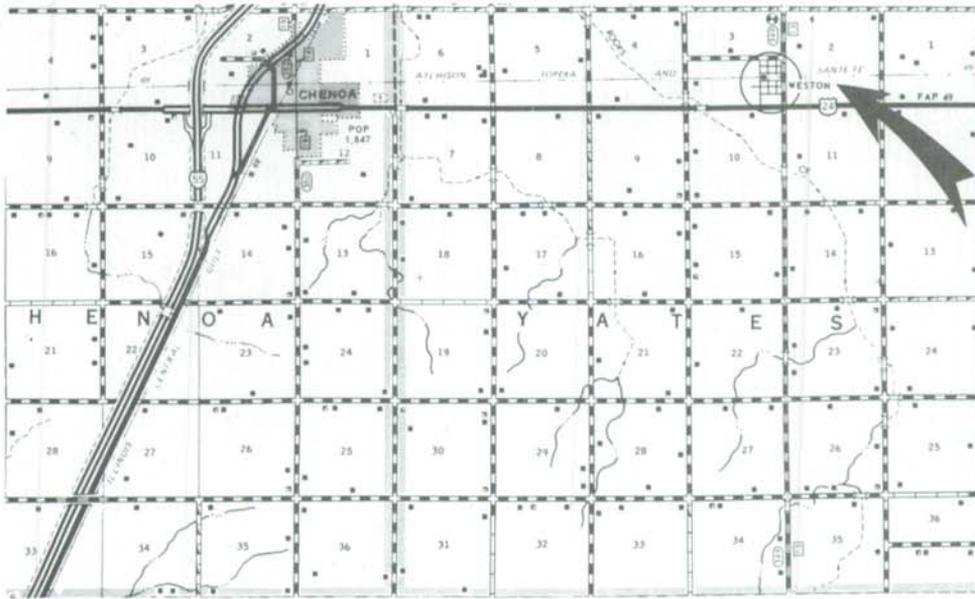
**Dedicated:** May 1987

**Size:** 334.7 acres

**Topo Map:** Kent 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Biologist, Dearborn Hall, 205 E. Seminary St., Mt Carroll, IL 61053 (815/244-3655) or Site Superintendent, Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park, 8542 North Lake Road, Lena, IL 61048 (815/369-4282)





## Weston Cemetery Prairie

## McLean County

### Location and Access:

From the Weston intersection of Hwy. 24, take Hwy. 24 east 0.5 mile to an entrance road, then turn and go north 0.3 mile.

**Special Note:** A small parking lot is located in the southeast corner of the tract.

### Description:

Weston Cemetery Prairie is a remnant of the vast tallgrass, black soil prairies that once covered more than 13 million acres of Illinois, the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. The mesic prairie at Weston Cemetery is in good to excellent condition. Nearly one hundred native plant species have been on the site. Common grasses include big bluestem, little bluestem, prairie dropseed and Indian grass. Typical prairie forbs include shooting star, prairie gentian, com-

pass plant and woody betony. Current management practices being implemented to protect the prairie habitat are prescribed burning and exotic species control.

**Ownership:** Yates Township and ParkLands Foundation

**Dedicated:** April 1972

**Size:** 5 acres

**Topo Map:** Fairbury 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Department of Biological Sciences, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61761 (309/438-5567) or Yates Township, Chenoa, IL 61726



MARSHALL CO  
PUTNAM CO

Milk  
198

27

27

Summit Lake

Summit Lake

23

471

26

House of Retreats Chapel

721

X661

X650

25

25

M A G N O L I

35

36

RR 513

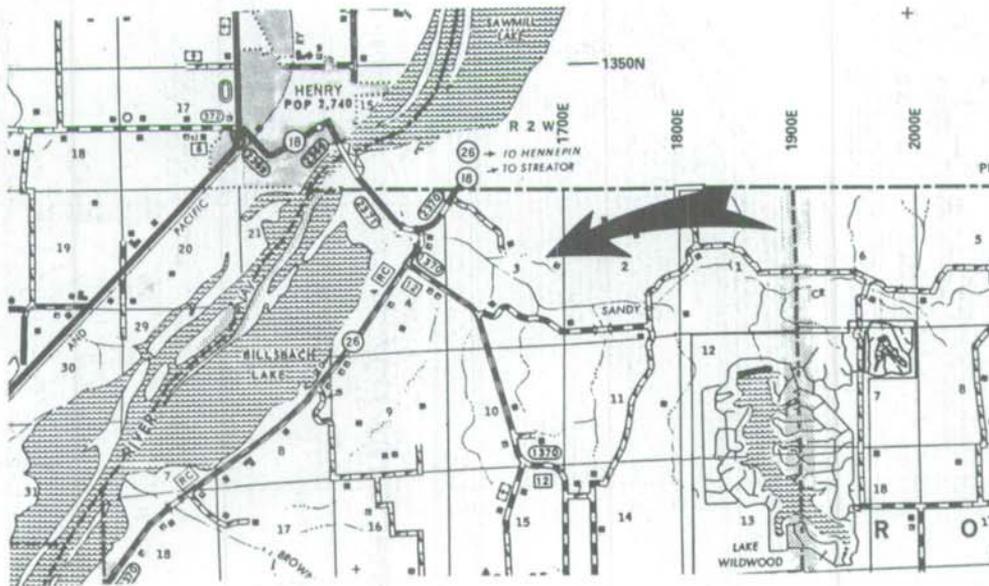
3

SANDY

CREEK

Wier Hill Prairie

500  
550  
600



## Wier Hill Prairie Nature Preserve

## Marshall County

### Location and Access:

**Special Note:** This preserve is privately owned. Prior permission is required for access.

a portion of a farm that was originally acquired in 1832 by John and Katherine Wier. The tract was inherited by the current owners from their parents, Charles and Emma Wier.

### Description:

Wier Hill Prairie is a steep glacial drift hill prairie remnant in the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. The prairie is characterized by little bluestem and side-oats grama. It is representative of the south and west-facing bluff prairies that were extensive in pre-settlement times along the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. This remnant is one of several that were identified as late as the 1970's along the ridge overlooking the Sandy Creek floodplain.

The lower part of this site is now second-growth oak and hickory dry-mesic upland forest. The nature preserve is

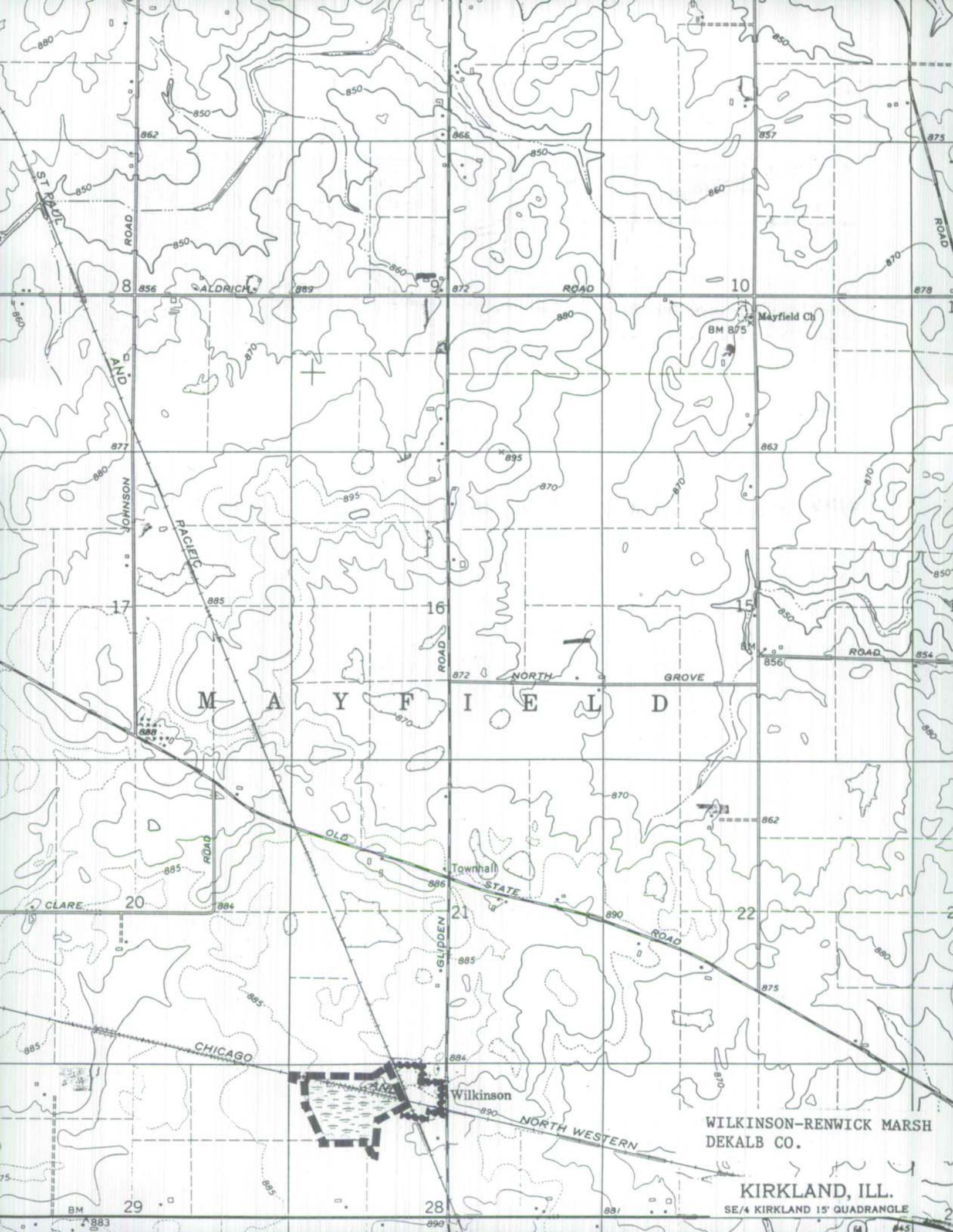
**Ownership:** Mrs. Murrie Lewis and Mrs. Lola Mae Rodney

**Dedicated:** June 1983

**Size:** 2.5 acres

**Topo Map:** Henry 7.5

**For Further Information Contact:** Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, 524 S. 2nd St., Springfield, IL 62704 (217/785-8774)



MAYFIELD

Townhall

Wilkinson

WILKINSON-RENWICK MARSH  
DEKALB CO.

KIRKLAND, ILL.

SE/4 KIRKLAND 15' QUADRANGLE

8  
856

ALDRICH

877

17

20

CLARE

29

872

16

21

28

10

15

22

28

875

878

15

22

28

Mayfield Ch

BM 875

NORTH GROVE

STATE

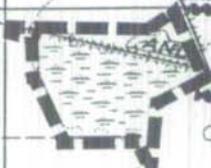
NORTH WESTERN

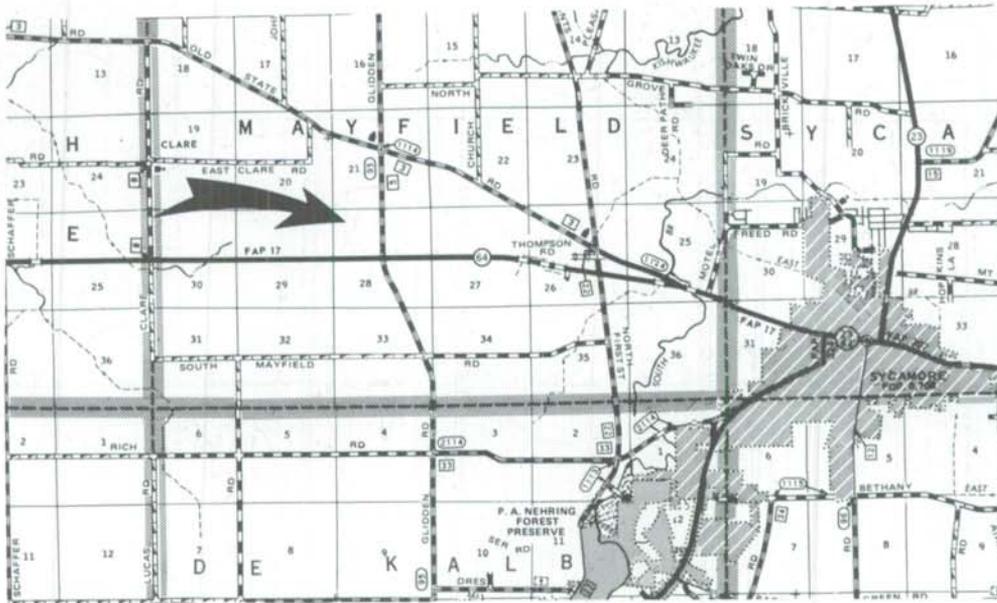
ROAD  
AND  
JOHNSON  
ROAD

PACIFIC

OLD

CHICAGO





## Wilkinson-Renwick Marsh Nature Preserve

## DeKalb County

### Location and Access:

The entrance to the preserve is on the west side of Annie Glidden Road approximately 0.5 mile north of the intersection with IL Rt. 64. The preserve is approximately 5 miles north of the city of DeKalb.

The nature preserve also includes an ongoing prairie restoration bordering Annie Glidden Road. A variety of field research has been conducted at this site over the past several years by staff and students at Northern Illinois University and Kishwaukee College.

### Description:

This medium quality marsh is one of the very few undisturbed marshes remaining in the Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division. It is a large prairie pothole which was large enough to escape being tilled and converted to farmland. Emergent native vegetation surrounding an area of open water is predominantly two species of cattails with sandbar willow along the margins of the open water. It provides resting habitat for migrating waterfowl and over 115 species of birds have been documented for this area.

**Ownership:** DeKalb County Forest Preserve District

**Dedicated:** September 1993

**Size:** 29.9 acres nature preserve and 16.3 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Kirkland 7.5

For Further Information Contact: DeKalb County Forest Preserve District, 110 East Sycamore St, Sycamore, IL 60178 (815/895-7191)





## Wilson Prairie Nature Preserve

## Winnebago County

### Location and Access:

The nature preserve is located just north of U.S. Rt. 20 and approximately 15 miles west of Rockford.

Special Note: Wilson Prairie is privately owned. Entrance to the nature preserve is by permission only.

### Description:

This 20 acre dry prairie includes at least nine species of grasses and over 50 species of forbs mostly native dry prairie species. Big and little bluestem, prairie dropseed, porcupine grass, prairie smoke, leadplant, birdsfoot violet, large-flowered beard tongue, two species of blazing stars and several asters are some of the more interesting plants found in this area.

The northwest corner of the preserve borders on Sumner Creek, which provides a corridor for wildlife movement. White-tailed deer, coyotes and red fox are all spotted regularly and badgers are sighted on occasion.

**Ownership:** James H. Wilson

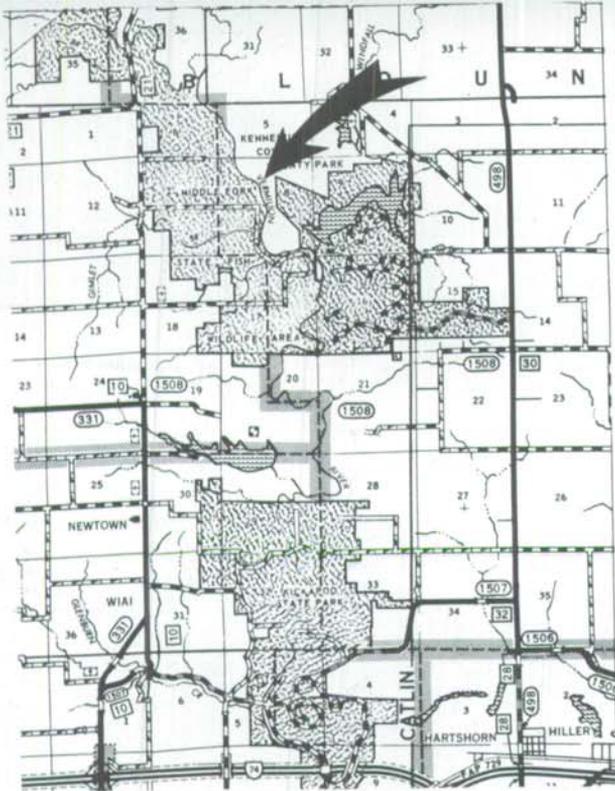
**Dedicated:** June 1991

**Size:** 20 acres

**Topo Map:** Ridott 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, 524 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, IL 62701 (217/785-8686)





## Windfall Prairie Nature Preserve

### Location and Access:

From Danville at jct. Hwys. 136 & 150, take Hwy. 150 west 3.2 miles, turn and go north 4.4 miles, then turn west into Kennekuk Cove County park. The nature preserve is in Kennekuk Cove County Park, 0.8 mile northwest of the southwest end of Lake Mingo. Directions to the nature preserve can be obtained at the park's visitor center.

**Special Note:** Due to the fragile nature of this hill prairie, access to this preserve is by permission only.

### Description:

Windfall Prairie is a scenic prairie found on a high, southwest-facing bluff overlooking the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River within the Vermilion River Section of the Wabash Border Natural Division. Glacial drift hill prairie occupies the bluff's upper slopes, and calcareous seeps occur on the lower slopes. The prairie is characterized by the grasses little bluestem, Indian grass and side-oats grama, and also by many showy forbs such as prairie dock, Indian paintbrush, stiff gentian and



## Vermilion County

downy phlox. The prairie is surrounded by upland forest of oaks and hickories with sugar maple and basswood on the slopes and ravines. The fragile seeps harbor a diversity of fen and wetland plants including many distinctive plants such as marsh lousewort, Indian plantain and grass-of-Parnassus. Spring water percolating through the soil has deposited layers of calcium that contain fossilized plant and animal materials. The seeps are periodically subject to natural erosion caused by the river's fluctuating water levels.

**Ownership:** Vermilion County Conservation District

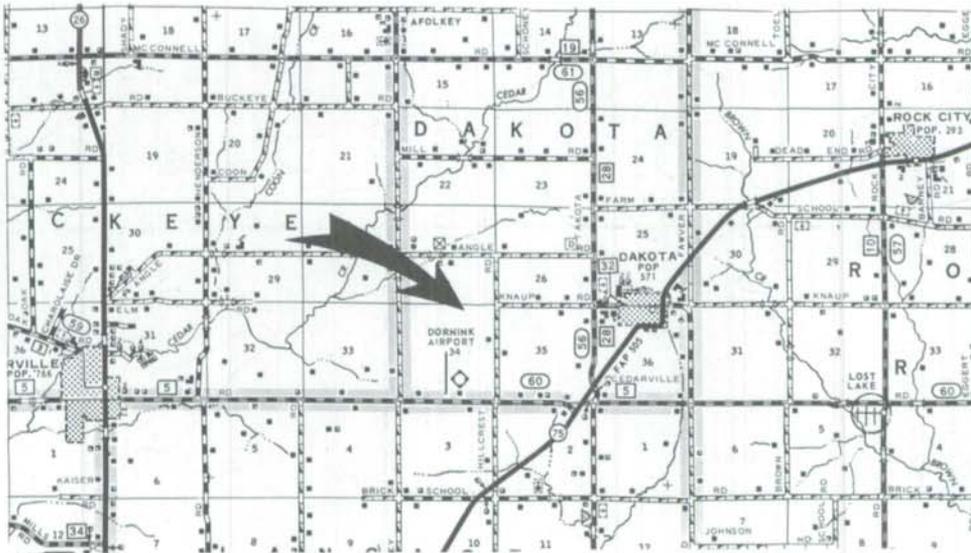
**Dedicated:** May 1979

**Size:** 32 acres nature preserve, 29 acres buffer

**Topo Map:** Danville NW 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Vermilion County Conservation District, R.R. 1, Box 215, Danville, IL 61832 (217/662-2142)





## Wirth Prairie Nature Preserve

## Stephenson County

### Location and Access:

From Dakota, take Knoups Road west 1.5 miles to Hillcrest Road.

The nature preserve is 0.5 mile west and 0.1 mile south.

Special Note: Wirth Prairie is a privately owned nature preserve. Entrance is by permission only.

### Description:

Wirth Prairie is the best remaining dry dolomite prairie in the Freeport Section of the Rock River Hill Country Natural Division. Characterized by northern dropseed and little bluestem, Wirth Prairie has an exceptionally rich array of prairie wildflowers. Pasqueflower, shootingstar, fringed puccoon, meadow parsnip, cylindrical blazingstar and stiff, sky-blue and silky asters provide a special complement to the other typical prairie forbs found here.

This "domed" prairie's presence is the result of a glacial feature called an "ice-shove". During the advance and stagnation of the Wisconsin glacier, blocks of dolomite were fractured, tilted and pushed along the land surface. Wirth Prairie occupies one of these ice-shove features that are scattered throughout the area and covered with a thin mantle of till.

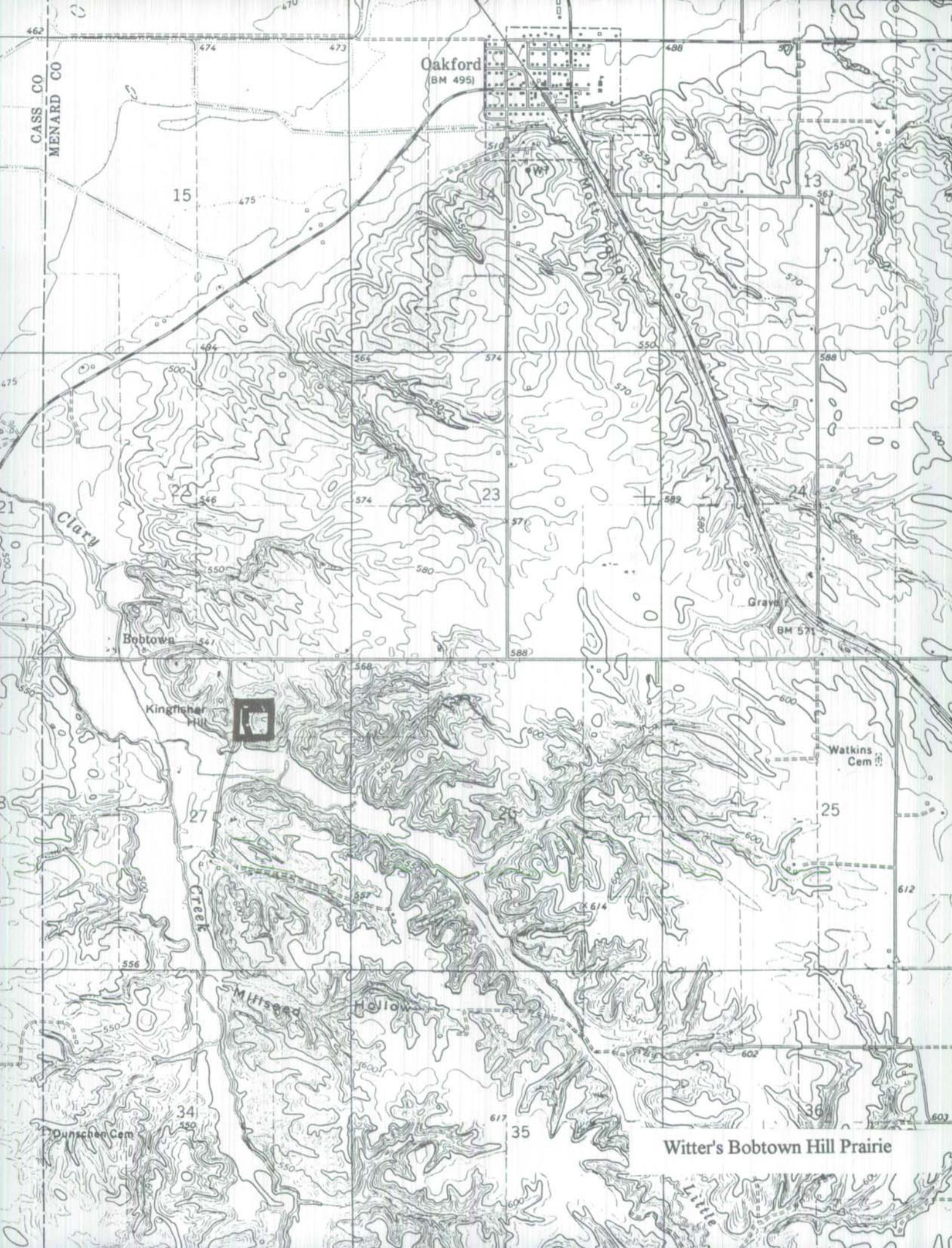
**Ownership:** The Wirth Farm c/o Donna Schoch

**Dedicated:** November 1983

**Size:** 2.1 acres

**Topo Map:** Dakota 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, 524 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, IL 62706 (217/785-8686)



CASS CO  
MENARD CO

Oakford  
(BM 495)

15

13

Clary

Bobtown

Kingfisher Hill

Grave

Watkins Cem

27

25

Missed Hollow

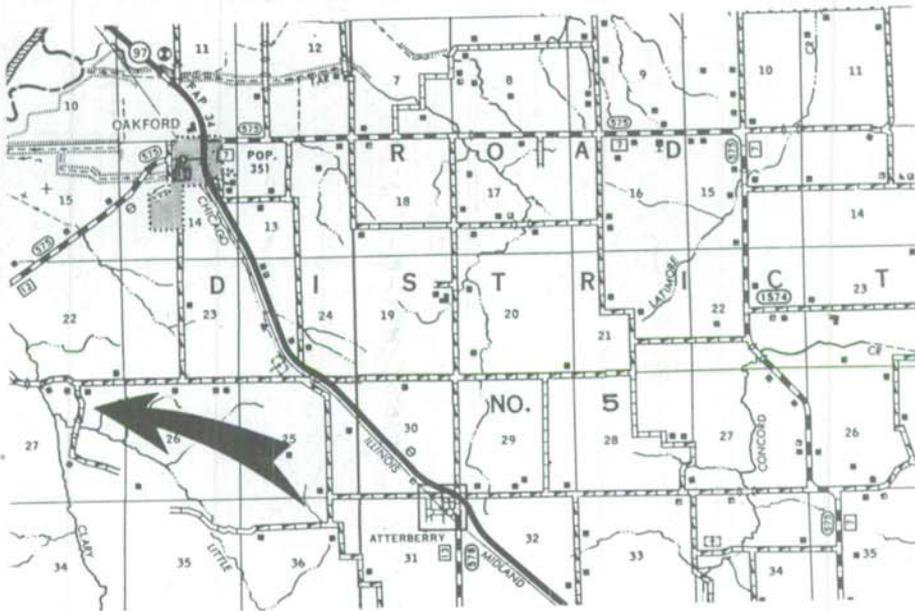
Dunschen Cem

34

35

36

Witter's Bobtown Hill Prairie



## Witter's Bobtown Hill Prairie Nature Preserve

## Menard County

### Location and Access:

From Hwy. 97 at the south end of Oakford, take Hwy. 97 southeast 2.2 mi., turn and go west 2.1 mi. on Whites Crossing Road, then turn and go south 0.2 on Bobtown Road. The nature preserve is approximately 100 ft. east of the road.

**Special Note:** This preserve is privately owned. Prior permission is required for access.

### Description:

Witter's Bobtown Hill Prairie is representative of prairies that were extensive in presettlement times on steep, exposed, south to west-facing hills and bluffs along major river valleys. This scenic prairie opening formed on windblown loess and occurs on a steep mound in the Springfield Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division. The prairie harbors over 55 species of native plants. Dominant grasses are little bluestem, big bluestem, and dropseed, while common prairie

wildflowers include sky-blue aster, heath aster, showy goldenrod, and pale purple coneflower. The prairie grasses and wildflowers provide a continuously changing display of color and form throughout the year. A small area of mesic, second growth forest occurs at the south edge of the preserve. The preserve owners purchased the site in 1984 specifically to protect and preserve the prairie.

**Ownership:** Randall and Karen Witter

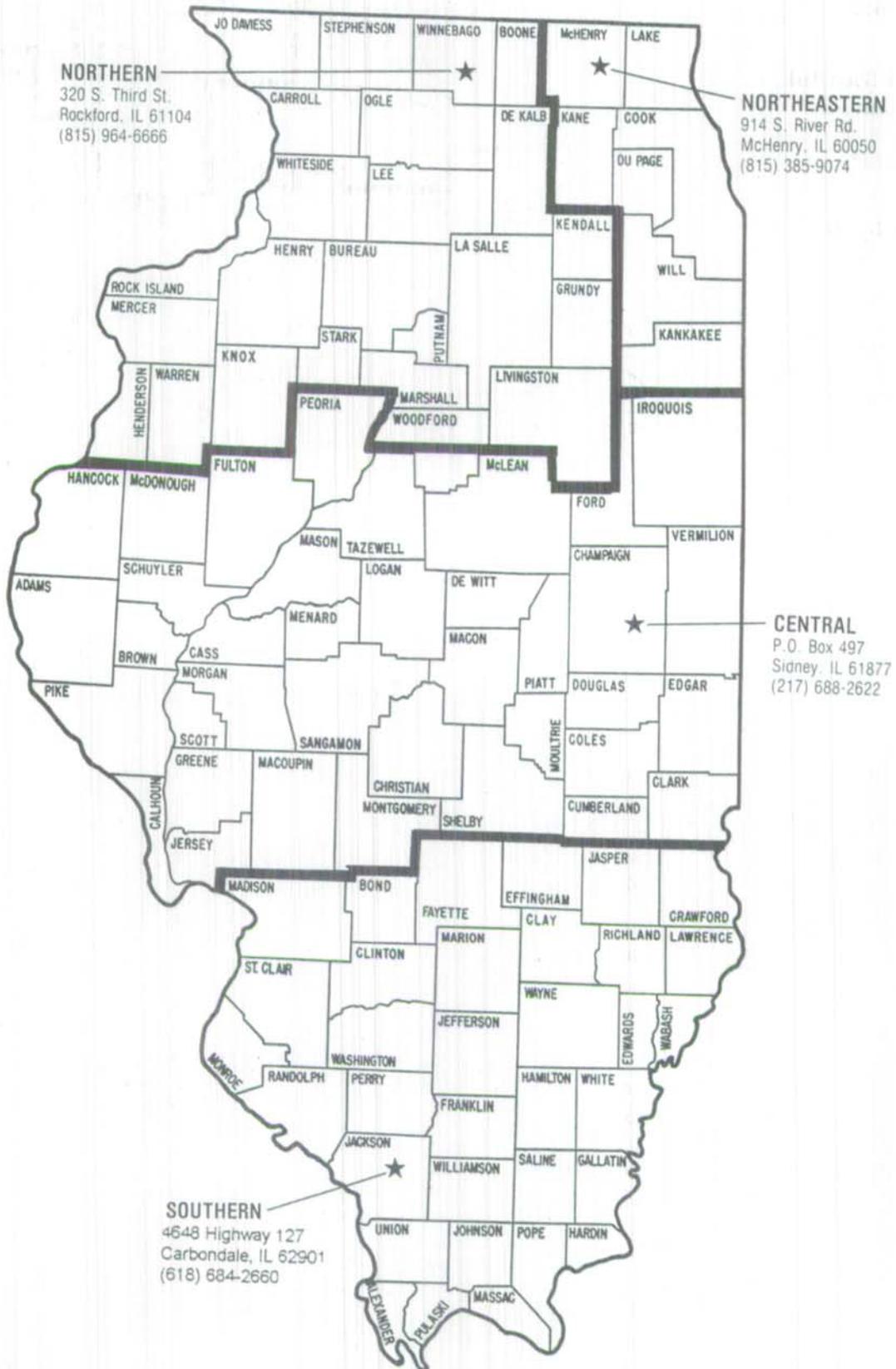
**Dedicated:** December 1986

**Size:** 5.5 acres

**Topo Map:** Oakford 7.5

For Further Information Contact: Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, 524 So. 2nd St., Springfield, IL 62706 (217/785-8686)

ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION  
 NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION SPECIALISTS

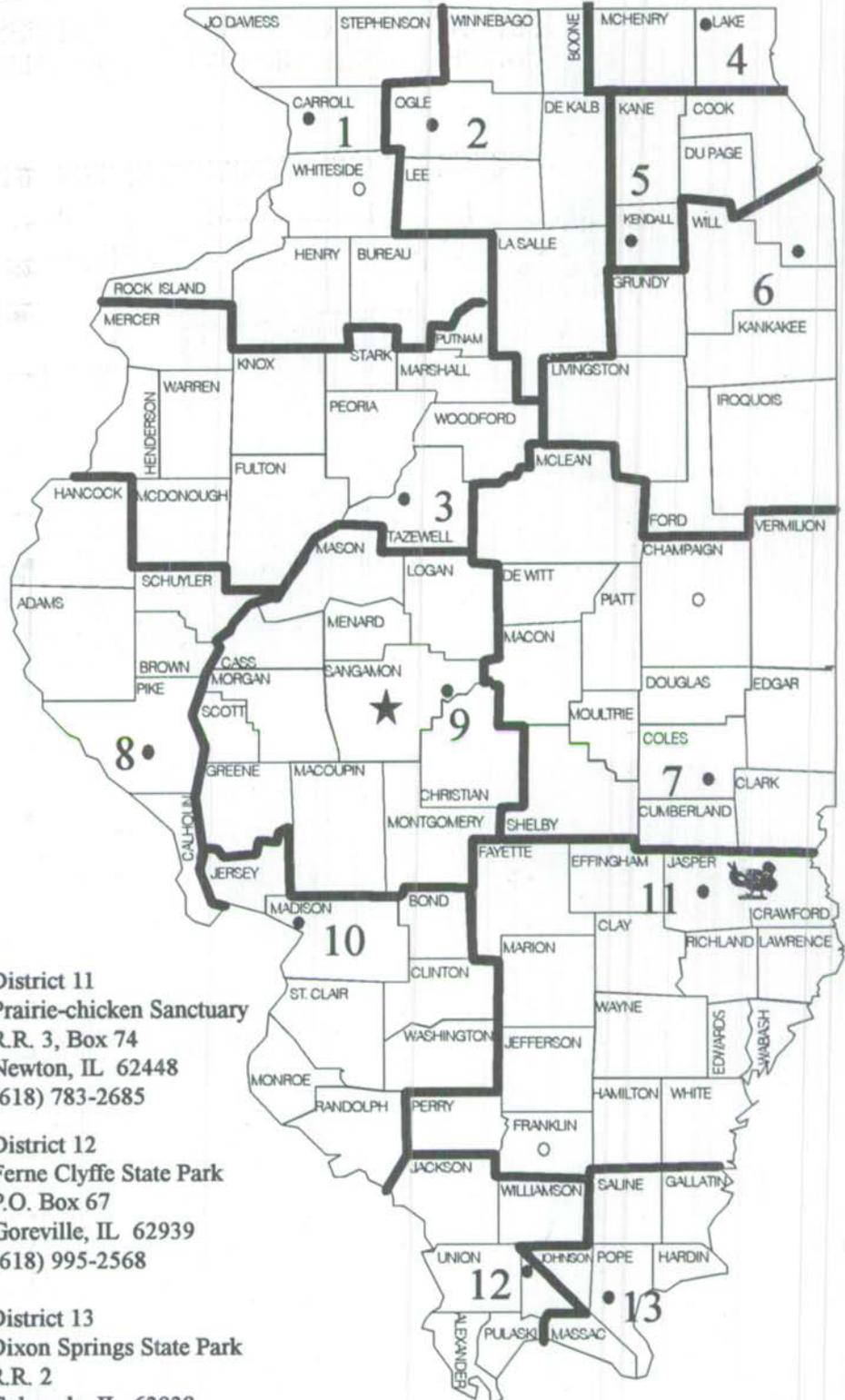


# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES - DIVISION OF NATURAL HERITAGE

## District Heritage Biologists

- District 1  
Dearborn Hall  
205 E. Seminary St.  
Mt. Carroll, IL 61053  
(815) 244-3655
- District 2  
Castle Rock State Park  
1365 W. Castle Rd.  
Oregon, IL 61061  
(815) 732-6185
- District 3  
215 N. 5th, Ste. D  
Pekin, IL 61554  
(309) 347-5119
- District 4  
110 James Road  
Spring Grove, IL 60081  
(815) 675-2385
- District 5  
Silver Springs State Park  
13608 Fox Road  
Yorkville, IL 60560  
(708) 553-1372
- District 6  
100 First National Bank Plaza  
Suite 10  
Chicago Heights, IL 60411  
(708) 709-3300
- District 7  
R.R. 2, Box 108  
Charleston, IL 61920  
(217) 345-2420
- District 8  
P.O. Box 477  
Pittsfield, IL 62363  
(217) 285-2221
- District 9  
Sangchris Lake State Park  
R.R. #1  
Rochester, IL 62563  
(217) 498-8534
- District 10  
4521 Alton Commerce Pkwy.  
Alton, IL 62002  
(618) 462-1181

- District 11  
Prairie-chicken Sanctuary  
R.R. 3, Box 74  
Newton, IL 62448  
(618) 783-2685
- District 12  
Ferne Clyffe State Park  
P.O. Box 67  
Goreville, IL 62939  
(618) 995-2568
- District 13  
Dixon Springs State Park  
R.R. 2  
Golconda, IL 62938  
(618) 949-3305



★ MAIN OFFICE  
Division of Natural Heritage  
524 S. Second St.  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 785-8774

○ Regional Office  
Districts 1-3  
2612 Locust Street  
Sterling, IL 61081  
(815) 625-2968

○ Regional Office  
Districts 4-7  
2005 Round Barn Rd.  
Champaign, IL 61821  
(217) 333-5773

○ Regional Office  
Districts 8-13  
11731 State Highway 37  
Benton, IL 62818  
(618) 435-8138

○ Prairie-chicken Sanctuaries  
(Jasper and Marion Cos.)  
R.R. 3, Box 74  
Newton, IL 62448  
(618) 783-2685



The Department of Natural Resources does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or handicap in admission to, or treatment or employment in programs or activities in compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act, the Illinois Constitution, the U.S. Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended, and the U.S. Constitution. The Equal Employment Opportunity Officer is responsible for compliance and may be reached at 217-782-7616.

(Printed by Authority of the State of Illinois)

(X36519 - 6M - 8/95)

(TDD Phone number 217-782-9175)