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A STUDY AND SURVEY OF RECREATION
IN NEWTON, ILLINOIS

RICHARD L. CAMPBELL AUGUST, 1958

A SURVEY AND STUDY OF RECREATION
IN NEWTON, ILLINOIS

A Term Paper
Presented to
Professor John Masley
Eastern Illinois University
in
Physical Education 528

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Science in Education

by
Richard Long Campbell
August, 1958

This study has been approved by the Head
of the Department of Physical Education (Men)
of Eastern Illinois University as partial ful-
fillment of the requirements for the Master of
Science in Education Degree.

Approved



Dr. John W. Masley
Advisor

Date:

July 23, 1959

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I. THE PROBLEM AND NATURE OF THE STUDY-----	1
The Problem-----	1
Statement of the Problem-----	1
Purpose of this Study-----	1
Nature of the Study-----	1
Need for Public Recreation-----	1
Evaluation of facilities-----	3
Leadership-----	3
Organization of Remainder of Study-----	4
II. A SURVEY OF RECREATION IN NEWTON-----	5
Governmental Agencies-----	5
Federal-----	5
State-----	6
County-----	6
Local-----	6
Schools-----	8
Public Library-----	9
Voluntary Agencies-----	9
Newton Boys' Park-----	10
Jasper County Fair Association-----	11
Private Agencies-----	11
Jasper County Country Club-----	11
Scouts-----	12
Lake Jasper and Sportsman Club-----	13
Churches-----	13

Chapter	Page
Legion-----	14
Rotary, Kiwanis, K.C., Moose, and V.F.W.-----	14
Hi-Ho Saddle Club-----	15
Commercial Agencies-----	15
Fairview Drive-In Theatre-----	15
Blue Moon Roller Skating Rink-----	15
Bowling Alley-----	15
III. POSSIBLE WAYS OF ORGANIZATION FOR PUBLIC RECREATION AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS-----	16
Possible Ways of Organization-----	16
Park District-----	16
City Recreation Department and Taxation by Referendum-----	18
Support from General Corporate Fund-----	18
Township Building and Maintenance Powers-----	19
General Recommendations-----	19
Administration and Leadership-----	19
Program-----	20
Facilities-----	20
Finance-----	21
Public Opinion-----	21
IV. A SUGGESTED PLAN-----	22
Organization-----	23
Leadership-----	24
Facilities-----	24
Program-----	25
V. CONCLUSION-----	27
Summary-----	27

Chapter	Page
Recommendations for Action-----	27
BIBLIOGRAPHY-----	28
APPENDIX A. Recreational Surveys-----	29
APPENDIX B. Maps and Tax Rate Charts-----	32
APPENDIX C. Check lists for Facility and Program, Recommendations--	36
Newton Governmental Structure, Newton Recreational	
Survey	

CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM AND NATURE OF THE STUDY

The advances in a mechanized civilization have brought about an unprecedented increase in the amount of leisure time available to most people today. With this increase in "free time" have come the many problems of providing people of all ages with the opportunity to engage in constructive, worthwhile activity. This is a problem of general public welfare. As such, it is generally agreed that it should be an assumed responsibility of civic government to provide adequate recreational facilities, programming, and leadership for the people under its domain.

I. THE PROBLEM

Statement of the problem. It is the writer's opinion that there are inadequate recreational opportunities in the city of Newton.

Purpose of this study. The purpose of this study is (1) to survey the recreation that is now available in Newton; (2) to examine the recommendations of various recreation authorities; and (3) to consult the legal limits of the Illinois statutes; and finally (4) to present a recommended plan for a more diversified better coordinated program of public recreation for Newton.

II. NATURE OF THE STUDY

Need for public recreation in evidence. Although the following survey will reveal that there are over thirty separate agencies providing some form of recreation for the people of Newton, it is evident that there are many inade-

quacies. As Butler points out, "the multiplicity of agencies undertaking some form of recreation activity or serving some recreation interest is largely the result of independent attempts to meet specific recreation desires and needs rather than of concerted action to render recreation service according to a carefully devised, cooperative plan of action."¹

The greatest failure in Newton recreation stems from the fact that local government has not assumed the responsibility of administering a public recreation program. It appears that in the future any measures of success must come after a public realization and acceptance of responsibility for providing this element of public welfare.

If and when the people do accept recreation as in the best interests of public welfare, then local government faces the problem of how best to administer public recreation. As Meyer and Brightbill state, "regardless of the program it chooses to adopt, it (local government) should keep in mind certain over-all objectives for community recreation: (1) to manage and control recreation areas and facilities of all types; (2) to acquire, establish, maintain, and operate such centers within, and sometimes beyond, municipal boundaries; (3) to organize and supervise activities and services; (4) to promote public recreation in its broadest aspects; and (5) to administer public funds in the operation of the system."²

¹George Butler, Introduction to Community Recreation. (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1949), p. 45.

²Harold D. Meyer and Charles K. Brightbill, Community Recreation. (New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1956), p. 90.

Evaluation of facilities. Actually, with a few exceptions, there are adequate areas and facilities in Newton to provide a community of 3000 with an adequate program. Granted the use of the school facilities, Peterson Park, and Boys' Park, a qualified, trained, and interested recreation leader could direct a program that would appeal to all age groups. Although the subject of program will be taken up in more detail later in this study, it should be pointed out that a community recreation program in its correct sense doesn't serve only the teenage group but should include all ages. Also, recreation does not pertain to physical activities alone, but should also include experiences that are spiritual, mental, esthetic, and social in nature.

With the establishment of a recreation system, provisions for maintenance and capital improvement would be included. In time such facilities as baseball and softball fields, a teen center, improved playgrounds, and new tot-lots should be included. Once the values of recreation are sold to the public, there is practically no limit to the facilities that can be added depending upon need and the public's ability to finance them.

Leadership. The importance of providing leadership cannot be over-emphasized. As Danford says in a discussion of a "community center"; "Leadership is the most important single factor in the operation of a community center. Without good leadership, the best equipped center will fail."³ The Athletic

³Howard Danford, Recreation in the American Community. (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1953), p. 237.

Institute states that "the key to the success of a recreation program is in large measure the quality of its leadership."⁴ Leadership, paid or volunteer or both, is an essential ingredient of every recreation program, regardless of its nature or scope. Newton's greatest single advancement would come with the hiring of a capable recreation superintendent.

Organization of remainder of the study. The remainder of this study will include a survey of the various agencies providing recreation for Newton at present. The survey was conducted by personal interview and describe facilities, program and leadership of the agencies. Following this is a discussion of possible legal ways of organizing a public recreation program. The paper is concluded with the specific recommendations of the writer for the solution to the problem.

⁴The Athletic Institute, The Recreation Program. (Chicago: The Athletic Institute, 1954), p. 7.

CHAPTER II

A SURVEY OF RECREATION IN NEWTON

Many organizations contribute various types of recreation to the total program of a community. All agencies contributing some form of recreation will be reviewed under the following logical grouping of agencies: Governmental, Voluntary, Private, and Commercial.

I. GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

Governmental agencies include any organization created and maintained by federal, state, county, and local governments.

The Federal Government. Under the division of Agricultural Extension in the U.S. Department of Agriculture and under local direction of the Farm and Home Bureaus (voluntary agencies), the federal government helps some eight or ten 4-H clubs of Jasper County provide a program in nature study, arts and crafts, music, conservation, and competitive athletics. For the past two years, the district sports festival has been held at Newton. This includes softball play in six leagues with the winners advancing to the state festival at Champaign. The divisions included are: Boys 4-H, Girls 4-H, Men over 35, Open Girls, Open Boys, and All-County League.

Many activities have been recently dropped from the 4-H and Farm Bureau recreation program because of a lack of interest. However, bowling, and trap shooting are still actively engaged in. Last year, Newton entered a team in the Team Bowling Division and advanced through the district competition

at Mattoon, going on to finish second in the state meet held at Decatur. The last state trap shoot meet was held at Casey, Illinois, and several from Newton competed.

State agencies. Although there has been considerable talk about a county lake built by the State of Illinois, there are really no state recreational facilities in Newton. The nearest parks are: (1) a small roadside picnic area with two tables two miles north of town, (2) Fox Ridge State Park 31 miles north of Newton, and (3) Red Hills State Park 35 miles south and east, and (4) Lincoln Trail Park 50 miles east of Newton.

County agencies. There are no county organizations for the purpose of recreation at this time. A Park District that was to have included the entire county was defeated a year ago.

Local agencies. The Newton City Governmental structure consists of a mayor and six elected aldermen. The city government recognizes a responsibility to six departments of public works: Streets and Alleys, Police, Electrical, Water and Sewage, Cemetery and Park, and Health and Safety. All of these, with the exception of Streets and Alleys, are maintained through the general corporate fund. A volunteer fire department and a free public library are supported by a special tax. All departments are organized by the mayor's appointment of one alderman as department or committee chairman and one additional committeeman.

The Newton City Government's provisions for recreation consist of one area (Peterson Park), limited facilities, no

program, and no leadership. Last year the Park Department (Park Division of Cemetery and Park Department) spent a total of \$5,260. This was levied from the General Property Tax for corporate purposes as provided by statutes, and the City's share of Township Road and Bridge Tax, Parking Meter Revenue, Licenses, and miscellaneous revenues of the city. There is no specific tax for parks or recreation.

Peterson Park was received by the City of Newton as a bequest. It covers about twenty-two acres and is the only public area in the city set aside for recreation. Presently the park has two playgrounds containing swings, teeter-totters, and slides. In addition, there are four horseshoe courts, one shuffleboard court, two roque courts, a shelter house, several picnic tables, newly constructed modern rest rooms, and a night lighting system. Peterson Park is maintained the year around by an attendant hired by the city government at \$2,400 per year. In addition to maintenance work, he checks out equipment and provides limited supervision of the playground and play areas.

The attitude of the local government towards recreation has been one of concern. The mayor recently appointed a special committee on teenage recreation. Thus far, the feasibility of a youth center and a swimming pool* has been discussed, but no legal action has been taken.

*Since this paper was originally written, the city of Newton in a special referendum passed a bond issue for the purpose of building a swimming pool. At the present time the building of the pool is under way and is to be completed before the end of the summer of 1959. A manager has been hired to operate the pool; his salary plus operating cost above the pool income will come from the General Corporate Fund.

The Newton Businessmen's Association has realized the importance of the problem, also, and have created a committee to study the matter.

As will be discussed later, over a year ago a referendum to establish a park district to include the entire county was beaten three to one. Since then, a referendum to build a county hospital was likewise defeated but by a slim margin. It is the contention of many that a recreation referendum will not pass until a hospital is built in Jasper County. It is apparent, as I shall discuss later in more detail, that public-supported recreation will have to come on the township or municipal level because it will probably never succeed on a county-wide basis.

Schools. The Newton Consolidated Grade School, St. Thomas Parochial School, and the Newton Community High School make no direct contribution to community recreation as such; however, the very nature of their curriculum and extra-curricular activities provides for a great deal of leisure time activity.

The play interest motive is used widely in the school curriculums during the school day. The curriculum of Newton schools include such subjects as music, manual and speech arts, physical education, and natural science. This offers a fine potential for the development of interests and skills in activities that can be continued as forms of recreation after the students leave school. Requirements of these programs have brought about school buildings that include gymnasiums, auditoriums, playrooms, music rooms, work shops, art rooms, club rooms, laboratories, libraries, and activity rooms.

The inavailability of these fine facilities to the recreational needs of the community during after-school hours is a matter for consideration. Actually the school boards have established policies for the use by outside groups on a reasonable rental basis. It is this writer's opinion that the lack of an organized municipal program of recreation is the only obstacle to full utilization of the physical plan of the schools.

A great amount of spectator recreation is provided the community by the music, dramatic, and athletic programs of the Newton schools. The annual band concerts, choral programs, football and basketball games, and track meets are well attended by the adults of the community as well as by the students.

Public library. Just this past year the city council provided the Newton Library with the means to move to a much more desirable location and to remodel the "new" building. A special tax provided a five thousand dollar budget for this purpose. The new library should provide splendid opportunities for reading--the most popular of all recreational activities. The library will supply books and magazines for all ages to read and offer guidance in the selection of suitable reading materials and literature dealing with all forms of hobbies and leisure time pursuits.

II. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

Voluntary agencies are those supported primarily by private funds, but which are non-exclusive in their membership or afford recreational opportunities to individuals who are not members.

Newton Boys' Park. Created out of a realized need for a summer softball program for the youth of Newton, the Newton Boys' Park Association was formed six years ago. Since its original inception, the program has shifted to baseball.

The Boys' Park Association operates and maintains a lighted baseball field and concession stand. The property in use is leased at a cost of four hundred dollars per year. The field includes a grandstand of wooden construction that seats about three hundred people.

Until this year, the summer baseball program has been operated by one of the coaches from the high school on a part-time summer basis. The duties of the Boys' Park Director under the the Boy's Park Board is to set up teams, organize leagues, arrange schedules, provide umpires, maintain the field, and operate the concession stand. For the present season, the organization and administration has been arranged differently. The president of the board of directors is responsible for scheduling. The local Kiwanis Club is running the concession stand on a share-the-profit basis with the Boys' Park Board. An adult has been hired to do the umpiring.

There are two leagues now in operation with six teams in the Pony League and six in the Cub League. Approximately, one-hundred eighty boys participate. The Cub League is for boys nine to twelve, and the Pony League for the thirteen to fifteen-year-old group. One game in each league is played five nights a week for twelve weeks. Each team plays about twelve games during the season. The season is concluded with all-star games in each league.

The Boys' Park program is financed primarily by profits from the concession stand and through nightly donations. In addition to this, an annual broom sale and a dollar dinner are held to give added income. Individual sponsorship of teams are provided by local clubs (Knights of Columbus, Rotary, Moose, Kiwanis) and by surrounding communities (Bogota, Willow Hill, Sainte Marie, Grove). Sponsors in all cases provide leadership, bats, and practice balls and in some cases hats and tee shirts.

The Newton Moose, a men's team in the Mid-State League, and the Legion also use the ball park on Sundays and on an occasional Wednesday evening.

The Jasper County Fair Association. The fair, which is held at the Jasper County Fair Grounds, usually presents a program that includes 4-H, school, and club exhibits, industrial exhibits, a rides and concessions area, and a special grandstand program that consists of running and trotting horse races, stage shows, and a professional wrestling card. The Fair is self-supporting for the most part, but also receives some assistance from the State and gifts and donations.

III. PRIVATE AGENCIES

Private agencies are clubs and associations organized for the benefit of their members and membership is on a selective basis.

Jasper County Country Club. In 1953, the Jasper County Country Club was organized for the purpose of providing a private golf course for the people of the county of Jasper.

Originally eighty acres were purchased at a cost of forty dollars per acre. There were eighty members when the club received its first charter. The "J. C. C. " now has a membership of one-hundred five and operates a nine-hole sand-green course (2986 yards) with a club house and pro-shop.

Membership can be gained through acceptance by the membership committee and payment of an initiation fee and yearly dues. During the golf season several tournaments are held for men and women. In addition to this, several team or club matches with other country clubs in this area are held. Many social activities such as card parties, dances, pot-luck suppers, stags, banquets, and an annual Easter egg hunt are held.

Various appointed committees set up tournaments and social events. A full-time summer employee is hired to maintain the course and operate the pro-shop. Although there is no "pro", the club champion is available for lessons and operates a clinic for young golfers on Saturday mornings.*

Scouts. There is one troop of Boy Scouts in Newton with a membership of forty boys. The troop is directed by a scout master and three assistants under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club. The Scout facilities include a cabin on sixteen lots in Newton and one lot on Lake Jasper.

Weekly meetings are held with citizenship and leadership the objective of the program. Merit badges in one-hundred twenty-one different subject fields are the ultimate goals of the Scouts.

*Future plans for grass greens, a swimming pool, and tennis courts are in the offing.

Special events and activities are included such as a swim in Olney every other week during the summer months. There are also overnight and weekend outings. Each year the Rotary Club sends nine scouts to the Lincoln Trail Council for a week-long camp.

In addition to this Scout program, the Kiwanis sponsors and provides leadership for one Cub pack and seven dens that meet once each week. Each den has a den mother, and a den chief who is a boy scout.

The VFW sponsors one troop of Girl Scouts and several Brownie packs that also follow the national program of activity.

Lake Jasper and Sportsman Club. In 1945, a group of interested people combined to form an organization called the Sportsman Club for the purpose of creating a lake suitable for fishing and boating, and to make lots available for cabins to people in Jasper County.

The Lake still exists and for the same purpose as originally intended. Membership in the Sportsman Club can be purchased now for five dollars, and this entitles the payee to fishing and boating privileges from the some twenty acres of land owned by the Club on one section of the Lake. Membership, however, in Lake Jasper is gained by the purchase of a lot on the Lake.

Churches. The six churches of Newton (Grace Methodist, First Presbyterian, Central Christian, First Baptist, First Christian, and the Catholic St. Thomas) provide the usual program of worship service and Sunday School. In addition, they provide a two-week Bible School for pre-school and grade

school children. The usual church summer camps, youth group, and women's circles are available.

The Ministers' Alliance of Newton has for the past two years organized and administered a basketball league for seventh and eighth graders who are not on the grade school team. The teams play every Saturday morning during December and January in the grade school gymnasium.

Legion. The American Legion Post sponsors two baseball teams each summer: the Junior Legion and an entry in the Cub League at Boys' Park. In addition, they have an annual fish fry, Halloween Dance, and a New Year's Dance. Also, the Legion Hall is available for use to other organizations and agencies in the community. A nominal fee of five dollars per night is charged for the hall rental. Both political parties, Rotary, Farm Bureau, Norris Rural Electric, Legion Auxiliary, and Junior Legion Auxiliary avail themselves of these facilities each year to hold their meetings, dances, and banquets.

Rotary. The Rotary Club of Newton regularly sponsors a cub league baseball team, the local Boy Scout troop, an annual Farmers' Night banquet, and the yearly high school varsity football banquet. In addition to these, events such as Christmas and Valentine Parties, hayrides, and steak fries are held for members and their families.

Kiwanis, K.of C., Moose, and V.F.W. These agencies have a somewhat similar program to that of the Rotary. They entertain their members and their families and give regular and

varied support to various community recreational activities.

Hi-Ho Saddle Club. This is an organization of horse enthusiasts. Through membership, a person can take part in several horse shows, rodeos, and social activities during the year. The horse shows and rodeos are often presented to the general public with a charged admission and are held at their own riding arena.

IV. COMMERCIAL AGENCIES

Commercial agencies are business operations that provide a form of recreation for the profit that can be realized.

Fairview Drive-in Theater. The Fairview presents a typical motion picture fare for many people of Newton during the usual open-air theater season, from spring until late fall.

Blue Moon Roller Skating Rink. A regular evening program of open roller skating is provided by this commercial operation.

Bowling alley. At the time of this writing, a new eight-lane bowling alley is under construction. It will be commercially operated and will have a program of league and open bowling.

CHAPTER III
POSSIBLE WAYS OF ORGANIZATION FOR PUBLIC RECREATION
AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Before choosing one specific plan of organization for recreation reflecting one view, it is advantageous to review a few of the best methods of establishing the necessary legal authority in order to bring the problem into proper focus.

The following facts should be recognized as essential to the success of any plan regardless of its specific nature:

1. The cooperative efforts of the school boards and recreation department must be obtained to make use of the existing facilities at the high school and the grade school.
2. A capable, qualified, and interested superintendent must be hired to plan and administer the program. This could probably be arranged on a part-time basis.
3. The recreation system must be provided with adequate funds to operate.⁵

The following includes a discussion of the Park District, Township Park District, Municipal Ownership and Operation, and Township Building and Maintenance Powers.

I. POSSIBLE WAYS OF ORGANIZATION

Park District. In May of 1957 in Jasper County, an effort by referendum to establish a Park District was overwhelmingly defeated in all but one of thirteen precincts. The total for the county was 722 for and 2353 against. A "post-mortem" evaluation of the campaign as received from the State Park District office established the following six facts:

⁵Danford, op. cit., p. 238.

1. Too large an area was included, and it was consequently defeated in the rural areas. However, on the basis that the total vote was only eleven short of carrying in the three precincts in Wade Township, the state advisor felt a concentrated campaign effort in this township and the limitation of the district to include only Wade Township would bring success.
2. There was confusing publicity during the educational period prior to the referendum. It was advised that in the future greater emphasis should be made on (a) how the park district operates; (b) what its powers are; (c) what services are provided; (d) cost to finance.
3. The referendum must carry in all precincts. The past results were: Wade "A" 177-241, Wade "B" 142-159, Wade "C" 235-165.
4. Sufficient time was not given for the educational program.
5. The adverse publicity given by the newspapers failed to establish that recreation was a function of local government.
6. The final recommendation was that no attempt to pass a Park District should be made for two years.

The passage of a Park District including the whole county is improbable; however, a Township Park District in Wade is legal and possible. Under Article V., Section 1, of the Park District Code, the Township Park District "shall have the power to levy and collect taxes on all the taxable property in said district for all corporate purposes. A general tax not to exceed .10 of the full fair cash value, as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue, could be obtained by special referendum. Wade, with an assessed evaluation of \$10,764,020, would provide up to a \$10,000 budget by levying the maximum general tax. An additional \$5,000 could be obtained.

In considering the ways of legal taxation, the question should be proposed as to how much a community should spend for recreation. In answer to this, reference may be made to

the National Recreation Association's recommendations in 1940. A standard expenditure of \$1.50 per capita was then the consensus. Eighteen years later with the standard of living as it now is, the per capita estimate is \$6.00 per capita. It is this writer's opinion that \$2.50 per capita would be a satisfactory starting point. On a city basis, this would mean a \$7,500 budget and \$10,000 on a township basis. However, it would be impossible to make capital improvements such as building a swimming pool on this sort of budget. It is also important to mention that one-half of the total budget should be spent on leadership.

City recreation department and taxation by referendum.

Under state law⁶ the corporate authorities of a municipality are provided with the legal means to create, maintain, and operate a recreation system and tax up to .0667 per cent of the full, fair cash value, as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue. With an assessed evaluation of only \$5,222,663 in the corporate limits of Newton, this would provide a budget of about \$3,483. A system based upon this would have to include additional funds from the General Fund or the schools.

Support from the general corporate fund. The chief advantage of this method of financial support would be that no referendum would be necessary. Legally, an ordinance could be passed to create and maintain the recreation system. It

⁶Chapter 24, Section 57, Illinois Revised Statutes, 1957.

is an improbability that the overburdened General Fund of Newton could withstand an \$8,000 yearly budget for recreation. Again, capital improvement could not be made on such a limited budget.

Township building and maintenance powers. Under Chapter 139, Section 155, township law provides for "issuance of bonds for the purpose of purchasing or erecting and equipping community buildings." In Section 158, provisions for a .05 per cent tax for maintenance of same are made. There is no way in which leadership of a program can be financed through the township, however. This could be the means through which a swimming pool could be created and maintained, and all other capital improvements could be made.

In summary, several methods of financing and organization have been presented. In light of the recent defeat of the Park District and Hospital issues, perhaps a general referendum should be avoided. On the other hand, the available funds in the General Account may not permit an added financial responsibility. Also, it is best to put recreation on a separate fee basis so that a regular sum is available each year.

II. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Administration and leadership. Organized recreation requires planning, management, and direction. The major function of the governing group or board is to develop the policies, establish the regulations, provide the guideposts, and generally chart the broad course of action. The governing group has the major responsibility of hiring an executive or superintendent. His function is to carry out or execute the policies and plans

which have been adopted by the governing board.

Under the supervision of the superintendent there should be a group of staff members who have the responsibility of leading, guiding, stimulating, planning, organizing, conducting, and evaluating the recreation program itself.

The nature of operation of the governing group should be that of obtaining cooperation and coordination among all concerned and interested organizations, agencies, and departments.

The program. The program should be as complete and well-rounded as local conditions permit. Such factors as age, sex, educational, cultural, and nationality backgrounds, economic and social advantages, traditions and customs, geography and climate, and home life must be considered in the planning. The selection of activities on the part of the people should be of a spontaneous nature (free of compulsion), provide a means of self-expression, and produce satisfaction in the doing rather than in the end results.

As to specific activities, a look at Recreational Survey #2 (Appendix A) will show an endless list of possibilities. Any activities included in the program should be determined by community preference and the physical and financial ability of the Recreation Department to provide it.

Facilities and areas. Adequate outdoor recreation areas, indoor recreation facilities, property, equipment, and supplies are needed to provide a community recreation program. There must be a full utilization of present facilities in the com-

munity. Capital improvements such as building a new swimming pool, youth center, tot-lots, and others should be provided for as well as for proper care and maintenance.

Finance. Sound and effective community recreation programs require broad, continuing fiscal support. Adequate financing of the program through the general funds of a city government puts the functioning of the program in a position of dependency upon the attitudes of those responsible for over-all government. Financing by special levy offers the advantage of a guaranteed source income.

Public opinion. The recreational inventory can be of use in "selling" the idea of recreation as a municipal function and also to determine what activities should be included in the program. A pre-referendum survey could give evidence for publicity of "public desire." (See Appendix A). If and when the recreation system has been created, the recreation superintendent should make use of a recreation inventory to survey the community wants and to serve as a basis for program planning. (See Appendix A).

Another type of survey of public opinion is the Citizen's Advisory Committee. Through the functions of this "sample" of public sentiment, the recreation board and recreation board and recreation superintendent can be kept abreast of public desires.

CHAPTER IV

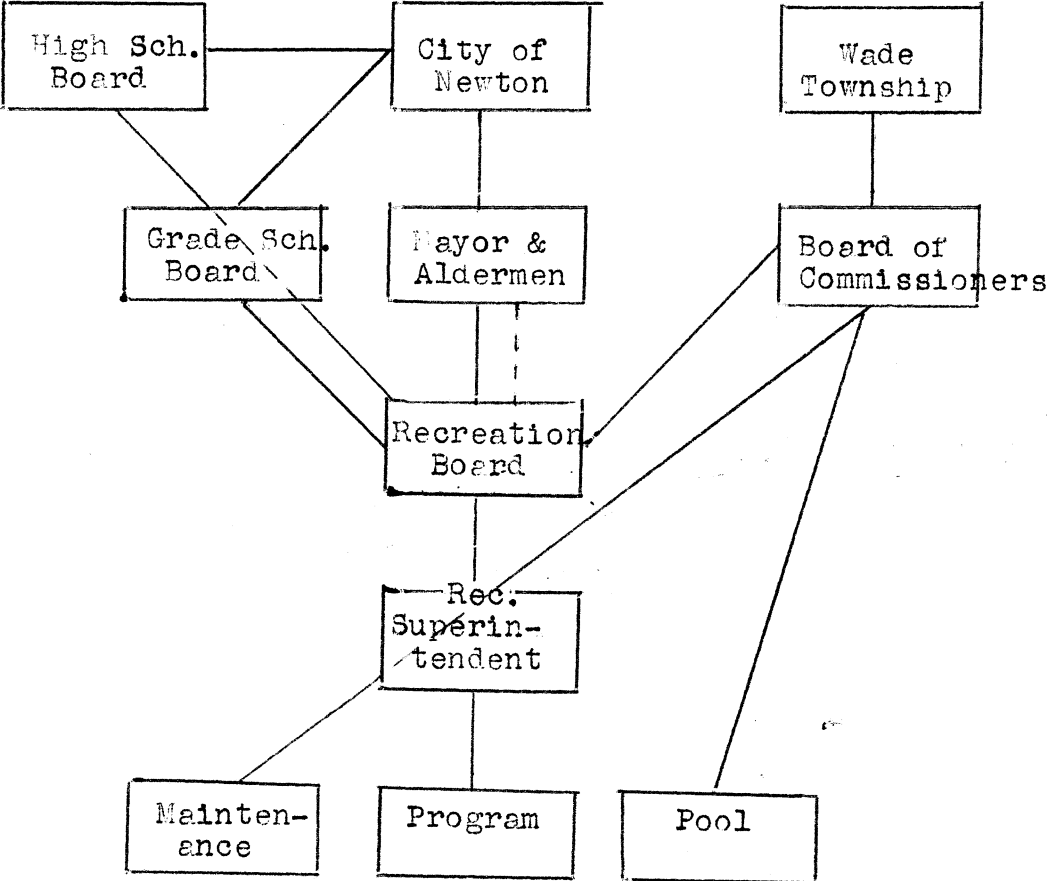
A SUGGESTED PLAN

After the foregoing study of the existing conditions, the following plan for public recreation in Newton is proposed. This plan would include the cooperation of Wade Township, the City of Newton, and the Newton schools. This plan would provide the following three needs:

1. Organization--a five-member recreation board.
2. Leadership--a recreation superintendent and additional staff.
3. Facilities--use of the available school facilities and the building of a new swimming pool and additional capital improvements.
4. Program--a year-round program of activities that includes the interests of all ages.

I. ORGANIZATION

A five-man Recreation Board would be appointed by the Mayor and Council and would include one member from the city council; Wade Township Board of Commissioners; High School Board of Education; and one woman from the Booster's Club.



II. LEADERSHIP

Leadership would be provided by a \$5000 budget coming from the General Fund. This would include 1/2 pay (\$2,675) for a half-time Superintendent of Recreation. This same individual could teach at the high school or grade school, or act as a county coordinator of physical education half-time at approximately the same salary. This would make a combined salary of \$5,350 for twelve months. The remaining \$2,325 of the earmarked fund would be used for additional leadership such as playground, park, and gymnasium supervision.

III. FACILITIES

As mentioned before, utilization of school facilities is a necessity in any system of recreation used in Newton. This would have to be obtained through the cooperative efforts of the school boards and the recreation board. It is very possible that these facilities could be provided free of charge to the Recreation Department.

A bond issue of .03 per cent of the full, fair cash value, as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue on all taxable property within the corporate limits of the township has been levied for twenty years to pay for the building of a township swimming pool.

An effort to centralize the facilities upon the high school campus should be made. The swimming pool could be built adjacent to the boys and girls physical education dressing rooms and these same rooms could double as bath house facilities for the pool during the summer months.

This would cut costs as much as one-third.

A municipal recreation program would be the logical agency to take over the present operations of the Boys' Park Association. If this were done, it would be advisable to move the field and lights to the high school baseball field at the north side of the football stadium. The addition of knock-down bleachers on the baseball field which could be used also at football games and for the north balcony during basketball season would be reasonable. Also, there would be a valid reason for building outdoor toilets and perhaps a concession stand to serve the summer program as well as the school athletic seasons. This centralization of recreational facilities on the school campus would justify the use of the current activity room as a teen center.

IV. PROGRAM

Actually the planning of a recreation program would be the responsibility of the recreation superintendent, but here a typical program is presented.

A year-round program would be constructed to suit the desires of all ages. The program would be varied to include physical, mental, social, religious, and esthetic activities. Eight specific phases could be included depending upon the desires of the community.

1. Athletic activities for young folks.
2. Athletic activities for adults.
3. Playground and tot-lot activities.
4. Special activities such as arts and crafts, music, and dramatics.

5. Special events.
6. Swimming program--lessons, shows, competition.
7. Mental and social activities such as book review clubs, forums, dancing.
8. Activities for the aged.
9. Picnic and recreation areas and facilities.

CHAPTER V
CONCLUSION

It is hoped that this study will stimulate some thought on the part of the city council in respect to considering recreation as a function of municipal government. If action is to be taken, the following procedure is recommended to insure a complete and effective campaign:

1. Mayor and Council decide if recreation is a municipal function--if so, proceed to:
2. Set up a fifteen member Planning Committee from the community to study the problem.
3. Organize for referendum campaign. If the campaign is successful:
4. Set up a recreation board and recreation department.
5. Hire a qualified recreation superintendent.
6. Create an advisory board.
7. Survey the community--activity inventory as a basis for program planning.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

RECREATIONAL SURVEY #1 FOR STUDENTS
(Previous to referendum)

The Newton Recreation Planning Committee wishes to make a survey of students' interest in recreational improvements. Answer the following to the best of your ability. (PLEASE BE HONEST!)

1. Age____. Check whether: Boy____. Girl_____.
2. What do you usually do for fun after school?
On weekends?
In the summer?
3. What sports do you like most to take part in?
4. Are there enough programs in this community for you to take part in these sports as much as you would like?
If the answer is "no", what things are most needed?
5. What are your favorite hobbies?
6. Are there enough programs in this community for you to take part in these hobbies as much as you would like?
If the answer is "no", what things do you think are most needed?
7. Do you think the athletic and physical education programs in your school are adequately serving the needs of all the students in school? If the answer is "no", give reasons.
8. Do you think that the non-athletic extra-curricular activities in your school are adequately serving the needs of all the students in school? If the answer is "no", give reasons.
9. In your opinion, are there enough things to do for recreation in this community? If the answer is "no", what new things would you like to see added?
10. Do you go out of town for any recreational activities?
If answer is "yes", which ones?
11. Will you participate in the Youth Center after it is started?

RECREATIONAL SURVEY #2 FOR ALL AGES
 (After referendum has been passed--for
 the purpose of setting up a general program.)

RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Please check all the activities that you are interested in
 having included in our Recreation Program.

SPORTS

Archery
 Badminton
 Baseball
 Basketball
 Bowling
 Boxing
 Croquet
 Golf
 Hockey
 Horseshoes (quoits)
 Obstacle Race
 Paddle Tennis
 Ping-pong
 Rope Skipping
 Shuffleboard
 Skating (Ice & Roller)
 Softball
 Swimming
 Tennis
 Tobogganing
 Volleyball
 Wrestling

CRAFTS AND HOBBIES

Basketry
 Block Printing
 Carpentry
 Coin Collections
 Cooking
 Finger Painting
 Home Decoration
 Leather Work
 Painting
 Photography
 Plaster Casting
 Poster Making
 Sketching
 Soap Carving
 Printing
 Sewing
 Stamp Collecting
 Weaving
 Wood Carving
 Wood Work

OUTDOORS

Bird Study
 Campfires
 Camping
 Collecting Nature Specimens
 Hiking
 Picnics
 Star Study
 Scavenger Hunts
 Straw Rides
 Treasure Hunts
 Tree Study

SOCIAL

Banquets
 Dances
 Dance Classes
 Folk Dancing
 Parties

MUSIC

Bugle, Fife and Drum
 Chorus or Choir
 Folk Songs
 Glee Clubs
 Music Appreciation
 Playing in Band
 Singing in Operetta
 Song Writing

DRAMATICS

Acting
 Charades
 Puppet Shows
 Making Scenery
 Marionettes
 Minstrel Shows
 Producing and Directing Plays
 Reading Plays
 Shadow Puppets
 Stage Lighting
 Stunt Night Performances

DRAMATICS

Theatrical Make-up
 Writing Plays

LITERARY

Book Club
 Current Events
 Debating
 Discussion
 Forums
 Information, Please!
 Quiz Programs

TABLE GAMES

Backgammon
 Bingo
 Bridge
 Cards
 Checkers
 Chess
 Dominoes
 Paper and Pencil
 Games

RECREATIONAL SURVEY #3 FOR STUDENTS IN ALL GRADES

(Specific recreational planning)

Participant _____ Birthday _____

Address _____ Grade School District _____

Please check below the activities that you wish to participate in during the summer vacation of 1958:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball 8-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Touch Football 11-13 (Boys) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Softball 12-17 (Girls) | <input type="checkbox"/> Touch Football 14-17 (Boys) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball 16-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Story Telling 5-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Badminton 8-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Lessons 7-13 (Girls) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Badminton 13-17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Lessons 7-13 (Boys) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis 8-13 | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Band (High School) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis 14-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Band (Grade School) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf 12-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Marble Contest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Table Tennis 14-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Soap Box Derby |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roque 12-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle Races |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Crafts 6-10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Archery 12-17 (Girls) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Crafts 11-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Archery 12-17 (Boys) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball (Girls) | <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive Swimming 8-13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball (Boys) | <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive Swimming 14-18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball 11-13 | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Talent Contest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball 14-17 | |

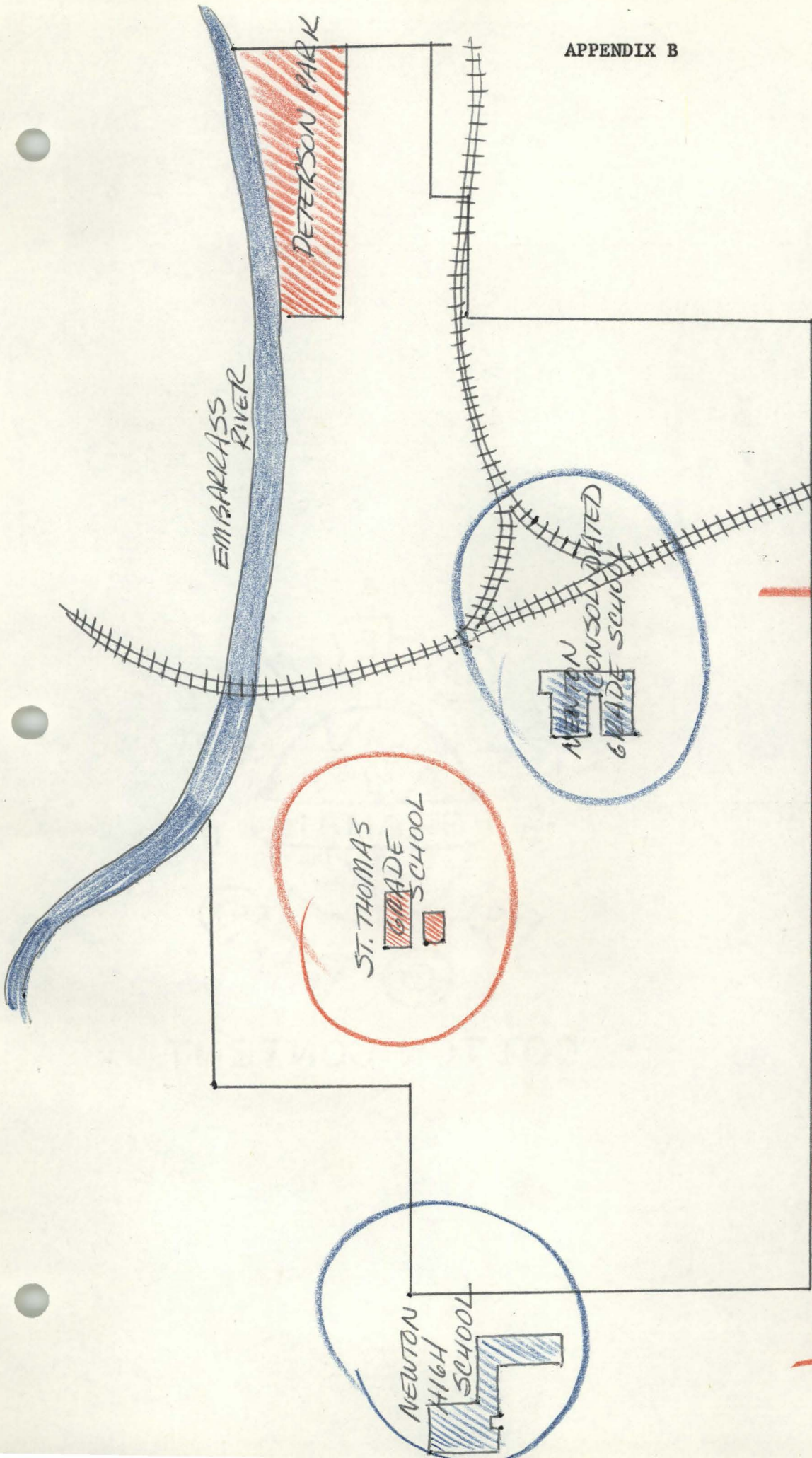
PARENTS SIGNATURE OF APPROVAL _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN _____

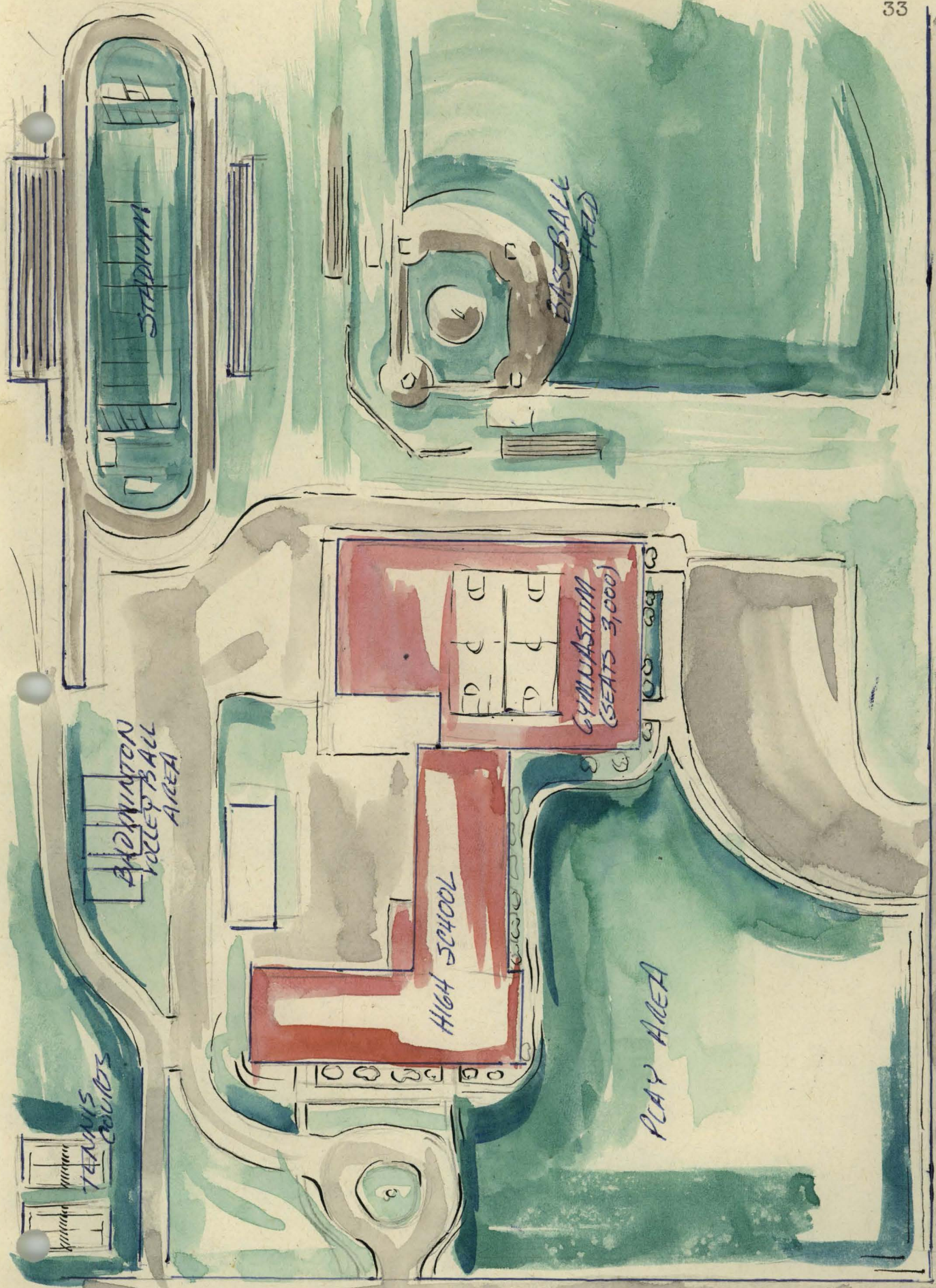
NOTICE

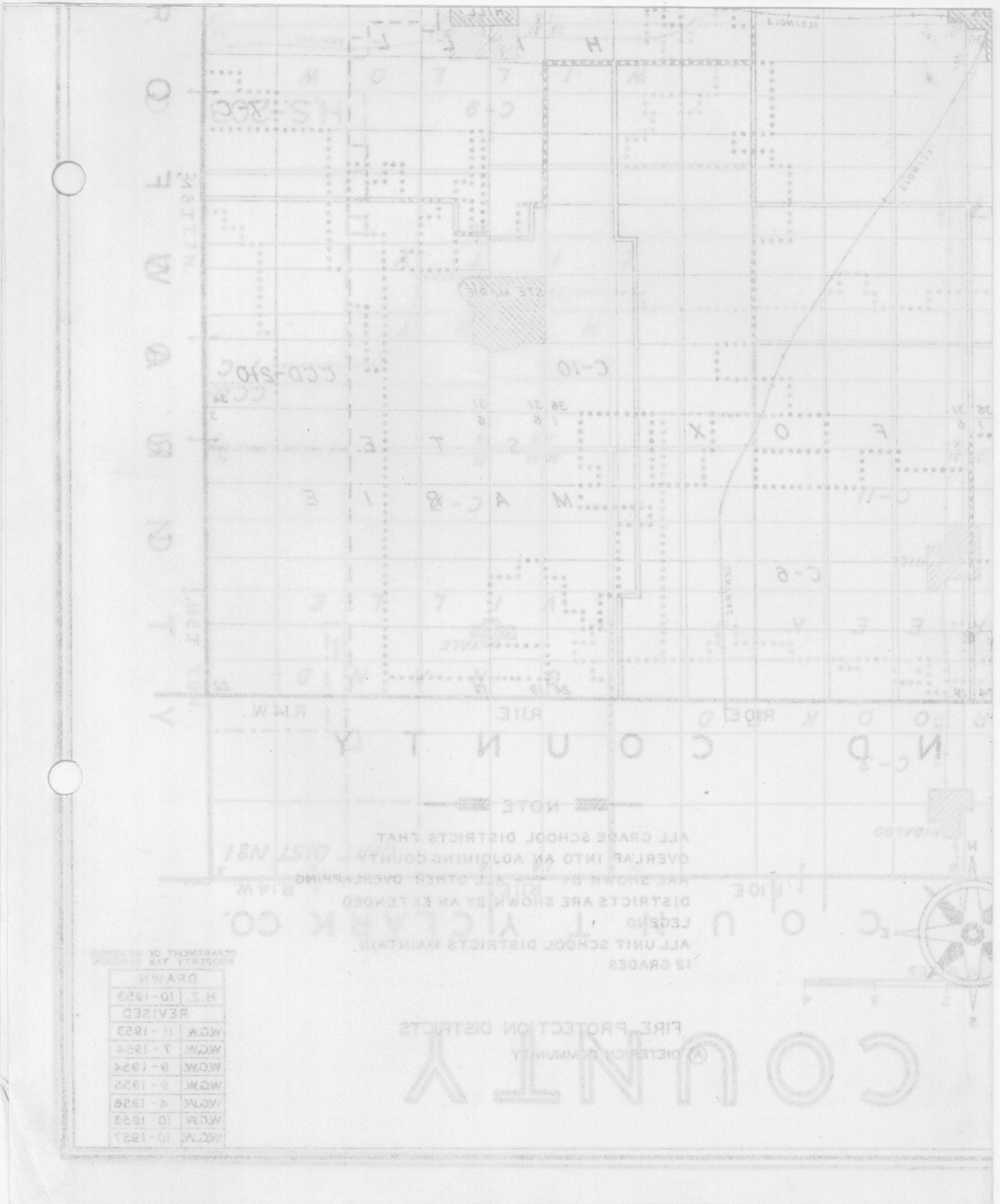
This card is being used to make a survey in the city of Newton, to organize a recreation program that meets the recreational needs of the youth of the community.

Any activity checked is not a permanent decision, however, please be as accurate as possible. Keep in mind your age next summer.



PETERSON PARK - PICNIC AREA, PLAYGROUNDS, HORSESHOE PITS, ROQUE COURTS
 HIGH SCHOOL - BASEBALL FIELD, STADIUM TRACK, GYMNASIUM, CRAFT ROOMS, MUSIC ROOMS, TENNIS COURTS
 ST. THOMAS - PLAYGROUND, COMMUNITY BUILDING, GRADE SCHOOL - PLAYGROUND, GYMNASIUM, MUSIC AND CRAFT ROOMS





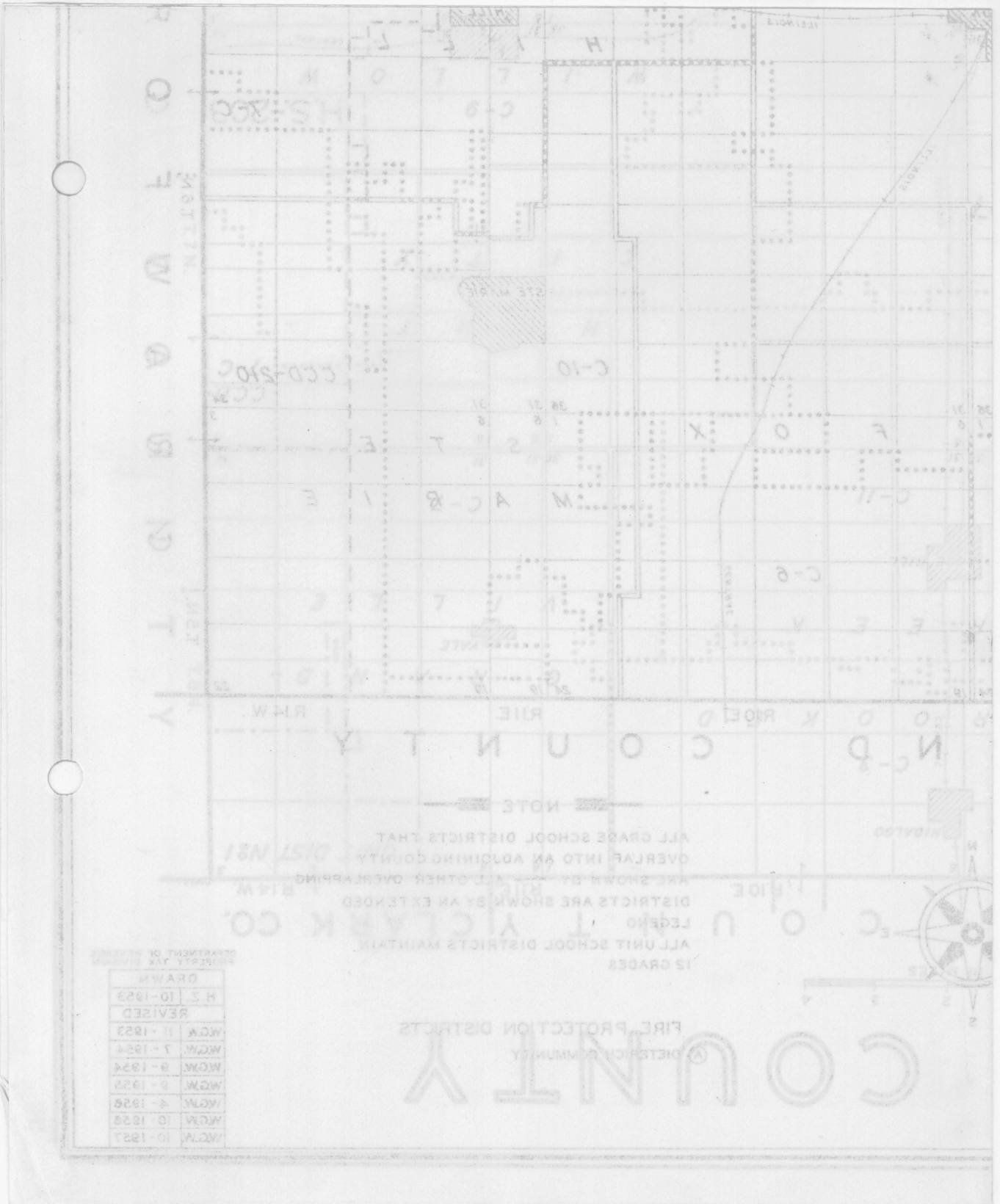
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
PROPERTY TAX DIVISION

DATE	REVISION
10-10-1953	W.C.A. 10-1953
11-1-1953	W.C.A. 11-1953
3-1-1954	W.C.W. 3-1954
9-1-1954	W.C.W. 9-1954
9-1-1955	W.C.W. 9-1955
4-1-1956	W.C.W. 4-1956
10-1-1956	W.C.W. 10-1956
10-1-1957	W.C.A. 10-1957

DRAWN

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS
JASPER COUNTY

ALL UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAINTAIN 12 GRADES
DISTRICTS ARE SHOWN BY AN EXTENDED R.I.W.
ALL GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT OVERLAP INTO AN ADJOINING COUNTY - DIST. NOT MAINTAINED



DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
PROPERTY TAX DIVISION

DATE	REVISIONS
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9-1-1954	W.C.W. 9-1954
9-1-1955	W.C.W. 9-1955
4-1-1956	W.C.W. 4-1956
10-1-1956	W.C.W. 10-1956
10-1-1957	W.C.A. 10-1957

DRAWN

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ALL GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT OVERLAP INTO AN ADJOINING COUNTY - DIST. NOT MAINTAINED

RATING BASED ON CLASSROOM RECORD

Bureau of Teacher Placement
 Eastern Illinois University
 Charleston, Illinois

To the Student:

Fill in the heading and give the blank to a university instructor who is competent to speak of your qualifications as a prospective teacher. You should have had at least two courses with the instructor.

Student's name _____

Instructor's name _____ Institution _____

Courses taken with this instructor _____

To the instructor:

Please RATE ONLY STUDENTS WHOM YOU KNOW. If you feel you do not know the student well enough to reasonably judge his merits, PLEASE RETURN THE BLANK UNMARKED WITH SUCH NOTATION.

Employers of teachers will depend on your statements and rating in determining whether to put this student in charge of boys and girls. Fair but honest statements will help us to place those who will probably succeed as teachers and to avoid placing those who are likely to fail.

Please WRITE A STATEMENT as well as mark the form. In this statement please explain the extent of your knowledge of the student, how his appearance and manner have affected you, and whether you think his personality is such that he will succeed as a teacher.

When we have on file your estimate of the student's ability, we shall be glad to send copies of it to other persons who wish information if you will refer subsequent letters to us. This will save your writing repeated statements about the same person.

1. Scholarship	
2. Use of English	
3. Speaking Voice	
4. Personality and Personal Appearance	
5. Class Attitude	

6. Dependability	
7. Courtesy and Friendliness	
8. Thoroughness in Preparation of Lessons	
9. Initiative	
10. Poise and Self-control	

The Scale: A, Superior; B, Above average; C, Average; D, Below Average; and F, Unsatisfactory

Write a statement which may be used as part of candidate's credentials to be sent to school authorities.

Personal evaluation: _____

Use other side for additional private advice to the Bureau of Teacher Placement.
--

Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

This rating is confidential and should be returned direct to the Bureau of Teacher Placement.

TO ALL TAXPAYERS:

This tax rate sheet has been prepared to help you check your tax statement. The itemized rates and the total for each township are totaled except the school district rates which you add to the township total before multiplying.

Parts of pennies are computed as pennies; on your receipt you will find the total taxes within a very few pennies, if any, difference.

There are separate columns for the first and second installments of real estate. Your personal taxes are included with first installment of real estate taxes. Each column contains the total amount of taxes due on each installment. **ADD DOG TAX IF ANY.**

THE COLLECTOR IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY OMISSIONS, SO BE SURE THAT ALL OF YOUR PROPERTY IS LISTED.

If name and address are incorrect please correct before returning the statement for payment.

The revenue law provides for 1% interest per month on the first installment on real estate taxes unpaid after June 1st; 1% per month on personal property tax unpaid after June 1st; 1% on second installment of real estate taxes unpaid after September 1st.

PARTS OR FRACTIONS OF A MONTH SHALL BE RECKONED AS A MONTH.

Advertising cost added after September 10, and additional costs and interest after tax sale.

Very truly yours,

CLYDE L. SONGER, County Treasurer.

JASPER COUNTY TAX RATES FOR 1958

TOWNSHIPS	County Bond	County Corporate	County Highway	County T. B.	County Bridge	Federal Aid Matching Tax	Town Tax	Road & Bridge	Road Bond	Special Maintenance	Township Bridge	City & Village	Dieterich Comm. Fire Protection District	TOTALS
Grandville Twp. -----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.094	.264			.042			.809
Village of Yale -----												.198		1.007
Crooked Creek Twp. ---	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.167	.103	.138		.037			.854
Village of Hidalgo ---												.238		1.092
Village of Rose Hill ---												.238		1.092
Grove Twp. -----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.181	.264	.177		.042			1.073
Fire Protection Dist. ---													.125	1.198
North Muddy Twp. ----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.160	.264	.083		.050			.966
Village of Wheeler ---												.238		1.204
Fire Protection Dist. ---													.125	1.091
South Muddy Twp. ----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.173	.095	.217		.050			.944
Smallwood Twp. -----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.124	.264	.223		.050			1.070
Fox Twp. -----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.076	.264			.046			.795
Sainte Marie Twp. -----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.133	.210	.134		.039			.925
Village of Sainte Marie -												.445		1.370
Willow Hill Twp. -----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.167	.264	.091		.050			.981
Village of Willow Hill --												.313		1.294
Hunt City Twp. -----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.128	.102	.121	.134	.050			.944
Wade Twp. -----	.155	.090	.050	.030	.042	.042	.196	.092	.068		.050			.815
Newton -----												.446		1.281

District No.	Rate
1 -----	.074
2 -----	1.024
3 -----	1.051
4 -----	1.092
5 -----	1.016
6 -----	.933
7 -----	1.029
9 -----	.983
10 -----	.933
11 -----	.933
7 Crawford Co. -	1.0675
91 -----	.657
92 -----	1.177
210 -----	1.085
203 -----	1.027
127 (x) -----	.842
127 -----	.979
C-1 -----	1.75
30 -----	2.049

Add Rate if in Fire Protection District

CHECK-LIST OF FACILITIES AND PROGRAM

FACILITIES	PROGRAM
Peterson Park (area 22 acres) 2 playground areas 4 horseshoe pits 1 shuffleboard court 2 roque courts Shelter house and picnic tables Restrooms	None
Schools	
Newton Community Grade School Asphalt playground with outdoor equipment Gymnasium and assembly hall Music and art rooms	None other than that during regular 9 month school year
Newton Community High School Gymnasium (seats 3000) Football field with bleachers, grandstand (seats 3000) Cinder track with jumping pits 2 softball diamonds Recreation room Art and music rooms Auditorium	Individual and group music instruction during summer months--only activ- ity outside of regular school program
Jasper County Country Club	
Nine-hole golf course Club House	Summer season of golf for members, tournaments, social events, Easter egg hunt
American Legion Post Assembly and banquet hall	Dances, banquets, meetings, other social gatherings.
Boy Scouts of America Cabin	Scouting program including Cubs, Girl Scouts, and Brownies.
Library	Recreational reading
Newton Boys' Park Concession stand	Six-team pony league for 13-14-15-year-olds Legion team
Grandstand	Moose team in Mid-State League

Lake Jasper (area acres)
Lake and camp area

Jasper County Fair Grounds

Fairview Drive-in Theater

Blue Moon Skate Rink

Fishing and boating
Area for cabins

Annual County Fair

Summer season of
motion pictures

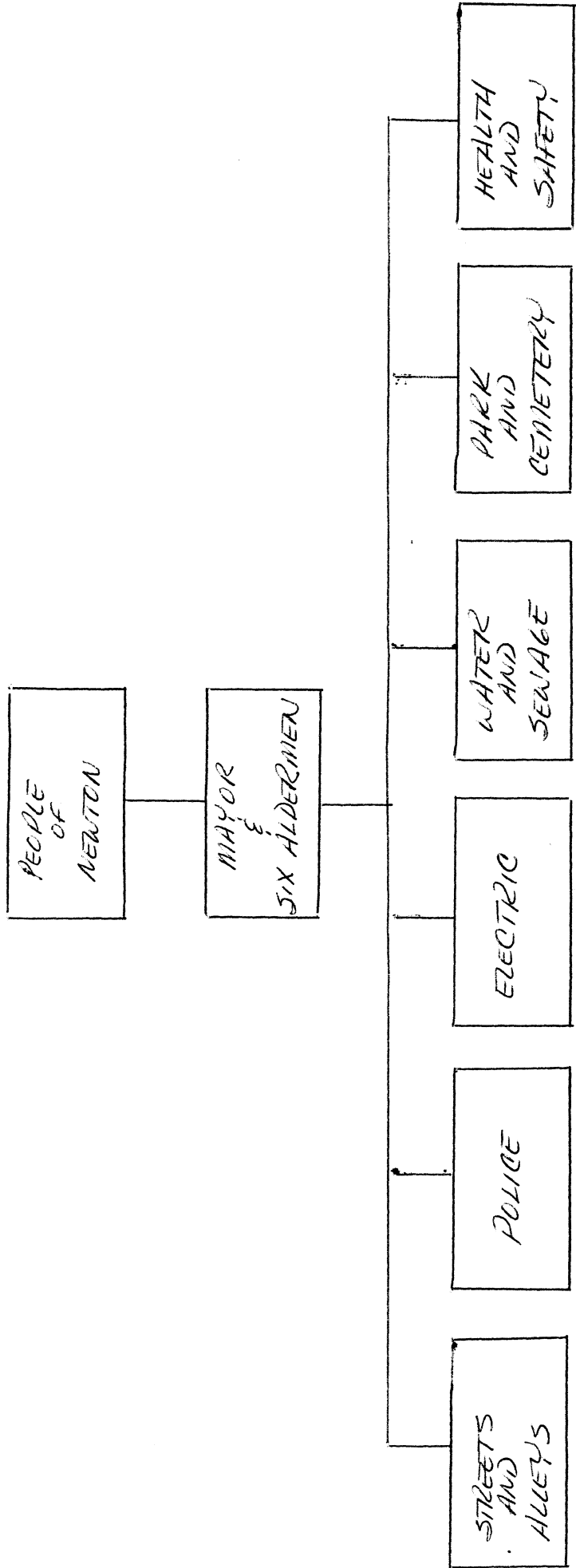
FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Standard recreation building should include all or most of the following facilities:

1. Gymnasium with seats for spectators, lockers and showers, and with a floor large enough for basketball, volleyball, badminton, dances, and social activities. This item may be omitted if the schools include adequate gymnasium accommodations.
2. Auditorium, or assembly hall with stage, preferably with removable seats, for dramatics, concerts, moving pictures, lectures, forums, banquets, and meetings. Frequently the auditorium is combined with the gymnasium for economy of construction. However, it should be borne in mind that such a combination will not permit full time use, either as a gymnasium or as an auditorium or social hall.
3. Several clubrooms, as needed, for multiple use, involving club and committee meetings, luncheons, and small social gatherings.
4. A room for informal reading and quiet table games.
5. Arts and crafts rooms, possibly including a photographic darkroom, woodwork shop, and a handicraft room.
6. Social dining-room for small luncheon or dinner groups, play rehearsals, square dancing, and other small group activities.
7. Game room for table tennis, billiards, shuffleboard, darts and active table games.
8. Kitchen and snack bar.
9. Staff office.
10. Ample checking and storage space.
11. Where the building is located on a playfield or other outdoor area, provision should be made for easy access to an outdoor dining and social court, and to other activity areas. Outside access to toilets and showers should be provided, convenient to outdoor play areas.
12. Public tennis courts: A community should provide at least one tennis court for every two hundred persons. However, interest in a given community may necessitate a different standard.

13. **Swimming Facilities:** Such facilities should be sufficient to serve three per cent of the people at one time. Approximately twelve square feet of water space should be provided for each swimmer. In the selection of a site of an artificial pool, it is a mistake to provide only land enough for the pool and bath house. There should be considerable parking space and provision for related activities of swimmers while they are out of the water and for non-participants.
14. **Golf Course:** There should be one hole of publicly owned golf for every 3000 of the population. Based on this standard, a city of 27,000 population, or less, should have a nine-hole course. Forty to fifty acres are needed for a nine-hole course and at least 100 acres for an eighteen-hole course.
15. **Athletic Field or Stadium:** The usual amount of acreage for a competitive event would require twenty acres including parking space and seating accommodations. The athletic field usually provides a football field, a running track, and space for field events.
16. **Baseball and softball:** There should be at least one baseball diamond for every 6,000 people, and one of softball for every 3,000. As the interest grows, undoubtedly this population figure will have to change. An important thing to remember in all developments of this nature is transportation factors. Consequently, it is necessary to study the street traffic as well as the sidewalks to any of the existing bases.

NEWTON CITY GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATION



APPENDIX

A LIST OF AGENCIES CONTRIBUTING RECREATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF NEWTON

A. Governmental Agencies

1. National--4-H
2. State--Farm Bureau, Home Bureau
3. Local--Park Department, Public Schools, Committee on Teen-age Recreation, Booster Club Committee on Public Recreation, Public Library.

B. Voluntary Agencies

1. Boys' Park Association
2. Jasper County Fair Association

C. Private Agencies

1. Jasper County Country Club
2. Lake Jasper and Sportsman Club
3. Churches
4. Service Clubs (Kiwanis, Rotary, American Legion, V.F.W.) and Fraternal Organizations (K. of C., Moose)
5. Scouts
6. Hi-No Saddle Club

D. Commercial Agencies

1. Drive-in Theater (Fairview)
2. Skating Rink
3. Bowling Alley