

FINAL REPORT  
FOR THE  
HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY  
OF  
CLARK COUNTY

BY  
Margaret L. Keller

Survey Project Beginning  
3/15/82

Survey Project Ending  
12/21/84

by  
Margaret L. Keller  
and  
Linda Harper

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## Project Description and Goals

A 50/50 matching grant was awarded to the Northeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission by the Missouri State Office of Historic Preservation to inventory the built environment of Clark County. This contract ran from March 15, 1982 to December 1, 1982. This was to include 250 data sheets, 2 nominations to the National Register, and three copies of the final report. A second grant was awarded for the survey of Clark and Adair Counties for the timespan February 1, 1983 to September 30, 1983. This was a 70/30 matching grant from the Missouri State Office of Historic Preservation. These two contracts were with Linda D. Harper, Historic Preservation Specialist.

On July 11, 1984, it was ascertained that basically a windshield survey of rural Clark County, along with some photography and fieldwork, had been accomplished. Seven inventory sheets had been completed. At this point in the summer of 1984, the Northeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission had a 70/30 matching grant with the Missouri State Office of Historic Preservation to inventory the built environment of Adair County. The contract was with Margaret L. Keller, Historic Preservation Consultant. As work on Knox County remained undone also, the contract covering Adair County was amended on August 14, 1984 to instead include completion of at least 191 inventory sheets for Clark County, completion of 10% (26 inventories) of Adair County, and completion of Knox County with 109 inventories. Therefore the first half of 1984 was spent on Knox and Adair Counties and approximately the second half of the year was spent on Clark County.

Between July 11, 1984 and December 21, 1984 two-hundred and twenty inventory sheets were done for Clark County including all research, architectural descriptions, site plans, writing of history and significance, necessary photography and interviews, and surveys of the Clark County towns. Additionally the descriptions of towns and townships, final map work, indexing, and compilation of information into its final form was accomplished. When the Clark County project was finished it included 227 historic inventory sheets including maps and photographs, along with the township descriptions, town histories, keys and codes to the maps, bibliographies, and indexes. Clark County has two

structures listed on the National Register; Sickels Tavern and the Clark County Courthouse. Due to its abundant stock of historically and architecturally significant buildings future work should concentrate on numerous nominations to the National Register.

A copy of this historic preservation inventory is available to the public at the Office of Historic Preservation at Jefferson City, at the Northeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission office in the First National Bank Building in Kirksville, and with the Clark County Historical Society in Kahoka, Missouri. Goals of the project included the recognition of sites with architectural/historical merit, the updating of the previous county history written in 1887 and the compilation of an oral history. The survey also establishes the types and styles of architecture in the area.

## Project Staff and Equipment

The Clark County survey was done by Margaret L. Keller, Historic Preservation Consultant and Linda Harper, Historic Preservation Specialist. Margaret L. Keller graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1975 from the University of Missouri, Columbia as a pre-architecture student with a degree in art and art-architecture/history. She has worked in the professional art field as an artist, teacher, in grant procurement, and in public relations and has been involved with the National Trust for Historic Preservation since 1978.

Linda Harper has done graduate work in architectural history and historic preservation at the University of Missouri, Columbia; was previously an employee of the State Office of Historic Preservation, and has done grant work for that office in conjunction with the Friends of Arrowrock, Missouri and the Friends of Historic Boonville, Missouri.

The secretarial, administrative, and bookkeeping staff of the Northeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission supplied their necessary assistance along with the librarians at the Severs Library in Kahoka, Missouri. Dr. David March has been a member of the staff as an historian, advisor, and counselor since April 1, 1982. His time along with the librarians, was part of the inkind grant.

Vehicles were provided by Keller and Harper with travel expenses paid as part of the grant; office space and general equipment, typewriters, the copying machine, etc. were part of the inkind grant from the Regional Planning Commission office in Kirksville. No equipment was purchased with these grant funds. Previous grants had paid for a Canon AE-1 camera with 35 and 50 millimeter lenses, a flash, a Hoya HMC Multicolor Y (K2) filter, and #1, #2, and #4 closeup filters. These were used for the photography work.

Film utilized was Kodak Plus - X pan, PX 135-36 and PX 135-20 for black and white prints. It was processed by Camera Corner at Rider Drug, Kirksville for approximately 19¢ per print.

## Survey Methodology

The methodology used began with intensive research in the 1878, 1896, and 1915 Atlases for the county. A combination of maps were prepared for each township. Copies of the USGS 7.5<sup>0</sup> quadrant maps were made to correspond to the townships, these were then coded with all the structures in existence and their owners from the era of each historical atlas. Next townships were surveyed, beginning at the most distant northernmost corner in Grant Township. Trips were made from Kirksville to Clark County with the average mileage at 180 miles per day. Townships were coded using the first letter of its name in capitals; then each site inventoried there was given a number, beginning with one. Site eight in Jefferson Township would be coded J-8. Each county road was driven, unless impassable, and all buildings were identified on the topographical maps with a code letter corresponding to its architectural type unless noted NS (not surveyed). Structures of merit were photographed, a site sketch was made, notes for the architectural description were made, and the resident (if any) was interviewed if available. The code letters given to each building's architecture related to the key of styles and types of architecture. This key is discussed in detail in section four.

An attempt was made to interview residents or "old timers" to uncover material that was not to be found elsewhere. This oral history was used along with data from the county history, platbooks, atlases, marriage records, census reports, and cemetery records to complete item #43 on the inventory sheets. Abstract records were utilized when available. Research was heavily dependant on other resources of the Sever Library, the Clark County Historical Society, the historic preservation information at the Regional Planning Commission office, and numerous sources covered in the bibliography. After fieldwork, the research and writing was done. Proof-reading, attachment of photographs to reports, and drawing of site plans were some of the final work. A museum caliber adhesive was procured for the photographs, insuring their preservation as the vital visual aspect of the inventory.

## Maps

Numerous maps were used for this project. Atlases from 1878, 1896, and 1915 were located and instrumental in establishing early owners and sites of long-standing structures. Current ownership was often determined by consulting the 1981 and 1984 Platbooks and noting mailboxes along with questioning the residents. The 1930 Platbook was also very useful in filling the gap in ownership information that existed between the last historical Atlas of 1915 and present day owners. In preparing routes and acting as a guide in driving the county roads, the General Highway map for Clark County was a very useful tool. The most informative and those utilized for survey fieldwork were the USGS 7.5<sup>0</sup> topographical maps. The following maps were used for the county:

Anson	Mt. Sterling
Argyle	Neeper
Colony	St. Patrick
Croton	Warsaw
Kahoka	Wayland
Kahoka, S.E.	Wyaconda
Medill	

Each road was driven & each structure was identified. One overall key was established for the whole county. It is included in each township report. Below is an extended description of that key.

- 1, 2, 3 . . . Site Surveyed. Numbers on the maps refer to a data form prepared for that property & are found within that township report.
- A . . . . . Type A style. This type is 1 or 1½ stories & has a 4 bay front facade with 2 central entrances. It is generally a single pile with an ell to the rear to form either an L or T plan. Most have a gable roof & all have (or had) a central chimney. The flue was located in the central common wall with stoves, back to back, in the 2 rooms of the main block. There usually was a boxed stair. This plan did not include a central hall or central stair. The type

was constructed during a long period beginning in the 1870's & continuing post 1930. The entrances were often protected by a porch which reflected the date of construction; chamfered posts & Italianate features from the 1870's - 80's, Eastlake motifs in the 1890's to 1915, & battered columns of the bungaloid style from 1915 - 30's.

B . . . . . Bungalow or bungaloid style. Built from 1915 through the 1930's, this style is characterized by a gable roof with the gable end to the front. Eaves are open with exposed rafter ends. The entrance which is often off center is protected by a porch which rests on battered columns. One variation includes the more classical doric columns. The structures are 1½ stories, often with attic dormers. They often sit on a basement which is partially raised so as to expose small half windows at that level. Millwork is oak, trabeated & often has classical motifs. Colonnades & mock fireplaces are common features. Windows are characterized by having multiple vertical panes in the top sash over a large single light bottom sash, ie. 5/1, 3/1.

Bx . . . . . Box style. The style complements the above type (B). It uses the same features except it is 2 or 2½ stories & often has a hip or pyramidal roof. Built from 1915 to 1930's the type often leans toward the classical affinities.

C . . . . . Cottage style. Reflecting the Queen Anne style, these houses were built 1895-1915 and are 1 story. They have a cross gable roof & are generally built on an L or T plan with the entrance or entrances on the irregular facade rather than on the long flat facade as had previously been the norm. Unlike the Queen Anne house, this dwelling is not embellished with large amounts of decoration. It may have Eastlake interior doors or an Eastlake porch. It may also have had bay windows. Houses were in-

cluded which may have had Queen Anne features but are now covered with vinyl or asbestos siding & retain only the plan. Windows are generally 2/2 & the front facade often has a wide single sash window with a narrow transom. Millwork is oak & ranges from the plain, Eastlake, or trabeated types.

- F . . . . . 1940's - 1950's style. Homes vary but include the 1 story frame, post-war shoebox type, the brick or frame English cottage type, & the larger home with Classical Revival motifs. The common feature is strictly the period of construction. Homes are of both frame & brick.
  
- G . . . . . Gable Peak. This type seems to be associated with the more prominent families & is an extremely common type. They are 1½ story with a gable roof. Centrally located on the front facade, which may vary from 3, 4 or 5 bays, is a central gabled wall dormer. This dormer may have either an entrance or a window. Due to the long period of construction, c 1880's to 1915's, there are no common window types, millwork, or detailing specific to the style but rather the architectural details complement the date of construction, ie. an Eastlake porch & fish-scale shingles in the peak area reflect the Queen Anne period (c. 1900). The plan is generally a single pile with a rear ell forming an L or T plan. There are both the central hall type & the double crib type.
  
- H . . . . . Hip Style. This square or slightly rectangular building is generally a 1 story structure. Roof lines vary & include hip, truncated hip, & pyramidal forms. Early dwellings (1880's) are most often plain in both interior & exterior detailing. Those built in the 1890's - 1915 reflect the Queen Anne Style including Eastlake porches & millwork. Off-center entrances, battered columns & 3/1 windows denote those constructed c. 1915-30's.

- N . . . . . New. Construction from the 1960's, 1970's & 1980's are included in this category, & the dating is the common motif. Styles vary but include the elongated 1 story ranch type, split level & split foyer homes, and also mobile homes. Many are built of brick or brick veneer.
- I . . . . . I house style. This type of house is always two stories. It may have a 3, 4 or 5 bay front with a central entrance. These bays are repeated on the second level. The houses are a single pile deep with later rear additions common. Often there are fireplaces on the side walls. Central halls and stairs are standard. The I house was built from 1840 to 1940 so details are used to date this style. From the 1840's to the 1870's, Greek Revival detailing was used. In the 1850's-1860's windows were square shaped with 6 panes over 6 panes (6/6) and fireplaces were built on outer walls. Houses were not very deep compared to later I houses, side walls (gable ends) often had returns and no fenestration. By the 1870's the gable ends sometimes had windows which were usually 4/4. This continued into the 1880's. In the 1880's Italianate details were popular. By 1890 and through 1915 Eastlake cutwork detailing & turned posts were used on the porches of I houses. Classical details became very predominate from 1900-1905 as a reflection of the architecture featured at the World's Fair. These classical elements were commonly added to update older homes. I houses built or remodeled from 1915 to 1930 reflect the bungaloid style with battered columns. The I house plan was brought to this area by settlers from the east including areas of Ohio, Maryland, & Virginia.
- CC . . . . . Cornbelt Cube style . This type of structure has a square plan & is of two stories. The roof is built in a pyramidal or hip style. These usually date from the late 19th century. Examples have been found from 1870 through the early 1900's. The detailing will date the house. Italianate elements were used in the

1870's & 1880's, the Eastlake features were common from 1895 to 1915. Bungaloid details are found in construction from the 1920's - 1930's. This is a very common type of farm house in the midwest or cornbelt, hence its name.

NS . . . . . Not surveyed. Due to owner objection or inaccessability of site (roads, weather, etc.) the property noted on the USGS map was not surveyed in any form.

V . . . . . Vernacular. This category is filled with structures which do not fit into any of the other descriptions. Built by local carpenters, they do not follow a particular style or type. Many are results of continuous additions & alterations. Dating spreads over the full scope of the survey & buildings vary from 1 to 2 stories and generally have irregular plans.

X . . . . . Property has been razed. The building as indicated on the map is no longer in existance.

Z . . . . . Type Z style. Generally a single pile, the house may either be a double cell or a double cell with central hall. It always has a central entrance as part of the 3 bay front facade. An ell projecting to the rear may form either an L or T plan. Roof lines vary from gable to hip & houses may be either 1 or 1½ story. Due to a long period of construction ranging from c. 1850's - 1915, the houses tend to be embellished both with interior & exterior detailing associated with the appropriate period style.

T . . . . . Temple style. The distinguishing feature of this style is that the primary entrance is on the gable end. These structures are usually 1½ stories, rarely 2 stories. Their time span ranges from 1865 to the Bungaloid era. These are rarely found in northeast Missouri.

A small "a" for extremely altered or a small "d" for extremely deteriorated may be placed after a type letter if appropriate, ie. Ba meaning a bungalow style which has been extremely reworked, added on to, or altered, or Hd which would be a hip style which has been abandoned for a long period of time & is in extremely deteriorated condition.

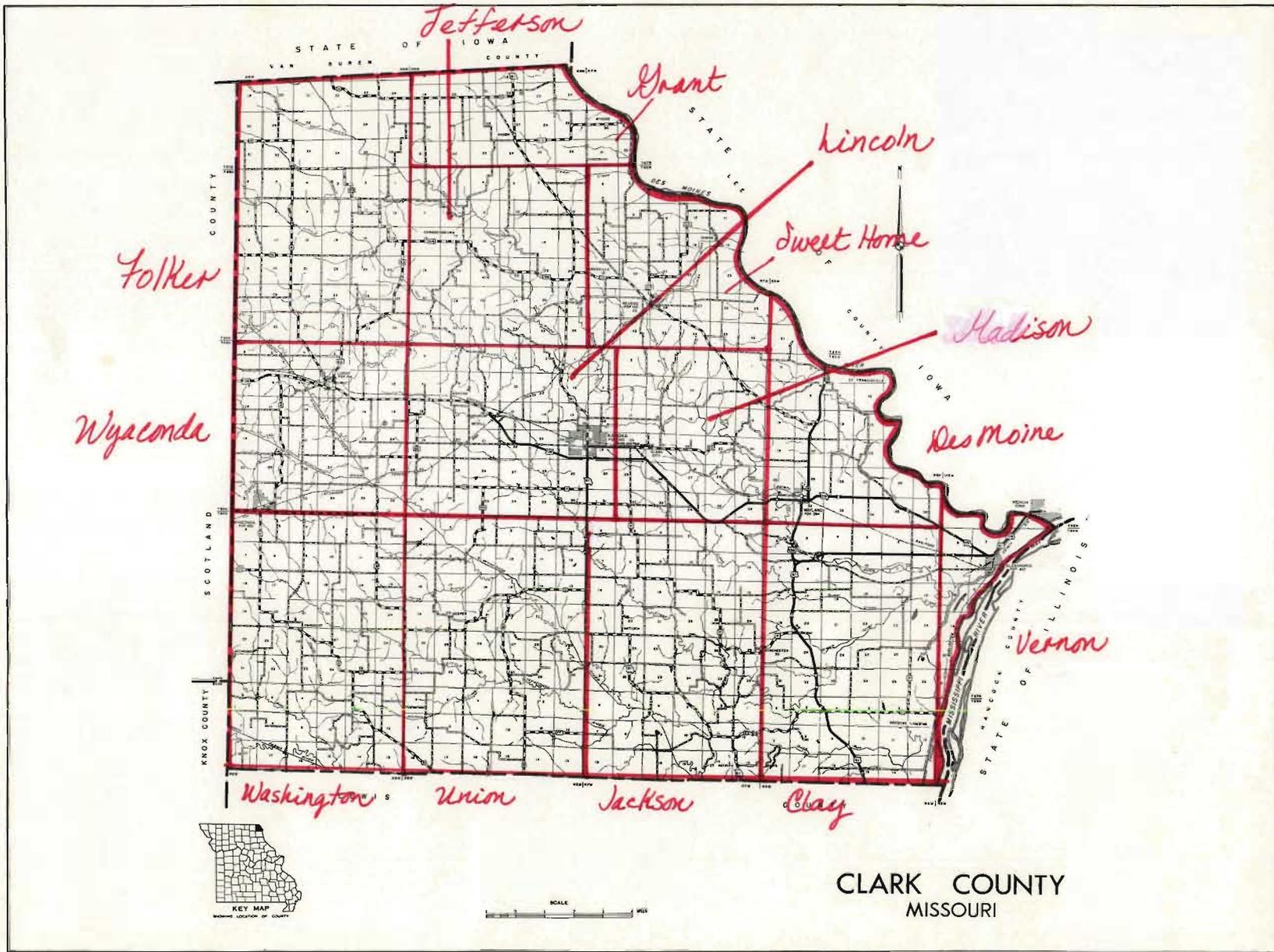
A property (denoted on the map as an open box) which has no markings placed in association with it is always an outbuilding, ie. barn, storage shed, garage, etc. Those buildings located near a numbered (1,2,3) site are often described or mentioned in item 44 - environment and outbuildings.

Numerous truss bridges are listed as numbered sites (1,2,3) so as to give representative examples. Those not numbered are also included in the key as follows:

- III . . . . . Pratt type. Heavy, large verticals in compression, diagonal bracing in tension.
- W . . . . . Warren type. Heavy, large diagonals carrying both compression & tensile forces. Verticals serve as bracing for the triangular web system.

Bridges surveyed were all metal truss & most date 1890-1910. They are generally the pony truss type with a few through truss bridges within the county.

By implementing this key on a county wide basis it was hoped that a cohesive quality to the maps would be obtainable. USGS maps were used as a base map so as to place the site in relationship to both its topography & to its surrounding built environment. This coordination of maps & key will hopefully help to establish settlement patterns as well as construction patterns and styles of architecture within a specific area of the county as a whole.



*Townships*

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The Daily Gate City

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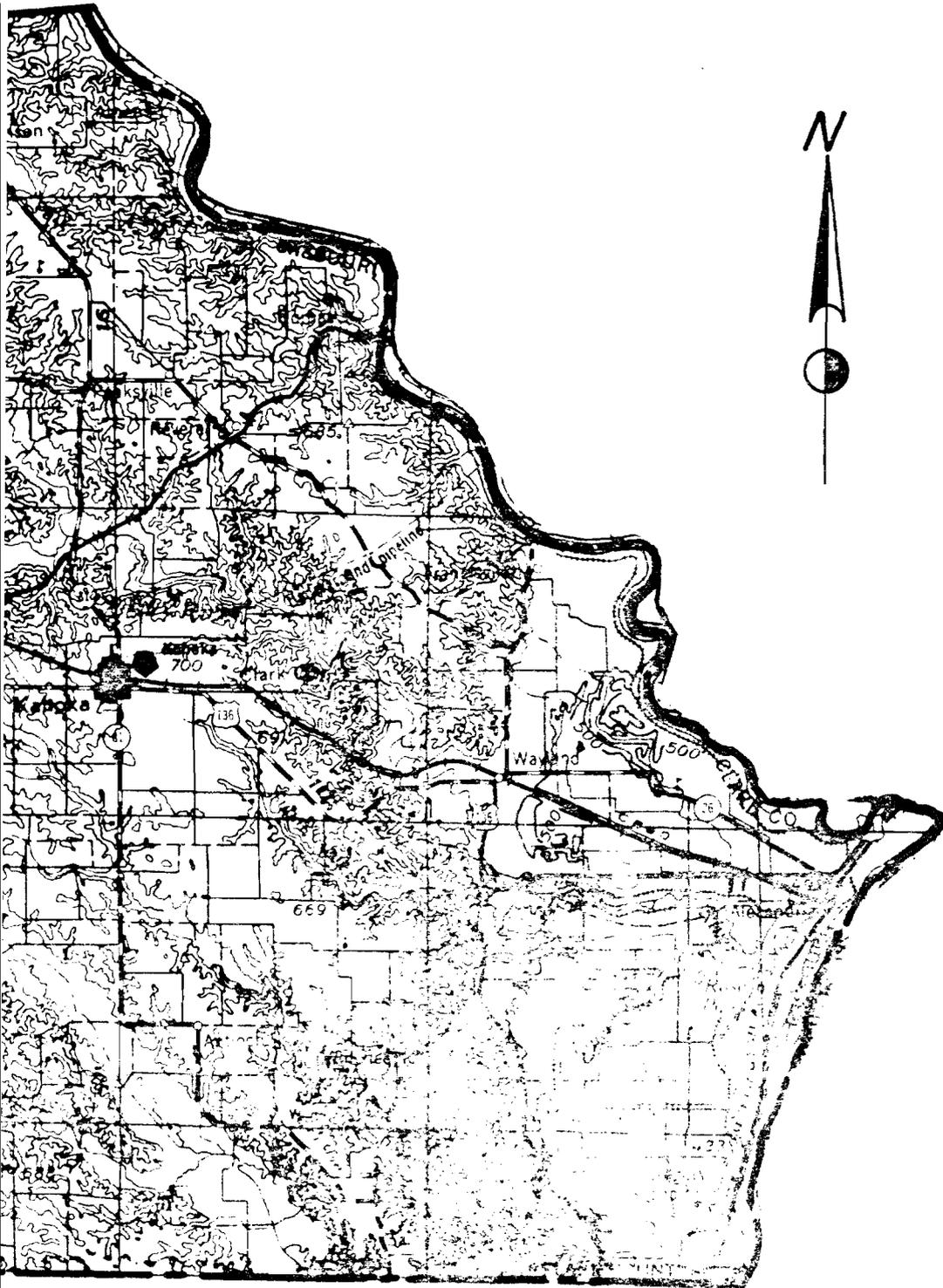
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## General Overview of the History of Clark County

Clark County contains approximately 509 square miles. It is considerably larger than the prior counties (of Schuyler and Scotland) that were surveyed except for Knox County which is comparable in size (512 square miles). Clark County is bounded on the north by Van Buren County, Iowa, on the west by Scotland and Knox Counties, on the south by Lewis County, and on the east by the Des Moines and Mississippi Rivers (Lee County, Iowa and Hancock County, Illinois). The basic topography is characterized by gently rolling hills interspersed by the diagonal courses of waterways with their associated bottomlands. The Fox River crosses the county diagonally from the northwest corner to the Southeast corner whereas the Wyaconda River (North and South) follows a similar route farther to the south. The North Fabius River barely enters the County in the southwest corner. The land is fertile, especially the bottom land soils. Much of that soil came from the glacial till or drift when two glaciers covered the county as well as the northern portion of the state. The glaciers pushed clays, sands, gravels, and boulders and filled ancient river valleys, sometimes to the depth of 200'. The "basement" layer of rocks underlying this county is approximately 2,000' below the surface and is mostly granite dating to the Precambrian age over 600 million years ago. The Cambrian layer above this and all overlying layers result from the erosion of older layers and hence are either metamorphic or sedimentary rock. The following 320 million years saw ocean covering this area and then receding several times while depositing layers of clay, sand, silt, gravel, and other dissolved substances. This occurred during the Ordovician, Silurian, Devonian, Mississippian, and Pennsylvanian eras. The sea receded a final time about 280 million years ago and erosion began again to wear away the sedimentary rocks. The Pleistocene Era or Ice Age began 10,000 years ago and resulted in glacial coverage. As the glaciers receded and melted, the mudflats of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers dried and the alluvial materials were lifted by high winds and dropped upland near rivers. The resulting loess soil is extremely fertile and found along the main waterways of Clark County. The upland soil is of vegetable mold and clay

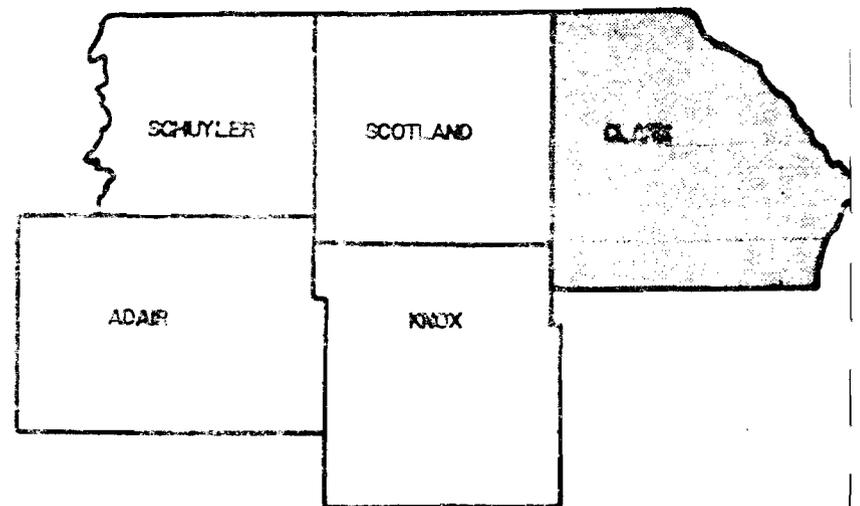
# CLARK COUNTY

## TOPOGRAPHY & TRANSPORTATION MAP



### LEGEND

-  U.S. HIGHWAYS
-  STATE HIGHWAYS
-  RAILROADS
-  PIPELINE
-  AIRPORTS

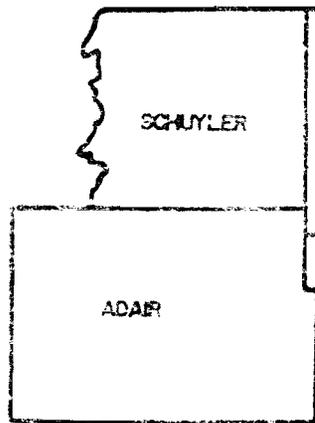
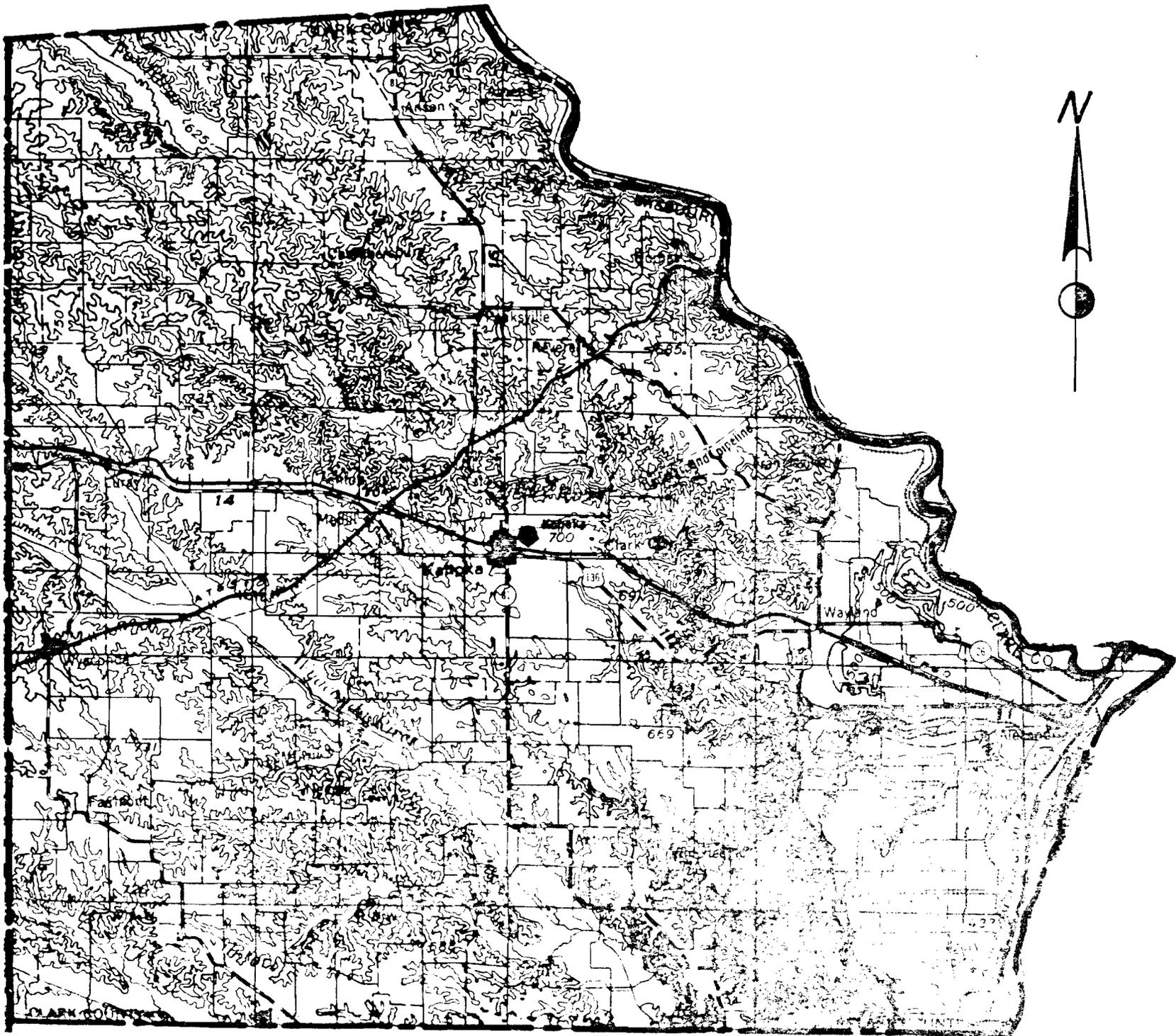


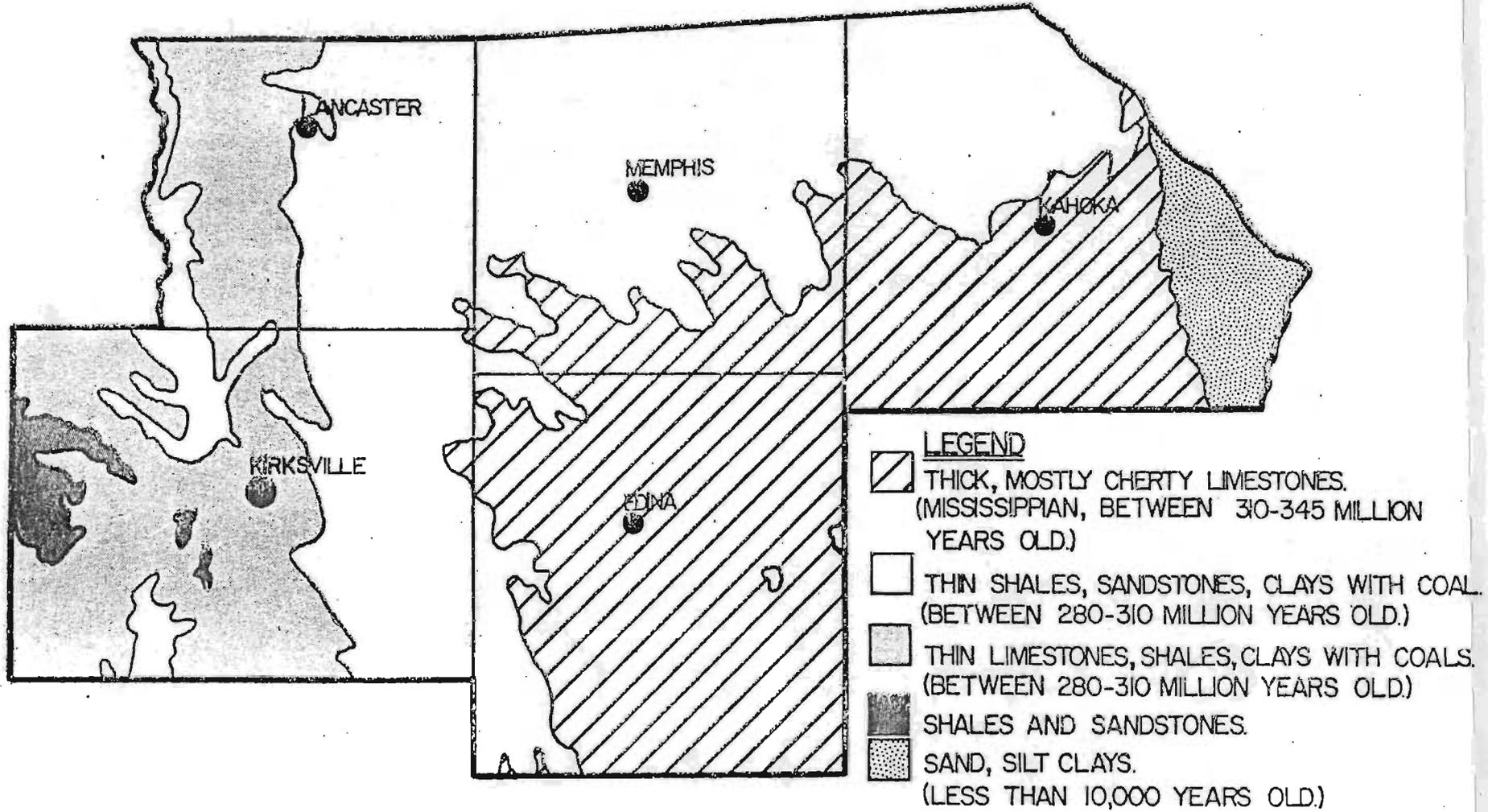
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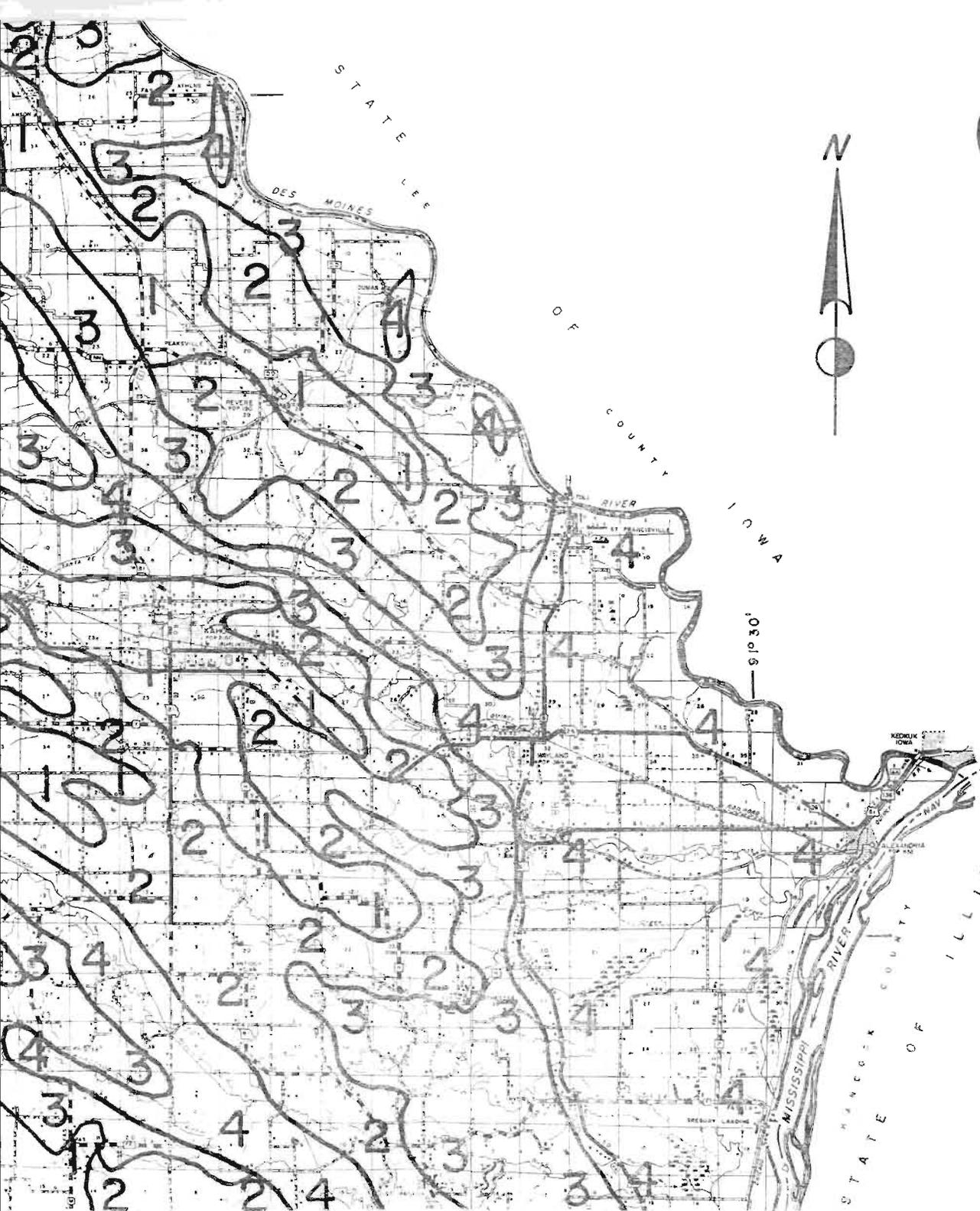
### LEGEND

-  U.S. HIGHWAY
-  STATE HIGHWAY
-  RAILROAD
-  PIPELINE
-  AIRPORT





## BEDROCK GEOLOGY

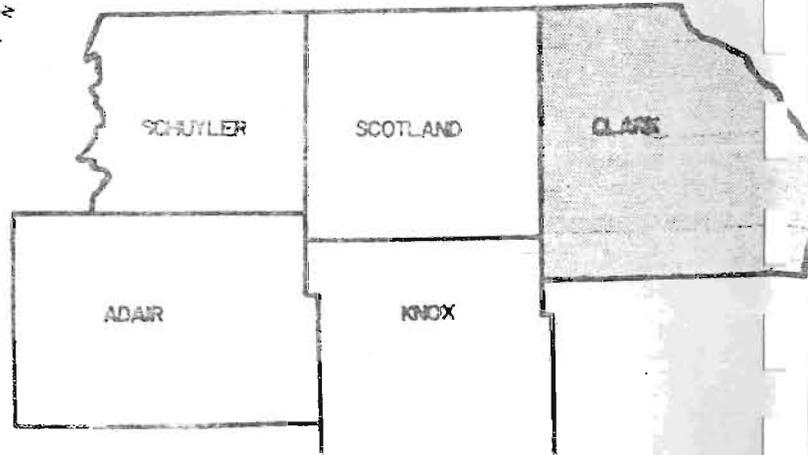
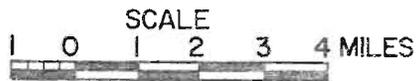


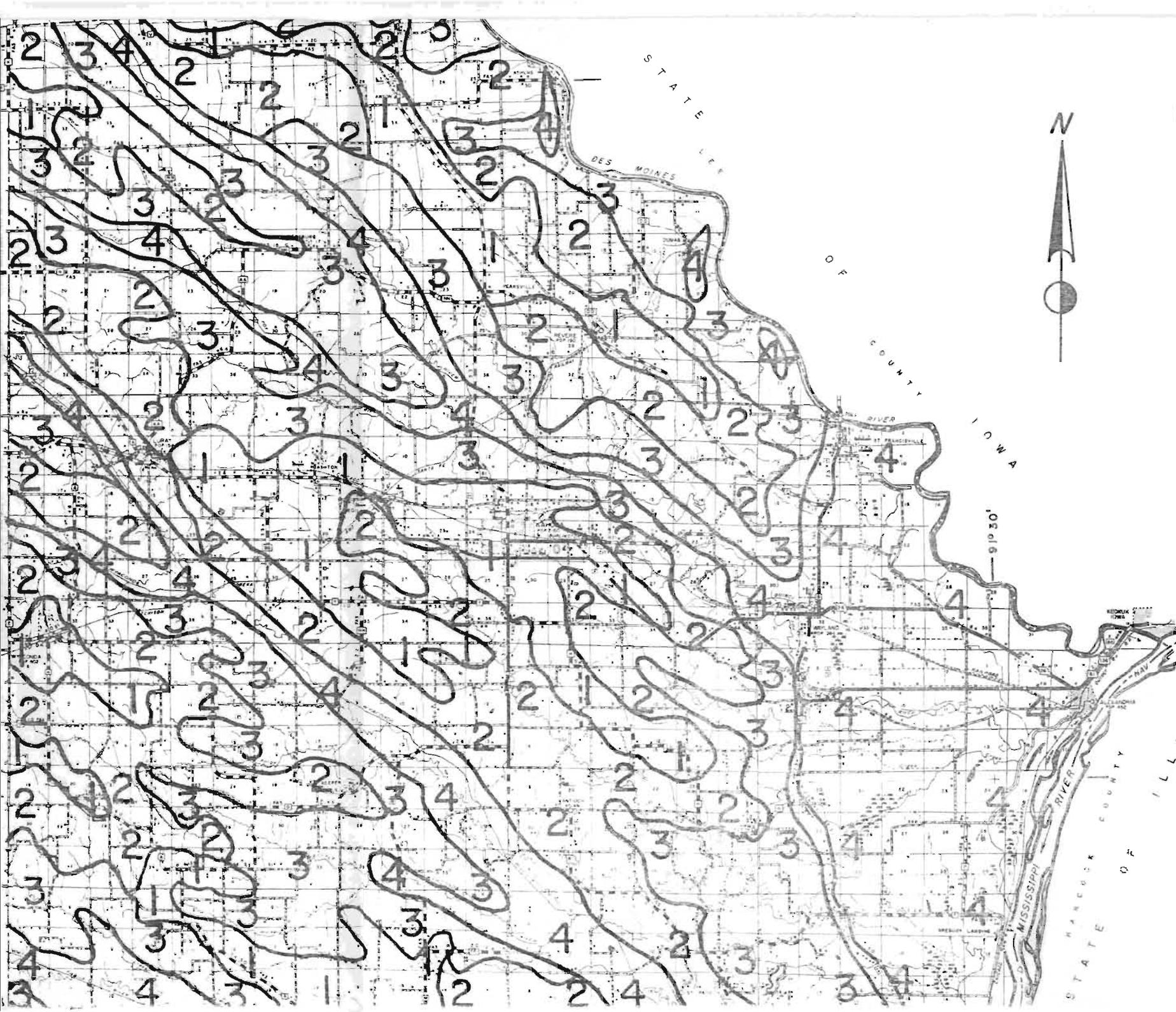
# CLARK COUNTY

## GENERAL SOILS MAP

### LEGEND

- 1 LEVEL TO GENTLY ROLLING UPLAND SOILS
- 2 ROLLING TO STEEP ROLLING GLACIAL SOILS
- 3 HILLY GLACIAL SOILS
- 4 BOTTOM LAND SOILS



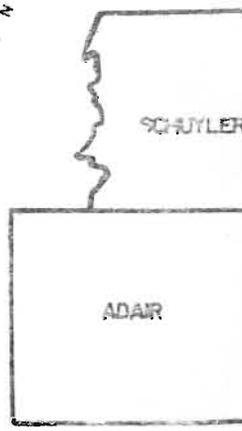


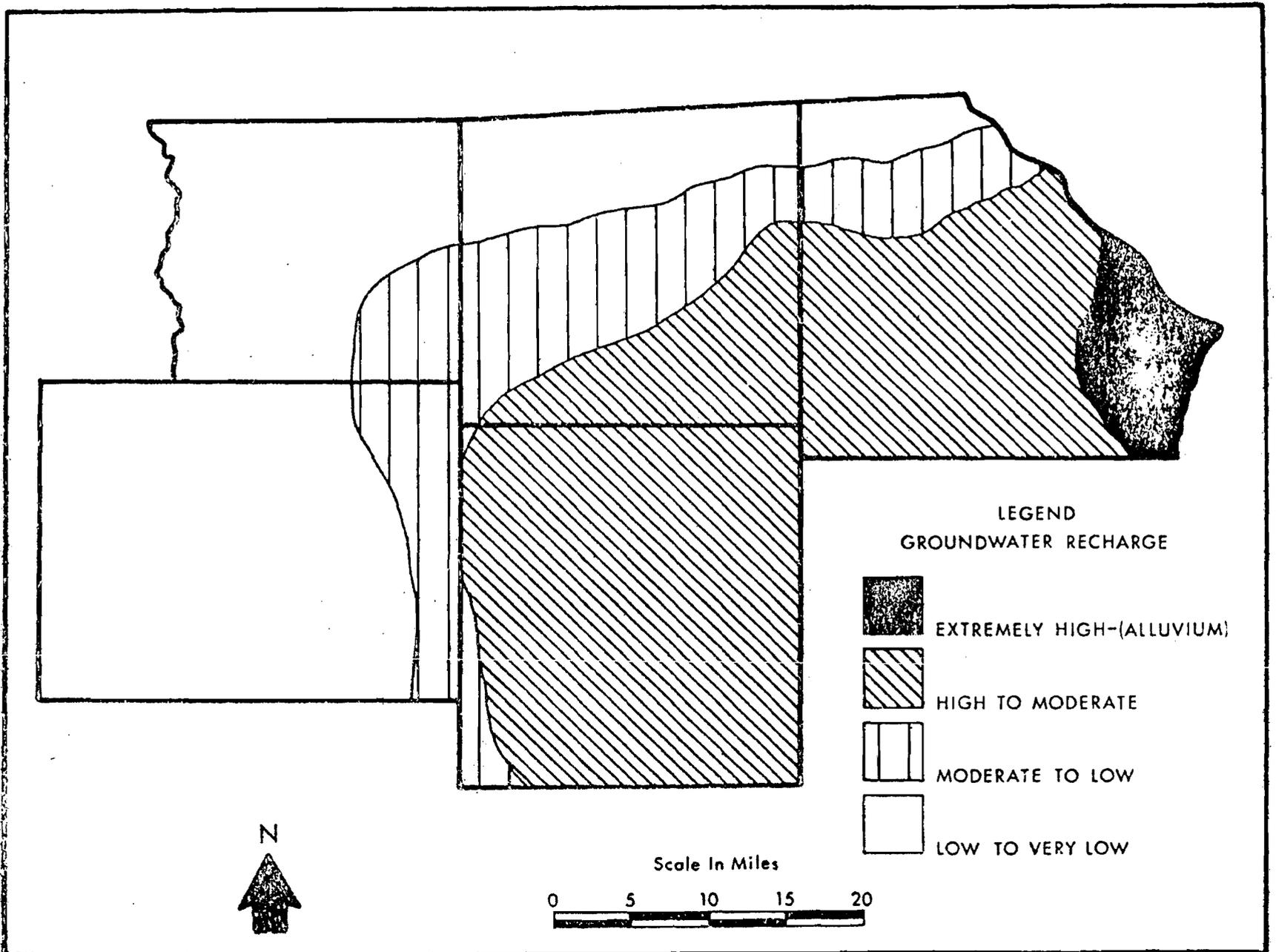
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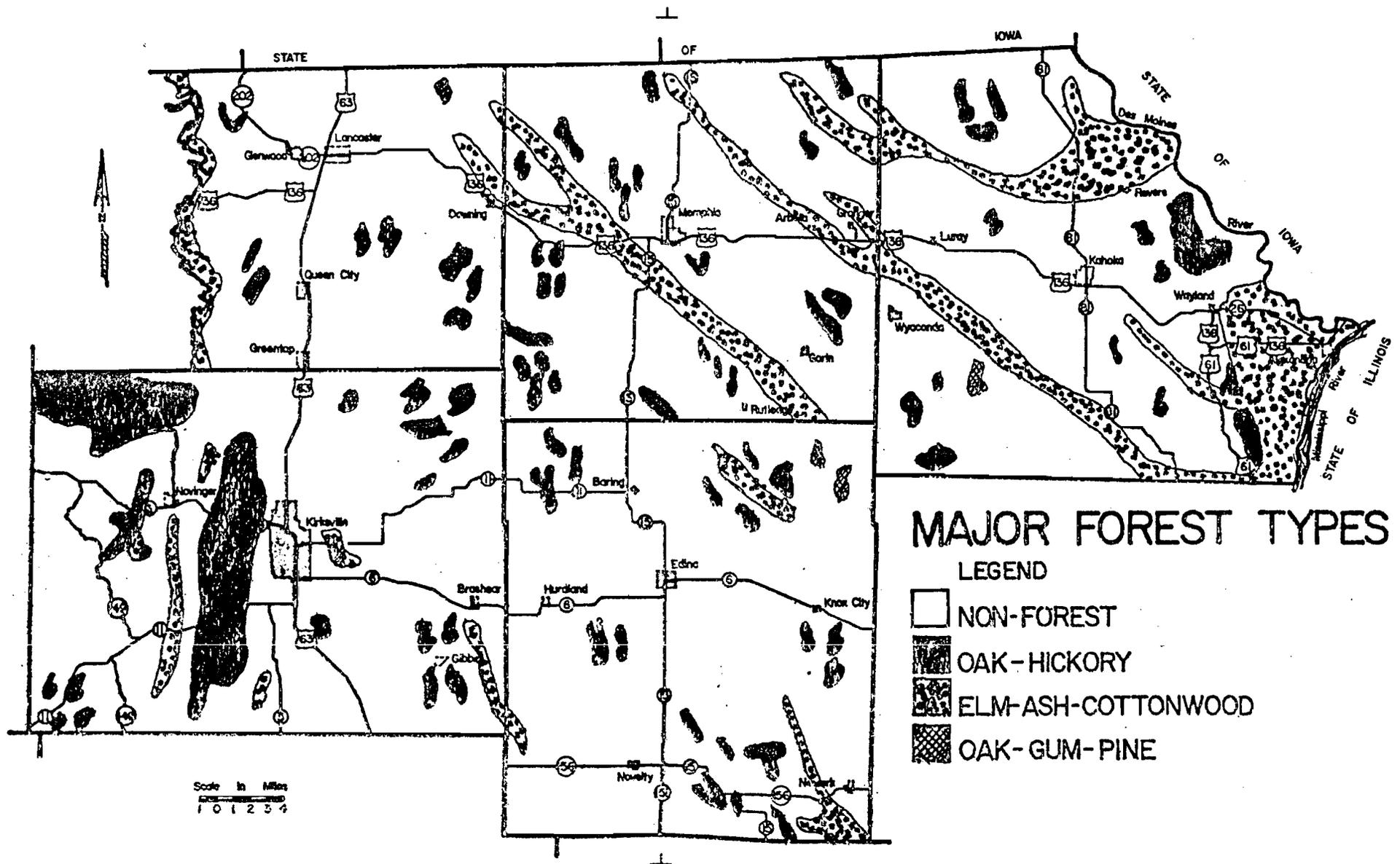
## GENE

### LEGEND

- 1 LEVEL T
- 2 ROLLING
- 3 HILLY GL
- 4 BOTTOM







Source: Missouri Department of Conservation

combined, is dark in color, and covers a stiff clay subsoil. It is not as rich as the bottom lands. The entire county has an overall slope to the southeast, all its surplus waters flow to the Mississippi.

The county has a "Continental Climate". Climate is changeable due to competing Gulf and Arctic air masses. In winter, subzero temperatures with following periods of fair weather are common. Summers are quite hot and in recent summers lengthy dry spells have occurred. Rainfall doesn't follow a particular pattern but when it comes it is frequently sudden and abundant. Much of eastern Clark County had been subjected to repeated flooding. Annual precipitation is 35.2". Temperature ranges from 5 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit with occasional extreme highs and lows. Overall the climate is very conducive to agriculture.

Much of the area had prairie grass cover prior to settlement by the Europeans. In 1887 2/3rds of the county retained this cover. One third was originally timbered. With the advent of settlers most native grass was replaced by the imported bluegrasses. Some prairie remains; Britton Prairie is one location. Forest types are deciduous hard wood and consist mainly of oak, gum, pine, elm, ash, cottonwood, and hickory. Highest elevations rarely exceed 150 feet.

### Settlement

Jacob Weaver was the first permanent settler. He, his wife, and five children came here in 1829 from Kentucky. They settled near the location of St. Francisville. Other early settlers included Sackett, Jeremiah Wayland, George Heywood (Haywood), and Samuel Bartlett. The Jeremiah Wayland log/brick home stands today and is the earliest extant residence in the county (See DM-16). The year 1831 saw Dr. John E. Trabue settle on the south side of Honey Creek (Clay Township) where he later built a mill. These settlers are all discussed in the specific inventory sheets. Colonel Thomas C. Rutherford came from Tennessee and settled two miles east of Waterloo (See M-5) in 1831.

Some other early names in the area by 1832 were Hon. George K. Biggs, William Henshaw, Uriah S. Gregory, Harvey and John Thompson, Asa Wormington, & John Montgomery. The first settlements in the county were made on the east side along the line of the road leading from Tully to St. Francisville and on up the Des Moines River to the Iowa line. Settlers were warned by the Indians, Keokuk and Mack-a-ce-ne-ne, that it was not safe for them to remain in this area and according to the 1887 History, Mack-a-ce-ne-ne then joined in the Black Hawk war against the whites even though he was friendly to the Jeremiah Waylands and others. In the Spring of 1832 Fort Pike was built at St. Francisville and many settlers sent their families to Tully in anticipation of trouble. However the Indians were defeated at the Battle of Bad Axe in August and Black Hawk was taken prisoner. The war dwindled off and settlement continued. At that time this was Lewis County. The northern part (T 67 N & T 66 N) was designated Jefferson Township and the rest (except T 63 N, which was part of Jackson) was called Des Moines Township. First elections were held in August, 1834 to elect a representative to the Legislature. In 1840 the population here was 2,846, in 1850 it was 5,527, in 1860 it had grown to 11,684, and by 1870 it had increased to 13,667. Settlers came from a large area, the states of Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, & Pennsylvania were repeatedly listed in the early censuses as the native states of Clark Countians. A very large German influence was noted with a large portion of settlers having come from "Germany" or having parents from that country. Only a few were noted as natives of England, Ireland, Wales, and France; most were born in America in the eastern states.

The settlers found the soil most suitable for the cultivation of corn and oats. Wheat was grown later. Because of the excellent grazing and readily available water, Clark County is very suitable to raising livestock. The Clark County Agricultural and Mechanical Association was formed in 1881 to promote improvements in agriculture, manufactures, and the raising of stock.

Clark County was organized in 1836 by an act of the General Assembly of the State. Washington Township was established and commissioners were appointed by the county court to select the "seat of justice". Waterloo was chosen but the county seat was later moved many times before it eventually was permanently put in Kahoka. An account of this is found on K-4. In 1838, the county court divided the area into civil townships: Des Moines, Jackson, Madison, Sweet Home, Jefferson, and Washington. These did not have the same boundaries as the thirteen present day townships: Des Moines, Jackson, Madison, Sweet Home, Jefferson, Washington, Folker, Grant, Wyaconda, Lincoln, Vernon, Union, and Clay. The development of the towns is covered in each individual township report.

The northern-most battle of the Civil War was fought in Clark County at Athens in August 1861. This event is detailed in G-1. Col. Thomas C. Rutherford was probably the largest slave holder in Clark County. Slaves were brought here from the earliest days of settlement. The first slave was brought in by Samuel Bartlett, in 1829. However, only a few wealthy citizens were ever slaveholders; the majority of the population never approved slavery. Railroads served Clark County by 1869. That year the Alexandria & Nebraska City Railroad (later the Keokuk & Western) passed through the county from Alexandria by way of Wayland, Clark City, Kahoka, Ashton, & Luray. The St. Louis, Keokuk, & Northwestern Railroad went through the eastern part of the county & had stations at Gregory(s) Landing & Alexandria. It was completed in 1872. By 1887 the Chicago, Santa Fe, & California Railroad was under construction. It would traverse the county from near Wyaconda on the west to near Dumas on the east.

Several of the more interesting events in the history of Clark County were the organization of the Anti-Horse Thief Association (in 1854 and 1863) which was determined to give horse thieves their "just deserts" and which is detailed in J-4, and the murder of the Spencer family. The William Spencer family of five was killed in their sleep at their farm six miles north of Luray in August, 1877. William Young was tried for the crime, acquitted, & then lynched and shot by an irrate mob. The family lies at Bethlehem Church Cemetery (See F-7).

## Clark County Population History and Projections

YEAR	POPULATION	CHANGE (INCREASE OR DECREASE)	PERCENTAGE INCREASE OR DECREASE			
			COUNTY	REGION	MISSOURI	UNITED STATES
1860	11,684	---	---	---	---	---
1870	13,667	+ 1,983	+17.0%	+24.9%	+45.6%	+26.6%
1880	15,031	+ 1,364	+10.0	+19.2	+26.0	+26.0
1890	15,126	+ 115	+ 0.8	+ 7.1	+23.6	+25.5
1900	15,383	+ 257	+ 1.7	+ 5.2	+16.0	+20.7
1910	12,811	- 2,572	-16.7	- 7.8	+ 6.0	+21.0
1920	11,874	- 937	- 7.3	- 8.3	+ 3.4	+14.9
1930	10,254	- 1,620	-13.6	-12.7	+ 6.6	+16.1
1940	10,166	- 88	- 0.9	- 1.2	+ 4.3	+ 7.2
1950	9,003	- 1,163	-11.4	- 9.3	+ 4.5	+14.5
1960	8,725	- 278	- 3.1	- 5.0	+ 9.2	+19.0
1970	8,260	- 465	- 5.3	- 0.7	+ 8.3	+13.3
1975	8,100	- 160	- 1.9	+ 4.1	+ 1.8	---
1980	8,423	+ 323	+ 4.0	+ 0.4	+ 9.3	---
1990	9,903	+ 1,480	+17.6	+15.6	+13.1	---
2000	11,553	+ 1,650	+16.7	+15.2	+13.1	---

Source: Northeast Missouri Regional Plan, Current Population Reports, Forecast of Socio-Economic Data, and Missouri Population Estimates.

## Economy

The economy of Clark County has always had an agricultural basis. Corn, oats, and wheat have always been the principal crops. In 1879 the corn yield was 2,168,222 bushels, oats was 484,078 bushels, & wheat was 97,253 bushels. Rye, potatoes, tobacco, hay, cucumbers, & watermelon were produced in quantity also. In 1879 there were 7,810 horses, 904 mules, 21,977 cattle, 16,346 sheep, & 39,856 hogs in the county. Corn and soybeans remain the major cash crop but livestock has become the greatest agricultural income producer. Beef and dairy cattle have increased, the size of the average farm has also increased while the total number of farms has decreased. The 1982 Census of Agriculture shows Clark County as having 728 farms of an average value of \$272,245. The value of all products sold were: \$9,877,000 in livestock and \$22,066,000 in crops. As seen from the population history table, the population was at 11,684 in 1860 and increased to a high of 15,383 in 1900. After that it has declined until the 1980's when an increase has occurred. Clark County had six manufacturing firms employing 42 people in the 1982 Census of Manufacturers. It plays a very small part in the county economy.

## Churches and Schools

The first religious organizations were from the Methodist Episcopal and Baptist Churches. The first sermon was preached by the Baptist minister Jeremiah Taylor at Dr. Trabue's house. The Methodists established the first church society in Clark County at St. Francisville. The second church society in the county was organized by the Baptists in 1834 at Jeremiah Wayland's house in St. Francisville. That group soon moved to the Fox River south of Wayland & put up a building. In 1836 it divided & a portion of the members returned to St. Francisville. A church was built there in 1853 (See DM-17). The M.E. Church flourished until 1845 when the slavery issue brought about its division. In 1887, the Kahoka Circuit of the M.E. Church included Kahoka, Clark City, St. Francisville, Ashton, and Wayland. The Methodist Church history is detailed on the many inventory sheets of the individual church buildings. Chambersburg, Athens, and other northern points belonged to the Athens Circuit. The Southern

Methodist Church was organized in Kahoka about 1870 (see K-11). Other organizations of that group existed in St. Francisville, Winchester, and near Peaksville in 1887. Total membership was very small. The first Baptist Church was organized at St. Francisville, the second at Chambersburg, the third at Bear Creek and the fourth at Liberty Church near Fairmont. Consult the separate inventory sheets for more information on these churches. The Kahoka Baptist Church was organized in 1873. Others were at Alexandria, Antioch, Fox River, Union, New Woodville, & Bethlehem by 1887. The first Presbyterian church in Clark County dated from 1854, in St. Francisville. Kahoka and Ashton were the only others of this denomination organized by 1887. Other church denominations represented were the Cumberland Presbyterian Harmony Church by 1854, the Ebenzer Cumberland Presbyterian at Peakeville, by the end of the Civil War, and the Kahoka Cumberland Presbyteriana Church by 1880. The German Evangelical Church was organized in 1865 in Kahoka. There were a great many German families in this area by that time. Other churches in existence in the county have been the Congregational Church at Kahoka, in Athens, in Anson, and at Honey Creek. A Christian church was built at Winchester and a Methodist Protestant church was erected at Luray & near Winchester.

Education in early Clark County was not a benefit available to the general public. First schools were subscription schools. When specific structures were built for schools, log construction was utilized. The county was divided into school districts and first public school funds were raised from the sale of the school sections. The interest on the money from these sales was used to support the schools and this money proved to be very insufficient. The interest on all of the land sold would only have amounted to \$1,457.77 a year at that time. It was required by the State of Missouri in 1835 that each county court establish school districts in each congressional township, hold school six months a year, & employ a teacher. By 1886 the total scholastic population for Clark County was 5,140 and the total enrolled was 4,615. About 91% of the white population attended school. Many of the individual schools are covered in the inventory sheets. Reorganization was implemented in 1866 and also about 1900.

School sites are noted on the topographical maps for the years 1878, 1896, & 1915. Often a newer school was built near an original school site. Many schools from the 1890 period onward remain. Several older schools still exist, the oldest remaining in the county is Stone School (Jk-15). A college was built at Kahoka in 1885. It was a two-story brick structure & was located at the north end of Washington Street (See K-6). It was erected by stockholders but did not remain in existence very long.

## Architectural Styles and Their Significance

### Construction Materials

The original white settlers were obliged to use the simplest materials and tools to construct all needed buildings. Early structures were of log; these included residences, barns, stores, schools, and churches. Log structures of special note which are extant today are the Jeremiah Wayland house (DM-16), the LeMaster place (SH-1)\*, the Barber property (JK-14), the Waldo Smith dogtrot barn (W-1), & the McVeigh residence (JK-6). Another early building technique that generally followed the use of log structures was the use of heavy timber framework construction and the use of hewn, mortise and tenon log sills. There are several excellent examples of this type remaining today including the Weber Property (W-3), the Old King Place (SH-3) & the Boudreau Property (JK-5). V-1 no longer exists but was an outstanding example of this type. In a very short while sophisticated detailing and craftsmanship became evident. The 1840's saw numerous outstanding buildings in Clark County with such details as molded/paneled doors, multi-light sidelights with raised molded panels, multi-light transoms, fine classically molded returns & cornices, stately Federal style mantels, and finely made interior woodwork. This type of detailing continued into the 1850's and 1860's. A good illustration of this is M-8, the Freetly Property, with Greek Revival touches.

Brick construction was concurrent with hewn timber construction but continued into later decades. Samples of early brick construction are JK-2 which is the Weigand Property, F-6 which is the Thompson residence, Wy-2 which is the Old Blattner Place, & V-4 which is known as the Old Maxwell House. Following the Civil War, sawmills proliferated and made possible the widespread use of frame construction. This is by far the most prevalent mode today and is also what was used in the majority of the structures inventoried. A large portion of the homes included in the survey used stone rubble for the foundation material. Brick was rarely found. An accurate picture of what the percentage of use of any specific material was is impossible to infer as only extant buildings can be

\*Razed

considered. For that reason a comparison was not made between the use of brick construction v.s. use of frame construction or between the use of stone foundations v.s. the use of brick or molded concrete block foundations. Clapboarding was a very frequent exterior sheathing on the frame house. Carsiding was rarely found. Stone construction was found the rarest. Examples of these which merit special notice are C-6 which is the Waples residence, C-14 which is the Barry residence, M-5 which is the Franklin Winter home, the Jenkins property (C-15), and the Florea property (JK-12). Early roofs were shingled with wood. Clapboarding continued to be used frequently from the 1870's to the 1910's. A few structures were found that were built of molded concrete block. An example in fairly good condition is SH-12, the former D.T. Wilson house. Outbuildings were built of large hewn logs or sawn timbers that were mortised, tenoned, & pegged together. Several outstanding barns are included throughout this inventory. Traditional truss work patterns were used. Board and batten siding or simply plain boards were used on the exteriors.

By the 1890's house construction was modernized with sawn, pre-fabricated balloon frame lumber (standard 2 x 4's), round-headed machine made nails rather than square nails, and molded concrete blocks. Architectural details were available in mass produced forms such as scroll brackets, decorative shingles, spindles for vergeboards, friezes, and balusters, newel posts, and assorted millwork. The availability and low cost of these ornaments led to the abundance of Queen Anne and Eastlake style houses in the county or to houses with that type of detailing.

The use of poured concrete for foundations occurred in the 1910's and became more common in the following decades. Stuccoing was popular in the 1930's - 1940's. More "modern" materials used from that time on include asbestos shingles, siding of vinyl, masonite, or composition, and metal roofing. Brick construction may either have been more prevalent in the rural areas of Clark County than in the other counties surveyed or this area may simply have lost less brick struc-

tures through demolition, etc. It seems likely, due to the early settlement and early architectural sophistication of this county, that it actually did have more early brick structures hence more remain today. The most prosperous citizens built in brick and stone, they were making a statement of position and permanence through their residence.

## Styles

Clark County has a great diversity of styles including the full range of those found in northeast Missouri. It has the greatest diversity of the northeast Missouri counties surveyed and also the most significant. The styles are explained in the key included in this report. Especially fine and numerous examples of the I-house were found. It was observed in early models with Federal and Greek Revival details and in examples from each following decade of the 19th century. A German influence was found; their settlement was significant numerically and otherwise. Their influence in architecture was shown in "fachwerk", the Missouri German Style, and corbeling of brickwork. Only a few examples of the Italianate style were found. These were built in brick and stone and were often put up in magnificent dimensions by the most wealthy citizens. Only a couple houses with carpenter gothic influences were found, these are noted in the township descriptions. Considerable numbers of the Cornbelt Cube, "Z", "A", Gable Peak, Hip, and Vernacular style buildings were found. These were the common building styles, although the vernacular is not really a style but rather architecture that is unclassifiable in any other way. The temple style was noted a few times, it occurs rarely in Northeast Missouri. The Queen Anne and Eastlake influence was very substantial and found again and again. Cottage Style homes and the bungalow style were also quite common.

No major architect is known to have worked in Clark County. Construction appears to have been by local builders, carpenters, and masons. The I-house was found very frequently compared to the other counties in this region and was the chosen building style of the prosperous early settler. The hip roofed house was

built by all segments of society but especially by the common man. The middle class farmer often seemed to prefer a gable peak style home.

Houses which fit into no category or have additions and alterations are classified as vernacular. Also listed in this category are structures which have changes reflecting several different periods of construction.

Commercial structures are most often rectangular blocks with tall front parapets, this is the preferred boom-town style of the latter 1880's and the turn of the century. Architectural detailing was confined to the front facade because of the use of common side walls.

Early churches & schools were much the same style. A one room structure with a gable roof, set with the gable end to the front, had a single leaf central entrance with 3-5 bays of windows on the side walls. A raised platform was often at the end of the room opposite the entrance. Churches sometimes added the variation of a shallow polygonal bay for the altar, and the occasional use of a double leaf entrance and often the addition of a square belltower. Early churches frequently used double entrances, one for men and one for women. By 1900 this basic simple style was often highlighted by Queen Anne & Eastlake decorative detailing. Schools were divided into more than one room & included vestibules. By 1910-1920 the bungaloid style was common in schools. Raised basements, a squarish plan, grouped windows, & exposed rafters are all characteristics of this style.

### Significance

The early settlers in Clark County came mainly from Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, & other areas of Missouri. Many immigrated from Germany. Log houses & barns used all the various notching types: square, V, & half dovetail. Many of the settlers had first lived in other areas of Missouri or the central eastern portion of the country. This could explain the abundance

of the I house.

Carpenters followed rural, individual styles & motifs. No major or outstanding local characteristic emerged; each part of the county was built by the common man. As noted before architectural styles usually did not follow pure forms. Only when pre-fabricated materials became readily available at lumber yards were homes built in "contemporary" style - the Queen Anne style. Yet even this "style" left alot up to the individual. Separate components were very flexible & could be combined in creative ways. Clark County has several Centennial farms, these are detailed in the township reports. Often families in the county were found to have great longevity & to remain on the original (or nearby) family farm for generations. Often the older home still stands & will either be inhabited & modernized or willbe abandoned & sit next to a new, modern home. Prosperity, status, & sometimes family size can be deduced from the type of style of house & even from its location. Early homes were built to be near a water supply. Areas with many large quality homes reflect a well-to-do population while small vernacular homes indicate a less materially satisfying life. The county as a whole shows great diversity and a full range of styles.

## Preservation Activity & Recommendations

The Clark County Historical Society is active in preserving records, photographs, & artifacts pertaining to the history of the county. They are actively involved in writing histories of the area schools, the towns, and other important subjects. Their monthly meetings are usually well attended and feature lively programs. The location of the meeting is rotated to different towns so as to be readily accessible to the citizens. A new museum is under construction opposite Sever Library and will give the group a place to display its collections and promote its activities. The Old Settlers Celebration is held annually with many community activities of historical basis such as tours of historic homes, & re-enactment of a hanging. The 100th Old Settlers Celebration was held in September 1983 and a special "Keepsake Edition" of the Media was published. That proved to be invaluable in the inventory research as it contained a lot of historical information and photographs. The celebration was started in honor of the Old Settlers of the County. It was first celebrated in 1860 but the activity was organized in 1880. Other historical activity occurs in Clark County. In 1984, St. Francisville held its sesquicentennial celebration and the other towns all seem to have people interested in preserving their town's history and buildings. The Historical Society participates in National Historic Preservation Week: They had a program and newspaper articles in both 1983 & 1984. Usually little effort for or awareness of preservation exists among the common man but in Clark County it seems to be more valued than elsewhere in the region. The county has a very rich heritage of architecturally significant structures due to its early beginnings. Many of these structures are abandoned yet still in sound structural condition. Insensitive efforts at modernization, such as the application of wide siding or shingles, do much to obscure valuable architectural details but many remain in prime condition. Two structures have been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places yet there are a great number which are eligible. Placing more structures on the National Register should be the next goal for Clark County in the area of historic preservation.

This survey has revealed a wealth of both historical information & architectural significance. Ideally, a program for public awareness should now begin or this will remain only a resource & research document. The Clark County Historical Society would be the likely vehicle for this.

An educational program should follow the completion of the survey. Local citizens sometimes perceive their rural areas as having no buildings of importance partially because the remaining ones are often in run-down condition. Many buildings have been razed or are slated to be razed. During the course of the survey at least three buildings were destroyed while they were in the process of being surveyed.

In conclusion it is hoped this survey will serve as a record of the historic built environment of Clark County and as a source of historical information not previously readily available. It should also serve as a planning tool, an educational resource, and a cultural asset and will hopefully lead to Clark County's further involvement in the preservation effort.