

Intended Uses



Programmatic Statement

Intended Uses

Outdoor Art Exhibition
Regional Park
Destination along White River Greenway
Urban Nature Conservation
Seasonal Events
Art Day Camps
Art Education
Nature Education: woodland and freshwater species
Festivals
Host Grounds for Penrod Days
Cultural Events Space



Program Elements



Programmatic Statement

Program Elements

Walking Trail(s)
Open Space
Multiple Art Display Spaces (outdoor rooms)
Botanical Plantings
1 Set of Restrooms
Classroom
Amphitheater
Vehicular Access
Vehicular Circulation
Parking for 50 automobiles
Bridges (physical connections with IMA grounds)
Signage
Pedestrian Access
Security Measures



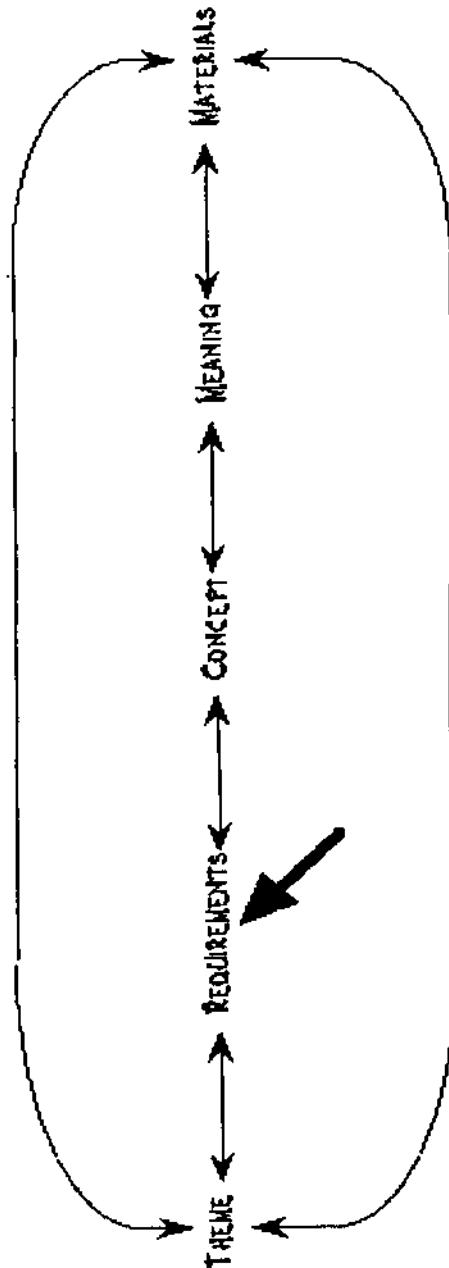
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"... an uninterrupted flow (of Space) that could not be captured
from a single vantage point."
- Marc Treib

Discussion of Process





The design process of Penrod Art and Nature Park is not a linear progression, rather, each stage relies upon and reinforces the other stages in all directions. At any point during the process, strengthening of the current stage may require the reevaluation of a stage already completed or a connection to a previous solution. For example the theme, which has been established, now guides the identification and clarification of the project requirements.

Project requirements develop from an understanding of the physical site through inventory and analysis, and the relationships between the program elements generating the framework of the project. The requirements will then, along with the theme, guide the development of concepts. During the identification and evaluation of the project requirements, the theme is also being reevaluated; in this way, all stages of the design process are integrated.

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Inventory

Inventory is the cataloging of the physical attributes of the site, contextual influences to the site, contents of the site, character of the site, and location of the site. Observational notes and photographs, taken during site visits, are used to identify the important characteristics.

This information is then compiled in graphic form for ease of explanation. The Inventory of Penrod Art and Nature Park contains site location (see figure 17), site context (see figure 18), corridors affecting the site (see figure 19), White River Greenway (see figure 20), site topography (see figure 21), and an overall site inventory map of physical features (see figure 25).



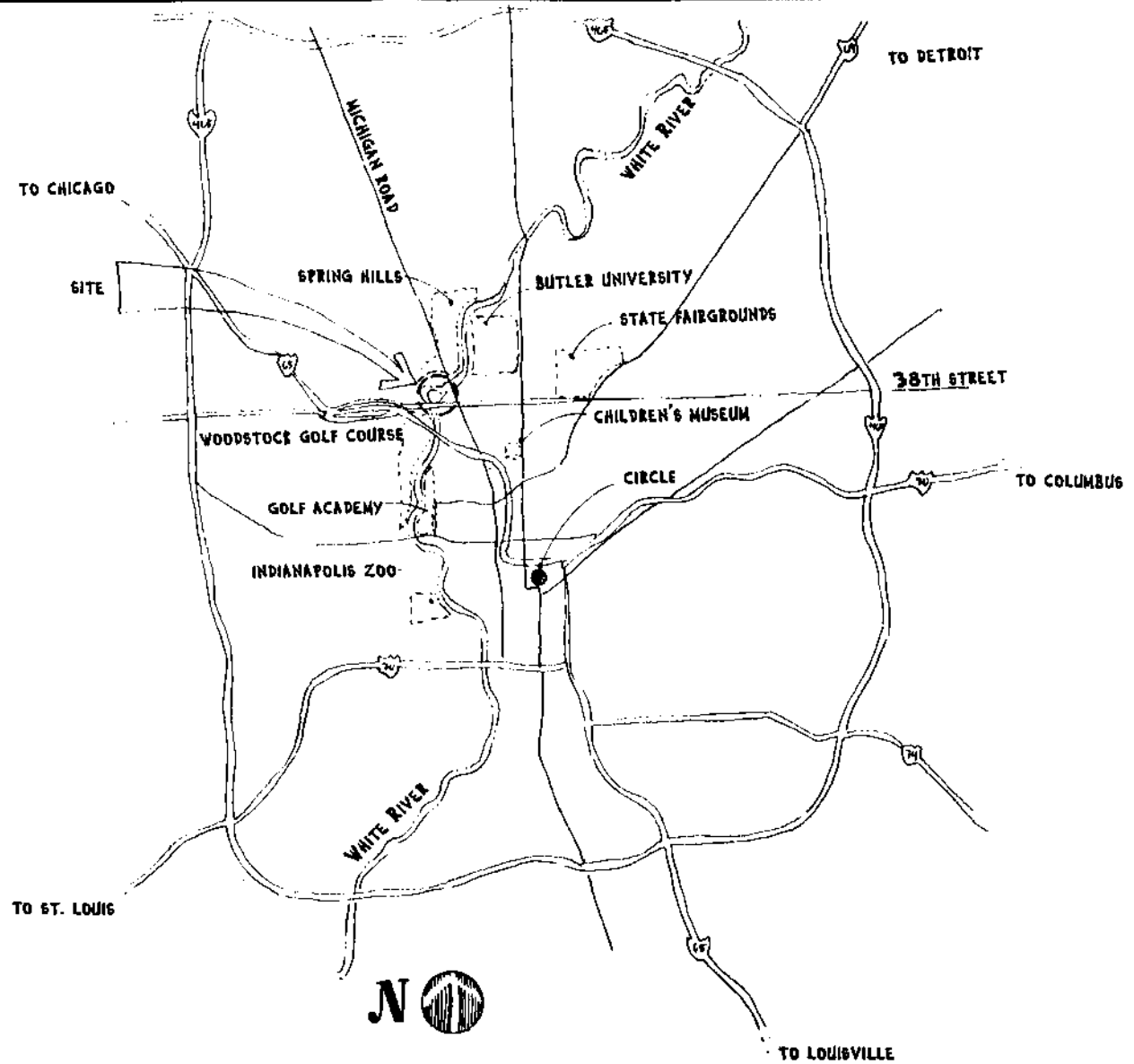


Figure 17: Site Location

Location

The Indianapolis Museum of Art property known as the 'island' is located adjacent to the formal IMA grounds at 1200 East 38th street, the intersection of 38th street and Michigan road, in Washington Township of Marion County (see figure 17). The site shares a strong connection with the Indiana State Fairgrounds, two miles east on 38th street, and the Circle in downtown Indianapolis approximately five miles southeast. Butler University and The Indianapolis Children's Museum are also in close proximity. I465, I65, SR37, and I70 each create easy access to the site linking it with Chicago, Detroit , St. Louis, and Columbus, OH. These connections offer Penrod Art and Nature Park a diverse audience.

Legal Description:

properties in the western half of the southeast quarter of section 15 township 16 range 3 in Marion County (Schleif, 1989).

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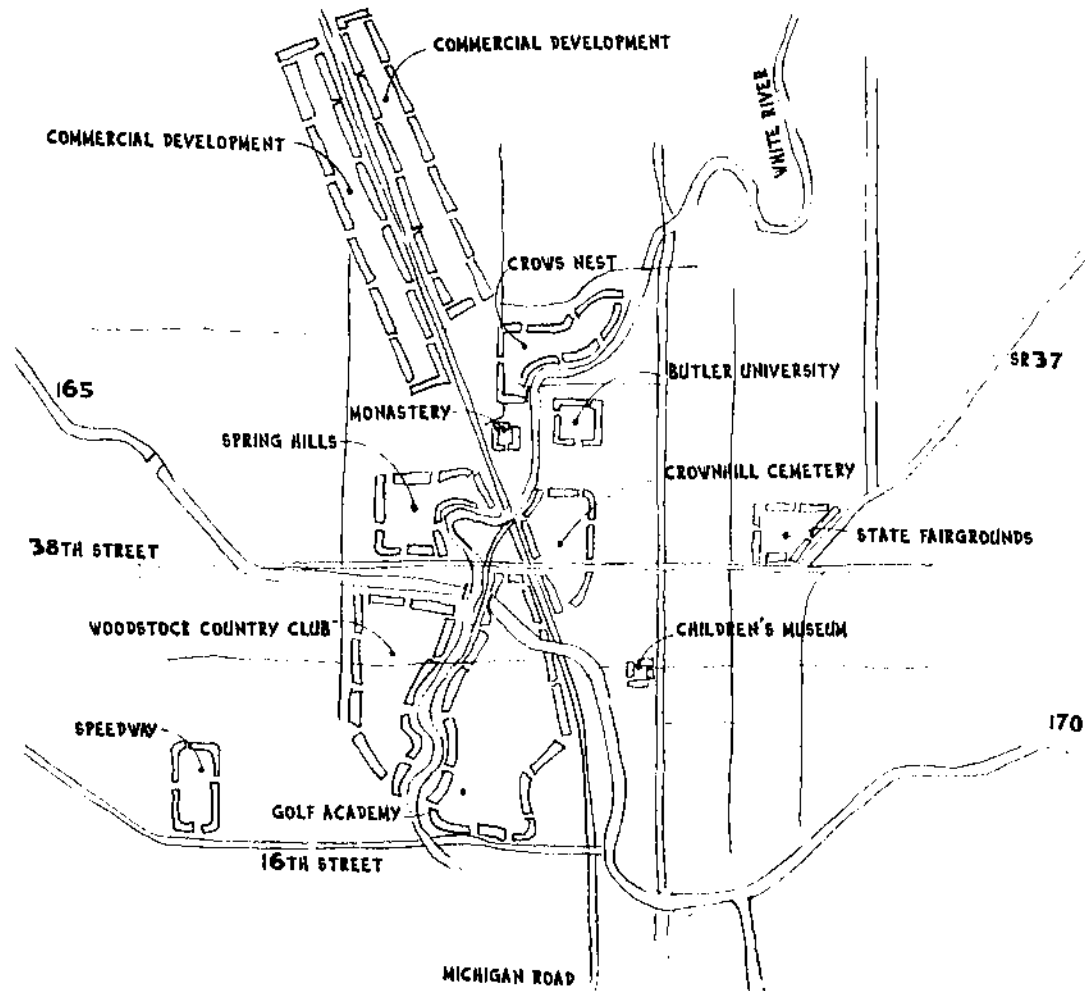


Figure 18: Site Context

Context

While urban, the context of the site is conducive to the development of a park. The site is isolated and well protected from commercial and industrial land use (see figure 18).

Surrounding the site on the north and west boundaries along the White River banks is an upper scale housing division called Spring Hills. The design is well wooded, buffered, and the houses are fancy. Due east across Michigan road is Crown Hill Cemetery, which has a park like atmosphere; and to the south across 38th street, is Woodstock Country club and the Golf Academy. The closest commercial development is 2.5 miles north along Michigan road, and within the 2.5 mile radius, is a monastery, Butler University, Crows Nest housing development, the State Fairgrounds, and the Indianapolis Children's Museum. The site has extensive possibilities for connections with other cultural destinations which surround it.



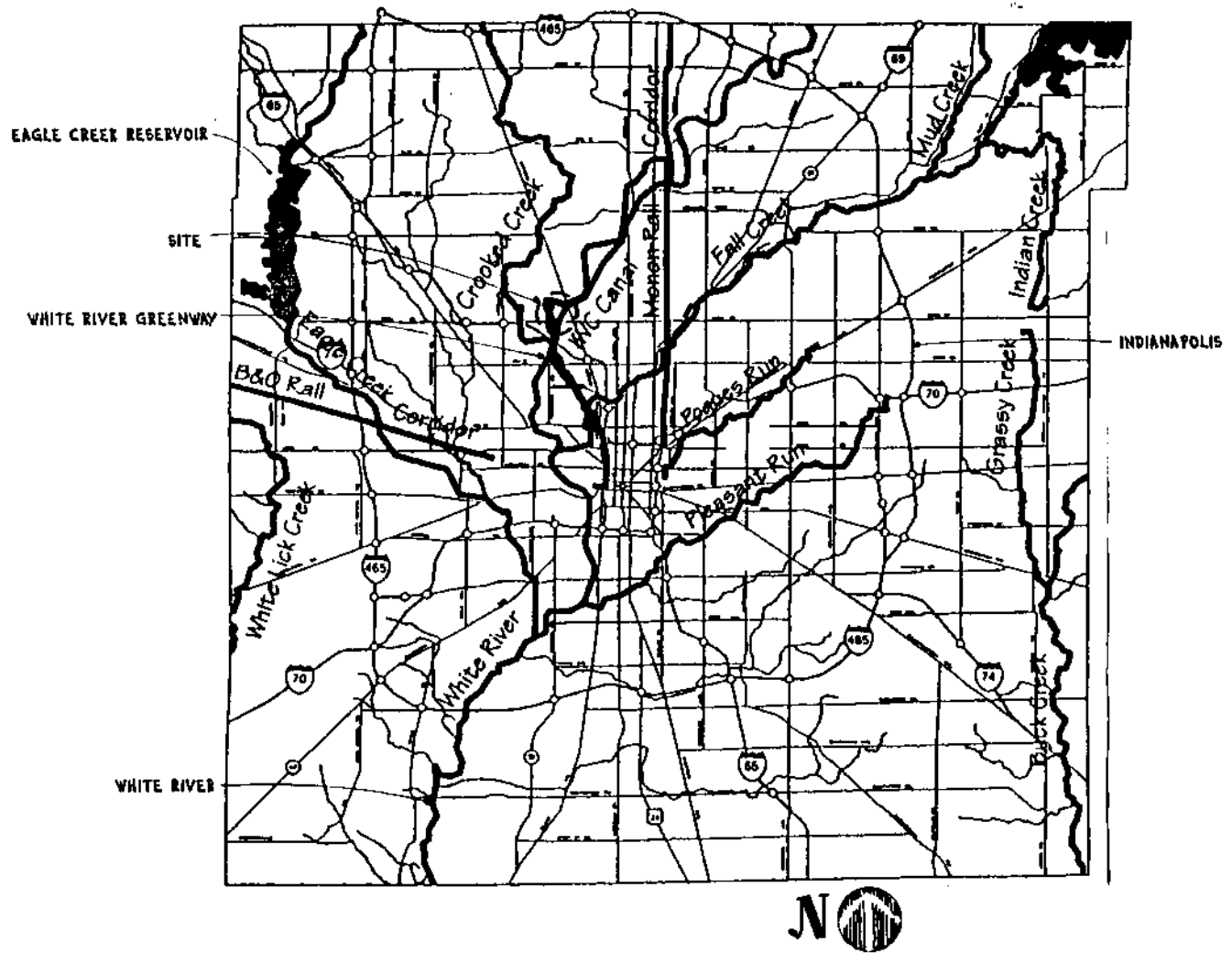


Figure 19: Marion County Greenways

Marion County Greenways

An extensive proposed corridor park network in Marion County utilizing river right of ways, stream right of ways, and abandoned rail lines links the site of Penrod Art and Nature Park with places, events, and communities throughout the region (see figure 19). The opportunities for connections with these regional destinations strengthen and expand the potential influences of the project. The possibility of drawing visitors from an expanded population increases the diversity of backgrounds of visitors and enhances involvement for interpretation.

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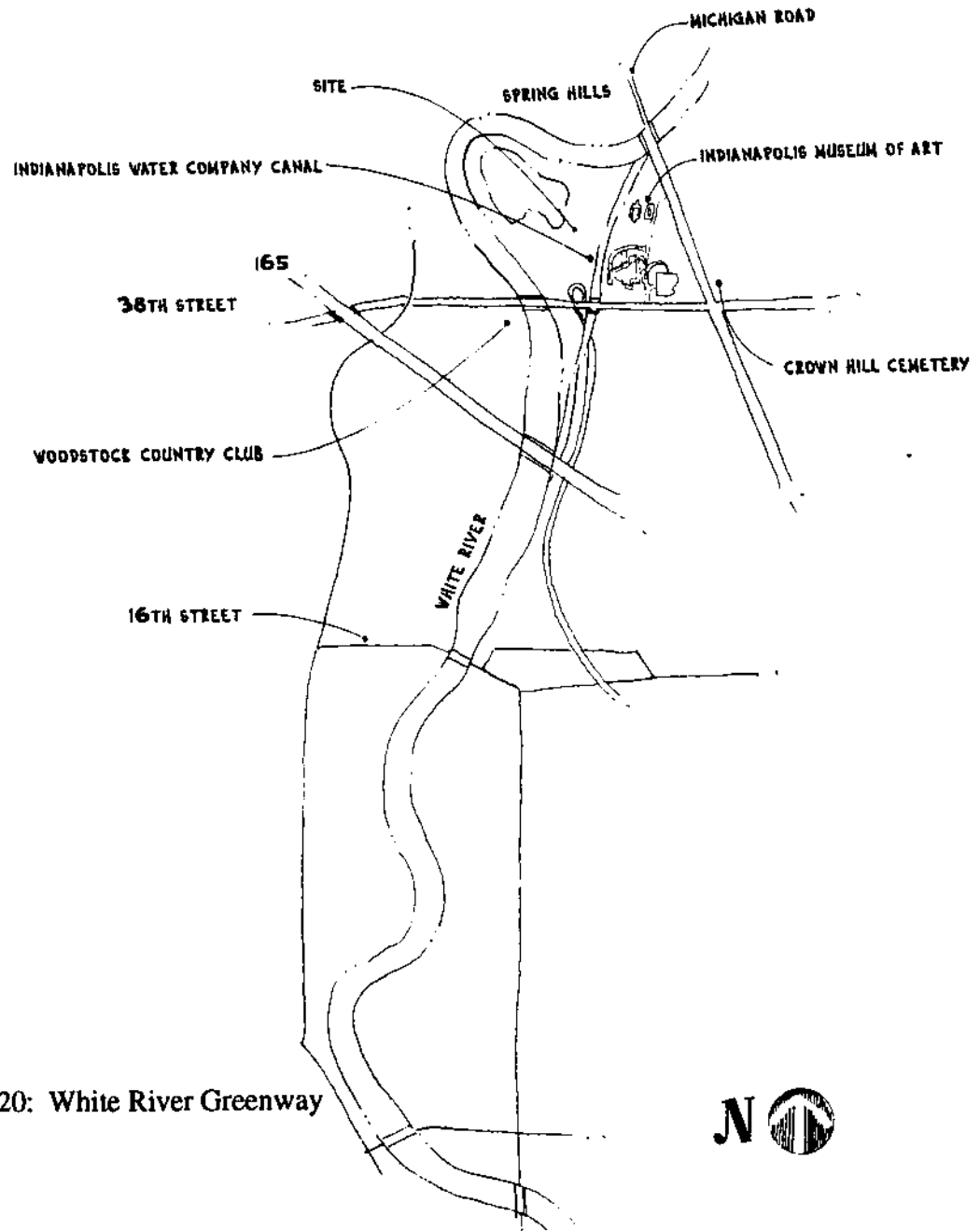


Figure 20: White River Greenway

White River Greenway

White River Greenway, a proposed corridor park which runs along the White River and IWC canal, relates directly to the site. Phase one of the greenway, developed by Paul Cripe Inc. of Indianapolis, extends from 16th street in downtown Indianapolis along the White River to the IWC canal terminating at the site (see figure 20). This generates high visibility and easy pedestrian access creating the potential to develop Penrod Art and Nature Park as a destination.

Phase two of the White River Greenway extends north from the site through Butler University formalizing a link which currently exist. Formalizing this link presents opportunities to encourage additional and more frequent visitors.

Phase three connects the zoo by heading south from 16th street passing near IUPUI. Upon completion of the White River Greenway, three important cultural events will be linked with each other and the entire region and Penrod Art and Nature Park is in the middle.



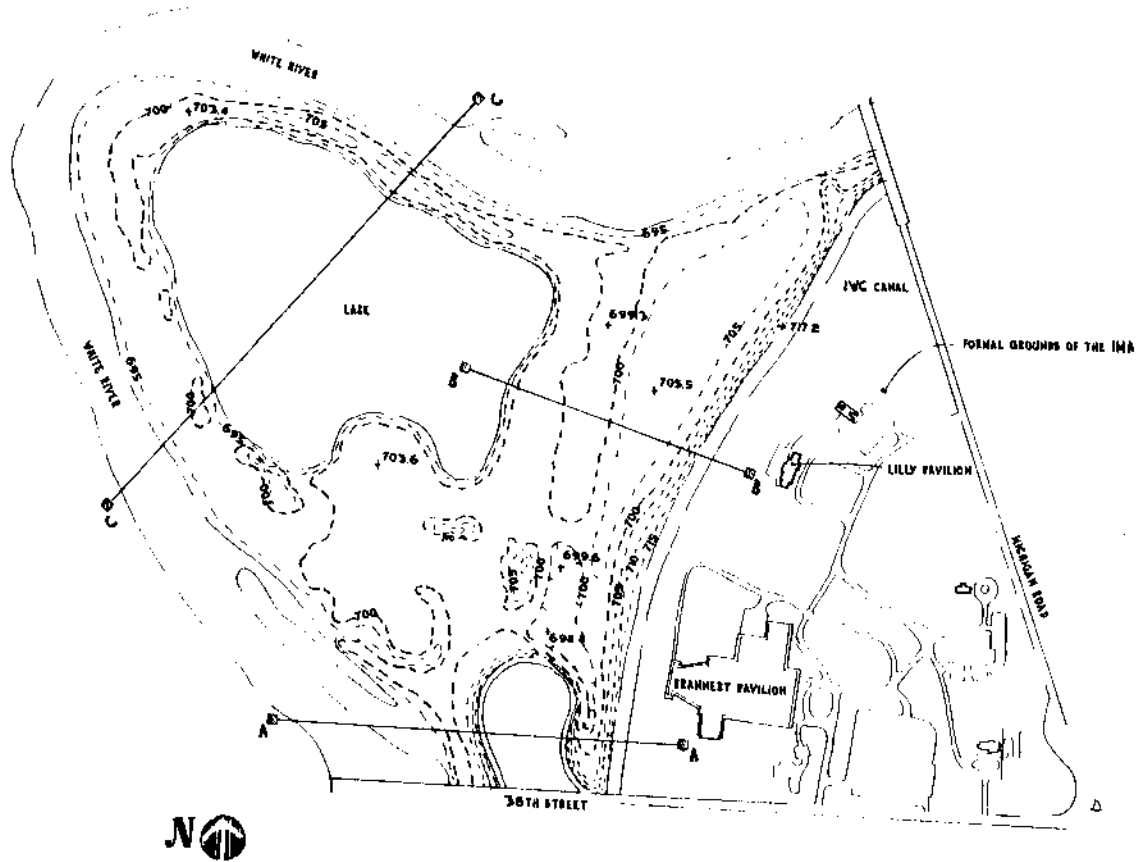


Figure 21: Site Topography

Suitability
Inventory

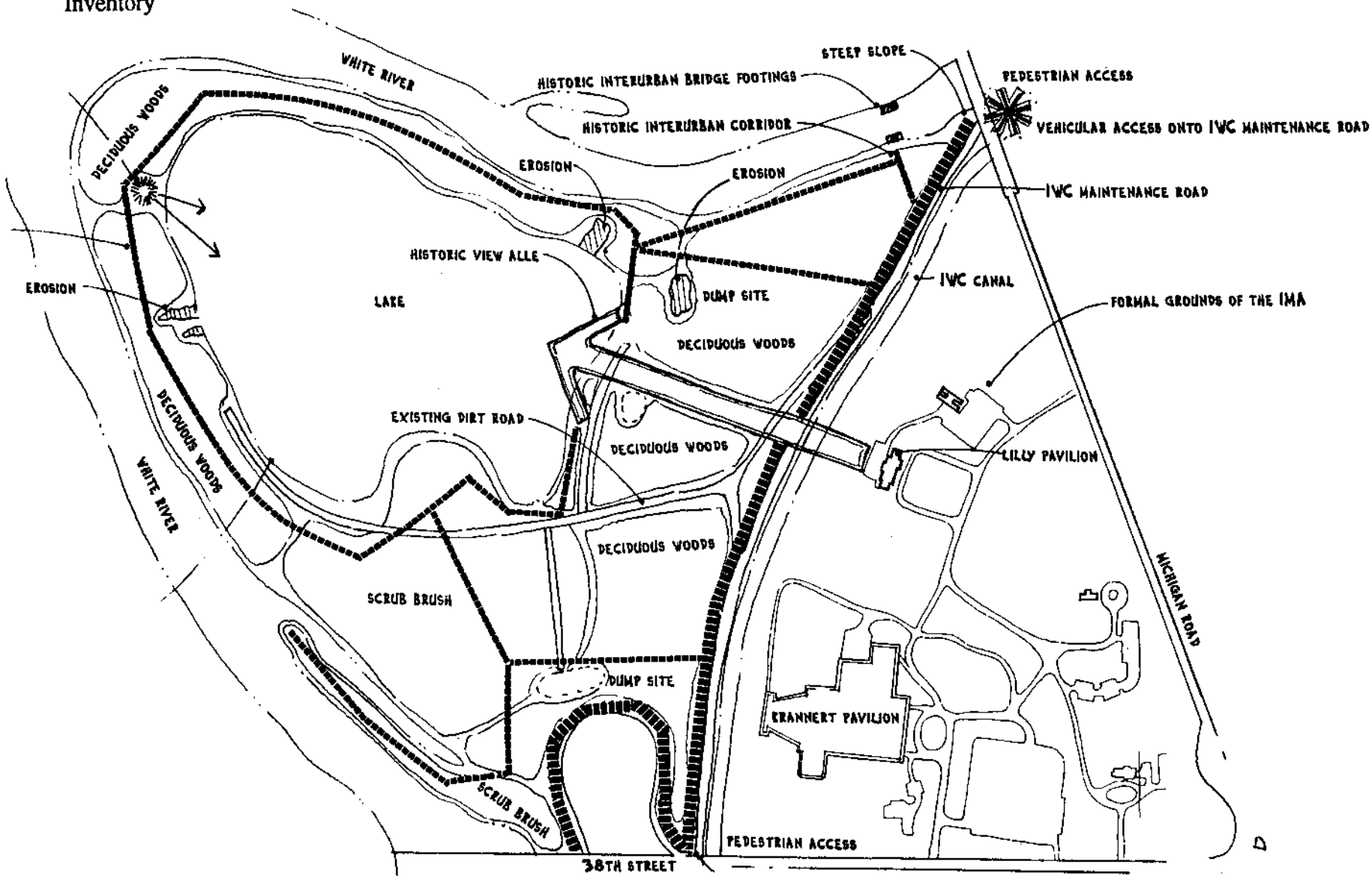


Figure 25: Site Inventory



Site Features

The site for Penrod Art and Nature park is 100 acres of 100 year White River floodplain due west of the formal **IMA** grounds donated to the museum by the general contracting firm of Huber, Hunt and Nichols in 1972. The boundaries of the site are the White River to the west and north, the **IWC** canal to the east, and a portion of 38th street marks the boundary to the south, but there is no physical isolation because 38th street is on a bridge.

Pedestrian access to the site is along the **IWC** canal road from the north and south, and vehicular access is controlled by the **IWC** with a locked gate at the northern intersection of the canal road with Michigan road. Access to the interior of the site is gained through a dirt road created by the **IMA** for use in the dumping of horticultural debris, which is the only use of the site at present other than fishing in the river by locals and mountain bike paths.

The site is over grown deciduous woods containing oaks, maples, hackberry, and sycamoe with Amur honeysuckle as undergrowth and scrub brush, except for a small area of tall grass at the southern shore of the 30 acre man - made lake.

Other site features include an historic view alle from the Lilly Pavilion of Decorative Arts, three small areas of erosion, a dirt path system created by mountain bikes, and a few marvelous views. Refer to figure 25 for the location of these features on the site as they are described in detail with figures 26 - 52.

Figure 26, looking south on the IWC canal road at the 38th street bridge. This Maintenance road is the proposed White River Greenway running from 16th street to this site which is to the right. The formal IMA grounds are to the left.



Figure 26

Figure 27, the Showalter and Krannert Pavilions of the IMA seen from the White River Greenway. This view creates a connection with the IMA.

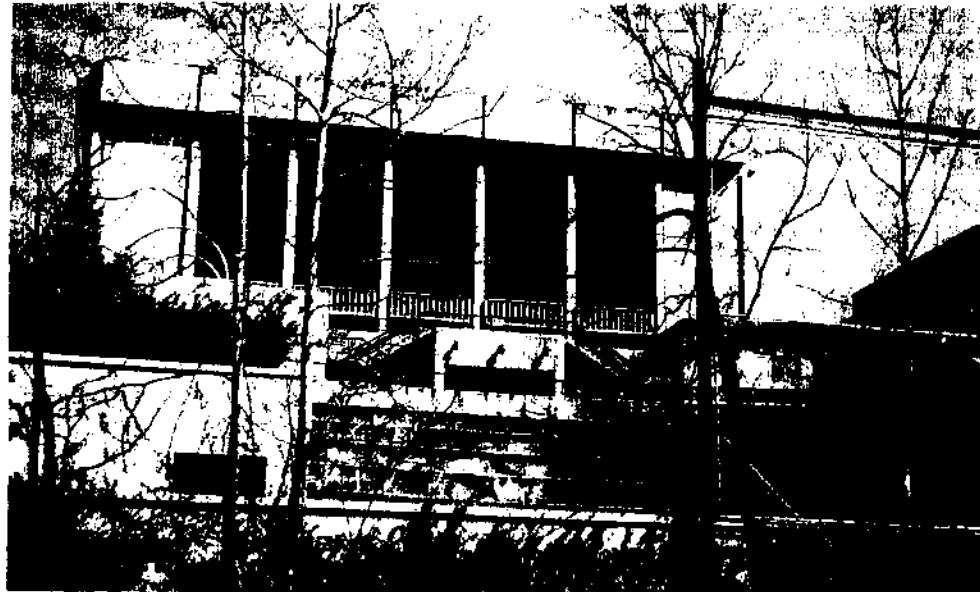


Figure 27



Figure 28

Figure 28, IWC canal road looking north. Runs along the eastern boundary of the site to the left with the formal grounds of the IMA to the right. The left bank of the road is steep down to the site requiring a physical link to allow access to the site.



Figure 29

Figure 29, the steep bank of the IWC canal road to the site. The drop ranges from 12 to 16 vertical feet. The IWC has had problems with large trees falling and doing damage to the road and canal, so the trees are being removed along the bank.

Suitability

Inventory

Figure 30, the circulation system of the formal grounds of the **IMA** has a road which runs down to the canal on the east side. The possibility presents itself here to create a bridge from the **IMA** grounds across the canal to the site of Penrod Art and Nature Park. See figure 60 for further information.



Figure 30

Figure 31, the dirt access road on the site created by the **IMA** in order to dump horticultural debris. The debris is contained in two piles on the site; the one in the background is the largest of the two, located near the 38th street loop. Horticultural debris dumping is the only present use of the site by the **IMA**.



Figure 31

Suitability

Inventory

Figure 34, the small area of tall grass at the southern shore of the lake is framed by scrub brush which runs to the southern boundary.



Figure 34

Figure 35, the scrub brush and undergrowth of the site consists almost entirely of Amur Honeysuckle which will invade and take over a site. Portions of the site are choked with the honeysuckle and may need the underbrush cleared to refine the image of the park, and those areas which do not have the honeysuckle cleared will need to be controlled.



Figure 35



Figure 32

Figure 32, the second debris pile located near the historic view alle from the Lilly Pavilion of Decorative Arts. The pile also contains some concrete and brick.



Figure 33

Figure 33, the deciduous woods of the site are dense and contain a great deal of underbrush, and the trees are healthy and vary in size from sapplings to a few sycamores with trunks with 5' diameters. The woods generate a pleasant and naturalistic atmosphere. When on the site, it is not possible to tell the context is urban.



Figure 36

Figure 36, the floor of the woods, where not choked with honeysuckle, are covered with various blooming groundcovers including clover and vinca. This adds color to the site and enhances the atmosphere.



Figure 37

Figure 37, another natural feature of the site are rocks of varying sizes. These rocks could be used in numerous ways in the design.

Figure 38, the peninsula which extends into the river in the southeast corner of the site is a very dynamic area of the site. Water levels of the river strongly affect it and views from it change with the river. This area offers unusual potential



Figure 38

Figure 39, the area separating the peninsula and the main body of the site is usually flooded; a pool can be seen from the receding water. This area adds to the dynamic of the peninsula.



Figure 39



Figure 40

Figure 40, the erosion of the south western lake bank is an outstanding opportunity for a natural point of interest on the site and education. The erosion also offers some unique views and enhances the atmosphere.



Figure 41

Figure 41, the historic interurban right of way in the northern corner of the site is also a potential point of interest on the site. The right of way has remained well defined and the banks are stable.

Suitability

Inventory

Figure 42, the historic interurban bridge footings at the end of the right of way are definitely a point of interest on the site. They make a strong connection to history and afford spectacular views of the river which is approximately 20 feet below.

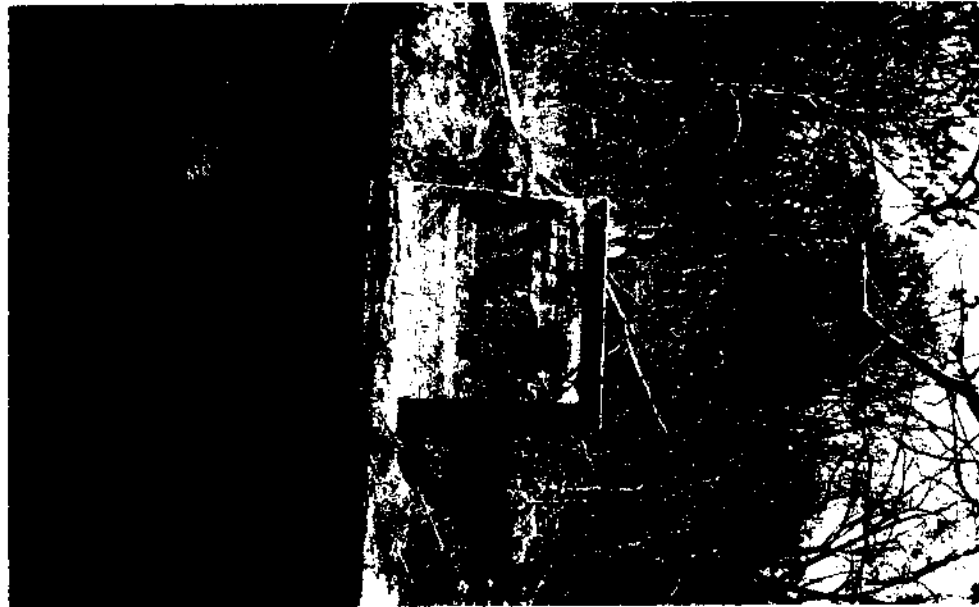


Figure 42

Figure 43, the existing path system through the site created by mountain bikers is well defined and covers the site well. The mountain bikers will have to be discouraged by the design.



Figure 43



Figure 44

Figure 44, views across the lake define the character of the site. This view west across the lake is an example of an open view to the far shore. The lake creates a picturesque atmosphere.



Figure 45

Figure 45, an example of a framed view across the lake to be found on the site. This view is north to the far shore.

Figure 46, an example of the typical partially blocked view across the lake, looking south. The different views of the lake created by the site offer a dynamic view character and generate a sense of mystery which could be used in the design.



Figure 46

Figure 47, a view across the river into Spring Hills. The steep bank on the far side illustrates how isolated the site is from its context. The views out are the only link.



Figure 47



Figure 48

Figure 48, the views across the river are as varied and dynamic as the views across the lake. The river adds an additional dynamic to these exciting views. This figure also illustrates how the views will change with the seasons, for example, this view will be completely blocked when the vegetation leafs out.



Figure 49

Figure 49, views create connections with the formal grounds of the IMA with different perspectives of the pavilions like the Krannert.

Figure 50, one of the most important views of the site from the west shore of the lake looking east across the lake, site, and into the formal grounds of the IMA at the Krannert Pavilion creating a connection between all three.

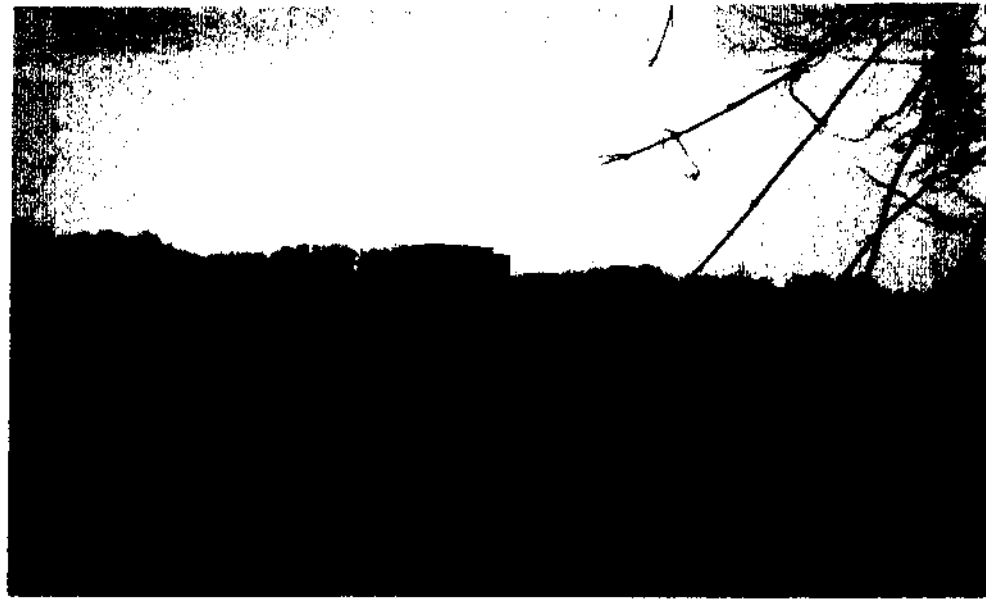


Figure 50

Figure 51, another one of the important views of the site from the west bank of the lake across the lake, through the historic view alle, to the Lilly pavilion of Decorative Arts creating a connection and utilizing the historic view alle in both directions.

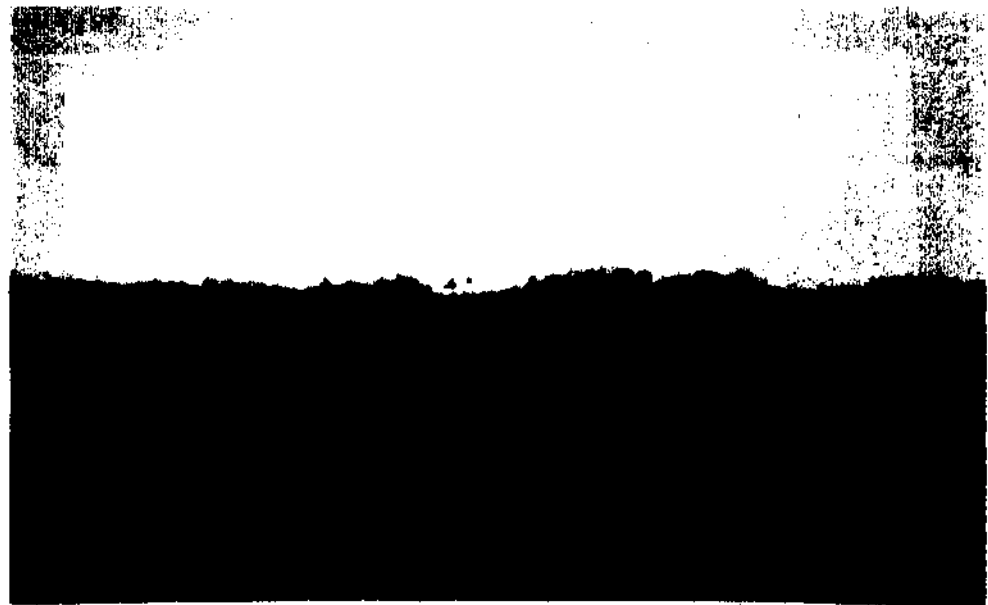


Figure 51

Figure 52, the most unusual view of the site. This view from the Krannert Pavilion generates the unique potential for this design to be viewed as a plan.

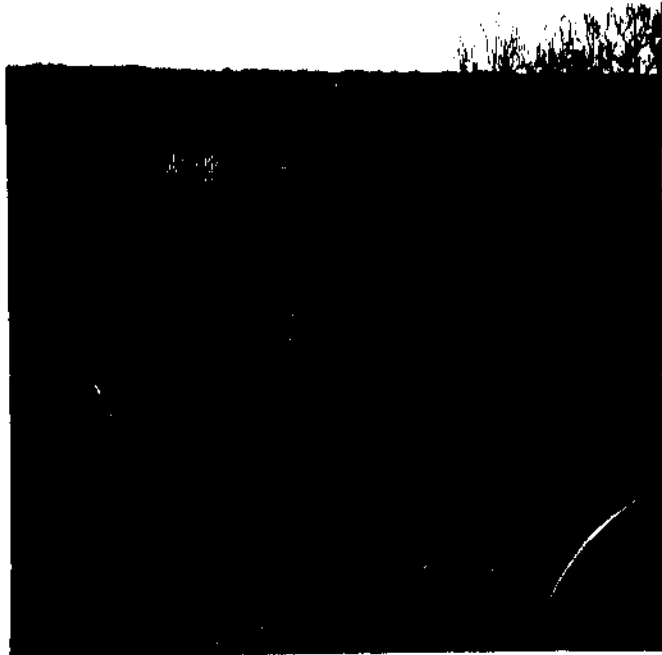


Figure 52

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Analysis



Analysis is the evaluation of the inventory data to define the suitability of the site in relation to the program elements and goals of Penrod Art and Nature Park. This evaluation identifies the physical opportunities and constraints of the site and their influence upon the design.

The analysis of the site requires evaluation of water (see figure 53), vegetation (see figure 54), soils (see figure 55), slopes (see figure 56), flooding (see figure 57), views and focal points (see figure 58), pedestrian circulation and visitor's center (see figure 59), and vehicular circulation (see figure 60). Each category is separated to a different map for ease of communication.



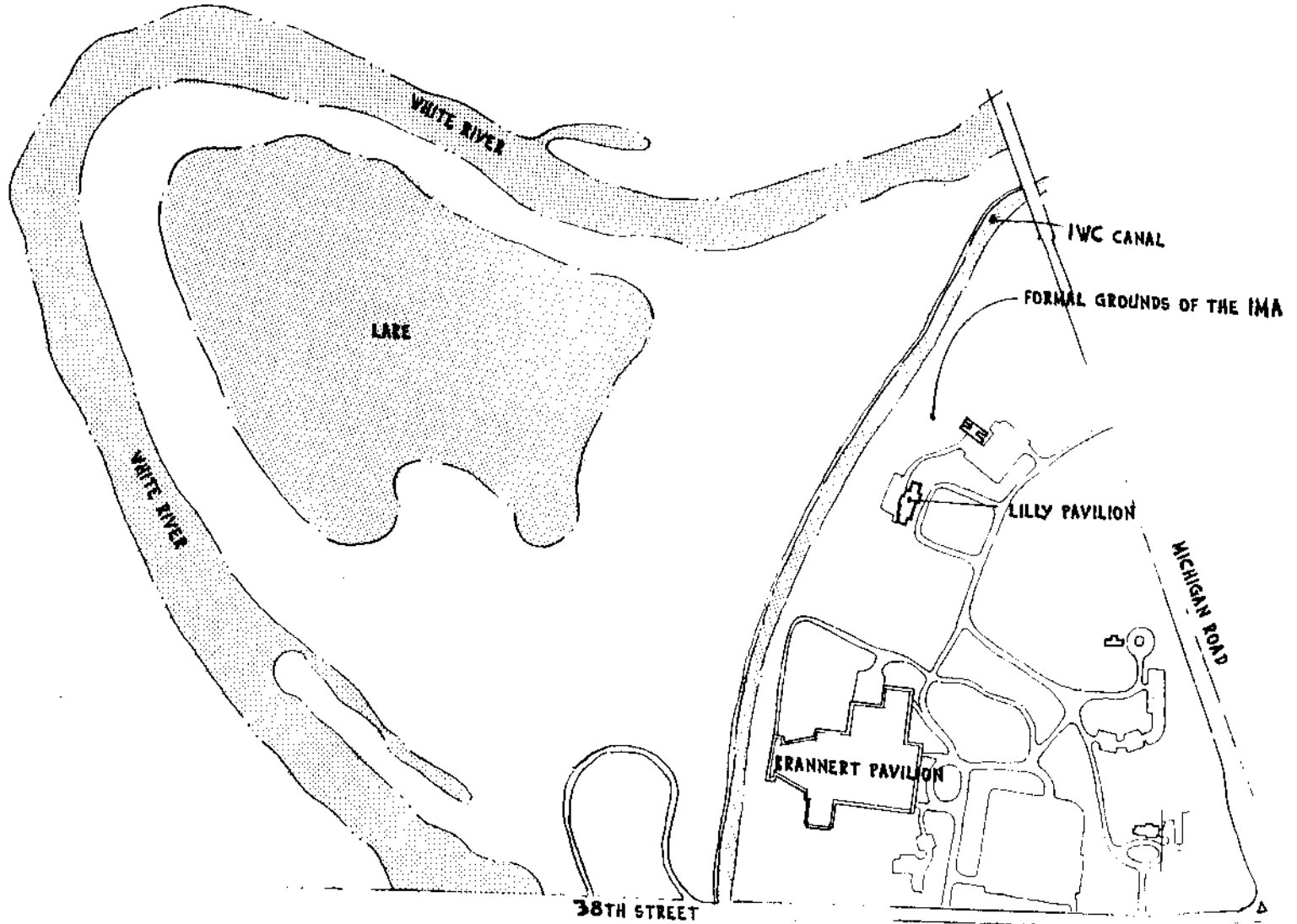


Figure 53: Water



Water

Water dominates and isolates the site (see figure 53). A thirty acre man - made lake is the center piece with the White River serving as the western and northern boundaries, and the IWC canal serving as the eastern boundary.

Lake:

- 30 acres
- Created by extraction of gravel for extension of 38th street
- Water elevation 693 feet above sea level

Indianapolis Water Co. canal:

- Constructed 1837
- Part of the Indiana Internal Movement Program
- East boundary of site
- Maintenance road along west side

White River:

- Surrounds and isolates site
- Flows swiftly
- Below site

Connections should be made within the design between the land and water. The integration of water into the design will facilitate the site remaining a naturalistic preserve, and augment the atmosphere.

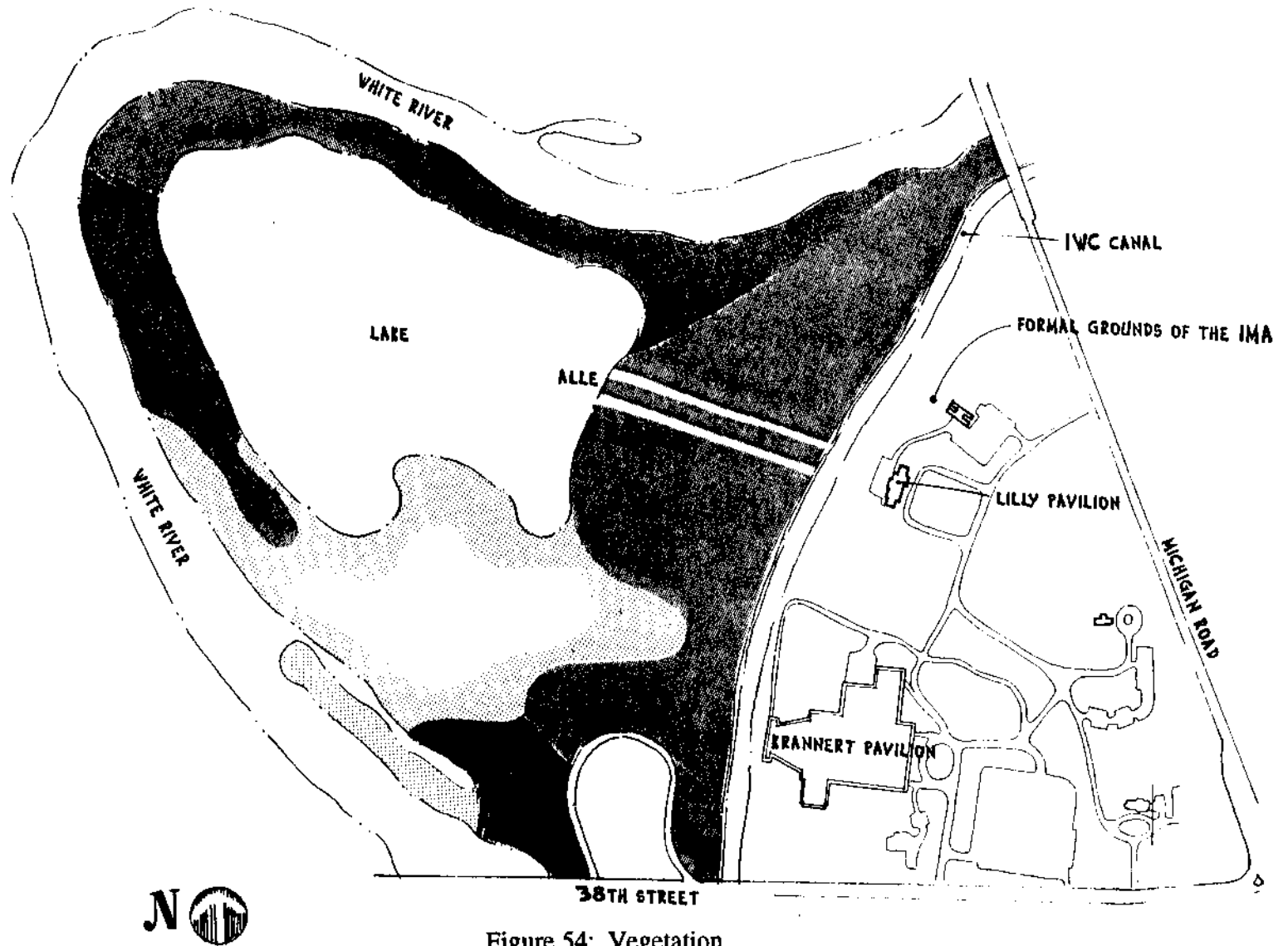


Figure 54: Vegetation

Vegetation

The vegetation of the site consists of tall grasses, scrub brush and deciduous woods (see figure 54). The woods cover approximately 90% of the site and contain oak, maple, hackberry, and sycamore. The trees are in good condition and should be preserved to fulfil the project goal, "Preserve the naturalistic, park like atmosphere of the site".

The scrub brush and undergrowth of the site is mostly Amur honeysuckle. Portions of the site should have the honeysuckle removed to refine the image. Through the control or augmentation of the vegetation, views can be blocked, framed, or enhanced; the character of the design developed; and outdoor rooms created.



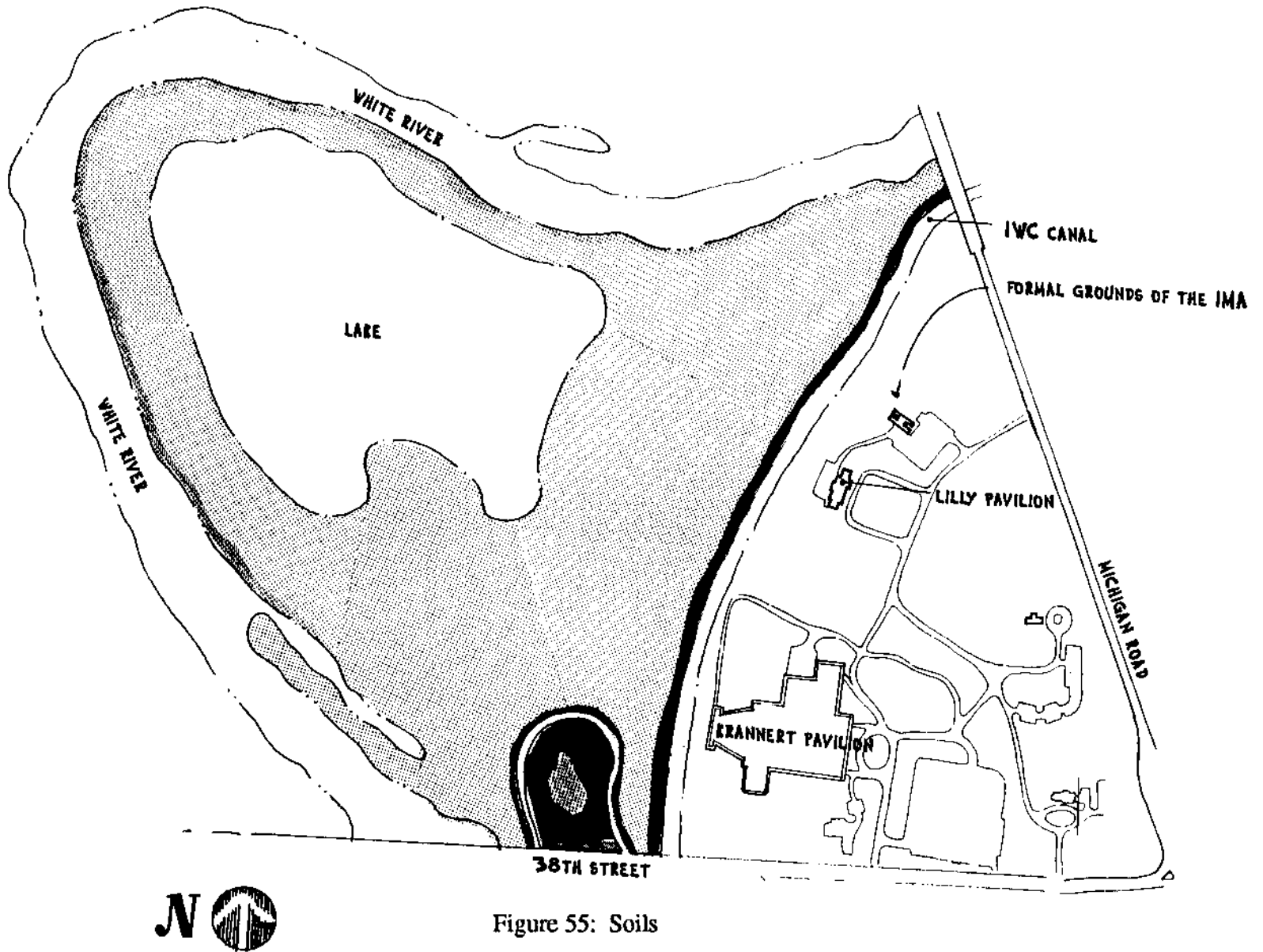


Figure 55: Soils

Soils

Three soils are found on site: Genese, Miami, and Hennepin. Genese forms the majority of the site, having been deposited by the river. Miami soil, also deposited by the river, is found along the banks of the river and shores of the lake remaining because of its stability at slope. Hennepin is found in the man-made banks of the IWC canal and 38th street loop. It was used due to its stability at extreme grades. (see figure 55).

Genese:

- 90% of the site
- Loam soil
- Member of the Genese Sloan Association
- Comprises 12% of Marion County
- Alluvial soil deposited by river
- Prone to flooding
- Suitable for concrete construction
- Well drained
- Stable at 2% slope or less
- Supports grasses and hardwoods

Miami:

- 8% of site
- Alluvial soil deposited by river
- Loam soil
- Found along river and lake banks
- Remained because of its stability at slopes of 12% or less

Hennepin:

- 2% of site
- Stable at extreme grades
- Found in the banks of the IWC canal and 38th street loop

There are no soil limitations other than flooding to the development of Penrod Art and Nature Park. The limitation of flooding requires slight construction variations for structures and path systems.



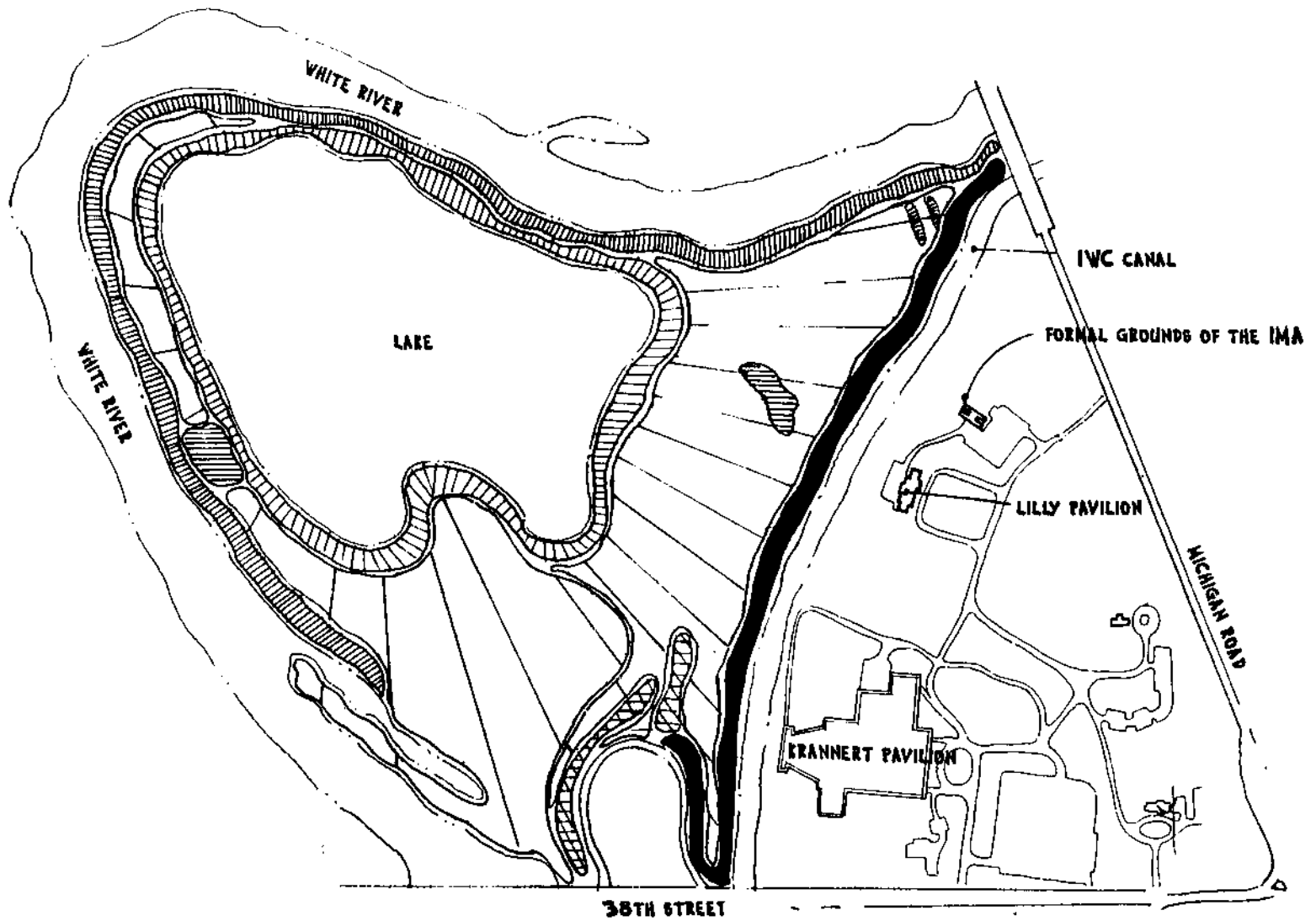


Figure 56: Slope

