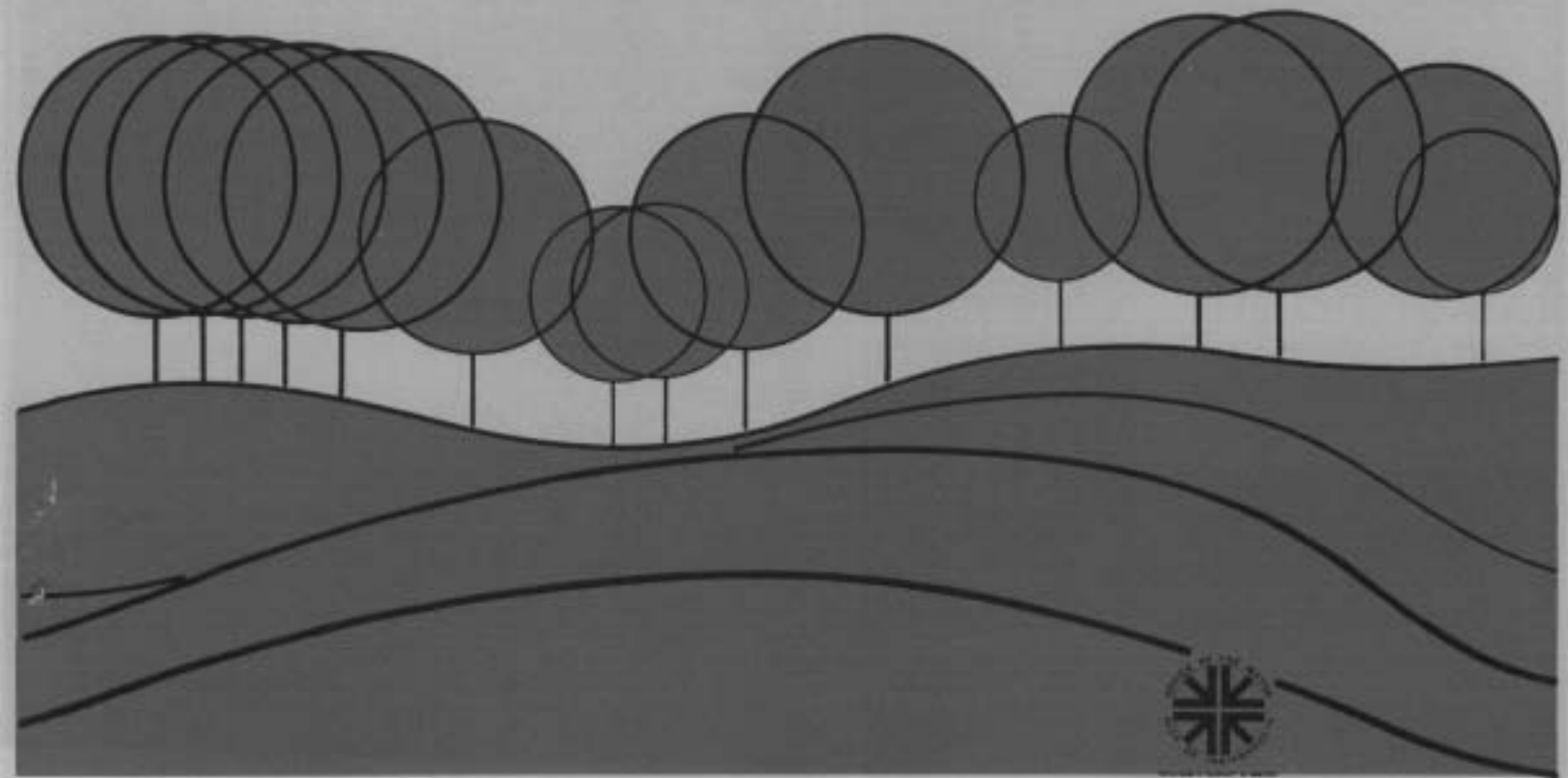


PAUL RUSTER MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN

1983



Paul Ruster Memorial Park

A MASTER PLAN
Indianapolis-Marion County, Indiana

April 1983

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of park master planning is to insure the coordinated development of a park site based on the physical resources of the park and identified needs of the community and surrounding neighborhoods. A park master plan is to be used as a general guide for the development of a park. The master plan proposes uses, identifies development concerns and neighborhood leisure needs, and contains sufficient narrative to explain the proposal.

Master plans will vary as to level of detail, but they will all be sufficient to guide development. The exact tasks which will be needed to develop a park master plan may vary, but they will follow the same basic design process as follows:

1. Resource Identification
2. Analysis of Data
3. Synthesis of Data
4. Plan Development
5. Implementation

MASTER PLAN FOR PAUL RUSTER MEMORIAL PARK

ADDRESS

11300 E. Prospect Street
Warren Township

CLASSIFICATION

Neighborhood Park

SIZE

79.2 Acres

PURPOSE

To provide limited types of recreation for the entire family. It is to serve the local neighborhood within walking or biking distance. It will contain recreational facilities for all age groups and may also provide unique facilities to accommodate special groups.

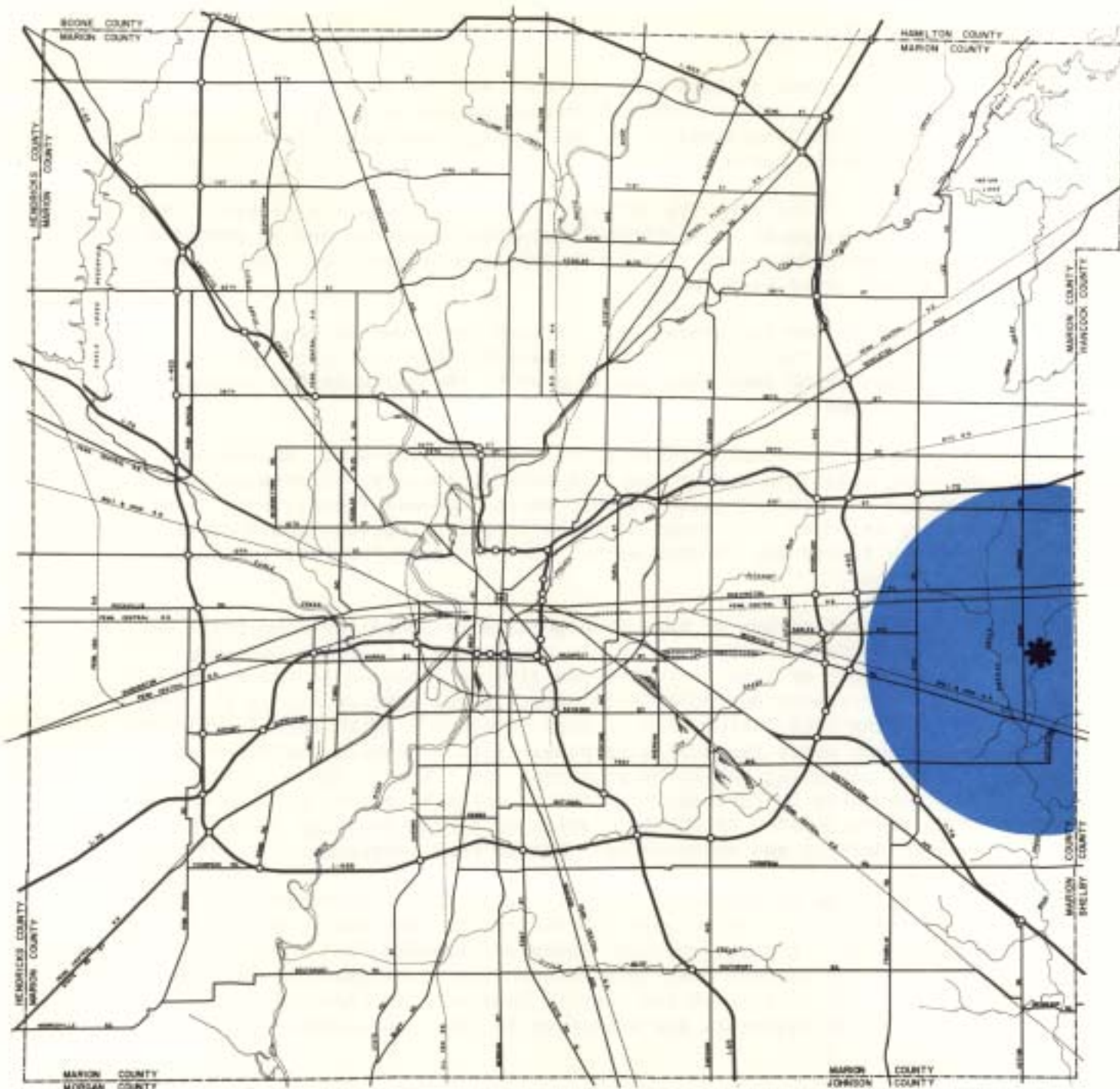
LOCATION

Paul Ruster Memorial Park is sited on the far east side of Marion County. It services the local residences of Warren Township. The Site Location Map on the following page will show the park's location within Indianapolis.



CHARACTER

Paul Ruster Memorial Park consists of 79.2 acres of land sloping eastward along Buck Creek. Over 50% of the park land is in the floodplain. The park is wooded along its east and north edges, and overgrown with brush elsewhere except for a strip west of the drive and south of the fence which is mowed by DPR. Existing facilities are limited to a gravel drive and parking lot, one toilet and a shelter in need of a new roof.

Excavations occurred on this site during the 1970's in the lowland areas and were later filled by the Department of Parks and Recreation. Settling of soil has since occurred leaving ruts and rough surfaces. The disturbed areas should be considered unsuitable for structures or large structural facilities.



SITE LOCATION MAP
INDIANAPOLIS - MARION COUNTY, INDIANA

-  **Location of Paul Ruster Memorial Park**
-  **Park Service Area**



ADJACENT LAND USE:

Paul Ruster Memorial Park lies directly west of Buck Creek in Warren Township. The park is bordered by residential development to the east, farmland to the south and west, and a large woodlot of approximately 60 acres to the north.

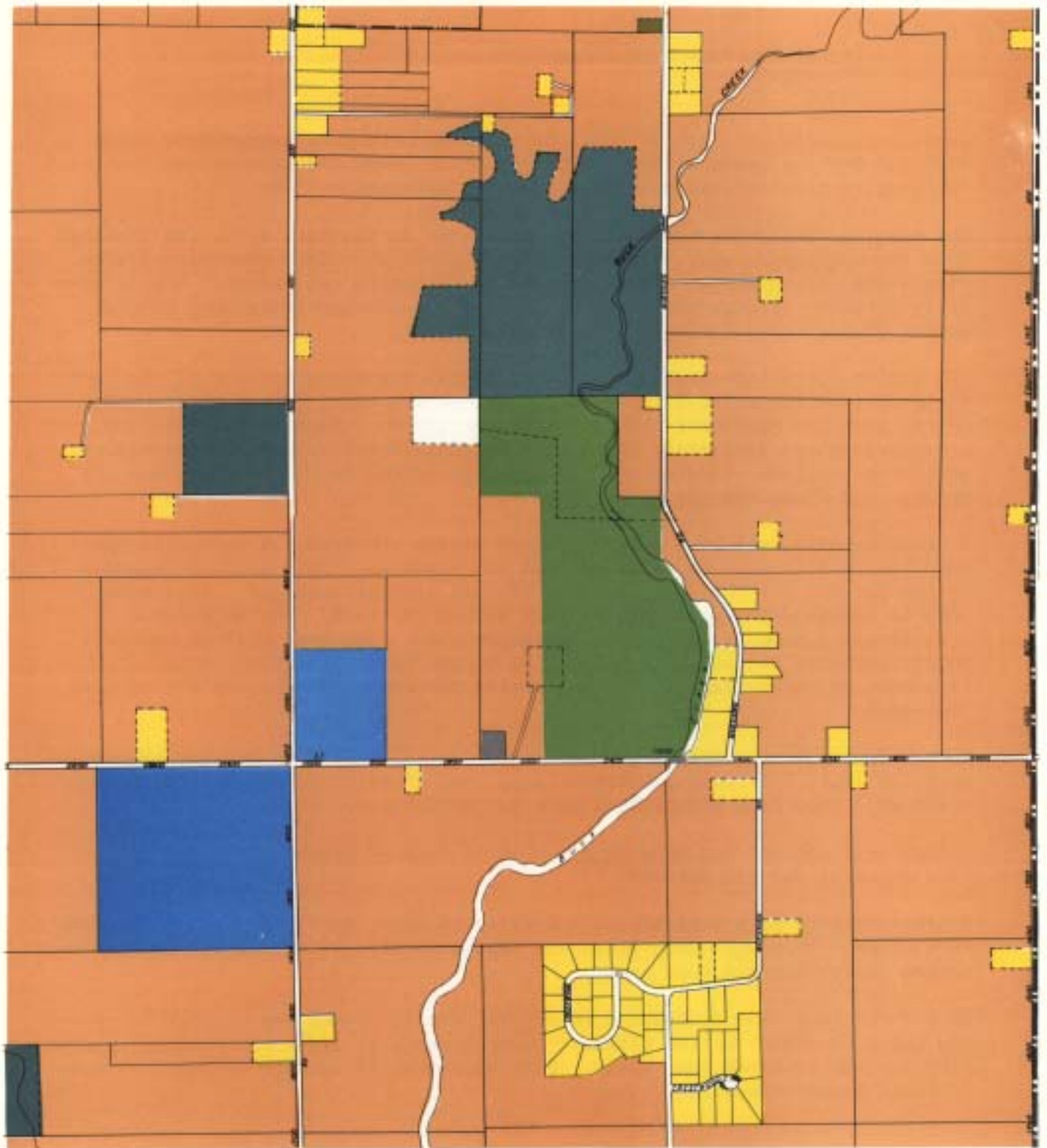
Neighborhood land uses are largely agricultural and residential. Residential development is scattered throughout the area and is composed of single family dwellings. Agricultural land is used for either crop production or as pasture.

No commercial or industrial uses of land are found within the service area shown on the opposite page. However, both of these types of activities occur less than a mile away to the north in the community of Cumberland.

Existing recreational facilities are found to the west, approximately one-half mile from Ruster Park, on school property. Crestwood Junior High has a football/track stadium, three baseball fields, five tennis courts, and four half-court basketball courts. Soccer and football practice fields are located across the corner of Prospect and German Church Road.


The northwest corner of this intersection is zoned for commercial use and development may be expected in the future. A steady increase in the number of area residents can also be expected in the future, with a corresponding decrease in agricultural activities, as the area surrounding Paul Ruster Park becomes developed. With this increasing development comes the public responsibility to provide neighborhood services including public recreational facilities. The Warren Township community is fortunate to have an existing public park, although it is undeveloped. As the population of Warren Township rises the need to develop and maintain Paul Ruster Park increases.

The population of Warren township is projected to increase at a slow but steady rate reaching over 100,000 by the year 1985. With this steady growth, the agricultural lands surrounding Paul Ruster Park will begin to convert over into residential developments. This new land use will consist of low density housing. No industrial or commercial developments are projected in the future around or near Paul Ruster Park.




PAUL RUSTER MEMORIAL PARK

EXISTING NEIGHBORHOOD
LAND USE PLAN

North  Scale 1" : 1000'

SOURCE: Field Survey (1956 Updated 1980) Division of Planning and Zoning,
Department of Metropolitan Development.

-  Park
-  Agricultural
-  Wooded
-  Residential
-  School
-  Cemetery

MASTER PLAN CONCEPT

Paul Ruster Memorial Park is designed to retain its rural atmosphere while offering the residents of Warren Township year-round recreational activities. The park is divided into passive and active recreation areas.

The passive areas, located north and northeast on the park site, are isolated from the main road, away from development and noise. This undeveloped area offers the peace, quiet, and beauty that only nature can create. Trails carefully situated through this area will allow one to experience this natural wooded area or open field of wild flowers.

The active recreation area is contained within the front portion of the park. While limited sport facilities are present on the site, future development of the park can adequately handle these facilities. What is proposed for construction are facilities for winter recreation activities. These winter activities include sledding and tobogganing, a pond for ice skating and ice hockey, and cross-country skiing trails.

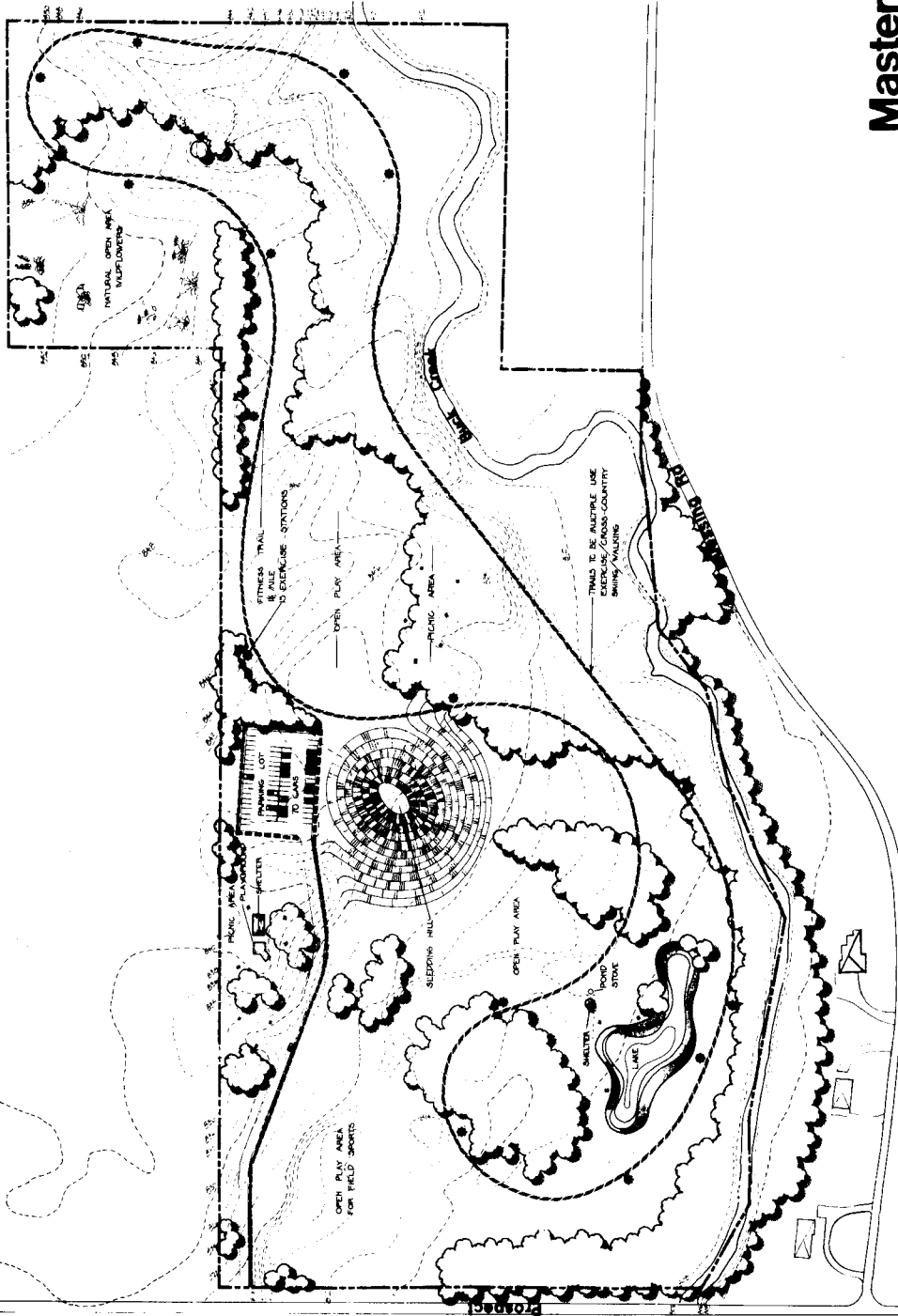
A sledding hill will be a center feature within the park. A partially man-made hill will create an exciting area for sledding. This hill is adjacent to the parking lot for easy access with ones sled or toboggan. This hill will be created from soil removed from within the park. The soil taken will create a pond on the park's southeast side. The pond will be approximately one acre in size. It will allow longer park participation for its residents by supporting ice skating during the winter months and aid in site drainage.

Those wishing more vigorous winter activity will be able to utilize the nature/exercise trail for cross-country skiing. All of these winter activities provided will keep Paul Ruster Park open and active year-round.

A shelter house and log burning pit will be located between the pond and sledding hill for its patrons.

A single lot to park vehicles is centrally located, servicing all of the park's facilities. This will keep vehicular impact on this site to a minimum and help insure safety for all park users.

Picnicking areas are designated in several areas, giving the options for peace and quiet or a more active picnic. These areas will offer the frequent picnic user variety to match ones moods. Play equipment is located adjacent to some of these picnic areas.



Master Plan



Park Planning Unit
 Department of Metropolitan Development
 1962

Paul Ruster Memorial Park