

WARD B. DUNTON PARK DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN

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HOWARD B. DUNTON PARK
DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN
HOLLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP
HOLLAND, MICHIGAN SEPTEMBER 1981

PLAN PREPARED WITH FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM THE MICHIGAN COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES LAND RESOURCES PROGRAM DIVISION IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY HOLLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS

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PLANS PREPARED BY THE TEAM OF:

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PARK & RECREATION PLANNING - URBAN DESIGN
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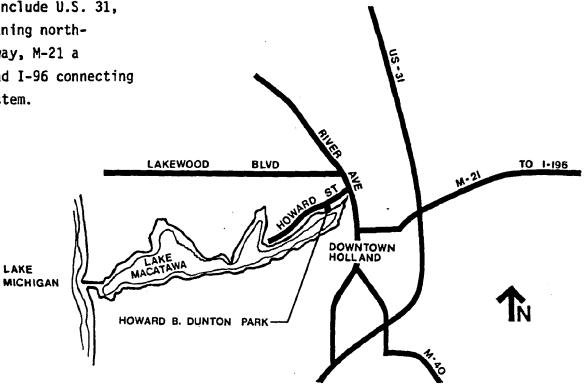
PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Howard B. Dunton Park Site, approximately 12.3 acres in size is located on Lake Macatawa south of Howard Street and east of the extension of Jackson Street. The area preserves a unique waterfront with potential for water related activities and aesthetic value. The plan provides an opportunity for improving the environmental quality of the area serving as a positive contrast to the adjacent commercial and industrial sites. The Park Site is being planned for Holland Charter Township under the Michigan Coastal Management Program by the planning team of Arend J. Freyling, Prein & Newhof, P.C. and M. C. Smith & Associates, Inc.

ACCESS/LOCATION

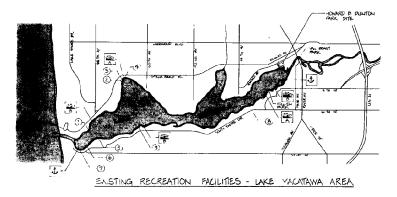
The project site is conveniently located on Howard Street, one mile west of the intersection of Howard and River Avenue. River Avenue is the primary artery that connects to the principal downtown and financial district of the City of Holland. Douglas Avenue, one block north is a principal artery running west through Park Township to the resort area connecting Lake Macatawa and Lake Michigan.

Highways serving the area include U.S. 31, a limited access expressway running northsouth, M-40; a south-east highway, M-21 a highway running to the east, and I-96 connecting with the Interstate Highway System.



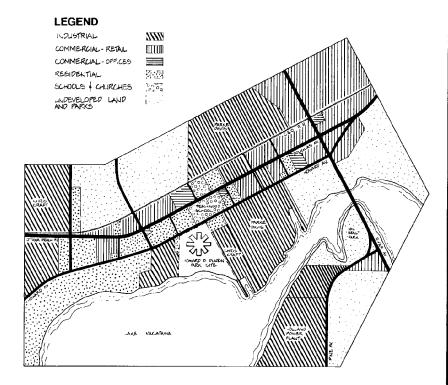
ADJACENT LAND USE

The Park property is currently industrially zoned. It is located adjacent to a large industrial complex owned by the Park Davis Corporation and a narrow strip of land owned by . Chris Craft Corporation for use as a launch ramp. Residential areas border the park on Howard Avenue. An elementary school is located on the northeast border across from Howard Avenue. Douglas Avenue, one block north of Howard is predominately a commercial area; with speciality shops, food stores, and service stations.



LEGEND

- ALLCHING RAMP, LARGE CRAFT
- ALAGENG RAMP, MEDIUM TO SMALL CRAFT
- 3 ALCHORAGE USED BY SMALL CRAFT
- 1 OTTAWA BEACH MARINA
- ② 3AV HAVEN YACHT CLUB
- 3 BAY HAVEN MARINA INC.
- 4) ANCHORAGE MARINA
- ⑤ EASTER MARINE SERVICE
- (6) YACATAWA BAY YACHT CLLIB
- T ELDEAN SHIPYARD
- (8) PERRIN'S MARINE
- (9) SOUTH SHORE MARINE



ADJACENT EXISTING LAND USE

HOWARD B. DUNTON PARK HOLLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

AREND J. FREYLING PREIN & NEWHOF, P.C. M.C. SMITH & ASSOCIATES

PARK & RECREATION PLANNING ENGINEERING & PLANNING LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

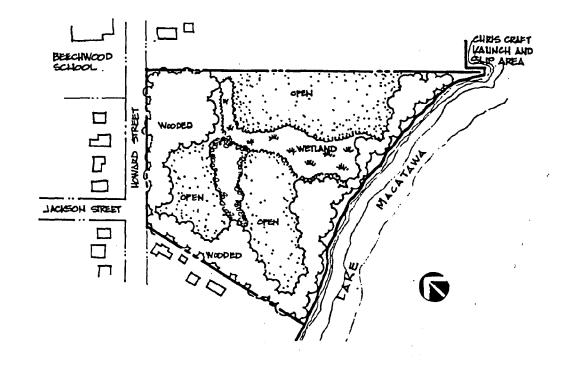
LOCATION & ADJACENT LAND USE PLANS



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The location on Lake Macatawa, a medium sized body of water leading into Lake Michigan affords excellant opportunities for boating, fishing, and providing scenic areas. Due to a lack of public water recreation facilities, the area is an ideal location for a boat launch and fishing piers. An increase in leisure time and interest in boating and fishing in Holland Township depict the need for additional water related activities.

A portion of a much larger wetland/marsh area still remains in the Park Site. The majority of the original marsh was destroyed by filling prior to the townships acquisition of the land. Local residents and many school children from the nearby elementary school often observed the wildlife and natural systems of the marsh prior to its destruction. The plan proposes to restore some of the existing marsh lands with boardwalks and trail systems for educational purposes.

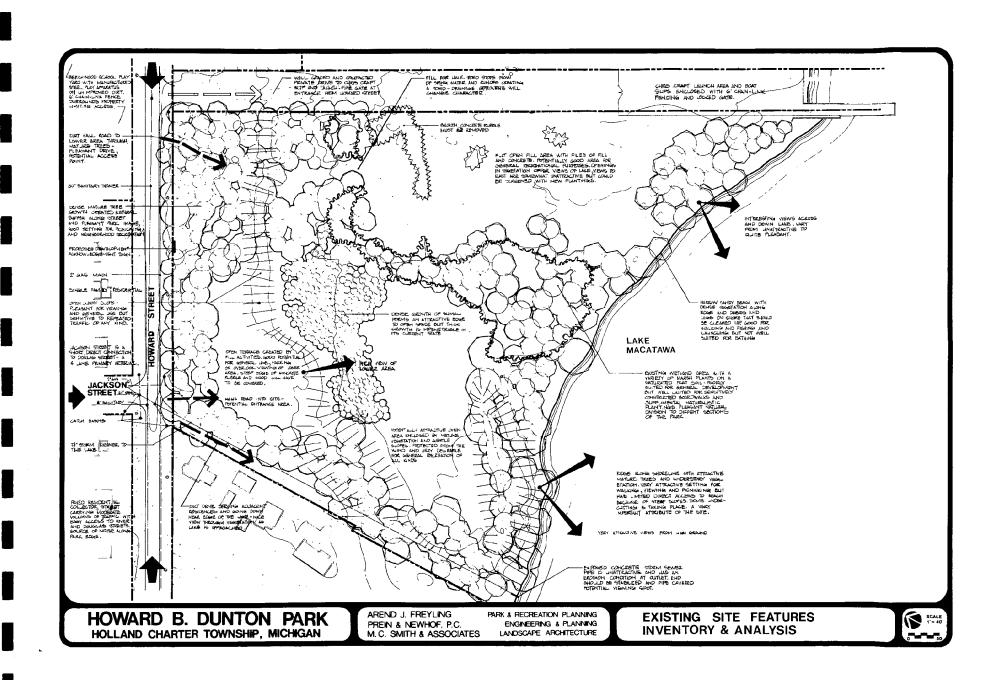


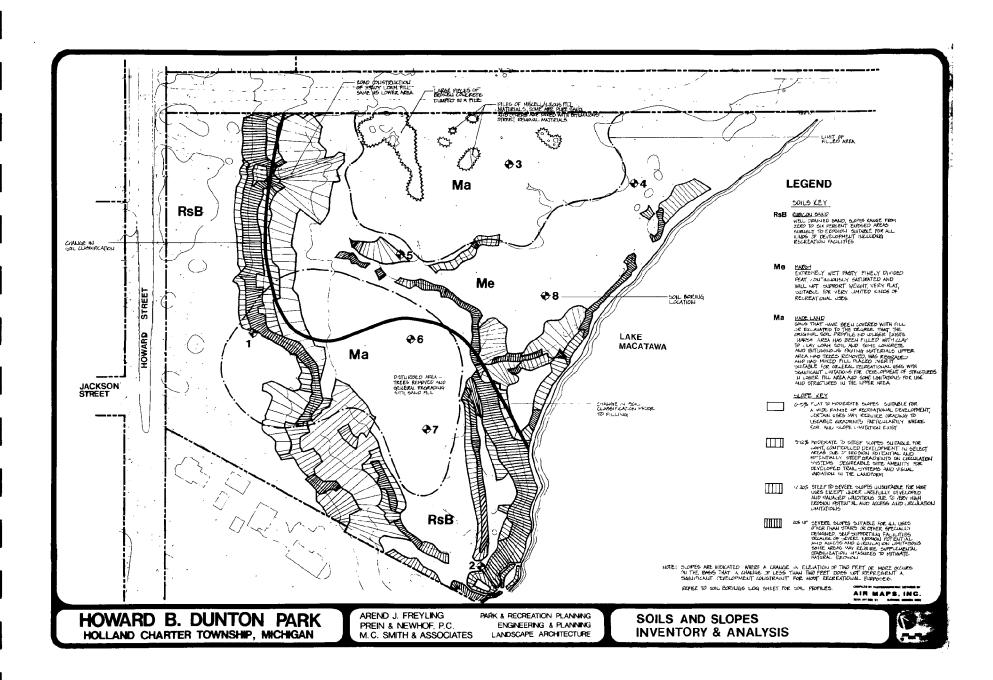
ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

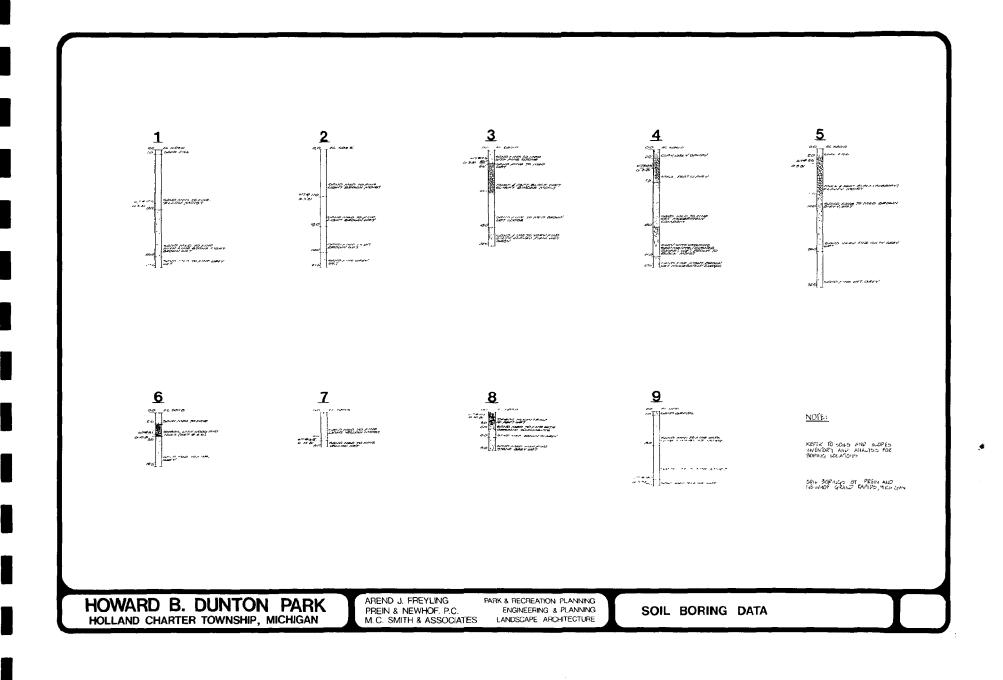
ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

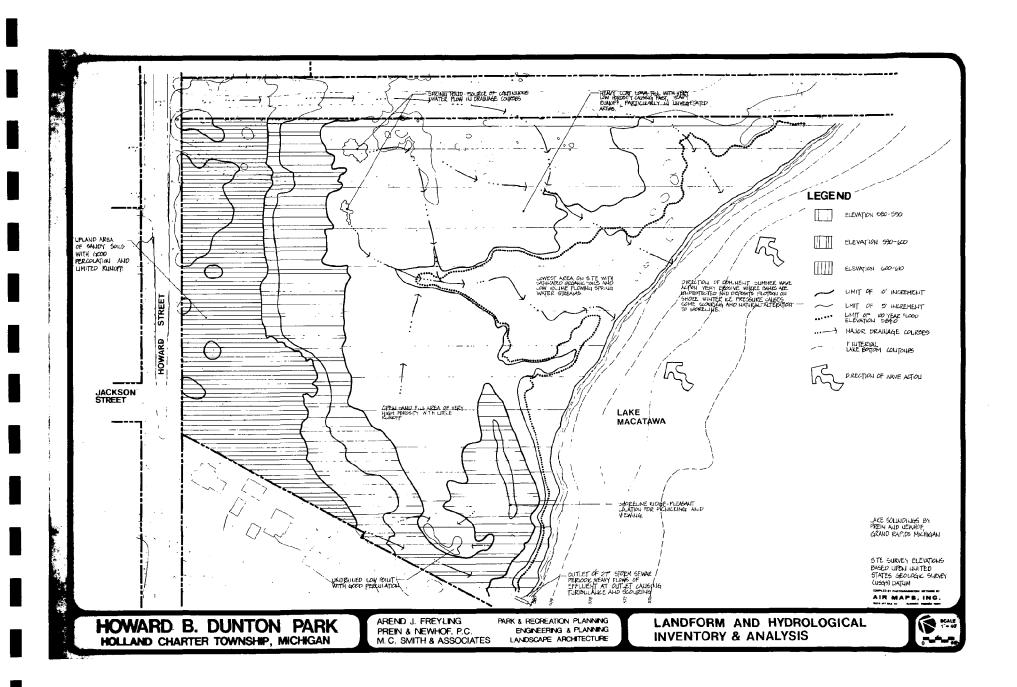
The site has a variety of environmental features with wetlands, mature trees, a mixture of undergrowth, and a stable shoreline. Portions of the site were previously filled and some of the wetlands and mature trees were lost to this filling which left several large, flat open areas.

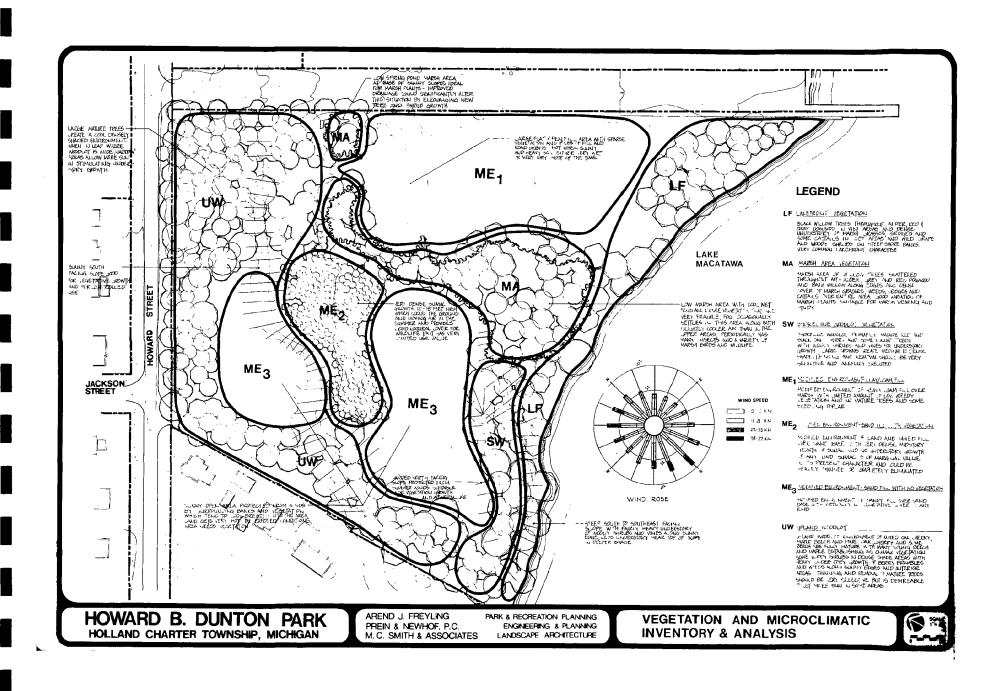
A study of the existing environmental features was conducted to determine the limitations and potentials for future park utilization. The environmental inventory and analysis includes a review of the landforms; hydrology; slopes; soils; ecological associations; vegetation; microclimates; wind patterns; erosion; existing features; views; vehicular circulation and access to establish the site utilization potentials. Soil borings were taken to determine stable and fragile areas. The findings of the inventory and analysis are presented graphically with descriptive notes.

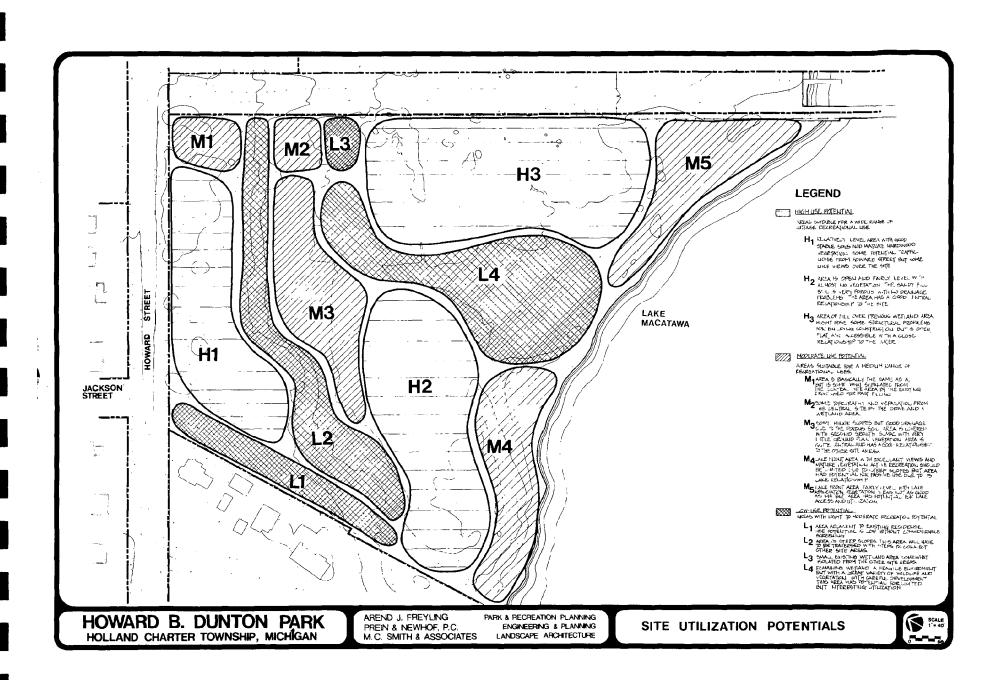












DESIGN CONCEPT

The design concept for the park combines the preceeding ideas to create a neighborhood park that:

- a) Retains and enhances the environmental quality of the entire park area, especially the lake shoreline.
- b) Provides a dispersal of developed areas and activities to prevent over-use and protect fragile areas.
- c) Allows public access to water recreation, with opportunities for both young and old.

The park concept evolved from a synthesis of the analysis findings. The external influences, site and perceptual conditions, and suitable recreational activities for the area were considered to formulate a concept that is compatible with the natural and social environment. The primary elements of the Master Plan are:

LAKEFRONT AND MARSH AREAS The shoreline along Lake Macatawa and the marsh areas are recognized as the most unique and attractive landscape within the park. The retention and enhancement of this illustrious environment is accomplished by placing activities throughout, while protecting sensitive and fragile areas. A boardwalk, nature observation, fishing and a boat launch area will be located along this corridor. Picnicking and scenic viewpoints will be located outside but adjacent to these areas.

NATURAL EXTENSIVE USE AREAS The natural extensive use areas are located on site conditions that can withstand high use pressures. The group picnic areas, open play area, and parking are located in this area with restrooms and shelters as support facilities.

COMMUNITY RECREATION The proposed location of an amphitheater is adjacent to the parking areas, and set into the sloped area of the western section of the park. The childrens play area also utilizes this landscape feature with a slide set into the sloped bank. Circular picnic areas are designed to accomodate groups.

DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN

MASTER PLAN

Input from public officials and local citizens aided in determining the appropriate activities and character of the park. Alternative preliminary concept plans were developed and reviewed by public officials and local citizens. Refinements of the prelminary concept plans were made and finalized into a master plan.

The future park development includes picnic areas, play areas, an amphitheater, restroom buildings, parking areas, boardwalks, fishing and viewing docks, open play space and a boat launch area. Development will be limited to moderate use, in order to preserve its aesthetic character. It is a portion of the Township's long range program to reclaim Lake Macatawa frontage for public recreation and open space use.

The following are descriptions of the Master Plan. These descriptions outline the existing site character of sections of the plan and then describe the character of the area following development.

NORTHEAST SECTION

EXISTING CHARACTER The northeast section is an upland woodlot with mature trees, woody shrubs and a variety of understory growth. A mixture of oak, cherry, maple, beech and pine trees create a cool, densely shaded environment which is ideal for picnicking.

DEVELOPED CHARACTER A pleasant vehicular entryway into the park has been created in this area which meanders through the trees and leads to the launch ramp parking. Pedestrian access from Howard Street links the picnic areas. Picnic tables and grills radiate from central shelter buildings. A crushed stone surface will add texture and color contrast. A boardwalk with interpretive signage from the entry drive leads throughout the marsh lands to the south and leads to steps up the sloped region towards a restroom and picnic areas.

SOUTHEAST SECTION

EXISTING CHARACTER This area is flat, open with sparse vegetation bordered by lakefront. This area contains large pieces of broken concrete and piles of miscellaneous

fill materials which will need to be removed from the site. Along the lakefront are Black Willow trees, alder, and dogwood trees with a dense understory.

DEVELOPED CHARACTER Trees will be planted along the vehicular drive to continue the wooded feeling. The launch ramp parking is located off the entry drive with spaces for cars and trailers. The drive will lead into the launch ramp with a central dock. Fishing and viewing docks along the shoreline will be connected by walkways. A buffer planting of trees will border the eastern edge of the parking area. A restroom will be located adjacent to the parking area, with a walkway leading towards the shoreline. An extension of the boardwalk will angle off the drive close to the launch ramp. This area will be adequately lit for night time boating and fishing.

SOUTHWEST SECTION

EXISTING CHARACTER The southwest section is the most scenic landscape with exceptional views towards the lake. Along the edge of the shoreline is a sloped bank. This area is wooded with mature red and black oak, cherry and some locust trees. Woody shrubs and a dense

understory along the lakefront create a natural lakefront character.

DEVELOPED CHARACTER This area is designed to fully utilize its lakefront orientation. On top of the sloped bank are two picnic areas which overlook Lake Macatawa. Picnic tables and grills will be located on a crushed stone surface. Walkways connect to parking and the boardwalk area. Parking for twenty cars makes this area assessible for all age groups. A fishing and viewing pier with benches and a shade structure extends out into the lake. Boat tie ups are on the east side of the pier. The boardwalk extends off the pier with decks and benches.

NORTHWEST SECTION

EXISTING CHARACTER The northwest section contains upland woodlot vegetation of mature trees, woody shrubs and a variety of understory growth. A portion of this area has been cleared and filled. This area is higher than other site portions and provides some good views over the site towards the lake.

DEVELOPED CHARACTER An entry drive through this heavily wooded area leads directly into a small semi-circular parking area. A walkway connects Howard Avenue and winds around the parking area. A drive will continue to serve the residential area bordering the site. The previous drive will be closed, so the residential road will radiate from the park entry. There are additional picnic centers in this area connected by a restroom facility. Stepping down the slope a children's play area begins with a wave slide set into the slope and landing in a sand bed. The childrens play area is designed to provide a sequence of experiences for a variety of age groups. These will be developed to allow for creative play experiences in safe settings. The play apparatus included offer climbing, swinging, crawling, jumping, bending and pulling. A textural contrast of wood chips, sand and crushed stone between areas will encourage creative play. The play area is enclosed by existing sumac. Evergreens will be planted to separate the play area from the parking area.

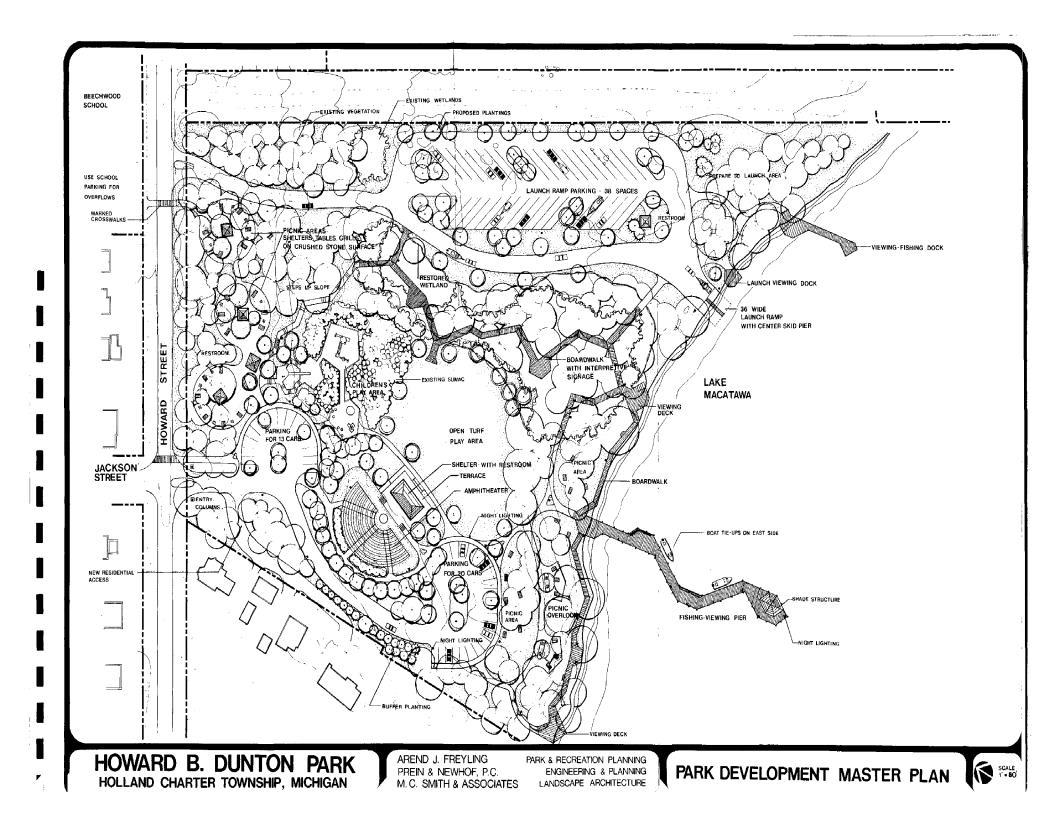
An amphitheater is set into the sloped bank with concrete seating and open turf. A fire pit is located in front of the stage area. A terrace with a shelter building overlook the open turf area. The shelter will include restrooms, storage and seating areas. Evergreens and trees will be planted to enhance

the natural setting.

CENTRAL SECTION

EXISTING CHARACTER The central section contains the major wetland. The marsh area has willow trees scattered throughout with older, red and grey dogwood, and bank willows along the edges. A variety of marsh vegetation and wildlife create an atmosphere full of sights and sounds. A portion of this section is a modified environment of sandy fill which is relatively flat and contains no vegetation cover. This area will be planted with turf grass.

DEVELOPED CHARACTER A boardwalk zigzags throughout the marsh with decks as gathering points and benches along the shoreline. It will encourage nature study with interpretive signage. Night lighting will be placed at the gathering points. The boardwalk leads into a fairly level area which creates an open play area. Surrounded by trees, this ares serves as an open green space suitable for games such as softball or frisbee. Picnic tables are interspersed adjacent to the shoreline which are secluded by a mixture of willow, oak and dogwood trees.



IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION

Master Plan will require several years and the continued support of township leaders and public officials. This support has already been shown with the start of construction of the boat launch ramp and the associated parking area and entrance drive as proposed by the Master Plan. This project is being supported and coordinated by the Holland Fish and Game Club with additional support of community business and industry. The completion of the ramp will be a visable and much needed first phase element which will assist in community support for all future phases.

The second phase of the development will be the restoration of the wetland area and construction of a boardwalk through this area. This portion of the work has tentative funding approval from the Michigan Coastal Management Program. Cost projections for this portion of the work are as follows:

Excavation of fill material placed over former wetland and redistribution on site. \$9,345.00 Replacement of wetland type soil (peat & muck mixture.) \$5,460.00

Elevated boardwalk through restored marsh to the shore of Lake Macatawa.	\$20,370.00
3 Viewing and observation decks.	\$3,825.00
Interpretive signage along boarkwalk.	\$2,800.00
Replanting of wetland with indigenous plant materials.	\$13,800.00
Professional fees for preparation of construction documents, project bidding and construction supervision @ 10.75%.	\$5,988.0 0
•	\$5,500.UU
Pringing of construction documents for bidding.	\$400.00
Projected For Wetland Restoration Cost	\$62,088.00

Future phases of implementation of the Master Plan will be based upon the availability of development funds. Based upon the Master Plan the following are order-of-magnitude cost projections for the various areas of the development. Professional fees for the preparation of construction contract documents are not included in these cost projections.

PICNIC AREA:	ICNIC AREA: PARKING AND ENTRY DRIVE - WEST SIDE		SIDE
Site Preparation & Grading	\$3,400.00	Site Preparation & Grading	\$4,500.00
Picnic Tables	\$2,880.00	Park Entry Sign	\$1,200.00
Grills	\$1,170.00	Bituminous Drive & Parking	\$31,875.00
Picnic Shelters	\$22,500.00	Walks - Concrete	\$6,800.00
Restroom Building	\$20,000.00	Entry Columns	\$900.00
Picnic Area Surfacing	\$8,600.00	Lighting	\$5,400.00
Walk & Steps to Boardwalk	\$1,252.00	Landscaping	\$7,300.00
Ricnic Area Edging Landscaping Lighting	\$3,087.00 \$3,000.00 \$2,400.00	Subtotal 10% Contingency	\$57,975.00 \$5,798.00
Subtotal 10% Contingency	\$68,289.00 \$6,829.00	Area Total	\$63,773.00
		SHORELINE ACCESS WALK, BOARDWA	LK & PICNIC AREAS
Area Total	\$75,118.00	Site Preparation & Grading Walks - Drive Chips & Fines	, •
FISHING/VIEWING PIER		Shoreline Boardwalk	\$22,000.00
Permanent Pier with Benches & Railings	\$62,220.00	Viewing Deck and Benches Grills	\$19,000.00 \$720.00
Shade Structure	\$9,375.00	Picnic Tables	\$2,880.00
Lighting	\$6,400.00	Lighting	\$4,800.00
Subtotal	\$77,995.00	Landscaping	\$1,800.00
10% Contingency	\$7,800.00	Subtotal	\$56,590.00
		10% Contingency	\$5,659.00
Area Total	\$85,795.00	Area Total	\$62,249.00

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LAUNCH RAMP AREA ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

Site Preparation & Grading	\$1,200.00
Walks	\$960.00
Launch Viewing Dock	\$3,920.00
Viewing/Fishing Dock	\$26,160.00
Restroom Building	\$21,000.00
Subtotal	\$53,240.00
10% Contingency	\$5,324.00
· Area Total	\$58,564.00

CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA, INCLUDING OPEN PLAY AREA

Site Preparation & Grading	\$5,500.00
Play Area Surfacing	\$5,680.00
Elevation Change Steps	\$1,548.00
Play Area Edging	\$6,440.00
Play Equipment	\$12,300.00
Open Turf Area Topsoil and	
Seeding	\$11,782.00
Area Landscaping	\$3,400.00
Lighting	\$2,400.00
Subtotal	\$49,050.00
10% Contingency	\$4,905.00
Area Total	\$53,955.00

