


CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Date: July 23, 1979

File Ref: 2510

To:  C. D. Besadny - 14

From: D. J. Mackie 

Subject: Approval of the Newport State Park Master Plan Addendum

The master plan for Newport State Park, in the form of a set of management and development guidelines was approved by the Natural Resources Board January 1975.

The attached addendum being submitted to you for your approval was prepared for the 170.9-acre addition which lies adjacent and to the north of the original boundary of Newport State Park.

When approved, the addendum will be distributed to each holder of the Newport Master Plan.

DJK:ls
Attach.

cc: J. L. Treichel - 8

Addendum to the Master Plan

Newport State Park

Park Planning Section

May, 1979

Approved: *D. Mackie* 7/20/79
Bureau of Parks & Recreation Date

C. B. Besadny 7-26-79
Division of Resource Management Date

C. E. Huggins 6/19/79
District Director Date

Background

The master plan for Newport State Park, in the form of a set of management and development guidelines was approved in 1973. The philosophy of the plan is stated simply: "The purpose of Newport State Park is to preserve and interpret a large area of great natural beauty for this and future generations, and to provide recreational opportunities compatible with the preservation of the resource." In order to achieve this philosophy four objectives were established.

- a.) Keep all development simple and minimal.
- b.) Manage the park as a wilderness area.
- c.) Implement a naturalist program.
- d.) Encourage only low-impact recreation.

The result of this approach is a 2,000+ acre park with a very limited amount of roads and parking lots, no interior roads, wilderness type primitive campsites, about 23 miles of hiking trail, a natural swimming beach and 7½ miles of unspoiled Lake Michigan coastline. Newport handles over 100,000 visitors annually without signs of damage.

On April 25, 1978 a 170.9 acre addition to Newport State Park known as the Hotz Tract was acquired by the Department of Natural Resources. Approval to acquire the property and increase the acreage goal by 173.6 acres was granted by the Natural Resources Board on January 25, 1978. The acreage goal increase also includes three privately-owned lots totaling 2.7 acres.

The legal description of the new property is T. 32 N., R. 29 E., Section 8, Government Lot 3 except the west 750', Section 9, Government Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Section 16, all that part lying north of Town Road, and Section 17, that part of the NE¼ of NE¼ lying north of Town Road, in Liberty Grove Township, Door County, Wisconsin.

This 170.9 acre addition lies adjacent and to the north of the original boundary of Newport State Park. The two are separated by a town road - Europe Bay Road. (See attached maps for details.) Access to the property is provided by this gravel road. There is about ¼ mile of road frontage. There are three privately-owned lakefront lots at the end of the road and also Europe Bay Town Park. One seasonal residence is present.

The new park property has frontage on both Europe Lake and Lake Michigan. There is about 5,500' of sand frontage on Europe Lake and about 6,300' of frontage on Lake Michigan. The Lake Michigan frontage is composed of 4,170' of sand beach and 1,130' of rocky shoreline.

Access to the property is gained by a dirt road running the length of the ownership.

The property has several structures which were acquired along with the land. These include a summer cottage, gatehouse, garage and a guest cabin. They vary in condition from fair to poor and are described as follows:

Summer Cottage - 1,320 square feet. The structure is built of logs that appear to be creosote treated. It has an asphalt shingle roof and a poured concrete foundation. An open porch faces Europe Lake. The interior consists of a kitchen, dining room, bedroom and recreation room downstairs. Upstairs are two bedrooms. There are two beach-cobble masonry fireplaces. There is no telephone, running water, indoor plumbing or electricity.

A driven well with hand pump supplied water. The house appears to be in fair, but neglected condition. As of this writing no engineering inspection has been made.

A small log outhouse nearby served as a toilet facility.

Guest Cabin - 440 square feet. There are three rooms and no utilities. Condition is poor.

Gatekeeper's Cabin and Gate - This served as a control point at the road entrance. The cabin is in poor condition and is falling down. The stonework of the gate is beginning to disintegrate.

Garage and Workshop - 450 square feet. This building has one garage stall, work area and storage loft. It is of wood frame construction with split cedar siding and a concrete foundation. The building is in poor condition.

Miscellaneous - An old barn and shed are located near the gatehouse. Both are in poor condition and are falling down.

The remains of an old dock on Europe Lake in front of the summer house are evident. The dock was apparently of stone-filled log crib construction and is now submerged.

The remains of another old dock on Lake Michigan can be seen from the air but not from ground level. It is an "L" shaped structure about 150' x 50' and is all submerged. This structure is probably left over from the logging days when trees were loaded onto boats for shipping to the lumber mills.

The property is very scenic and possesses many attributes. There are two general types of topography found here: sand dunes, and level ground. The level ground occurs mainly on the northern end of the property where shallow soil covers the limestone bedrock. The sand dunes give a rolling appearance to the southern end of the site. Trees and shrubs cover these dunes and stabilize them. The rocky shoreline has a wild untamed appearance that adds to the wilderness atmosphere. It is especially thrilling when southeast winds cause the waves to crash against it.

The long sand beach on Lake Michigan is visually pleasing as well as an inviting place to play. It contrasts with the harshness of the nearby rocky shoreline. Immediately behind the shore, the land is heavily wooded with large trees. There are northern hardwoods with some scattered white pines and some areas of cedar and hemlock. The land forms a wooded isthmus separating Europe Lake from Lake Michigan, so that at no time is the visitor ever far from water.

Europe Lake is a small scenic lake with clear but shallow water. Maximum depth is 10'. The shoreline is relatively undeveloped at this time and that portion under state ownership (5,500') is very natural in appearance. Europe Lake does not receive heavy fishing pressure although a moderate walleye population exists.

Recommended Management and Development

It should be the goal of this property to:

- a.) Conform as closely as possible to the original park goals.
- b.) Preserve and interpret the specific features of the new site's history and geological significance.

These goals can be achieved by implementing the following objectives:

- a.) Apply the original four park objectives.
- b.) Establish a trail system for nature study, hiking and ski touring.
- c.) Remove any man-made structures that pose a threat to public safety by their poor condition. Retain the existing summer cottage.
- d.) Complete land acquisition program by acquiring the adjacent private lots. (See ownership map)
- e.) Designate the site as a wilderness area.

The property should be developed to provide a limited amount of added wilderness camping as described in the original master plan. Camp sites will be a maximum of four in number to assure that the wilderness experience will be preserved for those that seek it. A high density/low quality situation will be avoided. Actual location of the sites will be designated in the field to assure the best possible orientation. If four satisfactory sites cannot be located fewer will be built, or even none at all if conditions dictate. The sites will be located at least 500' distant from each other, and farther where possible.

The summer cottage is the only structure remaining on the site in sound enough condition to warrant any attempt at preservation. The feasibility of utilizing this building in a manner compatible with the wilderness

nature of Newport should be thoroughly investigated. In the meantime routine minimum maintenance should be performed to prevent further deterioration of the structure.

A system of nature interpretive hiking trails that could also be used as ski-touring trails should be developed. The existing internal road system should be incorporated into the trail network where possible. This new system of trails should be integrated with the existing trails at Newport so that all areas of the park are accessible without the necessity of driving to get there.

No new roads will be built.

One set of single-unit sealed vault toilets will be provided in the vicinity of the campsites. If no new campsites are built delete the single-unit toilets. Drinking water will be available from a new well and hand pump.

The 4,170' expanse of Lake Michigan sand beach at the site will be available for use on a personal choice basis. No formal beach facilities will be developed thereby keeping intensive use contained at the existing park area designed for heavier use. The existing town road and town park will continue to provide lake access.

Development necessary to implement the functioning of this property:

a.) Boundary posting and gating.	\$ 500.00
b.) Four wilderness campsites (same style as the 13 existing sites).	\$1,600.00
c.) System of trails - <u>±</u> 3 miles.	\$3,500.00
d.) Interpretive displays and trail signs.	\$ 300.00
e.) One set single unit sealed vault toilets.	\$4,000.00
f.) Well and hand pump.	\$3,500.00
g.) Maintenance of cottage.	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
Total =	\$14,400.00

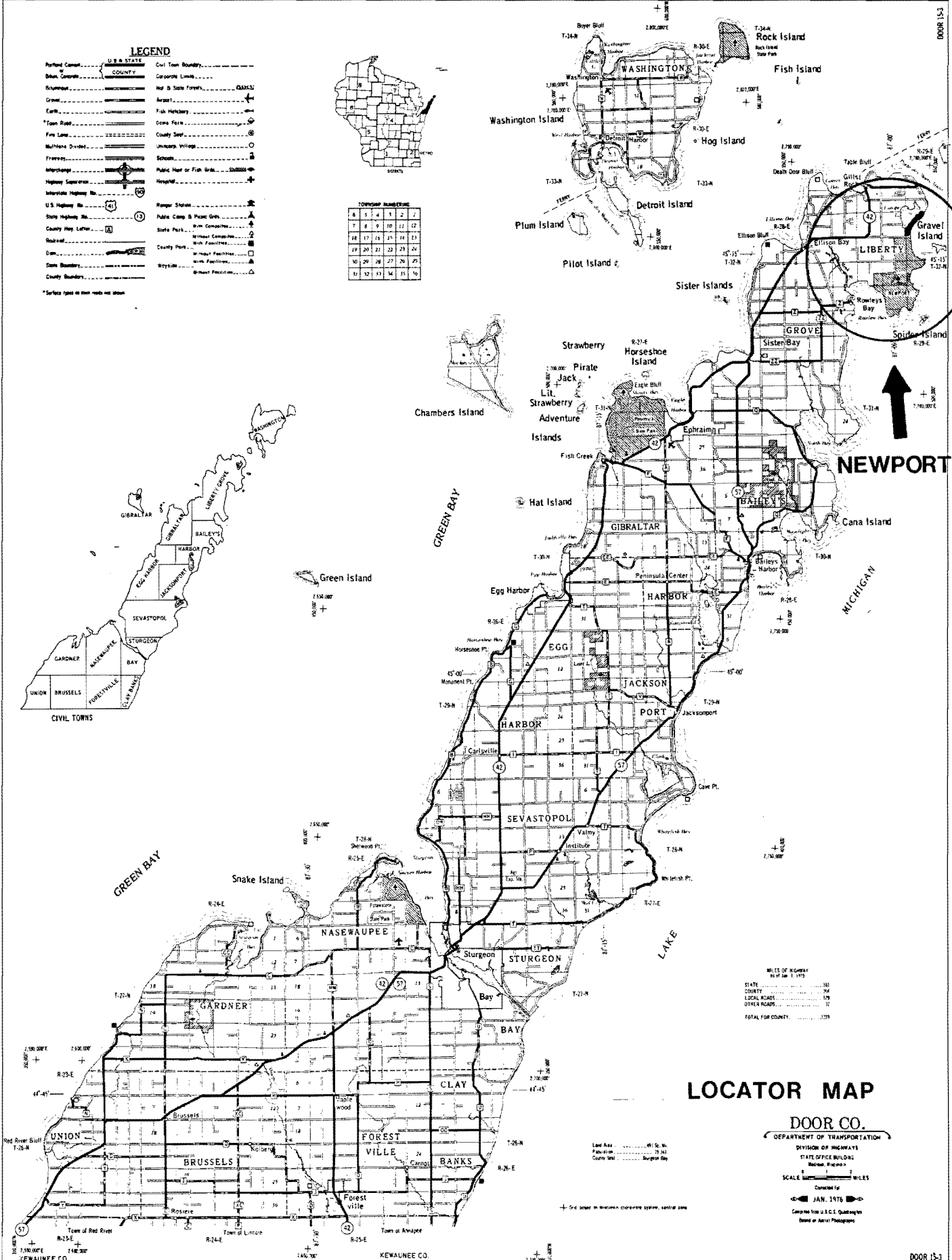
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5/24/79

- LEGEND**
- Portland Canal
 - Blanch Canal
 - Sturgeon
 - Green
 - Earth
 - Town Road
 - Fire Lane
 - Multilane Divided
 - Freeway
 - Interchange
 - Highway Separation
 - Interstate Highway
 - U.S. Highway
 - State Highway
 - County Hwy Letter
 - Road
 - Dirt
 - Dam
 - County Boundary
 - Civil Town Boundary
 - Corporate Limits
 - Nat. & State Forest
 - Fish Hatchery
 - Game Farm
 - County Seat
 - University Village
 - School
 - Public Pier or Fish Gr.
 - Hospital
 - Ranger Station
 - Public Camp & Picnic Gr.
 - State Park
 - Wildlife Complex
 - State Facility
 - County Park
 - Work Facility
 - Wayside
 - Wharf Facility
- *Surface type as shown not shown



TOWNSHIP NUMBERS

6	1	2	1	2	7
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
10	26	28	27	26	25
11	12	13	14	15	16



MILES OF HIGHWAY
As of Jan. 1, 1975

STATE	301
COUNTY	94
LOCAL ROADS	179
OTHER ROADS	31
TOTAL FOR COUNTY	505

LOCATOR MAP

DOOR CO.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
BRUSSELS, MICHIGAN

SCALE MILES

Completed by
JAN. 1976

Compiled from U.S.C.E. Quads
State of Aerial Photographs

