



BETHESDA PARK MASTER PLANS

THE ORIGINAL MASTER PLAN WAS COMPLETED BY EDOW IN 1990 TO GUIDE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPERTY THAT CONSTITUTED THE ORIGINAL LAND ACQUISITION. THE GWINNETT SENIOR CENTER WAS SITED WHERE THE MASTER PLAN HAD PLACED A COMMUNITY CENTER. SUBSEQUENT LAND ACQUISITION ALLOWED FOR ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE 1999 MASTER PLAN BY CERULEA INTRODUCED AN EXPANDED SOCCER COMPLEX AND A 1.5 MILE MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL LOOP IN PRESERVED WOODLANDS. THE COMMUNITY CENTER WITH AQUATICS FACILITY WAS MOVED TO THE ZONE WHERE THE ORIGINAL PLAN PLACED THE TENNIS COMPLEX, TENNIS WAS MOVED TO WHERE THE ORIGINAL PLAN PLACED A NATURE INTERPRETIVE CENTER (THE GWINNETT ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE CENTER NOW FILLS THAT ROLE). A LARGER PAVILION/PLAYGROUND COMPLEX WAS PLACED IN THE LOOP ROAD'S INTERIOR.

THE 2008 MASTER PLAN UPDATE GRAPHIC BY JJG SHOWS THE REFINEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY CENTER/AQUATICS FOOTPRINT, THE REPLACEMENT OF TENNIS BY A MULTI-PURPOSE PLAYFIELD, THE PLACEMENT OF BASKETBALL COURTS IN THE EASTERNMOST PARKING LOT SUPPORTED BY EXPANDED SOFTBALL COMPLEX PARKING.

E D A W

BETHESDA COMMUNITY PARK

Master Plan

B E T H E S D A
C O M M U N I T Y P A R K
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA

BETHESDA COMMUNITY PARK MASTER PLAN

prepared for:

GWINNETT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
PARKS DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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15 January 1990

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**THE MASTER
PLANNING PROCESS**

THE MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

TABLE 1: Process of Master Planning

- County requests proposals for professional design services from qualified consultants.
- County evaluates proposals and Board of Commissioners approves recommended consultant.
- County and consultant introduce key players and discuss process.
- First public meeting announces planning process and requests facility programming input.
- Design team develops conceptual plans based on County-Wide Recreation Plan, public input, and county participation.
- Parks and Recreation Division and Recreation Authority Review Committee reviews concepts; consultant revises as necessary.
- Second public meeting presents preliminary master plan for citizen review and input.
- Consultant presents preliminary master plan to Recreation Authority Review Committee; revises as necessary.
- Consultant presents final master plan to Recreation Authority for adoption; Authority recommends adoption to Board of Commissioners.
- Consultant presents final master plan to Board of Commissioners.

The Parks and Recreation Division of the Gwinnett County Department of Human Services applies a uniform process to the planning of recreation facilities in the county. The process allows for the complete and thoughtful development of outdoor recreation facilities throughout the county, provides for community input to assure development of needed facilities, and provides a review process to address management issues through design. The sequence of tasks required to develop a park master plan is outlined in Table 1.

The basis of recreation facility planning in Gwinnett County is the County-Wide Recreation Master Plan developed in 1986. The county park system is composed of four park types: regional, community, neighborhood, and special purpose. The County-Wide Master Plan describes prototype facilities to be used as a general guide for development of recreation facility plans. Through public meetings, design process, and interaction between design consultants and county administrators, the prototype is fine-tuned to apply to specific sites and community needs.

The master planning process includes thorough consideration of the goals to be achieved by the facilities developed. Balancing the various passive and active recreation requirements of the community park prototype within the constraints of the proposed site presents a challenge in the park master plan process.

The goals for the development of Bethesda Community Park are outlined in Table 2.

TABLE 2: Goals of the Planning Process

Provide safe, secure facilities.
Preserve environmental quality.
Enhance aesthetic value.
Balance passive and active facilities.
Provide ease of maintenance.
Provide cost efficiency.
Provide efficiency of operations.

PARK PROGRAM

PARK PROGRAM

THE COMMUNITY PARK PROTOTYPE

The County-Wide Recreation Master Plan (CRMP) for Gwinnett County, Georgia provides direction for the development of appropriate parks and recreation facilities within rapidly developing Gwinnett County.

Of the four park types within the Gwinnett County Park System, community parks are the backbone of the system. They are designed to provide a broad spectrum of team and individual recreation opportunities, both active and passive, for a wide range of age groups. The CRMP established eleven community park service areas to meet the needs of the entire county and proposed a community park prototype which represents a minimum development program for community parks. The

prototype serves as a development guide to be combined with an understanding of specific local needs as well as site opportunities and constraints in defining site-specific development for individual parks.

COMMUNITY PARK PROTOTYPE

1. Average Size: 50-100 acres (75 acres target size)
2. General Physical Concept: Generally natural area and providing active recreation, picnicking and other passive activities. Cultural needs served by general purpose building.
3. General Purpose: To serve full range of community area recreation needs (daylight and evening use).
4. Program: Passive enjoyment of natural landscaped areas, lakes and woods, large meetings, sports competitions, exhibitions; day and evening use of facilities. All age groups.

5. Park Facilities and Group Served:

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Age Group</u>
(3)	Lighted softball fields	6-65 & up
(2)	Lighted youth baseball fields	6-14
(6)	Lighted tennis courts	6-65 & up
	Football/soccer field	6-65 & up
(4)	Basketball/multi-purpose courts	6-65 & up
(4)	Horseshoe courts	6-65 & up
	Picnic area	1-65 & up
	Children's play area	1-6
	Apparatus area	6-14
	Community center building with gym and pool	1-65 & up
	Maintenance storage building	N/A
	Lake	1-65 & up
	Parking, roads & sanitary facilities	N/A
	Landscaping & fencing	N/A
	Utilities	N/A

COMMUNITY INPUT

With the community park prototype as a tentative development model, a series of public meetings was held to discuss the public's needs and desires for recreation facilities. Youth athletic associations in Gwinnett County were asked to describe their group's characteristics, existing facilities, and needs and also to provide design criteria relating to operations, management and maintenance of new facilities.

Generally, the youth associations expressed the need for additional team sport facilities, including fields, and related site improvements such as lighting, parking, concession/restroom structures, and bleachers. The most frequently expressed priority was for concession facility improvements. Specific concerns included electrical capacity and distribution, storage space, and meeting facilities. The second most frequently expressed need was for practice fields.

Two public meetings for Gwinnett County at large were held to secure public input in the planning process. The first meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the planning process, the community park prototype, and specific recreation needs for the

service area. Responses supported the community park prototype and the concept of a mix between active and passive recreation activities. Facilities specifically mentioned included activities for handicapped children and the aging population. The participants spoke in favor of natural character, pastoral setting, separation of active and passive activities, nature interpretation, high visual and environmental quality, and safety.

The second public meeting presented a conceptual development plan for citizen review. The character, number, and distribution of facilities was described and discussed in open forum, and comments and suggestions of the participants were incorporated into the master plan.

**SITE INVENTORY
AND ANALYSIS**

SITE INVENTORY & ANALYSIS



In order to establish a workable development plan based on the community park prototype and community input, knowledge of the park site's character, suitabilities and capacities was required. The analysis of existing conditions combined technical data, such as soil and topographic surveys and aerial photography, with field inventories to investigate soils and geology, degree of slope, vegetation, hydrology, and unique site features such as positive views.

SOILS AND GEOLOGY

General soil data for the park site was obtained from the Soil Survey of Gwinnett County, Georgia, which was prepared and published by the USDA Soil Conservation Service. Nineteen distinct soils were mapped within the subject parcel/site. The soils were rated as excellent, average, or poor according to their capacity to support development in five categories: buildings/structures, sewage disposal/septic field, recreation fields/play areas, roads/parking areas, and water impoundment. A graphic summary of soils and their capacities is provided on Table 3.

Granitic subterranean parent rock, typical of the piedmont region, underlies the project site. Generally, site soils least suited to park

development are those of the Sweetwater Creek flood plain. The primary limitation of other soils within park boundaries is steepness of slope. Often, these limitations can be lessened through grading practices. An example of this is where soils labeled GeE2 occur on the site. These areas are shown as poor soils for the type of activity planned. However, before these activities can happen, extensive grading will occur, making the soil suitable for proposed development. Given the steep slopes, soil stabilization measures to mitigate the effects of erosion constitute a significant element of the park development plan.

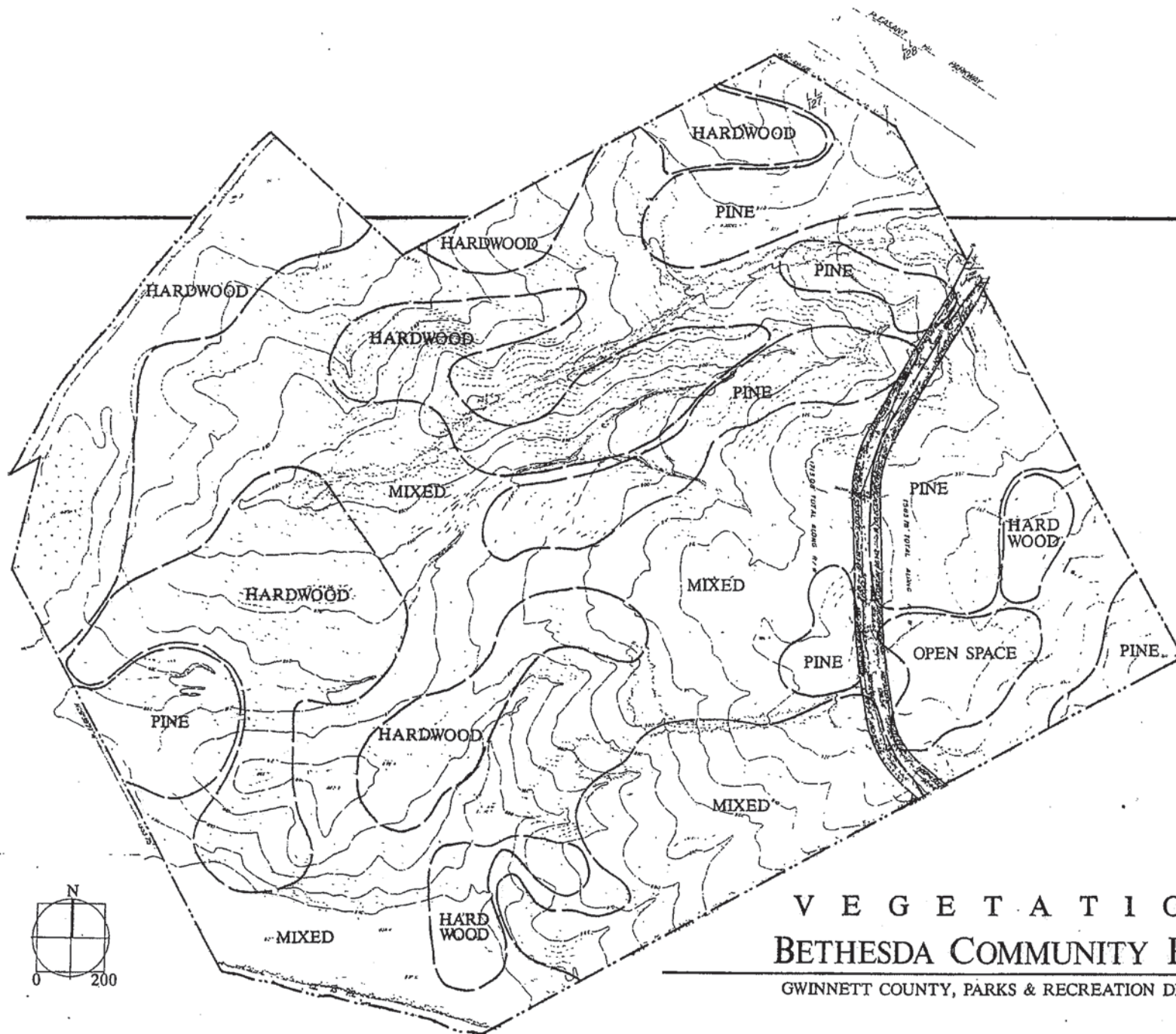
TABLE 3: Soils Suitability

Symbol	Soil Type	Buildings/ Structures	Sewage Disposal/ Septic Field	Recreation Fields/ Play Area	Roads/ Parking Areas	Water Impoundment
AmB2	Appling sandy loam	○	◐	○	◐	◐
AmC2	Appling sandy loam	○	◐	○	◐	◐
Cfs	Chewacla soils	●	●	●	●	◐
DiB	Durham sandy loam	○	◐	○	◐	◐
GeB2	Gwinnett clay loam	○	◐	○	◐	◐
GeC2	Gwinnett clay loam	○	◐	◐	◐	◐
GeE2	Gwinnett clay loam	◐	●	●	◐	◐
GgB2	Gwinnett loam	○	◐	○	◐	◐
GgC2	Gwinnett loam	○	◐	○	◐	◐
GgE2	Gwinnett loam	◐	●	●	●	◐
LDD	Louisburg stony loamy sand	●	●	●	●	●
LDF	Louisburg stony loamy sand	●	●	●	●	●
MCD	Musella cobbly loam	●	●	●	◐	◐
PgE2	Pacolet sandy clay loam	◐	●	●	◐	◐
Wed	Wehadkee soils	●	●	●	●	◐
WgB2	Wickham sandy loam	○	○	○	○	○
WgC2	Wickham sandy loam	○	◐	○	○	○
WkB	Worsham sandy loam	●	●	●	●	◐
WrE2	Wedowee sandy loam	◐	●	●	●	◐
		Excellent ○	Average ◐	Poor ●		

VEGETATION

The extent and composition of existing vegetation was determined through on-site investigations and analysis of aerial photography. The park site is forested with pine and mixed hardwood and has open areas of significant size east of Bethesda Church Road. Open areas west of Bethesda Church Road are limited to road corridors and small clearings. Understory varies from light to heavy depending on cover and aspect. A large stand of white oak, significant enough to remain as a site feature, exists north and east of the primary east-west ridge. The overall quality of existing vegetation is not extraordinary, but preservation is important to park experience, erosion control, and preservation of habitat.





VEGETATION BETHESDA COMMUNITY PARK

GWINNETT COUNTY, PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION

HYDROLOGY

Bethesda Church Road generally follows the crest of a north-south ridge, defining edges of watersheds to the west and east. The portion of the site east of Bethesda Church Road consists of a knoll or hillock which sheds water in all directions with no concentrations of runoff in draws or drainage ways.

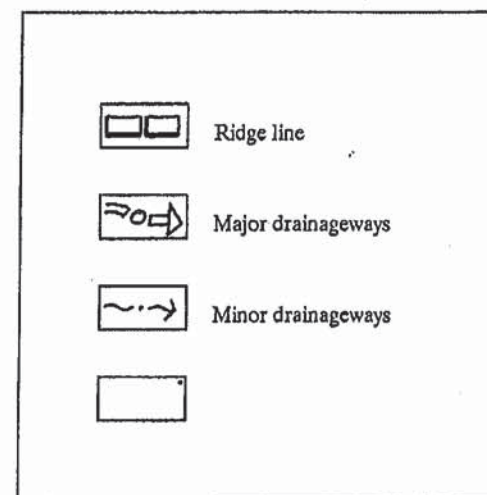
The portion of the site west of Bethesda Church Road has a more corrugated character, with ridges and valleys directing water into distinct channels which run to Sweetwater Creek.

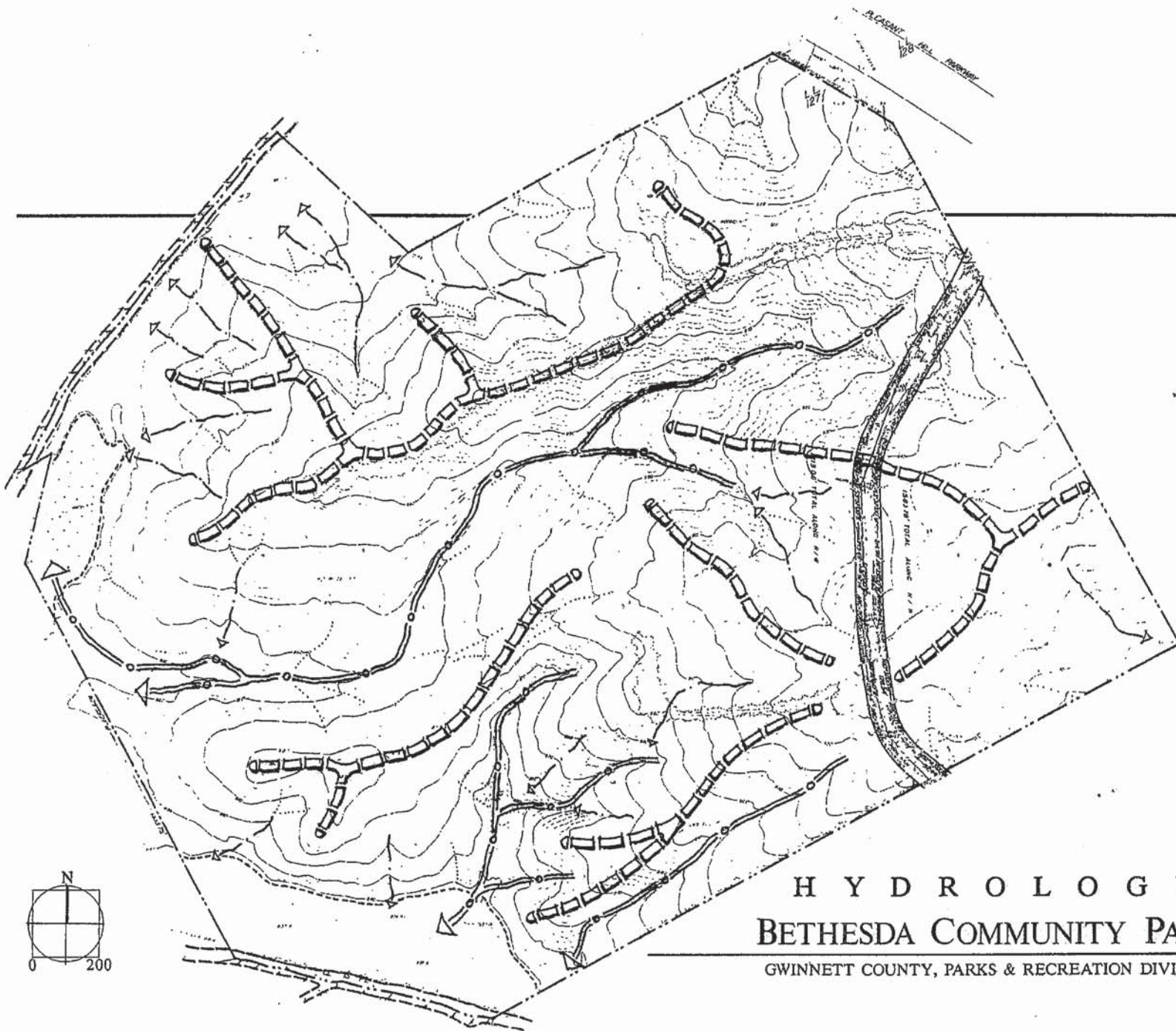
Sweetwater Creek forms the northwest and south boundaries of the park site. The flood plain is defined by contour elevation 853; development below that elevation is precluded by the mitigation

measures required where altering the flood plain.

Measures to accommodate run-off will be required. Typically, the steep central ravine will channel most of the run-off, and a significant stormwater control feature will be required at this location.

LEGEND





HYDROLOGY

BETHESDA COMMUNITY PARK

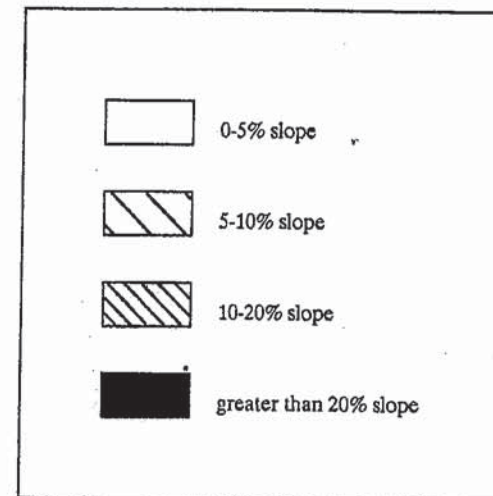
WINNETT COUNTY, PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION

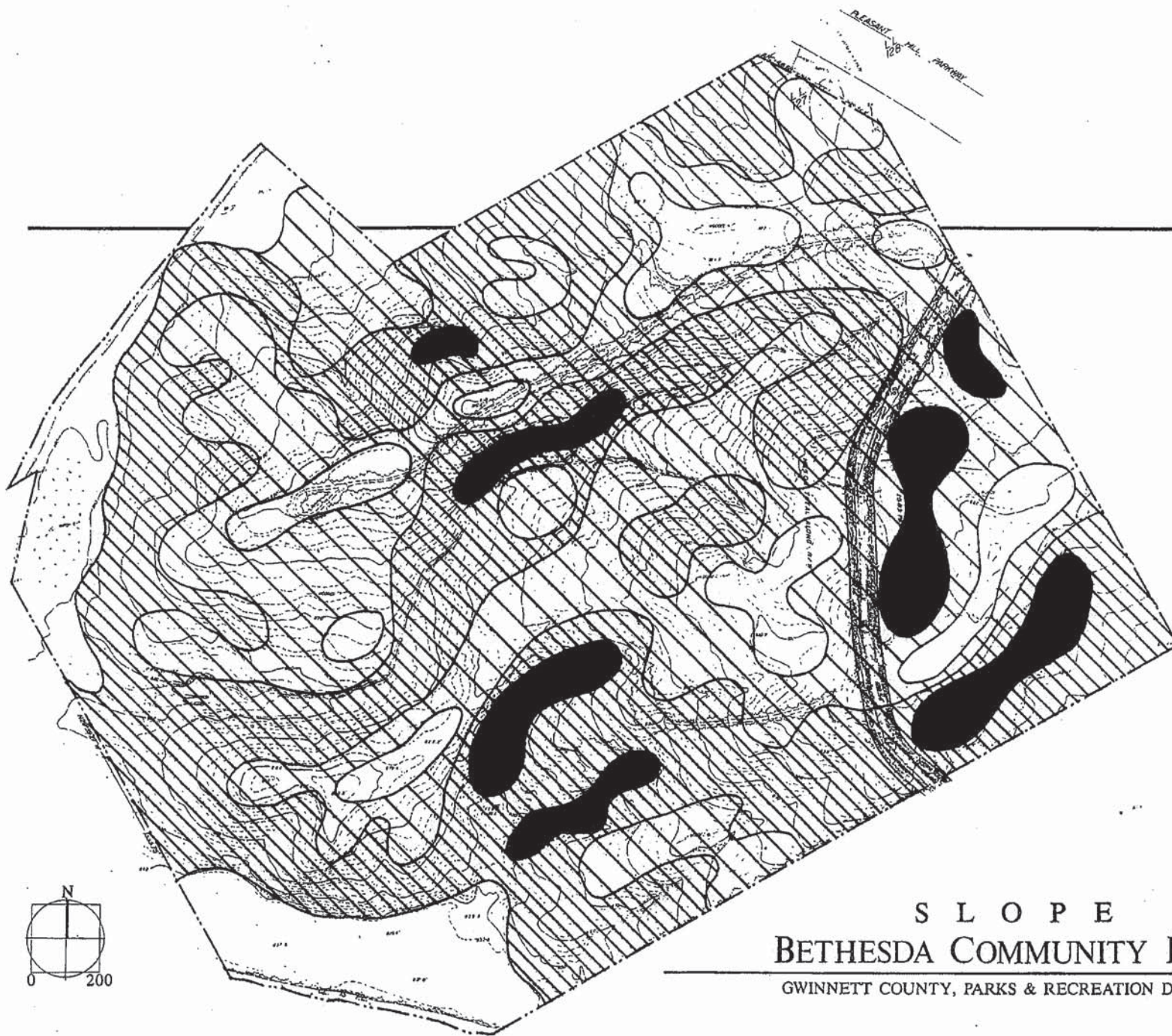
SLOPE

A slope analysis was performed for the subject site based on a topographic survey commissioned by Gwinnett County and provided to the park planners. Study of contour interval and frequency revealed the relative degree of slopes within the site and confirmed findings from the on-site investigation.

Site terrain varies from moderate to steep slopes at the higher elevations to relatively flat terrain within the Sweetwater Creek flood plain. A primary ridge runs from east to west across the northern half of the site, with slopes along the crest varying between 0-10%. Several minor ridges within the park boundary offer scattered areas within the 0-10% range, but their sizes limit development potential unless regraded. Slopes of 10-20% are predominant on the site, with a significant portion of the site featuring slopes in excess of 20%. Extensive earthwork is required to accommodate athletic fields, large buildings, or parking lots over sixty feet wide.

LEGEND





S L O P E
BETHESDA COMMUNITY PARK

GWINNETT COUNTY, PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION

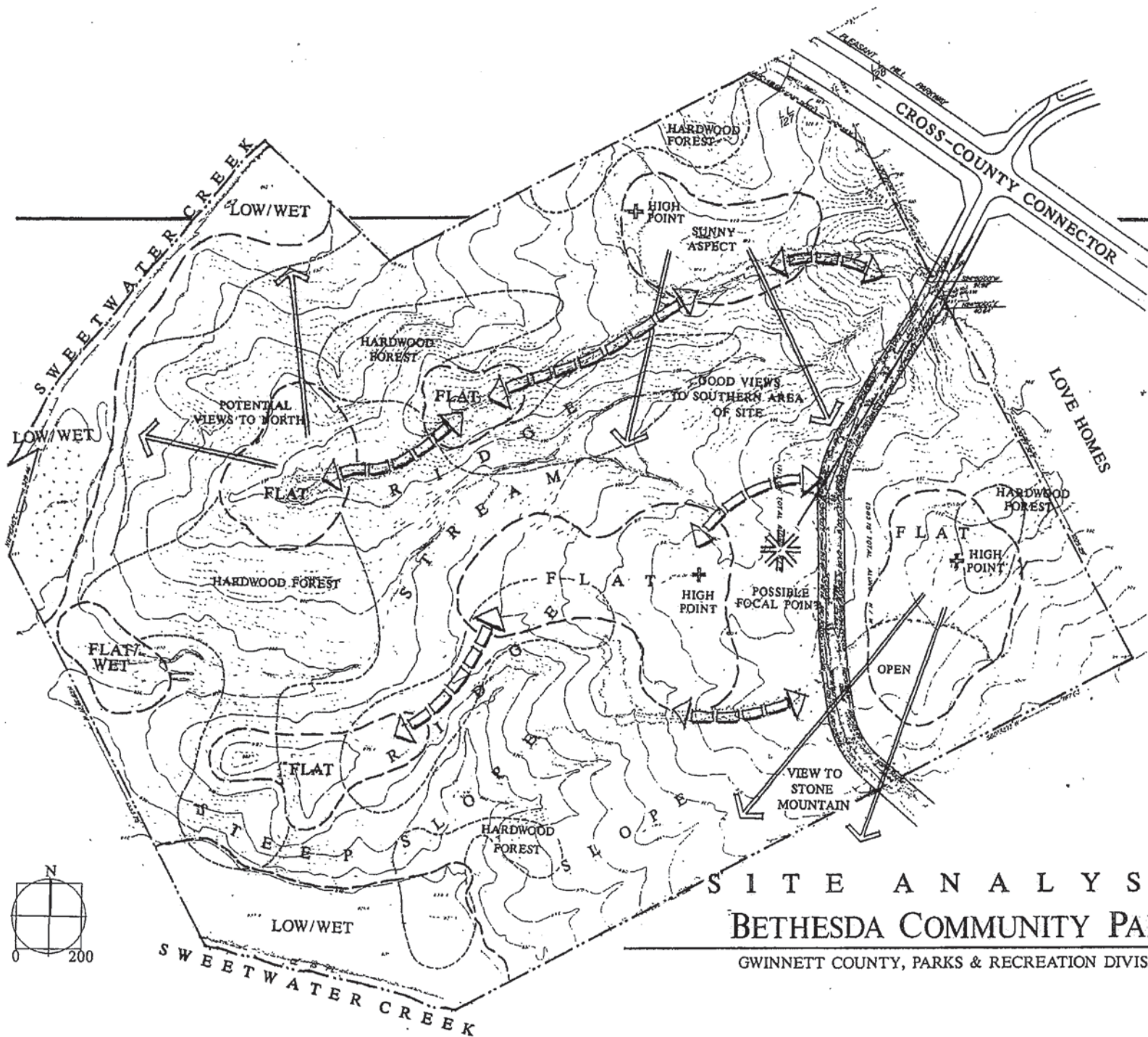
SITE ANALYSIS

As a summary of the site inventory phase, the site analysis includes observations derived from the soils, vegetation, hydrology and slope analysis. Additionally, the site analysis charts observations derived from site visitation. Important views, entries to the site, adjacent land uses, landscape character, solar aspect, and environmental factors are among the existing site characteristics charted on the site analysis.

The site analysis facilitates the derivation of responsible recommendations for site development. Among the observations made on site, which result in important factors of the design process, are the views to Stone Mountain, the identification of requirements for roadway alignment

and improvement relative to preserving existing trees, and providing safety, the identification of an old cemetery on a high knoll focal point near the entry, and delineation of potential wetlands.

The components of the Community Park Prototype are carefully situated on the park site relative to the above variables. Optimal responsible use has been made of the park site given the constraints illustrated.



SITE ANALYSIS BETHESDA COMMUNITY PARK

GWINNETT COUNTY, PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION

**MASTER PLAN
CONCEPT & ELEMENTS**

MASTER PLAN CONCEPT

Facility demand is changing our perception of urban parks. Historically, parks have been open space preserves -- pastoral environments set aside or created to soften urban environments. Today's urban parks are more often small patches of land covered with athletic fields, chain-link fencing and parking lots. With its 141-acre area, Bethesda Community Park is large enough to accommodate the better elements of both pastoral and urban park development.

The design concept for the park site places facilities within the context of a pastoral park setting. Facilities are located throughout the park site, creating a variety of activity nodes

separated by grade and by existing and proposed vegetation. Athletic fields are clustered to ensure efficient use of common facilities. Starkly different from their pastoral surroundings, the athletic fields are zoned within the 141 acres to relieve visual pressure on the open character of the park.

The park concept proposes development in five primary components: community center, adult softball fields, youth athletic fields, tennis complex, and natural interpretive center. Each would be accessed by Bethesda Church Road and function as an independent discrete unit within the Bethesda Community Park site.

The community center provides the primary image of Bethesda Community Park. An articulated entry to the center is located a few hundred feet inside the northeast park boundary, west of Bethesda Church Road. As it approaches the community center, the entry drive ties into a loop road which adjoins soccer fields, play areas, multipurpose courts, picnic facilities, restrooms, tennis courts, nature interpretive area and open play areas. The 3/4-mile loop road would be constructed incrementally with development phases for the various facilities.

Within the area of the community center, major activities are placed on intermittent high points and are all linked by the loop drive. Areas adjacent to activities and road corridors are selectively cleared of vegetation for construction, and vista lines between facilities are developed to create an expansive, pastoral view of park facilities. The grade rises and falls between high points, creating dramatic open spaces in the landscape.

The adult softball fields are 500 feet beyond the community center on the east side of Bethesda Church Road. The fields are buffered from Bethesda Church Road by an edge of existing topography and vegetation. A defined entry identifies the area and leads to parking and ball fields.

To the west of Bethesda Church Road, across from the adult softball area, an articulated entry leads to the youth athletic fields. The athletic field development is screened from Bethesda Church Road and the community center complex loop road by existing and reforested vegetation.

Phasing of facilities will allow incremental, proportional development of infrastructure elements.

While facilities have been located, whenever possible, in site areas best suited to them, earthwork and grading operations are required and in some instances are very significant. Two grading approaches are suggested for the traditional open space areas and the intensively developed athletic field

complexes. The open space areas should be graded and shaped to complement natural landforms. Embankments and excavations should merge naturally with existing grade and should emulate the contours of the existing terrain.


The athletic fields, because of their size, proximity, and density, require a more architectonic approach. They are viewed as large terraces in the landscape, with grade transitions between them executed with regular slopes and retaining elements as needed.

LEGEND

Major Features

1. Community Complex
(with pool and gym)
2. Soccer Complex
(4 small over 2 large)
3. Softball Complex
4. Pee Wee / T-Ball Fields
5. Little League Fields
(with football overlay)
6. Baseball Field
(with football overlay)
7. Nature Interpretive Center
8. Tennis Complex

Minor Elements

- A. Comfort Concession Building
- B. Family Picnic Pavilions
- C. Play Areas
- D. Continuous Paved Trail
- E. Multi-purpose Courts
- F. Warm-up Area
- G. Detention Pond
- H. Open Space / Free Play
- I. Foot Paths
- J. Existing Cemetery
- K. Interpretive Kiosk
- L. Maintenance Compound
- Flood Plain 



MINOR ELEMENTS

- A. Comfort Concession Building
- B. Family Picnic Pavilions
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- D. Continuous Paved Trail
- E. Multi-purpose Courts
- F. Warm-up Area
- G. Detention Pond
- H. Open Space / Free Play
- I. Foot Paths
- J. Existing Cemetery
- K. Interpretive Kiosk
- L. Maintenance Compound

Flood Plain

Lawn

MAJOR FEATURES

- 1. COMMUNITY COMPLEX
WITH FOOTBALL FIELD
- 2. SOCCER COMPLEX
GENERAL GAME FIELD
- 3. SOFTBALL COMPLEX
- 4. PEE WEE / T-BALL FIELDS
- 5. LITTLE LEAGUE FIELDS
WITH FENCED IN PLAYERS
- 6. BASEBALL FIELD
WITH FENCED IN PLAYERS
- 7. NATURE INTERPRETIVE CENTER
- 8. TENNIS COMPLEX

BETHESDA COMMUNITY PARK

GWINNETT COUNTY, PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION

25 MAY 1989

GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA

LD&W, Inc.



MASTER PLAN ELEMENTS

PARK ENTRY, CIRCULATION, AND PARKING

Vehicular access and circulation will be provided by Bethesda Church Road and the community center loop drive. A primary park sign will signal arrival to the park site at the northeast park boundary, and secondary signs will designate entries to the community center, adult softball fields, and youth athletic fields. The existing right-of-way of Bethesda Church Road will be maintained for construction cost efficiency, and existing vegetation will be preserved adjacent to the road to provide screening of facilities and for spatial development.

The community center loop drive closely follows an existing path along the site's primary ridge before meandering up and down grade on its return to the community center. The roadway follows terrain as closely as possible through a narrow, cleared right-of-way. Typically, roads and drives within the park would be edged with a concrete curb and gutter.

Parking within the park is provided in well-defined lots off of park roads. No parallel or perpendicular parking is provided adjacent to a roadway, minimizing clutter and vehicular conflict.

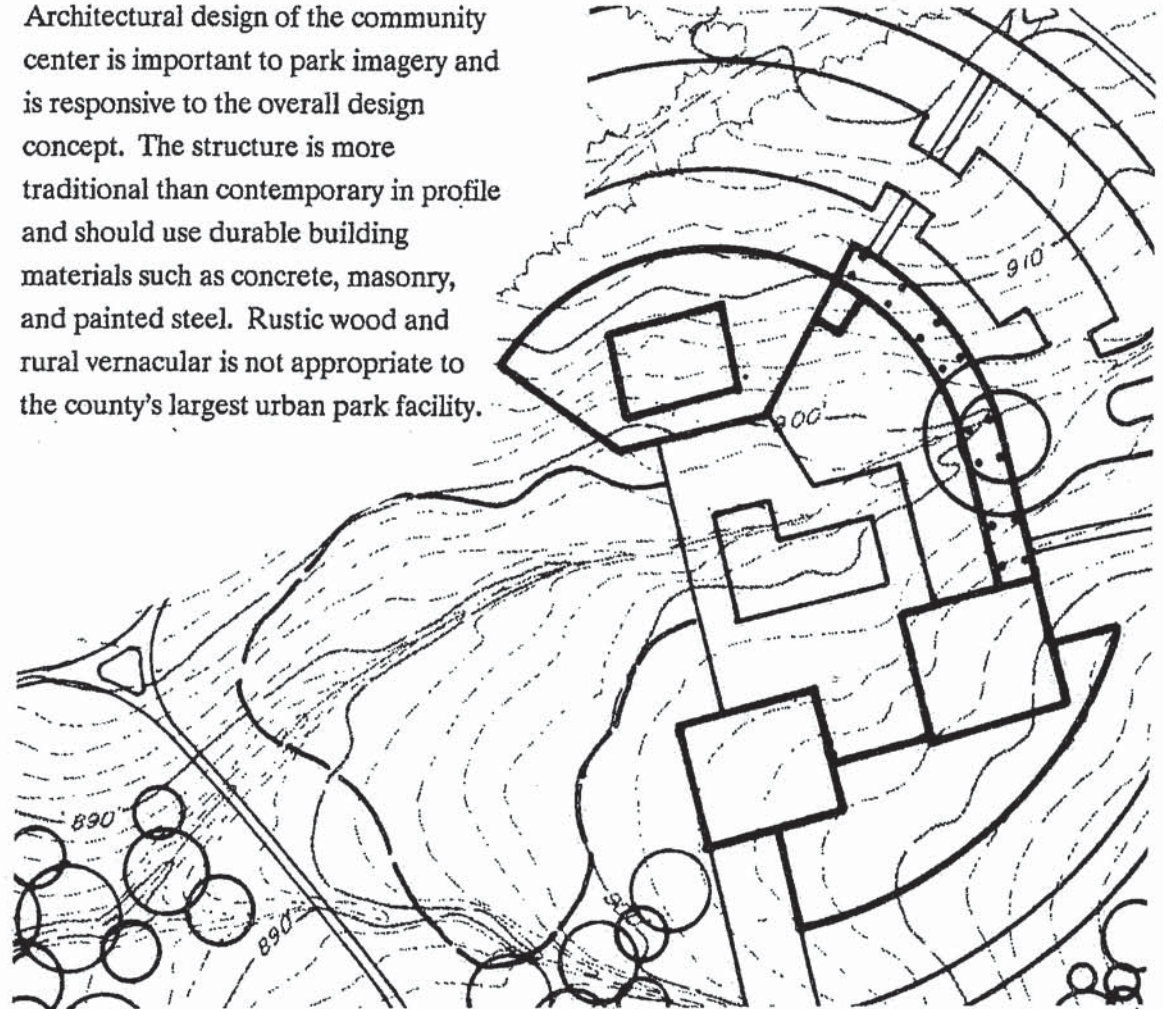
The master plan has been developed to take maximum advantage of existing conditions and facilities. Abandoning Bethesda Church Road in favor of a new alignment was originally considered, but maintaining and improving the existing right-of-way ultimately proved to be the most cost efficient approach. Similarly, likely first phase facilities have been located as close as possible to Bethesda Church Road to reduce the cost of infrastructure improvements, resulting in more recreation facilities for dollars available.

COMMUNITY CENTER

The community center is sited in a prominent location central to other park facilities. The center is viewed as a grouping of small-scale building masses which accommodate necessary functions with flexibility, while creating an interesting composition of sheltered and open spaces. The image is further enhanced by a functional water feature which accommodates run-off during rainstorms.

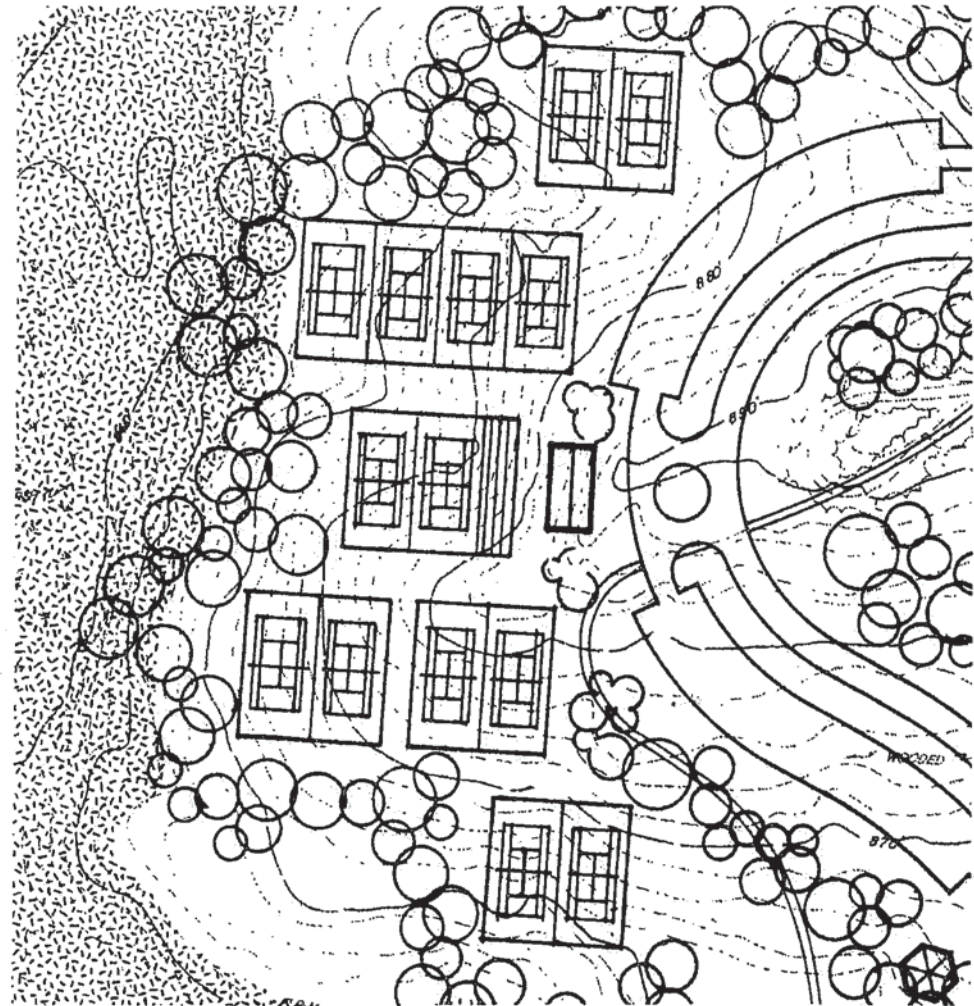
The program for the community center includes meeting rooms, an office, administrative space, an indoor basketball court, a large, multi-purpose outdoor swimming pool, a weight room, storage, and a concession facility to serve indoor and outdoor activities.

Architectural design of the community center is important to park imagery and is responsive to the overall design concept. The structure is more traditional than contemporary in profile and should use durable building materials such as concrete, masonry, and painted steel. Rustic wood and rural vernacular is not appropriate to the county's largest urban park facility.



TENNIS COMPLEX

Tennis facilities are located in the area of the community center at the west end of the site's primary ridge, overlooking Sweetwater Creek and the nature interpretive area. Fourteen open air courts are proposed, with two of the courts designed as center courts with spectator seating. The tennis complex has a controlled perimeter and is entered through a pro shop providing registration and scheduling, equipment sales, restrooms and concession area. The courts step up and down the grade in pairs, creating spatial interest and a comfortable setting for users. The tennis complex shares parking for 105 cars with adjacent picnic areas and the nature interpretive area.

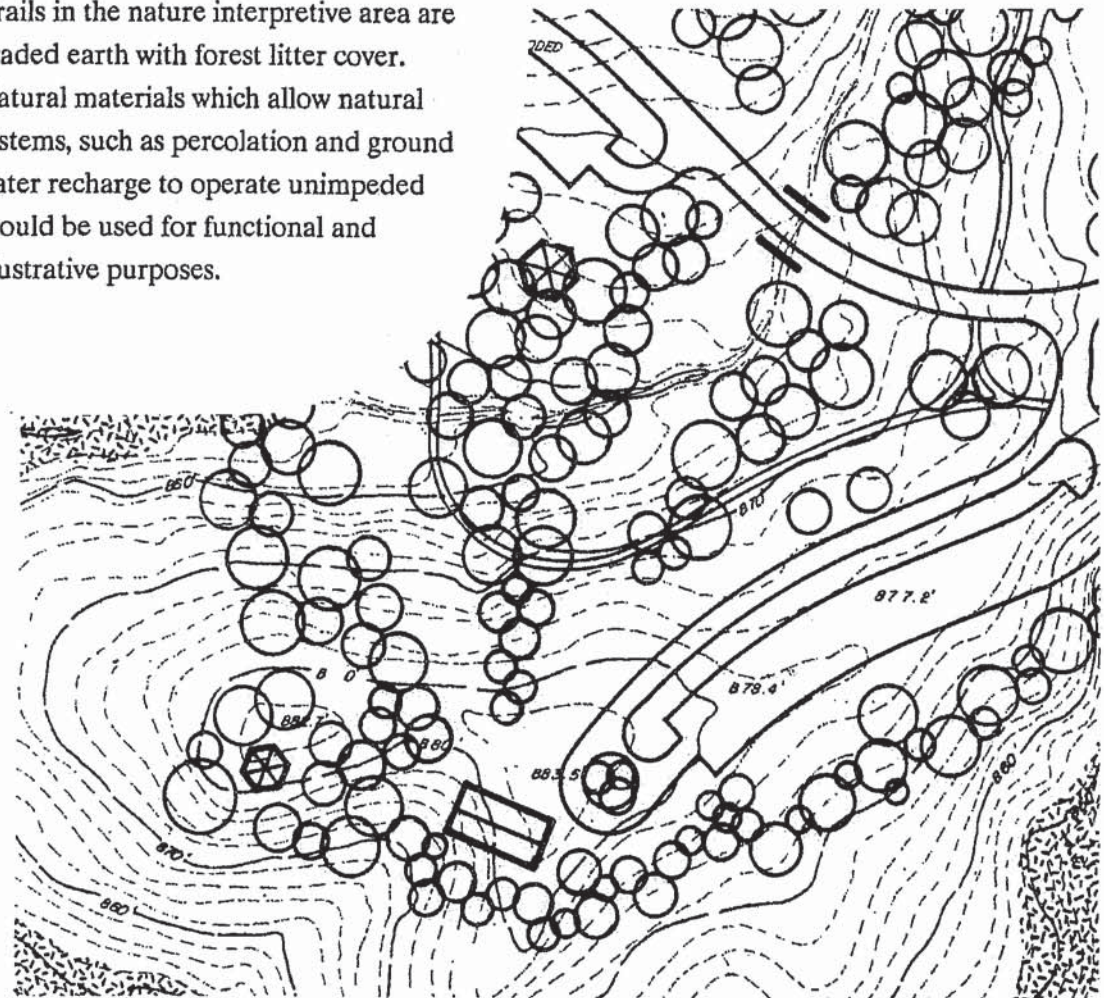


NATURE INTERPRETIVE AREA

The Bethesda Road site offers many opportunities for interpretation of natural features. Topics such as land form and soil types, native vegetation and plant associations, hydrological cycle, and impacts of development on the natural environment can be communicated through information signs and organized seminars and programs.

A nature interpretive facility for meetings and displays, with restroom facilities, is proposed for the area. A trail system meanders through the preserve and interpretive area, revealing characteristics of the environment ranging from dry ridge and upland habitats to flood plain and creekside habitats.

Trails in the nature interpretive area are graded earth with forest litter cover. Natural materials which allow natural systems, such as percolation and ground water recharge to operate unimpeded should be used for functional and illustrative purposes.



PICNIC FACILITIES

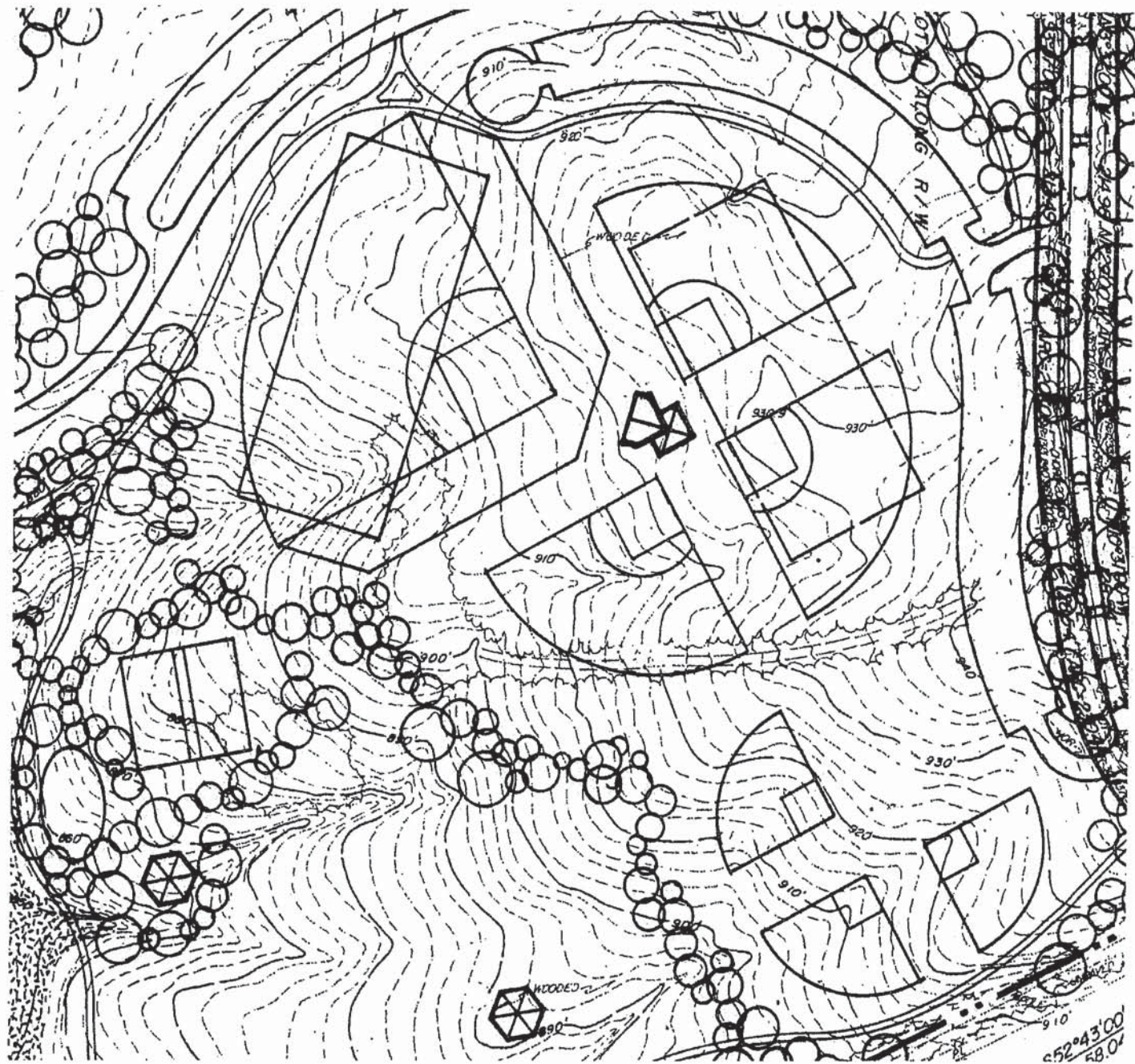
The traditional open space concept for Bethesda Community Park provides opportunities for free use of open and wooded settings. Picnics on spread blankets can occur throughout the park. Pavilions are provided adjacent to the soccer fields, near the nature interpretive area, and west of the youth athletic complex. The pavilions provide sheltered tables for single families as well as larger groups.

YOUTH ATHLETIC FIELDS

Beyond the community center complex, west of Bethesda Church Road, a complex of lighted athletic fields is provided to serve youth athletic associations of Gwinnett County. There are three 120-foot foul line fields for T-ball and pee wee teams, three 200-foot foul line fields for minor/major league play, and one 320-foot foul line field for pony league play. The pony league field is fully outfitted and lighted to provide a first class tournament facility.

Two overlay football fields are designated within the youth athletic fields. Centrally located to the athletic fields, a comfort station/concession facility provides restrooms, food preparation areas, storage, and a meeting room for field users.

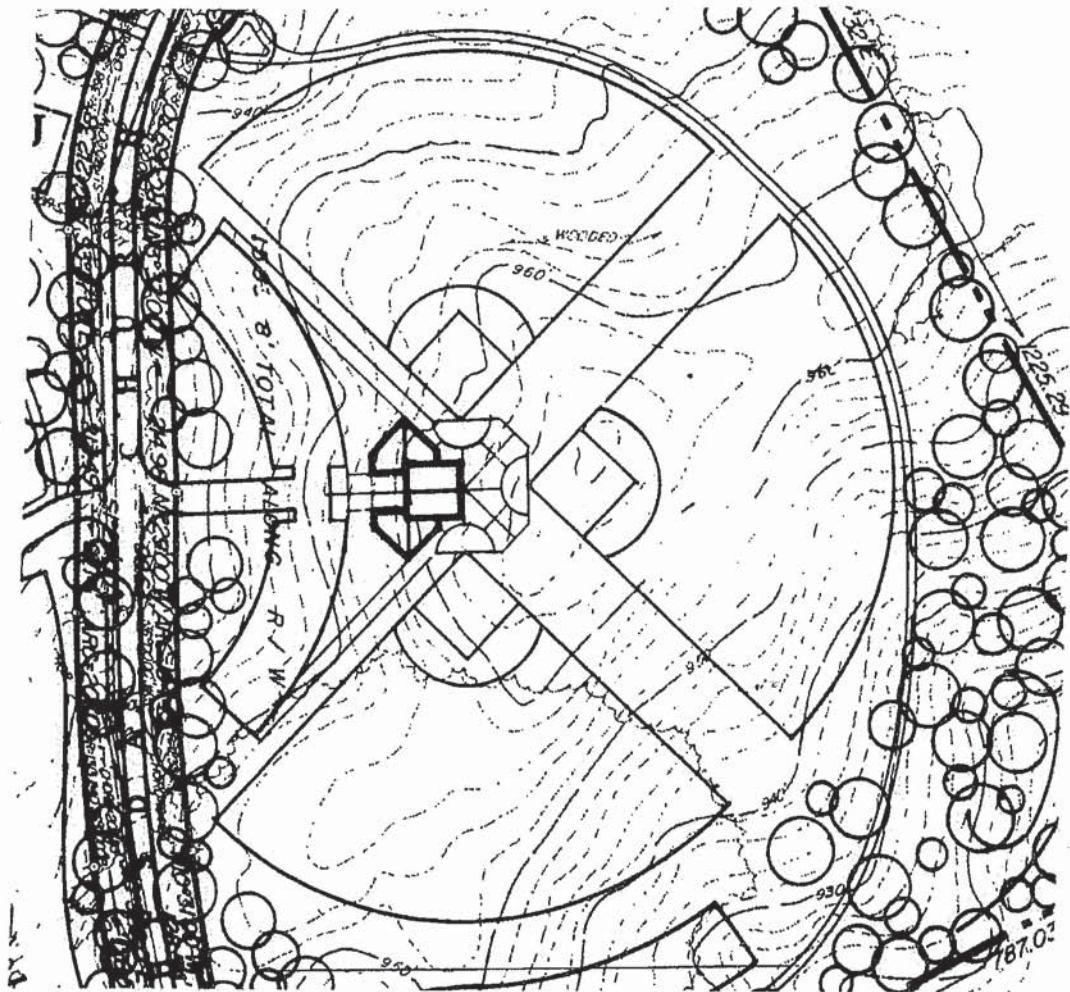
Access, circulation, and parking are paved and edged with a concrete curb and gutter. Exercise trails connect the youth athletic area with other park facilities.



52°43'00"
68.0'

ADULT SOFTBALL FIELDS

The softball area, which consists of three 300-foot foul line fields, is sited east of Bethesda Church Road across from the youth athletic complex. A comfort station/concession facility is centrally located to the ball fields and contains enclosed space for storage and a meeting room. Access and parking are paved and edged with concrete curb and gutter. The ball fields are lighted and irrigated. The park-wide exercise trails connect the softball complex to other park facilities.



SOCCER FIELDS

In the northeast corner of the site is an area designated as soccer fields. The large expanse of openness will give a meadow-like appearance to the area. This effect will be achieved through careful grading practices. In actuality, the northern edge of the fields will site on a several feet of fill while the southern edge will be in cut. Grading the area in this way will allow a view from the road and parking all the way across the width of the soccer fields.

Adjacent to the soccer fields are play areas with picnic pavilions. These pavilions provide shelter for large and small groups.

The closest buildings to the soccer fields are the gym and senior center. They are located just across a road and parking

lot. The outdoor pool is also close to the fields.



PHASE I DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Phase I development program will show the quantity and material type of the site elements described below as well as their location. The elements include several athletic fields and their associated parking as shown on the site plan.

There are three lighted and irrigated Little League fields; three lighted and irrigated Pee Wee fields; one baseball/multipurpose field, lighted and irrigated; three lighted and irrigated softball fields; and one large, meadow-like area for soccer, also irrigated. These athletic fields are provided to serve youth athletic groups and casual visitors in Gwinnett County.

Parkway drives and lighting will be incorporated into the overall design of

the park. The Phase I parkway drive design will be such that extensions to form a complete loop drive may be accomplished in later phases. Pending future phase development, existing dirt roads provide access to the remainder of the site for passive use.

Likewise, landscaping and signage will be indicated where appropriate throughout the park's overall design.

A picnic/play area with picnic tables to accommodate large and small groups is located in the youth athletic area. One picnic shelter is located near the soccer fields.

A future one-acre lake is central to the park's overall design. It not only serves to enhance the park-like atmosphere of

the project but also functions to retain the bulk of stormwater run-off associated with the site. The Phase I layout respects the future development of this lake. Phase I stormwater runoff will be held in additional sedimentation ponds before reaching the lake, thereby increasing water quality in the future lake.

Water service to the site is a major Phase I concern. Water lines will have to be extended from over 2,000 feet away in order to provide water for irrigation and visitor use.

Bethesda Park

Planning Study

Primary Multi-use Trail Loop

At 1.57 miles length, this loop will feature variously challenging terrain while traversing forest types from mature hardwoods to successional pine woods. At the hardwood cove overlook, a small picnic shelter is located with easy access from the loop drive. Adjacent parking will enable convenient access to the trail system.

Community Building with Outdoor Aquatics

Building and pool size and configuration to be determined by future studies. Indicated space for pool up to 175'x120' with generous deck area. Building can be a footprint up to 40,000 square feet. A 2 level structure is suggested, allowing parking lots (total 330 spaces) dedicated to each level access. A wooded foreground separates the building from the park drive.

ADAG Accessible Trail Loop

A gently sloping trail at 0.59 miles length will encourage access to the natural park setting. A 185 LF elevated walkway could be added to link this trail to the larger, more challenging loop. A small shelter overlooks the wooded floodplain.

Tennis Center

Up to 14 courts can be terraced into the terrain, allowing control staff to observe court activity from a central, 2500 SF office/restroom facility. One set of courts is set apart to allow hillside seating options. Parking for 126 cars is provided.

Note: Program elements this zone subject to change following subsequent programming studies.

Maintenance Compound

A paved, 5700 SF fenced yard with 1200 SF storage building is provided with direct cart access lane to the youth baseball complex

Prepared for
Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation

Prepared by
CERULEA Inc. in association
with Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc.
March 24, 1999



Youth Soccer Complex

Existing fields on two terraces with central concession/restroom facility.

Access Trail Spur

Connects trail loop to soccer fields and Bethesda Church Road.

Group Picnic Meadow and Community Playground

Play area features 20,000 SF of developed play surface and adjacent 30' hex. shade pavilion. Group picnic area has 30,000 open lawn space and a 45' hex. shade pavilion. Parking is provided for 24 cars.

Soccer Parking Expansion

Add approx. 100 spaces at new east lot and reconfigured existing lots. Provide walkway access to soccer fields and to main park drive for access by Senior Center.

Senior Center

Existing center with adjacent parking overlooks lake with accessible perimeter trail.

Loop Road Completion

With the addition of the final 2,130 feet of drive, the loop will be completed. Sidewalks will be added to the edge of the drive to connect park elements and provide linkage to existing sidewalks at Bethesda Church Road.

Adult Softball Complex

(3) 300' fields with a central restroom/concession building and 2 adjacent parking lots. Add protective netting at outfield fence of northern field to protect cars from long balls.

Youth Softball Complex

Renovate to include relocation of central 200' field to western perimeter, construction of core parking area with 185 parking spaces, addition of a restroom at the tee-ball fields, and addition of a picnic pavilion adjacent to the play area and concession building.

Access Trail Spur

Connects trail loop to upper youth baseball parking area.

Outparcel

100 Yr. Flood

100 Yr. Flood

Floodplain

Sweetwater Creek

Hardwood Cove

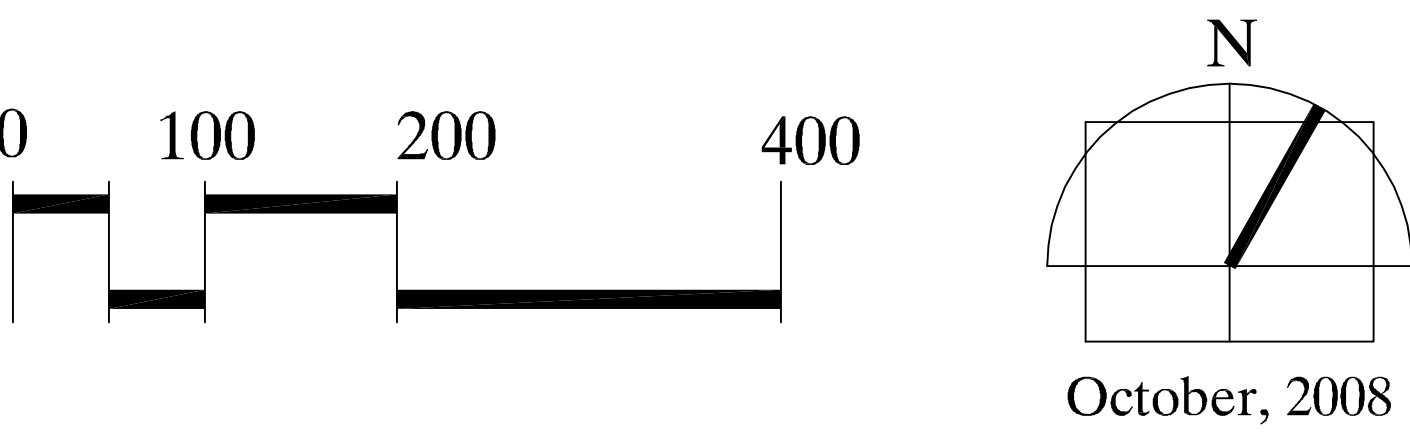
Pond

Bethesda Church Road

Ronald Reagan Parkway

Bethesda Park

MASTERPLAN



- Pavilion/Playground Complex**
60' dia. Pavilion with Restroom Building, Playground and Parking
- Multi-use Trail System**
12' wide asphalt 1.5 mile woodland loop to be connected to Bethesda Road by north and south perimeter spurs.
- Community Center/Gym**
Two story community center with gym and indoor truck.
- Indoor Family Aquatics Center**
Indoor Leisure Pool with lazy river, water slide, interactive play structure. Indoor Instructional Pool.
- Maintenance Compound**
Fenced and paved yard with Maintenance Building

- Floodplain Forest**
Flanking Sweetwater Creek is a Riverine Hardwood Forest within the 100 year Floodplain with Water Oak and River Birch.
- Upland Hardwoods Forest**
This deciduous forest on well drained soils is distinguished by White Oak and Alabama Buckeye.
- Soccer Complex**
Four field complex with lighted fields on two terraces with two Concession Restroom Buildings, parking, small pavilion and playground.

- Multi-Purpose Field (Football, Lacrosse, Soccer)**
Complex includes lighted field, Concession/Restroom Building, turf zone for cheerleading activities, separately lighted walking trail, parking, press box, & bleachers.
- Accessible Trail Loop**
.28 mile flat asphalt loop with independent lighting for night/winter evening exercise.

- Potential Greenway Connection**
Trail Extension to Jackson Creek, Camp Creek Greenway and Lions Club Park
- Youth Baseball/Softball Complex**
Seven field lighted complex with two Concession/Restroom Buildings, playground, parking, and picnic shelter.

- Gwinnett Senior Center**
Senior citizens facility with meeting rooms, ballroom, game room, SeniorNet computer learning center, parking, pond with fountain and accessible paved walking trail around pond.
- Potential Greenway Connection**
Trail Extension to Yellow River and Ronald Reagan Park at Five Forks
- Basketball Courts**
Two high school sized fenced outdoor courts.
- Adult Softball Complex**
(3) 300' lighted fields with Concession/Restroom Building and parking.

Prepared for
Gwinnett County Department of Community Services

Prepared by
EDAW INC. - CERULEA INC. - jB+a INC.
JORDAN, JONES & GOULDING

Park Acreage:	158.7 Acres
Parking Summary:	
Total	1550
Gwinnett Senior Center (a)	88
Soccer Complex (b,c,d)	325
Community Center/Gym (e)	92
Indoor Family Aquatics Center (f)	164
Multi-purpose Field (g)	181
Pavilion/Playground (h)	77
Youth BB/SB Complex (i,j,k)	423
Adult Softball Complex (l,m,n,o)	200