

# SITE PLAN

Scale design proposal within the Conceptual Framework.

## Notes

The following statements are included to clarify design proposals for the major use areas:

- INTERPRETIVE BUILDING** - The interpretive building is the focal point of orientation for the user. Through the use of indoor exhibits, and structured programs the visitor will be exposed to both the historical and present day reforestation practices and programs in Michigan. It is anticipated that tree seedlings and other articles of interest. The interpretive building delineated in plan is strictly diagrammatic. It is included to show the approximate relationship of the building site to the proposed circulation patterns. Refinement of the building plan and siting will be accomplished once the architectural plans are finalized.
- OUTDOOR EXHIBITS** - The outdoor exhibit area will include historically significant buildings such as the parking house, barn, tool house, and small cottage. Other interesting pieces of equipment, such as an early fire

tower and a fire tower cab will be displayed. However, this is not to be misinterpreted that the area will become an accumulation of extraneous equipment. The outdoor exhibit area will be an important integral part in the self guiding interpretive system.

**TREE PLOTS** - Four demonstrative tree plots will be maintained to show the character and practice of raising seedling stock in a nursery environment. The four plots will demonstrate a continuous four-year growth sequence with each plot depicting one year's growth between one and four years. Rotation of plots will consist of a yearly cycle to maintain a young nursery environment. Young pine seedlings sold at the interpretive building will be taken from the tree plots. If tree sales exceed the supply to the point of detracting from the original purpose of the tree plots, auxiliary planting beds can be established west of the service area.

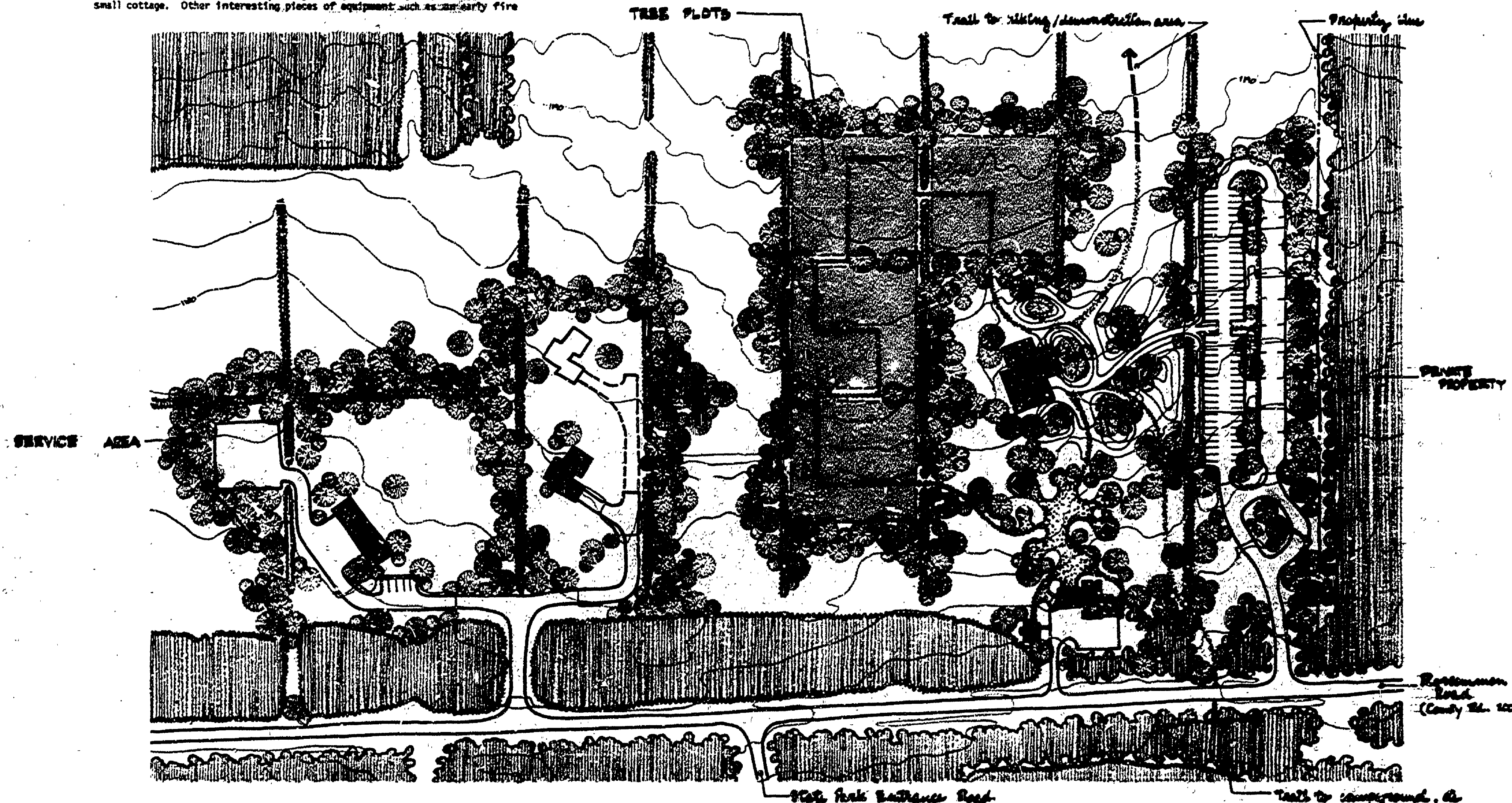
**HIKING/INTERPRETIVE TRAILS** - The positions of trails will connect the use areas. Although not shown on plan, the major interpretive trail system north of the interpretive building will conceptually be a loop trail system. Trails of varying lengths can be established with the primary basis for trail layout being the interpretive features such as the site cistern and fire tower sites, special tree varieties, forestry practice areas, etc. Even though the park naturalist will be responsible for conducting planned

interpretive hikes for school groups, etc., the trails will be designed to be self guiding. The foot trails will be primarily constructed with woodchips.

**SERVICE AREA** - Contrary to recently completed development plans for the service area, it has been determined to revise the unbuilt portions, i.e. the office, shop, garage, and storage yard, to the west of the entrance road and manager's residence to provide a larger site area for interpretive development and appropriate buffer areas. The site plan reflects this change.

**PROPOSED PLANTINGS** - Plantings will be established primarily for site enrichment and screening purposes. The proposed plantings are suggested as a guideline for mass plantings. It is advisable that trees and shrubs indigenous to the area be used in the plantings, however, suitable counterparts to the natural vegetation should be introduced if they are available.

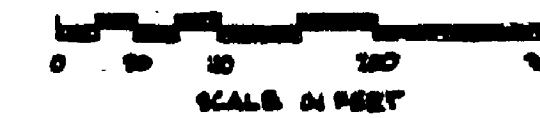
**PARKING AND CONTROL FACILITIES** - The capacity of the parking lot will be 80 car stalls and a total combination of 20 car w/trailer or bus stalls. (Provisions for parking expansion are explained in the phasing plan). Motor vehicle permit will be required and a contact station and turn around will be provided.



## Legend

- ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS**
  - a INTERPRETIVE BUILDING (PROPOSED)
  - b PARKING HOUSE (EXISTING)
  - c OFFICE (EXISTING)
  - d CAME BARN (PROPOSED LOCATION)
  - e CONTACT STATION (PROPOSED)
  - f MANAGER'S RESIDENCE (EXISTING)
  - g OFFICE, SHOP, & GARAGE (PROPOSED)
  - h DISPLAY FEATURES / KS HOUSE, FIRE TOWER & CAB (PROPOSED LOCATION)

- EXISTING DECIDUOUS VEGETATION
- EXISTING EVERGREEN VEGETATION
- PROPOSED GENERAL PLANTINGS
- CONTOUR / 2 FT INTERVAL
- SHEDDING PROPOSED
- PEDESTRIAN FOOT TRAILS



# North HIGGINS LK. State Park

## INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

- PRELIMINARY
- DESIGN PROPOSAL
- DESIGNED & DRAWN BY

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Parks Division