FLATVILLE, ILLINOIS — AREA AND COMMUNITY

BY

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THESIS

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Special acknowledgment is made to Reverend H. H. Diers, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville, for introducing the writer to members of his congregation; for allowing access to church records; and for furnishing information, both historical and current, concerning the Flatville Area and Community.

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Finally, the writer wishes to express his appreciation to his advisor, Dr. Fred W. Foster, for the encouragement and guidance received from him during the preparation of most of this thesis; and to Dr. Jerome D. Fellman, who took over as advisor during the final summer session.


LOCATION MAP
Illinois, Champaign County, and the Flatville Area
Limits of Area Maps
Township Boundaries
Square Mile Studied in Detail
Railroads
Highways
Chicago
Springfield
LUDLOW TWP
HARWOOD TWP
KERR TWP
Gifford
Fisher
Rantoul
Penfield
RANTOUL TWP
COMPROMISE TWP
Flatville
Thomasboro
OGDEN TWP
SOMER TWP
STANTON TWP
Royal
Mahomet
Champaign
Urbana
St. Joseph
Sidney
Tolono

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Presentation Of The Problem

B. Approach To The Problem

C. Methods Of Investigation

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Presentation Of The Problem

To the casual observer the name "Flatville" denotes a country crossroads on a level stretch of ground in Compromise Township, Champaign County, Illinois. At this crossroads, he observes, is a country store, a modern, single story, brick school house, and an unusually large and impressive brick church built in the Gothic style. Adjacent to this church is a parsonage, surrounded by an extensive, picturesque church yard. Had this observer a bent toward geography, "Flatville" might denote a country crossroads located in Township 21 North, Range 10 East of the 3d Principal Meridian, Champaign County, Illinois. He would locate it on a glacial outwash plain a few miles south of the Gifford Ridge of the Bloomington Morainic System. He would describe the land surface as being a level to slightly undulating plain, typical of the Illinois "Grand Prairie". In either case, the observer would be correct.

To a farmer living near this country crossroads, "Flatville" denotes the location of his Church, near which is conveniently located a small store, and a school to which he may send his children. But with this goes the connotation of an area, possibly one hundred square miles in extent, in which exists a German community, faithful to the Lutheran Church, and marked by its thrift and unity.

How did this community come into being? What are its boundaries? What is the nature of its residents? What was the nature of the land when they settled? What effect has occupance had upon the "natural landscape"? How is the land utilized? Does regional unity exist within the boundaries? These questions must be answered before a thorough understanding of this community is gained.

In terms of a "problem", it may be said that the aim of this study is to predict the future of Flatville and the Flatville Community after making a

complete analysis of the physical aspects of the area and the cultural aspects of the community existing within the area.

Approach To The Problem

The method of approach is as logical as possible. Early settlement is discussed first and the growth and consolidation of the settlement followed to the present time. The Flatville Area is delimited on the basis of Ost Friesian (German) land ownership; once delimited, the area is subjected to a general regional study in terms of physical aspects and occupance. An attempt is made to show the factors contributing to regional unity and disunity. Following the general study, two square miles of land -- one at the core of the area, and the other outside the area altogether -- are examined in detail. These two small areas are compared to determine whether differences may be detected between the Flatville Area and the surrounding area. In effect, the square mile at the core is extended or extrapolated to typify the whole community, and is compared with the surrounding area which is typified by the extension of the analysis of the section outside the Flatville Area. Finally, an attempt is made to forecast the future of Flatville and the Flatville Community.

Methods of Investigation

Several methods of investigation were used in compiling material for this study. For example, extensive use was made of records from Flatville Immanuel Lutheran Church, and deed records at the Champaign County Courthouse to determine the location of early settlement in the area. Again, in determining the limits of the settlement in various years, names of land owners, taken from several plat books, were compared against the church rolls. Numerous personal interviews were conducted and several hundred questionnaires sent to people in the community. In the course of obtaining data for Figure 15, "Traffic Patterns as Determined From Road Turnings", the author and his wife drove over three hundred miles of

country roads -- she driving, while he charted directions of traffic from each farm driveway and at each road intersection.

CHAPTER II

HISTORY OF SETTLEMENT

A. Early Settlement

B. The Church Is Established

C. The Settlement Grows

CHAPTER II

HISTORY OF SETTLEMENT

Early Settlement

The majority of people now living in the Flatville Area are the third generation of a group of German Lutherans who migrated from Ost Friesland, in Northwest Germany, near the Netherlands, sometime during the middle of the 19th Century. They originally settled in the vicinity of New Orleans but, following the tide of German immigrants, they moved on up the Mississippi to St. Louis. Then, in search of an agricultural region similar to their homeland, they moved still farther north to Golden (then called Ost Friesland), Adams County, Illinois. The soil around Golden was good and it is claimed that the value of farm land increased in value two hundred times during two generations,[1] but somehow the people were still not satisfied with their location.

Pioneers travelling westward through Adams County talked of certain prairie land in Champaign County which had been shunned by settlers because of its swampy condition. The Ost Friesians were interested and in 1869[2] three men departed toward the east, against the tide of westward bound settlers, in search of a promised land.

The land they found in Compromise Township probably appeared far from a "promised land" in 1869. It was swampy; all other land in the vicinity had been settled, leaving unclaimed only the "Flats" as the area has been called. But somehow the land reminded them of Ost Friesland, and they intended to stay. They drove by night over the frozen marshes to their chosen site, a small prominence,[3] which was the only spot in the near vicinity not a mire after the thaw. On this prominence they erected a shanty with a lean-to kitchen.

After spring crops were in, the families of these three men arrived from Golden. While the men worked in the fields the women staked out the sites for

the new dwellings. The first house constructed in the settlement, aside from the first shanty, was a three-room structure, built entirely by the women.

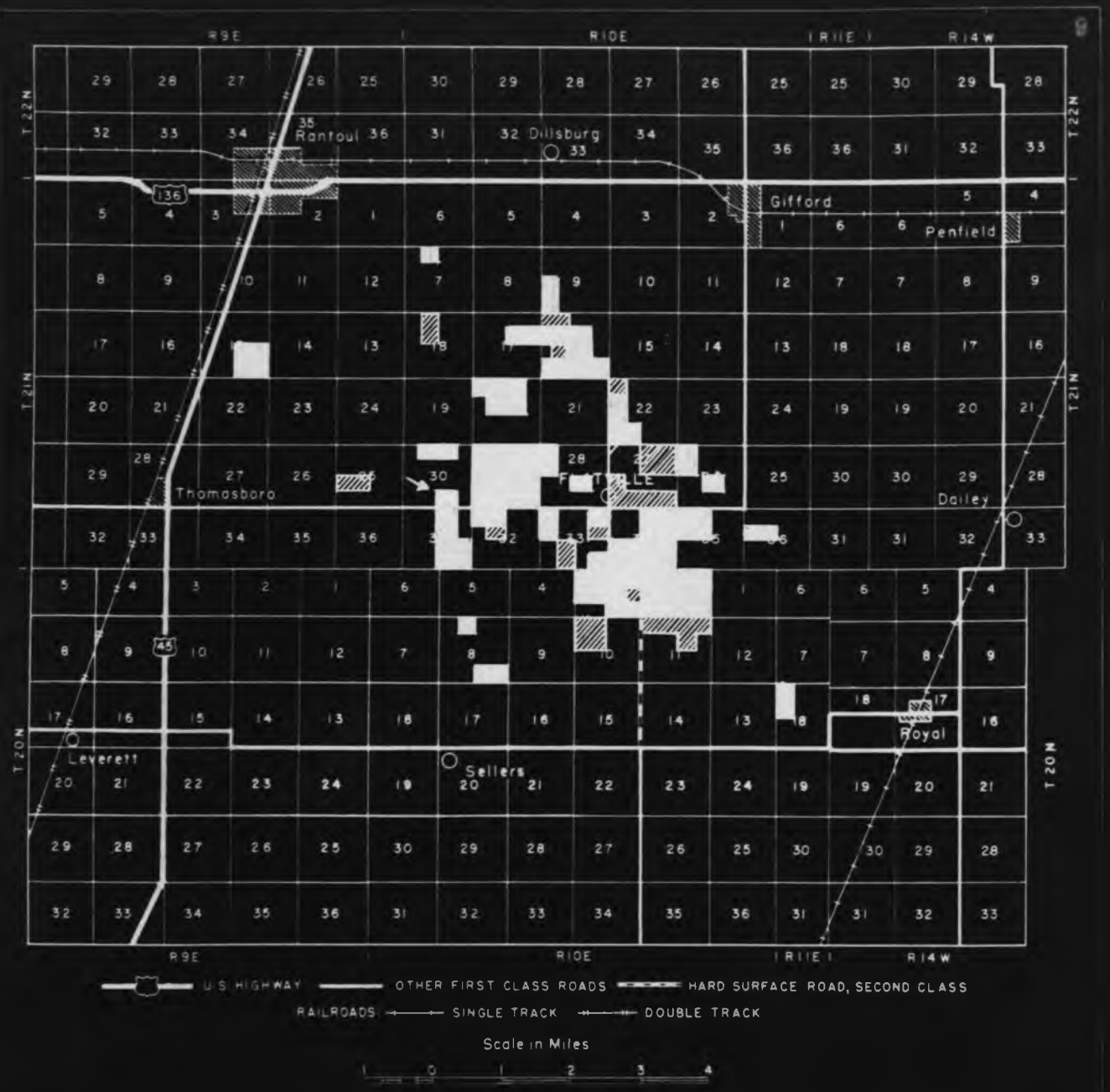
By the end of 1870 nineteen families had arrived, all but the original three having come direct from Ost Friesland.

A vast amount of labor went into the land. It had to be drained. Mr. Behrend J. Buhr, owner of E½ NW¼ Section 34, T 21 N, R 10 E, who arrived from Golden as a boy with his parents in 1870, recalls that in his boyhood the Spoon River, a little over a mile east of Plattville, was a swale approximately 300 yards wide and about ankle deep. With crude, oxen-drawn dredges a channel was cleared for the stream. Other ditches were made in the same crude manner. After that, the settlers actually sloped acre after acre toward the ditches they had dug — all this done with spades, or by scoops drawn by horses or oxen. Tile kilns sprang up in Gifford and Thomasboro, and eventually the land was draining off water in good fashion.

The settlers did not mind this hard work, for here was land that was theirs and no one could take it away. It was more land than a peasant ever aspired to own in Ost Friesland, and the soil yielded better than any they had seen before. The land always produced a crop and in a few years it was worth many times the price paid for it.

Women worked on the roads, in the fields and in the house. The birth rate was low, but since there were seldom more than three or four children per family in Ost Friesland this circumstance probably was a result of tradition rather than new hardships. In fact, there were no unfamiliar hardships in the new land; everyone was accustomed to hard work and no one expected anything else.

So far, no names, except that of Behrend J. Buhr, have been mentioned. Available references made little note of names until the year 1873, several years after the first settlement. In the basement of Immanuel Lutheran Church are stored the records of the church. Among these was found the "Kirchenbuch der Ev.



■ Land purchased during, and prior to, 1874 by Ost Friesians.

▨ Land purchased subsequent to 1874 by donors to first church.

→ Indicates site of first settlement by Ost Friesian (Henry Baker, March 31st, 1868).

Source: Kirchenbuch der Ev. Luth. Immanuels Gemeinde zu Compromise, Illinois, 1872, and deed records in Champaign County Courthouse.

Figure 2: Membership in First Flatville church, 1874, and probable extent of Ost Friesian Community.

Figure 3: Grave stones in Koyman Cemetery, SE¼ Section 36, T 21 N, R 10 E. Note especially the Old Frisian names and the German inscriptions.

Luth. Immanuels Gemeinde zu Compromise, Illinois, 1872". Among other things this book contains a list of contributors to the first church built in 1873 or 1874.[5] Entering the deed records in the Office of the County Recorder, Champaign County, it was found that on March 31st, 1868 the Illinois Central Railroad Company granted Heinrich Meeker (Henry Baker) SW¼ SE¼ Section 30, T 21 N, R 10 E, for the consideration of $360.00. Henry Baker would then be considered the first Ost Friesian settler in Flatville, and according to the courthouse records he settled there in March 1868 rather than March 1869 as quoted in "Rural Community Types"[6], or 1870 as quoted in the Diamond Jubilee Book published by Immanuel Lutheran Church in 1949.[7] The land purchased by Mr. Baker was approximately two miles west of the present location of the church (Fig. 2); the present farm buildings are located on a relatively high piece of ground, which fact strengthens the connection between Henry Baker's name and the first settlers. On the other hand a Mr. William Cloyd, also mentioned among the contributors to the first church, purchased eighty acres (N½ SW¼ Section 29, T 21 N, R 10 E) on 28 February 1868 in the section adjoining that where Henry Baker settled, and during 1870 purchased an additional 160 acres in Sections 29 and 32 (T 21 N, R 10 E). However, the Cloyds had been in Champaign County for many years and were not connected with the Ost Friesian settlement in any way except in church membership. Likewise, Theodore Hester purchased 160 acres (SE¼ Section 31, T 21 N, R 10 E) on September 5th, 1864. He was not an Ost Friesian, and only contributed $2.00 toward the new church building.

After Henry Baker, the next Ost Friesians to purchase land in the area were Peter Cornelius on November 3d, 1870 (NW¼ SE¼, NE¼, and SE¼ SE¼ Section 3, T 20 N, R 10 E), and Ontke Ihnen on August 27th, 1870 (S½ NW¼ Section 33, T 21 N, R 10 E).

Figure 2 shows the extent of the settlement at the time of building the first church in 1874. The scattered nature of the settlement was probably due to the swampy nature of the land at that time. Later, after efforts toward draining

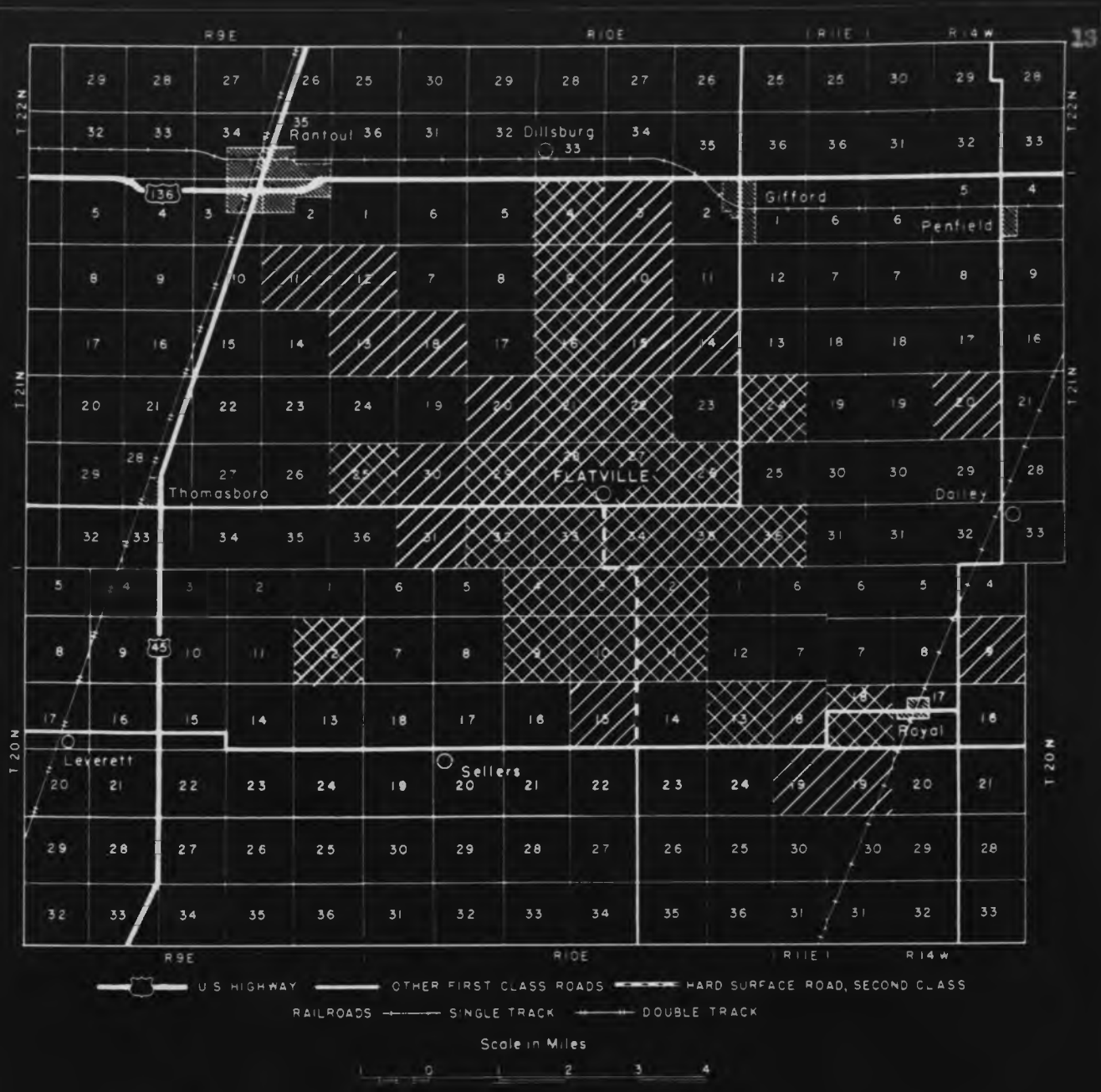
the land were successful, the settlement was consolidated. That considerable consolidation had taken place by 1893 is shown by Figure 4.

The Church Is Established

During the first years of the settlement, religious services were held in one of the homes. Later, a small building was erected two miles east of the site of Henry Baker's house and a travelling preacher, who served two other charges, preached and held eucharistic services there every six weeks. In 1874[8] the settlers erected a church building and appointed a resident minister.

In 1880 the church tried to discharge a minister because he had insisted upon having his brother, a fugitive from the law somewhere in the east, help him to teach in the parochial school. The congregation divided over this issue, some of the people holding that the pastor could be discharged, the others adhering to the tenet that "God calls in and calls out" a pastor and that the congregation could not interfere.

The portion of the congregation which seceded from the original church built a new church less than a mile west of the established church. Here the deed records from the office of the County Recorder yield useful information. In an entry dated October 8th, 1880, Adolph Kuhlmann, for the sum of $20.00, granted to the "Evangelical Lutheran Church known as the Friedens Church of Compromise Township, 3/4 of an acre of land lying and being in the NW corner of the S½ of the NW¼ of Section 33, T 21 N, R 10 E of the 3d principal meridian". This land was to be used "For the purpose of holding services in the building now built on said land and is hereby expressly understood that this deed is given upon consideration and express condition of having lutheran preaching in said Church Building and that if there is no such preaching at any time for the space of three years then this deed becomes null and void and the above land will revert to the grantor and his heirs and assignees".



75 to 100% Ost Friesian land ownership.

50 to 74% Ost Friesian land ownership.

Source: Standard Atlas of Champaign County, Illinois, George Ogle and Co., Chicago, 1893; and church records.

Figure 4: Extent of Flatville Area based on Ost Friesian land ownership, 1893.

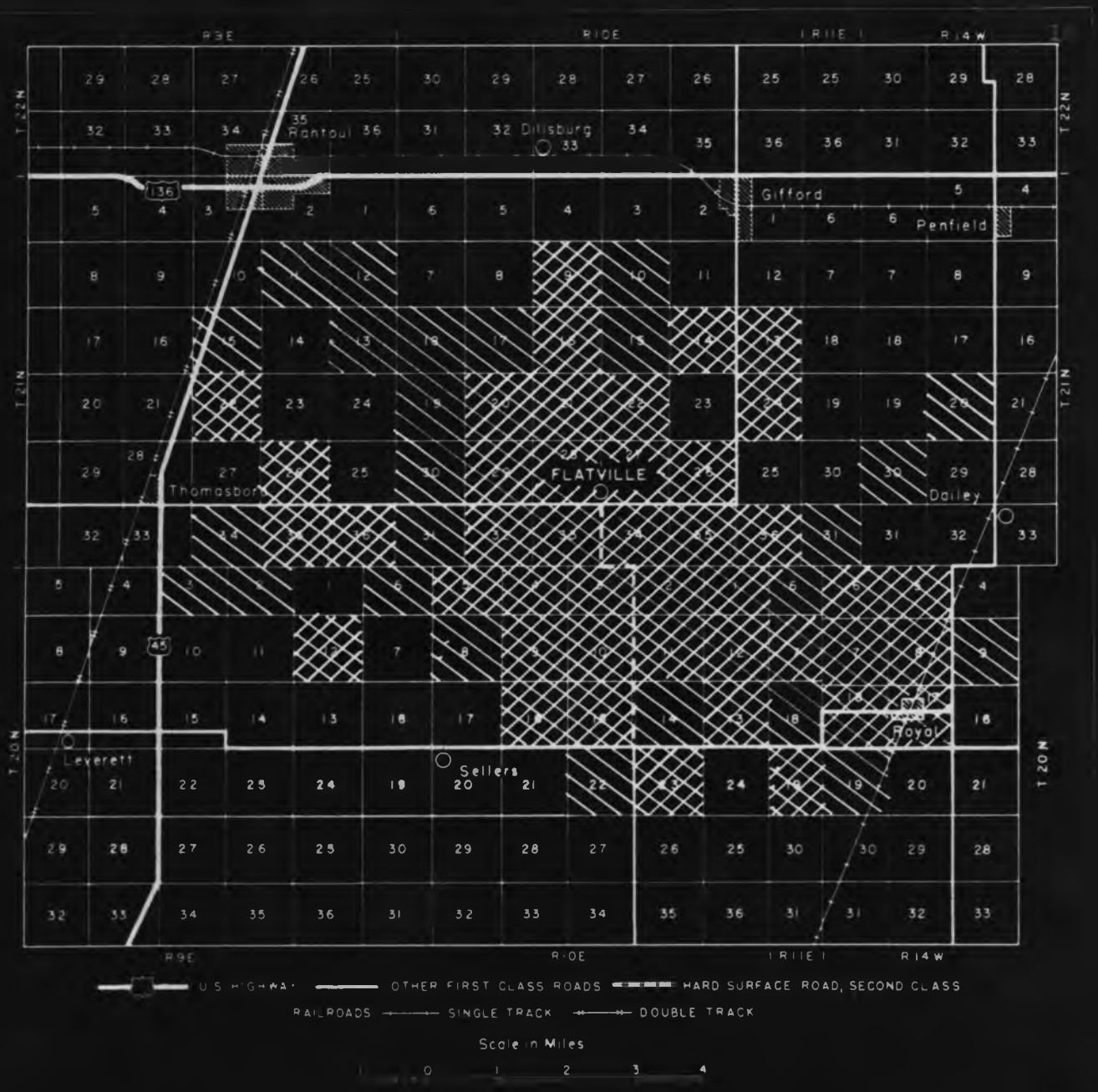
Thus in 1880 a religious quarrel had already provided a force which tended to pull the community apart.

The Settlement Grows

When once established, the settlement grew in size and wealth. By 1900 it presented a very prosperous appearance. Fields had been fenced; roads were in good condition most of the year. Many large houses and farm buildings had been erected. The decade, 1900 to 1910, produced changes in various respects. Farming was done on a larger scale than before and the settlement had expanded. Farm machinery was coming into use, especially tractors and threshing machines. Nearly all the people were prospering and had well-furnished homes. During this decade the sanitary conditions were improved by substituting artesian wells for cisterns. In one year, three drilled wells were put down by one man and soon every farm had a well of this type.

During World War I little change took place in the community. The people tended to their own business. Probably little expansion took place during the war since any action taken by persons of recent German origin would have been under suspicion. However, they did take part in the war effort. A good number of the young men volunteered; others submitted quietly to the draft; several lost their lives in France.

The settlement expanded considerably during the boom years of the 1920s (note the change from Figure 5 to Figure 6). The farmers, ever hungry for more land, bought more. Others living near the fringe of the settlement desired to be nearer their church and purchased land at very high prices from non-Friesians living within the boundaries of the settlement. As a result, the settlement was consolidated as well as expanded. This consolidation and expansion process has continued up until the present time and may be observed by comparison of Figures 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7. With the exception of Figure 2, which shows exact location of land purchased by the first Ost Friesian settlers, all maps depict land

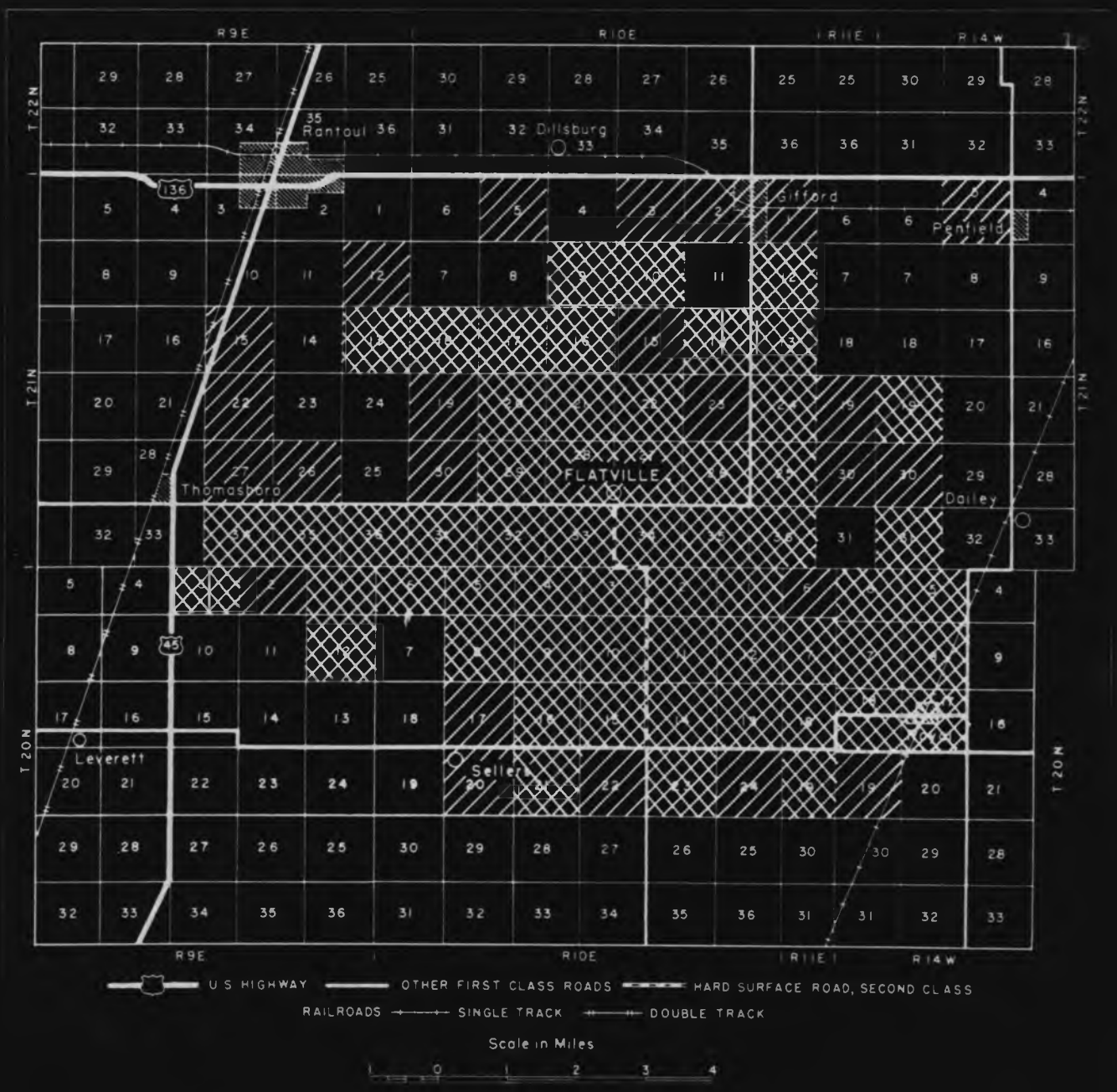


75 to 100% Ost Friesian land ownership.

50 to 74% Ost Friesian land ownership.

Source: Standard Atlas of Champaign County, Illinois, George Ogle and Co., Chicago, 1913; and church records.

Figure 3: Extent of Flatville Area based on Ost Friesian land ownership, 1913.

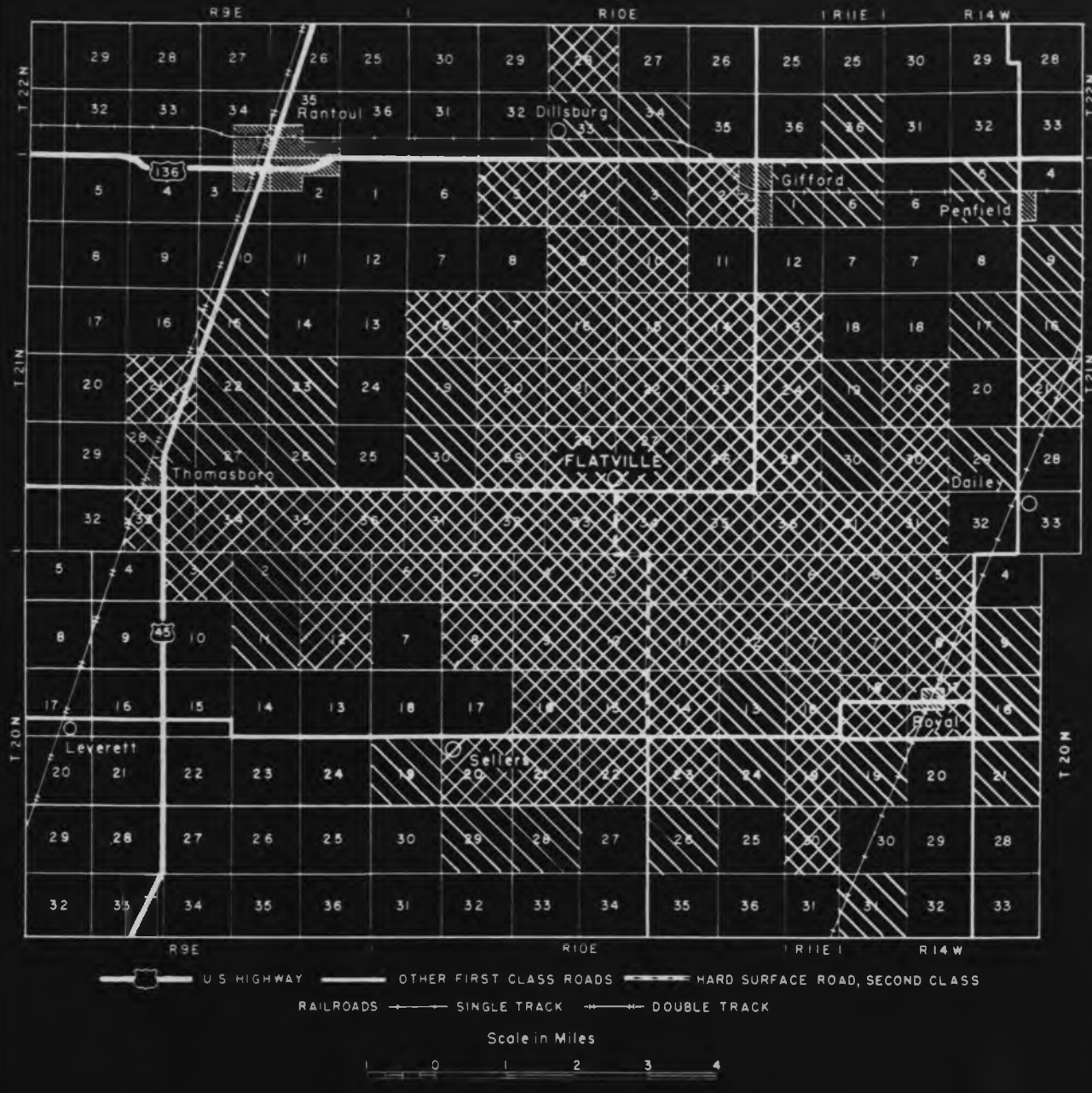


75 to 100% Ost Friesian land ownership.

50 to 74% Ost Friesian land ownership.

Source: Standard Atlas of Champaign County, Illinois, George Ogle and Co., Chicago, 1929; and church records.

Figure 6: Extent of Flatville Area based on Ost Friesian land ownership, 1893.



75 to 100% Ost Friesian land ownership.

50 to 74% Ost Friesian land ownership.

Source: Church records, and Farm Plat Book and Business Guide, Champaign County, Illinois, Rockford Map Publishers, Rockford, Illinois, 1950.

Figure 7: Extent of Flatville Area based on Ost Friesian land ownership, 1950.

ownership by Dst Friesians, on the basis of per cent per square mile. Also, with the exception of Figure 2, contiguous areas of 50% or more of Dst Friesian land ownership comprise the Flatville Area.

CHAPTER III

FLATVILLE AS A REGION

A. The Physical Landscape

1. Glacial Effects
2. Soils — Development and Types
3. Drainage
4. Natural Vegetation
5. Ground Water
6. Climate

B. Life Within The Community

1. Immanuel Lutheran Church
2. The Flatville Community Consolidated School
3. Trade Patterns

CHAPTER III

FLATVILLE AS A REGION

The boundary surrounding contiguous areas of more than 50% Ost Friesian land ownership is considered the boundary of the Flatville Area. Within this boundary exists the Flatville Community. Further, this boundary may also delimit the Flatville "Region".

Can Flatville be properly termed a geographic region? Yes. Flatville has a number of regional characteristics. Within the one hundred square miles over which it extends are several elements of homogeneity, plus a central focal point. There is homogeneity of origin of the people; there is an element of religious homogeneity; there is homogeneity of land type for the most part, and homogeneity of land utilization. The region is focussed on Immanuel Lutheran Church.

On the other hand, there are some elements of disunity which tend to disrupt the regional character. Briefly these are: the schism in the church which divides the Ost Friesians into two groups, American Lutheran Church and Missouri Synod; the presence of a circle of trading centers around Flatville, each with its own Lutheran Church, which tend to form regions around them out of the Flatville Region; and the Gifford ridge which disrupts the homogeneity of land form and land utilization.

These factors will be considered in the remainder of the discussion.

The Physical Landscape

During the course of years the activities of the people in the Flatville Area have made certain indelible imprints upon the physical landscape of the area. These imprints are important; they are a result of people's striving to make a living; they are an indication of progress; and they reveal certain aspects of the cultural landscape. Before studying the impressions made upon the area by

the imposition of culture it is necessary to study the physical landscape of the area.

Glacial Effects

The Flatville land-surface is of glacial origin — the result of two ice sheets which covered the area during the Glacial epoch. Of the two glaciers which covered Flatville, only the latter, the Wisconsin, had much influence on the present soils and landforms of the area. The retreat of this glacier was not a continuous process but was often interrupted by long quasi-stationary periods. During such periods the ice melted as rapidly as it pushed forward, and the sediments deposited by the ice piled up in the form of moraines — broad, undulating ridges, varying from one-half to three or four miles in width. As the glacier retreated, this process was repeated and a series of moraines formed. The intervening intermoraineal tracts are now occupied chiefly by level, undulating or slightly rolling plains.

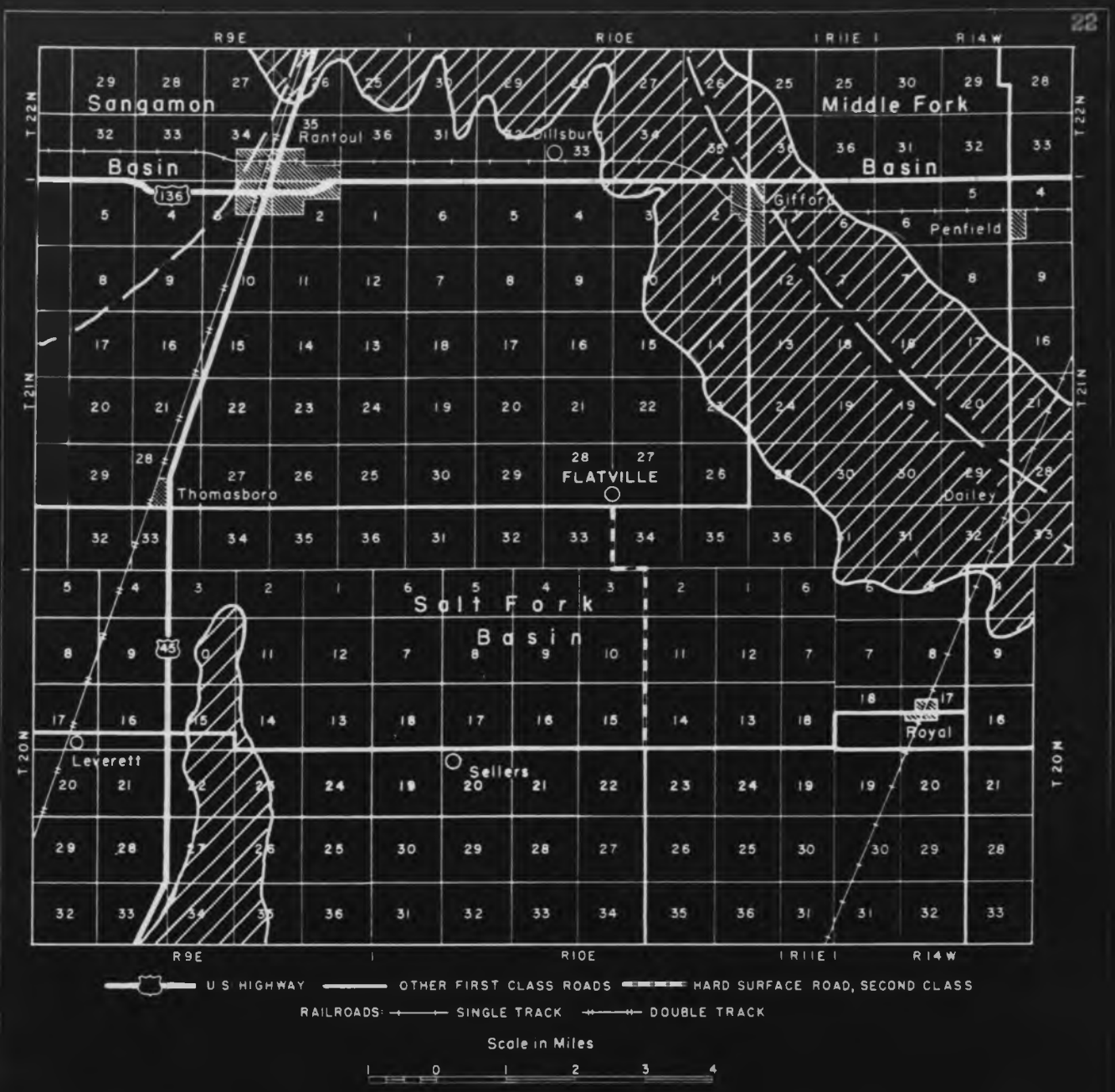
The Flatville area is bounded on the east and northeast by the Gifford ridge of the Bloomington Morainic System and on the southwest by the Champaign Moraine (Figure 8).

As the ice melted, the waters spread out from the Gifford ridge over the Flatville area, sorting and depositing beds of gravel, sand and silt. These deposits of glacial outwash formed the glacial outwash plain upon which much of Flatville stands.

At the end of the glacial era, winds laid down a blanket of loess. The thickness of the loess layer in the Flatville area is approximately 25 inches.[9]

Soils — Development and Types

After the parent materials — loess, till, and outwash — were deposited, they were subjected to weathering forces, and the processes of soil development began. Vegetation was an important influence in the development of soil around



Moraine.

Drainage Divide.

Source: Champaign County Soils; University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Soil Report No. 18, Urbana, 1918.

Figure 8: Drainage in the Flatville Area.

Flatville; it was developed under a heavy mantle of prairie grass -- where the prairie grasses grew, their extensive and fibrous roots decayed in the soil, adding much organic matter and producing dark, fertile soil.

Drainage was another great influence on the development of the soil. The high water table of Flatville increased the decomposition of minerals, but retarded leaching and the decay of organic matter. Surface drainage in the pre-settlement days of Flatville was poor, even in the rolling morainal tracts; the soil was wet throughout its development and is therefore characterized by a heavy surface texture, mild acidity, and an abundance of organic material.

When the soils of Champaign County were surveyed in 1918[10] the greater percentage of soil in the Flatville area was classified as Brown Silt Loam. This type occupies the slightly undulating to rolling areas of the prairie land, both morainal and intermorainal. It occupies areas which are well surface-drained and those where artificial drainage is necessary.

In the survey of 1918, most of the remaining soil in the Flatville area was classified as Black Clay Loam. This soil occupies the flat prairie. Its formation in the flat, poorly drained areas is due to the accumulation of organic matter and to the washing in of clay and fine silt from the slightly higher adjoining lands. It is so flat that drainage ditches and tile drainage are often required for proper management. Black Clay Loam is one of the best soils in the state of Illinois, but requires careful management.

The Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Illinois has not yet re-surveyed or re-classified the soils of Champaign County in accordance with the modern system of soil classification. However, investigation reveals that most of the Flatville Area soils may be classified as Brenton Silt Loam and Drummer Clay Loam.

The description given above for Brown Silt loam corresponds very closely to the description for Brenton Silt Loam[11]. It is a dark soil formed from silty

outwash or from a thin blanket of loess. It has developed on nearly level, to gently sloping, land under prairie vegetation. The soil profile is permeable to water throughout, and tile drainage is satisfactory.

Similarly, the description given above for Black Clay Loam corresponds very closely to the description given for Drummer Clay Loam.[12] This soil is a dark soil formed from mixed silt and clay outwash or lake bed sediments. It has developed under marsh grass vegetation on areas that are nearly level or somewhat depressed. Drummer Clay Loam is a productive soil if well drained and well farmed.

Detailed descriptions of these soils and their profiles may be found in Appendix II to this report.

Drainage

A majority of the Flatville Area is within the Salt Fork Drainage Basin, between the Gifford ridge and the Champaign Morainic System (Figure 8). This entire drainage area is comparatively flat; practically no relief is found in the vicinity of Flatville except on the Gifford ridge in the northeast part of the area. The drainage vehicle in this basin is the Salt Fork River with its three major tributaries, the West Branch, East Branch, and Spoon Rivers, and numerous tributaries, many of which have been straightened to increase the efficiency of drainage. At the time of early settlement, natural drainage was so poor that half-swamp conditions prevailed most of the year.

The northeast part of the Flatville Area is in the Middle Fork Drainage Basin. This basin is drained by the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River. As is suggested in the above paragraph, the Gifford ridge serves as the divide between these two drainage basins.

The northwest part of the area is in the Sangamon Drainage Basin which includes the northwestern part of the intermorainal tract between the Champaign and Bloomington Moraines. The basin is drained by the Sangamon River and is separated from the Salt Fork Basin by a low ridge running southwest from Rantoul to the

Champaign Moraine east of Mahomet.

Natural drainage is poor over practically all of the area; to remedy this situation, farmers have resorted to laying tile and digging artificial drainage ditches.

Natural Vegetation

Vegetation at the time of early settlement consisted of a heavy growth of prairie and marsh grass. There is no record of any timber in the Flatville area however, there is some evidence that several heavily wooded tracts existed south of Royal and also along the Spoon River near the south border of the area. Since the earlier settlers seemed always to pick the wooded areas in preference to the prairie, it can be assumed that no wooded areas played any prominent role in early Dut Friesian settlement.

Ground Water

The glacial deposits with variable beds of sand and gravel furnish the area with sufficient water for normal farm use. The Ground Water Division, University of Illinois, made a report on the water situation as follows: "There is no systematic occurrence of water in the Flatville Area. Water is obtained from shallow sands and gravels in glacial drift. These gravels are thin and partly enclosed by impermeable glacial till. They occur at unpredictable depths and have a patchy geographic distribution. Supplies for domestic use can be expected within 100 feet of the surface. The chances of large supplies are very poor."[13]

Water-bearing gravel and sand were found at a depth of 66 inches while making soil borings near the Flatville crossroads. One farmer volunteered the information that he once dug a well 10 feet deep to use as a seasonal supply of water for his hogs.

A few free-flowing artesian wells are to be found near Penfield — the northeast part of the area.

Climate

Climate can hardly be a factor which will help set an area as small as the Flatville Area apart from the surrounding area. It cannot then be considered a factor contributing to the regional unity or disunity of Flatville. On the other hand, the primary occupation of the area is agriculture, and agriculture is so closely tied to climate that it becomes necessary to discuss climate, if only briefly.

Flatville's climate is of the humid Continental type with warm summers and moderately cold winters.

The average rainfall over a twelve year period (1936 through 1947) was 35.10 inches.[14] It happens that this amount of rainfall is favorable either for the growth of forest or prairie type of vegetation. In the Flatville Area, prairie won the battle over forest.

Summer rainfall is largely of the local shower type; several summer droughts have occurred in the area in the past half century — 1914, 1930, 1934, and 1936.[15] Nevertheless, farmers assert that they have never had a crop failure.

A considerable portion of the winter's precipitation falls in the form of snow; however, according to Dr. John L. Page,[16] less than 10% of total precipitation in the area comes from snowfall. Average snowfall is 21 inches (2.1 inches of moisture by Air Weather Service and U.S. Weather Bureau methods of measurement).

The average growing season is 165 days, which period is ample for growth to full maturity of corn and all small grain crops. Average date of the last killing frost in spring is April 29th, with the latest on record being May 25th. Average date of the first killing frost in fall is October 11th, with the earliest recorded occurrence being September 16th.

Life Within The Community

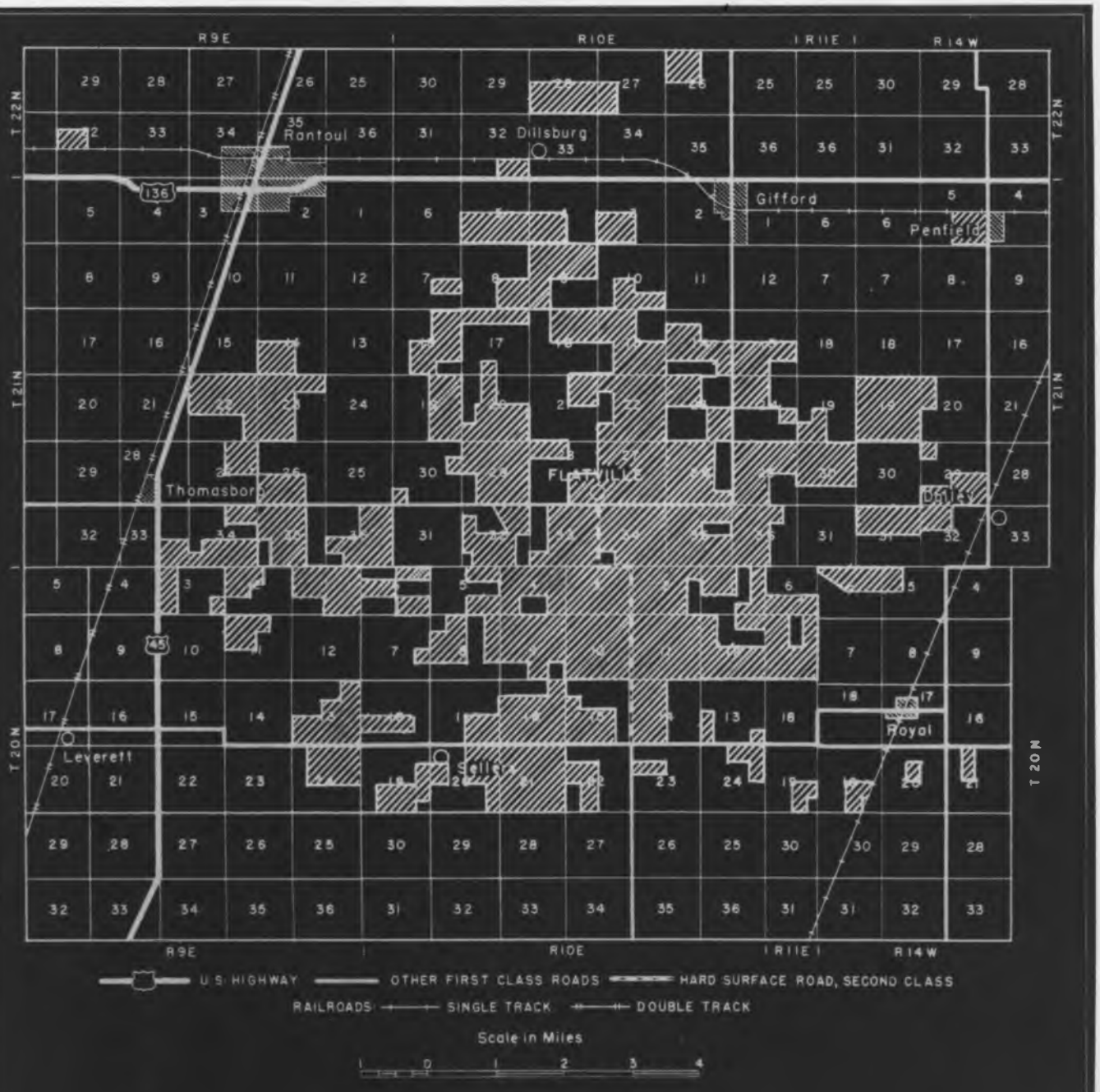
Immanuel Lutheran Church

This institution is the heart of the area and is the symbol of unity of the community. It exerts a strong centripetal force on the community, tending to draw the people toward it, the center.

The people of the community point with pride to their church. Since the land is flat, the church is very much in evidence from a distance of several miles in all directions. The church represents the social life of the people, and much is offered to members of the congregation, both young and old. The church boasts three choirs and a band, and various men's and women's organizations. People of the Flatville Community look to this church as "theirs".

Total membership of the church numbers over eight hundred. The majority of members have several things in common: most of them are farmers; most of them stem from Ost Friesian stock; all of them are Lutherans; and they will all give to the limit in labor or money for any project which will help their church. Members of the congregation recently donated more than 2,000 hours of their time in installing a sanitary system in the church; each year the church gives more than $5,000 for mission work; the community far outstripped any other community of equal population in sending food and clothing to Germany after World War II.

Loyalty to the church affects the economy of the area. It keeps people in the area --- people are loathe to move away from their church. It affects the price of land. A farmer paid $600 an acre for eighty acres of land in 1948 when, by his own admission, the land, as land, was worth only $350 an acre. He stated that if a similar piece of land were put on auction today, it might bring $700 an acre --- not from an outsider, but from a member of the Flatville Community and church, to maintain the solidarity of the community and to exclude outsiders. Proximity to the church increases the value of land to its members. This is be-



Land occupied by members of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville,

Source: Church records and personal interviews.

Figure 9: Extent of Membership in Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville, Illinois, 1950.

A. Front view of the church, as seen from the west.

B. Rear view of the church.

Figure 10: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville, Illinois.

C. German services are still conducted in the church.

D. The parsonage.

Figure 10 (Continued): Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville, Illinois.

cause of the centripetal pull of the church; people of the community want to be as near the church as possible.

Because of the church, a farmer near it has made building lots out of several acres of his land. In the past, farmers reaching the retirement age have moved, unwillingly, to Gifford, Rantoul, Royal, or Thomasboro. In 1949 the church released, unwillingly, thirteen members of the congregation to churches of those towns. In the future, farmers may retire in Flatville, thus keeping stable, or increasing, the population and keeping their money in the community.

Comparison of Figure 9 and Figure 7 indicates a close similarity between the area of church membership and the area of Dut Friesian land ownership in 1950, both in shape and extent.

The Flatville Community Consolidated School

The Flatville Community Consolidated School has risen from a humble beginning as Flatville School, District 183, Champaign County. In this role it served four square miles immediately surrounding it. In the fall of 1947, four other districts were added to the original district to form the consolidated district. In the fall of 1949, three school districts in Stanton Township were added to the five to make a total of eight. Effective with the opening of school in the fall of 1952, one additional district in Rantoul Township will be added (Figure 11).

The reason for consolidation was not actually revealed by persons contacted, but with a 1950 enrollment of forty students coming from eight districts (or an average of five students per district) it is apparent that operation of eight individual district schools would not be economical. Why consolidate the Flatville School instead of one of the others? For the same reason that people of the community tend to move toward the church; the church is recognized as being the center of the community, therefore the community school should be there too.

Until 1950 classes had been held in a two-room frame school building (Figure 12). Two full-time teachers plus a part time music teacher were employed, with

Common School District 183,
Flatville, Champaign County.
1870(?) - 1946

Flatville Community Consolidated
School District.
1947 - 1948.

Flatville Community Consolidated
School District.
1949 - 1951.

Flatville Community Consolidated
School District.
1952 -

Figure 11: Development of the Flatville Community Consolidated School District.

Figure 12: The old school building.

Figure 13: School house which formerly served the last country school district brought into the Flatville Community Consolidated School District.

Figure 14: The new school building.

salaries ranging from $200 to $250 per month. Students were brought to school in cars driven by local men. But the school building became inadequate for the number of students participating in eight grades, and in a school election the voters authorized the floating of a $68,000 bond to finance the construction of a new school building. The new building (Figure 14), completed in June 1950, has five rooms which include three class rooms, a music room, a gymnasium, and a kitchen. Five teachers are employed.

The new school will have some effect upon the economy of the area. It has increased the taxes paid for schools; the larger teaching staff will increase local spending in Flatville; the increased activity within the school will be an additional centralising factor on the community itself. Through these latter activities more money will be spent in the local store, thus increasing the volume of business and income within the area.

The school, like the church, is situated at the center of the community. The consolidated district of approximately 36 square miles surrounding the school is for the most part in the area of 75 - 100% Ost Friesian land ownership, and for the most part in the area most closely influenced by the church.

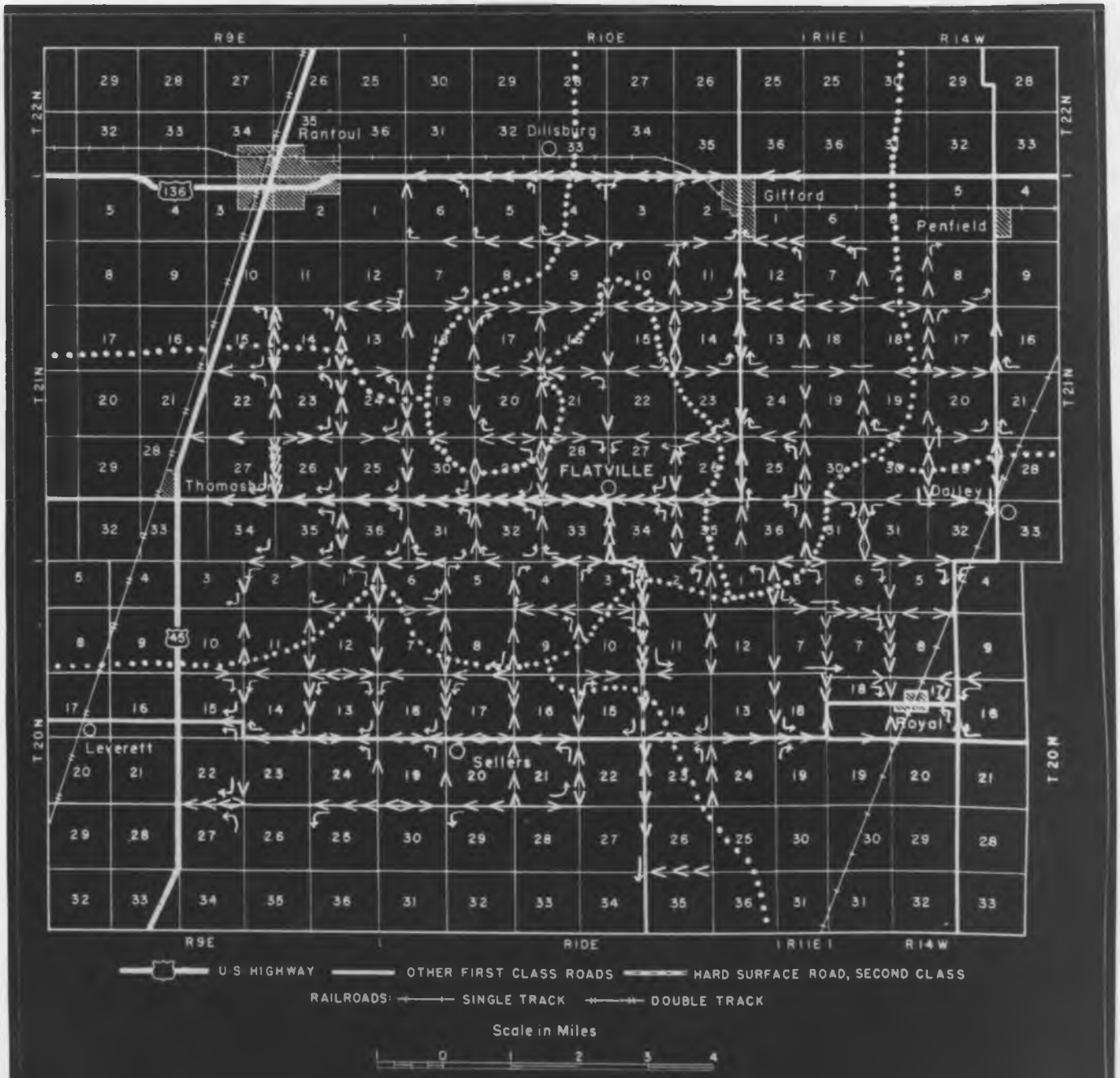
Trade Patterns

A technique often used by geographers in the field to assist them in determining the limits of an area is the technique of mapping road turnings. By working outward from a center and by studying the imprint of traffic from individual farm lanes, from tributary roads to main highways, and across country cross roads, one may determine to some extent the general flow of traffic. Turnings may be plotted on a map, and by carefully analysing a map on which a collection of turnings are plotted the geographer can generally find a line of separation between the flow toward one center and the flow toward another. This line of separation may actually represent the boundary of the area of influence of a particular town upon the surrounding country.

In this study on Flatville the "road turning" technique has been used, but with a different objective in view. It has not been used to determine the limits of the Flatville area; rather it has been used to determine the influence of centers surrounding Flatville, upon the Flatville Community and the East Friesian settlement; it has been used as a tool to assist in determining the forces which may pull the community apart.

Here is a community occupying an area of approximately 100 square miles. At its center, supplying the centripetal force to hold the community together, is Immanuel Lutheran Church. Besides the church there is a school, and a very small country store, inadequate to supply the everyday requirements of the people; there is no trading center where the farmers may market their produce nor purchase clothing and farming necessities. It is evident that the farmers must go elsewhere for trading purposes.

Outside the area occupied by the Flatville Community are several towns of various sizes where commodities may be purchased and produce sold. These are: Penfield, Gifford, Rantoul, Thomasboro, Champaign-Urbana, St. Joseph, and Royal. In addition there are in existence several grain elevators, located on railway lines, at which farmers may market their grain crops and in return purchase certain stock feeds and field seeds. These are Prospect, Hillsburg, Bailey and Leverett. Any traffic, aside from going to church or school functions, will likely lead to one of these points. It is again evident that in the pursuit of their occupation and in purchasing their food the farmers of the community will be led in divers directions. One might suspect that traffic would follow certain patterns — that people from a certain sector of the area might trade in Gifford, while people in another sector might trade in Royal, and so forth, with the result that an exploding, or centrifugal, force is imposed upon the community. Whereas the church at the center tends to hold the community together, the necessity to leave the community for trade purposes tends to pull the community apart.



< Direction of traffic from farm driveways.

← Direction of traffic at crossroads.

•••• Traffic divides.

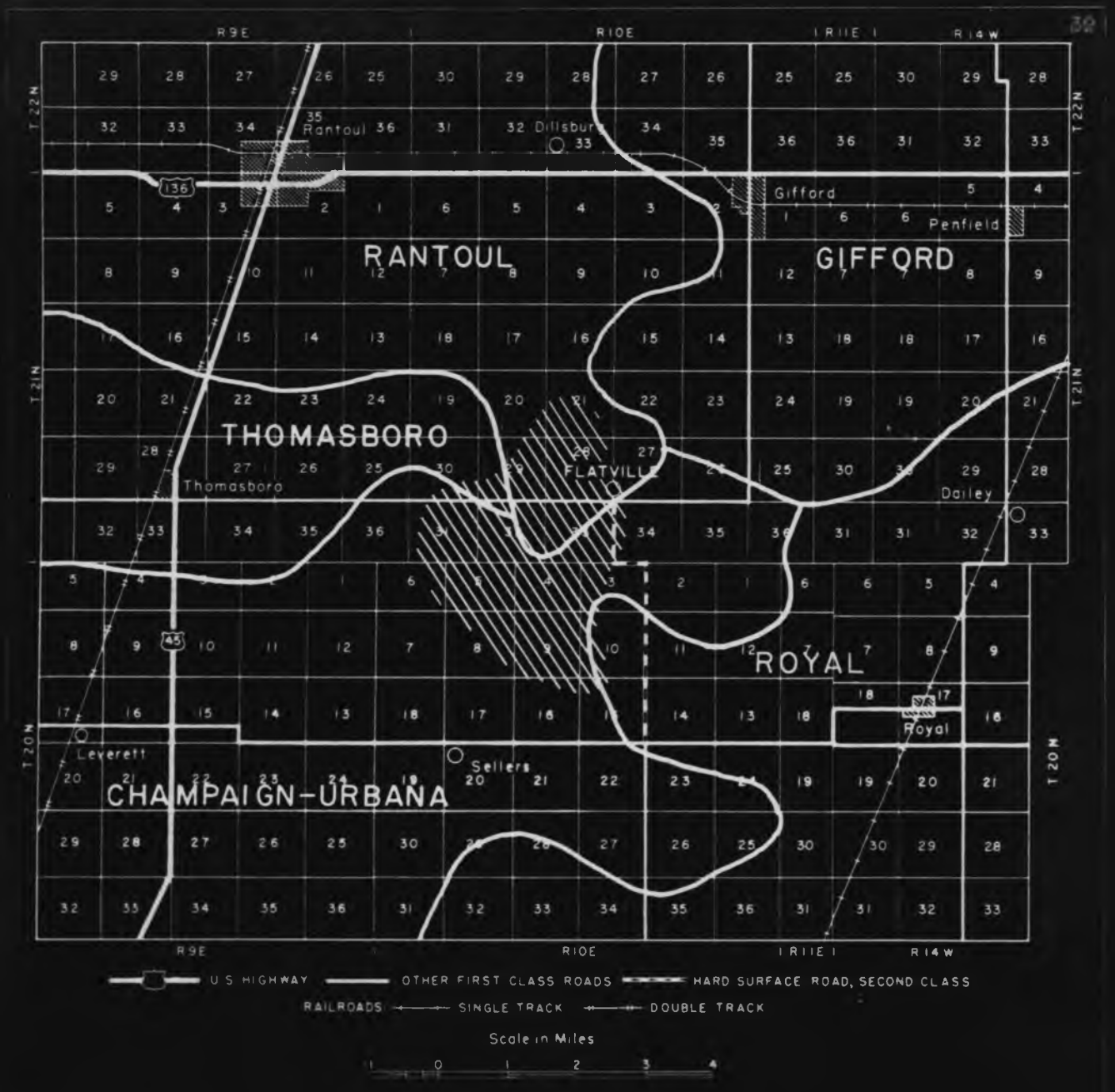
Figure 15: Traffic Patterns as Determined From Road Turnings.

The project of mapping road turnings, then, was aimed at determining the area of influence of each trading center upon the community. The results are shown on Figure 15. These results are, in general, about what one would expect. There appears to be a definite flow of traffic toward Gifford in one sector; there appears to be a definite flow of traffic toward Royal in another sector; and there appears to be an extensive flow of traffic toward Thomasboro. This elongated sector from Flatville to Thomasboro may be deceiving — all traffic in the sector is not likely directed to Thomasboro as it appears. Many farmers may be using the slab road as a route to Rantoul and Champaign-Urbana in preference to the more direct, but gravelled, routes. Since the primary objective of this study is not to ascertain the limits of the Thomasboro area, or the limits of the Rantoul area, these deceptive results are not significant, and the map as presented does show the division of the community.

In further analysing the road turning map, a surprising thing is noted — there appears to be a flow of traffic toward Flatville from several square miles surrounding the Flatville crossroads. Although Flatville is no trading center, it is possible that traffic to church on Sunday and to church affairs during the week tends to overbalance traffic to surrounding trading centers.[17]

Results of the technique are satisfying; however, they are not final. Several maps have been compiled from answers to questionnaires distributed to 200 members of Immanuel Lutheran Church and are presented to show actual flow of grain to market, and actual flow of traffic toward trading centers to obtain essential commodities (Figures 16 through 19). Note that the pattern of all these maps is basically similar to the pattern determined by road turnings.

Figure 20 is a composite of the maps presented in Figures 15 through 19. One very significant fact is noted — the Flatville crossroads is a center of divergence. While it is the cultural center which tends to unify the community, it is the center from which the populace radiate in pursuit of trade.



Area in which people sometimes buy groceries from Flatville.

Source of map data: Answers to questionnaires sent to 200 members of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville.

Figure 16: Trading centers where residents of the Flatville area usually purchase groceries (1951).

Source of map data: Answers to questionnaires sent to 200 members of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville.

Figure 17: Trading centers where farmers of the Flatville Area usually purchase field seeds.

Source of map data: Answers to questionnaires sent to 200 members of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville.

Figure 15: Trading centers where farmers of the Flatville Area usually purchase stock feed.

Source of map data: Answers to questionnaires sent to 200 members of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville.

Figure 19: Trading centers where farmers of the Flatville Area usually sell grain.

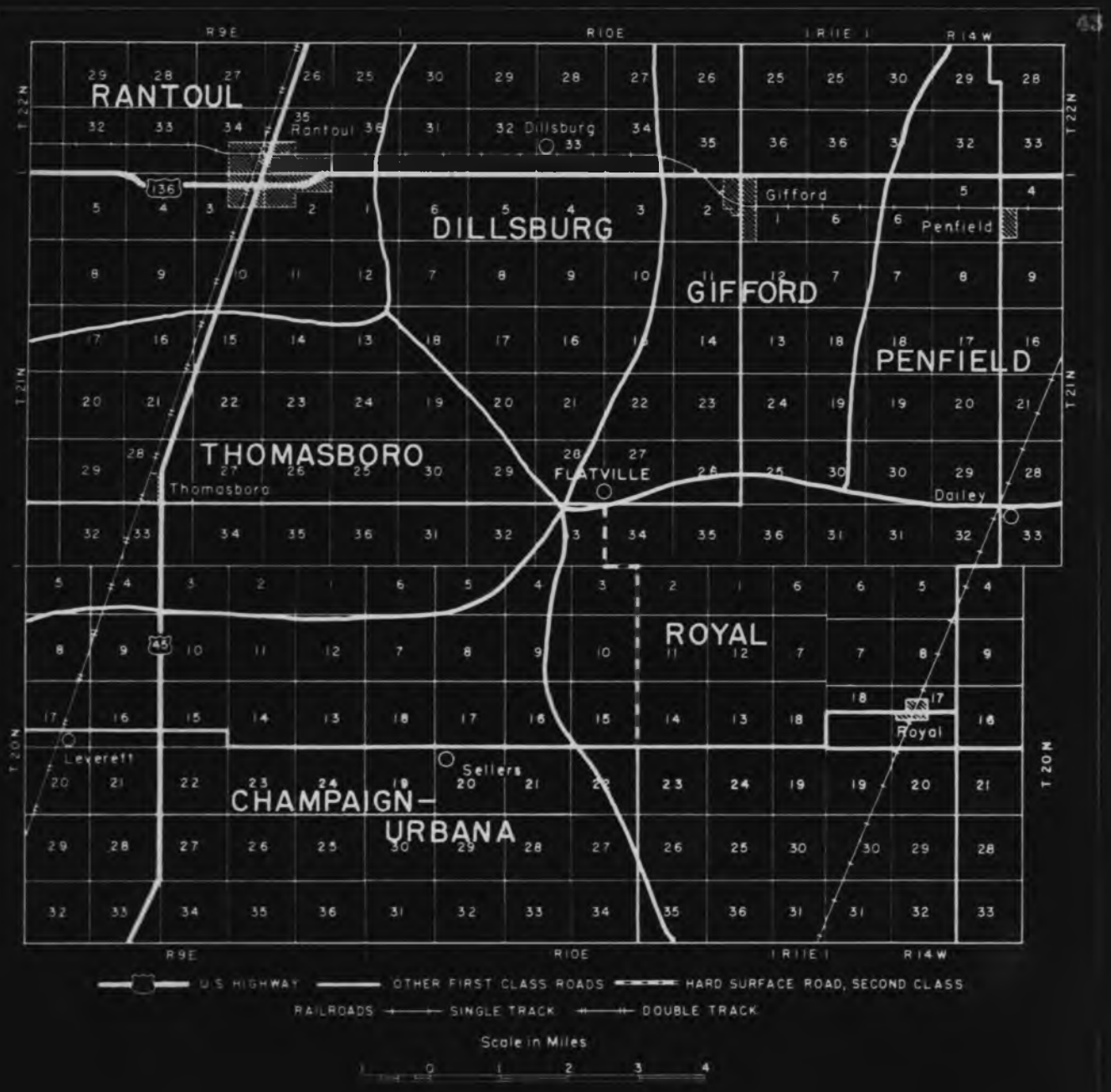


Figure 20: Trade pattern of the Flatville Area (Composite map of Figures 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19).

A. All traffic from this side road turns east. Road bisects Section 19, T 21 N, R 10 E.

B. The majority of traffic at this intersection turns south to Royal. Picture taken from NE corner Section 7, T20N, R14E.

Figure 21: Examples of well defined road turnings.

A. Lutheran Church, Royal, Illinois.

B. Grain elevators, Dailey, Illinois.

Figure 22: Two centers of influence near the Flatville Area.

CHAPTER IV

DETAILED ANALYSES OF TWO SMALL AREAS

A. The Flatville "Section"

1. Natural Aspects

2. The Productive Plant

a. Economy

b. Farm Facilities, Ownership, and Operation

c. The Country Store

d. Drainage

e. Other Facilities

f. Summary

B. Section 11

1. Natural Aspects

2. The Productive Plant

a. Economy

b. Farm Facilities, Ownership, and Operation

c. Drainage

d. Trade Centers

e. Other Facilities

f. Institutions

g. Summary

CHAPTER IV

DETAILED ANALYSES OF TWO SMALL AREAS

A good deal has been written above on the Flatville Area in general from the standpoint of settlement, natural aspects of the area, and life within the community. Two sections of land have been selected for additional, detailed study: one at the heart of the community, i.e., the square mile surrounding the Flatville crossroads, and the other, a section of land near the boundary of the area and owned by an outsider. Area analysis techniques have been employed in making these detailed studies.

The value of Area Analysis lies in a logical, methodical, thorough-going examination of a defined area. By this examination, factors which might be overlooked in a superficial examination are brought to light and are given due weight in relation to other factors affecting the area. After this critical examination, an analysis of factors affecting the occupance of the area may be made and conclusions reached.

Area Analysis provides a means for learning "all there is to know" about a small area. Results from the study in detail of a small area may be expanded or extrapolated to apply to a larger area. Detailed analyses of several selected small areas could then be extended to cover an area too large to study in entirety through detailed analysis.

After analyses of the two square mile areas have been made, they will be compared with each other, and will then be scrutinized to determine their relationship to the whole.

The Flatville "Section"

The Flatville "Section" actually includes parts of four sections: SW¼ Section 27, SE¼ Section 28, NE¼ Section 33, and NW¼ Section 34, all in T 21 N,

R 10 E. This square mile is quartered by the two roads forming the Flatville crossroads, and at its center stands Immanuel Lutheran Church. The entire square mile is owned by farmers of Ost Friesian descent.

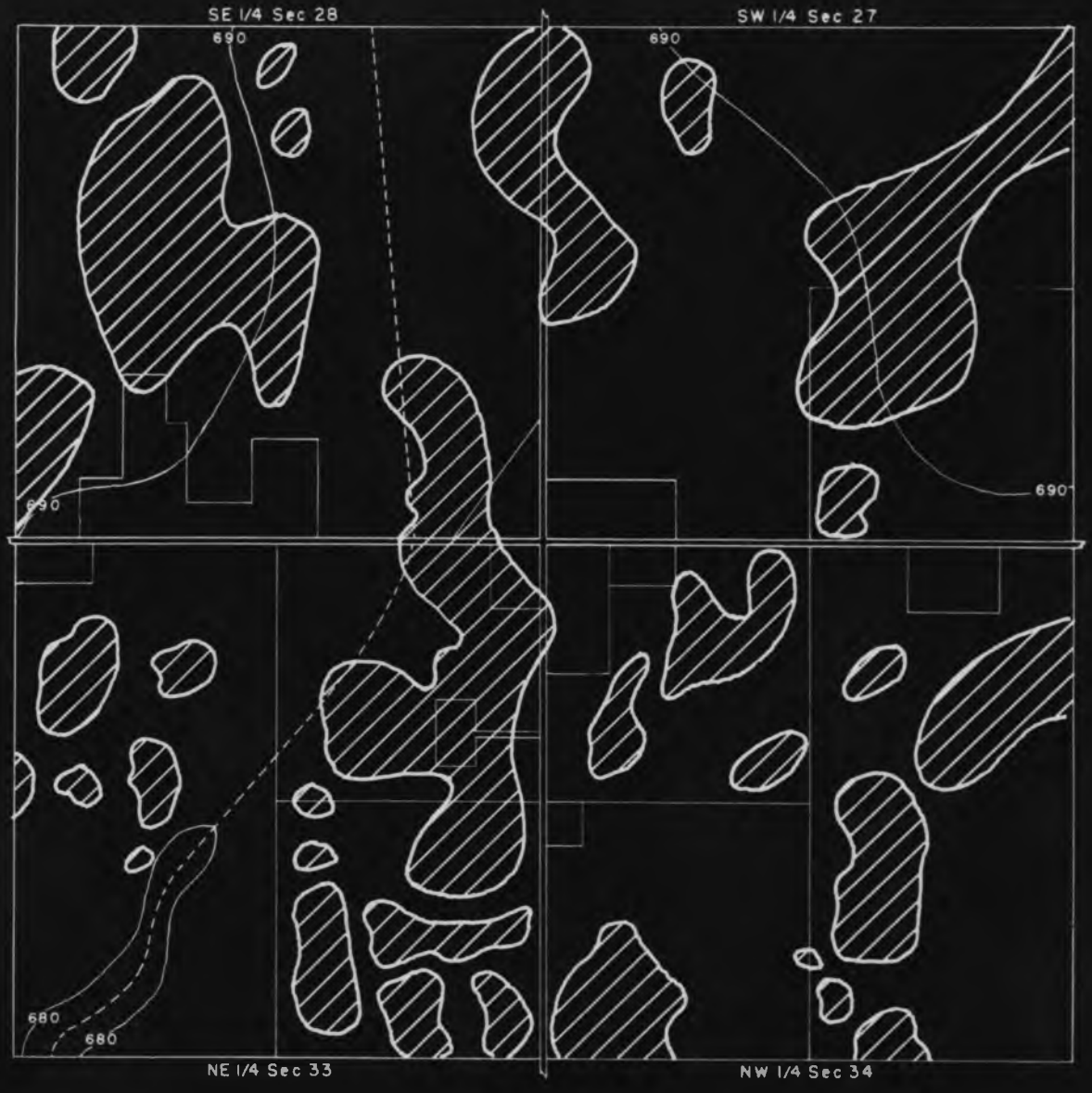
Natural Aspects

Flatville is situated near the north end of the Salt Fork drainage basin, between the Gifford ridge and the Champaign Morainic System (Figure 8), on a glacial outwash plain. This drainage area is comperatively flat and practically no relief is found in the vicinity of Flatville (note contours on Figure 23). The one stream running through this square mile, a tributary of the East Branch of the Salt Fork River, now an open drainage ditch, has made no deep incision into the plain. At the time of early settlement natural drainage was so poor that half-swamp conditions prevailed most of the year.

Slope from a mile north to a mile south of Flatville averages approximately 0.08%.

Water-bearing gravel and sand were found at a depth of 66 inches while making a soil boring at Point A (Figure 24). One farmer volunteered the information that he once dug a well 10 feet deep to use as a seasonal supply of water for his hogs. However, all wells in the area are much deeper than 10 feet, and range from 45 to 85 feet.

A personal investigation of soil borings made in the section revealed that the soils may be classified as Brenton Silt Loam and Drummer Clay Loam. Aerial photographs were taken of the section and variations of color in the soil noted. Re-analysis of sample borings made in several light and dark areas (see Figure 24) indicated that the light areas were Brenton Silt Loam and the dark areas were Drummer Clay Loam. The light-dark pattern was transferred from the photographs to a map of the area to form a soil map of the Drummer-Brenton pattern (Figure 23). In every case, the lighter colored, or Brenton soil, is on slightly higher ground than the darker, or Drummer, soil.



The Flatville "Section"

(T 21N, R10E - Champaign County, Illinois)

Brenton Silt Loam

Drummer Clay Loam

Source: Personal analysis of aerial photographs and soil borings.

Figure 23: Soils of the Flatville "Section".

A. Aerial view of the Flatville "Section", looking NNW. Immanuel Lutheran Church is at the extreme right.

B. Close-up aerial view of Farm E. Letters indicate points at which borings were made with soil auger.

Figure 24: Aerial photographs showing soil variation in the Flatville "Section". Light colored areas are Trenton Silt Loam, dark areas are Drummer Clay Loam.

Field logs of borings made at points A and B on Figure 24 may be found in Appendix IV.

The Productive Plant

"Productive Plant" describes the cultural landscape of an area; it is the material evidence of man's functioning within an area. In line with this interpretation, this discussion will deal with the livlihood activities of the people in the area. It will include the area's economy, facilities involved in the economy, and the institutions and their effect on the economy.

The area under consideration is a rural area containing seven farms with farmsteads, plus 40 acres belonging to a farmer outside the area; an open drainage ditch and associated tiling; a church and parsonage; a small country store; and a brick school building. These, with the addition of fences, roads, power lines, and telephone lines, provide the framework within which the economy operates.

Economy

Of 640 acres in the area, 39.45 acres (6.2% is occupied by farmsteads, drainage ditch and institutions; the remaining acreage — 600 acres, for all practical purposes — is tillable land and is under cultivation. Cultivation of this land provides the chief occupation and source of income for the people of the area. Forty-seven people reside within the area — thirty-two of these people rely directly upon farming activities within the area for a living. Included among the remaining fifteen are the pastor and his family, the store keeper and family, two tenant families on one farm, and the son-in-law (in military service) of one of the farm owners.

The pastor relies indirectly upon the soil for his livlihood since his salary is paid by farmers, but his salary involves the farmers of the entire Fletville Community; and the storekeeper relies indirectly upon the soil for a

livlihood since the farmers are her customers. In the latter case the picture becomes more complicated because her husband is employed full-time by an implement store in Thomasboro.

As would be expected of an area within the Corn Belt, corn leads in acreage. During the current season[18] 247 acres (38.6% of the area) have been planted in corn. Oats ranks second with 138.3 acres (21.6% of the area). Soya beans ranks third with 108.74 acres (16.9% of the area); rotation pasture (brome grass, alfalfa, clover and timoth), fourth with 92 acres (14.4% of the area); and permanent grass pasture fifth with 14.5 acres (2.3% of the area). See Figures 25 and 26.

By using a table of yields for Brenton and Drummer soils,[19] and assuming average climatic conditions for the current growing season, a forecast of grain harvested in the fall may be made. Further, by assuming stability of farm prices, one may make a forecast of cash income which might be realized from the sale of this grain.

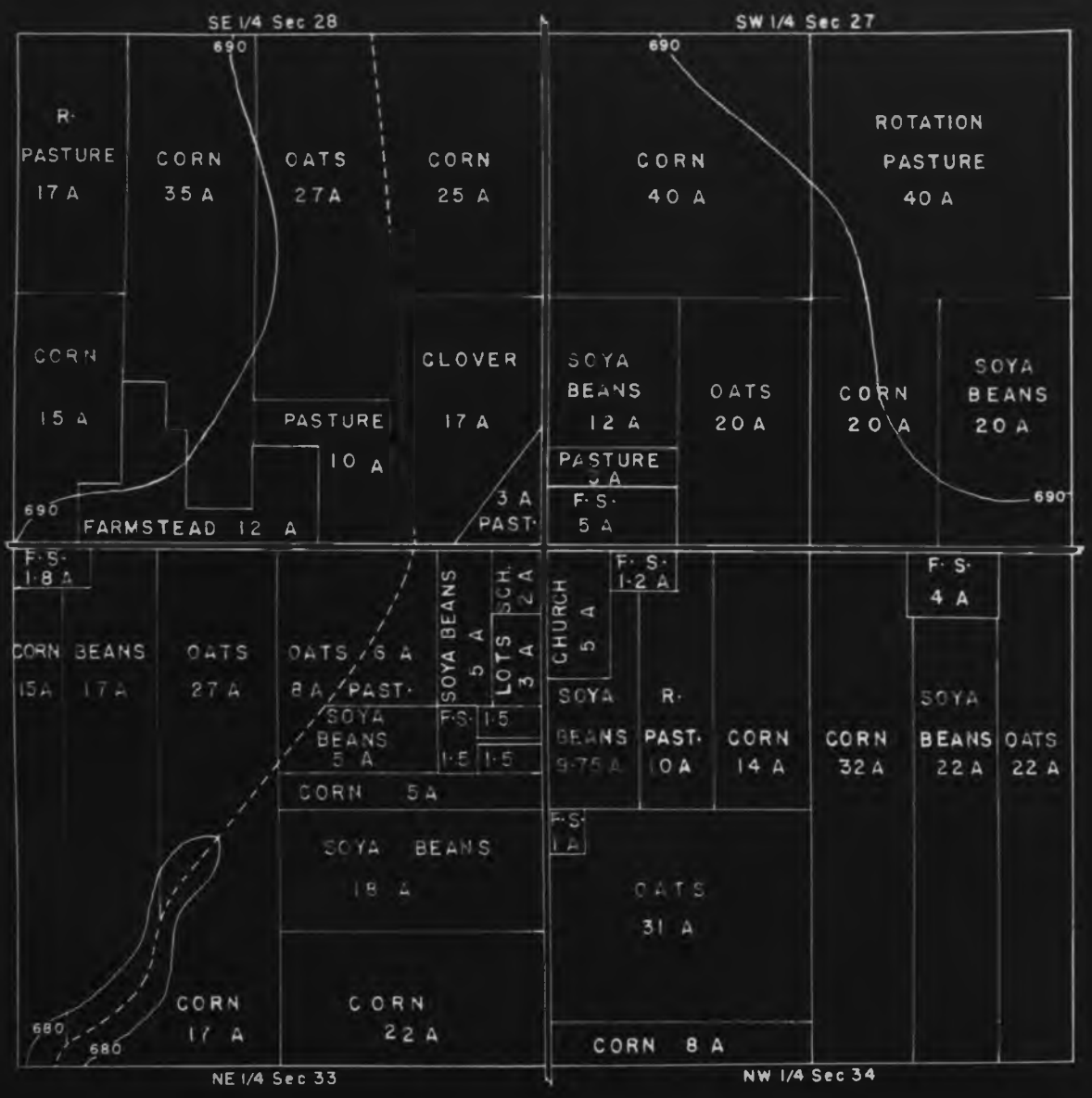
Table 1

Possible Income Through Cash Grain Sales

Crop	Acres	Yield/Acre	Total yield	Price[20]	Total Income
Corn	247	70 bu	17,300 bu	$1.40/bu	$24,220.000
Oats	138.3	51 bu	7,050 bu	0.82/bu	5,810.50
Soya Beans	108.75	28 bu	3,050 bu	2.75/bu	8,387.50
Hay	92	2 tons	184 tons	15.00/ton	2,760.00
					$41,078.00

Table 1 represents an estimate of farm income for 1950 from the area, assuming cash sale of all grain. However, conditions shown in Table 1 will rarely exist, even in the Cash Grain Region of the Corn Belt, for the keeping of livestock and the sale of produce materially alter the picture. Table 2 gives a tabulation of livestock raised within the area.

The principal income from livestock raising comes from the sale of Grade A



The Flatville "Section"

(T 21N, R 10E - Champaign County, Illinois)

Drainage ditch.

Property boundaries.

Field boundaries.

Roads.

Figure 25: Land utilization, 1950.

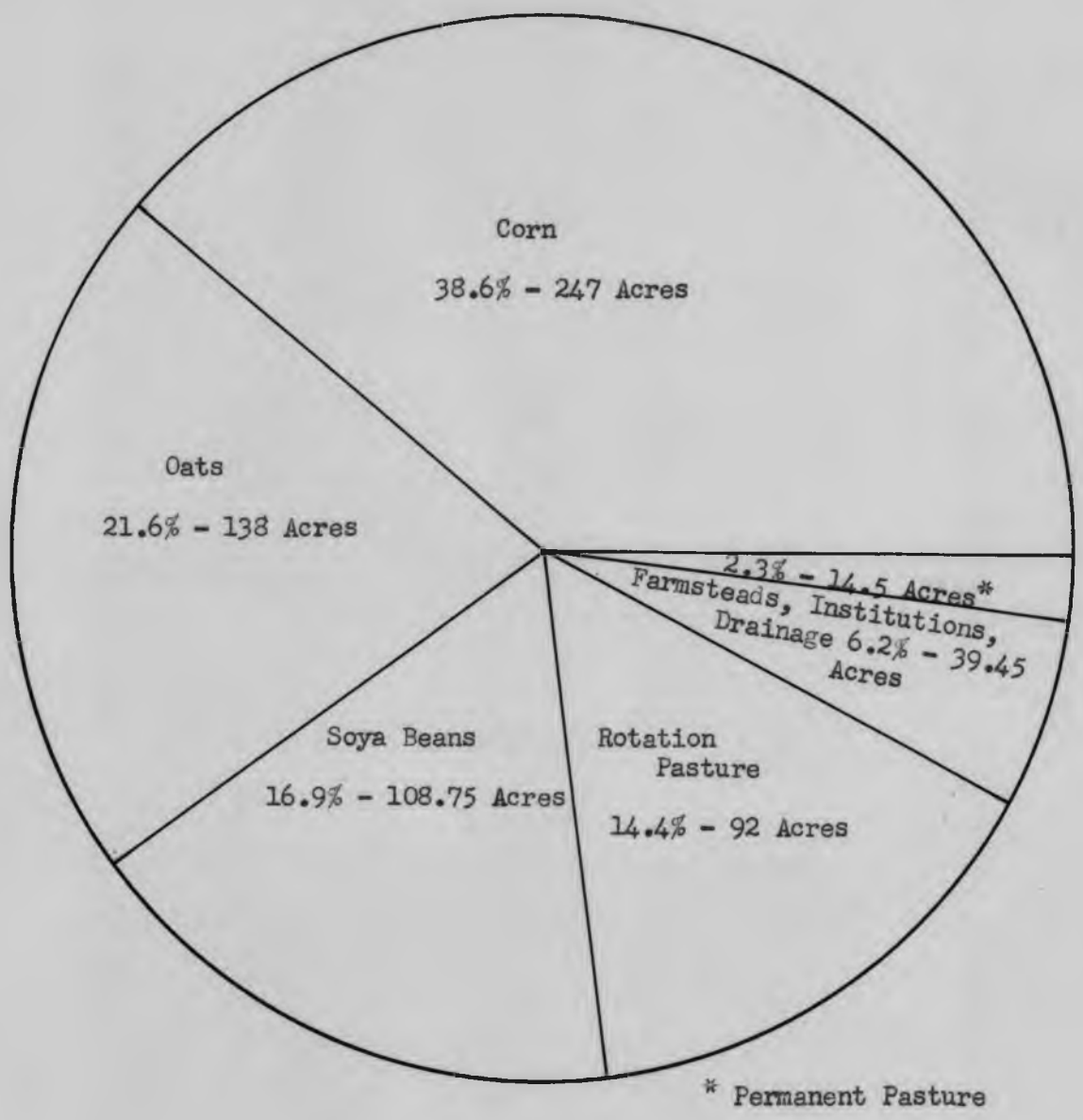


Figure 26: Graphical Representation of Land Utilization in terms of acreage and percentage, for SW$\frac{1}{4}$ Section 27, SE$\frac{1}{4}$ Section 28, NE$\frac{1}{4}$ Section 33, and NW$\frac{1}{4}$ Section 35, Compromise Township, 1950.

Table 2

Livestock in the Flatville "Section"

Farmer[21]	Dairy Cattle	Beef Cattle	Hogs	Sheep	Chickens
A	19	9	0	0	1,000
B	53*	0	120	18	650
C	2	0	0	0	15
D	0	0	0	0	25
E	7	0	7	0	100
F	0	0	0	0	25
G	0	0	0	0	0
H	0	0	0	0	0
	81	9	127	18	1,815

*Includes 20 heifers not yet being milked.

milk. Figures based on production records would indicate a total expected income of $22,400 from milk sales during the current year at an average price of $4.25 per 100 pounds for milk testing 4.0% butterfat. Two farmers sell their milk to Urbana Pure Milk Co, in Urbana; the other main producer sells his milk to Meadow Gold in Champaign.

Second in importance of income is hog raising. As shown in Table 2, only one farmer in the area raises any hogs to speak of. Expected gross income from the sale of these hogs is $5,000. This farmer will sell his hogs either through the Urbana Shipping Association, or through the Penfield Stock Sale Barn.

Third in importance as a source of income, but most important from the standpoint of being nearly universal in the area, is chicken raising. Sale of chickens should gross $800; gross income from egg sales should exceed $3,500. Some chickens are dressed and sold locally; others, plus eggs in quantity, are sold to a produce firm in Fisher.

Sale of the beef cattle through the Urbana Shipping Association is expected to gross $2,500.

The sheep are not maintained as a source of income; instead, they are kept on the farm to keep weeds trimmed around the farmyard. Wool sales, however, may bring the farmer an additional $100.

Gross income for the year, from livestock raising, should approximate $34,300.

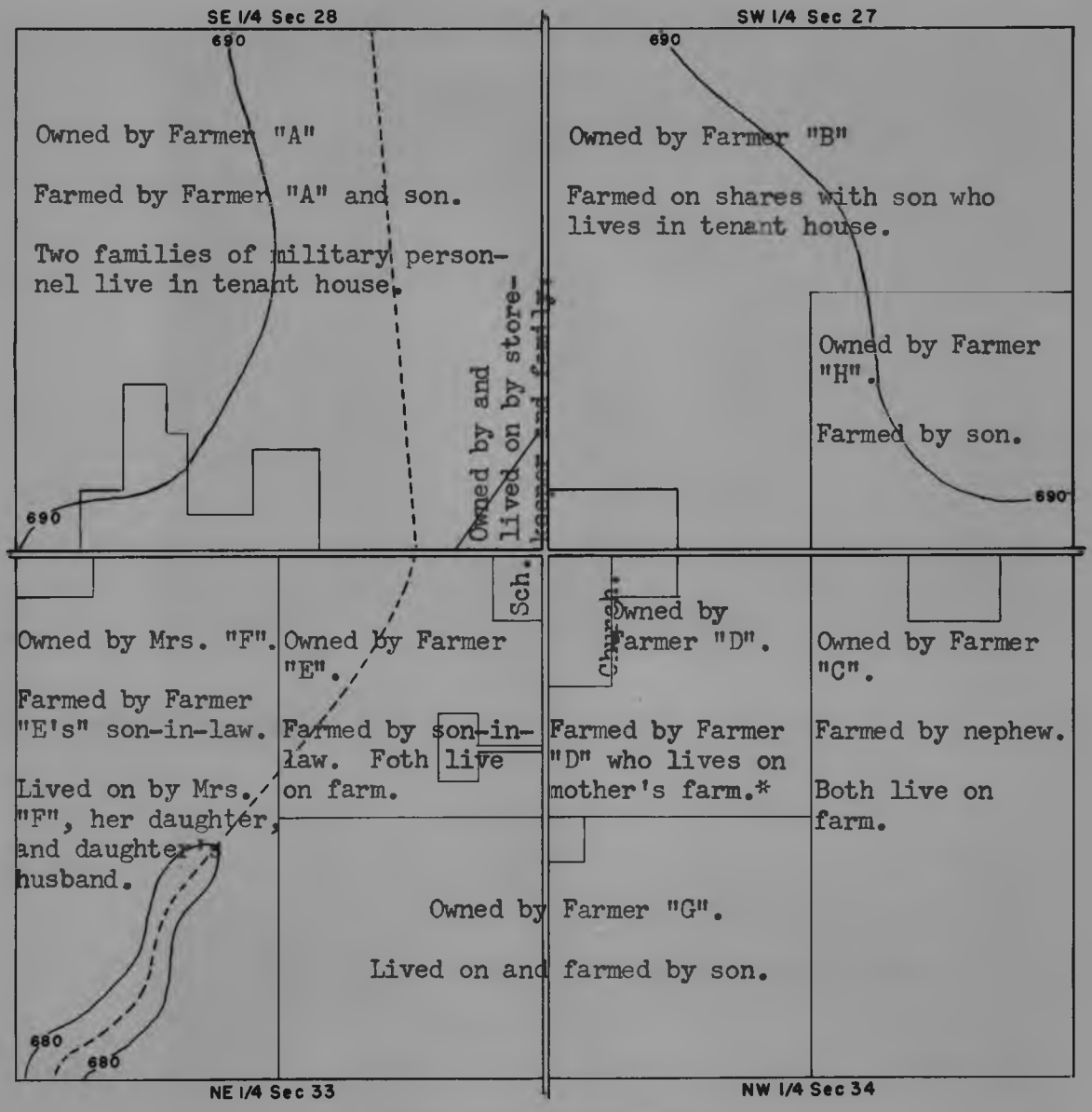
Naturally the figures computed above cannot be added to the figures in Table 1 to give total expected farm income for the year. A significant percentage of grain raised will be used for feeding the livestock. This idea will be developed further in later discussion.

Farm Facilities, Ownership, and Operation (Figure 27)

Farm A (SE¼ Section 28, less 3 acres belonging to country store): The largest farm in the area is owned by Farmer "A"[21] and is operated by him with the help of his son. The total acreage here is 157, but an additional 80 acres is owned, and farmed, outside the area. The farmstead is actually a consolidation of two farmsteads (Figure 28). The original house, built by the farmer's father fifty years ago, is now used as a tenant house; two families working in Rantoul live at a reasonable rent in the two apartments provided. The other house was built by Farmer "A" at the time of his marriage thirty-two years ago. Both houses have running water, but only the owner's house has indoor sanitary facilities. The outbuildings of both farmsteads (17 in number) are utilized by Farmer "A". He states that he has enough room to store, indoors, 150 tons of hay.

Both houses are supplied with water from wells 50 to 56 feet deep. One well was dug thirty-two years ago, the other before the memory of the owner; neither well has ever gone dry.

The farmer is proud of his land and its fertility, therefore he cultivates it with painstaking care. A rotation as follows is used: corn, corn, oats, pasture, pasture, corn, etc. Manure is applied to the land as available, and phosphate is applied to some part of the land in regular rotation each year. Lime was applied to the entire farm four years ago. With this care, yields per acre are high; record yields are: corn, 110 bushels per acre; oats, 90 bushels per acre.



The Flatville "Section"

(T 21N, R 10E - Champaign County, Illinois)

* Farmer "D's" mother lives on this farmstead.

Figure 27: Ownership and occupance of the Flatville "Section".

His dairy herd consists of a mixture of Holsteins, Guernseys, and Milking Shorthorns. Milking is done by hand and the milk is sold as Grade A milk to Meadow Gold, in Champaign. The beef cattle shown in Table 2 are a by-product of the dairying — surplus calves are fattened and sold.

A sizeable undertaking on this farm is the poultry flock. One-thousand White Rock chickens are being raised this year. Roosters will be dressed on the farm and sold locally. Eggs are picked up by a produce firm in Fisher.

Farm B (E½ SW¼ and SW¼ SE¼ Section 27): Without doubt this farm with its excellent buildings, well kept fences, and neat yards presents the most prosperous appearance of any farm in the area. The 120 acres of land is owned by Farmer "B" and is farmed on shares with his son. In addition he owns 160 acres of land several miles north of Flatville; this land is farmed, on shares, by another son.

Two dwelling houses are located on the farmstead; one for the father and mother, one for the son and his family. Twelve other buildings, including dairy barn, hay barn, corn crib, granary, milk house, machine shed, and the only silo in the area, are located on the farmstead (Figure 29). Both houses are equipped with running water systems, but here again, only the owner's house has indoor sanitary facilities. Water is obtained from one well 60 feet deep, dug before the time of Farmer "B"; water is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The farmer and his son are among the leading dairymen of Champaign County. They belong to the Dairy Herd Improvement Association of Champaign County and rank fifth in the Association in production of milk and butterfat. Five of their cows produced over 500 pounds of butterfat each, during 1949; but the herd average was lowered to 386 pounds per cow because of several heifers in their first year of production. Butterfat test for the herd is high — the average for 1949 was 4.6%. The price per 100 pounds of Grade A milk is based on a test of 4.0% butterfat; 7¢ per 100 pounds is added for each 0.1% above 4.0%, therefore Farmer "B" profits through the high butterfat yield of his herd.

Figure 28: The double farmstead of Farm A.

Figure 29: The farmstead of Farm B.

Of some significance is the fact that Farmer "B's" herd produces one-tenth of all milk bought by the Urbana Pure Milk Company, and produces 58% of the milk in the Flatville square mile. He forecasts a gross intake of $13,000 from his herd for the current year.

On this farm, the soya beans and a portion of the rotation pasture will be cut for hay to feed the dairy herd. Eight acres of corn will be cut for ensilage; the entire oat crop will be ground for cow and chicken feed; nearly half of the corn crop will go toward fattening hogs for market. The economy of this farm clearly illustrates that possible income from cash grain sales cannot be added to possible income from livestock to give total possible income; allowances must be made for livestock feed.

Chickens add to the self-sufficiency of this farm. Roosters are eaten locally and/or sold to Fisher. Eggs are also picked up by the Fisher produce firm. As stated before, eighteen sheep are maintained to keep the farmyards well trimmed.

Like Farmer "A", Farmer "B" is proud of his land and takes great pains to keep it in a good state of tilth. Manure from the livestock herds is spread, in rotation, on the various fields of the farm. Two applications of manure were made in the field marked "soya beans", north of the farmstead, this spring (Figure 25). Regular applications of phosphate are made on those lands not manured. Lime is applied as needed.

A crop rotation as follows is used: corn, corn, oats, hay (clover, brome grass, timothy), pasture (previous year's hay land), corn (or soya beans), etc. The record yield of corn on this farm was attained in 1948 when a 20 acre field of corn averaged 126 bushels per acre. This same land yielded 82 bushels per acre in 1949, giving a two-year average of 104 bushels of corn per acre.

Whatever grain is left over from livestock feeding is sold in Royal (Figure 30) where another of the farmer's sons owns a grain elevator; livestock is

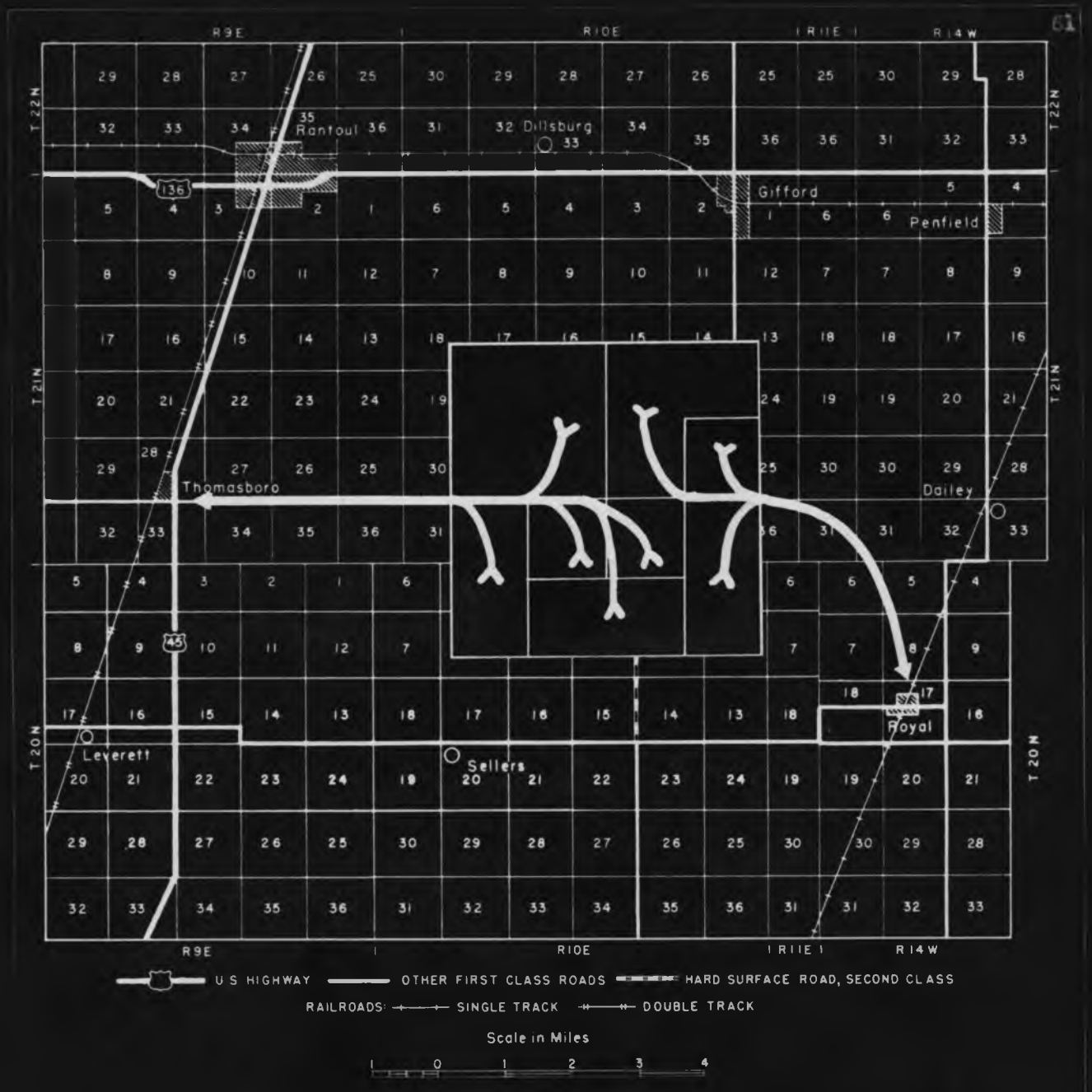


Figure 30: Market points for grain from the Flatville "Section" (inset map).

Note: See also Figure 19.

marketed through the Urbana Shipping Association; disposition of milk, eggs and poultry has already been mentioned.

Two tractors are used in cultivating this farm; grain is harvested by combine.

Farm C (SE¼ NW¼ Section 34): This farm represents a change from the two farms described above. The farm is owned by Farmer "C", but is operated by his nephew on a share-crop basis. The house was built by the owner some 20 years ago. Water is obtained from a well, 49 feet deep, dug two years ago. Running water is available in the house, but sanitary facilities are not.

Cash grain sales is the sole source of income from this farm. Two cows are kept for milk and fifteen chickens are kept for eggs for local consumption. In this situation one would not expect to find a pretentious outlay of outbuildings, and such is the case. A small barn, a corn crib and granary, a wash house and another shed or two complete the picture.

As for the land, its use and management is handled in a fairly judicious manner. However, Farmer "C" relies strongly upon crop rotation to maintain soil fertility. No manure is available on the farm and he does not believe in the use of mineral fertilizers such as phosphates. Lime was applied to the farm three years ago.

One tractor is used in cultivating the land. Harvesting is done by combine; usually by Farmer "B".

Farmer "C" owns, and rents out on shares, another 80 acres of land near Dewey, Illinois.

Farm D (NW¼ NE¼ Section 34, less 5 acres belonging to the church): This 35 acre farm is owned by Farmer "D" who resides two miles east and a mile north of Flatville on the Gifford road. His mother lives on the farmstead so that she is near the church, while he lives on an 80 acre farm belonging to her. The in-

some of the farm, then, goes to Farmer "D" while his mother, who actually dwells on the property, obtains her living from her half of the crops grown on her own farm.

The house is old, but well kept, and has running water. The water system is now operated by electricity, but was operated by windmill until two or three years ago. Depth of the well is not known, but the supply of water has always been adequate. No indoor sanitary system is provided.

Outbuildings on this farm are small, since the farm is small, and none are being used at this time. No livestock, except for 25 chickens, is maintained on the farm. Grain raised on the farm is either sold direct to the elevator in Thomasboro (Figure 30), or is stored on the other farms.

Mineral fertilizer in the form of phosphate is used occasionally, and crop rotation is carefully practiced. The normal rotation plan is: corn, corn, oats, hay, corn (or soya beans), etc.

Farm E (NE¼ NE¼ Section 33, less 2 acres for the school): This small farm owned by Farmer "E" is unusual because of the numerous small fields. Farmer "E" lives on the farm but devotes most of his time to the operation of a small feed, seed, and fence business which he houses in a large double garage. When school is in session he drives one of the school busses. The actual business of farming is left to his son-in-law.

Buildings on the farmstead are adequate for the purpose intended, but in general they are in the poorest state of repair of any in the square mile. The house is in good condition and is supplied with running water pumped from an 80 foot well. Sanitary facilities are not provided. The barn is old, somewhat rickety, and needs paint. The remaining buildings, including chicken houses, hog house and corn crib, are in good condition.

Orientation of the drainage ditch is in part responsible for the small fields (Figure 25). One tract of 8 acres on the west side of the ditch must be

cultivated as a separate unit regardless of other desires. The farmstead site, far removed from the road, has an effect of cutting up the land, as has the location of the school house and grounds. Careful crop rotation on so small a farm al) tends to cut down field size.

Crop rotation as practiced on this farm is as follows: oats, pasture, corn, corn (or soya beans), oats, etc. Lime is applied every ten years; manure, as available, is spread on the fields, and those fields not manured are given an application of phosphate.

With an eye toward the future, Farmer "E" has staked out 14 lots between his farmstead and the school grounds. These lots are all sold and brought a price of $500 each. Until they were sold, the son-in-law, in thrifty German fashion, sowed the intended lots to oats.

The son-in-law does not confine his farming activities to this 38 acres of land, but also farms the adjoining 80 acres belonging to Farmer "F" (a widow), and another 120 acres several miles east, outside the area.

Livestock plays some importance in the economy of this farm. Seven cows are milked and Grade A milk sold to the Urbana Pure Milk Company. A few hogs are raised for market, and 100 chickens are raised for eating, for market, and for egg production.

Farm "F" (W½ NE¼ Section 35): A widow owns this farm and lives on the farmstead with her daughter and her daughter's husband, an Air Force sergeant stationed on Chanute Air Force Base. The farmland is worked by a neighbor, as explained above.

The farmhouse is modern in every respect with running water and indoor sanitary system. Water is obtained from an 85 foot well; quality of the water is good and the supply is adequate. Outbuildings are in good condition, but are little used at present. Barns, and buildings built for housing livestock, are not used at all as no livestock, other than a few chickens, is raised.

Some corn is sealed in the corn crib, and small grain (the owner's share from the farm) is occasionally stored in the granary; usually, however, grain is sold direct to Thomasboro at harvest time (Figure 30).

Farm G (S½ NW¼ Section 33, and S½ NE¼ Section 34): This 80 acre farm belonging to Farmer "G" was purchased from his mother's estate in 1949 at a cost of $600 per acre. The farm is operated by the owner's son who lives on the farm. In operation of the farm, close coordination is maintained between the son and his father, who lives on S½ SE¼ Section 33; that is, there is considerable exchange of equipment and help.

The farmstead is small, barely an acre; outbuildings are small, but are in excellent condition; farm yards are small, but are well kept. On the other hand, the house is of at least average size, is in excellent condition and has running water, but not indoor sanitary facilities. Water is obtained from a well believed to be 40 or 50 feet deep and drilled 30 years ago.

Income from this farm is derived largely from cash sales of grain. No livestock is maintained during the current year, but a few beef cattle and some hogs were raised last year.

A rotation plan of oats, pasture, corn, corn (or soya beans) is followed. Lime is applied at regular intervals, and since no manure is available on the farm, phosphate is applied to all fields in regular rotation.

The son supplements his farm income through playing baseball. During one season he played with a Dodger Farm Team, but this year he plays with a semi-pro team in Indiana and receives approximately $300 per month during the baseball season.

One tractor is used on the farm. Harvesting, except on the headlands and fence rows, is done with Farmer "G's" combine. On the headlands and fence rows the grain is cut with a grain binder and is threshed later with a conventional threshing rig. Also, when straw is needed, the binder and threshing rig are

used in preference to the combine and later baling of straw in the fields.

Farmer "H'g" Forty (SE¼ SW¼ Section 27): This piece of land is owned by Farmer "H" and is operated by his son. Both live outside the square mile. Grain crops and hay are grown on this 40 acres; distance from the farm proper makes use as pasture inconvenient. A normal crop rotation of oats, hay, hay, corn, corn (or soya beans), is followed. Grain is either stored on the farm proper, or is sold to the elevator in Royal (Figure 30).

The Country Store

A small country store, owned by Mr. "I", and operated by his wife, occupies some space in a three-acre triangle in the SE corner of SW¼ of Section 26. The limits of this triangle are defined on two sides by roads and on the other by an 18 inch covered ditch of the drainage system. The spur tile line was formerly an open ditch, and its position is marked by a row of scrub willows.

The store provides a ready source of groceries for occupants of the square mile under study and beyond, and is well stocked for a country store. Observed on its shelves are milk (bought by farmers without cows, and by families with babies for use in the formulas), meat, cheese, canned goods of all sorts, garden seeds, ice cream, soda pop, etc. In addition, Shell gasoline is sold through a pump in front of the store.

Mrs. "I" was rather reticent about talking, but did give the information that the farmers are her best customers during the busy season when there is no time to go to Gifford, Thomasboro, or Urbana, for shopping. But during rainy periods, or slack seasons, her business slackens, for then the farmers have time to go to town. See Figure 16 for area from which farmers sometimes patronize the store.

On the whole, business at the store is good, but is not sufficient to support the family of five. Therefore, Mr. "I" works full-time at an implement

store in Thomasboro.

Drainage

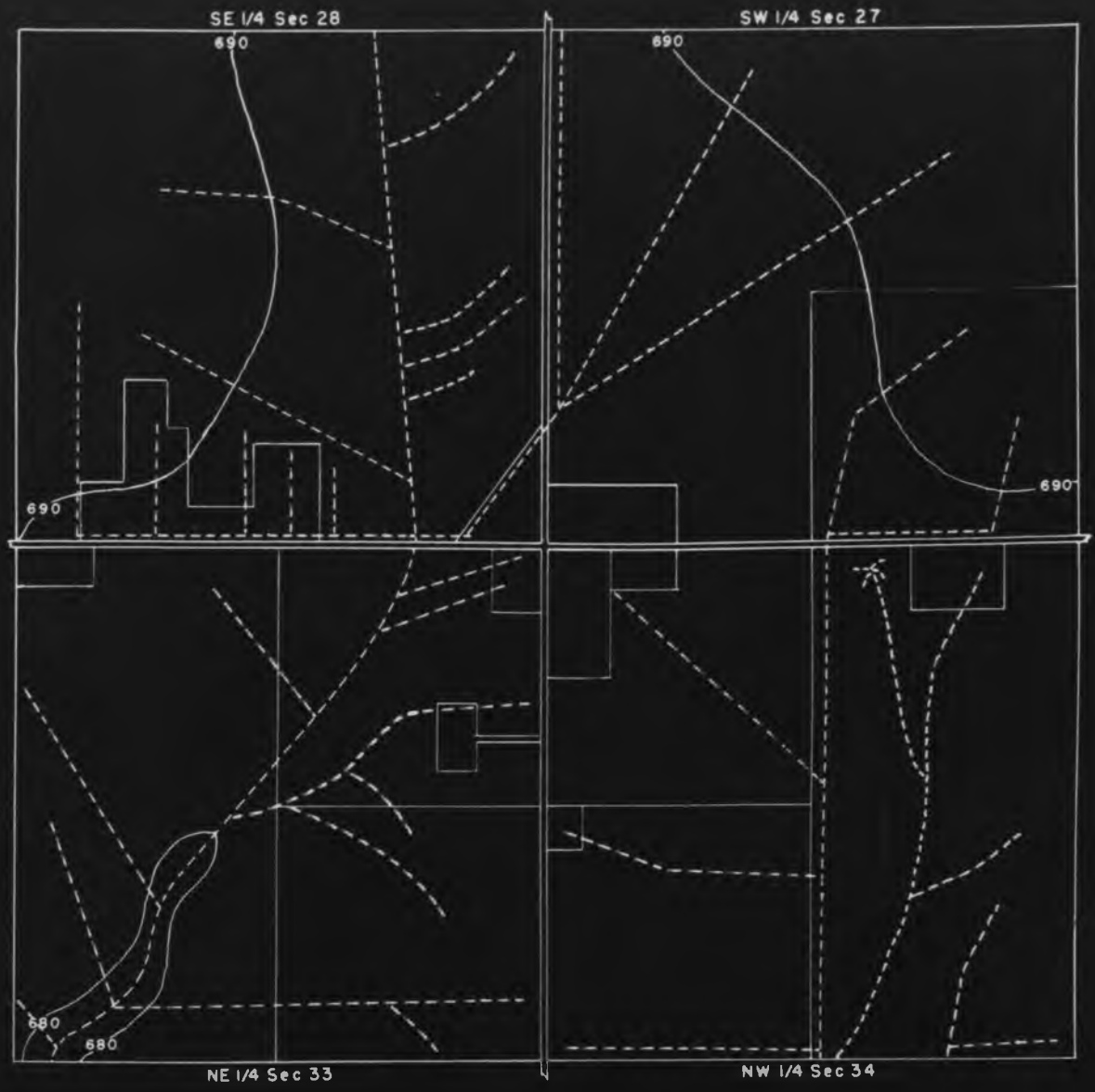
An important factor in the management of land in the Flatville "Section" is drainage. Without the drainage system which has been developed since the first settlement, the soil would be untillable.

A total of 440 acres of the square mile is located within the Flatville Special Drainage District; 120 acres is located within the Spoon River Drainage District; and 80 acres is in an overlap of the two drainage districts.

The Flatville Special Drainage District was organized in 1909 after petition by farmers living within the confines of the present district. An open drainage ditch existed at that time, but it was inadequate. In 1909 or 1910, the existing ditch was dredged and straightened and the main spur tile lines improved. Periodically, the ditch is dredged and cleaned of brush and weeds. The ditch was last dredged in 1945 at a total cost of $8,000 for the entire length of the ditch through the District. This cost was defrayed through special assessment of property concerned (Table 5). While some lands lie in the overlap of the two Drainage Districts, it is noted in Table 5 that taxes are paid to only one District.

Expense incurred in the laying of tile in a farmer's land is borne by the farmer himself. He may lay his tile without reference to the Drainage Commissioners of the District, although this is contrary to the letter of Drainage Laws. Tile lines are, in general, well maintained. In one or two instances, a tile line has been replaced as a result of silt filling (Figure 33). In another case, surface erosion from a low spot in a field has gullied back about 15 feet on the tile line (Figure 33).

Drainage within the area is considered adequate by all parties concerned. Pools of water never stand for more than a few hours even after a long period of



The Flatville "Section"

(T 21N, R 10E - Champaign County, Illinois)

----- Open drainage ditch. ---- Tile lines.

Figure 31: Drainage in the Flatville "Section".

A. Main drainage ditch, Flatville Special Drainage District.

B. Laying tile on the site of the new Flatville school.

Figure 32: Drainage in the Flatville "Section".

A. Erosion of tile line.

B. Silt put these tile out of operation.

Figure 33: Some drainage problems in the Flatville "Section".

rain. Water in the ditch, they say, runs clear — thus proving that erosion by water is not a major problem in land management.

Table 3

Partial List of Special Tax Assessments for the Flatville Special Drainage District and the Spoon River Drainage District.

Owner	Location			Acreage	Special Tax Assessment	
					Flatville Special Drainage District 1945	Spoon River Drainage District 1946
A	NE¼	SE¼	SEC 28	40	$47.52	
	NW¼	SE¼	"	40	47.52	
	SW¼	SE¼	"	40	47.52	
	SE¼	SE¼	"	40	47.52	
B	NE¼	SW¼	SEC 27	40	47.52	
	NE¼	SW¼	"	40	47.52	
	SW¼	SW¼	"	35	41.58	
D	NW¼	NW¼	SEC 34 (Pt)	2	2.51	
	Pt.	NW¼	SEC 34 (less church)	38		$14.67
E	NE¼	NE¼	SEC 33	40	50.16	
F	NW¼	NE¼	"	40	50.16	
	SW¼	NE¼	"	40	50.16	
G	SE¼	NE¼	"	40	50.16	
	SW¼	NW¼	SEC 34	40		16.77
Church	NW¼	NW¼	SEC 34 (Pt)	5	6.27	

Source: Drainage Office Files, Champaign County Courthouse, Urbana, Illinois.

Figure 31 gives an overall picture of tile drainage in the square mile. Information for the compilation of this map was gained through personal observation and through interviews with the farmers. Most farmers know the location of tile on their farms either because they laid the tile themselves or because they took the pains to find out. Three or four farmers have prepared maps of their tile systems to hand down to their sons.

Other Facilities

Telephone service is supplied to the area from Gifford; mail is delivered from Thomasboro; and electric power is supplied by the Illinois Power and Light Company, with local headquarters in Champaign (actually, the power originates in Keokuk, Iowa). An eight-foot slab paved road provides an outlet to Thomasboro to the west and Gifford to the northeast. A gravelled "State Aid" route with a token coating of road oil leads south to connect with the paved road to St. Joseph. Another gravelled road leads north to U.S. Highway 136.

A high tension power line skirts the square mile but supplies no power to the area. This line originates at Lawrenceville, Indiana, and leads to Paxton, Illinois where it furnishes farmers with electricity under REA. It is mentioned because the poles present obstacles to the farmers in the course of working their land. To offset this inconvenience they were paid $100 per pole at the time of installation.

Summary

The Flatville "Section" contains a total population of 47 persons engaged in a number of pursuits, the most extensive of which is growing cash grain crops. Othe pursuits include dairying, livestock feeding, store keeping, feed and seed sales, preaching, military service, and baseball playing.

The Productive Plant within which the economy of the square mile operates contains seven farms with farmsteads, plus forty acres without a farmstead; a church; a school; a country store; fences; roads; power lines and telephone lines. All farmsteads and dwelling places have running water installed; four dwellings plus the church have indoor sanitary plumbing.

The total farm income cannot be arrived at through total possible income from grain sales and total possible livestock and produce sales, because feeding of grain is necessary for the production of the other. Table 4 shows adjusted

total farm income plus estimated income from pursuits within the square mile.

Table 4

Adjusted Total Income

Livestock and produce	$34,300	
Corn: 13,700 bu* @ $1.40/bu	19,190	
Oats: 5,100 bu* @ 0.81/bu	4,130	
Soya Beans: 2,400 bu* @ 2.75/bu	6,600	
		$64,220
Salary and income from other pursuits within the area.**		8,000
	Total	$72,220

* After feeding livestock
**Does not include income of military personnel, salaries of residents employed outside the area, or farm income earned from land outside.

The above table does not intend to show the entire income brought into the square mile. The total would be materially increased if income from 520 acres of land owned or operated outside the area, and the salaries of individuals working outside the area were considered. The addition of these two figures would bring the total income well over the $100,000 mark.

Important parts of, and controls over, the Productive Plant are several institutions. Principal among these is Immanuel Lutheran Church belonging to the Synod of the American Lutheran Church (formerly Iowa Synod). This church is the centralizing influence of the section and, with the additional influence of common East Friesian (Ost Friesian) origin of the people, is responsible for the unity of the area, with the result that movement away from the section is uncommon, and the price of land high.

Government control in the form of the AAA program has considerable effect upon the Productive Plant. This program materially affected land utilization during 1950 in that corn acreages were decreased and soya bean acreages increased. Further, planting time of crops is governed somewhat by institutional control. At the insistence of the Farm Bureau, most farmers in 1950 agreed to delay

corn planting until May 20th as a control over the corn borer menace. Climate actually permits farmers to plant corn on about May 1st.

Section 11

This section is in Township 21 North, Range 10 East. It is in the fringe of Ost Friesian ownership but is owned entirely by a non-Ost Friesian -- an Urbana attorney.

Natural Aspects

Section 11 is situated directly on the Gifford ridge in the first section southwest of Gifford, Illinois. As a result, considerable relief is noted in the terrain and the land is quite rolling. From the high point of 800 feet in the northwest, the land slopes off to a low of 740 feet in the southeast. The average slope from northwest to southeast is 1.14%. This slope would appear to provide excellent natural drainage; however, the farmers working the land maintain that tiling is more essential there than on the flat land since pockets of no drainage exist on the moraine.

One stream, the Spoon River, flows through the section, and besides acting as a drain for surface water, also serves as a receptacle for the numerous tile lines draining the land (Figure 34).

Wells in Section 11 are considerably deeper than in the Flatville "Section". The well on the farmstead, $SE\frac{1}{4}$, is 120 feet deep, while the two wells on the other farmstead, $SE\frac{1}{4}$, are somewhat deeper. The farmers assert that sufficient water is available to take care of normal farm usage.

The 1918 soil survey showed the soil of Section 11 to be entirely Brown Silt Loam (Brenton Silt Loam). Its presence on the moraine tends to make it more gravelly, and less productive, than soil on the level plain near the Flatville crossroads.

SECTION 11

(T 21N, R10E- Champaign County, Illinois)

—— Farmstead boundaries.

—— Contours.

═══ Roads.

═══ Spoon River.

-·-·- Intermittent streams.

- - - - Tile lines.

Figure 34: Drainage in Section 11.

The Productive Plant

The area under consideration is a rural area owned by one man, an outsider, and contains two farmsteads. These farmsteads form the nucleus of the Productive Plant. One needs to add only the fences which mark off the fields; the tiling lines and drainage ditches; the roads; the power lines and telephone lines to provide the framework within which the economy operates.

Economy

Of 640 acres in the area, 13 acres (2%) is occupied by farmsteads, and 195 acres (30.1%) is occupied by permanent pasture and waterways. The remaining 432 acres is tillable land and is under cultivation. The cultivation of this land provides the chief occupation and source of income for the 8 people living on the section and provides a considerable source of income to the owner of the land, an Urbana attorney, from whom the land is rented on a 50-50 basis.

Let us examine the utilization of this 432 acres of tillable land. To do this the land utilization scheme used in 1951 by the tenants will be discussed. As in the Flatville Section, corn leads in acreage with 187 acres (29.2%). In second place is soya beans with 89 acres (13.9%). Oats ranks third with 50 acres (7.8%); clover and sweet clover fourth with 40 acres (6.3%) in each crop; and alfalfa fifth with 28 acres (4.4%). See Figures 35 and 36.

The grain yields from this land do not equal those suggested for Brenton Silt Loam;[22] they are considerably less since the soil is much more gravelly on the moraine than on the nearby plains. One of the tenants gave the following information concerning grain yields in 1951: Corn - 55 bushels per acre; Oats - 60 bushels per acre; Soya Beans - 23 bushels per acre; and Hay - 2 tons per acre.

By using 1950 grain and hay prices[25] an estimate of total potential income which could be realised from sale of this grain may be made, and may be compared

SECTION II

(T 21 N, R 10 E - Champaign County, Illinois)

Farmstead Boundary — Field Boundary

Figure 35: Land Utilization, 1951.

Note: F.S. is the abbreviation for Farmstead.

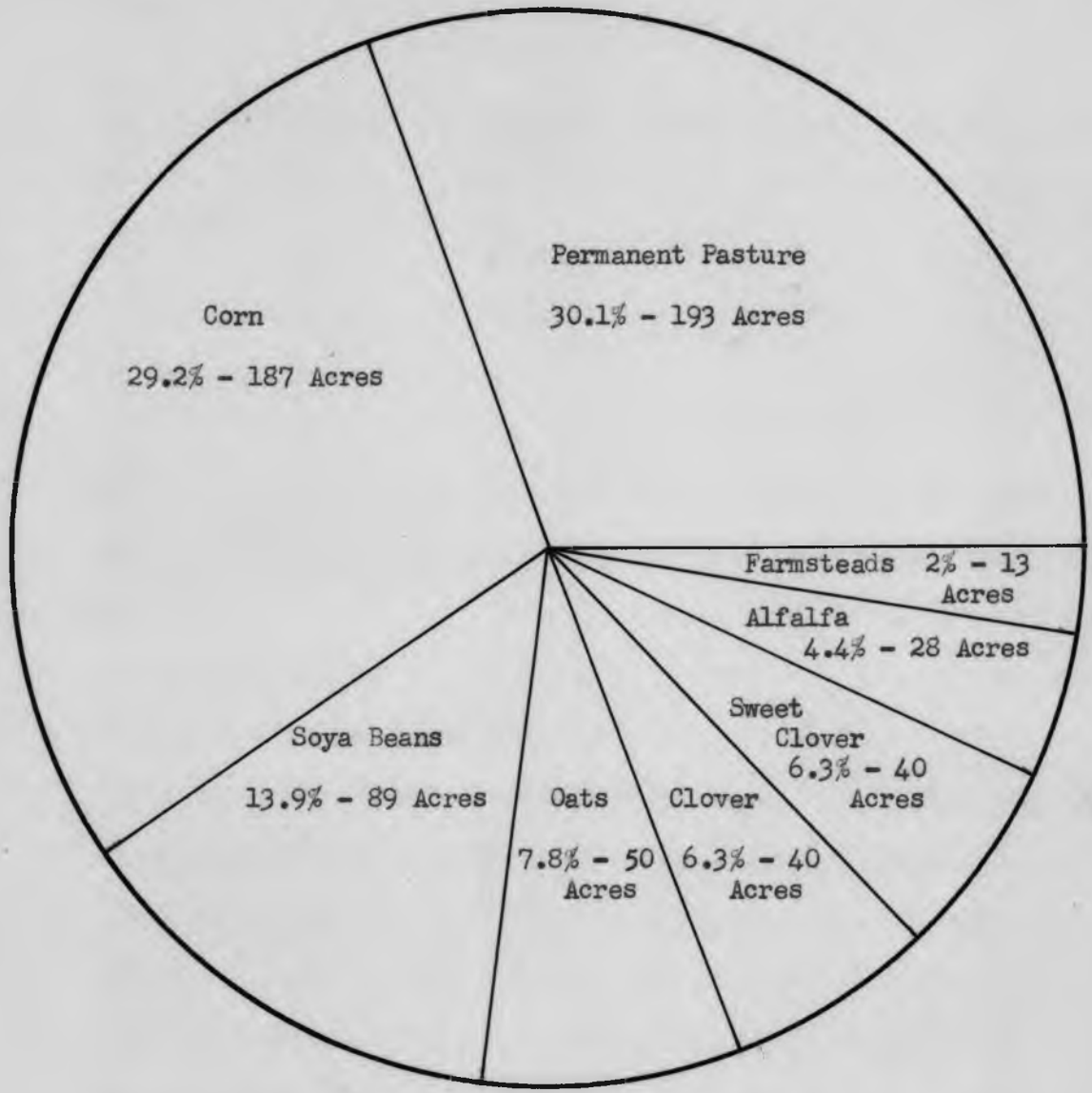


Figure 36: Graphical representation of land utilization in terms of acreage and percentage, for Section 11, Compromise Township (T 21 N, R 10 E), Champaign County, Illinois. 1951.

with the 1950 income from the Flatville "Section".

Table 5

Potential Income Through Cash Grain Sales

Crop	Acres	Yield/Acre	Total Yield	Price	Total Income
Corn	167	55 bu	10,285 bu	$1.40/bu	$14,399.00
Oats	50	60 bu	3,000 bu	0.81/bu	2,430.00
Soya Beans	89	23 bu	2,047 bu	2.75/bu	5,629.25
Hay	108	2 tons	216 tons	15.00/ton	3,240.00
					$25,698.25

Table 5 represents an estimate of farm income for 1951 from this section, assuming cash sale of all grain and hay crops. As in the Flatville "Section", this table represents an unrealistic situation -- the feeding of livestock will reduce the income from cash grain sales, and the income from sales of livestock and produce will increase the figure materially.

The tenants are feeding 100 head of Shorthorn cattle for market. These will be marketed through the Champaign Farm Bureau, and at 1950 prices should gross $32,400.00. They also feed some hogs and raise some chickens; the hogs are marketed through the Champaign Farm Bureau and the eggs and chickens are marketed in Rantoul. No cows are milked in this section. Gross income from sale of livestock and produce, at 1950 prices, should approximate $34,000.00, or nearly equal that of the Flatville "Section".

Farm Facilities, Ownership, and Operation

As mentioned before, the section is owned by an Urbana attorney. The land is rented from him on a 50-50 share crop basis by a man and his son. The section contains two farmsteads, one occupied by the elder farmer and his wife, the other by the son, his wife and daughter. Both families have lived on, and operated, the farm for the past ten years.

The farmstead occupied by the son is very unpretentious in appearance; the

house is rather small and has neither running water nor modern plumbing.

The water supply is obtained from a well 120 feet deep. This well was dug before the son lived on the farmstead; the water is good and the supply adequate.

The farmstead occupied by the father presents an impressive appearance from afar with its silo, wide assortment of buildings and immense stock barn. The barn is used, of course, to house the 100 Shorthorn cattle. The house, on the other hand, is not pretentious; neither does it have running water nor sanitary plumbing.

The two wells on this farmstead are somewhat deeper than 120 feet and provide an adequate supply of water for the 100 head of cattle.

From all appearances the land is well farmed. Careful crop rotation plans are followed; the plan currently followed is: corn, corn, soya beans, oats, clover, corn, etc. The rotation scheme is at the behest of, and under the supervision of, the owner. While his tenants would prefer to omit the soya beans phase of the plan, the owner insists upon it. Commercial fertilizers are applied regularly; lime, every fifth or sixth year in rotation; and phosphate every eight years, in rotation. Here "rotation" means that each year about 80 acres will receive phosphate, so that after eight years the entire section will have received an application; then the process is repeated. In addition, the beef cattle supply a large quantity of manure which is applied in rotation over most of the section.

Of special interest is the fact that this rolling, morainal land is not farmed on the contour. However, judicious use of waterways is made in gullies and erosion and washing seems to be held to a minimum.

Drainage

Drainage plays an important role in the management of this section. The SW¼ and the W½NW¼ of the section are within the Platville Special Drainage

A. Looking north from south edge of Section 11. Note rolling land surface.

B. Close-up view of buildings on the farmstead located in SE¼ Section 11.

Figure 37: Views of Section 11, T 21 N, R 10 E.

District. The remainder of the section is not in any drainage district. According to the son, no drainage taxes are paid to the Flatville Special Drainage District, and the cost of all tiling is born directly by the owner.

Extensive tiling has been laid in all parts of the section (Figure 34). All low spots have been drained, and large tile laid in all important waterways. The tenants feel that the tiling is very effective.

The town of Gifford has long wanted to connect their sewerage system to the large tile running to the northeast corner of Section 11, but the owner has turned away all proposals.

Trade Centers

The tenants do most of their buying and selling in Gifford since that town is located most conveniently for them. Farm implements, hardware and stock feed are purchased there and the grain is sold there. Livestock is sold in Champaign, while eggs and poultry are sold in Rantoul. The groceries are also purchased in Rantoul; when asked, "why?", the answer was, "We sell our eggs there, so naturally we buy our groceries there".

The owner furnishes all field seeds and purchases them from Mason City, Illinois.

One tenant complained that the majority of the "Dutch" farmers around the section market their grain in Dillsburg instead of Gifford (Figure 19). A new Farmers' Cooperative Elevator has recently been organized and built in Gifford, and this diverting of grain to Dillsburg is hurting it. However, there are no indications of strained relations between the farmers of "American" origin and those of Ost Friesian origin.

Other Facilities

Telephone and mail service are supplied from Gifford; electric power is

supplied by the Illinois Power and Light Company, with local headquarters in Champaign. An eight foot slab paved road provides an outlet to Gifford, and U.S. Highway 136, to the north.

Institutions

No institutions, as such, exist within the section. The AAA exerts some influence over the yearly crop production. Both families occasionally attend the Methodist Church in nearby Gifford, but it exerts no strong influence over them. The son's daughter will attend school in Gifford when she reaches school age.

Summary

Section 11 contains a total population of 8 persons mainly engaged in grain farming and stock feeding. A secondary occupation, teaching, is engaged in by the son's wife.

The productive plant within which the economy of this section operates consists of two farmsteads, 195 acres of permanent pasture and waterways, 432 acres of tillable land, fences, roads, power lines, telephone lines, and drainage facilities. Neither of the farmsteads has running water or sanitary plumbing. Wells are at least 120 feet deep and provide an adequate supply of water.

Most of the corn and hay grown on the section will be required to fatten the cattle for market; therefore, the total income for 1951 will consist of $34,000 for livestock and produce, plus $5,629.25 for soya beans, and $2,430 for oats, to give a total of $42,051.25. It will be recalled that the section is farmed on a 50-50 basis; this basis applies to grain crops only. The owner then stands to receive half the cash value of the grain crops -- half of $25,698.25, or $12,849.13 -- a fair return from his investment. The tenants in turn will get their half of the grain crops plus profit from the sale of their cattle and pro-

duce. Their gross income will amount to about $29,120.00; this does not include the initial investment in the cattle. Add to this the teaching salary of the son's wife and the yearly intake by both families of tenants will amount to over $31,000.00.

No institutions play a very important part in the activities of the people in this section. However, government control in the form of the AAA program has an influence over utilization of the total acreage. The owner of the land, an outsider, although not an "institution", exerts considerable influence on the utilization of the land since he furnishes the seed and can thus control the rotation of crops and the actual acreage put into each crop.

CHAPTER V

THE FLATVILLE "SECTION" AND SECTION 11 COMPARED

CHAPTER V

THE FLATVILLE "SECTION" AND SECTION 11 COMPARED

There are a number of outstanding differences between these two square miles of land, from the standpoint of occupance, economy, and natural features. The first difference, the important one from the standpoint of this thesis, is that the Flatville "Section" is owned and operated entirely by people of Ost Friesian descent, while Section 11 is owned by an outsider and operated by outsiders. Physically, Flatville is located on a glacial outwash plain as contrasted to Section 11's location on a moraine; as a consequence, Flatville has no relief, and Section 11 is at least moderately rolling (Figure 37A). While the soils of both areas are of essentially the same classification, the morainal soils are more gravelly, and are less productive, than those on the plain.

The Flatville "Section" is heavily populated -- 47 people live within it and rely either wholely or heavily upon it for their income. Only 5 people live within Section 11. These 5 people rely almost entirely upon the produce of the section for their incomes, while half the value of all grain crops goes to the landlord for rent.

High soil productivity and careful farming practices in the Flatville "Section" result in a gross potential income of $64,000.00 from grain and other produce. Lower productivity of morainal soils and less economical farming practices, for example, lack of contour farming on rolling land, result in the lower potential gross income of $42,000.00 for Section 11. Why should farming practices differ? Mainly because of the population of each square mile. In the square mile surrounding Flatville there are seven farms plus a forty, whereas Section 11 is farmed as one farm. Since many more people must make a living in the first square mile, if every available square yard of land is not farmed, and if economical procedures are not followed, the income will not be large enough to support

the populace.

Farmers in both areas recognize the importance of effective drainage and have spared neither money nor effort to insure that adequate tile lines have been provided in their fields. Further, the importance of crop rotation and application of fertilizers have been recognized in both sections.

Houses and outbuildings appear to be better maintained in the Flatville "Section" than in Section 11. Since there are only two farmsteads in the latter section the sampling may be too small to permit comparison; then too, occupants of Section 11 are renters as opposed to land owners in Flatville. Every house in the Flatville "Section" has running water and several have sanitary facilities indoors; in Section 11 neither running water nor indoor sanitary facilities are found.

Finally, every resident of the Flatville "Section" is a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church; residents of Section 11 are not.

As mentioned earlier in this paper, the author believes that results of detailed analysis of several small areas studied concurrently may be expanded or extrapolated to describe a much larger area. In applying this idea to the Flatville Area, the following are believed to be true:

a. Within the Ost Friesian settlement the people are predominantly Lutheran, and are members of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville.

b. The land is generally flat; soils are of the Drummer and Brenton types.

c. Farms are smaller on the flat land than on the moraines and are more carefully cultivated. This, coupled with higher soil fertility on the flat land, accounts for a much higher income per square mile than on morainal land.

d. Farms operated by owners are generally better maintained than farms operated by renters.

CHAPTER VI

THE FUTURE OF FLATVILLE AND THE OST FRIESIAN COMMUNITY

CHAPTER VI

THE FUTURE OF FLATVILLE AND THE OST FRIESIAN COMMUNITY

If farm management in the Flatville Area continues along present practices -- and there is nothing to indicate change -- the productivity of the land will be maintained, and the area will continue in its present state of prosperity.

In 1950 the author concluded an Area Analysis Report on Flatville with the following statement: "That a town will grow on the Flatville crossroads is evident. Lots have already been purchased on (Farmer "E's") land by farmers planning to retire near the church. Their residence will increase the trade volume of the local store and require expanded facilities; a gasoline station larger than the one pump operated by the store will be required; the centralization of population from all over the Flatville Community will increase traffic to Flatville and will result in increased trade." This prophecy is already bearing some fruit. Two houses have been completed on Farmer "E's" addition, and a third is nearing completion. A concrete block garage has been built adjacent to the store; this can be converted to a service station when necessity demands it.

It will be well to arrange a systematic tabulation of factors, both favorable and unfavorable, toward the development of a town on the site.

FAVORABLE:

a. Presence of the church. People tend to move in from all parts of the Area.

b. Presence of the new consolidated school. This will further centralize the location. People not belonging to the church, but having children of school age, will have active participation in the area attending school functions.

c. Current trend toward building in Flatville. With the erection of homes, trips to the area to visit friends and relatives will occur on days other than Sundays or days of school functions. Trade volume will be increased.

d. Construction of a paved road from St. Joseph. If this project is carried out, ease of reaching Flatville will be increased.

A. The country store. Note new cement block garage which may be easily converted to a filling station.

B. The new school building. Note proximity to the new residential area (left) and to the store (extreme right).

Figure 38: Factors in the development of a town at the Flatville crossroads.

A. The first house is placed on Farmer "I's" lots — a Teacherage for teachers in the Flatville Community Consolidated School. Summer of 1951.

B. Houses on Farmer "I's" lots. January, 1952.

Figure 39: Development of a residential district at the Flatville crossroads.

e. Availability of land for building. Sufficient land is available for the growth of a large town (Figure 40).

f. Distance from other towns. Flatville is located six miles from Thomasboro and six miles from Gifford. A town at the crossroads would provide a nearer trading center for people of the community.

UNFAVORABLE:

a. Non-establishment of a town in previous years. The church has been established at Flatville for over 75 years and during that time no town has developed. This fact certainly does not indicate a trend toward urban development.

b. Distance from railroads. The nearest railroad is five miles from Flatville; while not a handicap in many respects, such as the receiving of goods for retail purposes, it is not likely that a town without a railroad would ever have a grain elevator. The necessity for farmers to market their grain elsewhere would take considerable trade from Flatville.

c. Lack of a large water supply. Non-availability of water in large quantities will probibit a large concentration of population.

d. Lack of good drainage for a sewerage system. The flatness of the land, and the high ground-water table will make difficult and expensive the construction of sewerage facilities capable of handling sewerage from a large concentration of population.

If due weight is given to both sides of the argument, one must conclude that a town will grow at the Flatville crossroads, but that the size of the town will be limited due to the unfavorable factors listed above. Principal inhabitants of the town will be retired farmers, a few people concerned with several small retail business establishments, the minister and his family, and, during the school season, teachers employed in the school.

The establishment of Flatville Town is necessary for the maintenance of the Flatville Communities' solidarity. Conversely, a town at this site can maintain itself only as long as the Community maintains its solidarity. If it is not well established by the time an inevitable absorption of the Flatville Community into the surrounding communities takes place, the chances for maintenance of a town of any size are extremely doubtful.

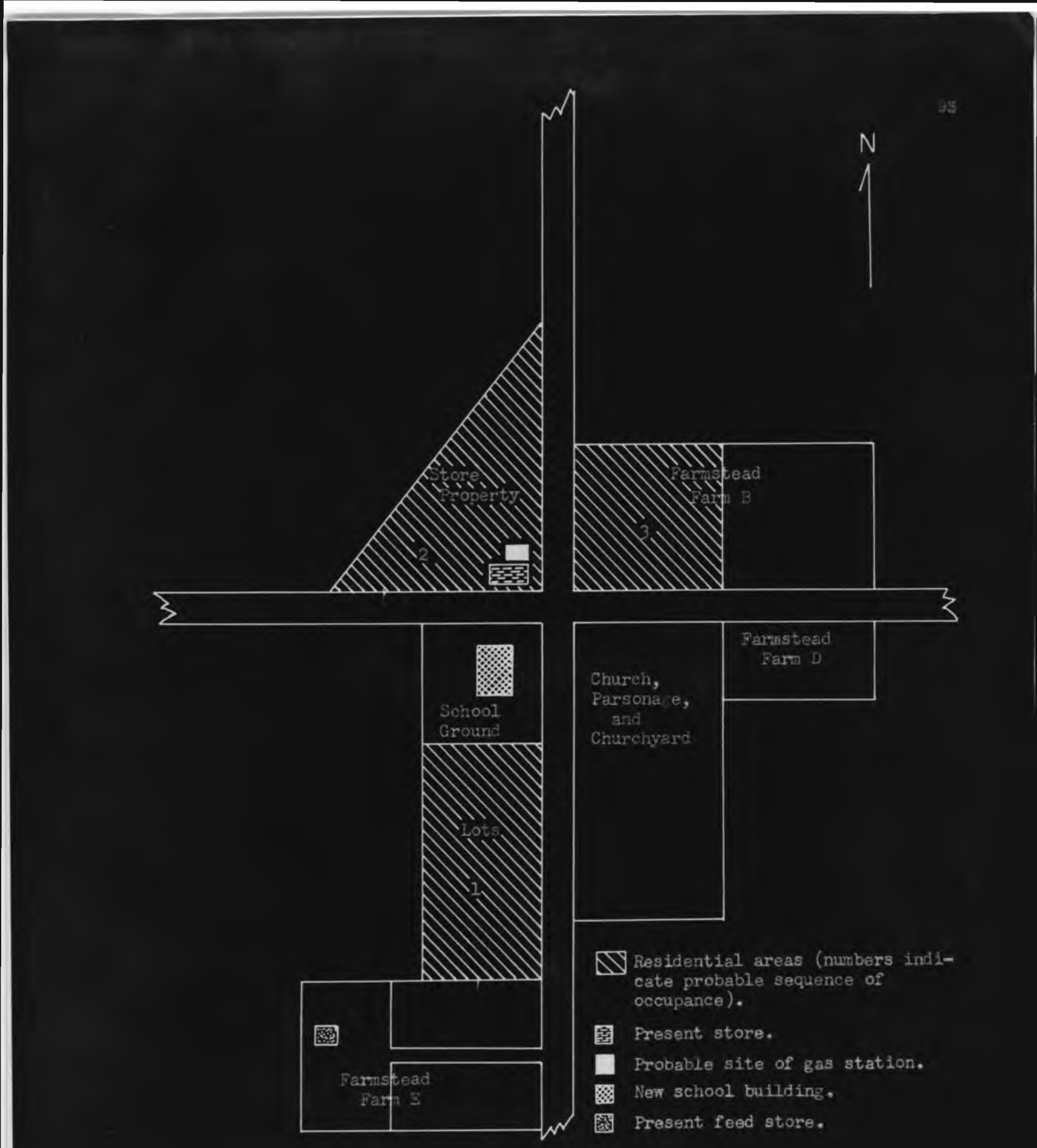


Figure 40: Probable development of Flatville Town.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE FIRST FLATVILLE CHURCH

The following list represents residents of the Flatville Area which contributed to the building of the first church. Contributions were pledged in 1873; half was to be paid by Christmas 1873, and the remainder by Christmas 1874. The list also shows land purchases made by these individuals prior to, and during, 1874; it thus furnished the data on which Figure 2 is based. Contributions were received from a number of individuals who did not own land during 1874, but purchased land subsequent to that year. Their names, and the location of land they purchased, are also shown.

Grantee[24]	Grantor[25]	Date[25]	Amount[25]	Location[25]
Albers, Luppe R.	J. Fowler	9/1/73	$900	NW SE 16-21-10 [26]
Albers, Luppe R.	J. Fowler	9/1/73	900	SE NW 16-21-10
Albers, Heye C.	F.C. Albers	9/21/74	500	SW NE 16-21-10
Arnold, Theodore	J.S. Beaseley	1/8/63	100	W½W½SE¼NE¼SW¼ 2-19-9
Arnold, Theodore	Huston	5/22/71	7200	SE¼ and E½SW¼ 23-21-9
Baeker, Heinrich	Mast. in Chancery	5/4/59	140.50	Sub N½SW 7-19-9
Baeker, Heinrich	I.C.R.R.	3/31/68	360	SW¼SE¼ 30-21-10
Bartels, Heinrich	I.C.R.R.	11/24/71	1186	S½SE¼ 34-21-10
				Pt NE¼ 2-20-10
Bartels, Gerhard	I.C.R.R.	12/30/72	860	NW¼SE¼ & Pt NW¼ 2-20-10
Bartell, Henry	I.C.R.R.	8/9/72	975	NW¼ 18-20-11
Behrends, Behrend M	J. Gordon	11/8/72	900	NW SE 26-21-10
Behrends, Gerd H.	I.C.R.R.	9/19/74	480	NE NW 8-20-10
Blue, Anthony	F. G. Jacques	9/11/71	3000	SE¼ 18-21-9
Buhr, John	I.C.R.R.	5/4/72	720	N½NE¼ 34-21-10
Buhr, Jelde	D.B. Owsley[27]	8/15/77	640	S½SE¼ 27-21-10
Bunting, Reiner	J. Kuhlmann	2/26/96	6260.28	NW Frac¼ and NW¼SW¼ 2-20-9
Cornelius, Peter A.	J. Sheldon	11/3/70	480	NW SE 3-20-10
Cornelius, Peter A.	T. H. Hubbard	11/3/70	579.12	NE¼ 3-20-10
Cornelius, Peter A.	N. P. Woodruff	11/3/70	500	NE SE 3-20-10
Cornelius, Peter A.	N. P. Woodruff	1/6/75	200	NE¼ and NE SE 3-20-10
Cloyd, William	L. Carns	2/28/68	800	W½SW¼ 29-21-10
Cloyd, William	I.C.R.R.	9/12/70	480	NE NW 32-21-10
Cloyd, William	C. Carns	9/12/70	4800	S½SW¼ 29-21-10
				NW NW 32-21-10
Darnell, Aaron	W. Woods	1/7/71	620	NE NW 7-21-10
Duis, Cashen R.	Harm I. Johnson	8/15/78	800	SW NE 11-20-10
Duitsmann, John W.	I.C.R.R.	1/31/72	1600	SW¼ 2-20-10
Duitsmann, John W.	L. Eames	3/16/74	800	SE SE 3-20-10
Duitsmann, John W.	A. Busey	8/25/77	1600	S½NW¼ 11-20-10
Easter, Theodore	E. Burnham	9/5/64	1600	SE¼ 31-21-10
Ehmen, Menne J.	I.C.R.R.	11/30/71	2000	NW NW and N½NE¼ and E½NW¼ 20-21-10
Emkes, Wilke A.	C. Shepardson	5/14/74	1440	W½SW¼ 9-21-10
Estep, P.	-----	-----	---	-----
Focht, Martin H.	T. Cain	10/22/73	973	SE SE 35-21-10

Grantee	Grantor	Date	Amount	Location
Fecht, Martin H.	F. G. Jacques	4/12/75	750	SE SW 15-21-10
Fecht, Martin H.	F. G. Jacques	4/12/75	750	NE SW 15-21-10
Flesner, Gerd H.	I.C.R.R.	12/30/71	360	SW SW 34-21-10
Flesner, Gerd H.	I.C.R.R.	4/30/72	360	SE SW 34-21-10
Flesner, Gerd H.	H. Early	8/22/72	4000	SE¼ 29-21-10
Flesner, Gerd H.	M. Brown	11/29/76	4250	NW¼ 10-20-10
Flesner, Hinrich G.	I.C.R.R.	2/24/72	1080	SE NE and N½ SE¼ 34-21-10
Flesner, Henry G.	I.C.R.R.	8/31/72	360	SW NE 34-21-10
Flesner, Henry G.	S. Early	8/20/72	4000	NW¼ 29-21-10
Flesner, Minke J.	I.C.R.R.	2/29/72	360	NE SW 34-21-10
Flesner, Minke J.	W. Benton	12/22/73	900	NW SW 34-21-10
Flesner, Ekke	C. Pope	12/10/74	1000	SW SE 2-20-10
Flesner, Ekke	S. Busey	8/25/77	1600	E½NE¼ 11-20-10
Franzen, Harm	Harm Loschen	11/17/76	1300	NW SE 28-21-10
Friesener, D.R. & Co.	----	----	----	----
Fritzen, John H.	J. Watkins	10/4/73	5200-	NE¼ 29-21-10
Fromlet A.	----	----	----	----
Gerbers, Hinrich L.	M. Gerbers[28]	9/17/75	600	W½SW¼ 27-21-10
Gerdes, William H.	B. Mueller	11/12/72	360	SE SW 16-21-10
Gerdes, William H.	J. Young	9/2/79	200	NE SW 16-21-10
Gronewold, Ehme H.	C. O'Donnell	12/15/73	1840	S½SE¼ 16-21-10
Gronewold, Ehme H.	A. M. Hughes	1/11/76	800	NW NW 22-21-10
Gronewold, William H.	----	----	----	----
Grussing, John	I.C.R.R.	8/17/72	720	SW NW and NW SW 22-21-10
Hegens, John	W. W. Young	12/12/82	800	NW¼ and SE NE 32-20-9
Hinrichs, Eibe	H. Bartells	3/22/72	500	SW SE 34-21-10
Hinrichs, Eibe	G. Flessner	2/29/74	400	Pt S½SW¼ 34-21-10
Hinrichs, Harm	M. Gerbers	7/3/75	----	Pt SE SW 27-21-10
Huls, Poppe J.	I.C.R.R.	12/27/72	800	S½SE¼ 2-20-14
Huls, Poppe J.	----	7/23/72	800	NE SE 2-20-10
Huls, Jasper	H. G. Flessner	6/9/74	2100	N½SE¼ 34-21-10
Ihnen, Ontke	R. C. Tevis	8/27/70	1000	W½NW¼ 33-21-10
Janshen, John B.	S. J. Dahlborn	----	436	SW NW 16-21-10
Janshen, Meint	T. Porter	11/29/71	1280	S½NE¼ 17-21-10
Kiel, Frederick	Nicewander	4/18/74	2000	W½NE¼ 31-21-10
Keal, Frederick	Woodhouse	1/30/75	2000	N½SW¼ 25-21-9
Keal, Frederick	C. F. Peters	3/12/77	2100	W½NE¼ 31-21-10
Keal, Frederick	I.C.R.R.	8/26/71	480	NE NW 30-21-10
Keal, Frederick	Tattershall	1/30/71	1060	NW NE 30-21-10
Klover, Thees	B. Brown	10/7/74	2400	W½NW¼ 28-21-10
Kuhlmann, Adolph	Jno. Speed	8/27/70	1000	E½NW¼ 33-22-8
Kuhlmann, John	T. Creighton	10/1/80	1845	N½SW¼ 16-21-10
Kuhlmann, John	J. Hamilton	10/23/80	1067	E½NW¼ 18-21-10
Loschen, Albert	M. Wisegarver	10/22/73	350	NE NE 33-21-10
Loschen, Albert	M. H. Fecht	3/1/75	1300	SE NE 33-21-10
Loschen, Harm	T. Klover	10/23/75	2612	W½NW¼ 28-21-10
Loschen, Harm	I.C.R.R.	8/30/73	360	NW SE 28-21-10
Loschen, Rohlf	B. Miller	2/3/75	1200	SW SW 16-21-10
Loschen, John R.	G. Dennerlin	4/20/78	120	----
Mueller, Bernhard	B. Carman	3/8/72	445	S½SW¼ 16-21-10

Grantee	Grantor	Date	Amount	Location
Meyer, Dietrich	F. G. Jacques	9/11/71	3000	SE¼ 15-21-9
Meyer, Dietrich	A. Blue	12/2/74	5	N½SE¼ 15-21-9
Meyer, Dietrich	J. Donovan	3/6/75	2640	S½SE¼ 18-21-10
Meyer, Lot	S. L. Tompkins	8/5/74	2500	S½SE¼ 8-20-10
Meyer, Lot	W. Ehler	10/16/76	1	S½SE¼ 8-20-10
Reworts, Tjark	M. Flintham	6/20/74	6000	NW¼ 35-21-10
Rohlfs, Harm	J. Garrison	2/11/73	2000	S½NW¼ 36-21-10
Rupp, Louis	I.C.R.R.	6/8/71	1440	SE SW and E½SW¼ and SW SW 22-21-10
Saathoff, Coord	----	----	----	----
Saathoff, Minke	----	----	----	----
Saathoff, Reent	J. Fritson	2/20/80	2867	Pt NE¼ 29-21-10
Sage, John	D. Owsley	11/21/76	1770	NE NE and SW SE and SE NE 27-21-10
Sage, John	D. Owsley	2/19/78	1770	NE NE and S½NE¼ 27-21-10
Thompson, John	Whiteside	8/4/74	1240	W½NW¼ 26-21-10
Tilemann, Lubbinus	Wolter	1/9/77	1200	SE NW 32-21-10
Weerts, Johan	G. Trees	11/17/81	3000	W½SW¼ 29-21-10
West, Munns	----	----	----	----
Wolter, Christian	I.C.R.R.	1/5/72	480	SE NW 32-21-10
Young, John A	I.C.R.R.	2/2/72	520	NE NE 6-21-9

APPENDIX II

SOIL PROFILES

BROWN SILT LOAM. This soil type occupies the slightly undulating to rolling areas of the prairie land, both morainal and intermorainal. It occupies areas which are well surface-drained and those where artificial drainage is necessary. Soil Report No. 18[29] describes the soil as existing in three strata as follows:

a. Surface soil -- 0 to 8 2/3 inches. This stratum is a brown silt loam, varying on the one hand to black as it grades into black clay loam, and on the other to grayish brown or yellowish brown as it grades into the timber type. In physical composition it is normally a silt loam, containing from 65 to 80 percent of silt, together with some sand, and from 10 to 15 percent of clay. The amount of sand varies from 15 to 25 percent. Organic matter content varies from 4 to 6 percent.

b. Natural subsurface -- 6 to 16 inches thick. This stratum varies in physical composition in the same way as the surface soil, but it usually contains a slightly larger amount of clay, especially as it approaches the black clay loam. The stratum varies in color and depth with the topography; it is lighter in color and is shallower on the rolling areas.

c. Natural subsoil -- begins at a depth of 12 to 28 inches beneath the surface and extends to an indefinite depth, but is sampled from 20 to 40 inches. The subsoil varies with the topography both in color and texture; with depth it becomes slightly coarser. It consists of a yellow or drabbish mottled yellow, clayey silt or silty clay, plastic when wet. Where drainage has been good, it is of a bright to pale yellow color. With poor drainage, it approaches a drab or olive color with pale yellow mottlings or a yellow color with mottlings of drab.

Each of the three strata is pervious to water, so that drainage takes place

with little difficulty.

BLACK CLAY LOAM. This soil is characteristic of the flat prairie. Its formation in the flat, poorly drained areas is due to the accumulation of organic matter and to the washing in of clay and fine silt from the slightly higher adjoining lands. It is so flat that drainage ditches and tile drainage are often required for proper management. Soil Report No. 18[30] describes the three strata of this soil as follows:

a. Surface soil -- 0 to 6 2/3 inches. This stratum is a black, plastic, granular clay loam, varying locally to a black, clayey silt loam. It contains, on the average, 6.3% of organic matter, but varies considerably.

b. Subsurface -- 10 to 16 inches thick. This stratum varies from a black to a brownish gray clay loam, usually somewhat heavier than the surface soil. Organic matter averages 2.8%. The lower part of the stratum is frequently a drab or yellowish drab silty clay. The stratum is pervious to water.

c. Subsoil -- To a depth of 40 inches, this stratum varies from a drab to a yellowish drab silty clay. As a rule, the iron is not highly oxidised, because of poor drainage and lack of aeration. Concretions of carbonate of lime are frequently found.

Black Clay Loam is one of the best soils in the state of Illinois, but requires careful management.

BRENTON SILT LOAM. This is a dark soil formed from silty outwash or from a thin blanket of loess. It has developed on nearly level to gently sloping land under prairie vegetation. Soil Report 72[31] describes the soil profile as follows:

a. Surface -- 8 to 10 inches thick. This stratum is brown to dark brown, heavy silt loam, high in organic matter and nitrogen, and slightly acid.

b. Sub-surface -- 8 to 10 inches thick. This stratum is brown or pale yellowish brown silt loam.

c. Subsoil -- This is moderately plastic silty clay loam beginning at a depth of 16 to 18 inches. In color it is a mottled yellowish brown to mixed yellowish brown and gray.

d. Beneath the subsoil the material is stratified silt and sand to a depth of 45 inches or more. Part of this deep material may be calcareous. Below 45 inches there may be gravelly layers in the outwash or the material may be calcareous glacial till.

The soil profile is permeable to water throughout, and tile drainage is satisfactory.

DRUMMER CLAY LOAM. This is a dark soil formed from mixed silt and clay outwash or lake bed sediments. It has developed under marsh grass vegetation on areas that are nearly level or somewhat depressed. Soil Report 72[52] describes the profile as follows:

a. Surface -- 8 to 10 inches thick. The stratum is of granular black clay loam to silty clay loam, high in organic matter and nitrogen, and slightly acid to neutral.

b. Sub-surface -- Difficult to distinguish as a separate layer, it is usually a very dark gray or grayish-black clay loam or silty clay loam. At a depth of 14 to 16 inches it grades into a mottled dark gray or brownish gray, medium plastic clay loam to silty clay loam.

c. Below a depth of 30 to 35 inches the material is usually calcareous and consists of stratified clay, silt and sand, with possibly some gravel below 40 to 50 inches.

Drummer Clay Loam is a productive soil if well drained and well farmed.

APPENDIX III

QUESTIONNAIRE SENT TO PEOPLE IN THE FLATVILLE AREA

1. Name _____

2. Location of Farm: Section ____ Township _____ Acreage _____

3. Do you own this farm? ____ If not, what is the owner's name? _____

_____ His address is _____

4. How many years have you lived on this farm? _____

5. Do you attend Flatville Immanuel Lutheran Church? ____ If not, where do you attend Church? _____ What denomination? _____

6. Did your ancestors come from East Friesland? _____ If not, what was their nationality? _____

7. Where do you usually buy the following (name one town only for each item):

Groceries: _____

Farm Implements: _____

Stock Feed: _____

Field Seeds: _____

Hardware: _____

8. Where do you usually sell the following (name one town only for each item):

Grain: _____

Livestock: _____

Poultry: _____

Eggs: _____

Milk: _____

9. How many children do you have? ___ Where do they, or where did they, go to grade school? _____ High school? _____

10. Does your house have running water? _____ Modern plumbing? _____

11. Any additional information you care to give _____

_____

APPENDIX IV

SOIL BORINGS MADE IN THE FLATVILLE "SECTION"
(Points A and B, Figure 24)

Point A	Point B
Surface - Black, friable, clay loam to 14".	Surface - Brown, silty loam, changing at 12" to black, waxey condition.
14" - Nearly the same but somewhat gray.	18" - Change to yellow brown; gummy.
17" - Gray clay; soft pebbles, mottled gray brown.	24" - Same color, but sandy mixture with some gravel.
38" - Same but more plastic.	29" - Same color, more gravel; reddish tinge in places.
40" - Gray-yellow clay.	44" - Yellow, wet sand.
66" - Water in yellow sand.	

NOTES AND REFERENCES

[1] Johnson, H. B., "German Immigrants in the Middle West", Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. XLI, No. 1, 1951, p. 18.

[2] Corner, Faye E., et. al., "Rural Community Types," University of Illinois Studies in the Social Sciences, Vol. XVI, No.4, 1928, p. 17.

[3] Ibid., p. 17.

[4] Mr. E. C. Baker, 714 South Prairie, Champaign, son of Henry Baker (Heinrich Baeker), reports that an early tile factory was built in Thomasboro by John Voss. As he had no resources of his own, farmers chipped in to finance the venture. The site of this tile works is now occupied by the White House Restaurant.

[5] See Appendix I.

[6] Corner, et. al., op. cit., p 17.

[7] Our Diamond Jubilee, 1874 to 1949, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Flatville, Illinois, 1949, p. 4.

[8] The date of establishment of the church is subject to some dispute. The date, April 20th, 1874, is usually given as the date on which the congregation organized and decided to build a church (this information was found in the "Kirchenbuch der Ev. Luth. Immanuels Gemeinde zu Compromise, Illinois, 1872"), and the Diamond Jubilee of the church in 1949 was based on this date. However, it is believed by some that the church minutes were not written at the time of the meetings and that the year, as stated, is in error. In the same book is an account of subscriptions toward building the new church; one-half was to be paid by Christmas 1873, and the other half by Christmas 1874. Furthermore, in a meeting held on January 15th, 1874, the congregation decided to have the church painted and plastered. The minutes of that meeting state, ". . . . The building committee is to have the new church painted and plastered. The job is to be given to the lowest bidder". The recorder, being human, may have made the common error of continuing last year's dates into the new year; he may have meant 1875 instead of 1874.

The recorded statement generally regarded as authentic is quoted as follows from the "Kirchenbuch": "April 20th, 1874. It was decided to build a new church, long 40 and wide 28 feet, 14 feet in the ceiling, six windows, the ceiling curved and portal before the church, and 26 benches. The building committee must give the contract to the lowest bidder. Elected to the building committee were: Gaerdt H. Flesner, Hinrich Lenerts Gerbers, Wattje Ihler and John Fritzen. Signed: J. W. Duitsman, secretary".

Further authenticity is added to the above date by information from the deed records in the Champaign County Courthouse. In an entry made on May 26th, 1874, W. C. Flesner deeded $W\frac{1}{2}NW\frac{1}{4}NW\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 34, T 21 N, R 10 E to the German Evangelical Lutheran St. Emanuels Church of Compromise Township, for the sum of $1.00.

[9] Smith, Guy D., "Illinois Loess, Variations in its Properties and Distribution", Bulletin 490, University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana, Illinois, July 1962.

[10] Hopkins, Cyril G., et. al., "Champaign County Soils", Soil Report No. 18, University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana, Illinois, 1918.

[11] Wascher, Herman L., et. al., "Livingston County Soils", Soil Report 72, University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana, Illinois, 1949, p. 37.

[12] Ibid., p. 37.

[13] Information furnished by Mr. Bob Knodle, Ground Water Division, University of Illinois.

[14] Compiled from weather records, Base Weather Station, Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois.

[15] "Climate and Man", Yearbook of Agriculture, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., 1941, p. 851.

[16] Page, John L., "Climate of Illinois", Bulletin No. 532, Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, 1949.

[17] A number of problems were experienced in making actual determinations of traffic flow from individual farm driveways. Observations varied with the season. For example, the project was begun in the early spring when manure hauling was in full swing. Then the driveways did not indicate traffic flow toward a trading center, but indicated the direction which a hundred loads of manure had taken toward the "south forty". A month or two later, after several hard rain storms, the traffic pattern may have turned back toward the trading center, only to turn back toward the field when cultivating was under way. Many driveways showed nearly equal traffic in each direction, and were plotted as sending traffic both right and left, with the idea that this particular farm might be on a traffic divide. Crossroads, too, often presented a problem. At first, a detailed study was made of each, and a decision finally reached. With experience, the decisions came easier and it was a rare case when a corner was not classified.

[18] "Current Season" refers to 1950, the season during which this part of the study was performed.

[19] Wascher, et. al., op. cit., p. 8.

[20] Prices are for May 1950.

[21] To eliminate possible embarrassment, names of all farmers have been withheld.

[22] Wascher, et. al., op. cit., p. 8.

[23] Prices are as of May, 1950 so that a direct comparison can be made with income from the Flatville "Section".

[24] Names were obtained from "Kirchenbuch der Ev. Luth. Immanuels Gemeinde zu Compromise, Illinois, 1872.

[25] Obtained from Deed Records by Grantee, County Recorder's Office, Champaign County Courthouse, Urbana, Illinois.

[25] The order of numbers is as follows: Section, Township, Range. Designation of parcels of land varied in the Deed Records, but NW SE is equivalent to NW¼ of SE¼. Thus, the first entry would be: NW¼ SE¼ Section 16, T 21 N, R 10 E.

[27] This land was purchased from the Illinois Central Railroad February 2d, 1872 by Osias J. Cope. It was purchased from him by Mr. Kuhlmann in 1893, and finally sold to Reiner Bunting on February 26th, 1896.

[28] Meenke H. Gerbers purchased this land from W. Hansbrough on January 23d,1872 and sold it to Hinrich L. Gerbers on September 17th, 1875. Thus this land was under Ost Friesian ownership at the time the first church was built.

[29] Hopkins, et. al., op. cit., pp. 27 - 29.

[30] Ibid., pp. 31 - 32.

[31] Wascher, et. al., op. cit., p. 37.

[32] Ibid., pp. 37 - 39.

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