

CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF INDIANA

PURDUE UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION DEPARTMENT, AND
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CO-OPERATING

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

September 9, 1957

Mr. James E. Rodebaugh
Mentone, Indiana

Dear Mr. Rodebaugh:

I am enclosing a "rough layout sketch" for the facilities which are to be provided in the Mentone Park. A few explanations would seem to be in order to help you to understand the reasons for a few of the locations.

1. Baseball-Softball Diamond. All of the other features of the plan are governed to a large extent by this location, since it requires more area than any other single part of the plan. Although the proposed location will require some grading to make it suitable, it seems to be the most logical spot for the diamond. To place it on the 300' x 400' plot is not desirable for two reasons. First of all, there would be a very inadequate batting range for baseball with the pump house located as it is. Secondly, the hit balls might interfere with logical location of parking lot and of other facilities and could even be a hazard to pedestrian traffic which must enter off of Washington Street or Oak Street. In my opinion, the proposed location would bring such hazards to a minimum. If only softball were to be played, then it might be possible to locate the home plate in the northwest corner of the 300' x 400' tract, but even then the pump house would interfere somewhat.
2. Shelter House-Scout Cabin. The proposed location would enable this building to be seen from the street and yet it would be accessible from both the activity areas and the picnic areas (except for the portion across the river).
3. Rest Rooms. Accessibility and a rather hidden site are the chief factors in this location. If completely modern facilities are to be installed, they could be built in conjunction with the shelter house. This would reduce the cost of installing a water line. However, running water close to the picnic areas would be desirable in any case.
4. Tennis and Basketball Courts. The location which is shown would make them easily reached from the entrance and yet would partially isolate them from other activities. Tennis courts, especially, are best located as far as possible from other activities since they accommodate very few people at any one time and since the repetitious noise of the balls hitting the rackets can become very annoying to people trying to concentrate on other things.