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Characteristics of rural settlement in the corn belt of the North American mid-west

Birch, B. P.

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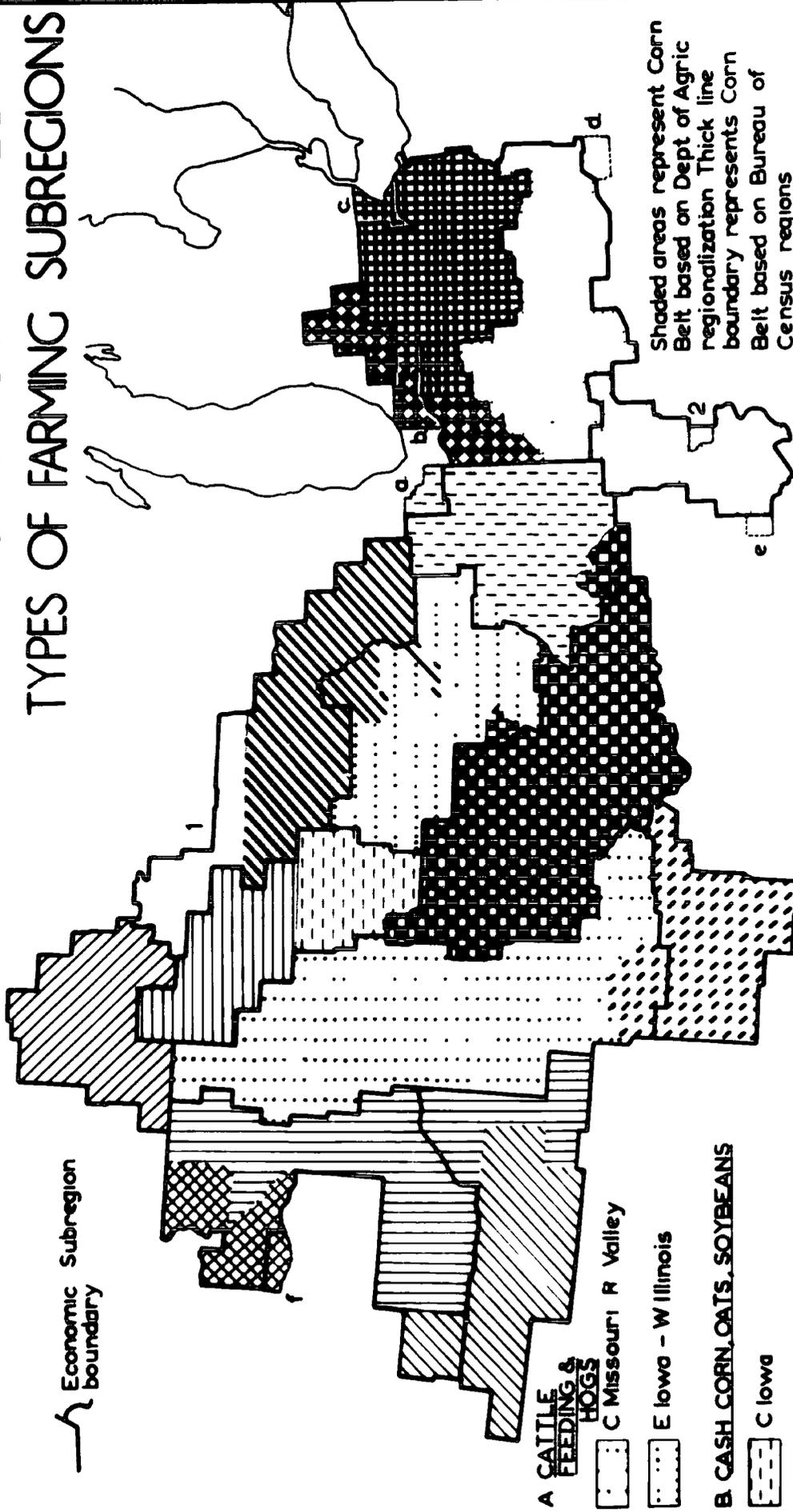
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THE CORN BELT

TYPES OF FARMING SUBREGIONS

Economic Subregion boundary



A CATTLE FEEDING & HOGS

- C Missouri R Valley
- E Iowa - W Illinois

B. CASH CORN, OATS, SOYBEANS

- C Iowa
- E C Illinois

C. HOGS & SOFT WINTER WHEAT

- C Indiana - SW Ohio
- Wabash & lower Ohio R Valleys

D. LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, SOYBEAN, CASH GRAIN

- N W Ohio - N.E Indiana

E. HOGS & DAIRY

- N E Iowa - NW Illinois - SW Wisconsin

F LIVESTOCK & CASH GRAIN

- NW corn-livestock transition
- SW corn-hard winter wheat transition
- W Corn Belt fringe
- NW Corn Belt fringe
- N Iowa - SW Minnesota

G LIVESTOCK, CASH GRAIN & DAIRY

- W Missouri - E Kansas

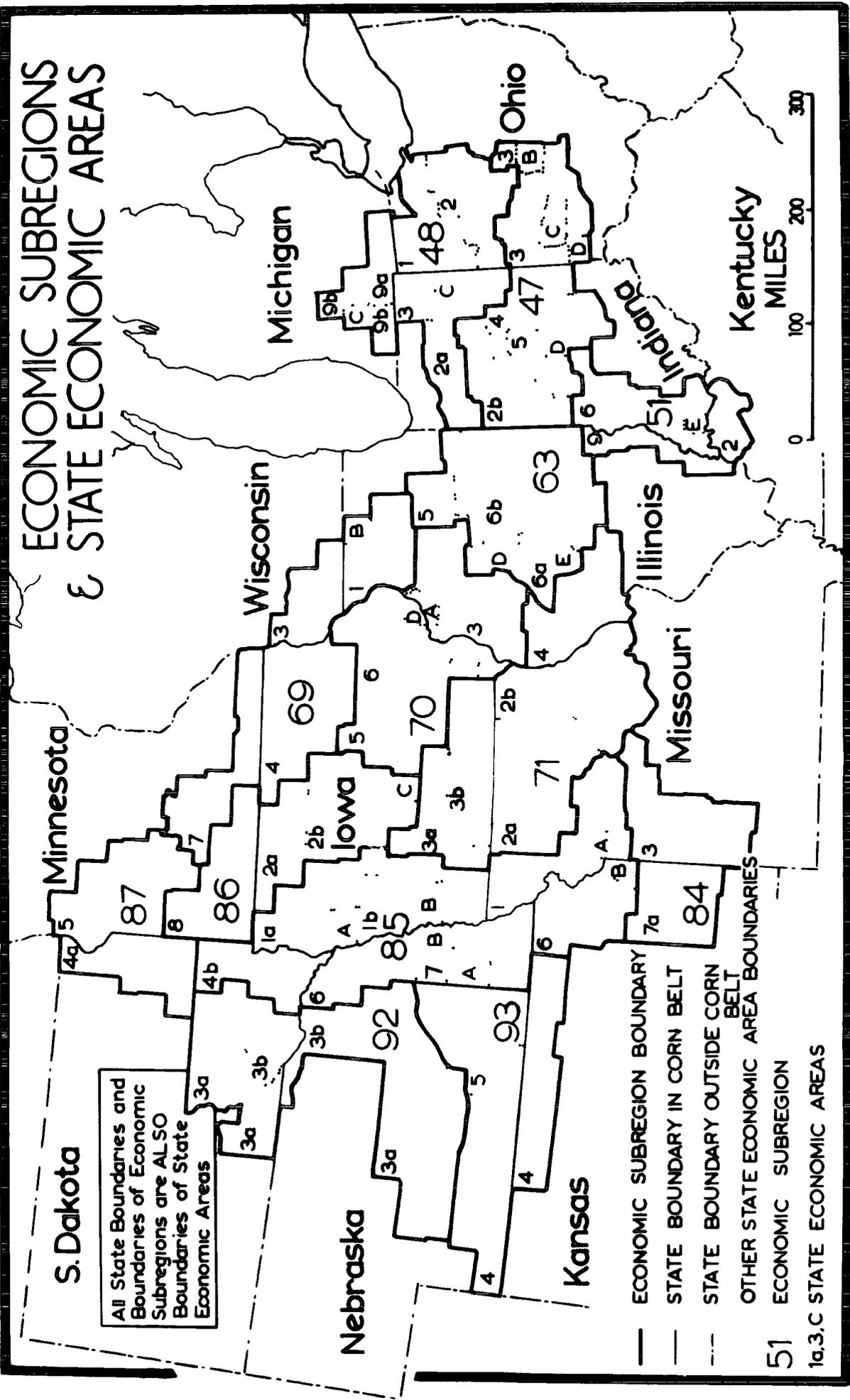
H LIVESTOCK & PASTURE

- S Iowa - N Missouri - WC Illinois
- NW Indiana SW Michigan

Shaded areas represent Corn Belt based on Dept of Agric regionalization Thick line boundary represents Corn Belt based on Bureau of Census regions



ALBERS EQUAL - AREA



ECONOMIC SUBREGIONS & STATE ECONOMIC AREAS

S. Dakota

All State Boundaries and Boundaries of Economic Subregions are ALSO Boundaries of State Economic Areas

Nebraska

Kansas

Minnesota

Iowa

Wisconsin

Missouri

Illinois

Indiana

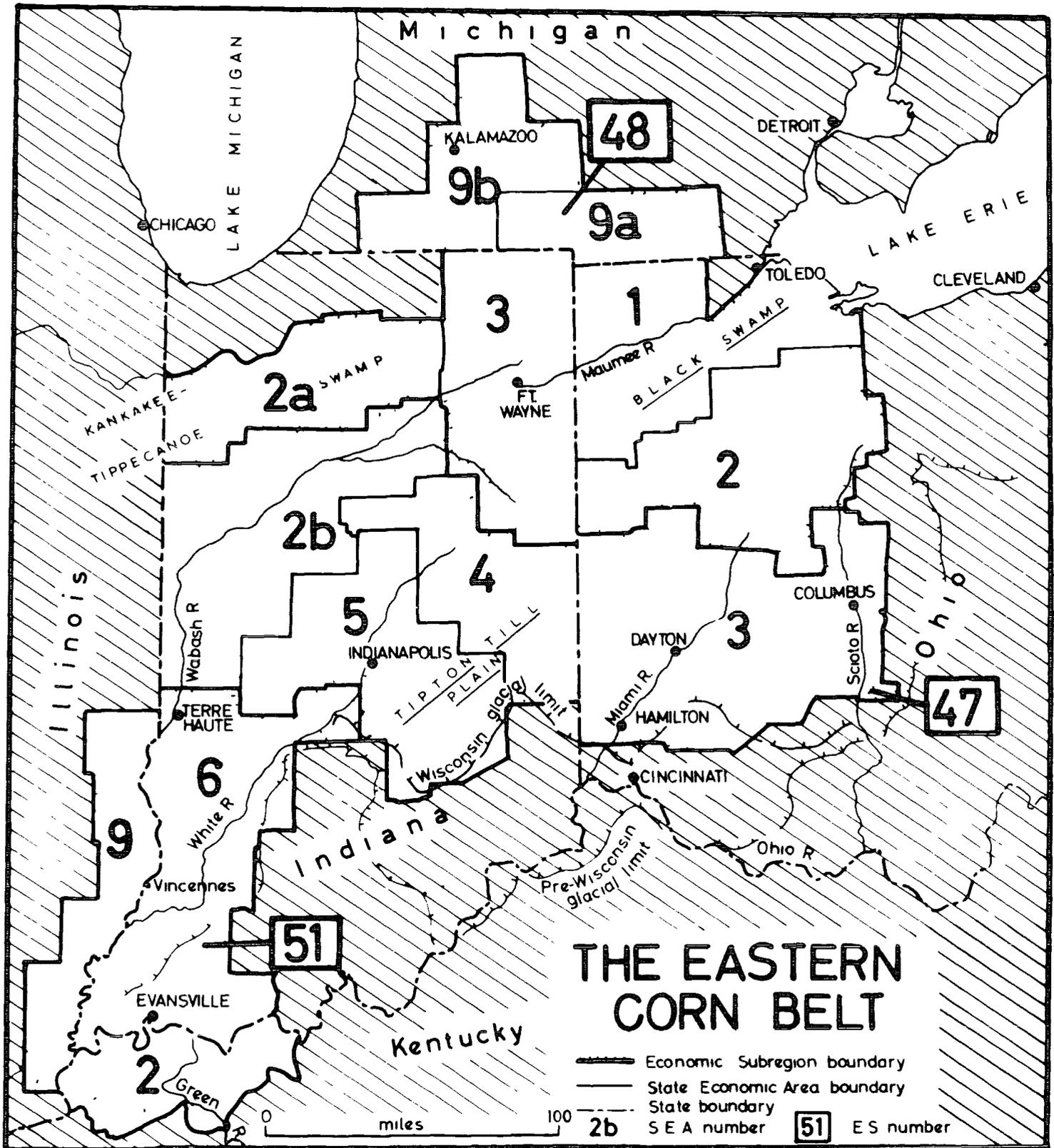
Michigan

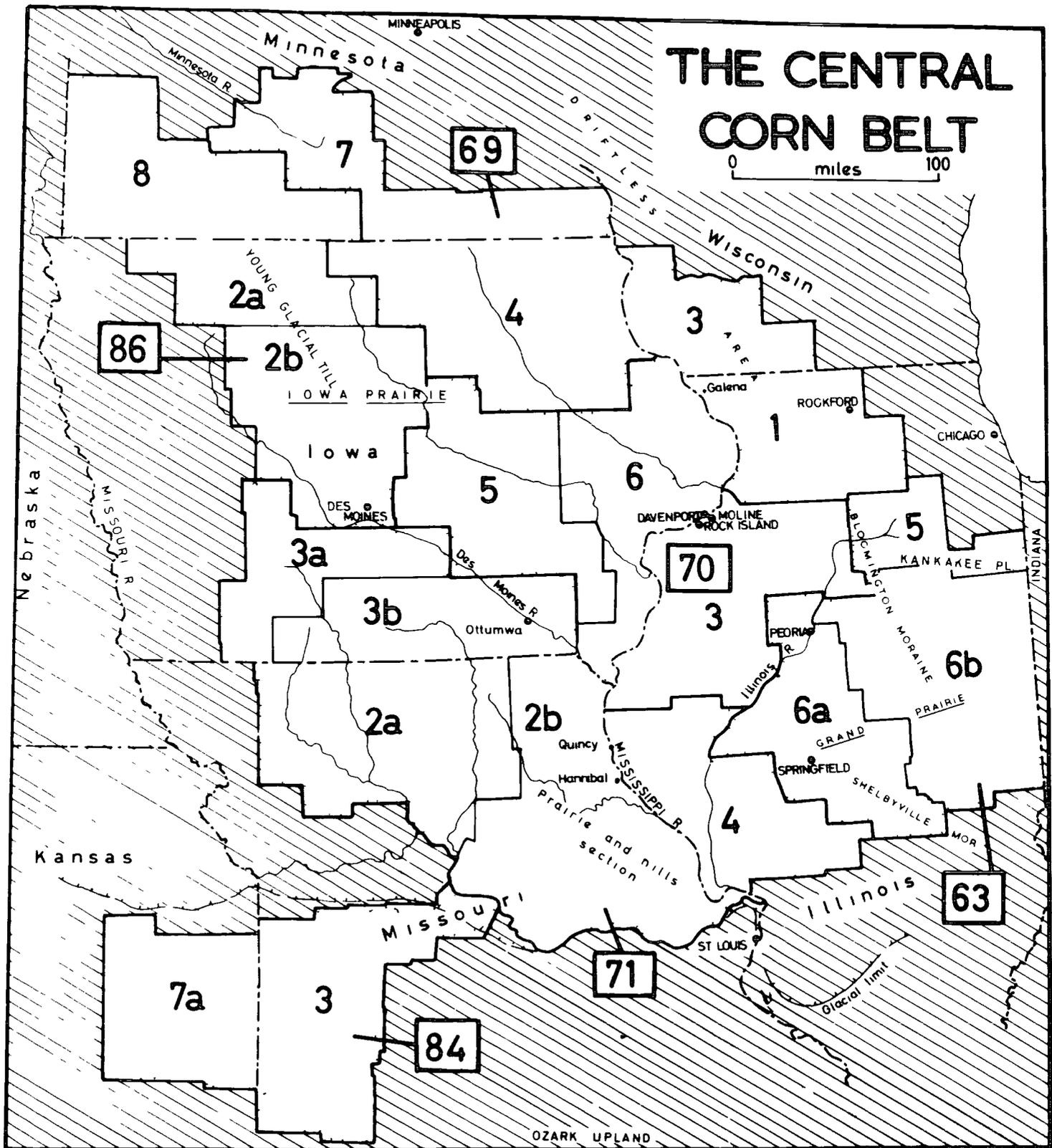
Ohio

Kentucky

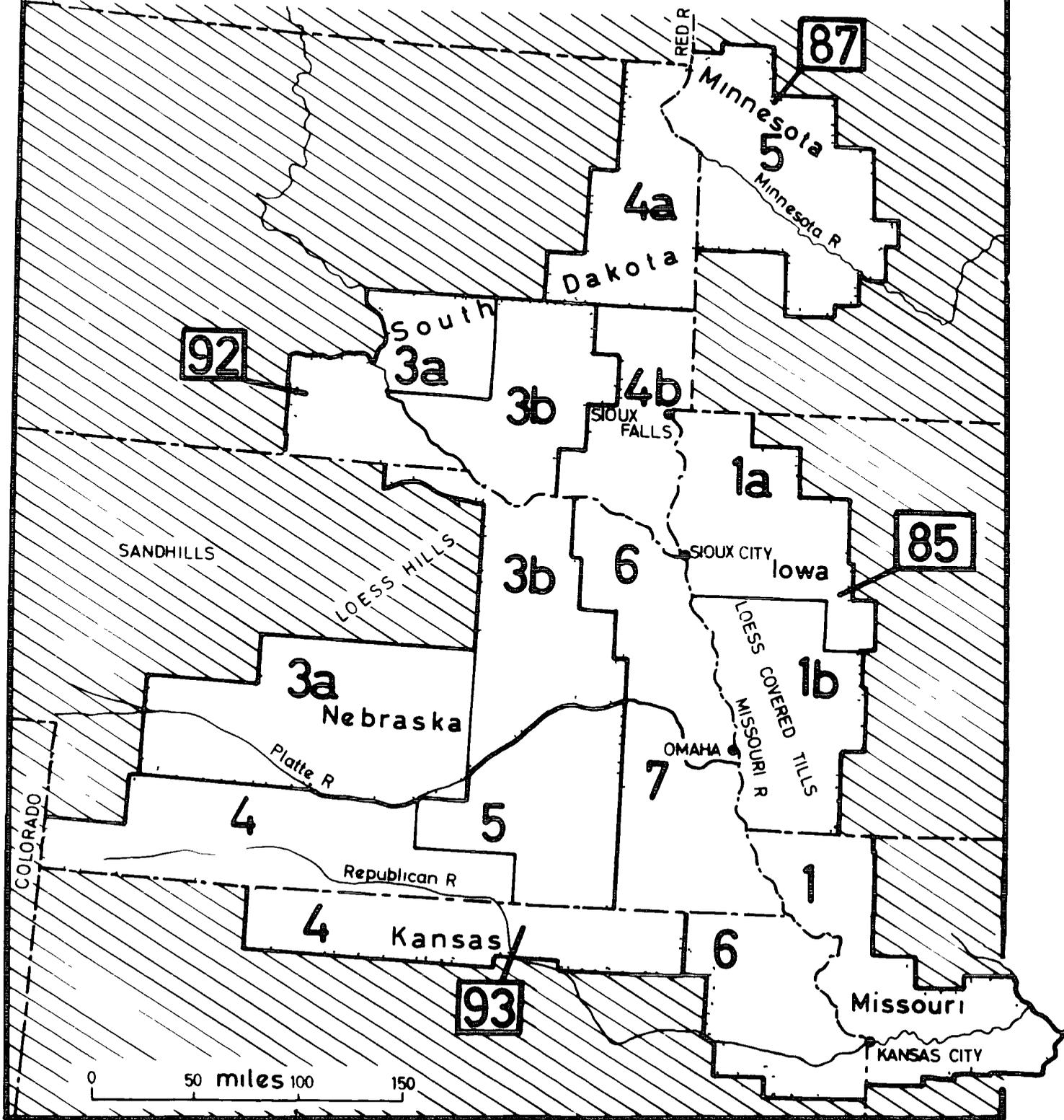
- ECONOMIC SUBREGION BOUNDARY
 - STATE BOUNDARY IN CORN BELT
 - STATE BOUNDARY OUTSIDE CORN BELT
 - OTHER STATE ECONOMIC AREA BOUNDARIES
- 51 ECONOMIC SUBREGION
- 1a,3,C STATE ECONOMIC AREAS

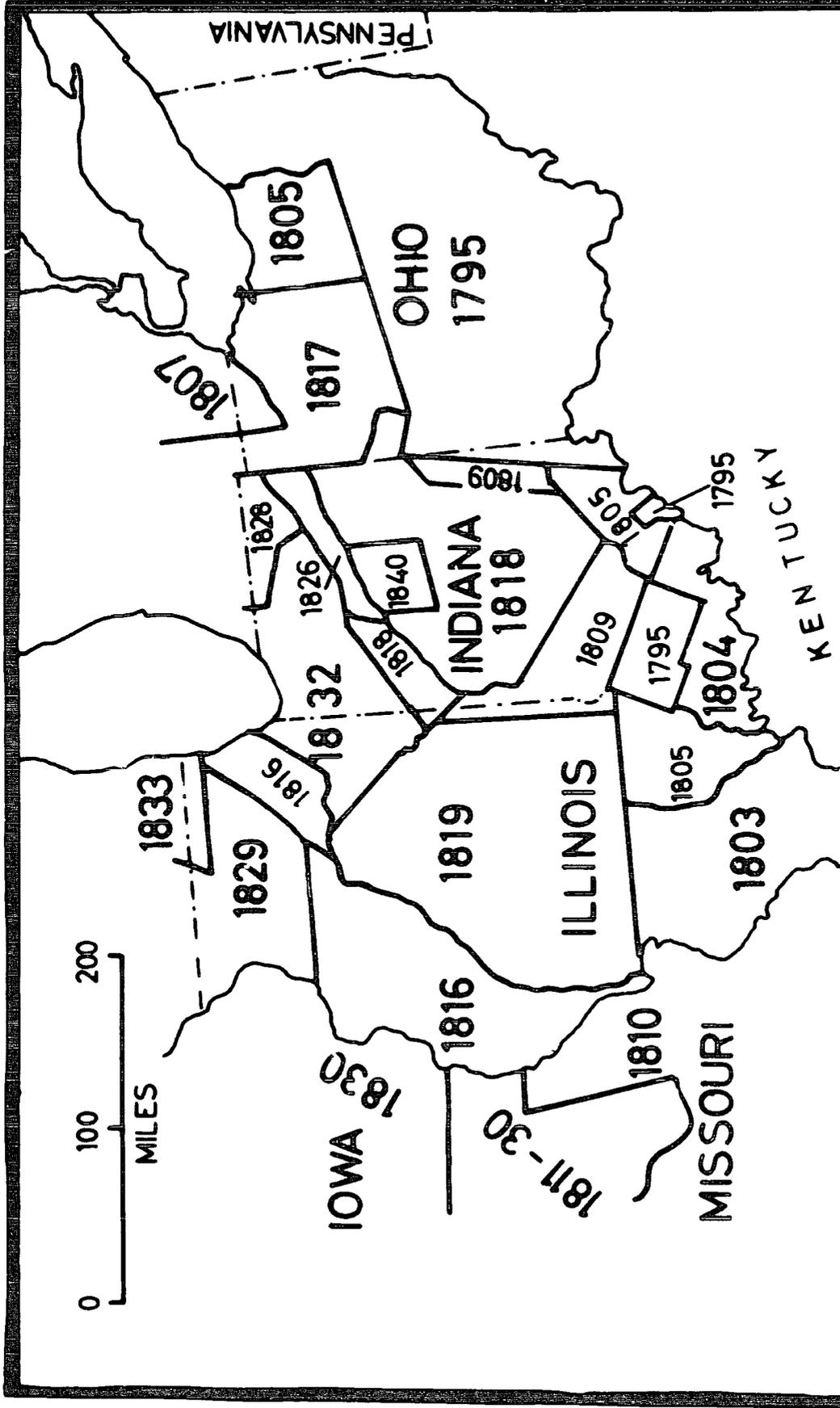




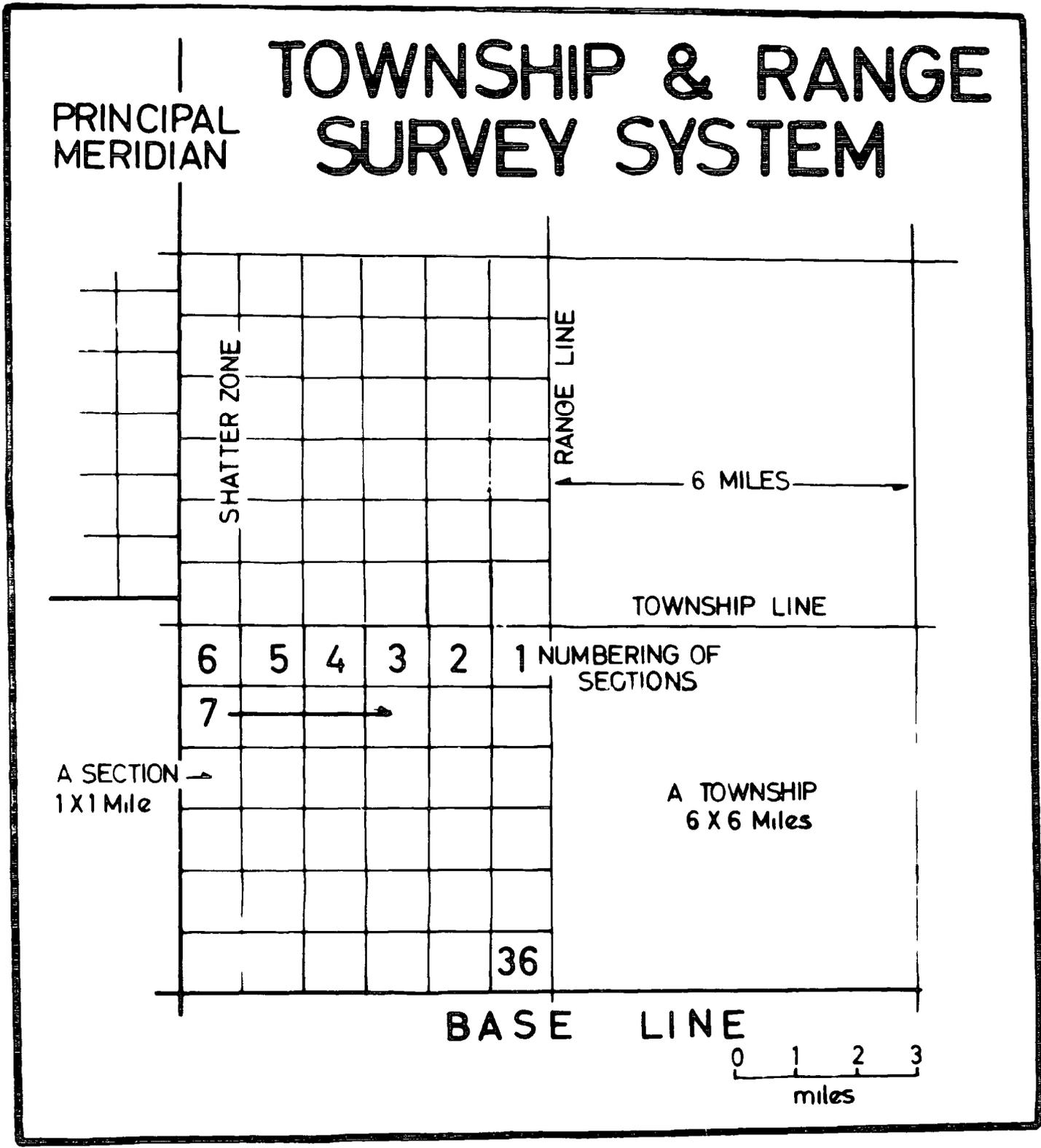


THE WESTERN CORN BELT

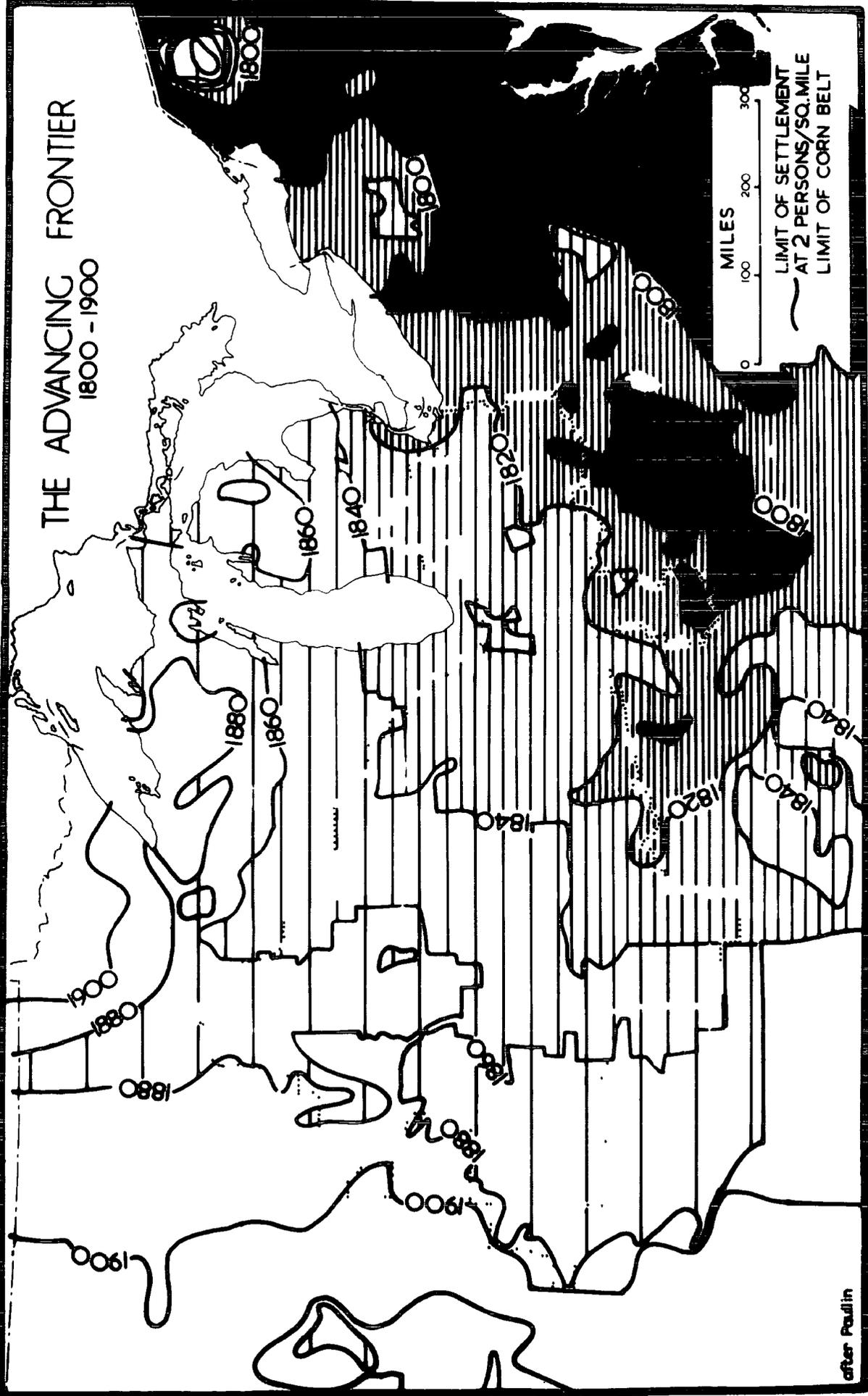




MAIN INDIAN LAND CESSIONS IN THE EAST PART OF THE OLD NORTH - WEST



THE ADVANCING FRONTIER 1800 - 1900



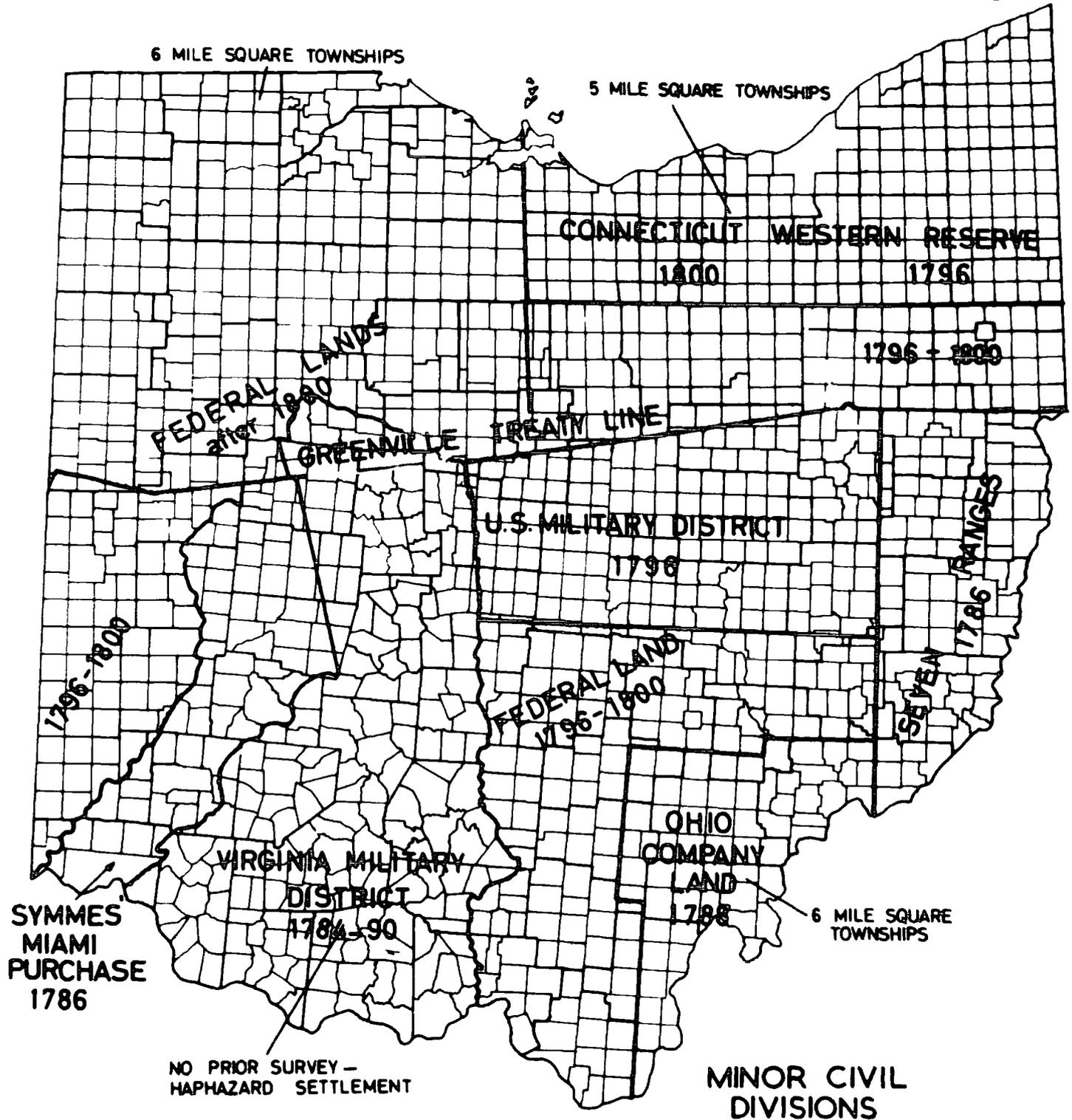
MILES

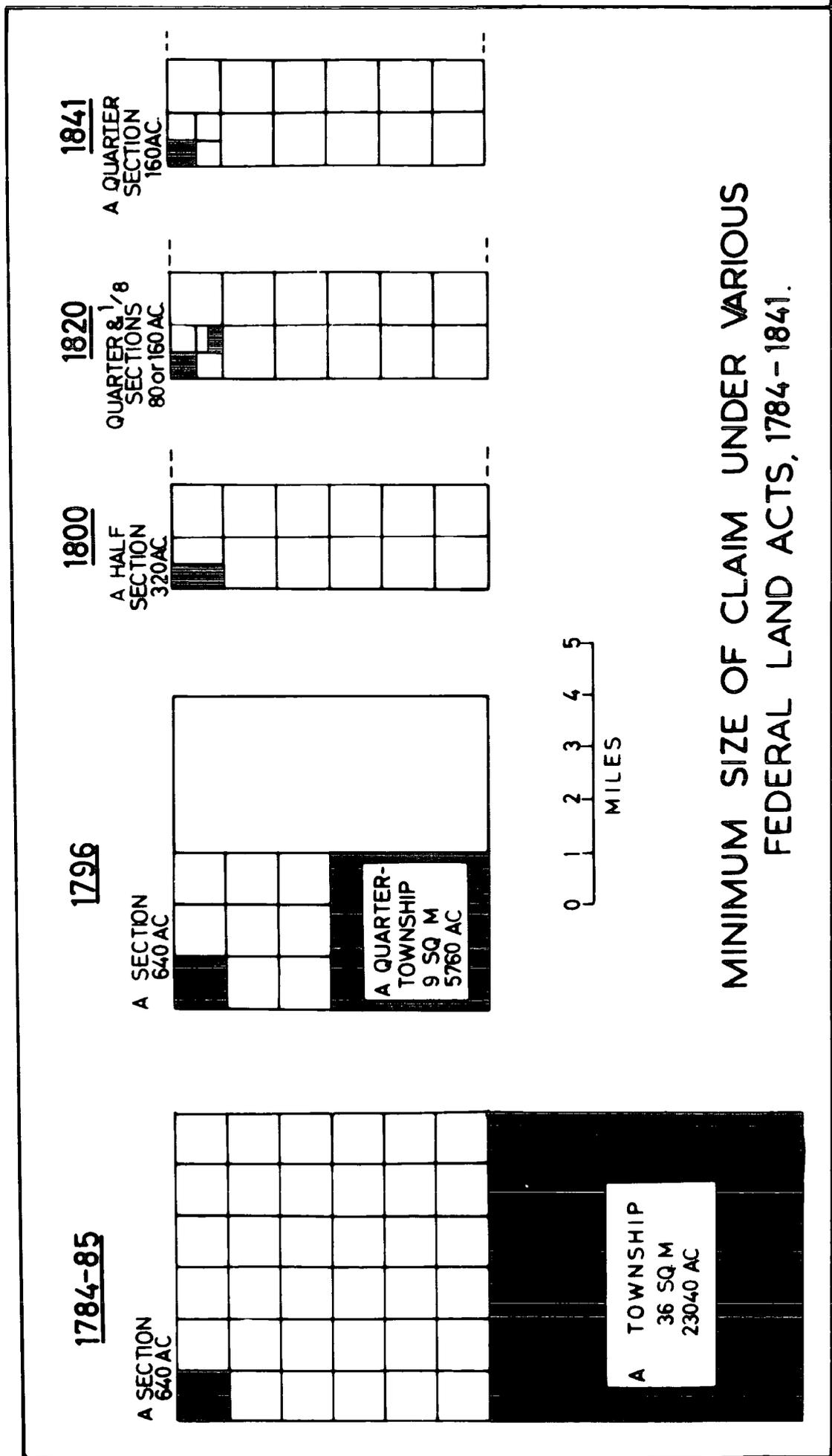
0 100 200 300

— LIMIT OF SETTLEMENT
AT 2 PERSONS/SQ. MILE
- - - LIMIT OF CORN BELT

after Paulin

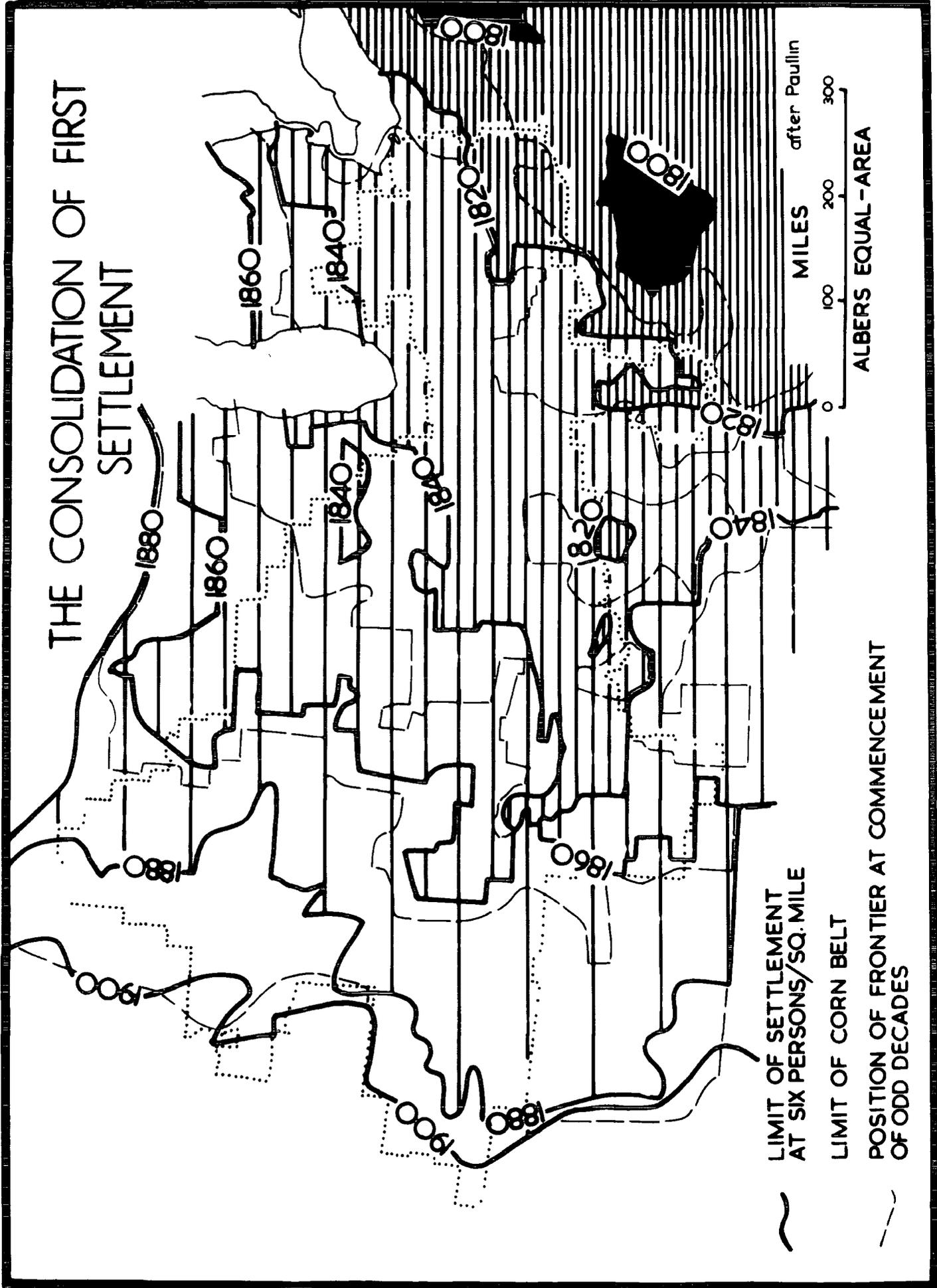
THE MAIN SURVEY AREAS - OHIO





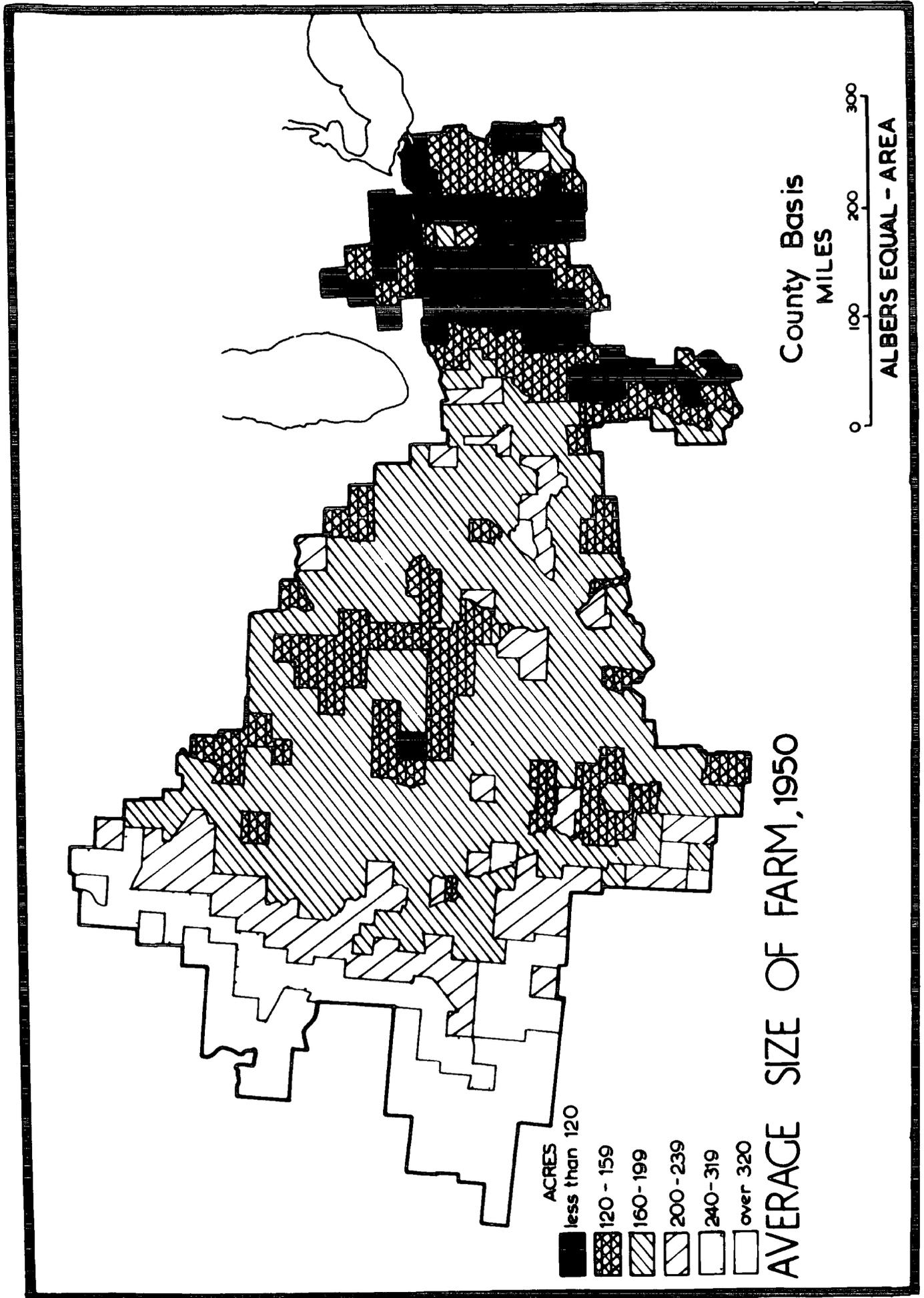
MINIMUM SIZE OF CLAIM UNDER VARIOUS FEDERAL LAND ACTS, 1784 - 1841.

THE CONSOLIDATION OF FIRST SETTLEMENT

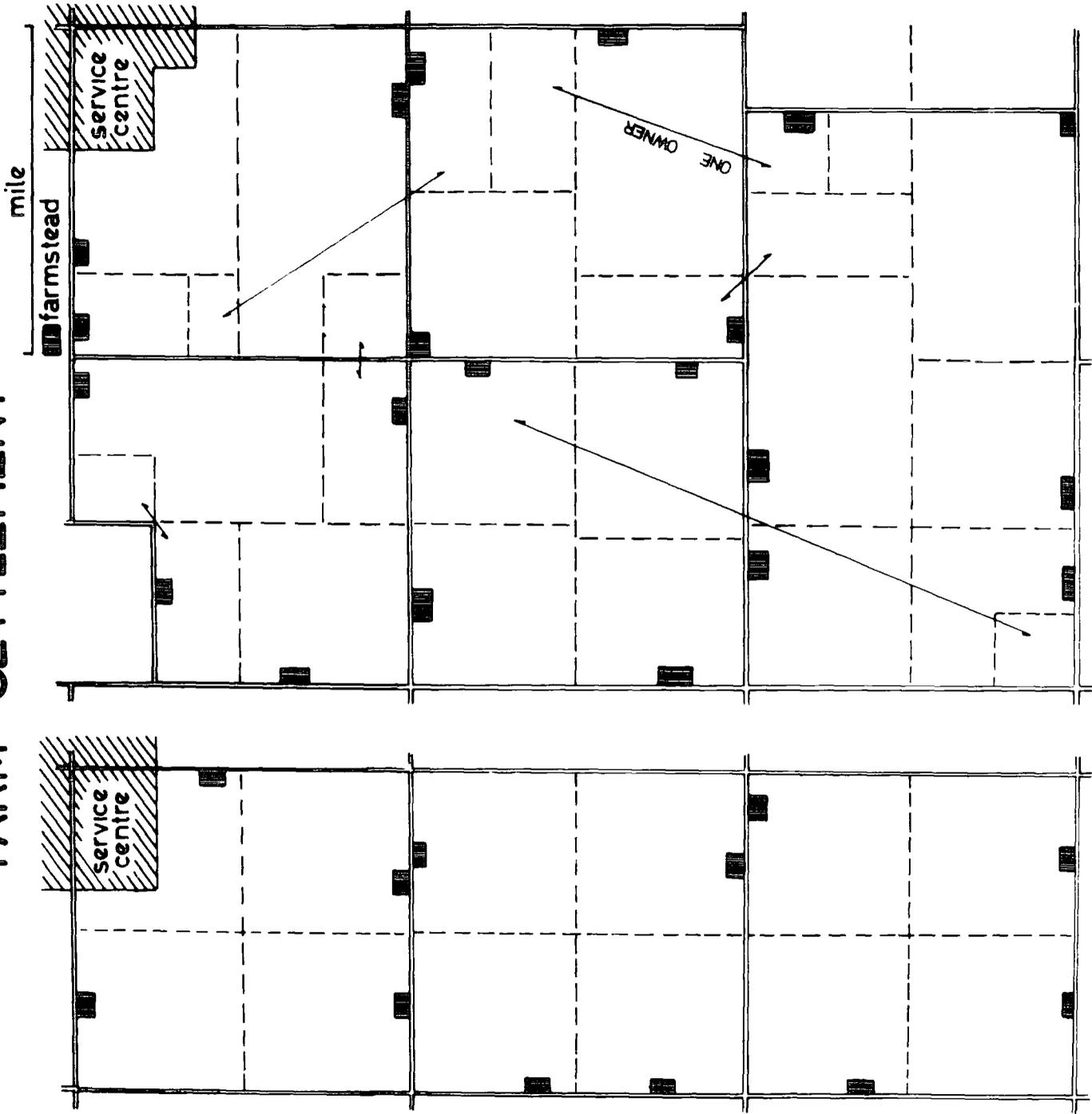


LIMIT OF SETTLEMENT AT SIX PERSONS/SQ. MILE
LIMIT OF CORN BELT
POSITION OF FRONTIER AT COMMENCEMENT OF ODD DECADES

MILES after Paullin
0 100 200 300
ALBERS EQUAL-AREA

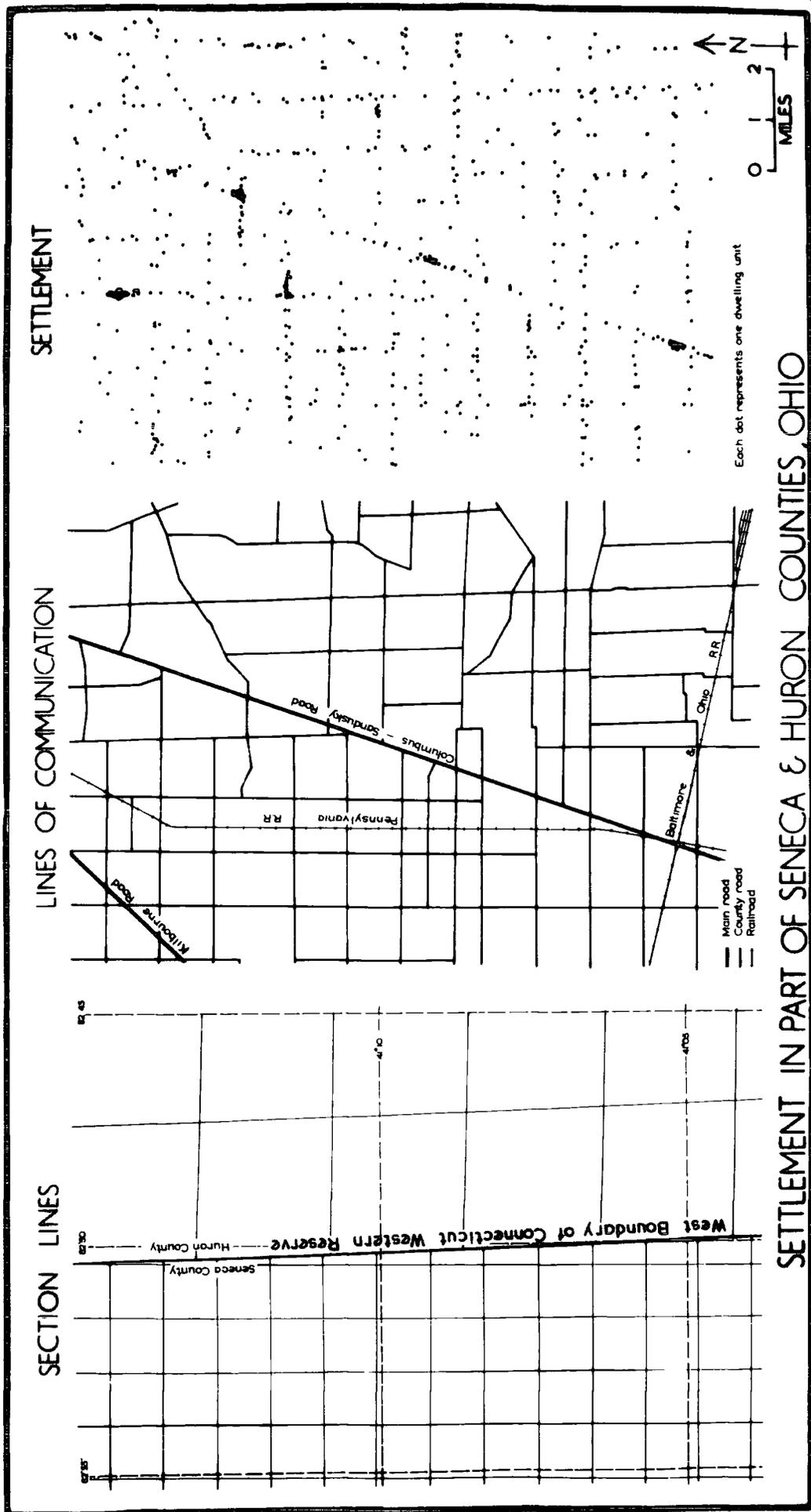


FARM SETTLEMENT



MODEL ARRANGEMENT with QUARTER - SECTION FARMS

TYPICAL ARRANGEMENT with some irregular land units and roads



SETTLEMENT IN PART OF SENECA & HURON COUNTIES, OHIO

Each dot represents one dwelling unit

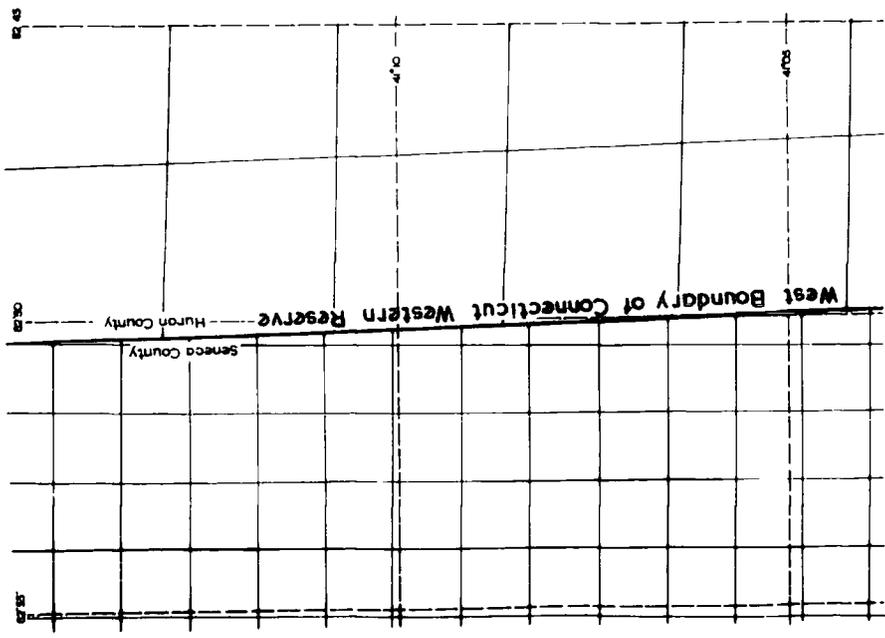
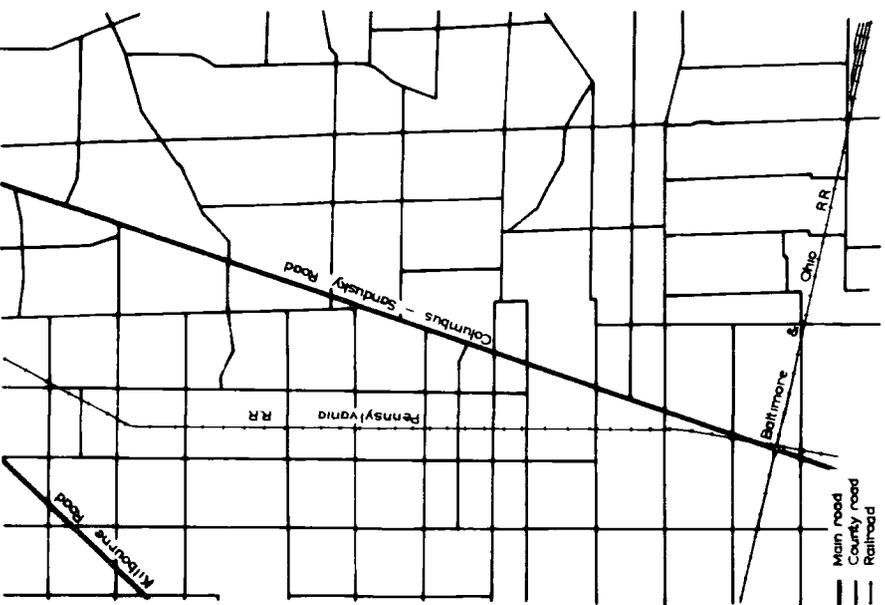
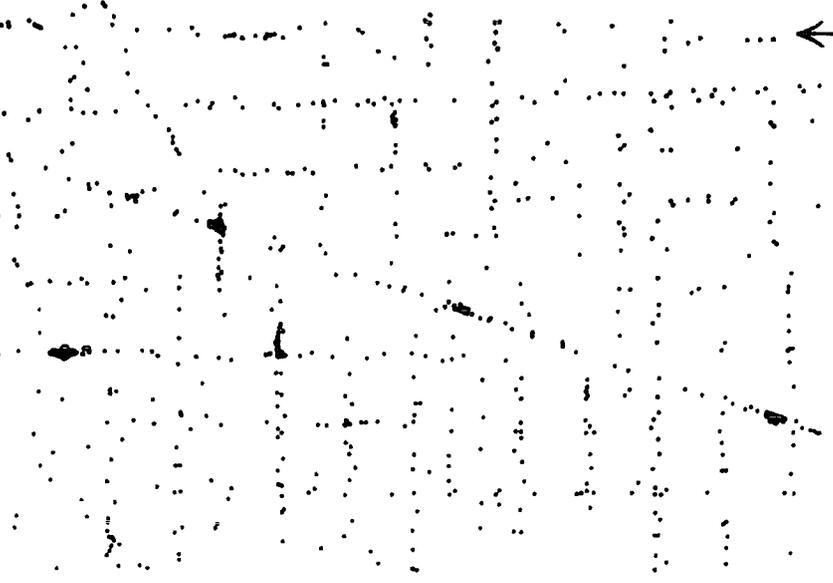
0 1 2
MILES

N

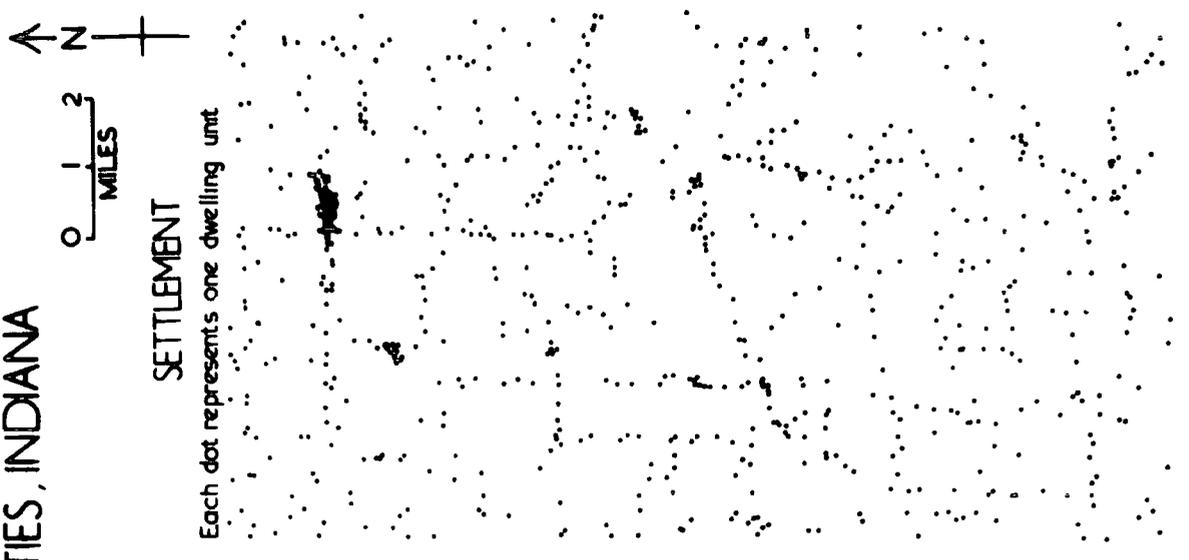
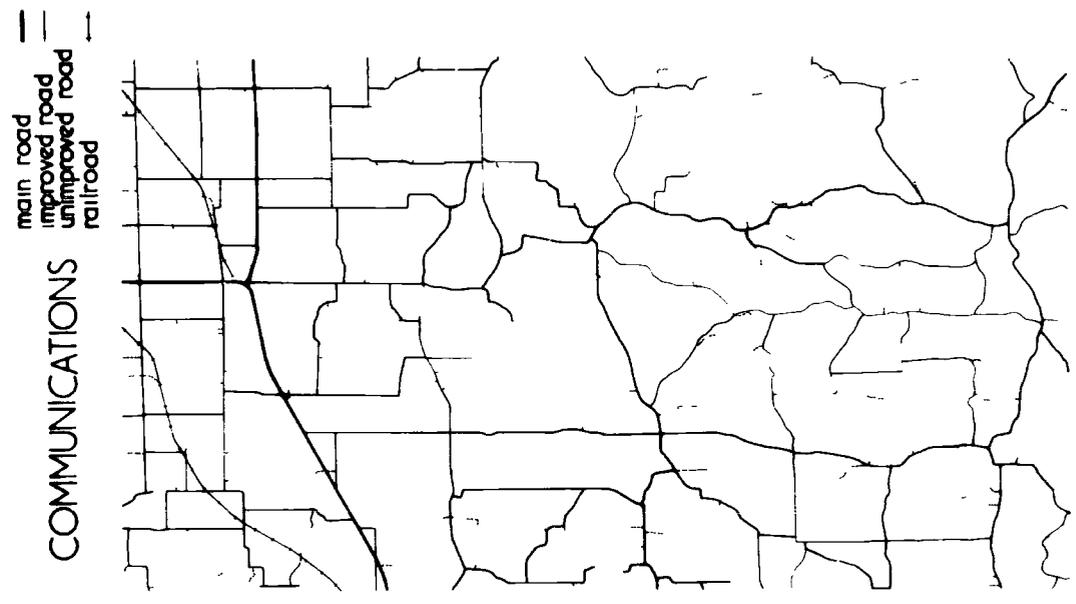
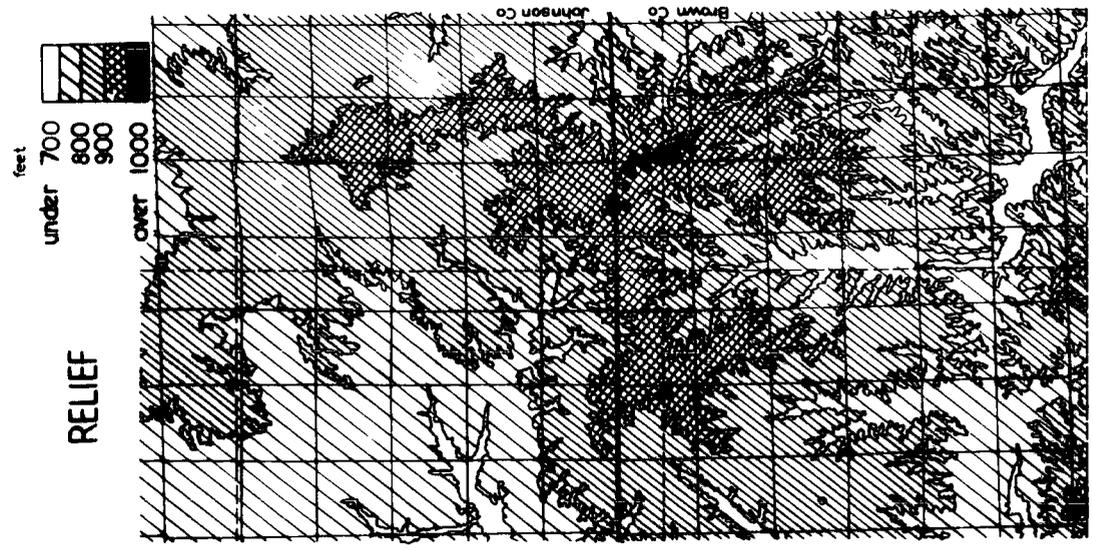
SETTLEMENT

LINES OF COMMUNICATION

SECTION LINES

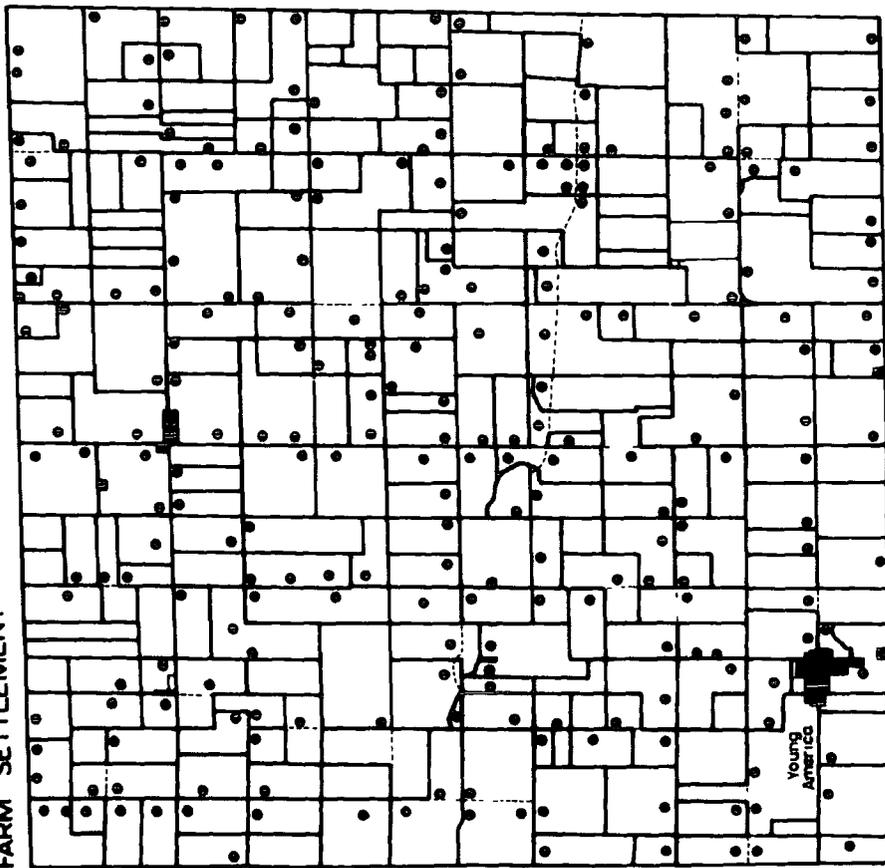


SETTLEMENT IN PART OF BROWN & JOHNSON COUNTIES, INDIANA

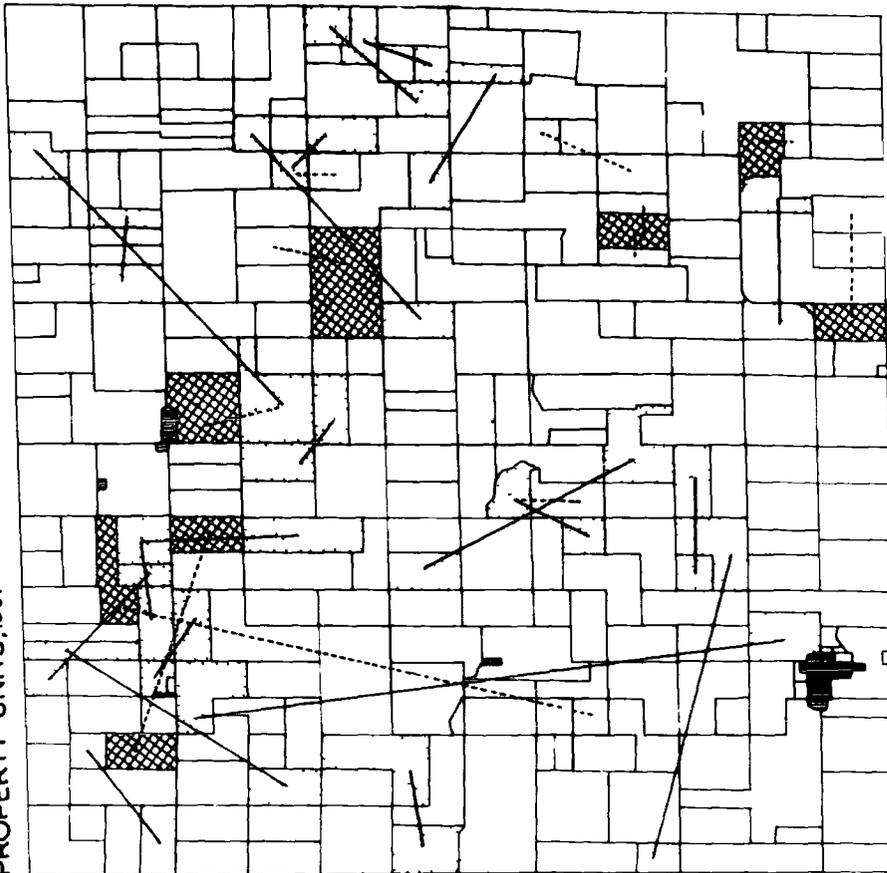


DEER CREEK TWP., CASS CO., INDIANA

FARM SETTLEMENT



PROPERTY UNITS, 1961



Farm unit
 Divided unit
 Part-owned land

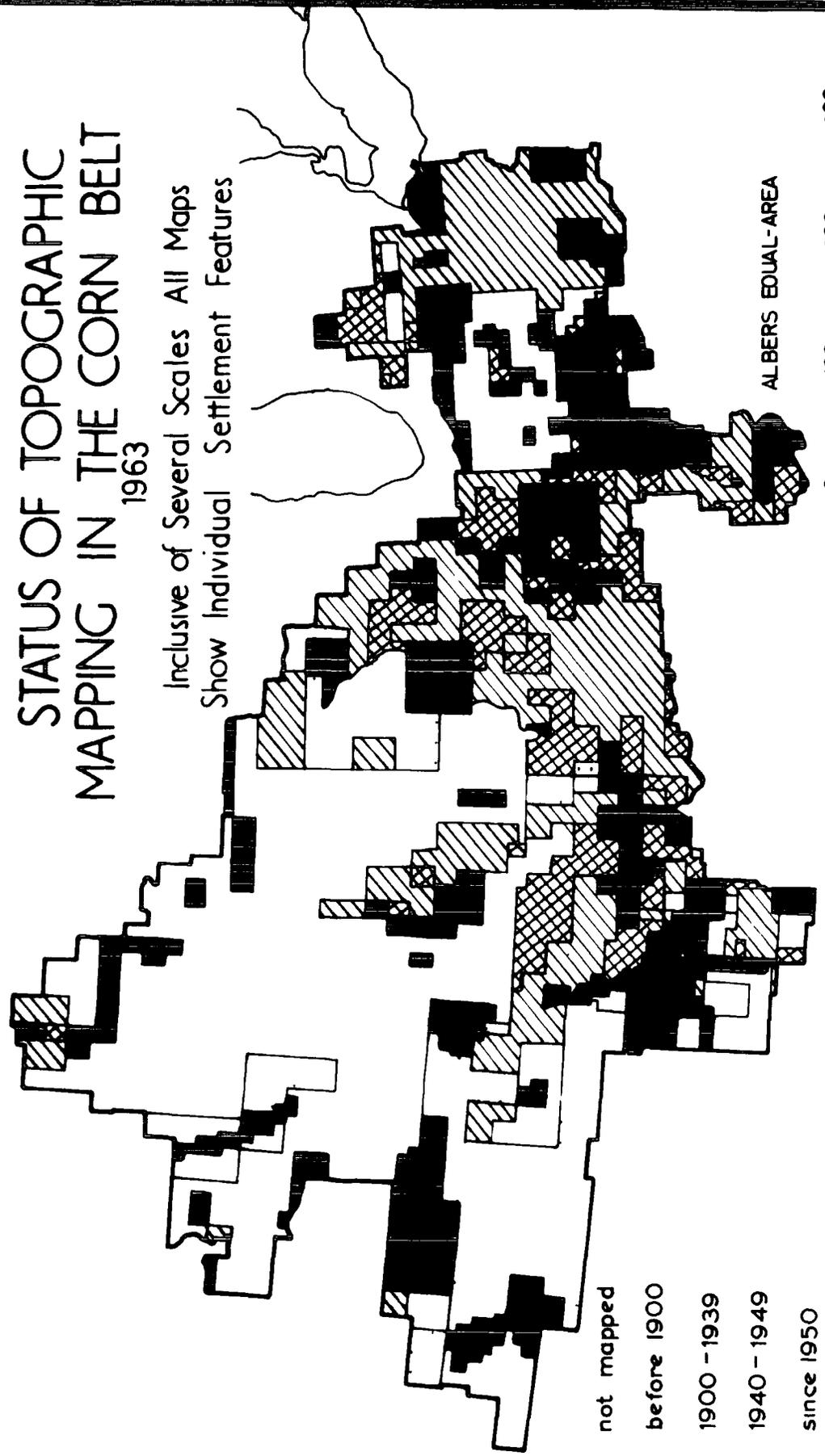
● Dwelling
 --- Farms cut by roads
 — Farm boundary

0 1 MILE



STATUS OF TOPOGRAPHIC MAPPING IN THE CORN BELT 1963

Inclusive of Several Scales All Maps
Show Individual Settlement Features



- not mapped
- before 1900
- 1900 - 1939
- 1940 - 1949
- since 1950

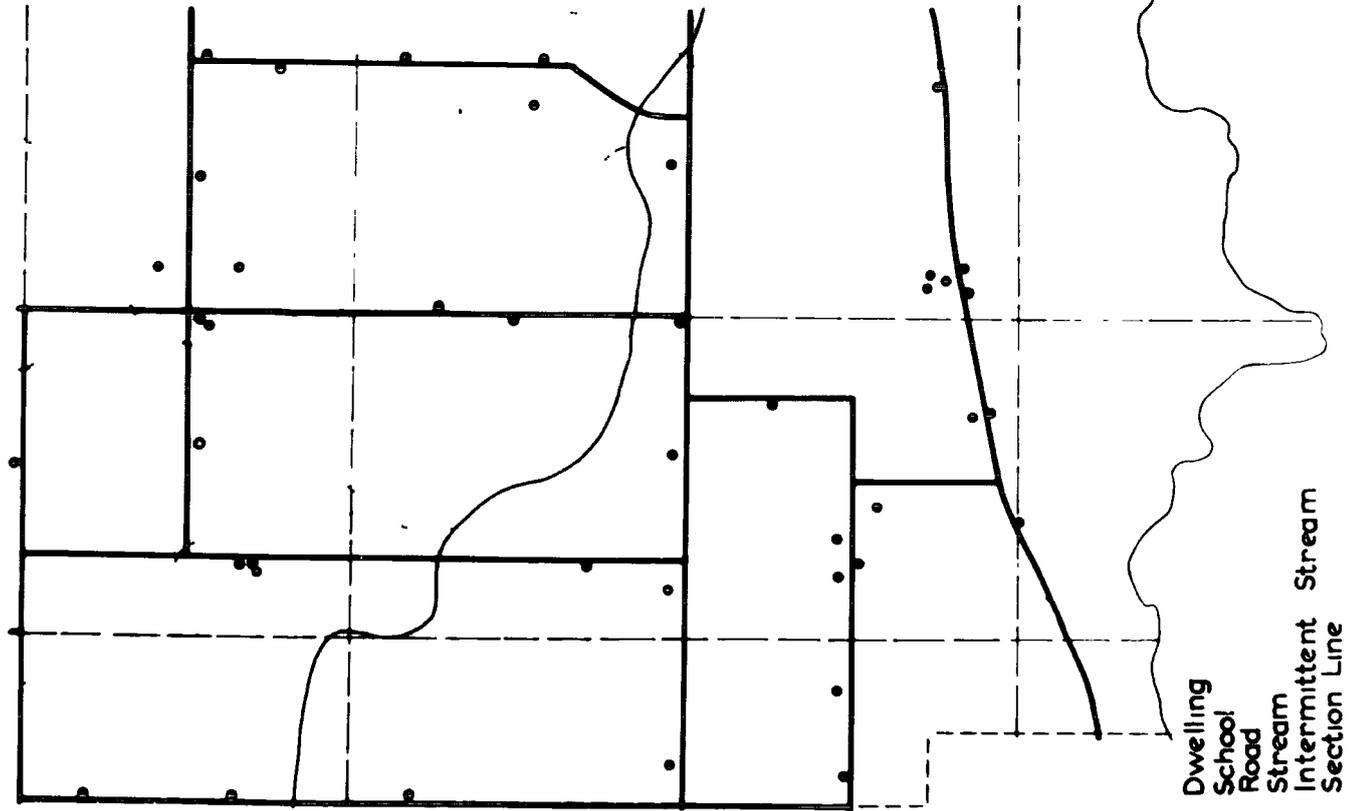
PERIOD WHEN LAST
MAPPED

0 100 200 300
MILES

ALBERS EQUAL-AREA

SETTLEMENT FEATURES IN PART OF CLINTON COUNTY, IOWA - FROM THE U.S.G.S. MAP, GRAND MOUND, 24000 (1953)

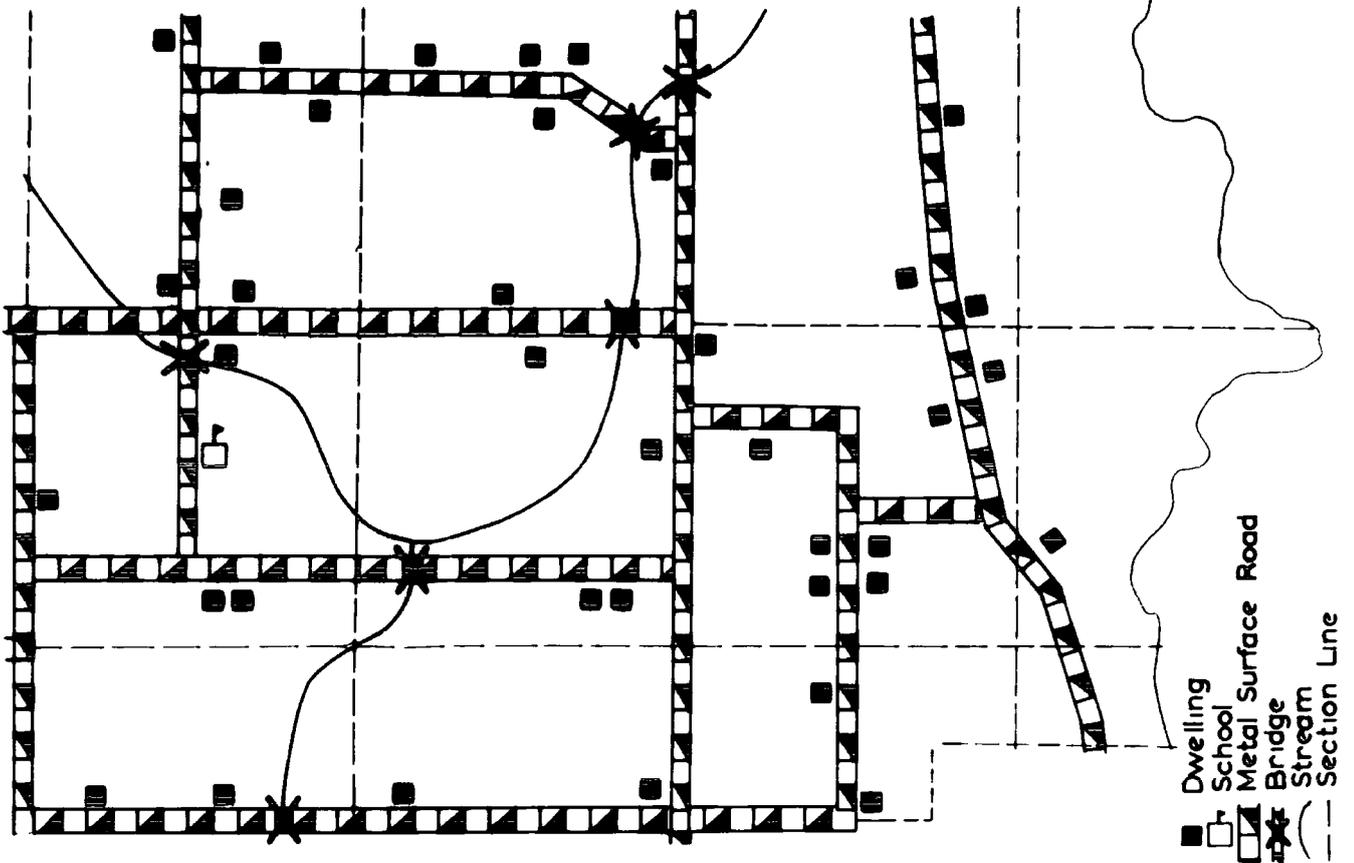
mile



- Dwelling
- School
- Road
- ~ Stream
- - Intermittent Stream
- - Section Line

SETTLEMENT FEATURES IN SAME AREA - FROM GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP, CLINTON COUNTY, 63360 (1960)

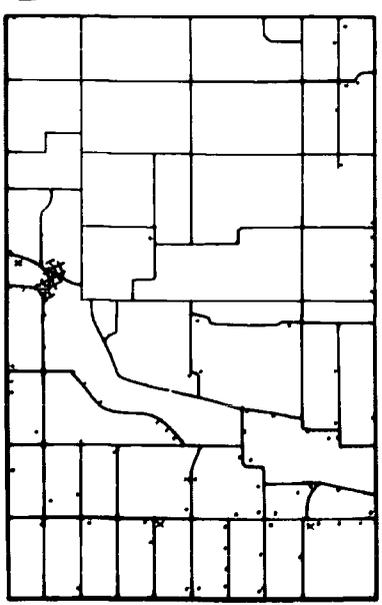
(copy of enlargement)



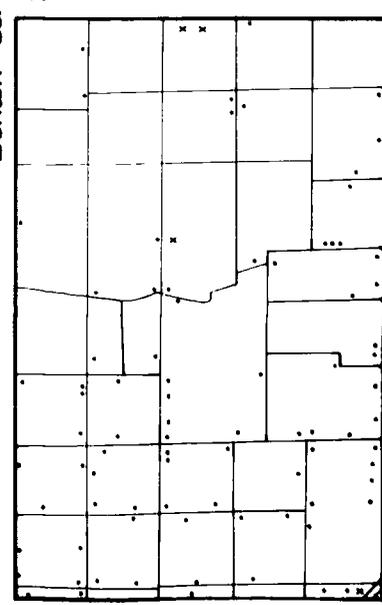
- Dwelling
- School
- ▨ Metal Surface Road
- ▨* Bridge
- ~ Stream
- - Section Line

RURAL SETTLEMENT IN SELECTED SECTIONS OF INDIANA - THE EASTERN CORN BELT (from 1937 highway maps)

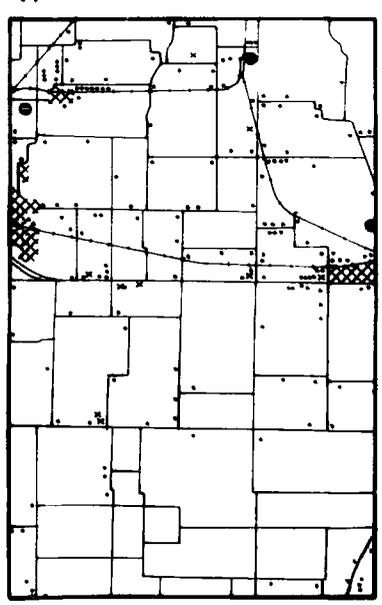
Pulaski Co.



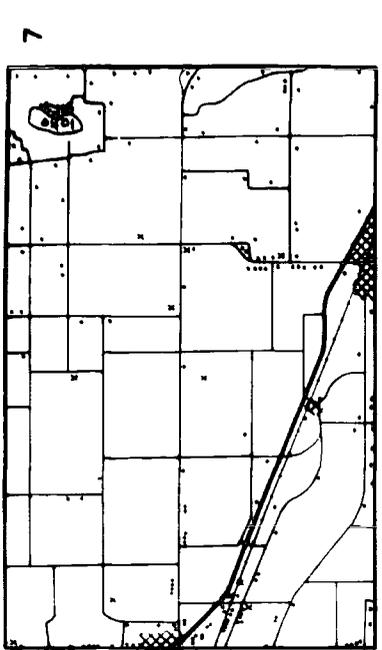
Benton Co.



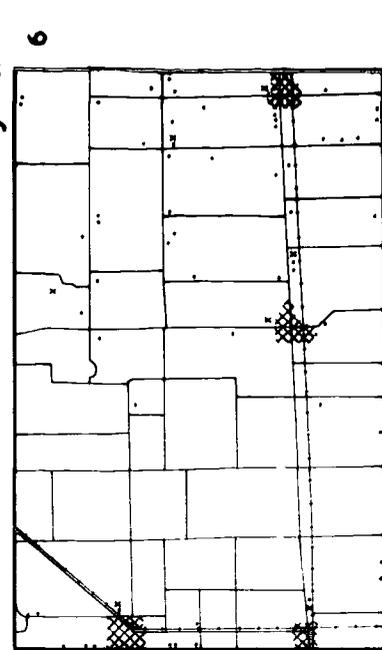
Sullivan Co.



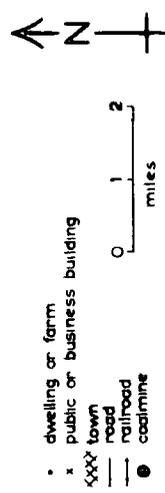
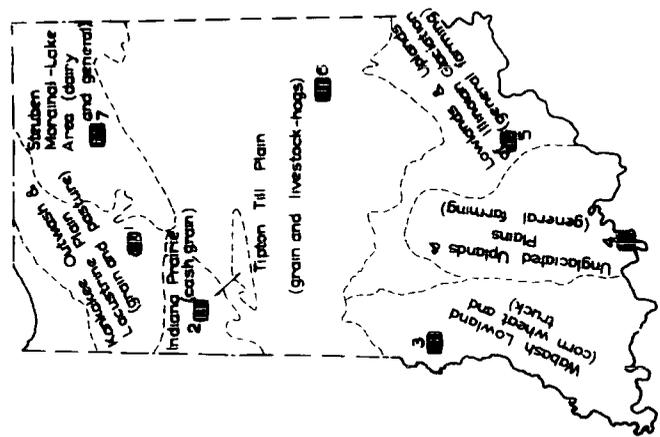
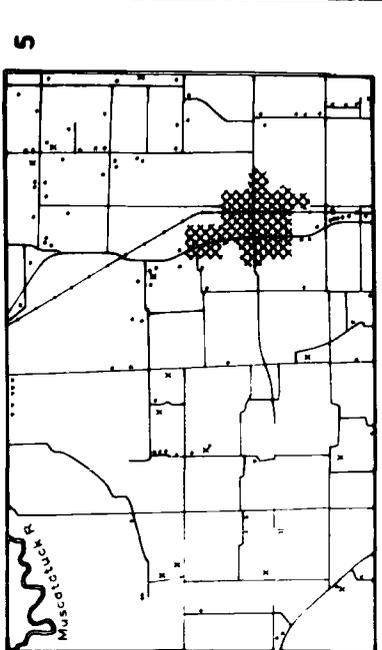
Kosciusko Co.



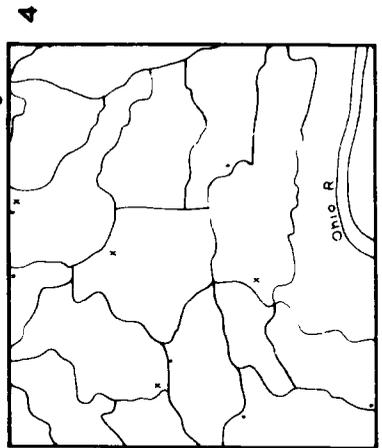
Henry Co.



Scott Co.

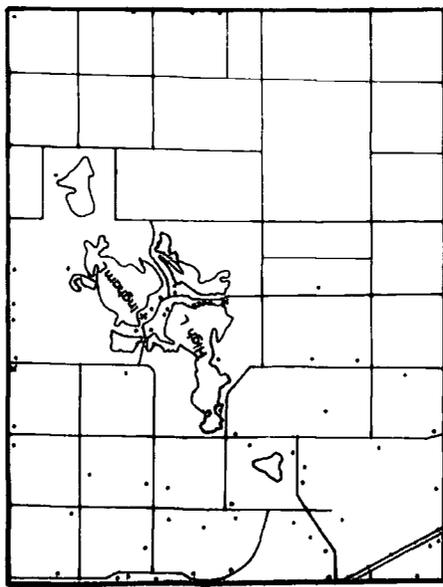


Perry Co.

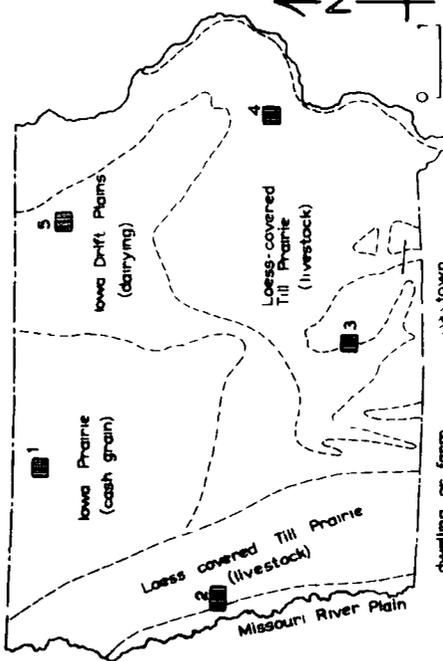
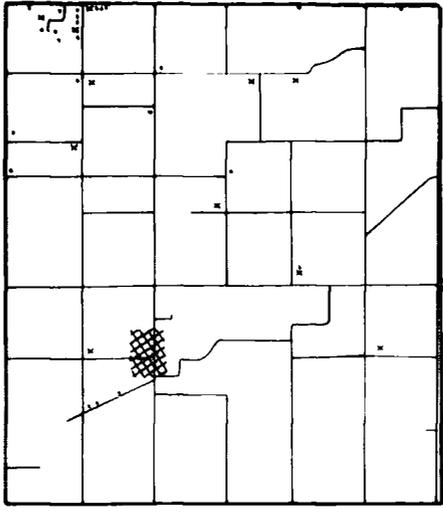


RURAL SETTLEMENT IN SELECTED SECTIONS OF IOWA - THE CENTRAL CORN BELT (from 1960 highway maps)

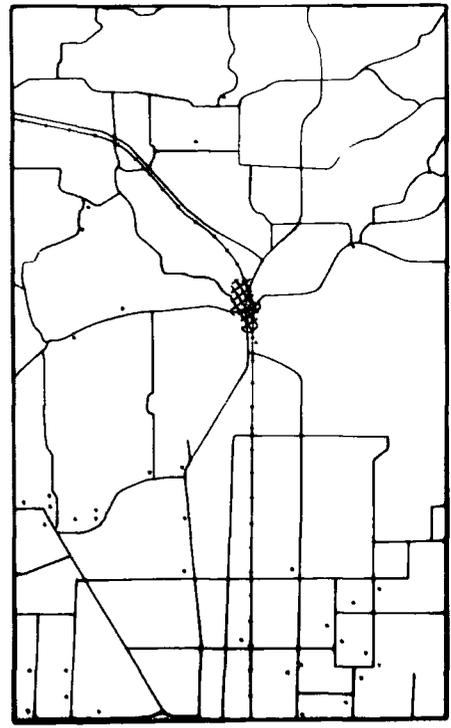
Emmet Co



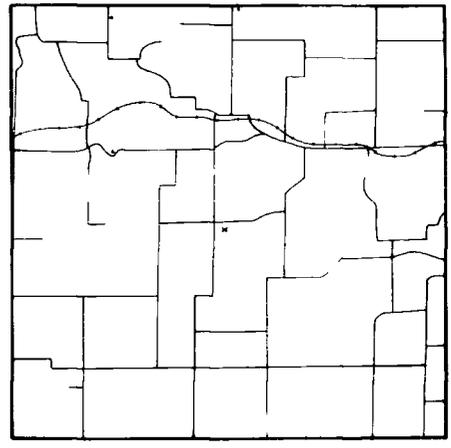
Chickasaw Co



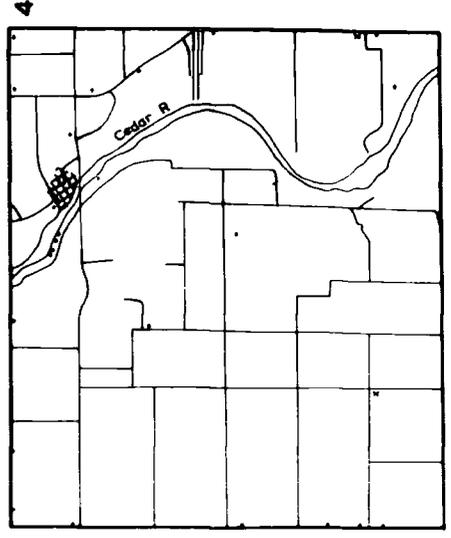
Monona Co



Lucas Co



Cedar Co



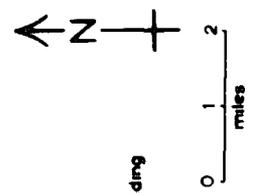
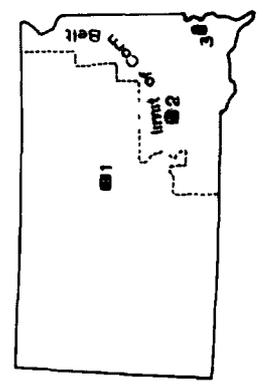
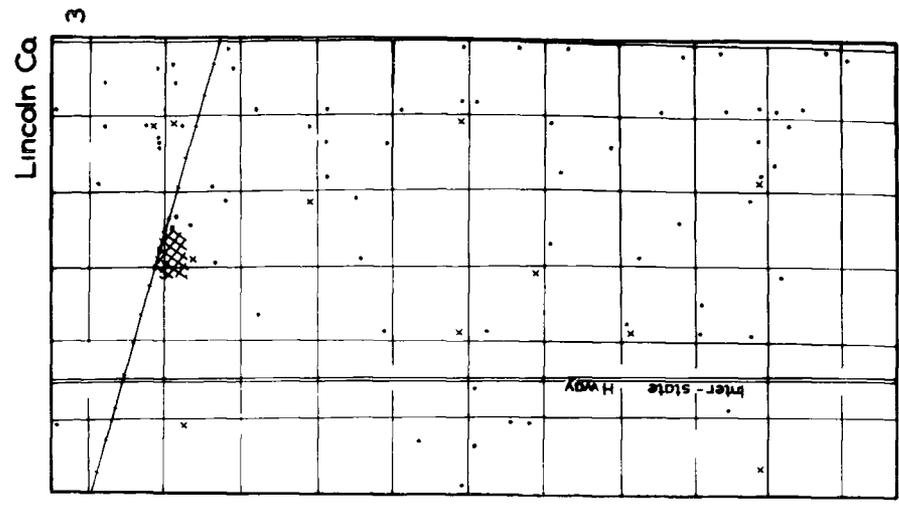
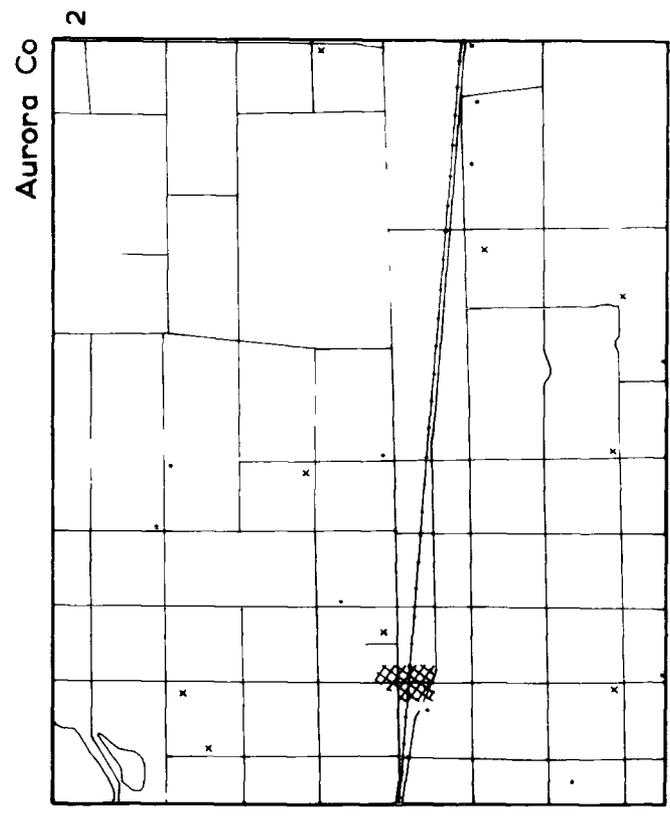
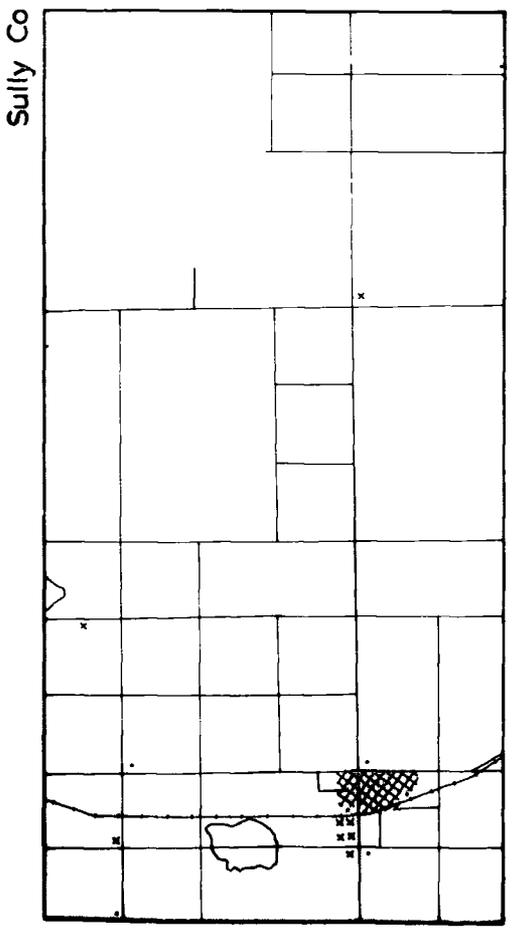
4

2

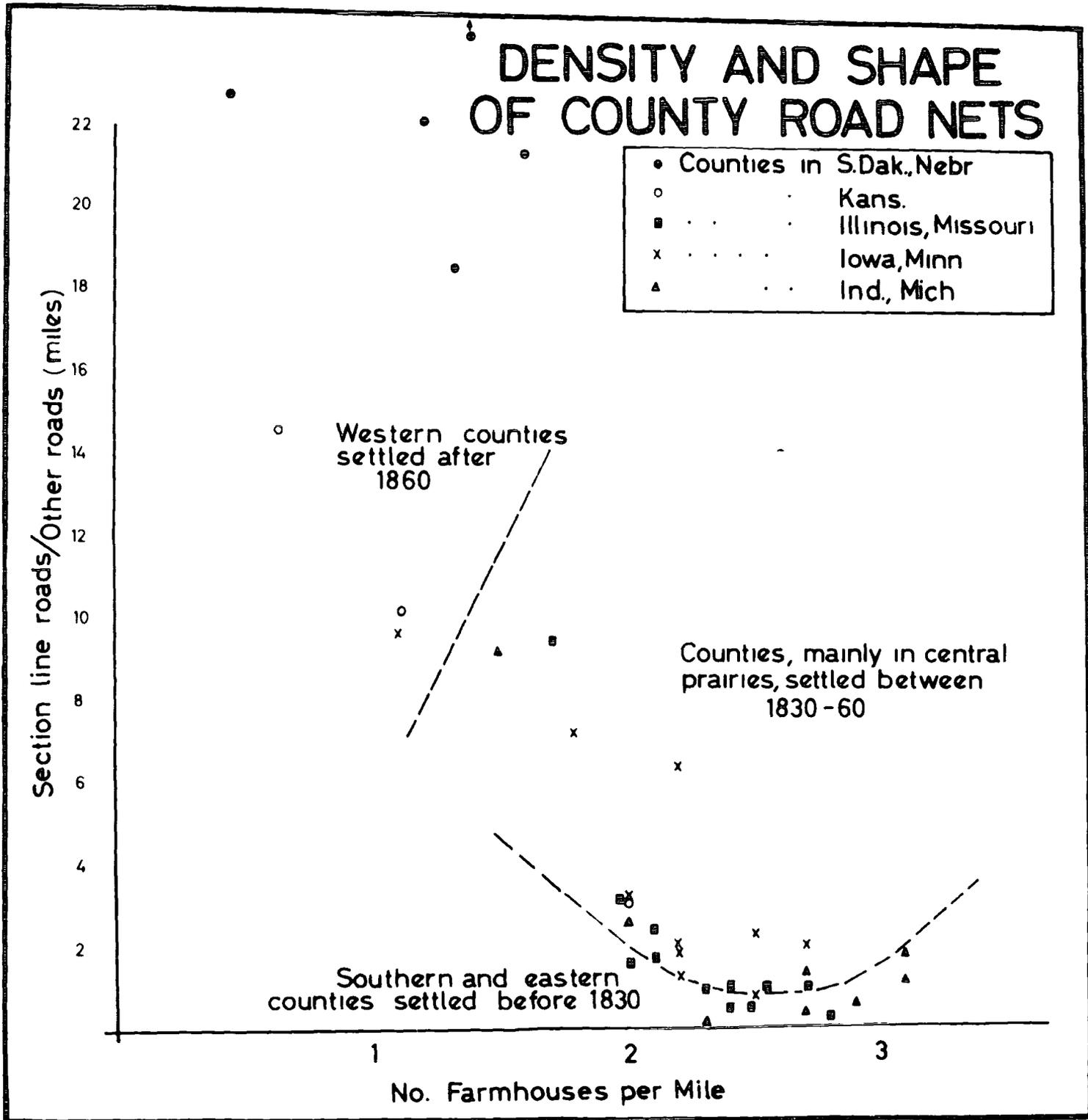
3

5

RURAL SETTLEMENT IN SELECTED SECTIONS OF SOUTH DAKOTA - THE WESTERN CORN BELT BORDER (from 1959 highway maps)

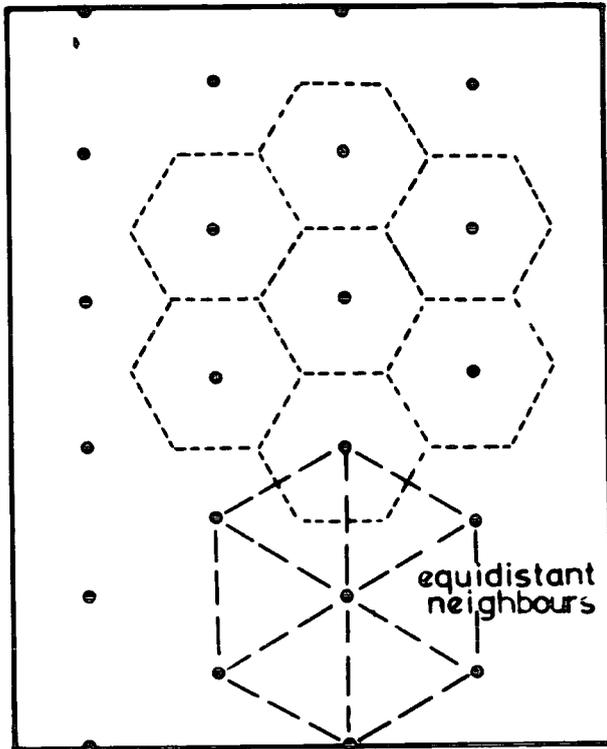


- dwelling or farm
- x public or business building
- road
- railroad
- XXX town



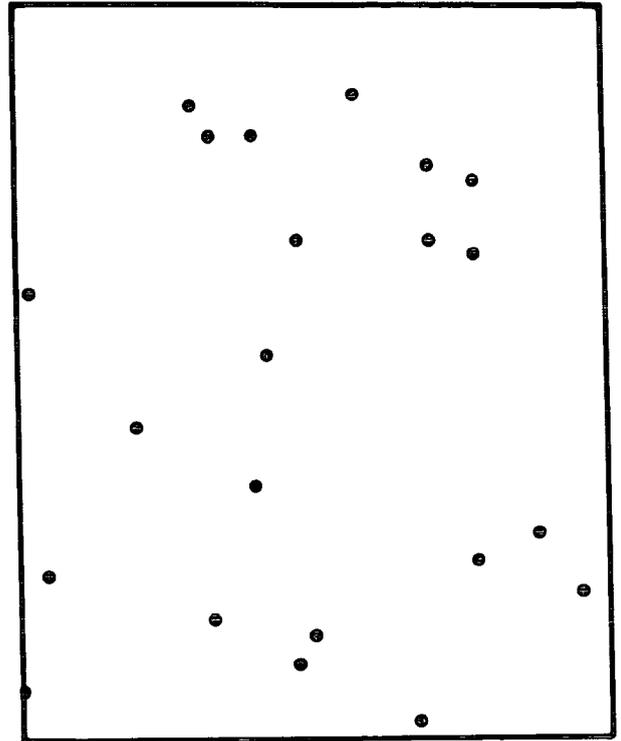
FORMS OF SCATTERING

a.



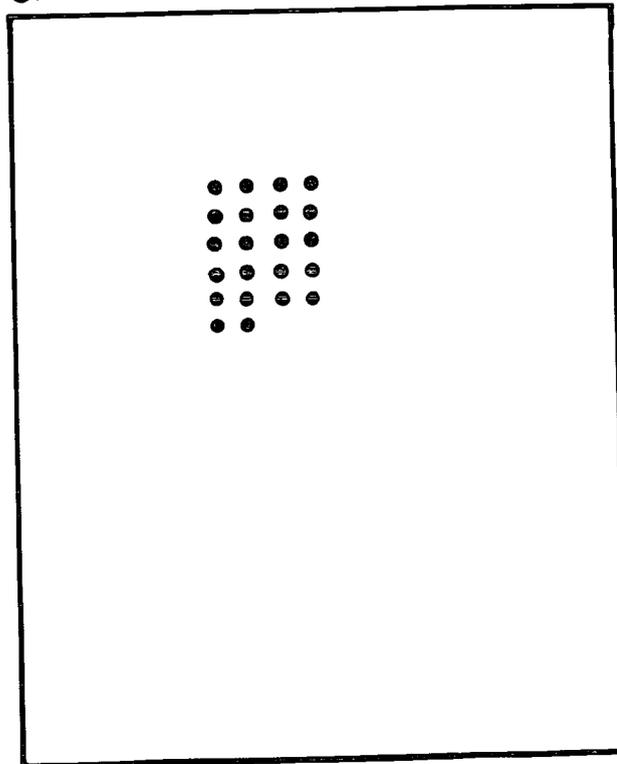
Uniform

b.



Random

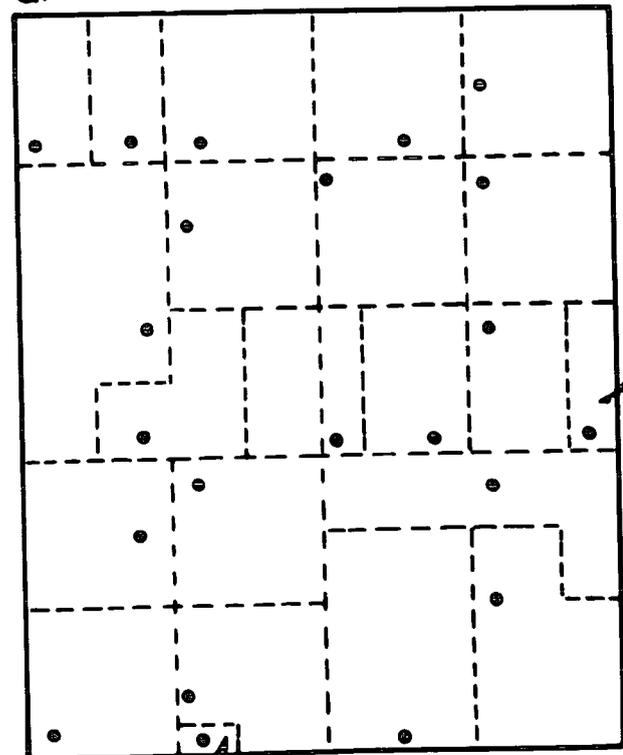
c.



Near Agglomeration

EACH RECTANGLE CONTAINS
22 HOUSES (44/sq. m.)

d.



Regular Corn Belt

MILE

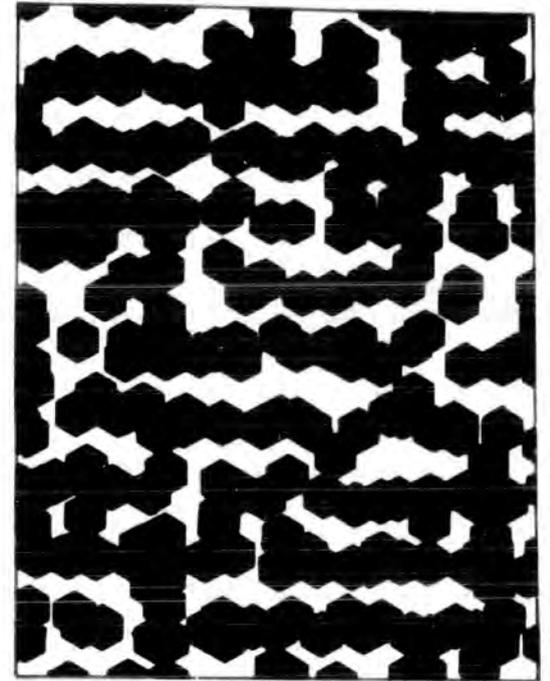
----- FARM BOUNDARY

HEXAGONAL PATTERN MAPS

THAYER Co.



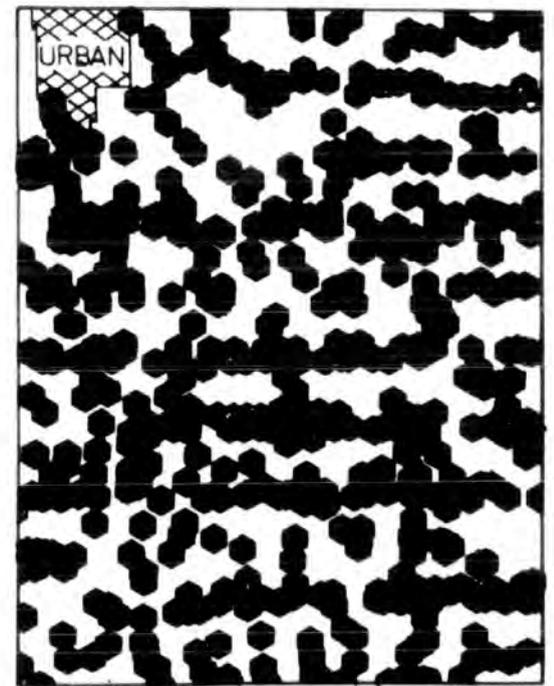
LIVINGSTON Co.



ADAIR Co.

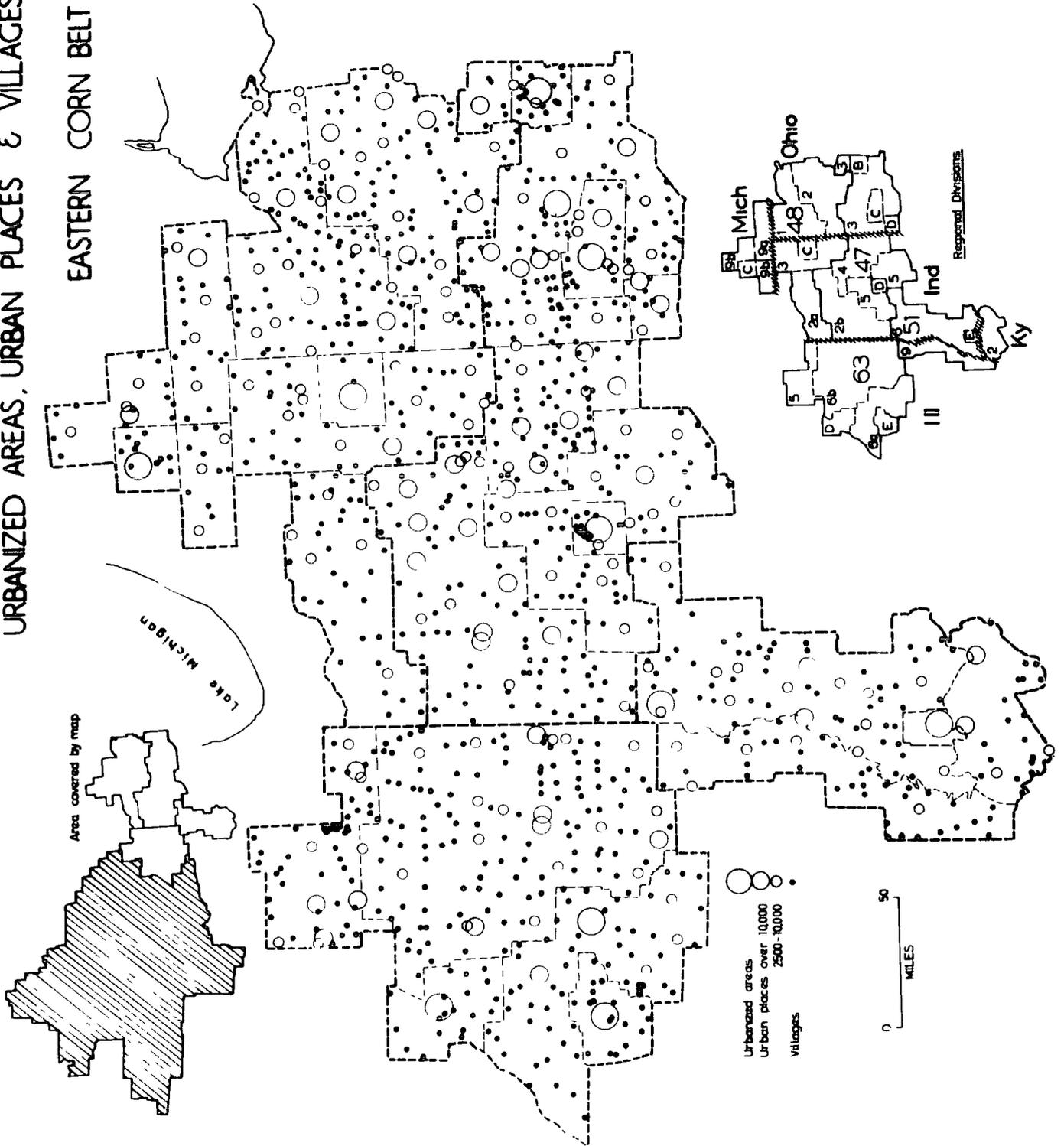


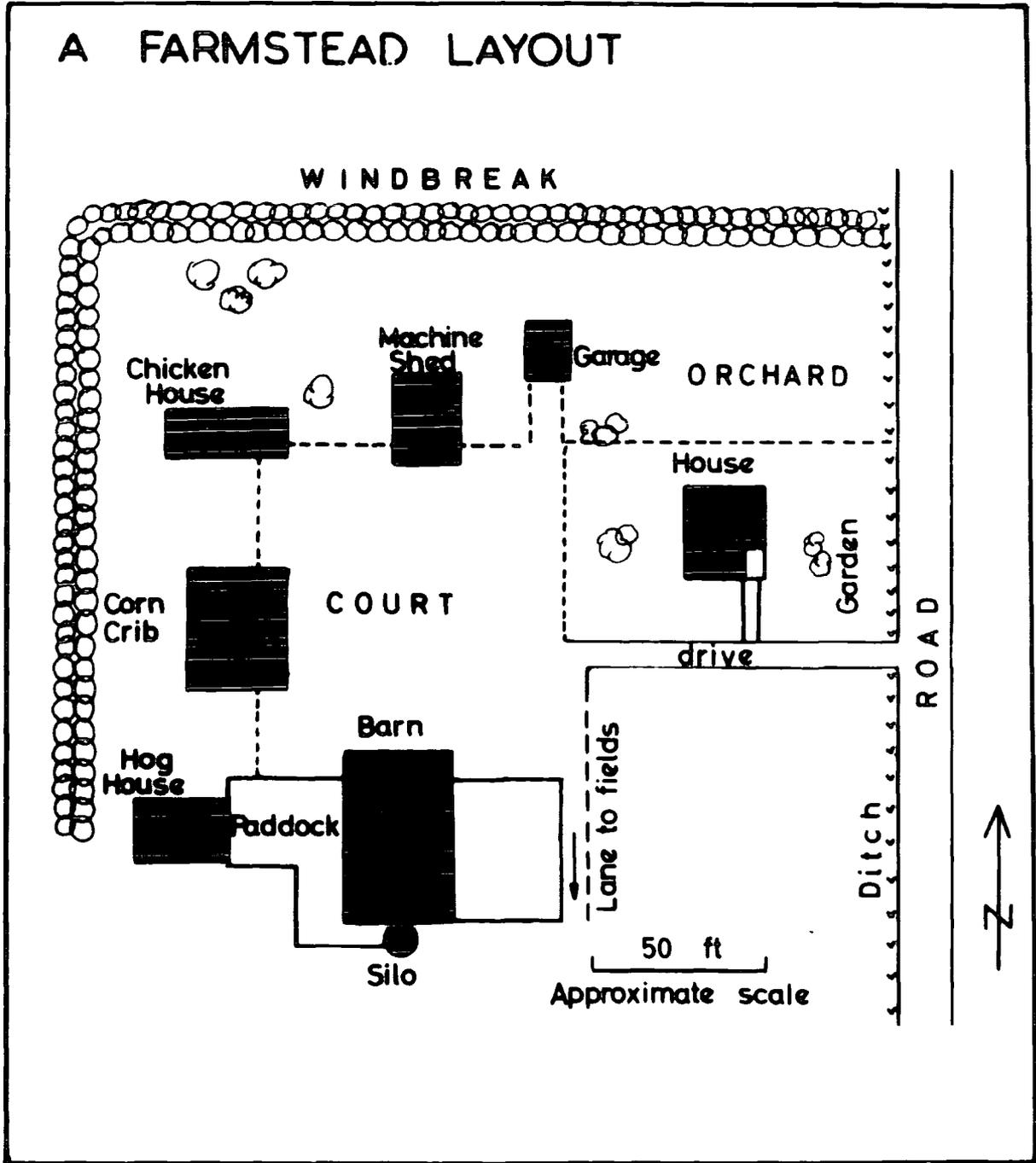
HENRY Co.

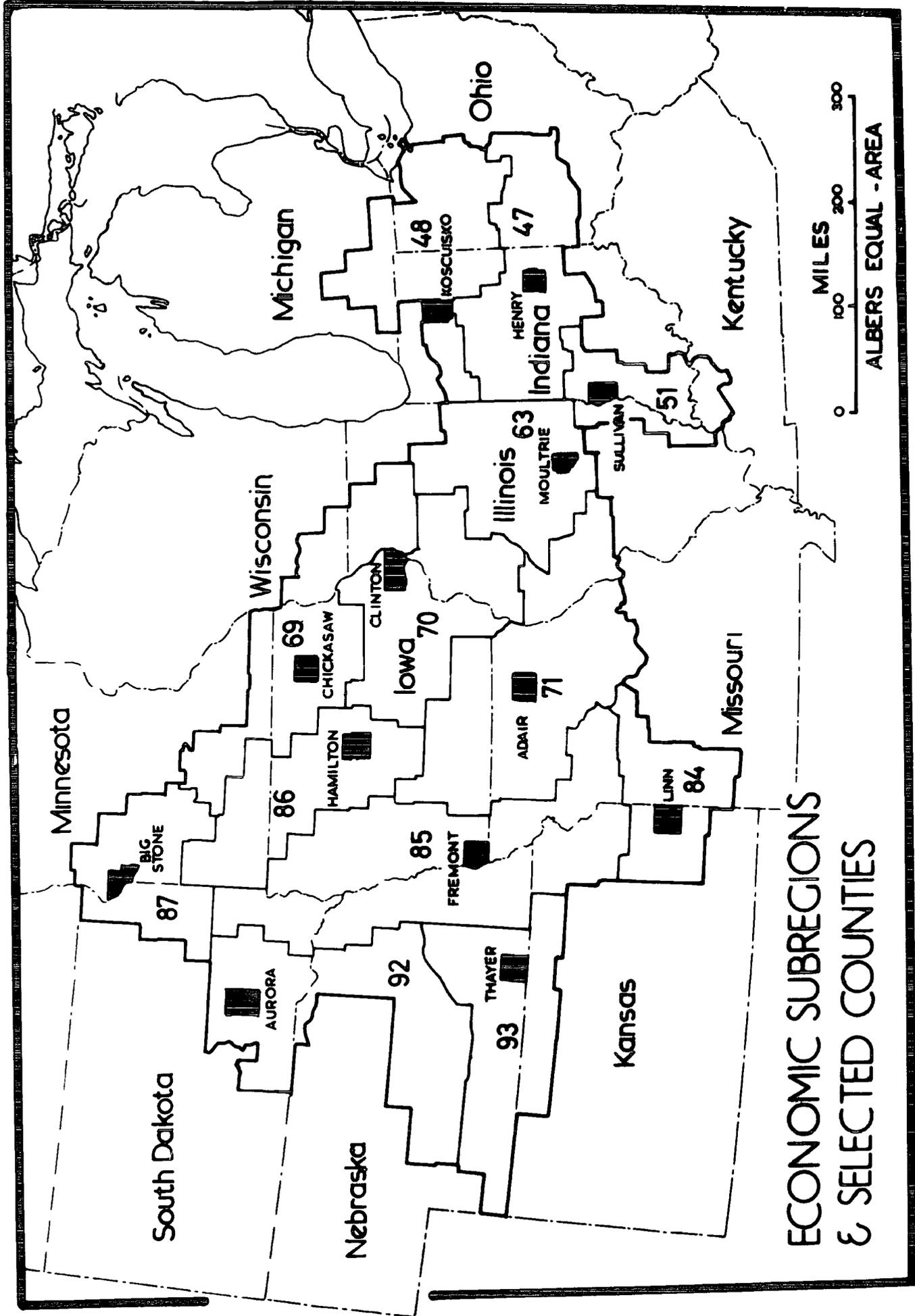


See text for description

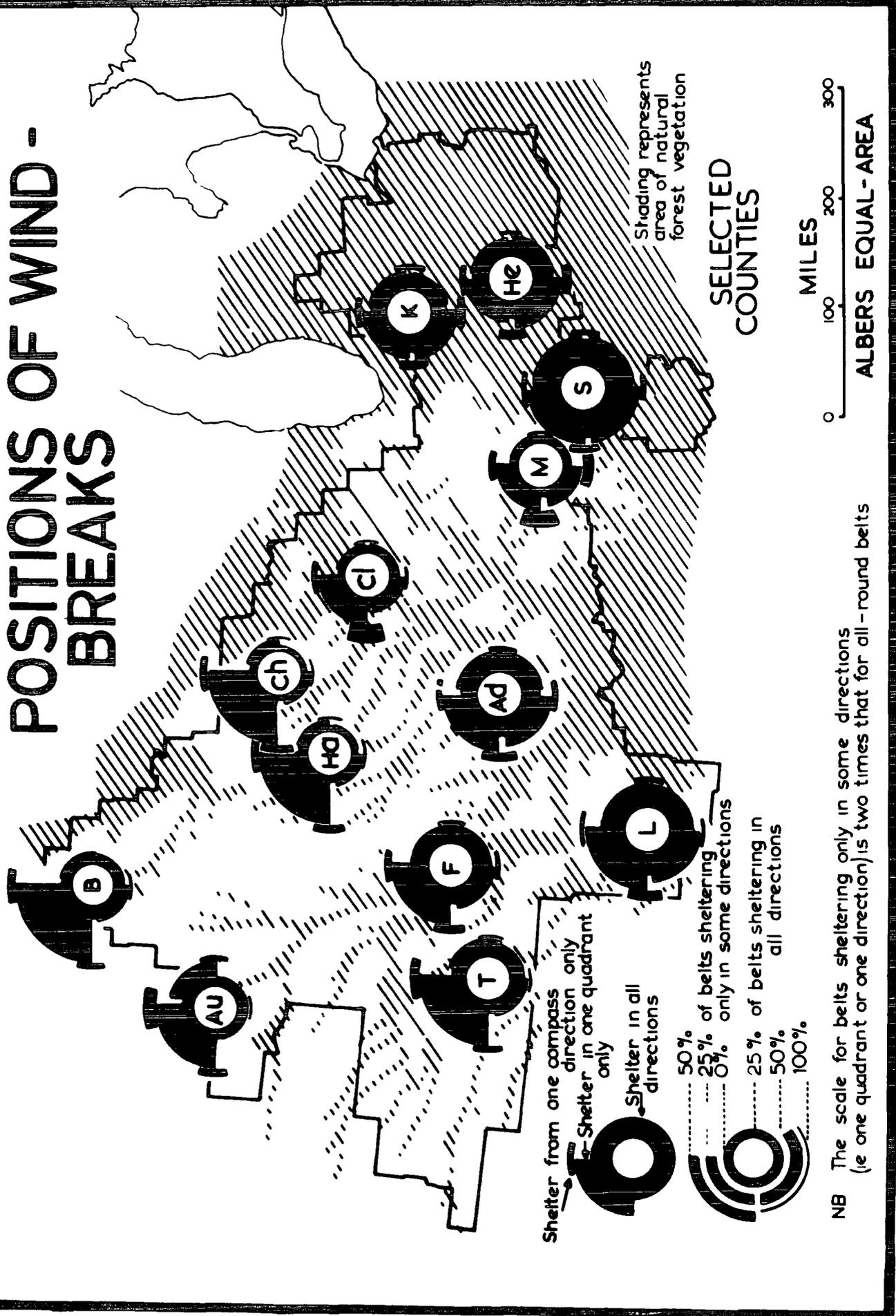
URBANIZED AREAS, URBAN PLACES & VILLAGES
EASTERN CORN BELT



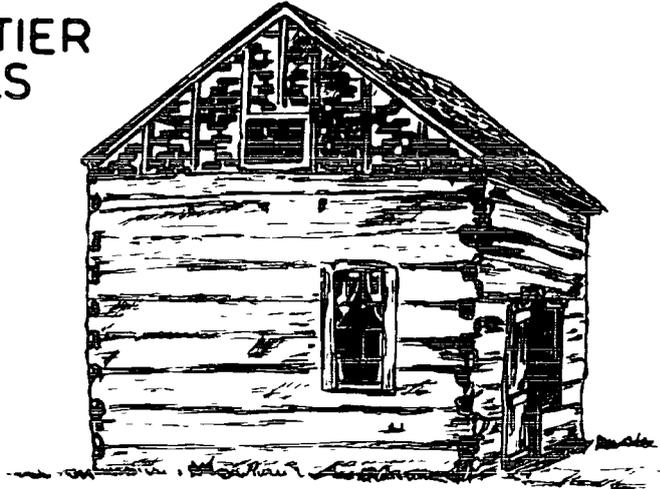




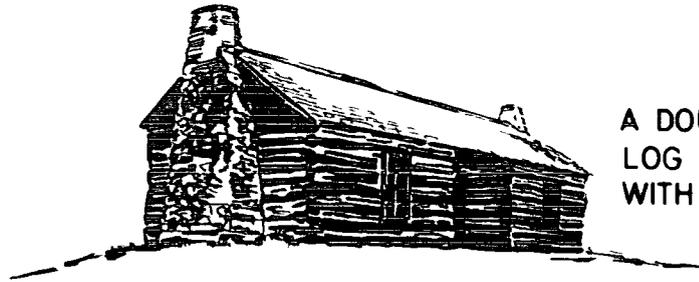
POSITIONS OF WIND-BREAKS



FRONTIER
HOUSES



A SINGLE PEN
LOG CABIN

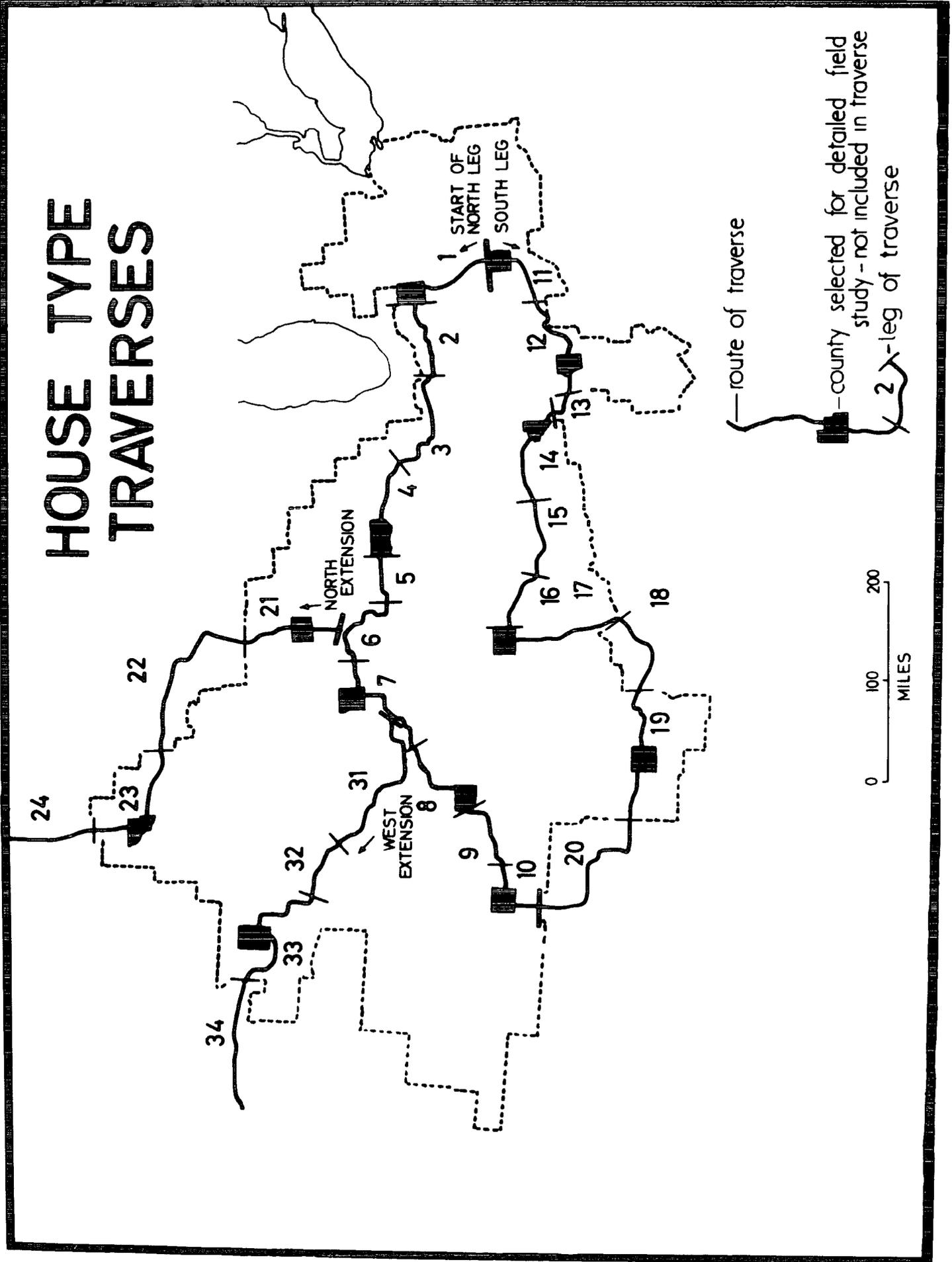


A DOUBLE PEN
LOG CABIN
WITH DOG-TROT

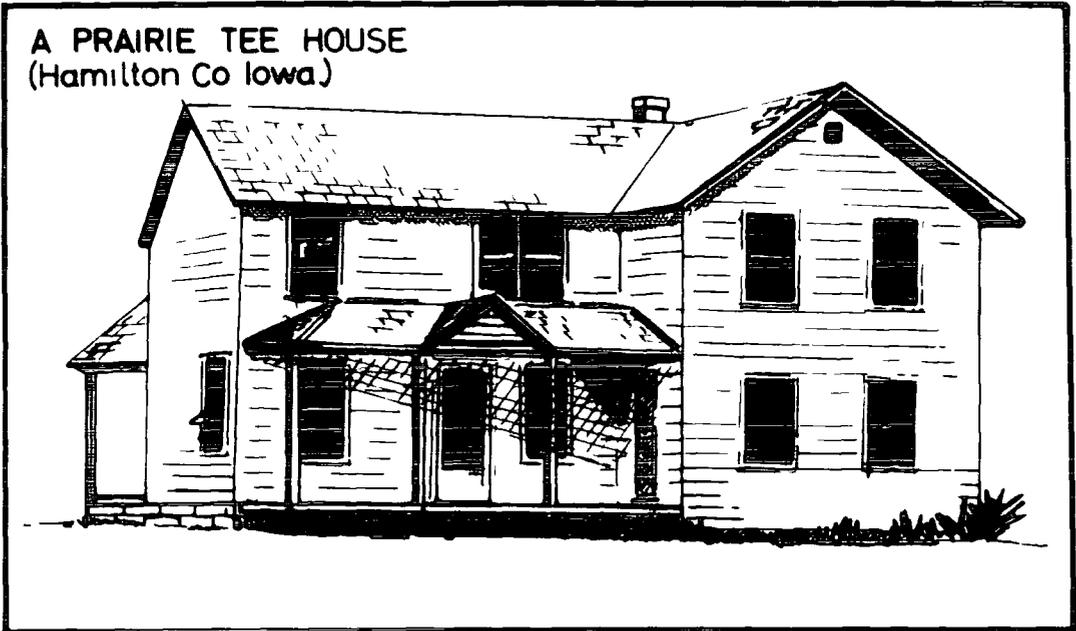
A SOD HOUSE



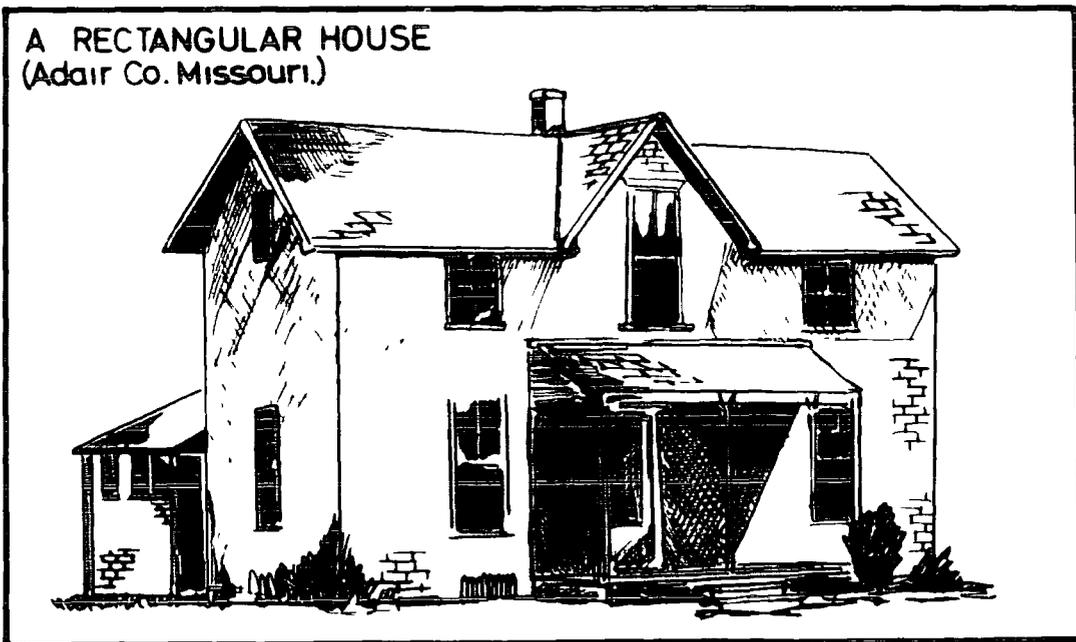
HOUSE TYPE TRAVERSES

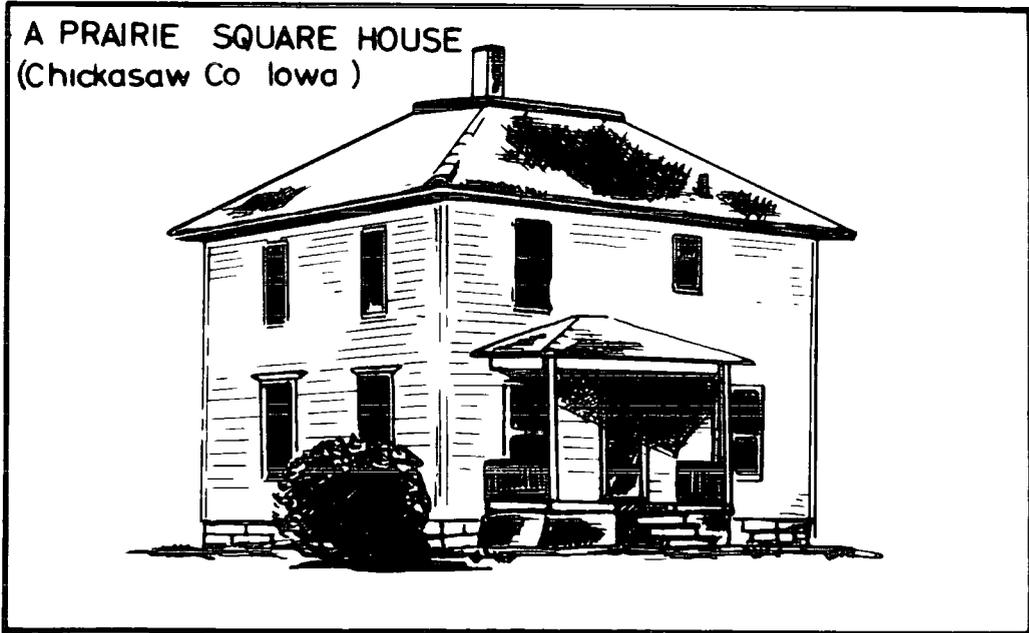
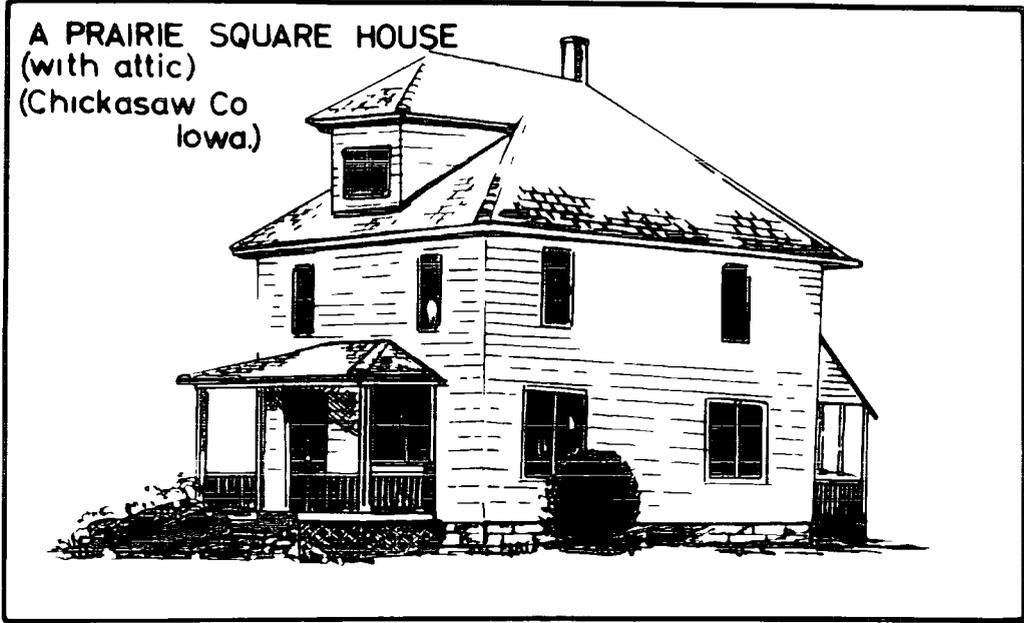


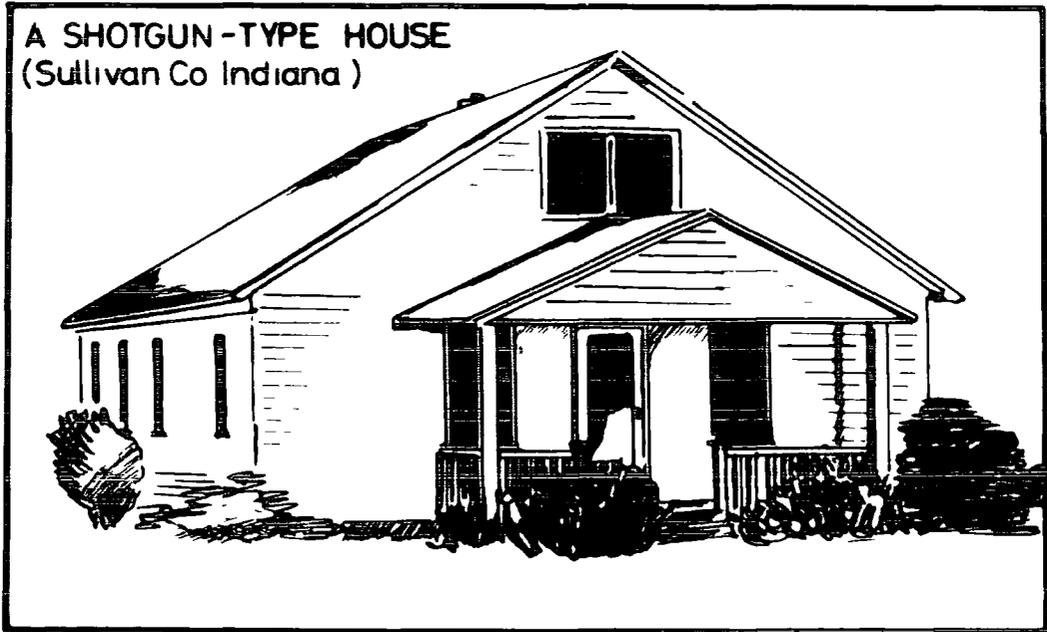
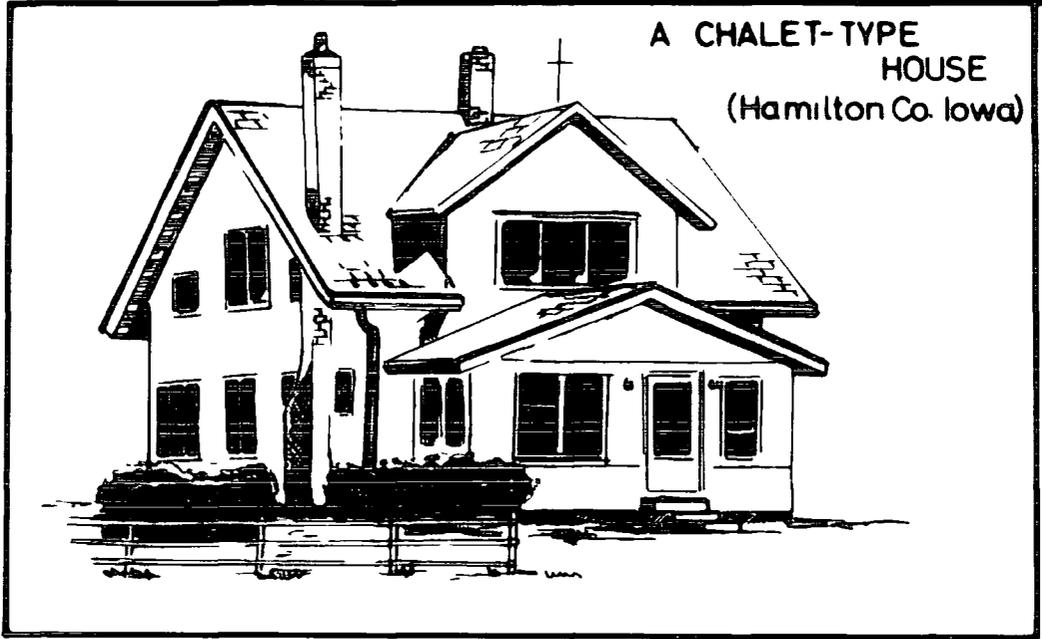
A PRAIRIE TEE HOUSE
(Hamilton Co Iowa)



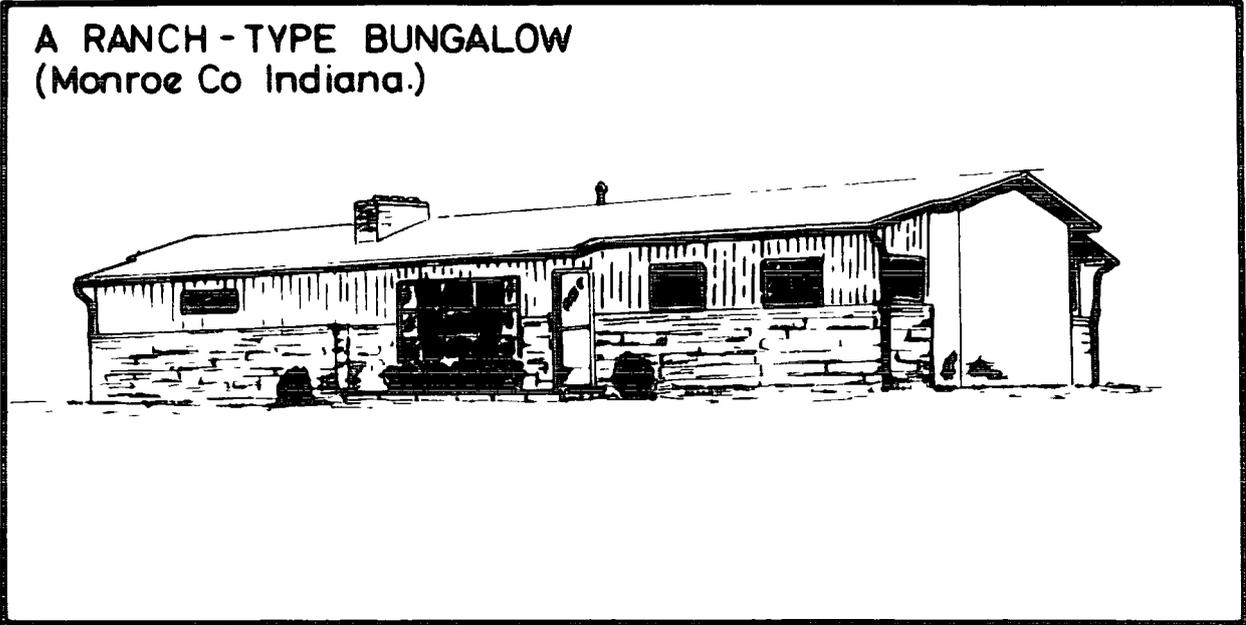
A RECTANGULAR HOUSE
(Adair Co. Missouri.)



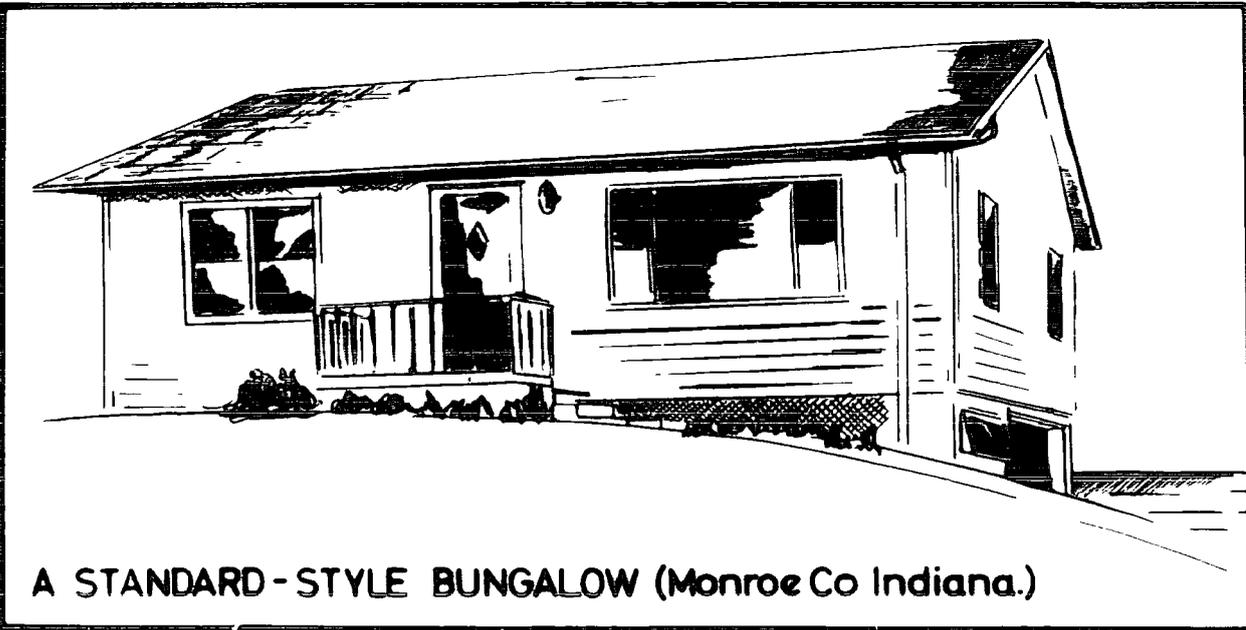


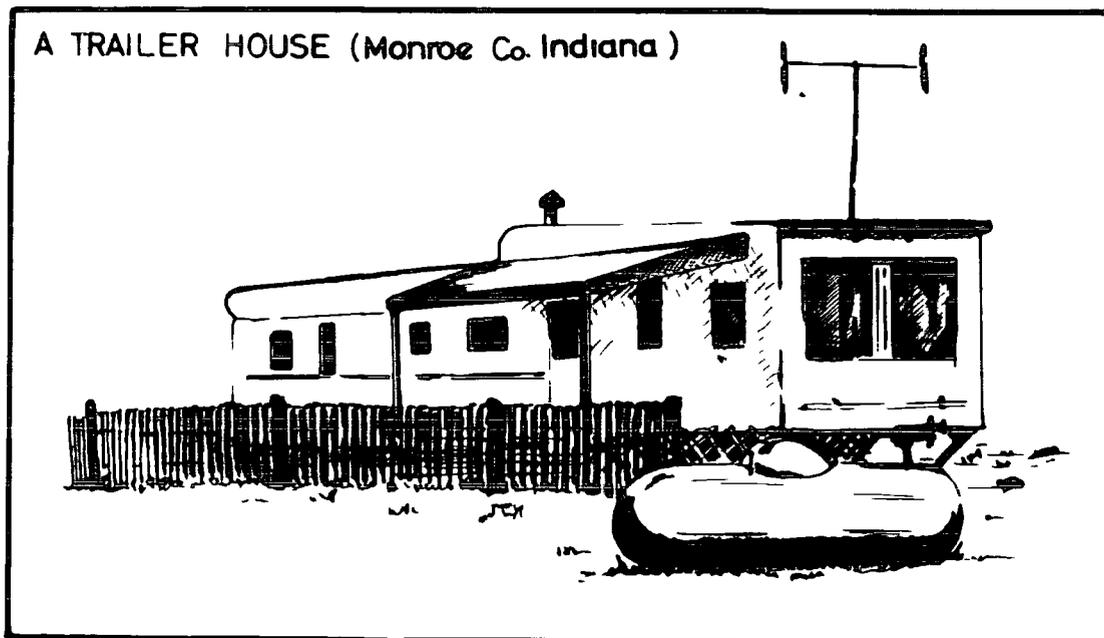
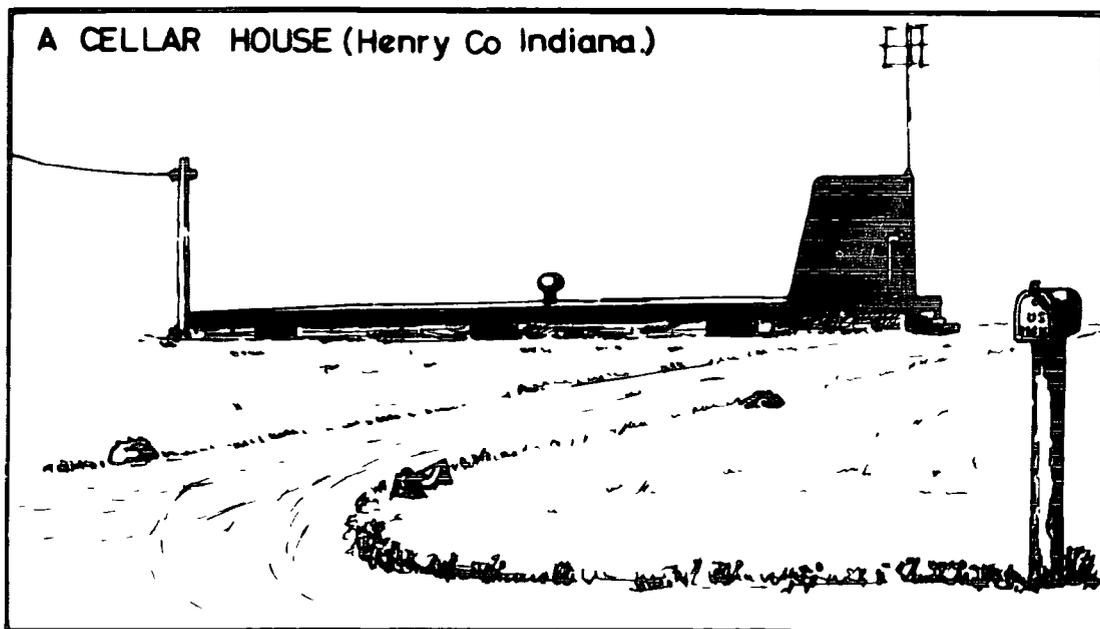


A RANCH - TYPE BUNGALOW
(Monroe Co Indiana.)

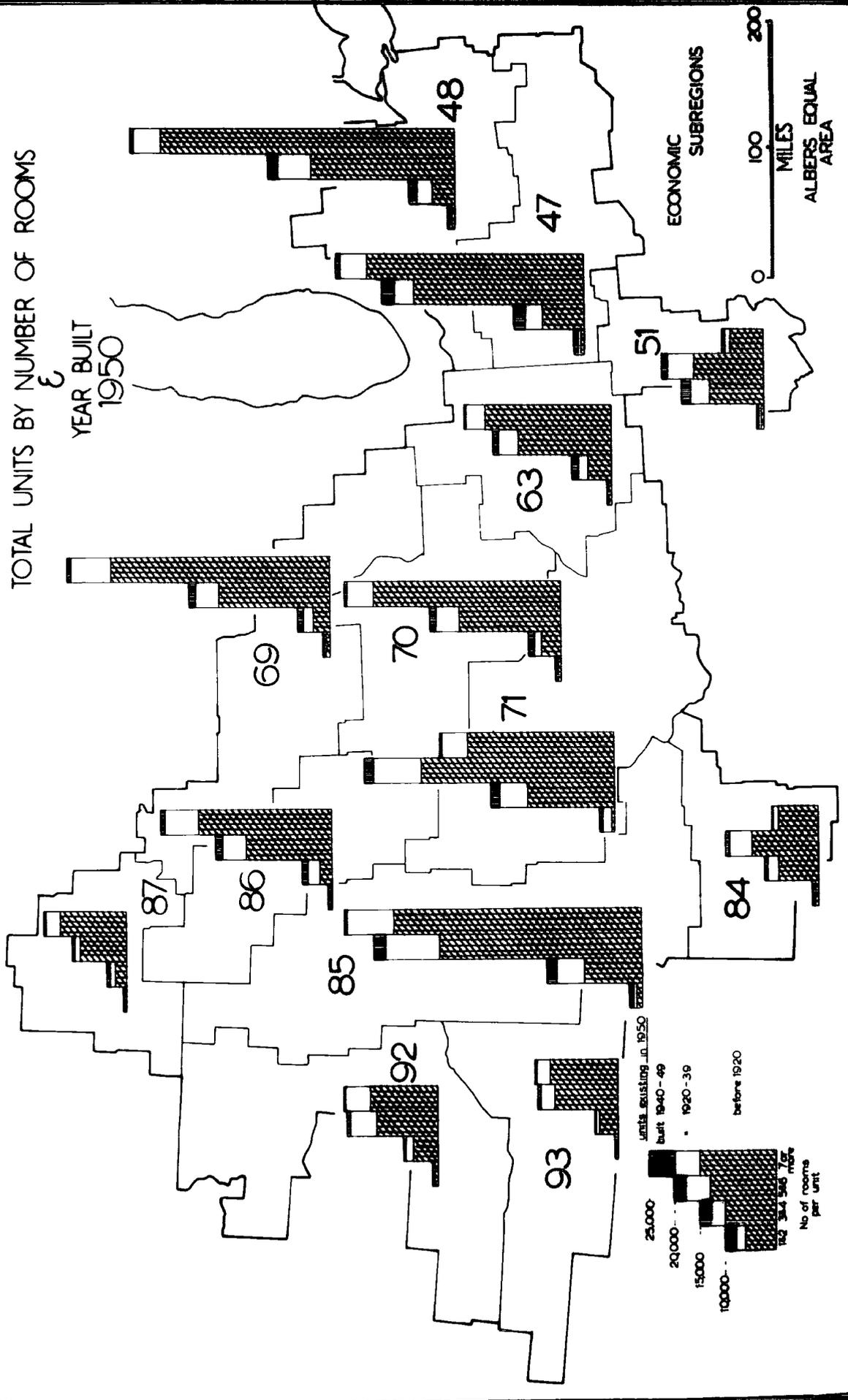


A STANDARD - STYLE BUNGALOW (Monroe Co Indiana.)

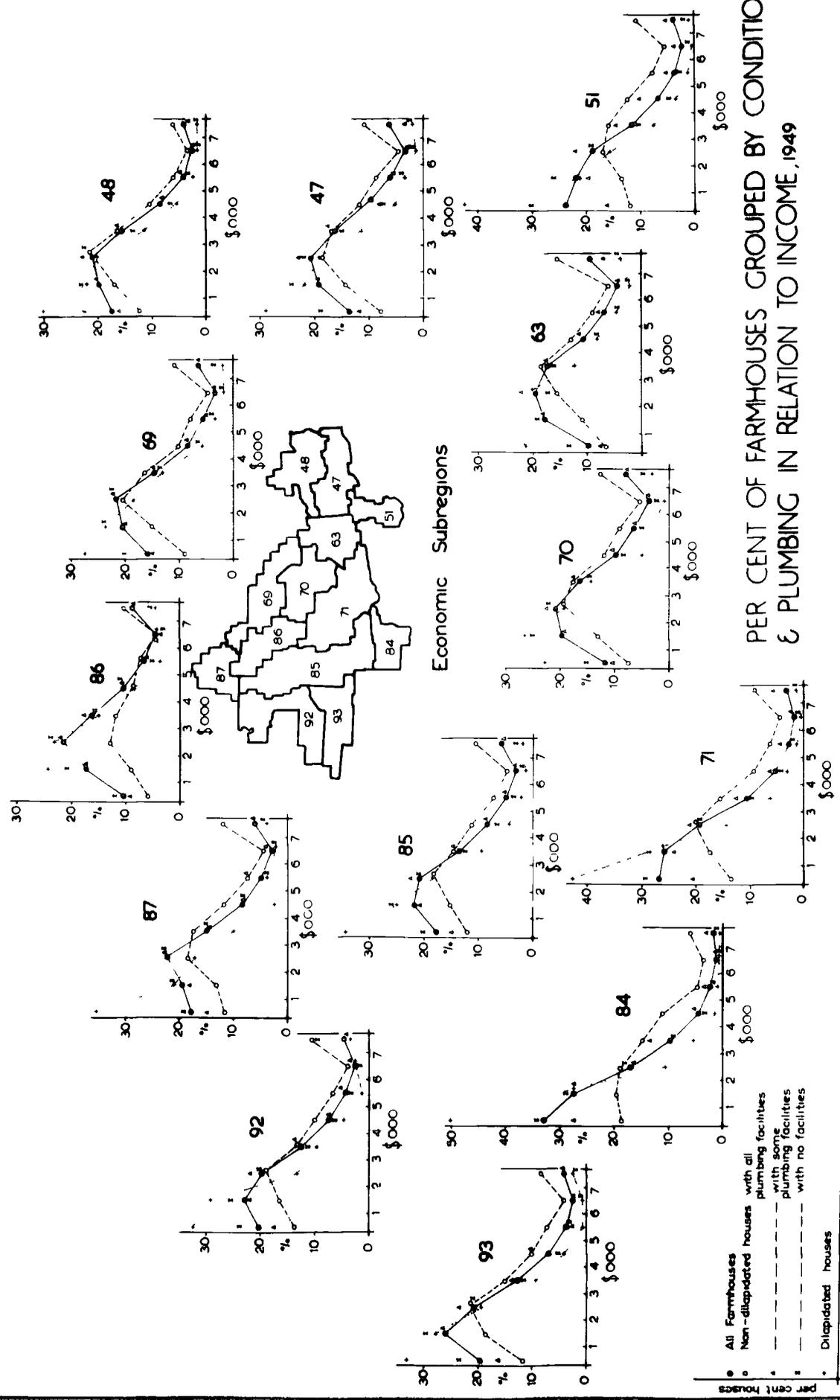




TOTAL UNITS BY NUMBER OF ROOMS
&
YEAR BUILT
1950



PER CENT OF FARMHOUSES GROUPED BY CONDITION & PLUMBING IN RELATION TO INCOME, 1949

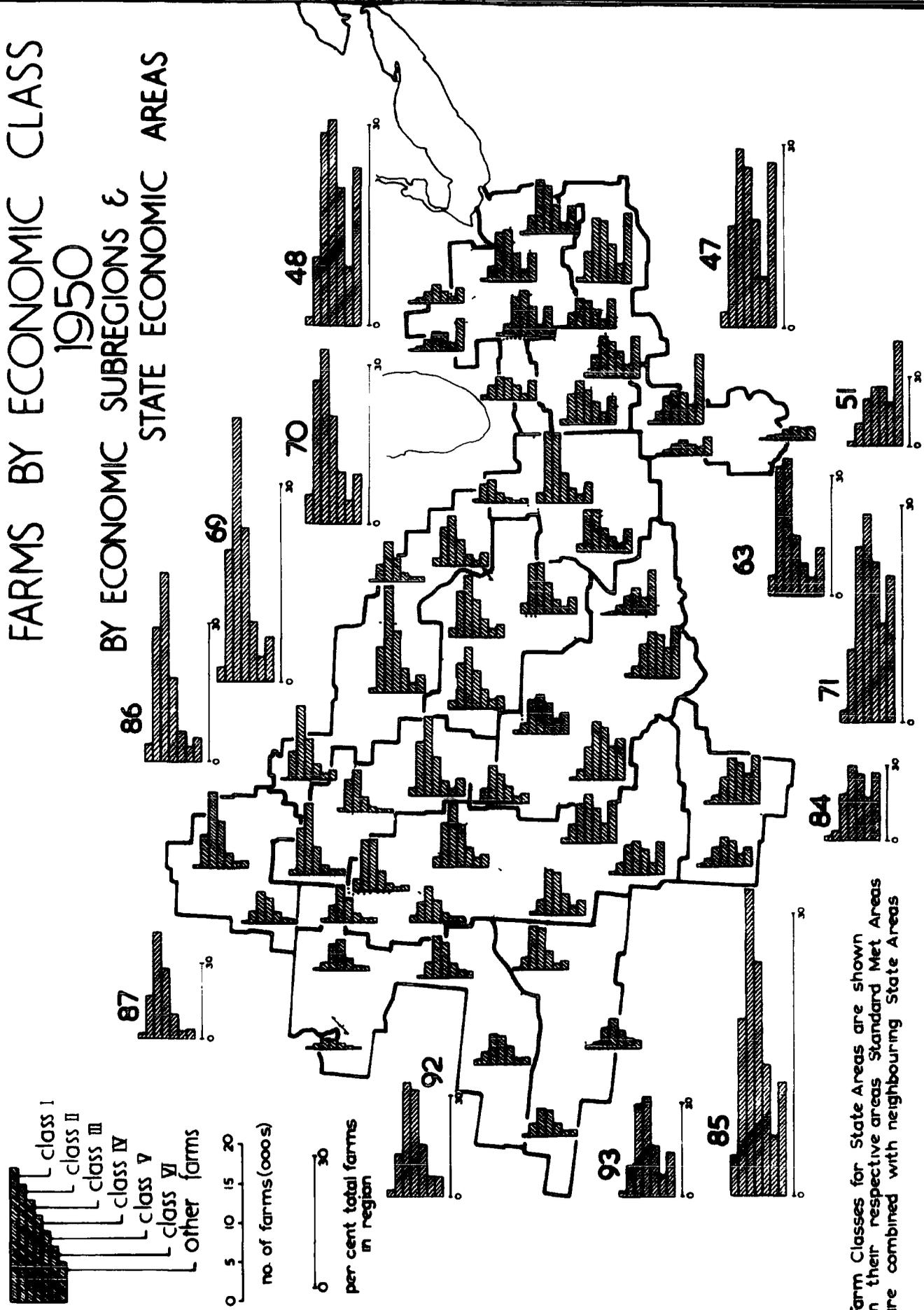


• All Farmhouses
 ○ Non-dilapidated houses
 □ Dilapidated houses
 — with all plumbing facilities
 - - - with some plumbing facilities
 . . . with no facilities
 houses by income groups of occupants
 per cent houses

FARMS BY ECONOMIC CLASS

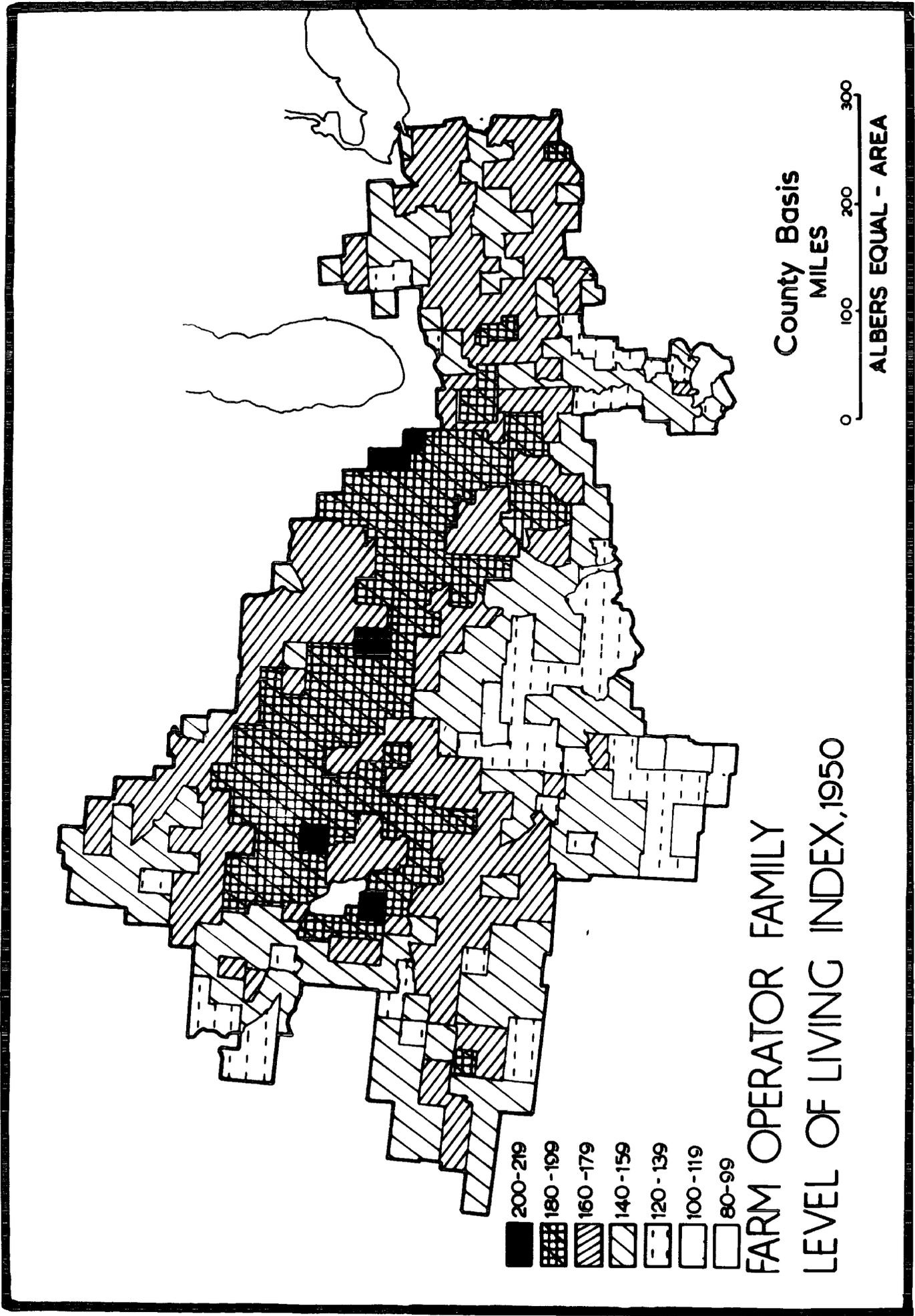
1950

BY ECONOMIC SUBREGIONS & STATE ECONOMIC AREAS

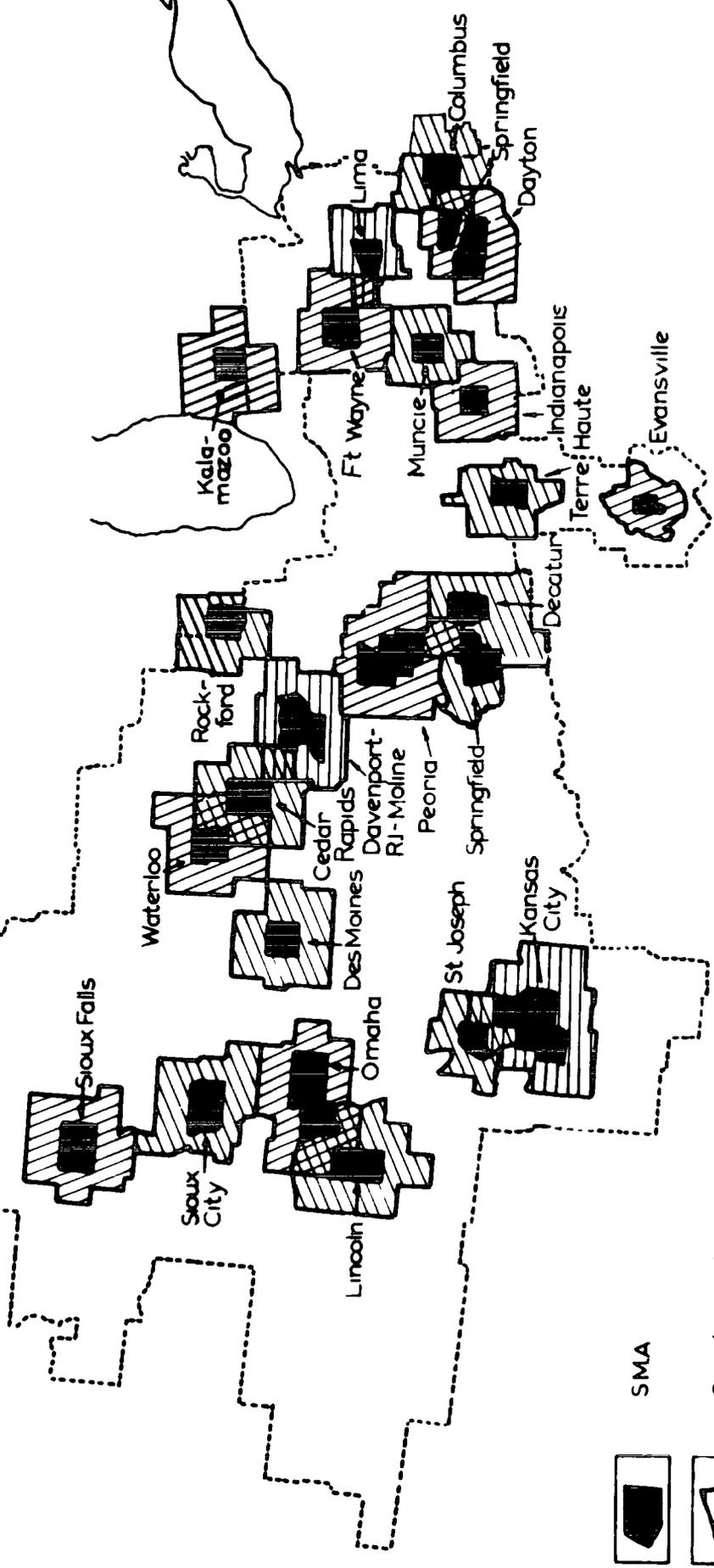


Farm Classes for State Areas are shown in their respective areas. Standard Met Areas are combined with neighbouring State Areas.

Farm Classes for Economic Subregions are shown bordering the Corn Belt.



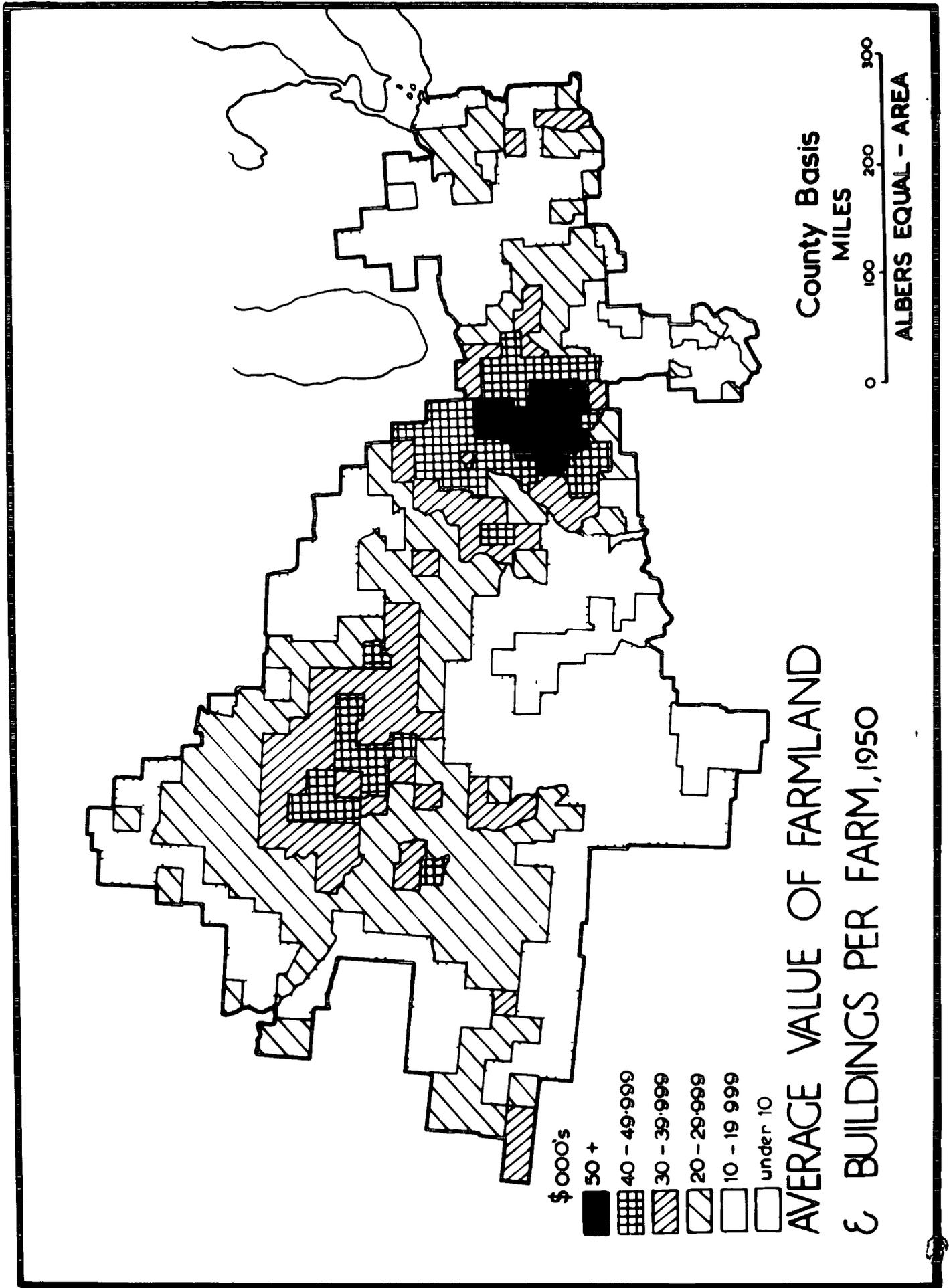
STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREAS & THEIR FRINGE COUNTIES



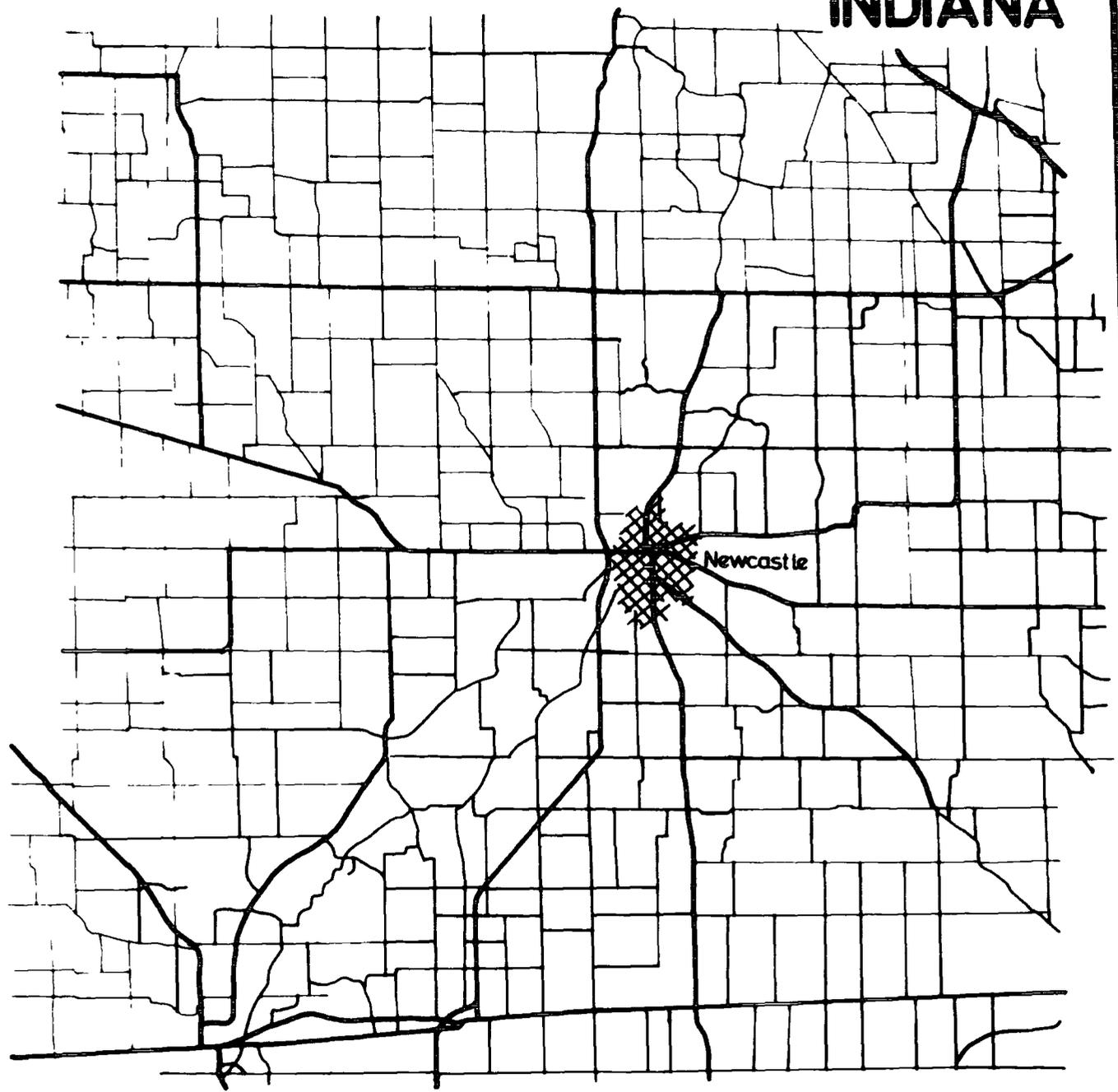
-  SMA
-  Counties adjacent to SMA
-  Fringe overlap
-  Corn Belt Boundary

MILES
0 100 200 300

ALBERS EQUAL-AREA



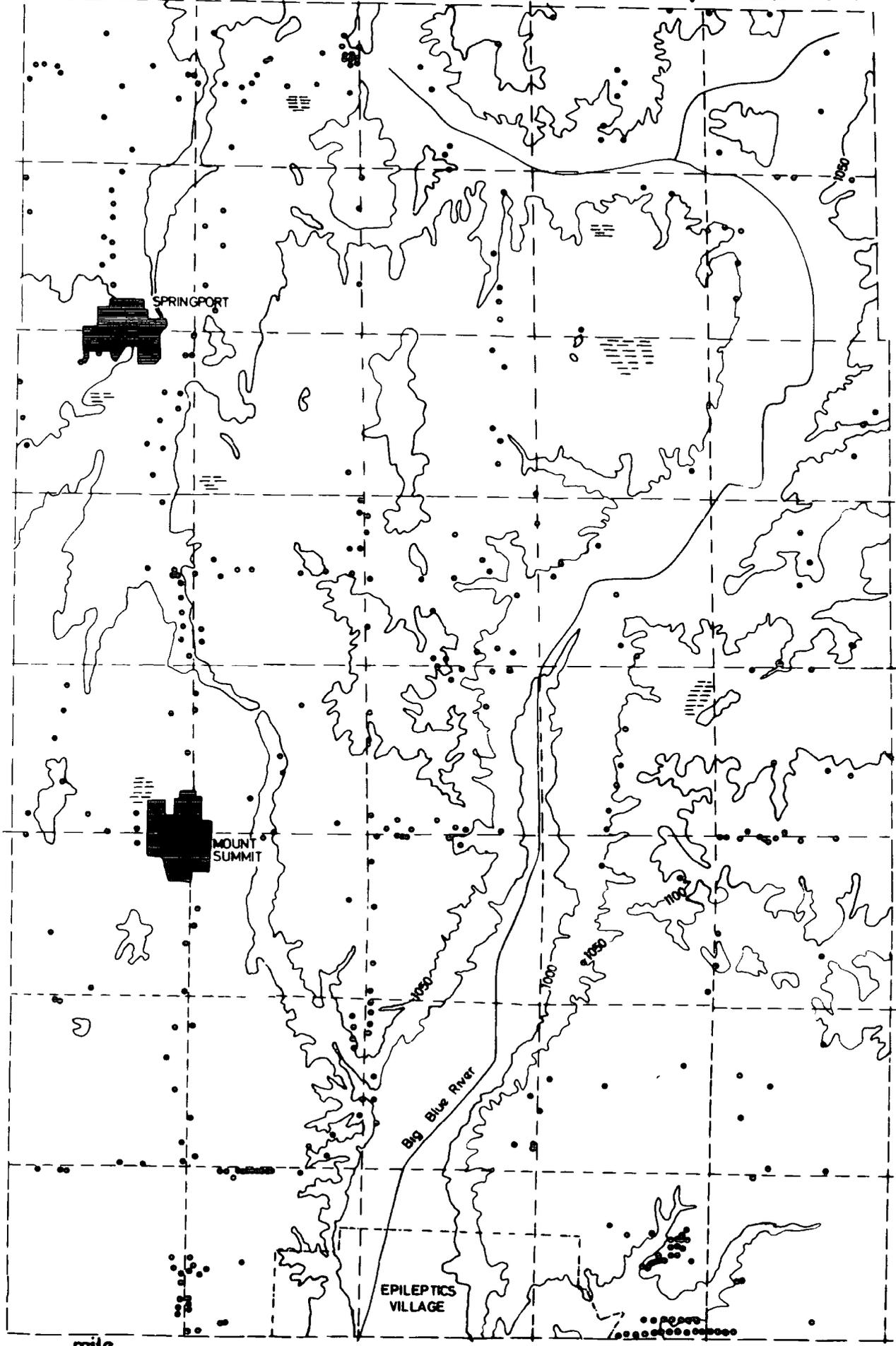
ROAD NETWORK, HENRY COUNTY, INDIANA



— County road
— Major highway



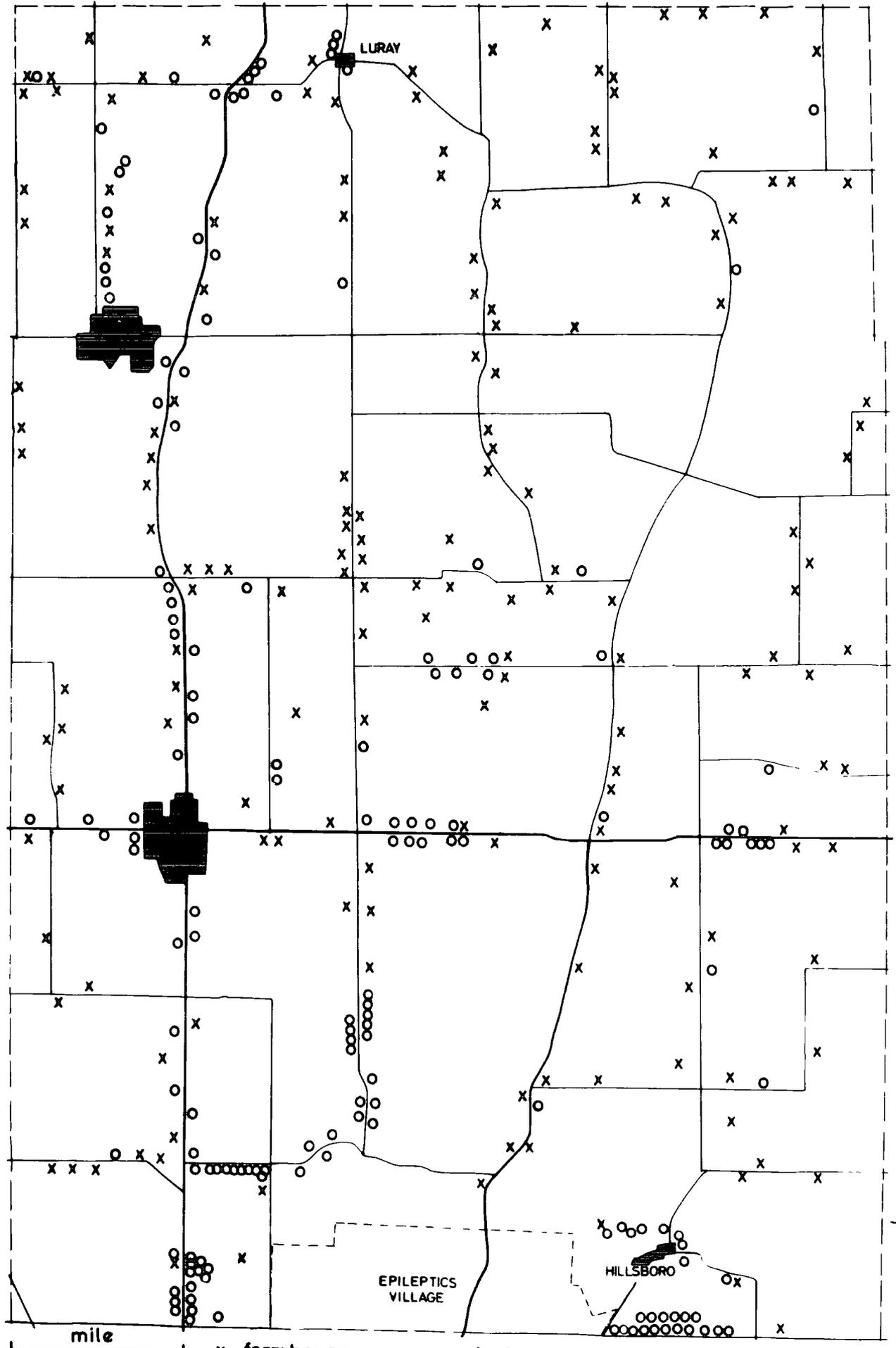
PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP, HENRY COUNTY, INDIANA



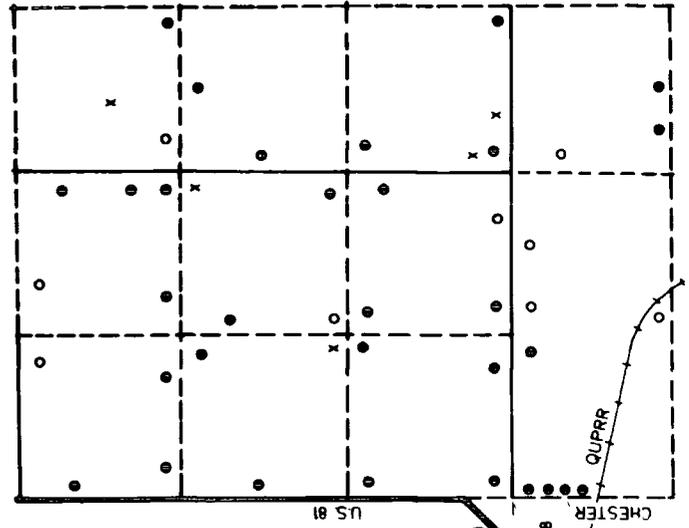
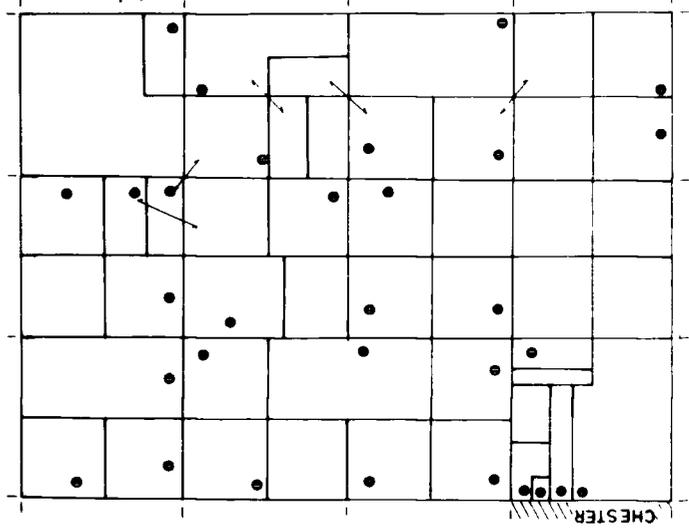
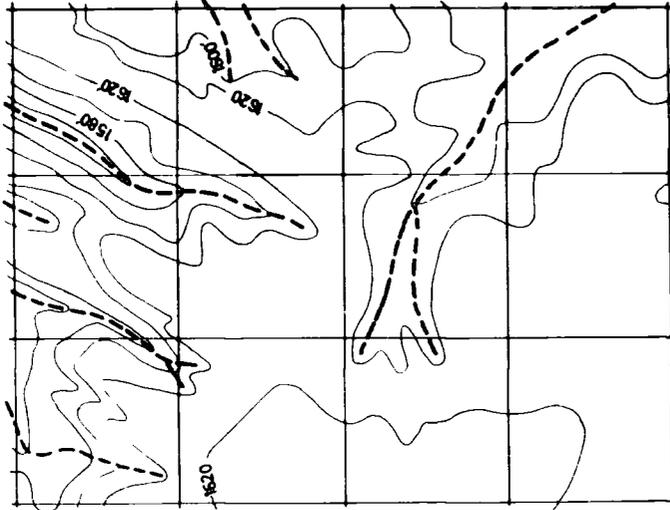
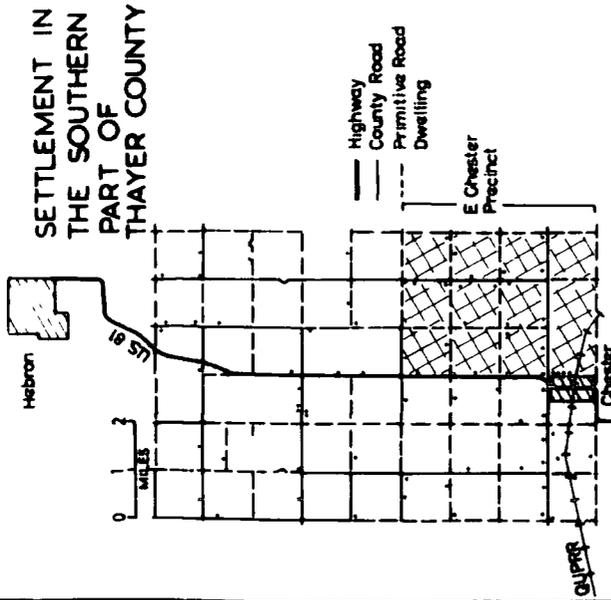
mile

- house
- nucleated settlement
- ≡ marshy land

FARM AND NONFARM SETTLEMENT IN PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP, 1961

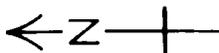
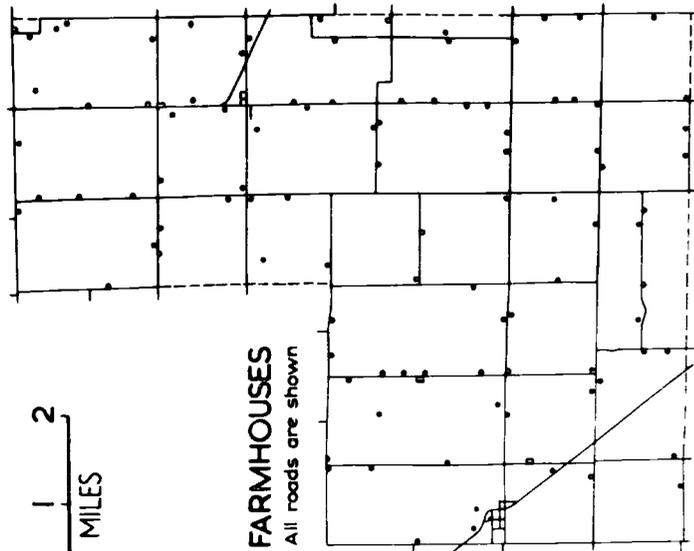
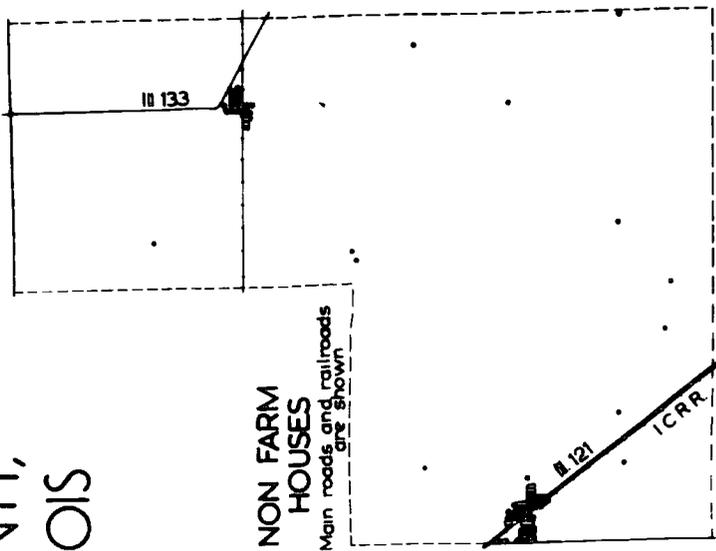
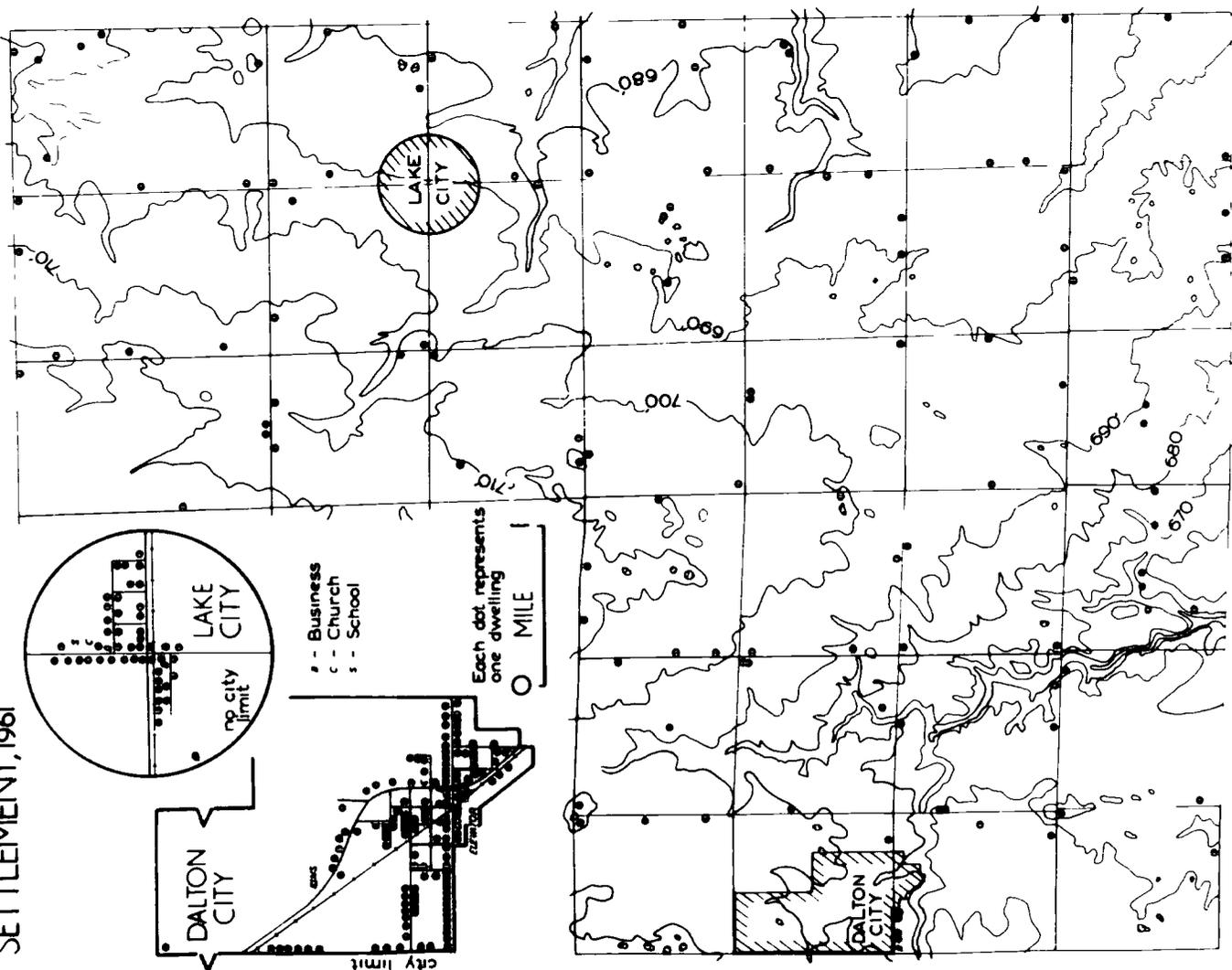


THAYER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

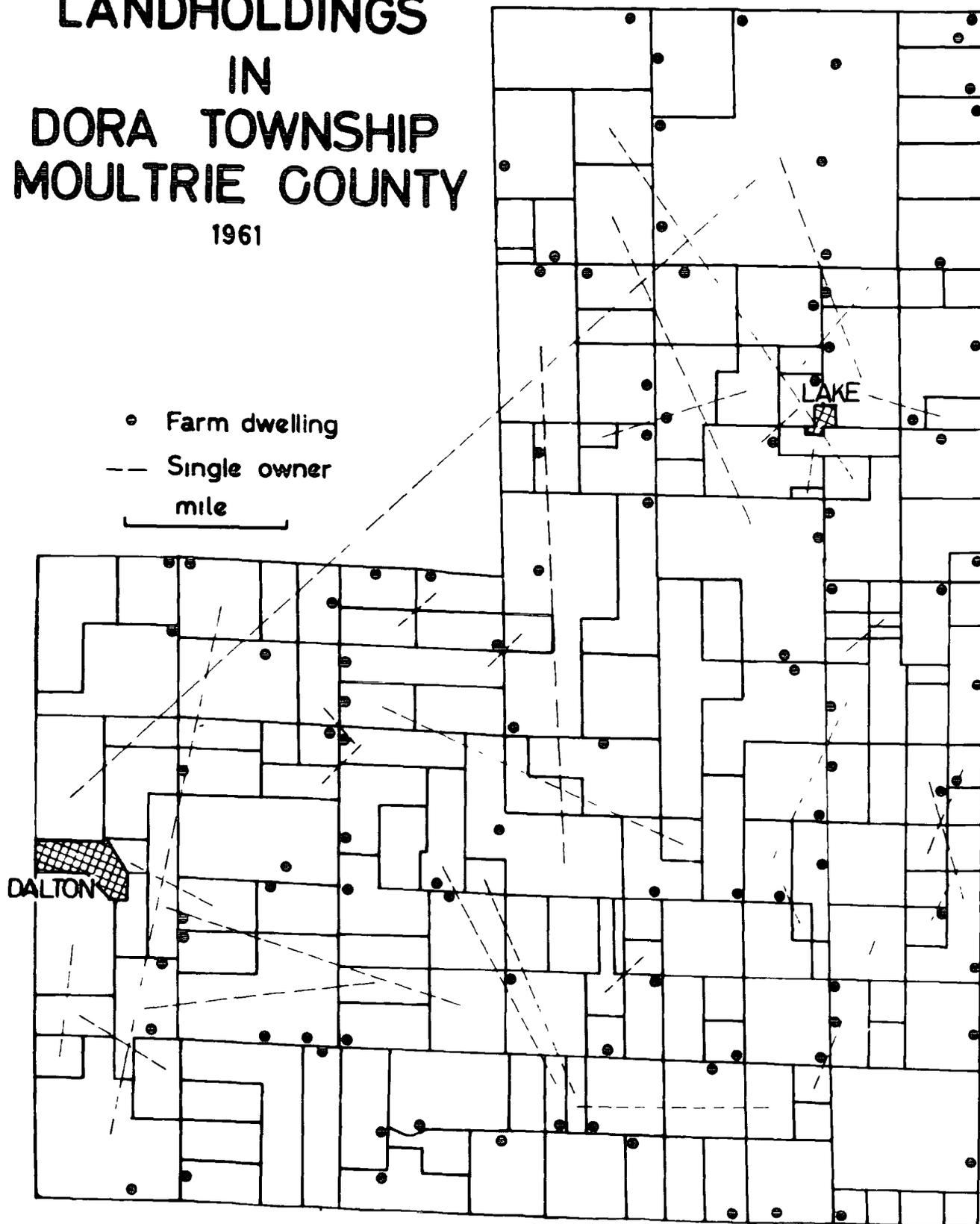


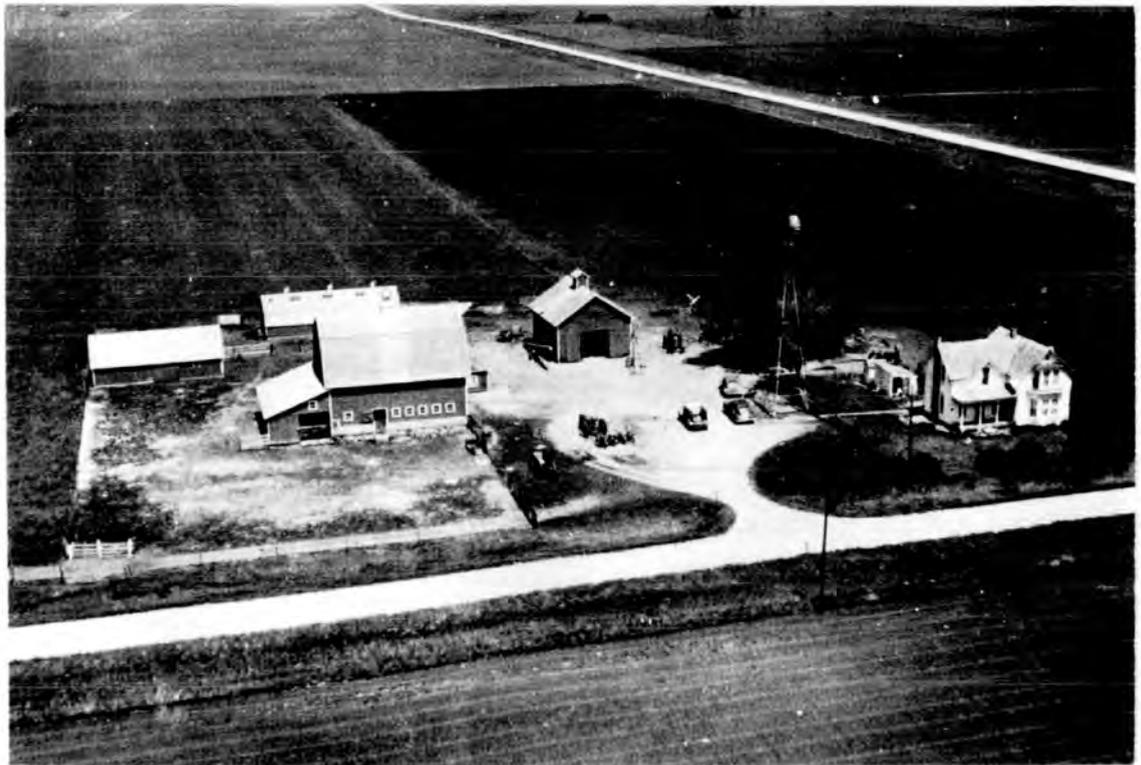
DORA TOWNSHIP, MOULTRIE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

SETTLEMENT, 1961



LANDHOLDINGS IN DORA TOWNSHIP MOULTRIE COUNTY 1961





Top photograph: A cash grain farmstead in Livingston County, Illinois. The farmstead occupies a small area at a road intersection and consists only of a barn, grain elevator and machine shed. The cross-plan house is of a less common type.

Lower photograph: A farmstead in Wright County, Iowa. Stock are kept on this farm so that more buildings appear in the farmstead. The hip-roofed barn and the Prairie Tee house are common types.



Top photograph: A roadside farmstead in Stephenson County, Northern Illinois. Much of the surrounding land is under corn and the farmstead consists of various stock sheds and corn stores.

Lower photograph: A stock farmstead in Henry County, Indiana with its numerous buildings. The house is of the prairie square type with a pyramid roof.

FARMSTEADS IN SOUTHERN LIVESTOCK AND GENERAL FARMING AREAS.



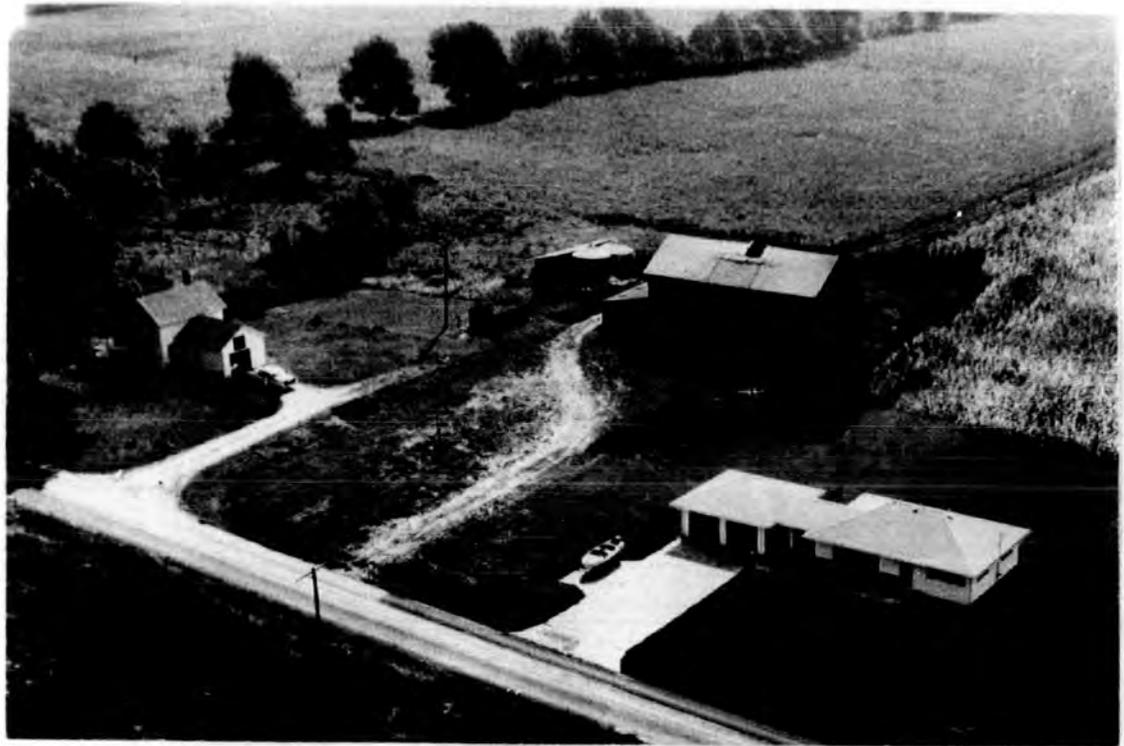
Top photograph: A farmstead in Sullivan County, South-western Indiana. Typically, the buildings are less elaborate and neatly arranged than on many farms in more prosperous parts of the Corn Belt.

Lower photograph: A farmstead in the Missouri Livestock raising area in Howard County. The buildings are well spread out with an abundance of trees in the farmstead and the surrounding country also characterizing the area. The houses in both of the photographs are of the bungalow type commonly built in the southern and eastern Corn Belt 30 - 40 years ago.



Top photograph: A farmstead in Thayer County, Nebraska in the cattle raising and grain region. The sheds are unpainted and are protected by a small windbreak. The large cross-plan house is of a less common type.

Lower photograph: A corn and stock farm in Lac Qui Parle County, Minnesota. The Gothic-roofed barn is common in this part of the state. Each distant farmstead can be seen to have a shelter of trees.



Top photograph: This disused farmstead in Calhoun County, Michigan has been taken over for residential purposes. A new bungalow has been built, the farmhouse appears to have been modernized while the farmbuildings fall into disrepair.

Lower photograph: A farmhouse in Sullivan County, Indiana, which appears to have passed into nonfarm hands with the consequent neglect of the rest of the farmstead.