

Presently, the Village of Herkimer has the start of an excellent recreation system with plans for future expansion; location of parks can be noted on map entitled, "Recreation Services".

Particular interest is shown in the development of improved condition of Harmon Field located on Frederick Street and Park Avenue. Presently under construction is the re-sodding of a baseball and football field. The field will be of regulation size with additional property for expansion of the bleacher area and new concession stands and equipment storage. The update of the lighting system is not in the present budget, but still in the plans. Construction will be completed with Village funds and finished by mid-summer of 1978.

Adjacent to the property is a children's area called Frederick's Playground. The park offers two scaled down tennis courts, a small non-regulation basketball court, and playground equipment (swings, slides, sandbox).

In the southern district of the Village, located on South Washington Street, is Ambers Field. The field offers two full-sized paved tennis courts, a softball field and a newly expanded equipment and storage building. The field also has as part of it a children's playground equipped with play equipment and a wading pool. In the future for the park are plans for tree planting and further ground maintenance.

Meyer's Park, located on Park Avenue, is in the center of the Village. The park settles in an old and well-established part of the Village, offers a tranquil and serene setting for people of all ages. During the bicentennial celebrations a new bandstand was constructed. Performances are given by high school bands and other social organizations. The park is well planted and has a fountain and path network and provides a pleasant place to take a walk.

Located in the northern district of the Village is Brookwood Park. Within the park limits is an area maintained and owned by the Herkimer School District, called Earl Field. This area offers a baseball and track field, and a football field. The site has an equipment and locker field house and offers its services to the public. The remainder

of the park offers a more natural setting with trails for the casual naturalist and paving for those who wish to ride a bike. Running through the center of the park is Bellinger Creek, which is banked on both sides with manmade walls and a walking bridge that connects both sections of the park. For those who wish to pack a lunch a pavilion is provided along with a number of barbecue facilities and picnic tables.

Adjacent to the entrance to Brookwood Park is another park area called Bellinger Park. This park offers no play equipment, but it provides a pleasant open green space. The park is planted and offers a visual break from the boredom of the paved streets.

The last existing park is located in the northeast area of the Village and is called Basloe Park. The park's biggest community service is the public swimming pool and bathhouse. The pool is open during the summer months offering the families a cool way to spend a summer day. In cooperation with HCCC, the school offers its pool's services to the Village on Sundays throughout the year providing a full swimming program. Basloe Field also provides an open area for softball and baseball events. The field has a playground area with standard play equipment. The future for the park offers plans for expansion of the playground area with an update of the equipment. Also a tree planting program will be enforced to further beautify the field.

The Village of Herkimer has realized the concern for a place for the youth. A center was established that offers a place for the youth up to the age of 18. It provides indoor space for sports and a variety of other activities. There is no outdoor space and the building is in a congested area of the Village along West Albany Street. Senior Citizens clubs meet in two housing developments and AARP and Herkimer Golden Age meet in various clubs. There are also Senior Nutritional Programs and meals-on-wheels programs.

Environmental Services

The State has a Conservation Department office and maintenance facility on Main Street which is in good condition but should be screened and more attractive to the CBD. The

Village has no Conservation Commission or nursery or tree planting program, except for a tree removal program from which wood is cut and sold for firewood.

Municipal Services

There are Village, Town, County and State services and facilities in the Village.

Village Hall/Police Department

This facility now contains all the primary Village functions. It is crowded, makeshift, and in a drastic need of repairs, if not renovation and rehabilitation. A separate report on its usage has been prepared and will be appended to the report. The organization chart of Village services is also appended.

Village Fire Department

This facility is also crowded and will not accommodate new equipment. It is in need of repairs if not renovation and rehabilitation. A separate report on its usage has been prepared and will be appended to the report.

Village Water Department - Garage

This facility is adequate but used for a garage, workshop and storage. It is apart from the reservoir or water treatment plant.

Village Highway Department - Garage

This facility is adequate, except for office space. It should be screened and more efficiently laid out.

Village Waste Water (Sewer) Department

This facility is adequate.

Town Offices

The Town administrative offices are located adjacent to the Library. There are no other Town facilities within the Village.

County Offices

The County has a new office building complex which is an attraction. However, the parking is inadequate and unfinished.

County Jail

The County is in the process of completing a new County Jail which is attractive but limited in parking.

County Court

The County has an older court facility which is in good condition.

County Garage

The County has a garage and storage yard in the Village which is in need of screening.

State Garage

The State has a large DOT garage and storage area in the Village.

State Properties

There are a variety of miscellaneous State-owned properties along the creeks as shown on the plans that are a potential for recreation/conservation use.

Federal Post Office Building

The Federal Post Office building is a distinguished building well maintained.

Federal Offices

There is a Department of Social Security office in a private building and an Armed Forces Recruiting office in another building.

Distribution System

The Distribution System throughout the Village includes the major utilities which are identified as the Hydraulic Canal, Flood Control Dikes, spillways and stations, water lines and sewer lines. Other systems under private jurisdiction are the telephone and electric lines. These are continually being assessed and upgraded. These are described in the Appendix.