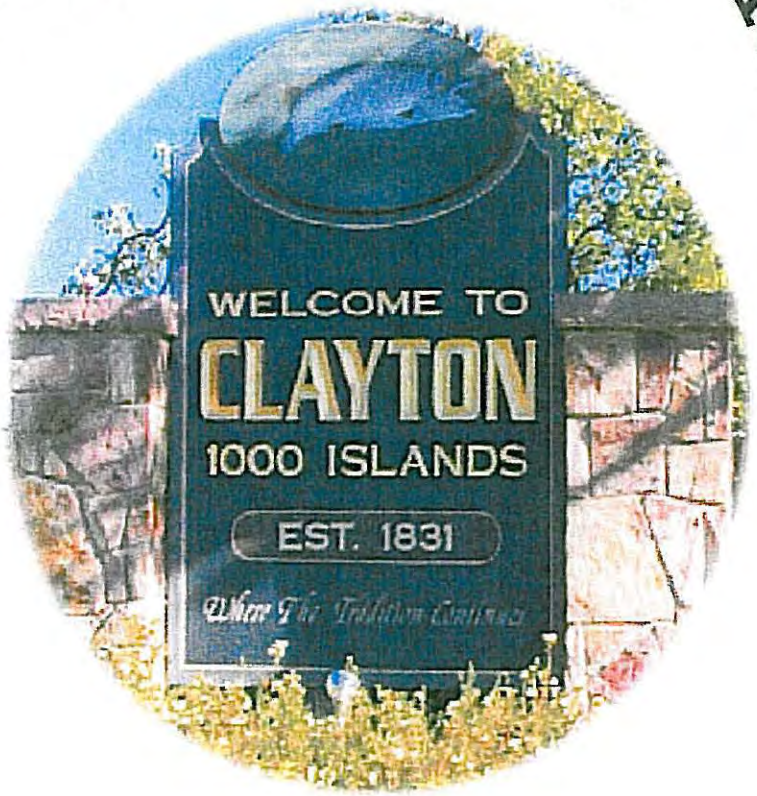
JOINT TOWN/VILLAGE OF CLAYTON



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Town and Village of Clayton Joint Comprehensive Plan is the culmination of many years of work and community surveys and meetings by the municipal boards. The Town of Clayton began discussing updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan in the early 1990s. While the process and content was being discussed the Town and Village began working on combining the two Planning Boards and Zoning Board of Appeals into a Joint Planning Board and a Joint Zoning Board of Appeals. That action brought about the notion of a Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Clayton Village Board and the Town Board directed the Joint Planning Board to develop a Joint Comprehensive Plan. This Plan replaces the 1966 Comprehensive Plan for the Town and Village. The work of the members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Board and Village Board along with the Zoning Officers for the Town and Village is very much appreciated.

Clayton Joint Planning Board

Bud Baril, Chairperson
Larry Aubertine, Vice-Chairperson
John Kehoe
Joe Kehoe
Joseph Schauer
Norma Zimmer
John Eppolito
Dawn Rusho, alternate

Clayton Joint Zoning Board of Appeals

James Kenney, Chairperson
Darrel Hayes
Les Drake
Rae Patterson
David Storandt
Peter Brabant
Harold Carpenter

Clayton Town Board

Robert Cantwell, Jr, Supervisor
Justin Taylor
George Kittle
Vivian Black
Donald Turcotte

Clayton Village Board

Dale Kenyon, Mayor
Lewis Bevens, Jr
Theodore Thomas
Todd Cerow
Eleanor Gail Thompson

Town Zoning Enforcement Officer

Henry LaClair

Village Zoning Enforcement Officer

Michael Strouse

The Jefferson County Department of Planning provided guidance and assistance in developing this Plan. The photos and Town/Village maps included in this Plan were provided by the Jefferson County Department of Planning.

A special note of thanks goes to the Mrs. Donna Cantwell's 1998 7th grade Social Studies class that collected information for the Community Profile part of this Comprehensive Plan.

AUTHORITY

This Comprehensive Plan has been prepared in accordance with Section 272-a of NYS Town Law and Section 7-722 of NYS Village Law.

REVIEW

This Comprehensive Plan is intended to serve as an evolving document to be updated every five years.

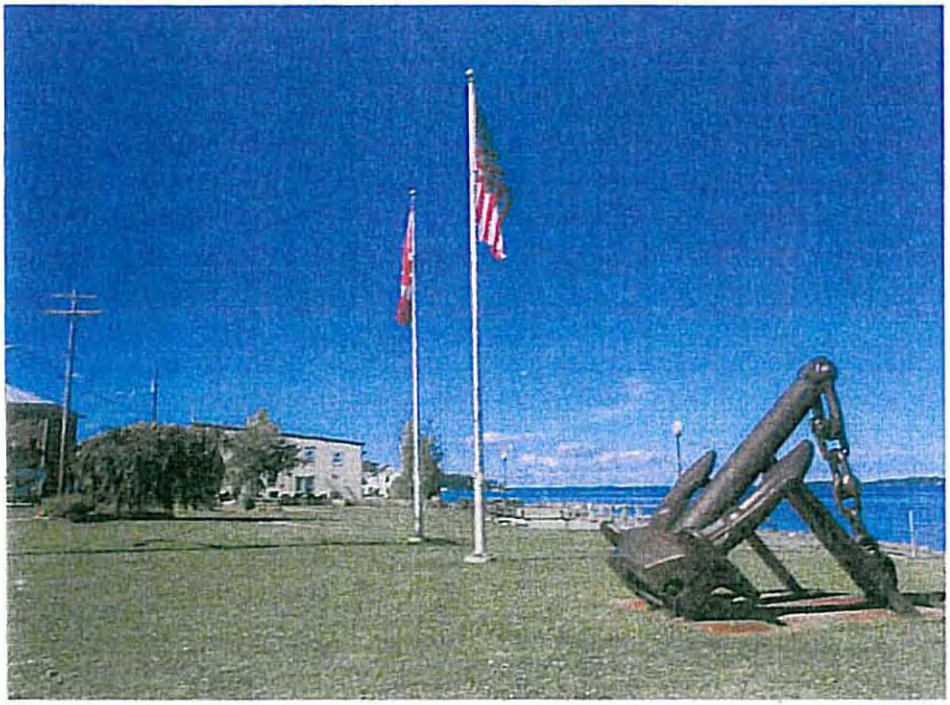
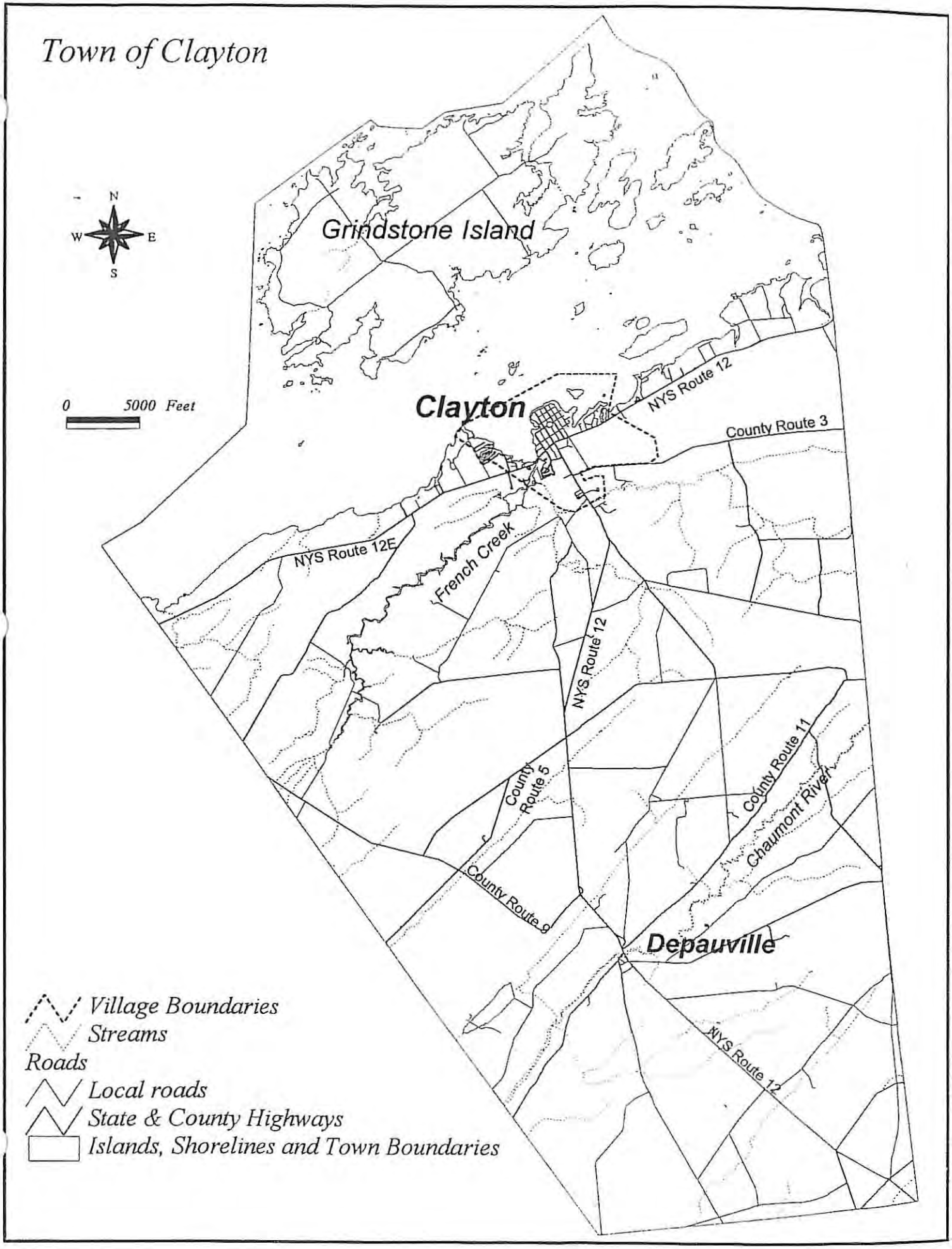


Photo 1 - Frink Park


Town of Clayton
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Clayton
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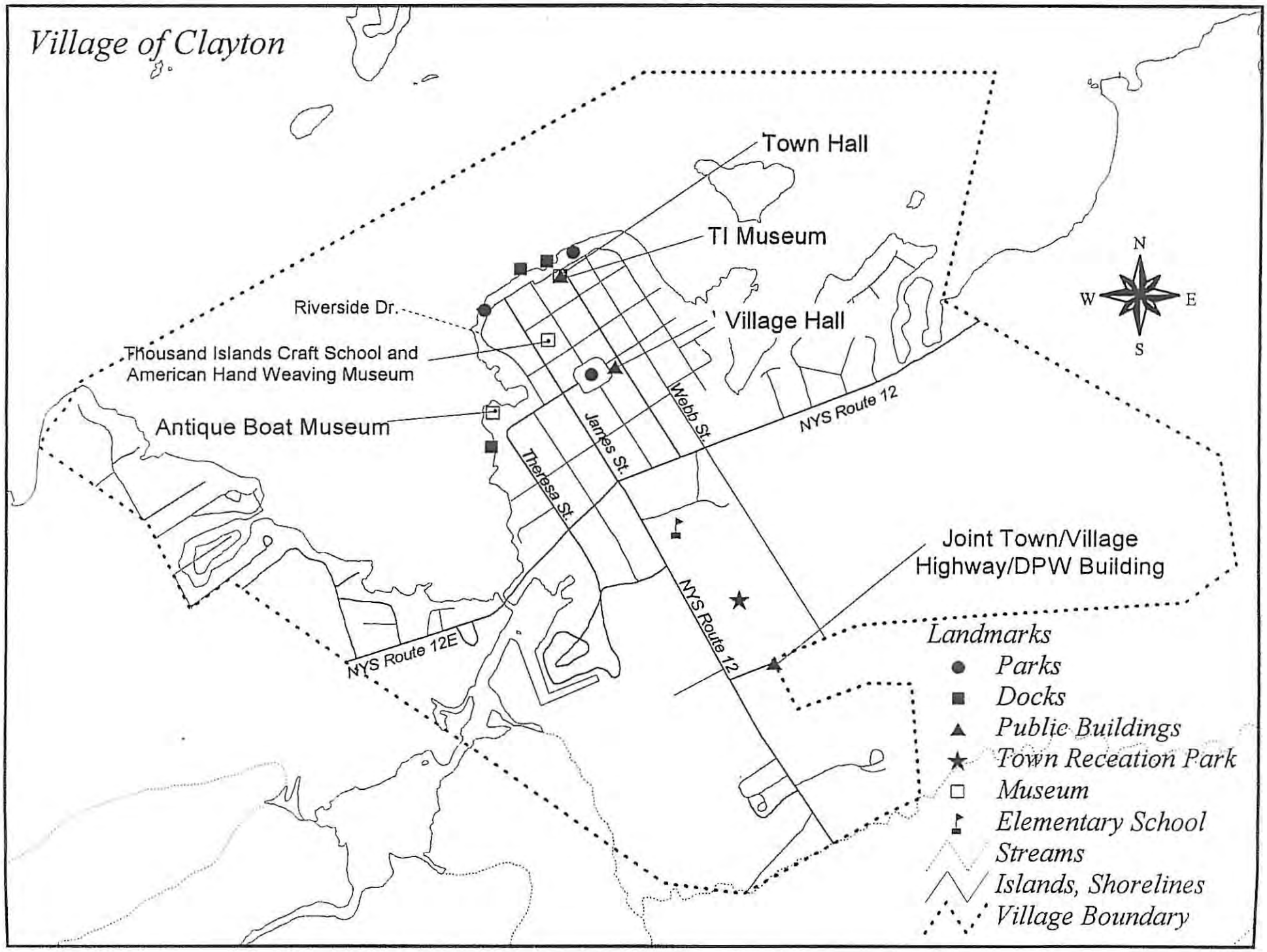
County Route 3
NYS Route 12E
French Creek
NYS Route 12
County Route 5
County Route 11
Chaumont River
County Route 9
Depauville
NYS Route 12
Village Boundaries
Streams
Roads
Local roads
State & County Highways
Islands, Shorelines and Town Boundaries


Village of Clayton
Town Hall
TI Museum
Village Hall
Riverside Dr.
Thousand Islands Craft School and
American Hand Weaving Museum
Antique Boat Museum
Theresa St.
James St.
Webb St.
NYS Route 12
NYS Route 12E
NYS Route 12
Joint Town/Village
Highway/DPW Building
N
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S
Landmarks
Parks
Docks
Public Buildings
Town Receation Park
Museum
Elementary School
Streams
Islands, Shorelines
Village Boundary

PART ONE - COMMUNITY PROFILE

❖ SECTION 1 HISTORY OF CLAYTON

The Town of Clayton was organized from the Towns of Orleans and Lyme by an act of State Legislature on April 27, 1833. The name was chosen in honor of John M. Clayton, United States Senator from Delaware and a prominent Whig, a fitting political selection since most of the voters in the area were Whig themselves.

The Village of Clayton was incorporated on April 17, 1872 by a vote of the citizens, as provided in an act passed by the State Legislature, April 20, 1870. The vote stood 140 for and 51 against the assumption of corporate honors.

The first known name given to the area around the present day village was Weteringhera-Guentere, an Indian term for "Fallen Fort", referring to an ancient fort on the banks of French Creek captured from the Algonquin tribe by the Iroquois. In the early 1820's the area around French Creek Bay was being settled by the French. In 1823 the Post Office and the Village was called Cornelia. In 1831 they were both changed to Clayton. By 1835 the Village consisted of 93 buildings and 426 people.

The other major settlement in the Town is the Hamlet of Depauville, originally called Cat Fish Falls. The hamlet is located in a valley along the Chaumont river. The area was being settled by 1816 utilizing the Chaumont River as its navigable waterway for transportation of timber, goods and people.

Due to its favorable positioning on the St. Lawrence River and an ample supply of lumber, the first major industry in Clayton was timber. Trees were lashed together to form rafts and then sent down the St. Lawrence River to Montreal and surrounding areas. There, the logs were cut into usable lumber. Depauville also had a substantial lumbering industry. The local economy was dominated by this industry until the railroad made its way to the North Country in the 1870's.

Its location on the river and supply of lumber was a natural for the shipbuilding industry. Simon Johnston owned one of the prominent shipyards in the Village. The Town Hall is located on the site of his shipyard. Clayton is also known as the home of the St. Lawrence Skiff. These skiffs were first built as fishing guide boats starting around 1868.

In 1873, the railroad was brought to Clayton and with it came people seeking time away from the city life. As a result, hotels, restaurants, boat livery's, fishing guides and tourist related services began to flourish and a new industry was born, tourism. Grindstone, Picton, Bluff, Murray and other smaller islands began to become settled by local residents and tourists. Luxury hotels were built to accommodate this influx of vacationers: The Windsor, The Walton, The Riverview, The Hubbard House, The Frontenac on Round Island , The Clayton Hotel and the Herald House. The Clayton Hotel is now O'Briens and the Herald House is the TI Inn: all of the other old hotels have either burned or were torn down. The influx of people during this period brought money, built houses and created an increase in small privately owned boats. The small boat trade and repair business quickly became lucrative for many entrepreneurs. This period of growth lasted until the advent of the car as a family vehicle. It became easier to travel were ever you wanted and not just where the train would take you.

There has been a resurgence of the boat trade and repair in the last twenty years due to increases in boating as a recreation, boat owners and the population of Clayton, both residential and seasonal.

Agriculture was an important industry in the Town. The number of active farms has been steadily decreasing, a trend that is occurring all across the State and County.

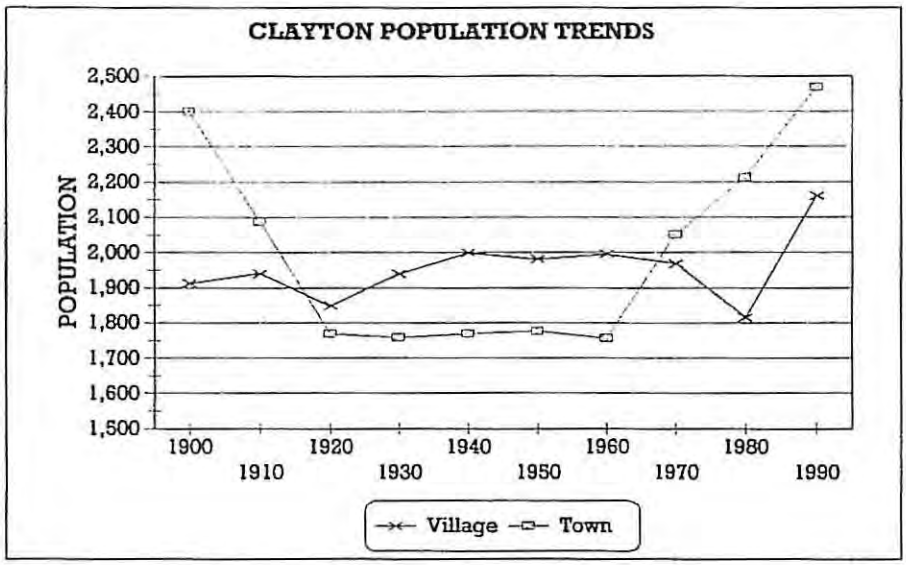
The Town has a history of mining that includes quarries on Picton and Grindstone Islands that were active in the mid 1800's. There are a number of active sand and gravel operations located on County Route 4, the Crystal Springs Road.

Like any other community over the last 177 years, Clayton has undergone many social and economic changes. Today, Clayton remains as a reflection of the small shops and restaurants, recreational opportunities and marinas that existed in the early years.

SECTION 2 DEMOGRAPHICS

2.1 Population: Town and Village of Clayton

The population of the Town has been steadily increasing since 1960, while the Village's population declined from 1960 to 1980. The trend of the Town's population growing faster than the Village's follows the national trend of people moving out of cities and villages to rural areas. While the dramatic increase from 1980 to 1990 can be directly connected to a 100 unit military housing development in the Village, the overall growth in population from 1960 to present can be at least partially attributed to new residential housing being developed, especially along the St. Lawrence River. The U. S. Census Bureau has estimated the population for the Town, including the Village, in 1998 at 4,595.



The seasonal population can be estimated by applying the average family size from the 1990 Census. The table below indicates an estimated increase of 2,836 people during the summer. This figure does not include people vacationing in the area.

	SEASONAL HOUSING UNITS	AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ESTIMATED SEASONAL POPULATION
TOWN	981	2.61	2,560
VILLAGE	116	2.38	276
TOTAL	1,097		2,836

2.2 Hamlet of Depauville

Within the Town of Clayton is the Hamlet of Depauville. This area has a substantial population and its own character. As such, Depauville has been named a Census Designated Place for the 2000 Census by the US Census Bureau. This designation will allow the U.S. Census Bureau to disseminate statistical information about Depauville in the same manner as they do for villages.

The population below was taken from Jefferson County Department of Planning estimates using U.S. Census Bureau block information. As such, some of the population included in this estimate is not necessarily located within the immediate Hamlet area.

1980 Estimated Hamlet of Depauville Population - 330
1990 Estimated Hamlet of Depauville Population - 291

2.3 Population and Land Area Characteristics

The population density of the Village and Town of Clayton has increased substantially since 1980. The major cause for the increase is the location of a 100 unit Army housing complex in the Village. In the mid 1980's the 10th Mountain Division was reactivated and located at Fort Drum, approximately 20 miles from Clayton.

1970 - 49 people/sq. mile
1980 - 49 people/sq. mile
1990 - 58 people/sq. mile
2000 - 59 people/sq. mile (estimate)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

	Square Miles	Acres
Town	82.20	52,608
Village	2.10	1,344

2.4 Land Use

The following land use information was taken from Jefferson County Real Property data. The data shows that almost 60% of the land area in Clayton is identified as agricultural. Residential land accounts for 21%, while 13% is made up of vacant land.

1999	TOWN OF CLAYTON		VILLAGE OF CLAYTON	
LAND USE	# OF PARCELS	# OF ACRES	# OF PARCELS	# OF ACRES
Agricultural	196	30,066	1	59
Residential	1,579	10,395	694	351
Vacant Land	742	6,580	151	222
Commercial	60	922	99	51
Rec. / Entertainment	11	286	20	125
Community Services	27	138	16	48
Industrial	13	185	4	10
Public Service	9	96	5	9
Wild & Forested	21	1,646	2	45

Photo 2

SECTION 3 GOVERNMENT

3.1 Town

The Town Board consists of a Supervisor and four members. They currently meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 5:00 PM. Make sure to call ahead to be put on the agenda.

Photo 3 - Clayton Town Hall

Photo 4 - Clayton Village Hall

3.2 Village

The Village Board consists of a Mayor and four trustees. They currently meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 6:30 PM. Please call ahead to be put on the agenda.

3.3 Joint Town and Village Planning Board

The Joint Planning Board has a Chairperson and six members. They currently meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. Make sure to call ahead to the Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) to be put on the agenda.

3.4 Joint Zoning Board of Appeals

The ZBA consists of a Chairperson and six members. They currently meet at 7:00 p.m., on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, at the Town Hall. Contact the Zoning Enforcement Officer to be put on the agenda.

3.5 County

The County seat is located in the City of Watertown. The County has an Administrator, who is hired by the County Legislative Board. The County is divided into 15 Legislative Districts of similar population counts. Clayton is located within Legislative District #1 which encompasses the Towns of Clayton and Cape Vincent.

3.6 Taxing Agencies

Taxes are collected three times a year for County/Town, Village and School. These taxes are based on the assessed value of property and buildings.

SECTION 4 COMMUNITY RESOURCES

4.1 Village of Clayton Police Department

The Police Department consists of a Chief, 1 Sergeant, and 2 Patrolmen. During the summer tourism season, the village police hire a Meter Reader and 6 Dockmasters.

4.2 Jefferson County Sheriff Department

Based in the City of Watertown, the County Sheriff operates the County Jail, provides road patrols for the County, and has crime investigation capabilities.

4.3 NYS Police

The New York State Police regional headquarters is located in the Town of Pamelia on NYS Route 37, just north of the City of Watertown. There are satellite offices located in the Town of Alexandria (7 miles from Clayton), Village of Adams, Village of West Carthage, and Village of Philadelphia.

4.4 Fire Departments

Clayton has a Volunteer Fire Department which was established in 1887. Its 82 members provide emergency fire protection and rescue, pumping service and CO_2 testing. The Department works out of two buildings, the fire barn located at the Municipal Building and the storage building on Graves St. They own eight rescue vehicles including a ladder truck and a fireboat. The Department helps raise operating funds by sponsoring bingo.

The Hamlet of Depauville also has a Volunteer Fire Department which is located on School St. Its 50 plus members provide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for most any type of emergency. The Department's facilities include the Depauville Fire Department barn/garage and the fire hall. The fire hall hosts many events including barbecues and parties. A new fire hall is being built in 2000.

The Town of Clayton Fire District was formed in 1995 by Referendum vote and is comprised of the former Clayton Fire Protection District and the Depauville Fire District. There are seven Commissioners who oversee the distribution fo funds that are collected by Town & County Tax levy.

4.5 Ambulance/Rescue Squad

The Clayton Volunteer Ambulance Service is part of the Volunteer Fire Department. It is a group of 85 volunteers who answer medical emergencies. The Service was also established in 1887. Both the Ambulance/Rescue Squad and the Fire Department are housed in the same buildings and use the same rescue vehicles.

The Depauville Rescue Squad was started around 1940. It has 50 volunteers and one rescue truck. All of the volunteers are state trained and certified. Among the 50 volunteers are 4 Emergency Medical Technicians and six first responders. The Squad also works jointly with the Clayton Volunteer Ambulance Service.

4.6 Hawn Memorial Library

Hawn Memorial Library is located on John St. in Clayton. Library use is free as long as you have a valid library card. The library was established in 1952 and over the last 47 years, it has provided services and projects to help entertain and educate all community members. It is the only library in the Village of Clayton and consists of 4 large rooms stocked with books, music, audio books and videos. Current library statistics show that there are approximately 1,900 people with a library membership (Currently hold a library card). Out - reach programs are provided for senior citizens, story hours for children, and access to the Internet, a fax machine, and a copier are available. An expansion of the facility is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2000 to be completed in 2001.

4.7 Depauville Community Center and Free Library

In the mid 1970s the Town of Clayton Board took over the old Depauville School. The Center serves as a meeting place, polling place during elections and houses the Depauville Free Library. In 1999 a Depauville citizens group raised funds to expand the playground to include a basketball/tennis court, baseball field and small playground maintained by the Town of Clayton.

Depauville Free Library was established in 1920. It received its charter in 1955 and moved into the old Depauville School on County Route 179, Caroline St.

4.8 Paynter Senior Center

The Paynter Senior Center is located on Riverside Drive. It was established in 1976 as a non-profit organization with a 12 person board of directors and an executive director. There are currently two paid employees and twenty-five volunteers. The Center operates under the auspices of the Jefferson County Office of the Aging.

The Center provides trips to the doctor, dentist, hospital, friends and shopping. The Center conducts a senior meal delivery program and transports people to nutrition sites, serving about 130 people per day.

The Center is developing an agreement with the Clayton Improvement Association to lease a building to be built on Strawberry Lane next to the senior citizen facility. The new building will have facilities to prepare 150 to 250 meals a day and room for arts and crafts, guest speakers and a community room for special events.

4.9 Post Offices

A. Clayton Post Office:

The Clayton Post Office is located on John St. and employs 10 people. It provides distribution of U.S. mail and packages for the citizens of Clayton as well as a rural delivery service and island delivery.

B. Depauville Post Office:

The Depauville Post Office, located on Rt. 12, provides for the distribution of the U.S. mail in the Hamlet of Depauville. The Post Office employs two people, one full time and one part time.

C. Round Island Post Office:

Round Island has a Post Office, circa 1890's, which is open during the summertime.

4.10 Newspapers

The Thousand Islands Sun is a weekly newspaper targeted at the American Thousand Islands Region. For more information, contact the newspaper.

The Watertown Daily Times is a daily (including Sunday) newspaper serving the North Country. Based in Watertown, it covers local, national and international events.

SECTION 5 HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

5.1 Samaritan Medical Center

This facility, located in the City of Watertown, is a 319 bed acute care facility and regional referral center providing specialized services.

Samaritan also runs the Samaritan Family Health Center on Strawberry Lane in Clayton. Two doctors, one internist and one physician's assistant provide many different health care services to people of all ages. The Health Center itself has one large lobby office, six patient rooms, a large nurses' work area and three private offices for the doctors.

5.2 Genesis Health Care Facility

This facility, located in the City of Watertown, is a 300 bed long term care facility and a 30 bed skilled nursing facility.

5.3 EJ Noble Hospital

This facility, located in Alexandria Bay, is a 52 bed acute/long term care facility specializing in emergency services and rehabilitative therapy.

5.4 Clayton Dental Office

Established in 1956, the Clayton Dental Office is located on State St. There are two dentists, two assistants, three dental hygienists, and two office personnel. The Clayton Dental Office provides professional general dental services to the community. As well as the service from the dental office, they provide school visits and instruction to students on proper dental hygiene.

5.5 Family Therapy

The Grybowski Family Therapy Practice was established in 1991 as a place that teenagers and adults could be counseled in all family problem areas including, but not limited to marriage, self-esteem, depression, eating disorders and abuse. There is a private entrance into the facility to allow for a more comfortable visit.

SECTION 6 TRANSPORTATION

6.1 Waterways

The Village of Clayton and a significant portion of the Town are accessible by boat from the St. Lawrence River. There are public docks located at Mary St., Riverside Drive and Frink Park within the Village limits and at Grindstone Island in the Town. There are also private marinas in the Village and Town. The Village hires seasonal Dock attendants to assist boaters and oversee the use of the municipal docks. A fee schedule is available from the Village Office.

6.2 Highways

The Town is served by NYS Routes, 12, 12E and 180. Interstate 81, a four lane divided highway, is located 10 miles east of the Village along NYS Route 12. I 81 provides easy access to Canada's Highway 401 and the NYS Thruway.

6.3 Public Transportation

The Thousand Islands Bus Line has a daily route that connects Watertown, Clayton, Theresa, and Ogdensburg.

6.4 Watertown International Airport

The Watertown International Airport is owned by the City of Watertown and is located five miles west of the City on NYS Route 12F. It has two 5,000 foot runways and offers modern facilities for commercial, private and airborne freight uses.

6.5 Maxson Airfield

Maxson Airfield is privately owned and located on NYS Route 26 in the Town of Alexandria.

6.6 Distances to Major Markets

Clayton is located approximately 20 miles from the City of Watertown, the regional retail marketplace. However, Clayton is relatively close to Syracuse, Utica and Oswego. With a major Interstate running from the South up through Jefferson County to the Canadian-U.S. border at the North, access from the South is fast and direct. With the Thousand Islands Bridge to the North at the border, access to Canadian markets such as Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto is also direct and easy.

SECTION 7 INFRASTRUCTURE

7.1 Water & Sewer

A. Village

The Village's water system draws from the St. Lawrence River. The system has a 1,000,000 gallon capacity and a current demand of only 30% (300,000 gallons). The Village of Clayton also has a sewer treatment system that was updated in 1994. It was designed to treat .7 Million Gallons per Day(MGD) and currently serves approximately half that capacity (.345 MGD). Both of these systems are designed to allow for future expansion.

B. Town

a) Depauville Sewer District:

The Hamlet of Depauville also has a its own sewer system that was updated in 1991. It was designed to treat 0.034 MGD and currently serves approximately half that capacity (0.017 MGD). There are currently 107 hookups, using 17,000 gallons per day. The system is permitted for 50,000 gallons per day. This system too, has the potential to handle expansion in the area.

b) Heritage Heights Sewer District:

Heritage Heights is a single family residential area located just south of the Village on NYS Route 12. The system currently has 22 hookups with a limit of 30.

7.2 Electricity

Electrical service throughout the Town and Village is provided by the Niagara Mohawk Power Company (NIMO). NIMO provides a plan called PowerChoice, which allows residential customers the choice to buy power from NIMO or buy power from a competitor. This choice allows competitive power pricing for residents of Jefferson County. NIMO also has energy consultants available to identify conservation and business practices that can result in further energy savings.

7.3 Wireless Service

Wireless Communication Service is available in the Community. Local, Statewide and National paging coverage is also available from local providers. Digital PCS (Personal Communication Service) technology is also available.

7.4 Cable TV Service

Cable service is available in the Village. There is limited service out into the Town.

7.5 Internet Service

Internet service is provided utilizing local phone calls. GISCO is a local Internet service provider with its main offices located in Clayton with satellite offices in Watertown.

7.6 Clayton Municipal Fiberoptics System

The Town of Clayton has made a commitment to establish affordable fiberoptic infrastructure in Clayton and surrounding area for the purpose of increasing year-round jobs.

In 1999, the Town of Clayton initiated development of a publicly owned fiber optic network. The project will provide fiber optic infrastructure form the City of Watertown to the Town of Clayton then to Wellesley Island and Ontario, Canada. The Watertown link will provide connections to major transmission lines to the south and east. The Clayton to Watertown section will be built by November 2000.

The network will be dark fiber, which will be leased to carriers for service to the public and to institutions for internal use. Leases will typically run for 10 years. The Town is developing this infrastructure to promote competitive telecommunication access for area businesses and to attract and sustain technology based businesses.

SECTION 8 EDUCATION

8.1 High School

The Thousand Islands High School, located on County Route 9, was built in 1972. In 1999 there were approximately 400 students in grades 9 - 12. Along with a strong academic program, the high school provides a diverse technology program, music program and an extensive sports program including baseball, softball, football, basketball, hockey, soccer and swimming.

The high school drop out rate for Jefferson County has been somewhat consistent with New York State's overall drop-out rate. The drop-out rate is the percent of students in grades 9 - 12 who leave school during the year and do not enroll in another school. The drop out rates for Jefferson County and New York State in 1996 were both 3.70%.

8.2 Middle School

Thousand Island Middle School was established in 1987 as a joint facility with the High School. Currently there are 23 classrooms, a gym, and a pool, however with the current expansion project this number will increase. The Middle School is comprised of the sixth, seventh and eighth grades. Currently, 98% of students graduate from the Thousand Islands Middle School and enter high school. There were approximately 230 students attending the Middle School in 1999.

8.3 Guardino Elementary School

Located on High St in the Village of Clayton the Elementary school was originally the Clayton Elementary/High School. In 1972 the Thousand Islands High School opened and Clayton High School was turned into an elementary school with grades K-6. In 1987 the Middle School opened and the elementary school housed grades K-5.

8.4 Mount Zion Academy

Mount Zion Academy is located in the Hamlet of Depauville. It was established in 1985 as a Christian school where students are taught in a traditional classroom setting. The school began as grades kindergarten through 12. In 1998 this was reduced to grades kindergarten through eight. The school is located on the property of Mount Zion Assembly church and is housed in two connected buildings, on of which is a two story stone building built as a school about 1840. Present enrollment is approximately twenty-six with five full-time teachers and four part-time teachers and aids.

8.5 Preschool

The Clayton Area Preschool is a private organization established as a place to provide schooling for children ages 3 - 5 years. There is a teacher and an assistant who strive to provide the children with the necessary academic and social skills. The Preschool is currently located on Strawberry Lane.

8.5 Colleges

Jefferson Community College (JCC) is a two-year academic institution located just outside the City of Watertown on Coffeen St. JCC offers Certificate Programs in Accounting, Criminal Justice, Hospitality and Tourism, Office Studies, Retail Merchandising and Leadership studies. JCC also offers 20+ Associate Degree programs and two one plus one programs with SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (Wanakena Campus) and Canton College of Technology.

JCC is a member of the State University of New York (SUNY) North Country\Fort Drum Educational Services Consortium. The Consortium was created to provide college-level courses leading to certificates, two-year and four-year undergraduate degrees, as well as graduate-level degrees, to both military and non-military residents of Watertown, Fort Drum, and Northern New York. The participating colleges include: Jefferson Community College, Empire State College, Canton College of Technology, State University of New York Colleges at Oswego, Potsdam and Plattsburgh.

The following is a list of programs currently being offered in the Watertown/Fort Drum area:

Empire State College: Associate and Baccalaureate Degrees in the Arts, Business, Management and Economics, Community and Human Services, Cultural Studies, Educational Studies, Historical Studies, Human Development, Interdisciplinary Studies, Science, Mathematics and Technology, and Social Theory, Structure and Change. M.A. Degrees are available in Business and Policy Studies. The Empire State College specializes in providing advanced educational services to working adults such as flexible degree procedures and correspondence courses.

Canton College of Technology: A.A.S. Degrees in Automotive Technology and certificate program in automotive mechanics.

State University College at Oswego: B.S. in Business Administration. M.A. in Business Administration. Vocational\Technical Education and certificate in Educational Administration.

State University College at Potsdam: M.S. in Education and a M.S. in Education for those holding a B.A. in a non-educational area.

State University College at Plattsburgh: B.S. in nursing with RN option.

Source: SUNY Colleges in the North Country, Fort Drum, 1999

In addition to the Consortium colleges mentioned above, there are three non-Consortium colleges within commuting distance of Jefferson County. The largest of the three is Syracuse University which is approximately 70 miles south of Watertown. Syracuse University offers 143 different majors with the highest degree offered being a doctorate. The other two universities, Clarkson and St. Lawrence, are located 66 and 56 miles north of Watertown respectively. Clarkson University has an enrollment of 2,670 and mainly offers degrees in business, engineering, mathematics and social and political science. St. Lawrence University has an enrollment of 3,100. It offers a variety of majors but those with the highest enrollment include: economics, political science and government.

SECTION 9 RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

9.1 Clayton United Methodist Church

The Church, located on John Street, was established in 1840 and has a fellowship hall and full kitchen. These facilities provide for worship, Bible school, Sunday school, Bible study, prayer groups, counseling, visitations, spiritual guidance, music and projects. The Church currently has 245 members and is a member of the Council of Churches. The Church provides community ministries to shut-ins and hospital patients, contributions to worthy causes and international ministries.

9.2 First Baptist Church in Clayton

The First Baptist Church in Clayton is located on John Street Established in 1840, it serves about 300 people. The Church is also involved in the Clayton Food Pantry, youth activities and counseling services. The Church provides worship, teen ministry, and ministry of children.

9.3 Christ Episcopal Church

The Church, located on John Street, was established in 1885. It is a Christian Church of Episcopal and Anglican worship. It gives people an opportunity to worship, or receive counseling and religious education. There are currently approximately 225 members of the Church. It is currently undergoing construction to add a small parish hall, classroom and office.

9.4 Grindstone Methodist Church

Constructed in 1890, the Grindstone Methodist Church is the only Church on the island. Before 1890, Church members held services in the old schoolhouse. The Church is centrally located on the island. The church is open during the summer season from the last Sunday in June to the first Sunday in September. During this time, approximately 100 Church members will use the Church as their place of worship.

9.5 Depauville Methodist Church

The Depauville Methodist Church was founded in 1821. It has a Church hall, a Sunday school room and a sanctuary. A congregation of around 100 worship or attend church school. Many also take part in the Bible study offered at the Church. Spiritual guidance, plays and counseling are also provided by the church. The Church hall is available for the use of the community as well.

9.6 St. Mary's Catholic Church

The Church was established in the 1840's and can be found on James Street There are currently 535 families who make up the congregation. The Church itself is made up of 4 buildings; the Rectory, the Church, Parish Center, and the Shrine of St. Mary's. The Church offers a visitation service to those who are sick or lonely as well as housing the Clayton Food Pantry.

9.7 Mount Zion Assembly Church

Built in 1835, the church was originally a community church that was supplied with pastors from the various local denominations on a rotating basis. By the 1900s, the church was primarily used by local Baptists, but declining membership prompted its close after World War I. In 1939, the church was reopened for use by area Pentecostals. In 1964, after twenty-five years of continuous use and maintenance, ownership of the church was awarded to this congregation by the New York State Supreme Court after establishing there were no other deed holders. At the present time, there are about 100 members.

10.1 Clayton Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber of Commerce, established in 1926, strives to promote the Clayton area. The Chamber is located on Riverside Drive and currently consists of 258 members. They promote each of the member businesses by providing mail information, vacation guides, a member directory, website and tourist information on-site.

10.2 Clayton Rotary Club

The Clayton Rotary Club is an international service club dedicated to goodwill, service, and friendship given for life. The local chapter was established in 1935. They meet once a week on Wednesdays.

The Clayton Rotary Club makes donations to help schools, hospitals and other local organizations. They also make donations for medical care and clinics, help local youth programs such as Clayton's Youth Commission and the Figure Skating Association. Most recently they donated money to help build new docks and support the local food pantry. They also support the Watertown YMCA.

10.3 The American Legion

The Legion is the largest veterans' organization in the world. The Legion began nationally in 1919 with the Clayton Post 821 starting in 1923. The Legion is located on Riverside Drive and consists of three different chapters, the Legion, the Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of the Legion. There are currently over 1000 members.

The Legion's main purpose is to care for disabled veterans and their families. They also sponsor educational scholarships, loan medical equipment to the poor, contribute financial support to community service organizations, and help support the local Boy & Girl Scouts. The Legion also has a color guard which organizes parades and military funerals within the Clayton community.

10.4 Knights of Columbus (K of C)

The Clayton Knights of Columbus, Council 350, is a fraternal organization dedicated to the betterment of the Catholic Church and local community. Established in 1898, the Knights have an enrollment of 130 members who dedicate themselves to helping those less fortunate than themselves. They have a hall with a ballroom, kitchen and bar facilities located on James Street. They meet on the 4th Tuesday of every month.

10.5 The Clayton Lions Club

The Clayton Lions Club was established in 1956 as a service organization dedicated to helping the poor, sponsoring scholarships for students at Thousand Islands High School, donating financial resources to the community, and promoting services for the blind. The club has approximately 76 members in the Clayton and Lafargeville area. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month.

10.6 Clayton / Depauville Masons

The Clayton/Depauville Mason Lodge #296 meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month in the basement of the Depauville Library at 7:30. The Masons currently have an enrollment of 51 members.

11.1 Thousand Islands Snowmobile Club

The club is relatively new to the Clayton area, but they have been able to develop a trail system that links Cape Vincent, Clayton, Lafargeville and Alexandria Bay to one another. Currently the club is small, but with time and more trail openings, it is expected that the numbers will increase and stabilize.

11.2 Girl Scouts

The Clayton Girl Scout Troop is one of thirteen troops in Jefferson County that belong to the Thousand Islands Girl Scout Council. The Troop supports the Girl Scout cookie sale and they participate in Clayton's Christmas parade and Christmas in July parade. They are working towards providing camping trips in the future. One of the community projects currently being worked on is a clean/ spruce up of the 801 military housing unit.

11.3 Boy Scouts

The Clayton Boy Scout program is 67 years old and was established by the American Legion in 1932. Meetings are held in the municipal fire hall, various churches or at the American Legion. Presently there are about 50 adult and student members. Originally part of the Seaway Valley Council, they merged with the Hiawatha Council in Syracuse. The Clayton Boy Scouts program focuses on physical fitness, citizenship, and community service. They also sponsor a more advanced rank of scouting known as the Order of the Arrow. The Order of the Arrow does mostly community service and tries their best to make each summer and spring camp out safe and secure for other scouts.

11.4 Youth Hockey

Thousand Islands Youth Hockey was established in 1979. The organization uses the Clayton Recreation Arena for practice and competition. The organization has 175 current members who take part in a program established to teach 3 - 19 year olds. To help keep registration fees as low as possible, the organization operates a concession stand during the skating season. Future plans call for an expanded girls' program and participation in a Canadian league.

11.5 Figure Skating

Since 1983, the Clayton Figure Skating Association has brought in professional coaches to give skating lessons to the younger residents of Clayton. There are approximately 65 families and 100 skaters involved in the association. They utilize the Clayton Recreation Arena for practices and shows throughout the season. The Association is governed by a board of directors, sponsors a competition in March, and has a skating show at the end of the season.

11.6 Save the River

Save the River is a non-profit environmental group dedicated to preserving the quality of the St. Lawrence River. It was established in 1978 and has an office on Riverside Drive. The organization has approximately 1,000 members from both the United States and Canada and is governed by a Board of Directors. Ongoing projects being done by the group range from painting storm drains, reducing the dumping of harmful toxins into the river, checking septic systems for pollution to "TI Beach Watch", and the testing of water quality at 5 different beaches along the river. The placing of shoal markers on the River is another important function.

11.7 Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT)

The Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT) is a non-profit organization based in Clayton, New York. Under the guidance of a 14 member Board of Trustees, TILT works to preserve the natural, scenic, recreational and historic resources within the St. Lawrence River Valley. The Trust currently protects 6,571 acres of property including wetlands, nesting and feeding areas for threatened species, fisheries, grassland preserves, a 1930's state of the art cattle farm and an 18th century British military fort. TILT also supports the acquisition of public recreational areas and currently stewards a bathing beach, a 22 mile railroad trail and two interpretive nature trails. TILT relies heavily in its 750 person membership to cover its operational expenses and approaches outside grant making institutions and private donors to fund programs and conservation initiatives.

12.1 Thousand Islands Museum

The Thousand Islands Museum is a non-profit educational facility. It was established in 1964 and is located in the Town Hall on Riverside Drive. It is an educational facility with a collection of preserved artifacts from the St. Lawrence River, Clayton, and the Thousand Islands region. The museum is known as a "turn of the century" historical museum because it has collections of artifacts from the early 1900's.

The museum is staffed by one part-time and one full-time employee, a governing Board of Trustees and approximately twenty volunteers. It sponsors the annual Clayton Decoy Show, one of the largest community events of the year, and the Gem Show, both held at the Clayton Recreation Arena. They often sponsor live performances and model boat shows. There is an ongoing program called "History at Noon" and two new exhibits, the pictorial wall and a Native American exhibit.

12.2 Antique Boat Museum

The Antique Boat Museum is a non-profit educational facility located on Mary Street. The museum displays hundreds of antique boats and river artifacts and offers classes for both children and adults. It also provides tours, boat rides and cruises. The museum was established in the early 1970's and currently has approximately 2,200 members internationally. The Museum sponsors an annual Antique Boat Show which attracts over 10,000 people per year. A popular event during the Show is the boat auction. The museum also sponsors a Race Boat Regatta every two years. The most recent addition to the museum is the skiff livery, a display of non-motorized antique boats.

12.3 Thousand Islands Craft School and the American Hand Weaving Museum

The Thousand Islands Craft School and the American Hand Weaving Museum are located on John Street and was established in 1964. The primary goal of the organization is to promote arts and crafts through education, research, exhibits and programs. The Craft School programs are available to everyone and include specialized programs such as after school art programs, Elder hostel programs and conferences for weavers. The organization also hosts family events and sponsors the annual Antique Show and Craft Show. The School/Museum has 300 members and employs a full time administrator, curator, housekeeper, and Green Thumb worker.

13.1 Islands & Shoreline

The St. Lawrence River has nearly 1,900 islands which comprise the region known as the Thousand Islands. Within the Town of Clayton, there are approximately 38 miles of shoreline on the river which allow for many recreational and commercial opportunities.

13.2 Topography

A majority of Clayton is made up of gentle rolling hills with less than 1% of the Town area having slopes in excess of 15%. There are approximately 2,300 acres of wetlands within the Town and Village of Clayton. The French Creek Wildlife Management Area is NYS DEC regulated and consists of 2,265 acres of preserved land abutting the French Creek. Within this area are 600 acres of wetlands starting from just above the French Creek Marina and extending to the St. Lawrence Corners Rd.

13.3 Nesting & Spawning Areas

There are 8 significant nesting and spawning areas within the Town of Clayton. These are:

Blind Bay	Fish Spawning Area
Carrier Bay	Fish Spawning Area
Eagle Wing Group	Bird Nesting Area
French Creek Marsh	Raptor Nesting Area
Grindstone Island Wetlands	Raptor Nesting Area
Gull Island	Bird Nesting Area
Tidd Island	Bird Nesting Area
Big Gull Island	Bird Nesting Area

13.4 Geology

The surficial rock formations are sedimentary rocks. The sandstone and dolomitic sandstone is of the Cambrian age while the limestone is of the Ordivician Age.

According to the Soil Survey of Jefferson County, New York, Soil Conservation Service and Cornell University, 1988, the Town and Village of Clayton consist of 5 soil groups.

Soil Group Name

1. Chaumont - Galoo - Wilpoint - Guffin, 50% of the Town. Moderately deep to very shallow, excessively drained to very poorly drained, clayey or loamy on lowland plains.

2. Benson - Newstead - Galoo - Rock outcrop, 10% of the Town. Moderately deep to very shallow, excessively drained to poorly drained, loamy soils and rock outcrop on lowland plains and uplands.

3. Vergennes - Kingsbury - Elmridge, 15% of the Town. Very deep, moderately well drained and somewhat poorly drained, loamy soils over clayey sediments, on lowland plains.

4. Groton - Windsor - Alton, 10% of the Town. Very deep, excessively drained to well drained, loamy or sandy soils, on ridges, terraces and plains.

5. Rhinebeck - Hudson - Rock outcrop, 15% of the Town. Very deep, somewhat poorly drained and moderately well drained, clayey soils and Rock outcrop, on lowland plains.

13.5 Climate

The climate of Jefferson County can be characterized as having cold winters and moderately warm summers with occasional hot spells. The prevailing wind direction for the area is WSW.

SECTION 14 HISTORIC STRUCTURES

The Village has a historic district as well as 37 individual structures listed on the State and Federal Historic Register.

Photo 5 - Riverside Drive

Downtown Clayton was designated an Historic Architectural District by the Department of the Interior in 1960. Since then, the Clayton Chamber of Commerce has established a Historical Building Walking Tour through the downtown area. Interested individuals can pickup a tour map from the Chamber of Commerce to guide them to the 31 buildings of significance from the 19th and 20th centuries.

SECTION 15 RECREATION

15.1 Town

The Town operates a multi-purpose facility that serves as an ice rink for the winter season and a special events facility the rest of the year. Other facilities included in the park are: lighted tennis courts and basketball courts, baseball and softball fields, an open air pavilion for picnics, reunions or special events, an Olympic size pool with 1 and 3 meter diving boards, a children's playground and a recreation/fitness trail around the property. The Park is located in the Village at 615 East Line Road. For more information concerning the use of this facility, contact the arena at (315) 686-4310 and ask to speak to the Manager.

15.2 Village

The Village of Clayton maintains a park located in the center of the Village. Facilities located at the park include a children's creative playground, picnic areas, tennis court and basketball/roller hockey court.

15.3 NYS Parks

There are 10 NYS Parks located within 15 miles of Clayton. The parks offer a variety of services including: camping, RV lots, picnic areas, beaches, recreation areas, docking, boat rentals and golfing. Specific information can be found at the Clayton Area Chamber of Commerce or the Thousand Islands.

Grass Point, NYS Route 12, Town of Orleans;
Cedar Point, NYS Route 12E, Town of Cape Vincent
Keewaydin, NYS Route 12, Town of Alexandria
Wellesley Island, I-81, Wellesley Island, Town of Orleans
Burnham Point, NYS Route 12E, Town of Cape Vincent
Canoe Point and Picnic Point, Grindstone Island, Town of Clayton
Kring Point, NYS Route 12, Town of Alexandria
Mary Island, off County Route 100, Town of Alexandria
Waterson, I-81, Wellesley Island, Town of Orleans
Long Point, Co. Route 57, Town of Lyme

15.4 Golf Courses

C-Way Golf Course, on NYS Route 12 towards Watertown, offers 18 holes of golf, a restaurant, a bar and a motel. There are currently approximately 250 members. The course was established in 1964 and plans to add a driving range in the near future.

Clayton Golf Club, on NYS Route 12 towards Alexandria Bay, offers a 9 hole course in the Village.

There are also numerous courses within a 10 minute drive.

15.5 Go-Cart Racing

Can Am International Speedway has hosted a go-cart race in September since 1988. A track is laid out in the Clayton Recreation Center parking lot for use by 100 competitors in 14 different divisions.

15.6 Clayton Lions Field

The Clayton Lions Field, located on Webb Street in the Village, is a lighted field maintained for the use of all Town and Village residents. It is mainly used by community organizations and the school for football, soccer, softball and baseball. It has also been the site of fairs and carnivals. The field has a storage building, playground, water fountain, and scoreboard.

15.7 Snowmobile Trails

Clayton is connected to a recently opened snowmobile trail. The trail is approximately 100 miles long and stretches from Cape Vincent to Alexandria Bay. Though the trail is relatively new, it has been discovered by many snowmobilers and it looks like it will become a very popular winter recreation destination.

15.8 French Creek Wildlife Management Area(WMA)

The French Creek WMA is managed by NYSDEC. DEC has maintained the roads and cattail marsh since acquisition in 1962. By being designated a WMA, the public is allowed to use the area for day use activities (restrictions apply) to explore most of the lands as well as go fishing, hunting, bird watching, and driving.

In the future, when funding becomes available, the DEC is planning to build a dike above the French Creek Marina to stabilize the water level for 400-600 acres of wetlands. Further information on the regulations are available on posters located throughout the area or can be obtained by contacting the local DEC office.

15.9 Regional Recreational Opportunities

There are regional resources which are major attractions to the local people and tourists.

Chaumont Barrens, located in the Towns of Clayton and Lyme, is a unique alvar landscape supported by a rare combination of extreme conditions: shallow soil, flooding, and drought. This area also includes exposed outcrops, deep fissures, and rubbly moss gardens. The area also has patches of woods, shrub and savannas, and open grasslands.

Thompson Park Zoo, located in the City of Watertown, has many exhibits and animals. Some of the exhibits include black bear, eagles, mountain lion, wolf, lynx and elk. The zoo also has a hands - on Discovery Center for all ages.

Minna Anthony Nature Center located on Wellesley Island is a 600 acre wildlife sanctuary with eight miles of hiking and groomed XC Trails, a museum and special trails for the disabled. There are exhibits of live fish, reptiles and amphibians.

The New York State Seaway Trail is a 454 mile scenic route paralleling Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. A well-marked alternative to super highways and modern toll roads, the Seaway Trail leads to eye-opening treasures you might otherwise overlook. The Trail takes people to cities, quaint villages, fishing ports, and dozens of family attractions, restaurants, accommodations and shops. The Seaway Trail is one of twenty National Scenic Byways chosen by the U.S. Department of Transportation and is New York State's only National Scenic Byway. It is marked with green and white "trailblazers" featuring a footprint and a watermark. The trail also has brown and white "War of 1812" signs which lead to 42 historic sites. Visitor information is available along the trail in outdoor information centers.
Source: Seaway Trail Homepage,www.seawaytrail.com/mainpage.htm

The Rivergate Trail

The 1000 Islands Land Trust (TILT) has acquired three parcels of the old Black River - Utica railroad bed. TILT has utilized the abandoned bed to develop a trail from the Black Creek Road in Clayton to LaFargeville, approximately 3.5 miles. And another from NYS Route 37 in Theresa to Philadelphia, with a loop to the Village of Theresa, approximately 14 miles. TILT envisions the Clayton trailhead to be located at the Clayton Recreation Park. They will continue to attempt to acquire additional abandoned railroad beds in order to expand the existing trail.

1000 Islands International Tourism Council: The 1000 Islands International Tourism Council is the largest local tourism agency in the area dedicated to promoting the 1000 islands. There publish many guides for boaters, drivers, campers and tourists available by contacting the Council at 1-800-847-5263 or www.visit1000islands.com

Can Am Speedway: Located in Lafargeville, the Speedway features 358 DIRT modifieds, IMCA modifieds, sportsmen, street stocks and economy stocks. The races run every Saturday night in season. On Friday nights, the track sponsors Go-kart racing.

Evans Mills Speedway: Located in Evans Mills, this Speedway features late model, sportsmen, legends, streetstock, and pure stock races on a blacktop track. The races take place on Sunday afternoons in season.

SECTION 16 HOUSING

16.1 Clayton Improvement Association

The Clayton Improvement Association, LTD. (CIA)was founded in 1977, incorporated in 1979 and designated as a Rural Preservation Company in 1985, as well as a Community Housing Development Organization in 1993. The current areas of focus are housing, property management and economic development. The CIA currently manages 151 units of housing at 6 different location. The service area for their Rural Preservation Company contract covers the townships of Alexandria, Antwerp, Cape Vincent, Clayton, LeRay, Orleans, Pamelia, Philadelphia, Theresa and Wilna.

In 1995 the CIA opened its French Bay Elder Cottage Project which offers 8 stand alone units for independent senior citizens. The CIA provides snow and trash removal, lawn and property care that makes for a more comfortable quality of life for the tenants, while still maintaining a level of independence.

Current projects being worked on include: Low Income Housing Tax Credit Project for the Clayton Housing Authority, Addition to the Samaritan Medical Center in Clayton, Applications for Home Buyer and Home Improvement programs.

CIA was instrumental in the building of the medical offices on Strawberry Lane and bringing new doctors to the area.

16.2 Senior Citizen Housing

Riverview Senior Housing is located at 912 Strawberry Lane. Built in 1978, the housing unit provides apartments where the elderly can receive any additional attention required. There is a recreation room, a kitchen, a laundry room and apartments designed specifically for the handicapped. Employing about 6 people, Riverview provides care, service and transportation for the elderly.

16.3 French Bay Family Housing

French Bay Family Housing is located at 916 Strawberry Lane in the Village of Clayton. It is a 24 unit low and moderate income family housing project. It is owned by Clayton Apartment Company I and managed by the Clayton Improvement Association.

16.4 Residential Development

There has been consistent residential development in Clayton since 1986, when building permits began being tracked. Over the last 14 years an average of 51 new residential units were built in Clayton each year. Clayton can be viewed as a place where people desire to live.

TOWN OF CLAYTON				VILLAGE OF CLAYTON		
YEAR	NEW RESIDENTIAL UNITS	COMMERCIAL PERMITS	TOTAL PERMITS	NEW RESIDENTIAL UNITS	COMMERCIAL PERMITS	TOTAL PERMITS
1986	31	3	68	109	0	36
1987	94	1	106	28	1	23
1988	54	0	78	4	0	17
1989	43	0	74	20	1	31
1990	41	1	96	2	0	29
1991	25	1	80	11	0	40
1992	38	0	94	3	0	21
1993	35	1	92	3	0	25
1994	36	0	70	0	0	24
1995	28	0	88	2	0	18
1996	24	1	71	3	0	18
1997	29	0	84	0	2	12
1998	26	0	82	0	0	9
1999	23	1	86	4	0	23

PART TWO - COMMUNITY SURVEYS

The Town and Village of Clayton have conducted surveys over the years to help officials direct the development and growth of the Clayton area. These surveys provided the people and tourists of Clayton the opportunity to express their views about the future of Clayton. The results of these surveys will be the basis for the Goals of this Comprehensive Plan.

SECTION 1 VILLAGE OF CLAYTON - WATERFRONT IMAGE ASSESSMENT STUDY, (Summer 1982)

In the summer of 1982 the Village of Clayton utilizing the resources of the St. Lawrence-Eastern Ontario Commission and the School of Landscape Architecture, S.U.N.Y. at Syracuse hired a graduate intern to complete a Waterfront Image Assessment.

The objectives were:

a) To assess the current image and resources of the Village as perceived from interviews and filed inventory.

b) To analyze constraints to and opportunities for future Village image enhancement.

c) To develop alternative scenarios for future image enhancement.

d) To test these scenarios for acceptability to permanent residential, seasonal residential and day tourist populations.

As part of the Study, 30 people covering a cross section of the community were interviewed. Below is their response when given a list of specific aspects of the visual quality of Clayton.

Specific Element	% indicating a Large Problem
Overhead utilities	84
Views of the Village from the River	84
Economic growth	70
Trees / Plants	69
Condition of store fronts	65
Wharves and docking adequacy	61
General building conditions	56

A major part of this study was to give people the opportunity to give their opinions on design concepts for specific areas. Permanent and seasonal residents were mailed out surveys and day tourists were interviewed on Labor Day weekend. A total of 379 people responded to the survey: 212 permanent residents, 29 seasonal residents, and 138 day tourists.

FRINK PARK:

A. no change;

B. proposal featuring exposed granite; and

C. a proposal featuring a retaining wall lookout area.

There was a clear consensus for change with Option B being favored by 54 %.

Photo 6 - Frink Park, 2000.

RIVERSIDE DRIVE:

D. no change;

E. a proposal incorporating large planters breaking up the parking area; and

F. a proposal for a pedestrian mall.

The overall consensus was for a change. Permanent residents were split between no change and Option E, with the cost being a factor. Overall, Option E. was preferred by 50%.

RIVERSIDE DRIVE - NO UTILITIES:

G. no change;

H. Removal of overhead utilities only;

I. Removal of overhead utilities and inclusion of large planters; and

J. Removal of overhead utilities and inclusion of a pedestrian mall.

Permanent and seasonal residents were split between Options G. and I, with cost being the major factor in choosing G. Day Tourists preferred I.

CENTENNIAL PARK:

K. No change and

L. A floating breakwater and docking facility.

Permanent residents favored the no change option, expressing a concern for the loss of swimming access.

Seasonal and day visitors favored the dock proposal.

THE BOARDWALK:

M. No change; and

N. A boardwalk along the waterfront.

The boardwalk option was the clear choice, 76%, of all three groups surveyed.

SECTION 2 VILLAGE (1992)

In 1992, the Village of Clayton circulated a visual preference survey to the residents of the village. Of the people returning the survey, the largest percentage was between the ages of 30 and 64 with the 64^{+} age group following.

Areas of the Village which were liked:	**Areas of the Village which need continued improvement:**
small town look;	overhead power lines;
the parks;	increased parking;
people;	increased dock facilities;
river;	signage;
waterfront;	riverside of the commercial area;
municipal facilities;	breakwater;
historic nature.	need for more marinas; and
	the overall seasonality of the business in Clayton.

The residents stated that they would like to see commercial areas developed outside of the Village on East Line Rd, Graves St., or NYS Route. 12.

Unwanted Land Uses:	**Desirable Land Uses:**
heavy industry;	light industrial;
bars; and	retail shops; and
adult entertainment.	a beach.

The Frink Sno-Plow site has the most development potential. Suggested land uses include a hotel/resort, marina, public access point, restaurant or commercial venture, or park.

SECTION 3 TOWN AND VILLAGE OF CLAYTON RESIDENTS SURVEY (1995)

Of the people returning the survey, the largest percentage was between the ages of 30 and 64. Following this group was the 64^{+} group

Areas of the Village that were liked:

Small Town
River Scenery
The people/ friendliness
Services

Areas of the Village that need continued improvement:

Taxes
Lack of variety in grocery stores
Lack of municipal trash collection
No Mall

Things needed in the area:

Docking facilities
Restaurants/hotel/motel
Develop waterfront
Commercial development
Events/activities (all ages)
Smokeless industries

SECTION 4 MUNICIPAL BOARDS (1999)

The Town Board, Village Board, Joint Planning and Zoning Boards were given a survey in 1999 to gauge their opinions on the Community. These results will assist in developing Goals for the Clayton Comprehensive Plan.

1) **What will your community look like in the future if current development trends continue?**

The feeling from the surveys was that there would not be a drastic change from what Clayton looks like now. There would be a continued increase in residential development.

2) **Is there a strong need for economic revitalization in the community?**

The majority of respondents stated that there is a need.

Professional community development talent and a master plan is a good starting point for moderate yet sustained revitalization.

Local industry or manufacturing that will give residents the chance at good year round employment with good benefits.

3) **Are there competing ideas about the location of future development in the community?**

There does not seem to be major competing ideas.

There are common goals to achieve but also some competition as to how to do this.

4) **What types of development are desirable for your community?**

Tourism Related
Resort (Hotel, Marina associated activities)
Light industry
Waterfront (cruise ship and tourism) public dockage
Year round activities.
Manufacturing, the area has always responded well by supplying labor, utilities, and administrative needs.

5) **Is the community experiencing rapid or haphazard growth?**

The consensus is that there is not rapid or haphazard growth occurring. There is progressive growth.

6) **Is there a need for housing? What types?**

Senior Housing and current housing are in line with needs. With the increased economy, individual homes could be encouraged with a mix of multi-dwelling needed for lower wage earners.

There is a need for Hotel, Motel, Bed and Breakfast accommodations.

7) **Is strip development destroying the special character of your community?**

The majority stated that this is not occurring.

8) **Are the open space resources of the community being developed or preserved?**

A majority of the respondents stated that they felt that the open space resources are being developed and preserved.

9) **Is there access to natural and recreational resources in your community?**

The respondents overwhelmingly felt that there is access but that this is an area that needs to be continually reviewed.

10) **Are new buildings conforming to the architectural character of your community?**

The general opinion of the respondents is yes but there is a need to study this issue.

11) **Are there abandoned industrial sites which would be desirable to develop to enhance waterfront or downtown areas?**

Graphic Controls site
Old Mercer site
Riverside Drive from where Mc Cormicks was to Mary Street.
Old Kittle Motors site
Frink Park

SECTION 5 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: (1992)

In 1992 the Clayton Chamber of Commerce performed its own survey about the tourism and informational packets sent out. The predominant age group answering this survey was the 65+ age group. This survey was not sent to residents but to travelers to the area. It is interesting as an information tool providing a different point of view.

There was an even split of people who visited Clayton for a long vacation and those who went for just a few days. Half of the surveys received indicated they decided to go to Clayton while the other half went somewhere else.

Of the people who visited Clayton, 24 % were most interested in staying in moderately priced accommodations. Only 2% of the people returning the survey were looking for a luxurious hotel.

The survey also questioned people about the reasons that they travel to Clayton. The most common response was to auto tour the area. This was followed (in order) by fishing with one's own boat, swimming/diving, use of nature trails, dock fishing, picnicking and hiking. Overall, people felt that their vacation was not strictly planned but rather done on a spontaneous basis depending upon what they felt like doing each day. "Package Vacations" were not seen as being either widely used or liked by the respondents.

Overall, the people of Clayton and the tourists seem to like the "small town" feel of Clayton. They are happy and impressed with the services and facilities available, but at the same time they would like to see more commercial and waterfront development. Also, development of the Frink Park property was identified as an area in need of development. With a few additions to the commercial aspect of Clayton while keeping the "small town" feeling, the needs of the community could easily be met.

PART THREE - GOALS & STRATEGIES

A. GOAL: **Maintain Small Town/Village/Hamlet atmosphere.**

STRATEGIES:

1. Improve sidewalks and streets to allow for better and easier pedestrian traffic.

2. Amend zoning to allow for small business in residential areas.

3. Form a Community Improvement Committee to advise and recommend changes in building appearances to maintain the historic theme.

4. Encourage the renovation and use of the Opera House to allow for entertainment within walking distance.

5. Continue support for the area museums to maintain cultural opportunities within the community.

6. Continue maintenance and improve local parks, Lion's Field, Village Square, potential for gazebos at the Village Square and Depauville Park.

7. Continue support and search for ways to upgrade the police, ambulance and fire departments in the area to maintain a safe atmosphere.

8. Research ways to amend zoning to limit potential commercial sprawl on arterials to maintain the downtown commercial area as an attraction. Control mega stores and adult entertainment.

9. Create, expand and improve recreational trail systems for hiking, biking, snowmobiling and atvs.

10. Develop a volunteer program for residents to assist the community above what the government staff can provide.

11. Develop closer ties between the schools and the different citizen age groups in the community.

12. Continue support of agriculture and rural atmosphere.

B. GOAL: **Promote Tourism**

STRATEGIES:

1. Provide additional parking in the downtown area.

2. Continue development of the Frink Park waterfront.

3. Develop Centennial Park waterfront for improved public use.

4. Provide additional dockage downtown to make Clayton easily accessible for boaters visiting for the day from the region.

5. Provide additional short term, overnight dockage. Study expanding the Mary Street dock.

6. Form a Committee to develop recommendations for color schemes and encourage the improvement of the general appearance of homes and businesses.

7. Expand advertising base to expose untapped areas to the beauty of the region.

8. Promote special events in all seasons. Try to bring an annual competition to the area to attract people.

9. Attract a permanent tour boat line, and make Clayton a convenient stop for tour boat visitors.

10. Attract cruise ships to stop at Clayton.

11. Advertise Clayton as a Family Destination and part of a larger region.

12. Promote new hotel/motel to offer more opportunities for overnight stays.

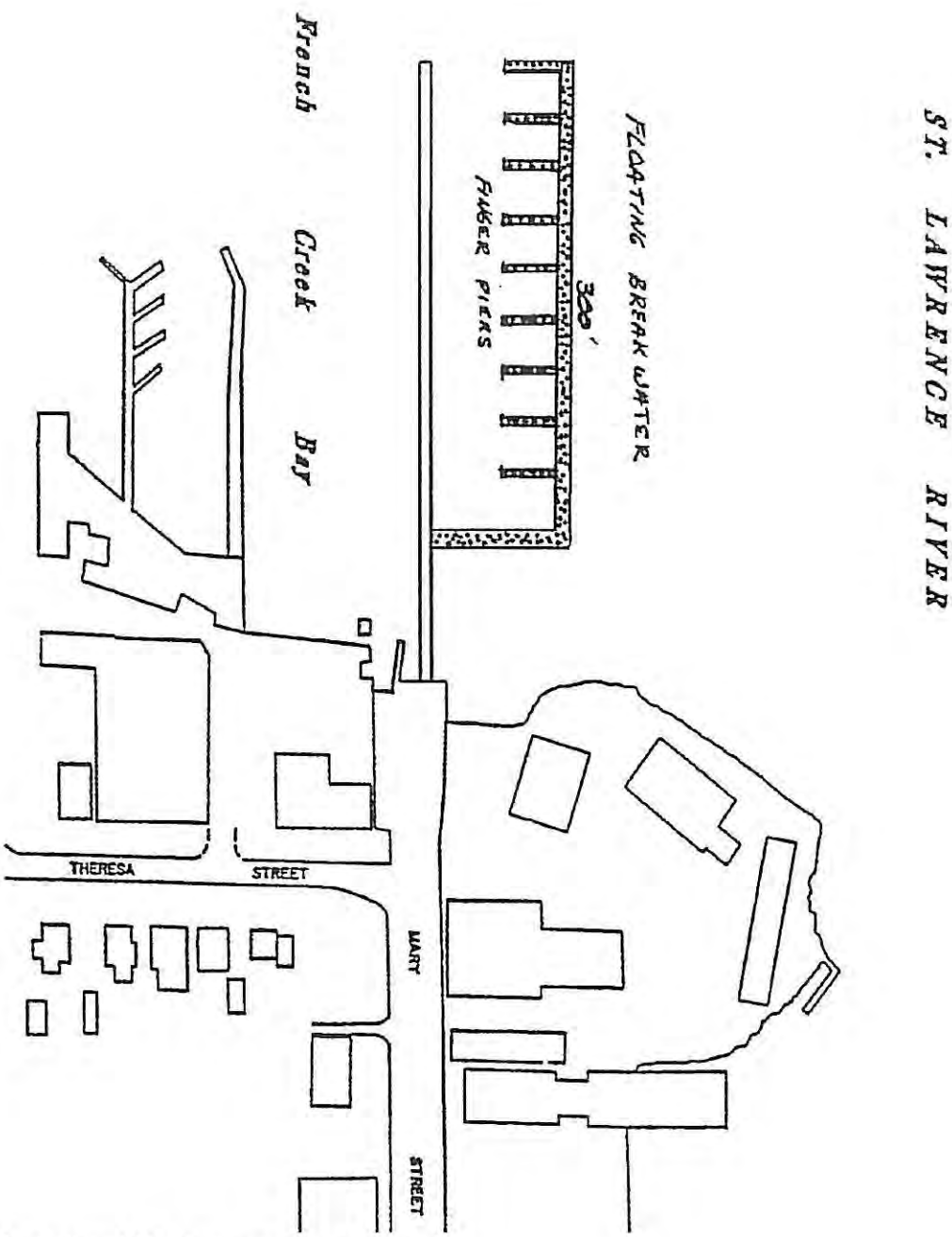
13. Research need for additional public boat launch parking area.

14. Offer a workshop in local history for those who deal with the public to be able to answer questions tourists may have.

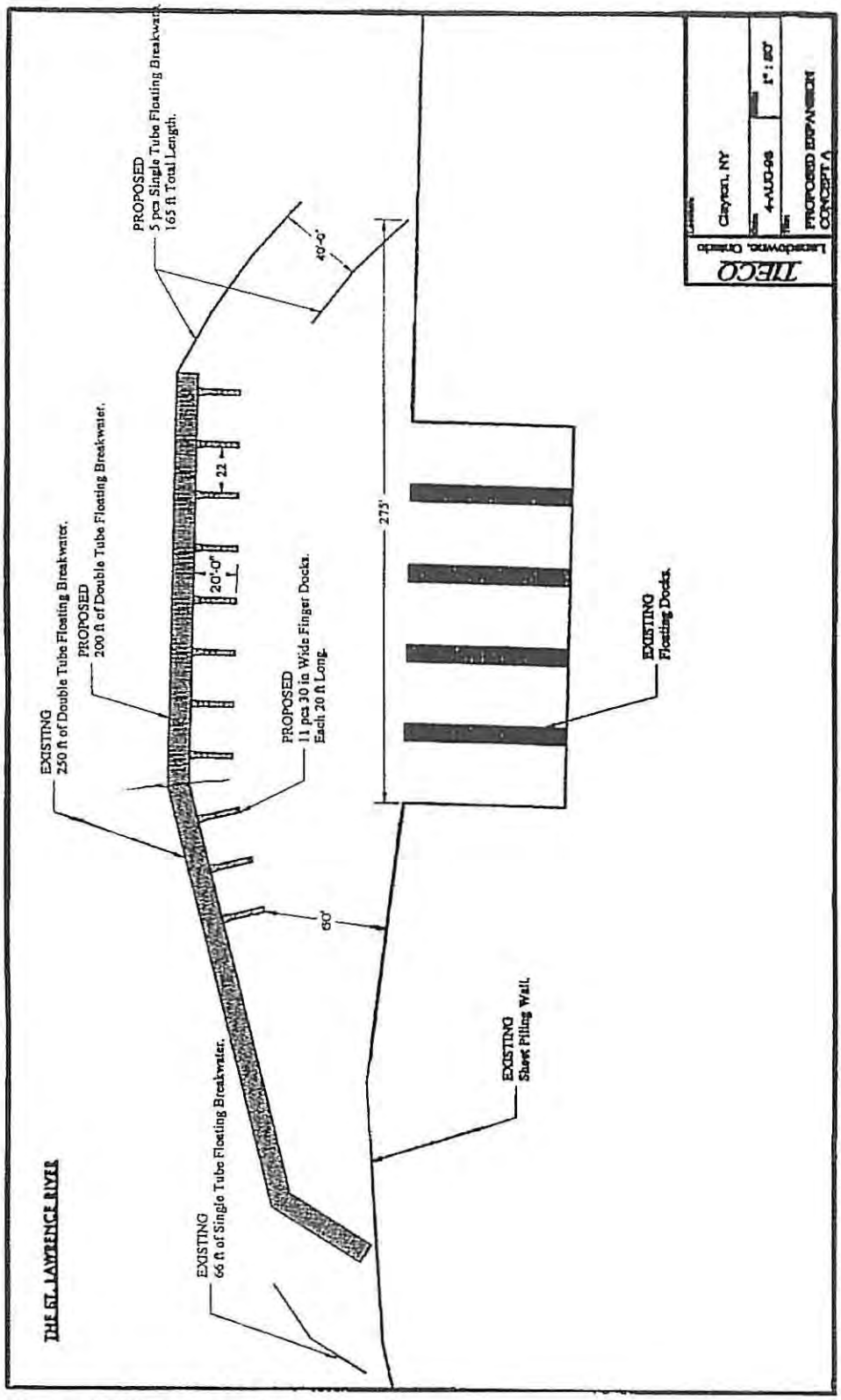
15. Evaluate signage and develop ways to make informational signs more user friendly to visitors.

16. Encourage appropriate waterfront marine development.

Photo 6 - Mary Street Dock, 2000.

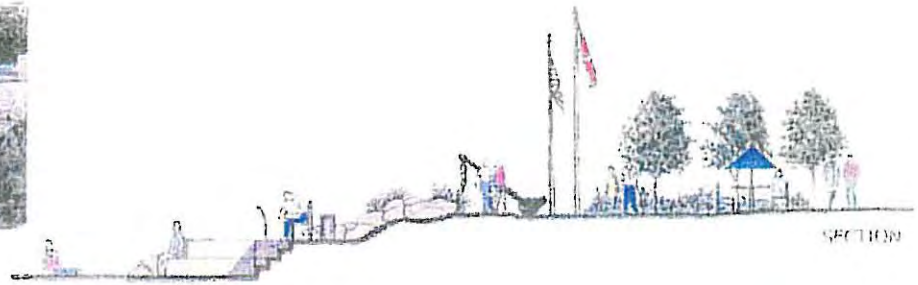


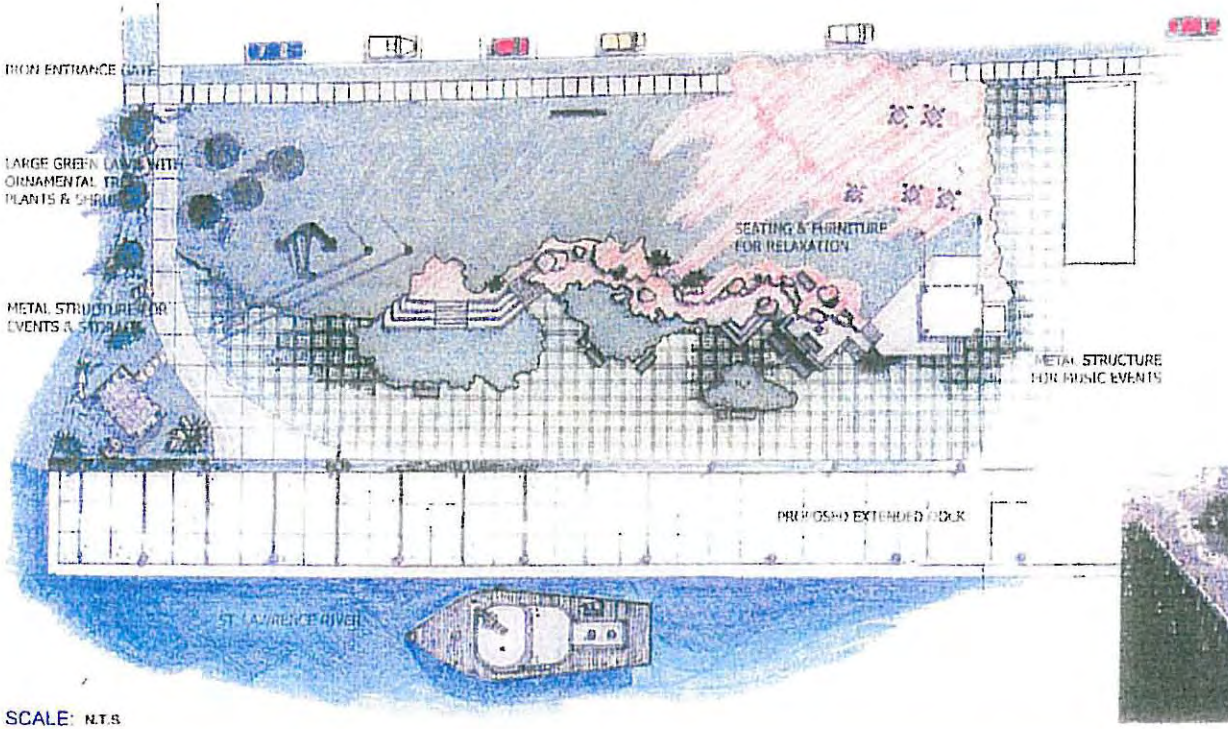
Mary Street Dock expansion proposal.

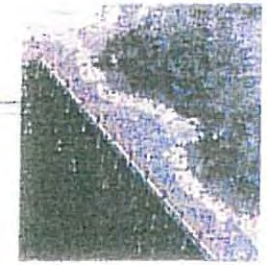


Memorial Park expansion proposal

Photo 7 - Memorial Park dock, 2000.







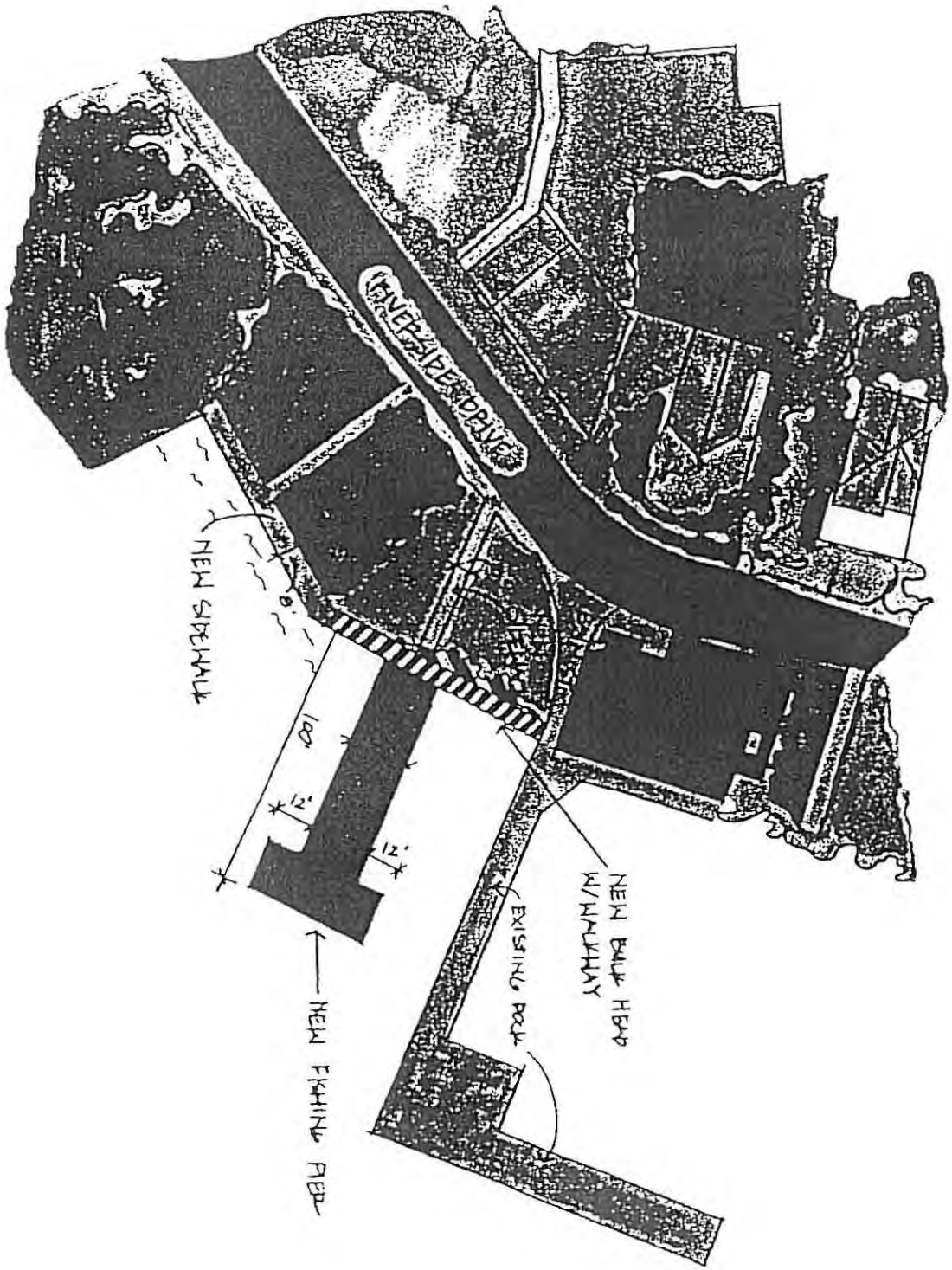
SCALE: N.T.S

PORT OF CLAYTON

PLAN VIEW

FRINK PARK CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

C & S Engineers, Inc.
Environmental Design & Research, P.C.



Centennial Park Dock Proposal.

C. GOAL: **Promote smokeless industries**

STRATEGIES:

1. Form professional search committee to encourage new small businesses to relocate to the area.

2. Improve public relations to sell Clayton as a place to work and live.

3. Encourage Town / Village to seek funding to purchase the Frink property to rezone and attract developers.

4. Encourage Tele-communication and High-Tech businesses to relocate to the area.

5. Explore areas of the Village / Town for future expansion of water and sewer to encourage development.

D. GOAL: **Encourage educational opportunities**

STRATEGIES:

1. Encourage the concept and development of distance learning.

2. Survey businesses to determine what types of employee training would benefit them.

3. Provide and encourage support for the area libraries, museums and schools.

4. Encourage student involvement in community growth, development, operation and governance.

E. GOAL **Encourage improved efficiency of Local Government**

STRATEGIES

1. Form a Committee to research the possibility and consequences of combining the Town and Village governments into one entity to improve efficiency. Also look into the benefits of a system where an Administrator is hired by the Board to manage the municipality.