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RESOURCE USE ISSUES
AND
THE PLANNING PROCESS

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Proceedings of
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and
The Extension Public Policy Committee

Second Northeast Extension Seminar
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FOREWORD

This publication represents a collection of papers which were presented before the Second Northeast Extension Seminar of The Northeast Regional Committees. The conference, which was held in Boston, October 11-13, 1966, explored the topic of "Resource Use Issues and the Planning Process."

The seminar was attended by professionals in rural and urban planning, economics, and sociology; landscape architects; educators, agricultural agents; and extension specialists in forestry and wildlife, area development, and public affairs.

Included in this publication are all papers which were presented before the four committees and those presented before the Northeast Regional Extension Public Policy Committee. They represent current thinking in the field of resource use and planning.

Much guidance and support was given by Henry M. Hansen of the University of Connecticut, and Joseph Ackerman and R. J. Hildreth of the Farm Foundation to the Boston Conference and the publication of the papers presented there. Financial costs were underwritten by the Farm Foundation and the Institute for Research on Land and Water Resources of The Pennsylvania State University.

Finally, we salute Jack Brown and Carroll D. Price, II who devoted many hours to the editing of this compilation of papers.

John C. Frey, Chairman
Northeast Regional
Extension Public
Policy Committee

RESOURCE INVENTORY AND EVALUATION--NANTUCKET
(by Carl A. Carlozzi)

DISCUSSION

by John H. Hunter*

Mr. Carlozzi gave an enthusiastic and knowledgeable description of a unique resource planning project. Since the study area was confined to Nantucket Island, it gave the opportunity to make a depth study in an unusually well-defined, geographic area that was essentially isolated.

This is not a typical field condition, but it certainly lended well to a laboratory-technic approach in which the variables were somewhat definable.

Time was limited. yet the large commitment of research and Extension people made it possible to obtain maximum effectiveness from the study. Not only did the team effort make it possible to progress more rapidly, but the innerplay among the disciplines, all interacting simultaneously, certainly contributed much to broaden the spectrum of knowledge that was obtained during the brief survey period.

This is an important lesson for administrators as well as researchers and Extension workers to recognize. Too often our resource people -- either research or Extension oriented -- are spread too thinly to obtain any effective or noticeable results. More attention has to be given to saturating a study project with a maximum personnel input. The dissipation of our staff force in the attempt to serve everyone should be carefully reviewed. This project shows the advantages of a concentrated effort.

The use of fine charts, which described the inventory and focused attention on problem areas, points out, very well, the need for visual presentation of study materials. The same material presented in text or tables may have been completely ineffectual. By using overlays to show the

* Mr. Hunter is specialist in Agricultural Policy, Cooperative Extension Service, Rutgers University.

alternatives, the need for more effective planning was readily grasped by the audience. A good choice of symbolization and the simplicity of the chart work were particularly notable.

Credit should be given, and the role of the University and its Extension arm should be recognized as an effective medium for developing community consideration of its own problems. In this study, the shift from a disinterested viewpoint by Nantucket citizens to a change (if not agreement) in attitude toward the development of their community bears adequate testimony to the possibilities of the University in reaching practical solutions to community needs.

This is a most interesting project which would bear consideration from [the standpoint of] both method and content by research and Extension personnel working in the field of Resource Development.