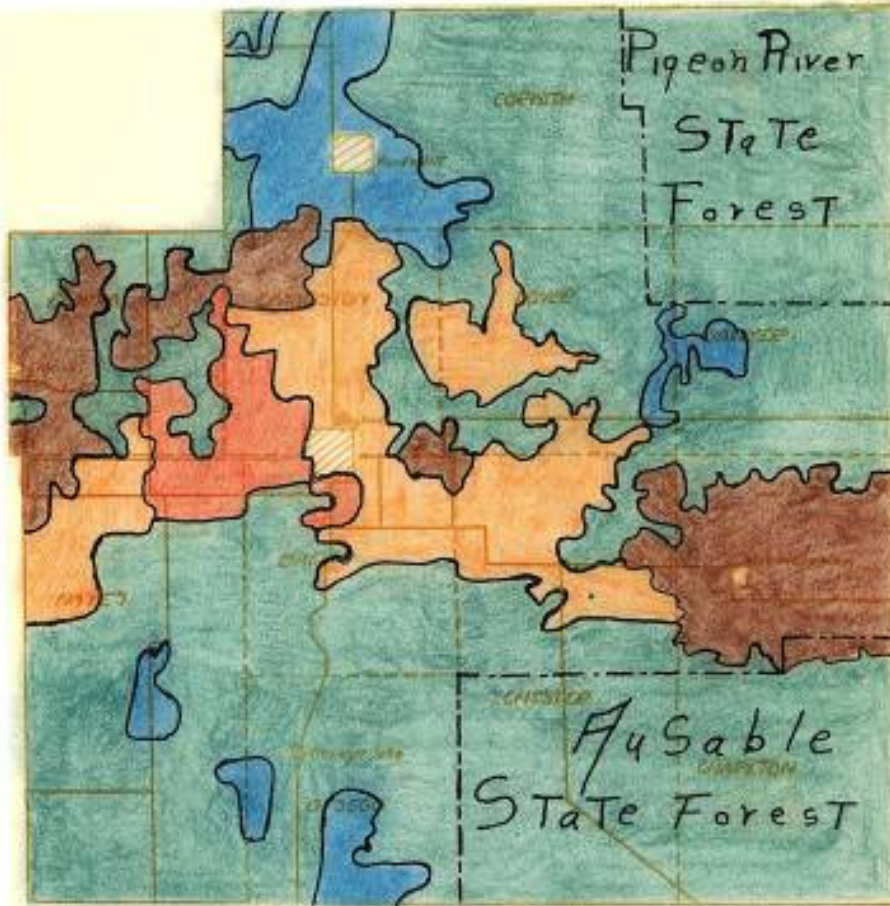


Community Development



SUMMARY OF LAND USE MAP PREPARED BY COUNTY PLANNING COMMITTEE -- 1938

- Brown** – Adapted to agriculture. Best farm land in county.
- Orange** – Adapted to agriculture but has disadvantages of hills or less durable soils in comparison with brown area
- Blue** – Adapted to agriculture but less desirable than orange area
- Red** – Principally in agricultural uses at present. Questionable if this area can continue as profitable farm land on a long term basis
- Green** – Non-farm land. Generally unadapted for agricultural uses

Land Use Planning: The 1938 map in the left column was the county's first comprehensive effort in land use planning. A study tour was conducted to assess current and potential uses for agriculture, fish and game, forestry, scenic beauty, and resort services and accommodations.

1939: "Otsego County in Retrospect and Prospect: Its assets and the possibilities afforded" by County Extension Director Arthur Glidden and the Otsego County Planning Commission was published.

1967: "The programs and activities conducted under this heading (planning and zoning) probably affect more people directly and indirectly now and in the future than any other program with which the Extension office is associated."

Landscaping

1943: Extension specialist O. I. Gregg conducted landscaping demonstrations on the county court yard and the yards of three private homes. We do not know just how this will "take" but we have hopes - the county can stand plenty of it. Future landscaping projects for a church in Gaylord and the Fairview Cemetery were planned.

Tourist and Resort: As early as the 1924 annual report, tourism was recognized as an excellent opportunity for development and a way to compensate for the loss of the lumber industry. Campus specialists conducted several workshops and conferences during the 1940s – 60s.

1984: The first district extension tourism agent in the United States, Phil Alexander, was hired and stationed in Otsego County.

Leadership Development: Extension has a long history of programs related to leadership development. It is a pillar of 4-H and Home Economics efforts. In 1998, Extension conducted a six part series titled "Expanding Horizons". Currently, Extension plays an active role in Leadership Otsego County sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Elder Friendly Community: Recognizing the impact and value of the increasing number of retirees, Extension partnered with the Otsego County Commission on Aging to become the first in the state to pilot test this new initiative focused on creating a community for a lifetime.