

CINCINNATI OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER
PROPOSAL TO THE
UNITED STATES ROWING ASSOCIATION
DECEMBER MEETING, 1984

- I. BACKGROUND -- The regional center concept -- it will work!
- II. THE CINCINNATI PROPOSAL.
- * To find jobs for at least six athletes by June 1985 -- if they are identified and available for interviews by March 1985.
 - * To find jobs for at least six additional athletes by June 1986.
 - * To fund \$10,000 of a \$20,000 annual salary for a rowing coordinator to serve as coach for these athletes through the 1988 games. We believe this salary level is an absolute necessity to attract an individual with the skill and stability required for this program.
 - * To provide operating funds, gas expenses for attending domestic regattas, etc., plus new rowing and training equipment, excellent storage facilities, videotape and other coaching aides and, for moral support, as enthusiastic a group of young coaches and high school and college athletes as exist in the country.
 - * We request that the U.S.R.A. fund the other half of the rowing coordinator's salary, i.e., \$10,000/year for the first three years of operation -- through the 1988 games.
- III. THE CINCINNATI RECORD -- SPORTS DEVELOPMENT.
- A. College Football Hall of Fame.
 - B. Rowing.
 - C. The 1988 Cincinnati Bicentennial.
- IV. THE SYNERGISM -- THE PEOPLE AND THE PLACE.

MAY 20, 1985

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S PRESS SECRETARY

GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES EAST FORK IMPROVEMENTS

Governor Richard F. Celeste today announced the State Controlling Board has approved a \$40,000 request from the Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to purchase a 2,000-meter, Olympic-specification rowing course and dock system at East Fork State Park in Clermont County.

"These improvements will strengthen our case to bring the Olympic rowing trials to the Greater Cincinnati area to coincide with the Cincinnati Bicentennial celebration in 1988," Governor Celeste said.

East Fork State Park already has been approved as an Olympic training site.

The rowing course and dock system will be installed in time for the Cincinnati Regatta on June 15, Governor Celeste said. U.S. Rowing Association officials will attend the Regatta to review the facilities for possible selection as the Olympic trials site.

"The selection of East Fork for the Olympic trials would attract thousands of visitors to the Cincinnati area and bring national recognition to Ohio and its state parks," Governor Celeste said.

"We will work aggressively with the local chambers of commerce, the Greater Cincinnati Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Clermont County Convention and Visitors Bureau, local business groups and the Cincinnati Bicentennial Committee in promoting East Fork as the Olympic trials site."

Governor Celeste noted that the Cincinnati Regatta has enjoyed increased popularity in the past three years. "The Cincinnati Regatta is quickly becoming one of the premier amateur sports attractions in the state," Governor Celeste said, noting that attendance at this year's event should exceed 20,000 people.

The Regatta also has received national publicity and once again will be televised by ESPN, the national all-sports cable television network.

For additional information, contact: Brian Usher/Debra Phillips, Governor's Press Office (614) 466-5034, or, Steve Fought, ODNR Public Information (614) 265-6796.

**A Water
Sports Center
at East Fork**



**An Olympic
Opportunity
for
Cincinnati
Youth**

A WATER SPORTS CENTER AT EAST FORK

AN OLYMPIC OPPORTUNITY FOR CINCINNATI'S YOUNG PEOPLE

The Olympic Water Sports of Paddling and Rowing

In July of 1984, after an absence of more than 50 years, the summer Olympics return to the United States. One of the largest contingents going to Los Angeles will be the men's and women's rowing and paddling teams -- almost 100 strong. Although they are as native to Ohio's waters as Tecumseh, these sports have not been generally available to Ohio's young people. That is why we are all here.

Boat racing probably originated with the building of the second reed boat or dugout canoe in prehistory. The temptation to test it against the original must have been irresistible. It is easy to imagine our Stone Age ancestors churning across the river or around the point side by side exhilarated by this test of strength and skill. Although there have been many improvements in equipment and style, the basic spirit of these sports is unchanged.

Since the founding of the modern Olympic games 113 American members of our rowing and paddling teams have brought home Olympic gold medals signifying their triumphs. Generations of Americans shared the pride we felt in our Olympic hockey team, when Americans, from brick layers to college students, overcame their own limitations to achieve Olympic gold. Until the middle 1960's Americans had great reason for pride in these teams.

Then, infusions of government money in European countries greatly broadened the base of sports in these countries. American athletes, competing with men and women selected from pools many times as large as theirs, found themselves supremely challenged.

To America, interest renewed in its children's fitness and pride, this is a challenge worth taking up. All that is required for our young people, to permit them to learn and grow, is facilities and equipment -- in short -- opportunity. Building for our young people is truly in keeping with the motto of the Corps of Engineers -- "Building Today For Tomorrow". Spirit, strength, water skills, confidence, an appreciation for their natural heritage and surroundings, all are capacities worth building. They are all inherent in these sports.

Why A "Center"?

There are three principal reasons that water sports centers have been built around the world:

(1) The shells, canoes, and kayaks used in these sports, while relatively sturdy, are up to 60' long. They are not truly portable and must be stored near the water where they are used.

(2) These sports require endurance. They are also basically team sports. Training against and with others is critical to success and so teams practice together side by side often racing and testing each other over various distances.

(3) Competitions require places for teams to store their equipment, change clothes and launch their boats. Centers are constructed near racing courses all over the world to provide this base for competition.

Why East Fork?

The Lake itself is uniquely suited to water sports. It has well sheltered straight away courses with enough distance for all Olympic and youth events. It also has over four and one-half miles of training range -- all in a wooded, natural setting. The attached map of the Lake illustrates some of these advantages.

Also, the Clermont County Lake is on the developing outskirts of a metropolitan suburban area from which experienced men and women for initial support, as well as youth participants, will be drawn. There are more than 100 former or present participants in these sports, 31 high schools, 5 college campuses and many youth organizations within a short commuting radius of East Fork.

Finally, the Cincinnati area is in the midst of a burgeoning development of these sports in the midwest. College programs providing logical next steps for area youth with a developed interest in these sports as well as competitors for college athletes training at East Fork exist at Ohio State, Marietta, Notre Dame, Purdue, Michigan, Michigan State, Washburn, Wayne State, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Grand Valley, West Virginia, Kansas, Kansas State, Missouri, Chicago, Iowa, Wichita State, Oklahoma State and Creighton. Club programs here would find competition with Atlanta Rowing Club, Detroit Boat Club, Ecorse Rowing Club (Michigan), Charleston Rowing Club, Chicago Boat Club, Duluth Rowing Club, Knoxville Rowing Association, Lookout Rowing Club (Chattanooga, Tennessee), Minneapolis Rowing Club, Minnesota Boat Club, Monongahela Rowing Club (Morgantown, West Virginia), Ohio Valley Rowing Club (Parkersburg, West Virginia), Topeka Rowing Association, West Side Rowing Club of Buffalo, Wichita Rowing Association, and Wyandott Boat Club (Wyandott, Michigan). Next year races are

scheduled at Columbus and Dayton, Ohio, Chicago, Illinois, Waterloo, Iowa, Madison, Wisconsin, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Parkersburg, West Virginia, all a day's trip from Cincinnati.

What Do We Need To Do?

FIRST: To construct a Center approximately 40'-60' by 80'-100' for lockers, showers and storage space. Possibly this will fit in with the marina to be constructed by the Corps in 1982 on the southeast shore of the Lake. The advantages of multiple use such as storage flexibility, construction cost savings, and security make this an attractive possibility. Perhaps modeled on existing European examples, the Corps could construct a building which has both the utility of multiple use and compatibility with its natural surroundings. Some xeroxed photographs of similar facilities, one in Belgium, one in Rhode Island are attached. They give some idea of what we propose.

SECOND: With the Center construction committed, it needs to be equipped appropriately for youth development. A modular approach, featuring identical low maintenance fiberglass boats would mean that sponsoring organizations could train and compete on very low budgets. Two coxed four-quads, two pair-doubles, two singles and two "workboats" would provide a "module" for youth rowing. Two K-1's, two K-2's, two C-1's and two C-2's would provide a module for paddling training. A detailed description of rowing and paddling equipment is attached to help you visualize how this modular approach developed. This selection of equipment would permit organizations to sponsor "teams" from one individual to 30 men or women. The teams could train and race with each other in identical boats without traveling at all in their formative periods.

All of this equipment will be available for the opening season of the Center -- purchased totally from private resources to be raised by the non-profit corporation to be established.

THIRD: With appropriate approval, a tax-exempt Ohio non-profit corporation will be established to coordinate use by sponsoring organizations, to hold competitions and to raise the required funds for start-up equipment. We are willing to undertake this, again from private resources.

Final Words

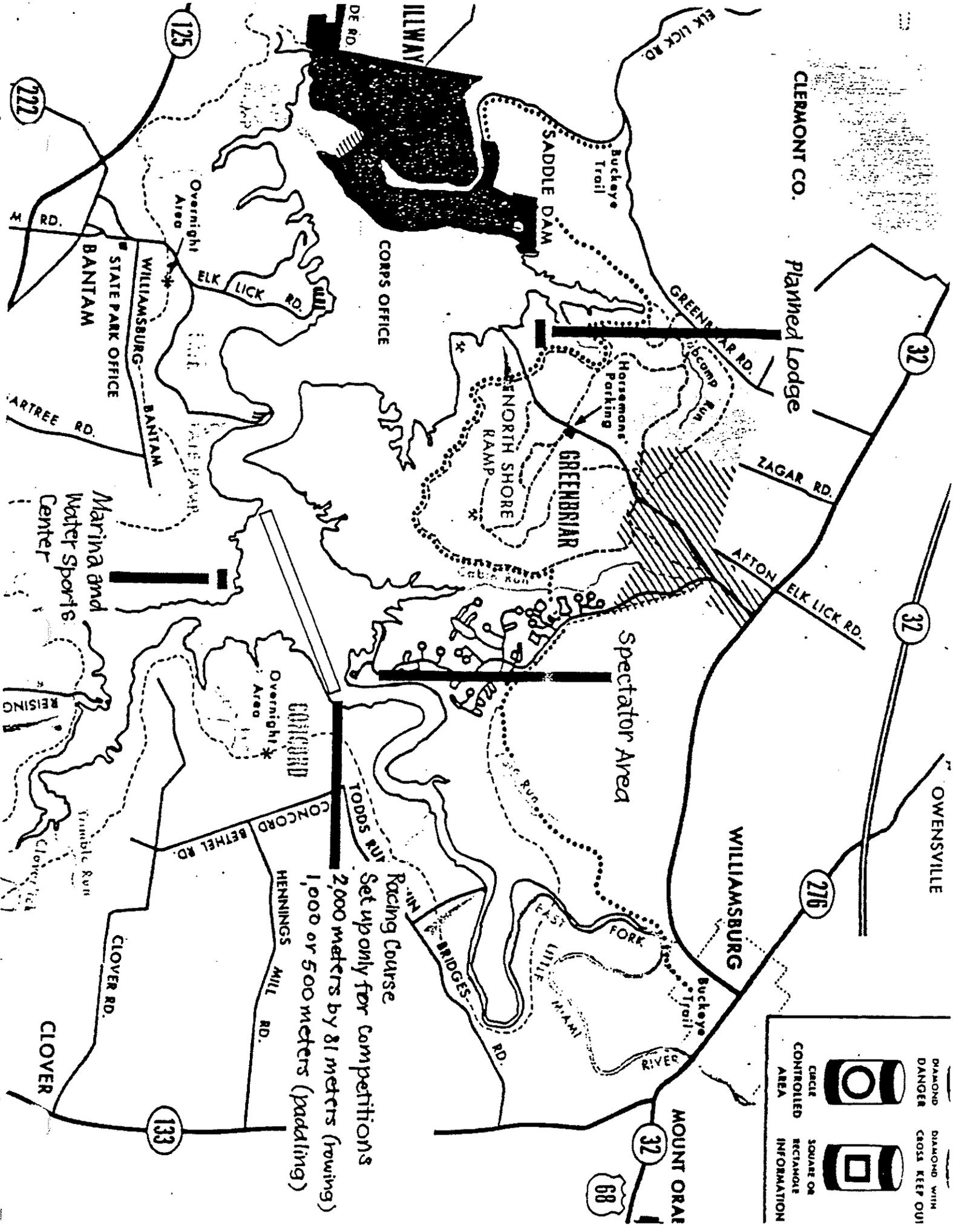
"Here, finally, is a sport that builds and develops young bodies instead of tearing them down, that truly builds character by promoting the idea of giving something instead of taking. . .where the win-at-all-costs philosophy that is so dear to the hearts of so many coaches is replaced by a spirit of

accepting the joys and excitement of being pitted against an opponent as good or better, with the knowledge that there is no disgrace in losing if each has given everything to the last second, the last inch. . .there are no losers when young people have a chance to test themselves against their peers in a manner that gives each a better understanding of himself and how he or she will meet the test of demanding competition."

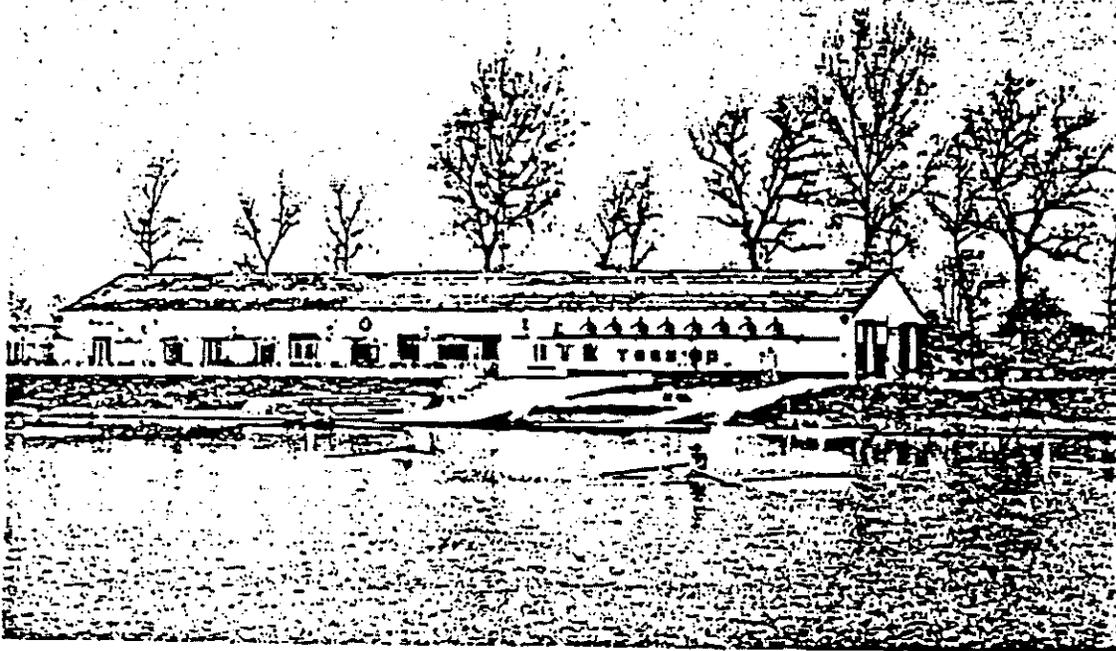
Dennis Kamrad

"What is there in the universe more fascinating than running water, and the possibility of moving over it? What better image of existence and possible triumph?"

Santayana



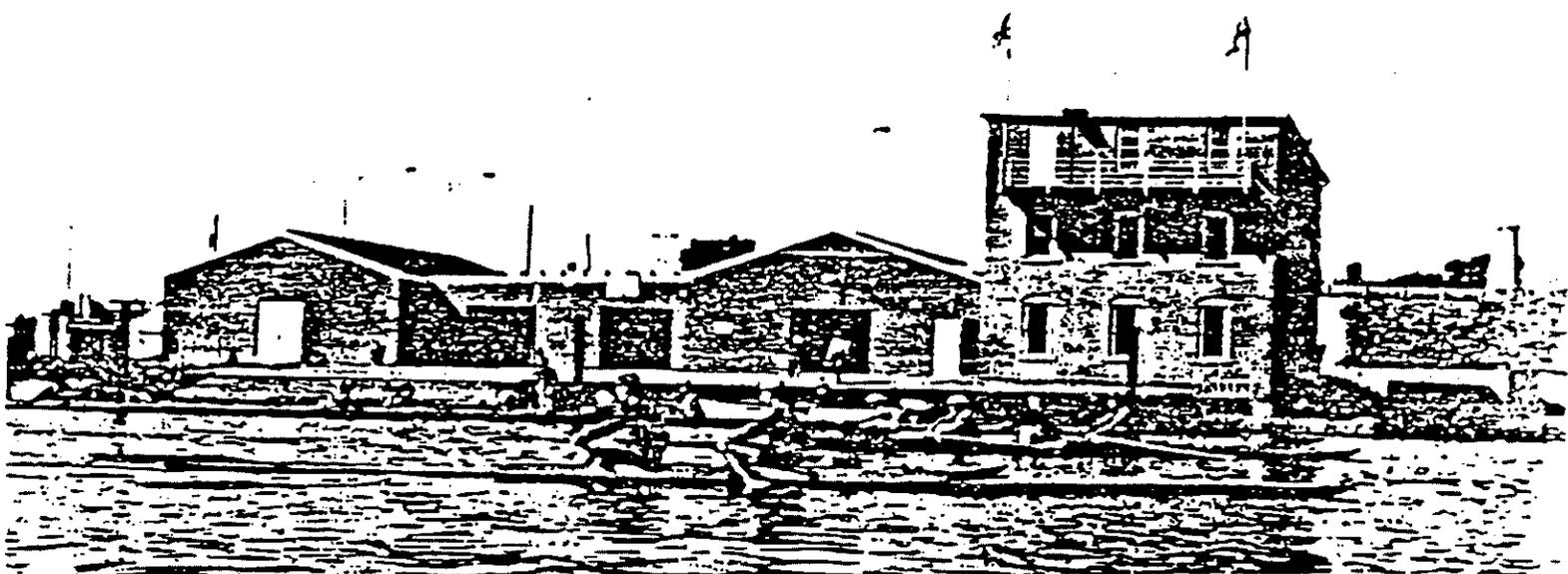
Racing Course
 Set up only for competitions
 2,000 meters by 81 meters (rowing)
 1,000 or 500 meters (paddling)



YOUTH ROWING CLUB

Brugge, Belgium

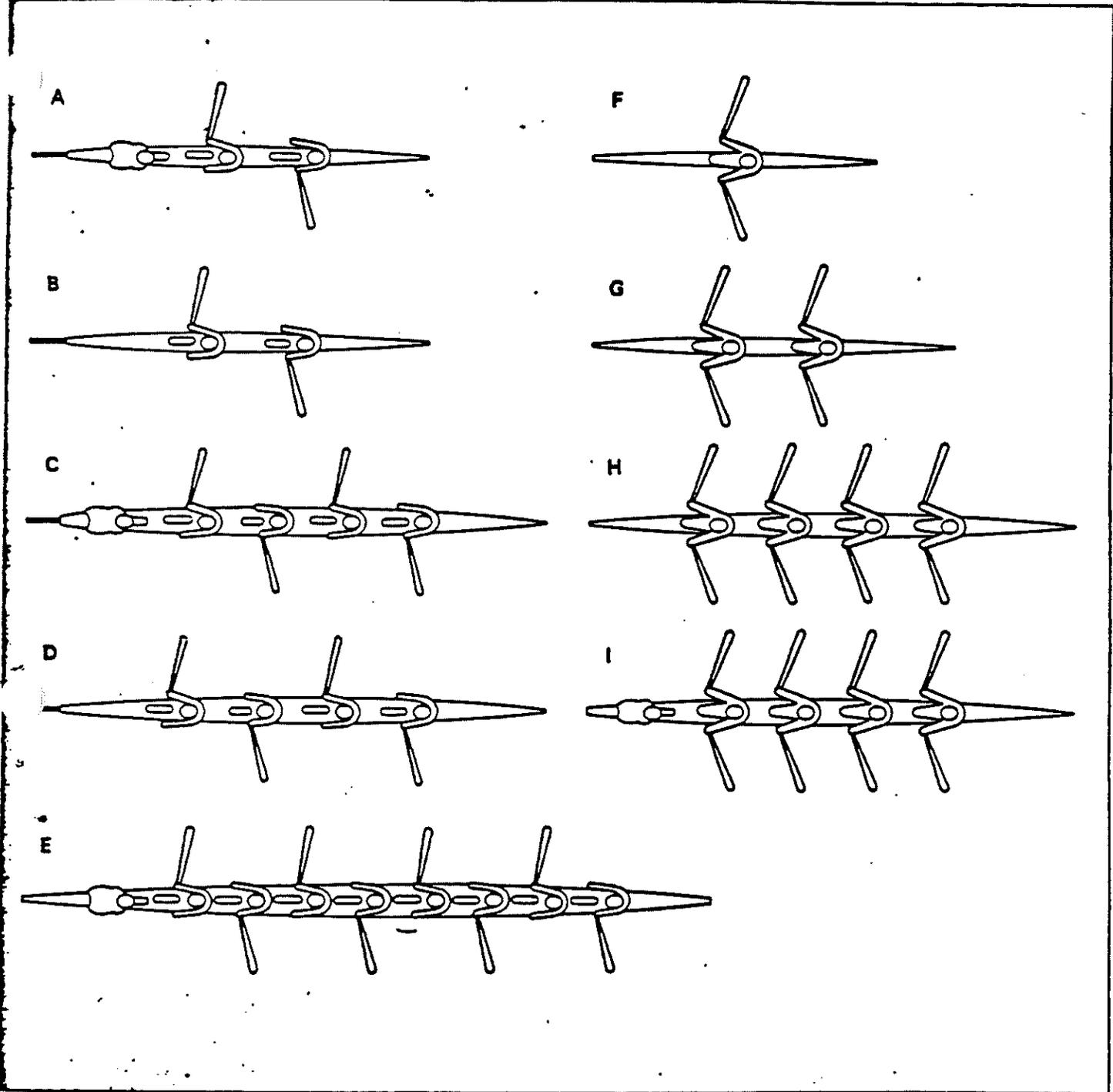
This facility combines a restaurant and recreation functions with youth training. It was used as the European training site for both American men's and youth rowing teams this summer



BROWN UNIVERSITY BOAT HOUSE

Providence, Rhode Island

This facility combines a recreation function with college training.



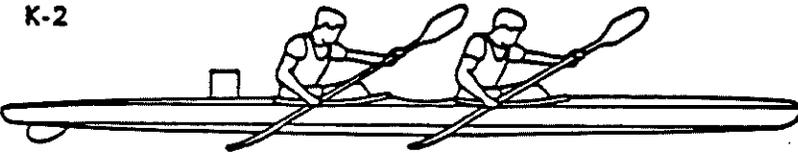
- A pair with coxswain
- B pair without coxswain
- C four with coxswain
- D four without coxswain
- E eight
- F single sculls
- G double sculls
- H quadruple sculls without coxswain (men)
- I quadruple sculls with coxswain (women)

Canoeing

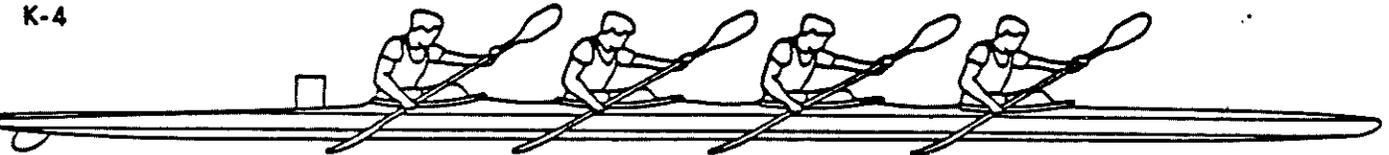
K-1



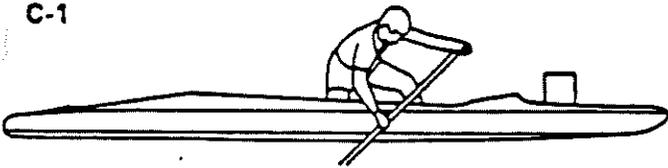
K-2



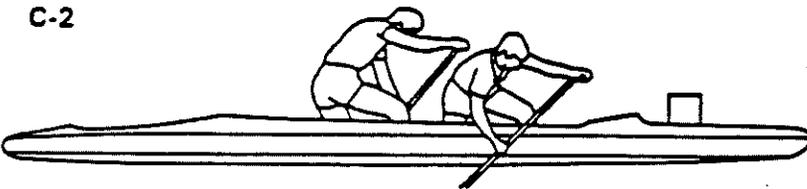
K-4



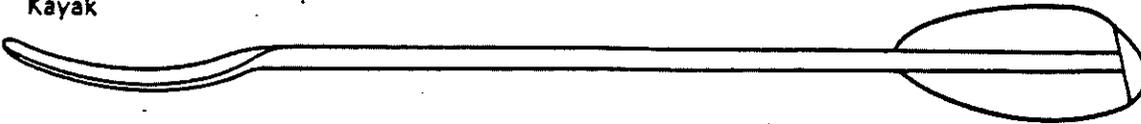
C-1



C-2



Kayak



Canoe

