## VI. ISSUES

### A. USE OF COMMUNITY PUBLIC FACILITIES

**Former Loch Raven Elementary School**

In August, 1987, Loch Raven Village surveyed the neighborhood (Appendix I) to assess the residents' suggestions toward the future use of the former Loch Raven Elementary School. Approximately 800 (54%) Loch Raven Village households responded to the survey. The seven uses, in order of preference, are listed below:

1. Public Elementary School
2. Senior Citizens Center
3. Baltimore County Recreation Activities
4. Community Center
5. Adult Education Center
6. Tiny Tots Co-op
7. Baltimore County Recreation Offices

In addition to the preferences listed above, some possible uses, which would require a working relationship with Baltimore County government, are:

1. maintaining the playing fields for both open space and recreational use.

2. seeking uses of this facility that are/will be compatible with Loch Raven Village. Such uses could include expanding the current senior center and day care, establishing a community center, or establishing a neighborhood recycling center. Potential uses will need to consider the parking needs and spatial physical requirements.

3. establishing a Loch Raven Village community garden to be maintained by the Association (perhaps in the island area in front of school).

In conjunction with maintaining this property, consideration should be given to maintaining the wooded lot that is between this property and the Loch Raven Public Library. This can be accomplished through the Loch Raven Village neighborhood association, through Baltimore County government or through a joint effort of both groups.

The Association will establish a Public Facilities Use Committee to meet with Baltimore County officials to address concerns and future issues involving this former school and other public facilities in the Loch Raven Village area.

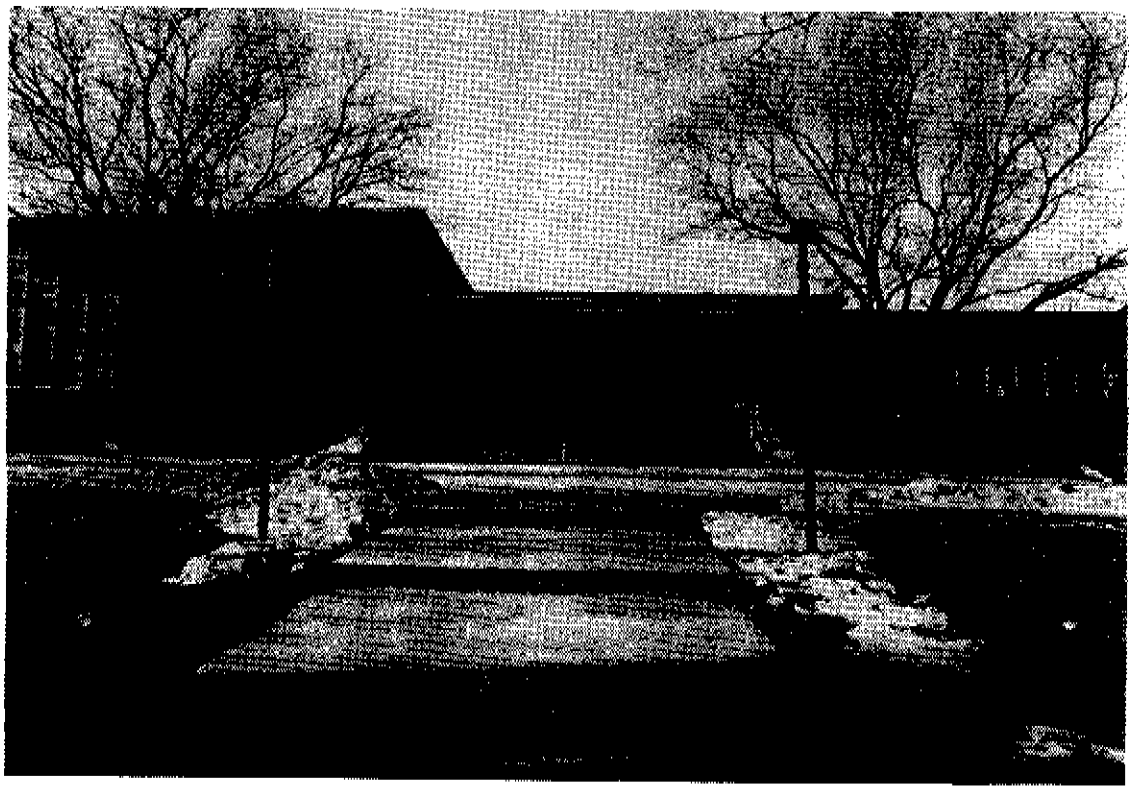
In September, 1990, the Association's Board of Directors passed a proposal to incorporate in Loch Raven Village's Annual Spring Clean-Up Day, the wooded area between the Loch Raven Public Library and the former Loch Raven Elementary School.

## Public Schools

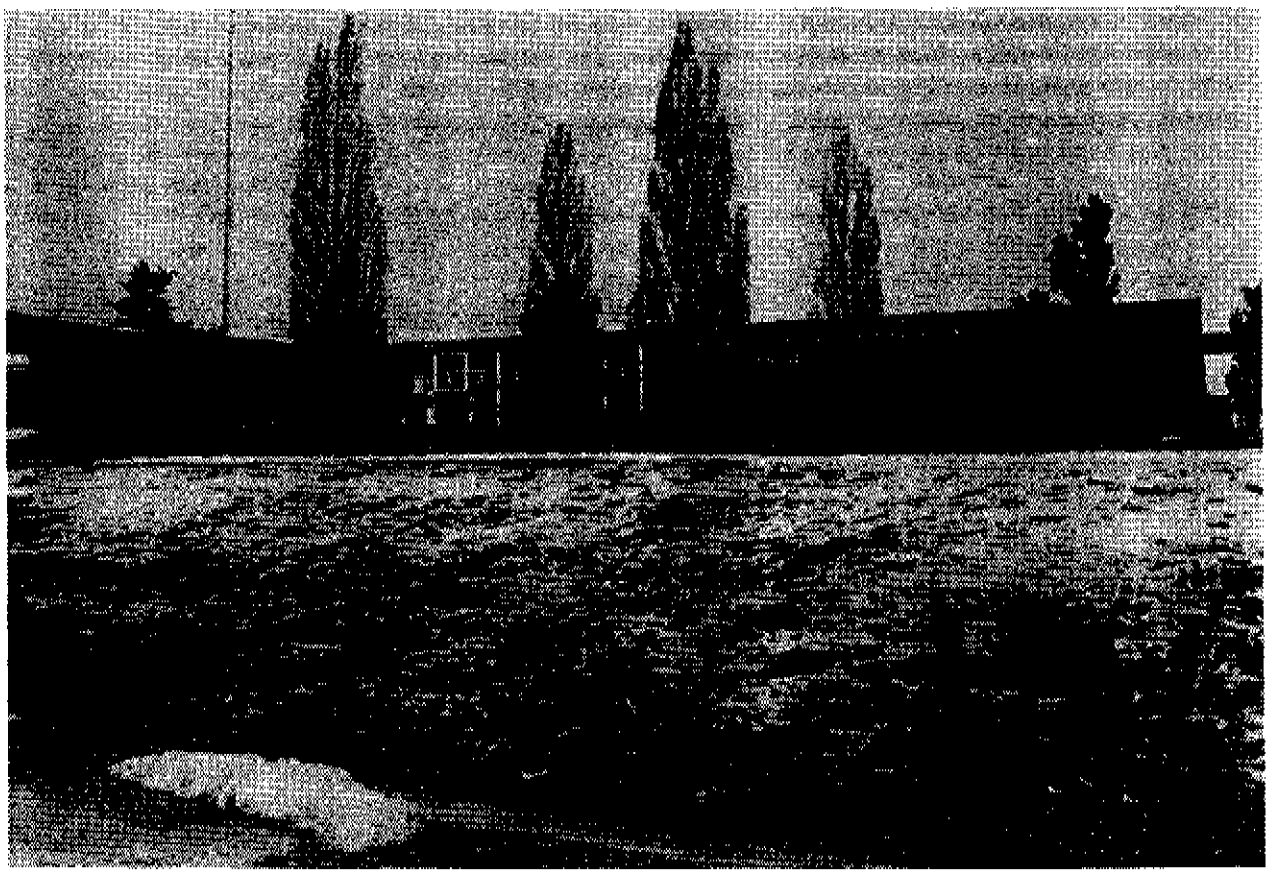
As Loch Raven Village continues to attract young families, the school age population grows. The capacity of Pleasant Plains Elementary School (pictured below) is 638 children. The projected attendance in 1999 is 930 children (see Appendix J). As the enrollment exceeds the capacity, the service boundaries for this school may be redistricted, which could dictate children from portions of Loch Raven Village (i.e. east side of Loch Raven Blvd.) to attend a different elementary school. The Association desires to retain Pleasant Plains as the primary school for all elementary-age children in Loch Raven Village.

If the student population exceeds the capacity of Pleasant Plains Elementary School, the Association will actively support and encourage the Baltimore County Board of Education to seek and discuss alternatives to redistricting, such as: setting up trailers, setting up some classes (i.e. K thru Grade 3) in the former Loch Raven Elementary School or other appropriate action to retain the current school service area boundaries.

NOTE: During the course of developing this Plan for Loch Raven Village, several Loch Raven Village residents living east of Loch Raven Boulevard, strongly indicated that they would move if Pleasant Plains were no longer the elementary school for their children.



The capacity of Loch Raven Middle School (pictured below) is 1,179. The 1990 attendance totalled 609. The projection for 1999 is 939. The Association desires to retain Loch Raven Middle School as the primary middle school for all families in Loch Raven Village.



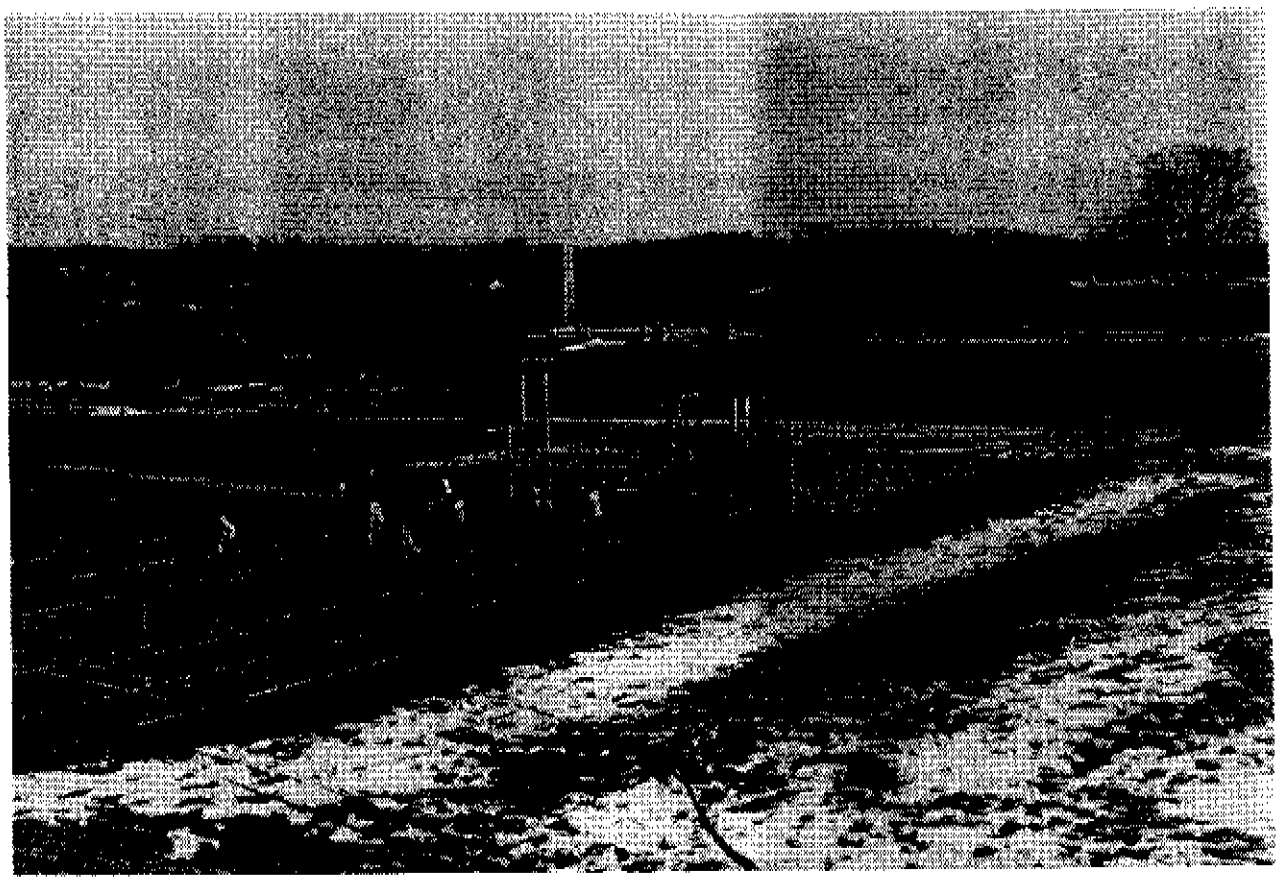
The Association wants to retain "community" schools because they:

a) instill neighborhood cohesiveness
b) create a unified neighborhood identity
c) encourage a unified loyalty and spirit among Loch Raven Village school-age children
d) centralize the Association's support (i.e., financial) to one elementary school and one middle school

## Recreational Areas / Activities

The Association recognizes the importance of neighborhood schools and recreational facilities. As such, the Association has supported improvements to these facilities and promoted the recreational activities available through the Loch Raven Recreation Council. The Association is committed to working with Baltimore County government, Baltimore County Board of Education, Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks, the PTAs of Loch Raven Middle School and Pleasant Plains Elementary School and the Loch Raven Recreation Council to preserve, maintain and enhance recreational areas and opportunities.

In 1987, the Association financially supported the building of a playground at Pleasant Plains Elementary. The Association, in conjunction with its neighboring community, Knettishall, will work with the appropriate people to study the need for adding more playground equipment (i.e. swings) for young children at Pleasant Plains Elementary School. The Association will also study the need for additional play equipment at the Loch Raven Recreation Center to accomodate present and anticipated daycare recreation program needs.



The Association regularly promotes, and will continue to promote, Loch Raven Recreation Council's activities in the neighborhood newsletter.

The Association will establish and promote walking areas throughout Loch Raven Village. These walking areas will serve to encourage residents to become more familiar with Loch Raven Village, encourage physical fitness and assist in crime prevention .

The Association will form a walking club/committee to consider the following areas (listed below) as well as other areas for walking and will actively promote this activity throughout the community.

Designated areas for walking (see corresponding map) could be the following:

1. On the east side, the boundaries would be Loch Raven Boulevard, Edgewood Road and Glen Keith Boulevard.

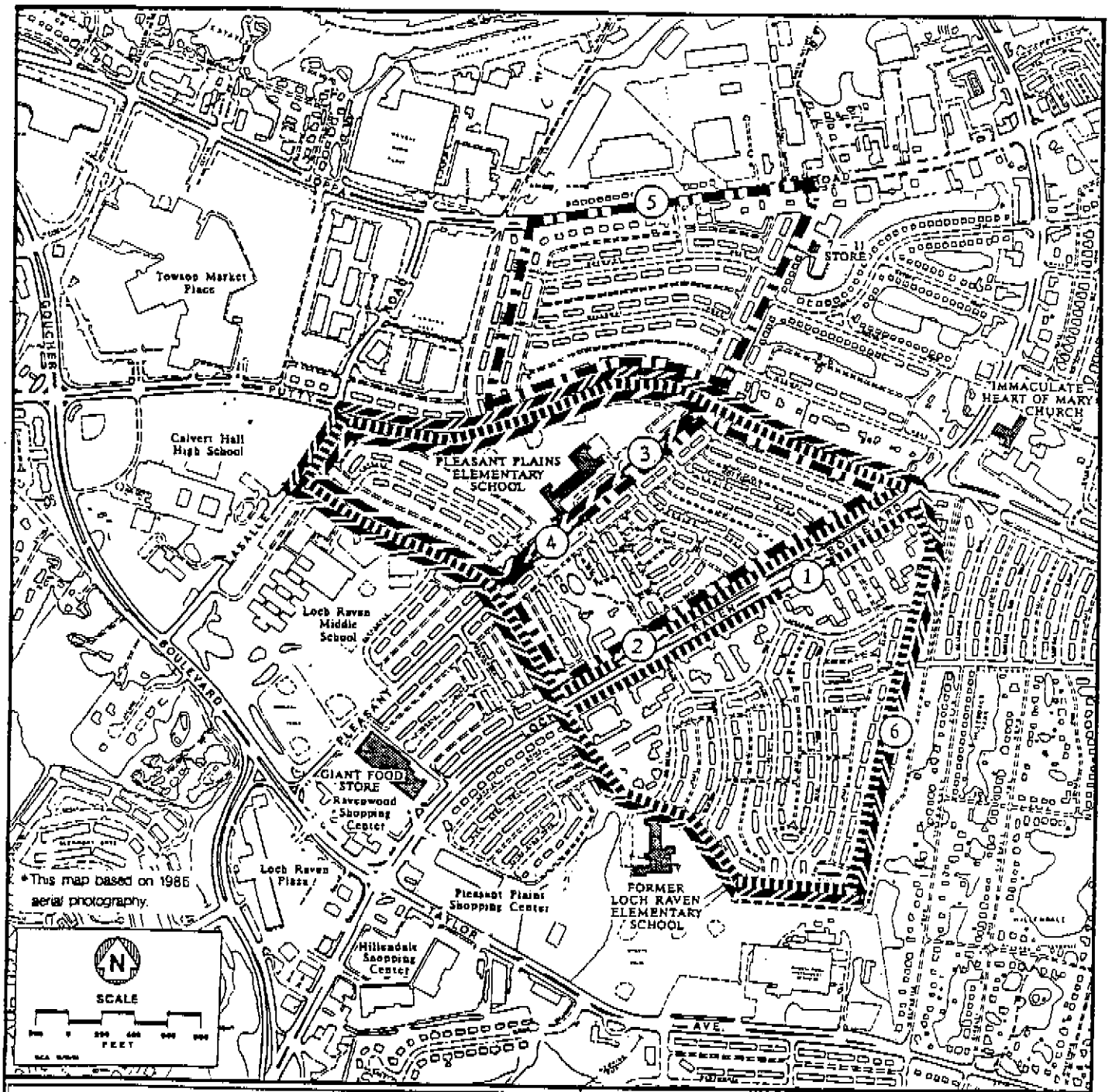
2. On the west side, the boundaries for the larger loop are: Glen Keith Boulevard, La Salle Road, Putty Hill Avenue and Loch Raven Boulevard

3. The smaller loops (two) would be the same streets listed above, but divided in half by Pleasant Plains Road.

4. The largest loop would incorporate both sides of Loch Raven Village. The boundaries are: Putty Hill Avenue, Edgewood Road, Glen Keith Boulevard, La Salle Road - back to Putty Hill Avenue.

5. Another loop for the north side of the Village would incorporate Drumwood Road, Joppa Road, Pleasant Plains and Putty Hill Avenue.

The designated walk areas will be promoted through the Loch Raven Village neighborhood newsletter and could be appropriately designated by a color scheme on street sign poles.




Walking Areas

1. Eastside Loop
2. Westside Loop
3. Westside Loop
4. Westside Loop
5. Northside Loop
6. East/West Loop

# Recreation Activities

## LOCH RAVEN VILLAGE COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLAN