

A GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY OF FARM DEPOPULATION

IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

1941-1961

A Thesis

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by

Edward Gabriel Guertin

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## PREFACE

The relatively recent shift in the location of people from the rural areas to the urban areas has created a serious problem due to the inability of many urban areas to absorb the mass influx of people. Because of this, unemployment as well as school overcrowding has taken place in several urban centers across Western Canada.

This thesis is an attempt to explain for a specific area in Manitoba the reasons for the migration of farm population with emphasis on occupation and destination.

The majority of the data gathered for this study was obtained during the summers of 1962 and 1963 while the author was employed by the Geography Department, University of Manitoba, as a member of a field crew under the direction of Dr. T. R. Weir. The field work undertaken was part of an extensive survey of farm depopulation in the Interlake Area for the Provincial Government under the Agricultural Rehabilitation Development Act (ARDA). The results of this survey are available from the Manitoba Department of Agriculture in an unpublished report entitled "Rural Population Change, Interlake, 1941-1961" by Dr. T. R. Weir.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## CHAPTER I

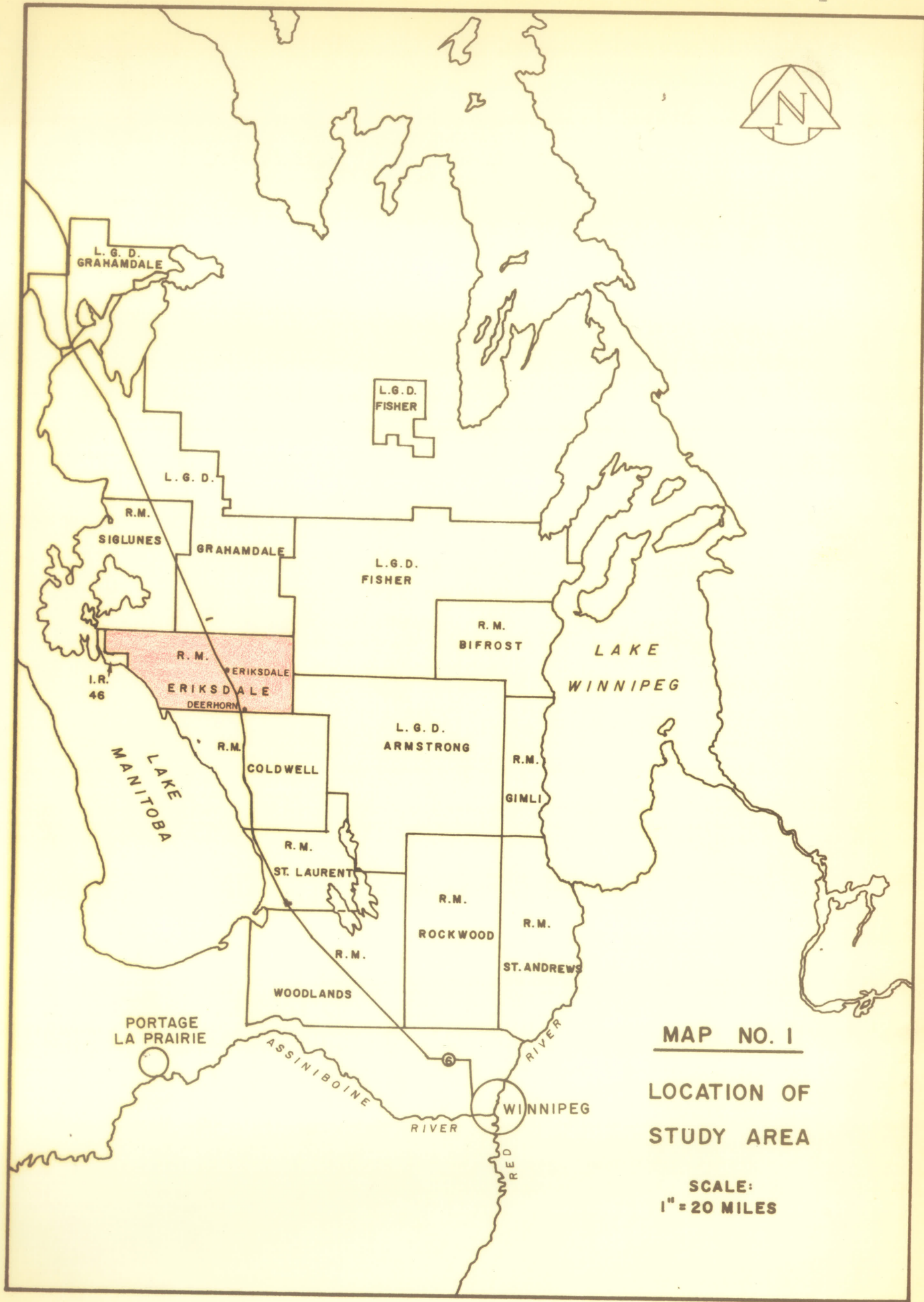
### INTRODUCTION

#### LOCATION AND SIZE OF THE STUDY AREA

The Municipality of Eriksdale is located approximately 70 miles northwest of Metropolitan Winnipeg along Provincial Trunk Highway no. 6. It is one of the twelve municipalities comprising the region in Manitoba commonly referred to as the "Interlake District."

The Municipality of Eriksdale is bounded to the north by the Municipality of Siglunes and the Local Government District of Grahamdale, to the east by the Local Government Districts of Fisher and Armstrong, to the south by the Municipality of Coldwell, and to the west by Lake Manitoba and Dog Creek Indian Reserve no. 46 (see map no. 1).

The Municipality of Eriksdale has an area of approximately 300 square miles (see table no. 1) and includes Townships 21 and 22 Ranges 4 West to 8 West inclusive. Out of these ten townships, seven are full townships (36 square miles) and the remaining three are partial due to Lake Winnipeg and/or Dog Creek Indian Reserve no. 46 dissecting portions thereof. Dog Creek Indian Reserve, which has an area of 7.4 square miles, has been omitted from this study.



**MAP NO. 1**  
**LOCATION OF**  
**STUDY AREA**  
  
**SCALE:**  
**1" = 20 MILES**

TABLE 1  
AREA PER TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE	AREA	
	SQUARE MILES	ACRES
21-4W	36.0	23,040
22-4W	36.0	23,040
21-5W	36.0	23,040
22-5W	36.0	23,040
21-6W	36.0	23,040
22-6W	36.0	23,040
21-7W	23.9	15,290
22-7W	36.0	23,040
21-8W	0.9	602
22-8W	21.7	13,882
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>298.5</b>	<b>191,054</b>

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this study was to examine and determine the following:

- 1) the effect of historical, physical, economic and ethnic background on farm population changes;
- 2) the nature and extent of farm depopulation;
- 3) the relationship between population changes and the changes in size and number of farms;
- 4) the causes and the extent of migration.

In addition, a further investigation of all the schools in the Municipality was carried out in order to arrive at the reasons children left school, and to discover their employment and destination after leaving.

## PERIOD STUDIED

The study covers the twenty year period between 1941 and 1961. The year 1941 is used as the base year and most of the analysis is based on a comparison between the years 1941 and 1961. However, the years prior to 1941 have been taken into account where the information was available and when it was felt this would be useful in explaining population trends between 1941 and 1961.

## METHODS AND PROCEDURES EMPLOYED

### Sources of Information

The following sources were used in the gathering of the basic data necessary for fieldwork:

- a) Dominion Bureau of Statistics - 1941 and 1961 Population Volumes.
- b) Eriksdale Municipality Tax Rolls.
- c) Hay Permit Records, obtained from the Municipal Office.
- d) Department of Mines and Technical Survey - Lands Branch.
- e) School Registers.

### Fieldwork Preparation

Using the 1941 and 1961 Dominion Bureau of Statistics Population Volumes, total population was recorded on a township basis. Using the Municipal Tax Rolls and two township

base maps, land ownership was plotted separately for the years 1941 and 1961. In addition to the data on land ownership, hay permits and leased land information were available from the Municipal Office for both the years 1941 and 1961. This data was also plotted on the above base maps. From the Land Branch Office, various data on homesteads (e.g. land ownership, nature of grant, year of sale or entry) were recorded in tabular form on both a quarter section basis and on a township basis. Finally, each school in the study area was visited and on a per school basis information regarding name, age and grade achieved by each student was taken from the school registers.

#### Fieldwork

After obtaining from the Municipal Clerk the names of approximately five or six responsible residents per township, each of these persons was then interviewed and information on population characteristics, farm size, migration characteristics, ethnic origin, and details on children leaving school was recorded.

The following sections outline the procedures involved in obtaining the various forms of data required.

#### Population Characteristics

Using the 1941 and 1961 land ownership base maps as

a guide, population characteristics were recorded for both years on a blank township map by means of symbols. Such information as number of families, children of school age and under, children working, sex of children, etc., was obtained by interview and recorded on a quarter section basis. After the information was gathered, population totals were obtained and compared with Dominion Bureau of Statistics figures. If this difference was more than 5 percent, a further field check was made in order to ensure that the fieldwork figures were compatible with Census data (see table no. 2).

TABLE 2

FIELDWORK AND DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS POPULATION  
COMPARISON BY TOWNSHIP 1941 and 1961

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE	POPULATION					
	YEAR					
	1941			1961		
	Fieldwork	D.B.S.	% Diff.	Fieldwork	D.B.S.	% Diff.
21-4W	144	147	-2.0	114	113	+0.9
22-4W	48	47	+2.1	38	38	0
21-5W	228	229	-0.4	216	225	-4.0
22-5W	315	321	-1.9	283*	333	-15.0
21-6W	147	147	0	112	113	-0.9
22-6W	169	170	-0.6	137	136	+0.7
21-7W	127	125	+1.6	106	107	-0.9
22-7W	144	145	-0.7	84	80	+5.0
21-8W	9	9	0	2	2	0
22-8W	24	24	0	26	26	0
TOTAL	1355	1364	-0.7	1118	1173	-4.7

\* The discrepancy between fieldwork figures and D.B.S. data cannot be explained.

Farm Unit Characteristics

After population figures were found to agree closely with Census figures, the next step was to reconstruct the 1941 and 1961 farm sizes. Using the township base maps described previously and by means of different symbols and colours, each quarter section comprising a township was investigated and related to its owner, thus producing both the size and number of farms per township. The number of farms for the Municipality as a whole was later compared with Dominion Bureau of Statistics figures and found to agree very closely (see table no. 3).

TABLE 3

FIELDWORK AND DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS FARM NUMBER COMPARISON 1941-1961

YEAR	FARM NUMBERS		
	FIELDWORK	D.B.S.	% DIFF.
1941	265	257	3.1
1961	158	152	4.0

Migration Characteristics

By comparing the 1941 and 1961 land ownership maps, the number of families migrating from the township in question were observed. By means of questionnaires completed by

residents who had lived in the area between 1941 and 1961 and who knew the migrants, information as to reasons for leaving the farm, destination as well as occupation at destination was obtained.

#### Ethnic Origin Characteristics

For the purpose of this study, "ethnic origin" was used in the sense that an individual will classify himself upon inquiry as being of "English origin", "French origin" etc.

There were two steps taken in connection with this aspect of the fieldwork. Firstly, the ethnic origin of the original settlers had to be established. Based on the ownership data obtained from the Lands Branch Office and determined by interview, the ethnic origin of the original settlers was tabulated on a quarter section basis.

Secondly, the ethnic origin of the 1941 and 1961 population was required. From the data plotted on the 1941 and 1961 land ownership base maps, the ethnic origin of the farm population was established by interview and tabulated on a quarter section basis.

Then the 1941 and 1961 population totals for the Municipality by ethnic origin were obtained and compared with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics data. The figures were found to be compatible. (see table no. 4).

TABLE 4

FIELDWORK AND DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS ETHNIC ORIGIN  
COMPARISON 1941-1961

ETHNIC ORIGIN	ETHNIC ORIGIN					
	YEAR					
	1941			1961		
	Fieldwork	D.B.S.	% Diff.	Fieldwork	D.B.S.	% Diff.
British	782	789	- 0.9	629	664	- 5.3
French	183	178	+ 2.8	169	168	+ 0.6
Scandi- navian	261	264	- 1.1	158	160	- 1.3
Others	129	133	- 3.0	162	181	-10.5
TOTAL	<u>1355</u>	<u>1364</u>	<u>- 0.7</u>	<u>1118</u>	<u>1173</u>	<u>- 4.7</u>

Characteristics of School Children

Using the information gathered from the school registers for the period of years 1949 to 1951 both inclusive, and the period of years 1959 to 1961 both inclusive, the destination, type of employment and reasons for leaving school were obtained by interview and summarized in tabular form.

ANALYSIS AND DATA PRESENTATION

Using summary sheets, all information gathered through fieldwork was analyzed on a township basis for the years 1941 and 1961.

All quarter sections comprising a township were accounted for whether they were farmed quarters, hay permit quarters, Crown and Municipal quarters or simply idle quarters.

Also, population characteristics, tenure changes and ethnic origin characteristics were summarized on a per farm basis.

The migration analysis was carried out on a township basis and the school analysis was summarized on a per school basis.

Much of the data gathered for this study was presented in illustrative form. Either maps or graphs were used or, where more desirable, tables were often utilized. Due to the small size of Township 21 Range 8 West, information pertaining to it was included on all illustrations with Township 21 Range 7 West. Data depicted on illustrations on a quarter section basis refer to the home quarter.

#### SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

The first aspect of the problem associated with this study was an investigation regarding the nature and extent of population change between the years 1941 and 1961.

From table no. 5 below, it can be observed that the Municipality of Eriksdale reached its maximum population in the year 1921 when it reached a high of 2410 persons. Thereafter, a steady and substantial decrease was indicated with the exception of 1936, 1951 and 1956 when slight increases were experienced.

From 1941 to 1961, the study period, the Municipality underwent a loss of 191 persons, or approximately 14%.

TABLE 5

MUNICIPAL POPULATION COMPARISON 1901-1961

		YEAR												
		1901	1906	1911	1916	1921	1926	1931	1936	1941	1946	1951	1956	1961
POPULATION		42	371	1099	2310	2410	1745	1469	1556	1364	1214	1301	1311	1173
C														
H	NO.	+ 42	+329	+728	+1211	+100	-665	-276	+ 87	-192	-150	+ 87	+ 10	-138
A														
N														
G	%	-	+783.3	+196.2	+110.2	+4.3	-27.6	-15.8	+5.9	-12.3	-10.9	+7.2	+0.8	-10.5
E														

SOURCE: 1901-1961 D.B.S. Census Data

A breakdown of the Municipality into its township components illustrates which townships have experienced either an increase or decrease and the extent of this change (see table no. 6).

TABLE 6

POPULATION CHANGE BY TOWNSHIP 1941-1961

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE	POPULATION		CHANGE	
	1941	1961	NO.	%
21-4W	147	113	- 34	-23.1
22-4W	47	38	- 9	-19.1
21-5W	229	225	- 4	- 1.7
22-5W	321	333	+ 12	+ 3.7
21-6W	147	113	- 34	-23.1
22-6W	170	136	- 34	-20.0
21-7W	125	107	- 18	-14.4
22-7W	145	80	- 65	-44.8
21-8W	9	2	- 7	-77.8
22-8W	24	26	+ 2	+ 8.3
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>1364</u>	<u>1173</u>	<u>-191</u>	<u>-14.0</u>

SOURCE: 1941 and 1961 D.B.S. Census Data

From the above table, it can be seen that in terms of total population, a great variation and change have been experienced between the years 1941 and 1961. The largest numerical decrease occurred in Township 22 Range 7 West where a loss of 65 persons, or approximately 45 percent, was experienced. Township 22 Range 5 West showed a slight increase of 12 persons, or approximately 4 percent. This increase is due to the fact that the Town of Eriksdale is located in this township and the increase in urban population has offset any change in farm population.

A further breakdown of the population into its components illustrates the nature of the depopulation trends.

From table no. 7, it can be seen that although the Municipality has experienced a total loss of 237 persons, or 17.5 percent, between 1941 and 1961, actually a loss of 427, or 38.4 percent,<sup>1</sup> was experienced by the rural-farm population element, and that the rural non-farm<sup>2</sup> and urban<sup>3</sup> population partially has/offset this large decrease. The rural non-farm element has nearly quadrupled, increasing from 42 persons in 1941 to 163 persons in 1961. Similarly, the urban population has increased approximately one-third in that the Town of Eriksdale and the Hamlet of Deerhorn combined accounted for 200 persons in 1941 and increased to 269 persons in 1961.

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<sup>1</sup>Rural-farm population includes all persons living in a dwelling situated on a farm and whose income is derived in whole or in part from the sale of agricultural products.

<sup>2</sup>Rural non-farm population includes all persons living in a dwelling situated on a farm and whose income is derived entirely from an occupation other than farming.

<sup>3</sup>Urban population includes all persons living in a dwelling located in either Eriksdale or Deerhorn and whose income may or may not be derived from the sale of agricultural products.

TABLE 7

MUNICIPAL POPULATION COMPONENT COMPARISON 1941-1961

YEAR	POPULATION COMPONENTS				
	TOTAL	RURAL		URBAN	
		FARM	NON-FARM		
1941	1355	1113	42	200	
1961	1118	686	163	269	
C H A N G E	NO.	-237	-427	+121	+69
	%	- 17.5	- 38.4	+288.1	+34.5

This study has investigated mainly the farm population element and has attempted to arrive at the reasons underlying rural-farm population migration.

The second aspect of the problem was to investigate the historical, physical, economic and ethnic background and to see if any relationship existed between these factors and the changes in the rural-farm population.

The third area of investigation was to see if there was a correlation between decreases in rural-farm population, decreases in the number of farms and increases in the size of farms between 1941 and 1961. From table 8, it can be observed that there is a definite relationship between these factors. In 1941, the farm population accounted for

1113 persons, there were 265 farms, and the average farm size was 2.44 quarters. However, by 1961 the rural-farm population element decreased by 427 or 38.4 percent, the number of farms decreased by 107 or 40.3 percent, and the average size of farm increased by 2.97 quarters or 121.7 percent. The rural-farm population and the number of farms decreased at approximately the same rate (38.4 percent and 40.3 percent respectively), whereas the size of farms increased at a much more accelerated rate (121.7 percent). This illustrates the consolidation of farms with fewer persons to manage them as a result of mechanization and a change in type of farm.

TABLE 8

MUNICIPAL FARM POPULATION, NUMBER OF FARMS AND AVERAGE SIZE  
OF FARMS COMPARISON 1941-1961

YEAR	RURAL-FARM POPULATION	NUMBER OF FARMS	AVERAGE SIZE OF FARMS*	
1941	1113	265	2.44 Q.	
1961	686	158	5.41 Q.	
C H A N G E	NO.	-427	-107	+2.97 Q.
	%	- 38.4	- 40.3	+121.7

\* In quarter sections.

The fourth aspect of this study was to discover the underlying reasons for rural-farm depopulation. This was done by means of questionnaires concerning those who left the farm between the years 1941 and 1961. Since it would have been practically impossible to contact everyone who migrated, these questionnaires were answered by neighbours. It was also felt that this approach was perhaps less subjective since many who left the area would have been reluctant to answer the questions accurately.

The fifth and final aspect of this study was to discover why children left school and, in most cases, the area. The information necessary for the fieldwork was obtained through a study of the school records from the various schools in the Municipality for the two three-year periods, 1949-1950-1951 and 1959-1960-1961.

## CHAPTER II

### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### INTRODUCTION

Because it was felt that an investigation of the historical background would lead to a better understanding of population trends characteristic of the study area between 1941 and 1961, certain historical features were studied. Such data as the year of sale or entry, the nature of grant or purchase, the ethnic origin of the first settlers and settlement trends were briefly analyzed in an attempt to explain recent farm population trends.

#### LAND OWNERSHIP PRIOR TO SETTLEMENT<sup>1</sup>

Prior to Confederation, the Colonial Charter of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1673 gave it full ownership of all lands drained by the rivers flowing into Hudson's Bay.

The Charter of the Hudson's Bay Company also required colonization and settlement of the areas granted, but the Company was reluctant to do so for fear such activities would be detrimental to the fur trade.

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<sup>1</sup>Movement of Farm People, Report No. 7, Province of Saskatchewan, Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life, 1956, pp 40 and 41.

After Confederation in 1867, the Dominion Government began to negotiate with the Hudson's Bay Company to take over the land it owned. To accomplish this, a detailed survey of the whole prairie area was undertaken in 1868. The 49th parallel was the starting point and astronomical readings were used for laying out the meridians. Based on the meridians, ranges of townships were surveyed. The basic United States' pattern of the six mile square, 36 section township was used, with the exception that road allowances were plotted outside the section. By providing road allowances one mile apart, running north and south, and two miles apart, running east and west, every quarter section (the basic settlement unit) fronted on at least one road allowance.

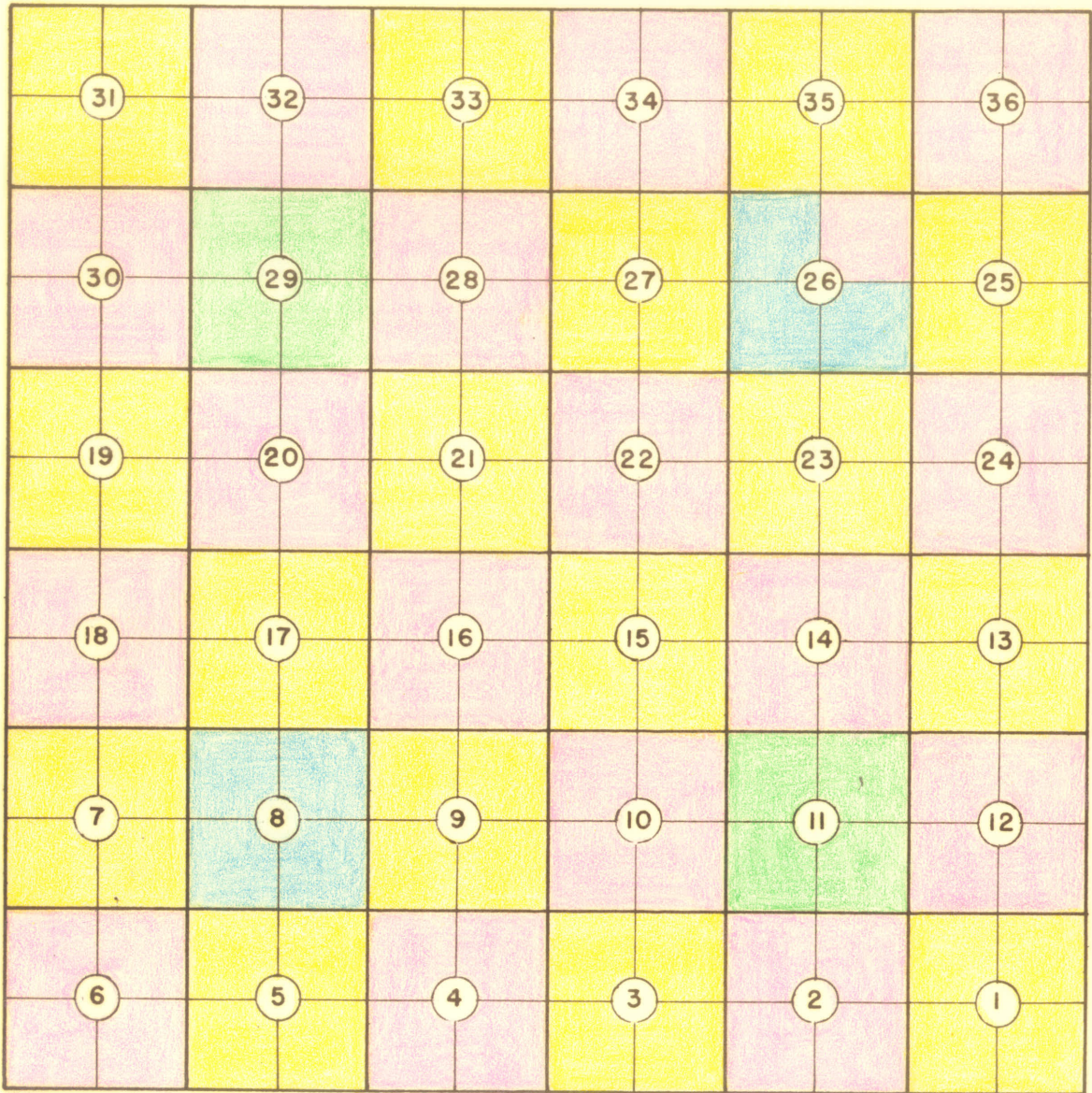
Table no. 9 below illustrates the year in which the townships comprising the Municipality of Eriksdale were first surveyed.

TABLE 9

<u>RANGE</u>	<u>YEAR TOWNSHIPS SURVEYED</u>				
	<u>4W</u>	<u>5W</u>	<u>6W</u>	<u>7W</u>	<u>8W</u>
<u>TOWNSHIP</u>					
21	1905	1885	1885	1875	1888
22	1912	1904	1885	1888	1888

SOURCE: Department of Mines & Technical Surveys-Lands Branch

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE  
 LAND OWNERSHIP PRIOR TO SETTLEMENT  
 TYPICAL TOWNSHIP



SOURCE: Chester Martin, "Dominion Lands" Policy, Canadian Frontiers of Settlement, Vol. II, Macmillan Company of Canada Limited, Toronto, 1938, p. 233.

LEGEND:

MAP 2



SCHOOL LANDS



HUDSONS BAY LANDS



RAILWAY LANDS



FREE HOMESTEAD LANDS

The allocation of land for a typical township by quarter section can be seen on Map no. 2.

### HOMESTEADS<sup>2</sup>

Following the United States' model, a homestead system of free grants was initiated in 1872. A settler could secure a homestead quarter section on condition of three years' residence, improvements, and the payment of a \$10.00 registration fee. The settler could in addition "pre-empt" a quarter section of land adjoining the homestead quarter at a cost of \$3.00 per acre, one-third to be paid within the first three years and the balance in five equal annual instalments. This additional quarter was also subject to conditions of improvement.

This pre-emption policy, introduced in 1874, was revoked twenty years later because it had contributed more to land speculation than to stable settlement. The policy was reintroduced in 1908 with certain amendments designed to curtail speculation and misuse of the privilege.

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<sup>2</sup>Ibid, p. 43

RAILWAY LANDS

The primary purpose of the railway grant system was to construct a transcontinental railway and to provide transportation for settlers as well as to accommodate the movement of goods and services.<sup>3</sup>

Through the railway grant system, the Lake Manitoba Railway and Canal System, a subsidiary of the Canadian Northern Railway, received between 1889 and 1890 a net land grant of approximately 798,400 acres. The grant consisted of the odd-numbered sections within twelve miles of the railway on each side thereof, although any deficiency could be made up from lands elsewhere.<sup>4</sup>

SCHOOL LAND<sup>5</sup>

The Dominion Lands Act of 1872 provided that sections 11 and 29 in each and every township throughout the extent of the Dominion lands were set apart as an endowment for purposes of education. The sale of the land and the investment of the proceeds were reserved for future legislation. By

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<sup>3</sup> Chester Martin, "Dominion Lands" Policy, Canadian Frontiers of Settlement, Vol. II, Macmillan Company of Canada Limited, Toronto, 1938, p. 299.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, p. 293.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, p. 339.

1879, the Consolidated Dominion Lands Act made provision for the administration of the school lands through the Minister of the Interior. All sales were to be made by public auction after due advertising and the terms of sale were fixed at one-fifth in cash and the remainder in nine annual instalments with interest at 6 percent per annum. These conditions changed with time. The principal arising out of sales was to be invested in Dominion securities and the interest therefrom, after deduction of the cost of management, was to be paid to the Provincial Government toward the support of schools within that Province.

#### HUDSON'S BAY LANDS<sup>6</sup>

In 1869 an agreement between the Canadian Government and the Hudson's Bay Company was reached and, as a result, the Dominion Lands Act granted the Hudson's Bay Company a \$300,000 cash settlement as well as 50,000 acres for trading post sites. In addition, the Hudson's Bay Company acquired one-twentieth of the fertile belt, which comprised two complete sections (sections 8 and 26) in every fifth township

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<sup>6</sup>Movement of Farm People, Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life, p. 41.

plus one and three-quarters sections in all other townships, or a total acreage of 6.6 million.

#### NATURE OF GRANT OR PURCHASE

Out of the 904 quarter sections or portions thereof settled between 1888 and 1932, 798 or 88.2 percent were acquired through homesteads. Eighty-one or 9.0 percent were purchased from the Soldier Settlement Board<sup>7</sup> and the remaining 25 or 2.6 percent were obtained from either the Hudson's Bay Company, the Canadian Northern Railway, Soldier Grants<sup>8</sup>, the Rural Rehabilitation Commission<sup>9</sup> or as School Land (see table no. 10).

A further analysis of the table reveals that in all townships, land acquired as homesteads was substantially larger than any other grant, ranging from 79 percent to 100 percent of the total quarters settled. School land, Canadian Northern Railway land and Hudson's Bay Company land acquired for settlement was very minor in nature and accounted for only 0.67 percent or 6 quarters of the total quarters settled.

Soldier Grants, Soldier Settlement Board or Rural Rehabilitation land, on the other hand, was much more sig-

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<sup>7</sup>See Appendix.

<sup>8</sup>See Appendix.

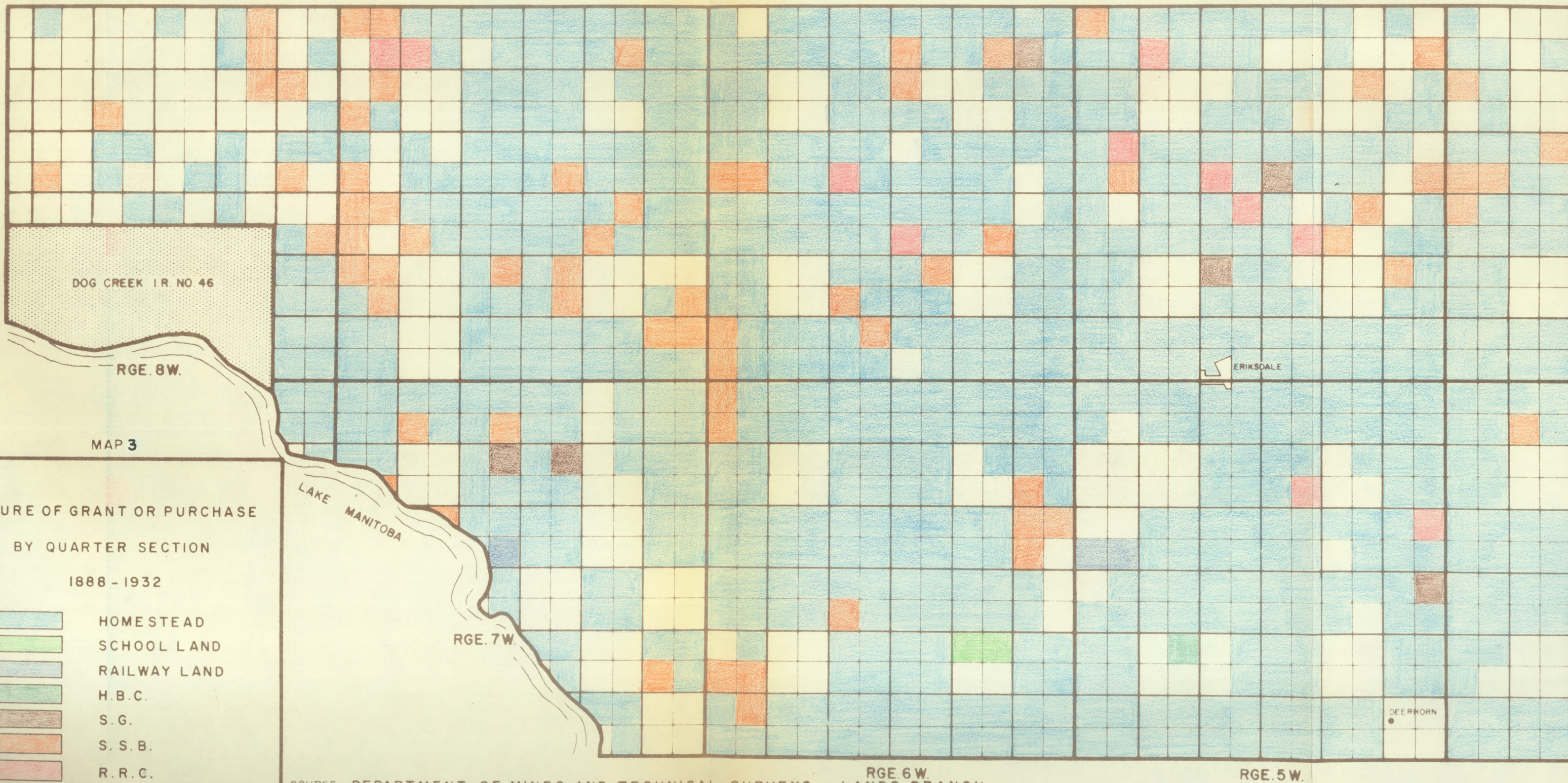
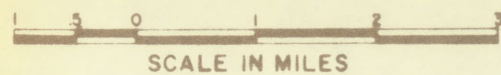
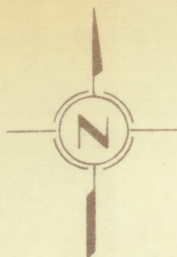
<sup>9</sup>See Appendix.

TABLE 10

NATURE OF GRANT OR PURCHASE BY TOWNSHIP 1888-1932

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE		HOMESTEAD	SCHOOL LAND	RAILWAY LAND	H.B.C.	S.G.	S.S.B.	R.R.C.	TOTAL
21-4W	No.	109	-	-	-	-	5	1	115
	%	94.8	-	-	-	-	4.3	0.9	100.0
22-4W	No.	74	-	-	-	1	12	-	87
	%	85.0	-	-	-	1.2	13.8	-	100.0
21-5W	No.	109	-	2	1	1	-	2	115
	%	94.8	-	1.7	0.9	0.9	-	1.7	100.0
22-5W	No.	98	-	-	-	2	8	5	113
	%	86.7	-	-	-	1.8	7.1	4.4	100.0
21-6W	No.	115	2	-	-	-	10	-	127
	%	90.6	1.6	-	-	-	7.8	-	100.0
22-6W	No.	109	-	-	-	1	11	2	123
	%	88.6	-	-	-	0.8	9.0	1.6	100.0
21-7W	No.	60	-	1	-	2	5	-	68
	%	88.2	-	1.5	-	2.9	7.4	-	100.0
22-7W	No.	92	-	-	-	-	22	2	116
	%	79.3	-	-	-	-	19.0	1.7	100.0
21-8W	No.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
	%	100.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.0
22-8W	No.	27	-	-	-	-	8	-	35
	%	77.1	-	-	-	-	22.9	-	100.0
TOTAL	No.	798	2	3	1	7	81	12	904
	%	88.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.8	9.0	1.3	100.0

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE










DOG CREEK I.R. NO. 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 3

NATURE OF GRANT OR PURCHASE  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1888 - 1932

-  HOMESTEAD
-  SCHOOL LAND
-  RAILWAY LAND
-  H.B.C.
-  S.G.
-  S.S.B.
-  R.R.C.

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SURVEYS - LANDS BRANCH

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

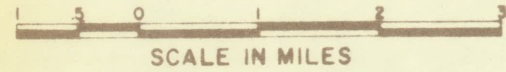
DEERHORN

ERIKSDALE

LAKE MANITOBA

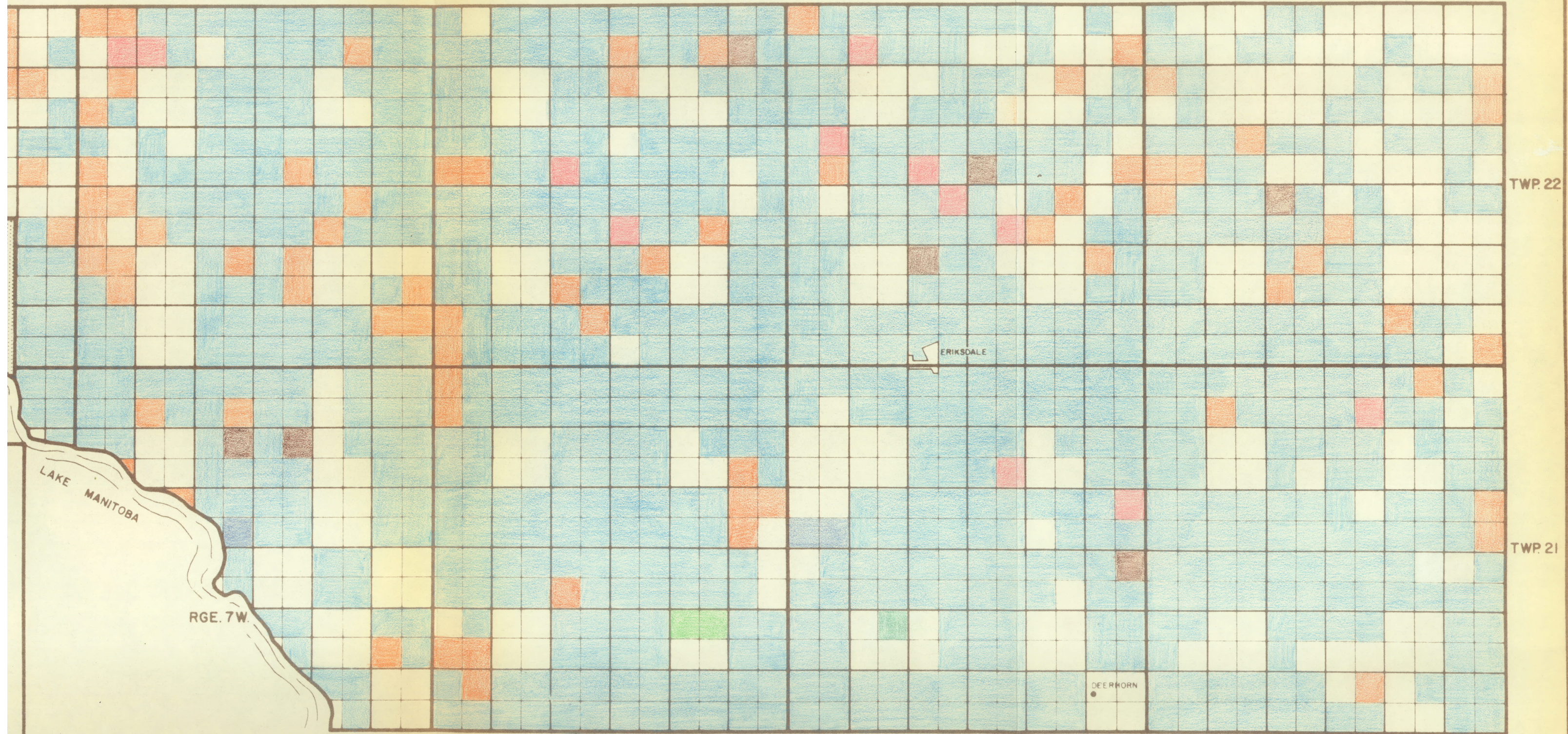
RGE. 7W.

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SURVEYS - LANDS BRANCH

nificant. A total of 81 quarters were obtained through the Soldier Settlement Board. These grants were common in every township except Township 21 Range 5 West and Township 21 Range 8 West where no land was granted by the Soldier Settlement Board. The other townships had from 5 to 22 quarters granted by the Board.

Rural Rehabilitation Commission and Soldier Grants accounted for only 2.1 percent of the total quarters acquired. Township 21 Range 5 West had a total of 7 quarters or 6.2 percent of the total quarters obtained by these grants.

Map no. 3 illustrates the intensity of the various types of grants on a quarter section basis. It is evident by observing the map noted above that the majority of the land was acquired as homesteads and very few settlers obtained their land via other forms of grants or purchases.

#### YEAR OF SALE OR ENTRY

By year of sale or entry was meant the year the land was either purchased or obtained by some other recognized means, such as a homestead, Soldier Grant, etc.

Table no. 11 on the following page reveals on a township basis and for the study area as a whole the year of sale or entry.

TABLE 11

YEAR OF SALE OR ENTRY BY TOWNSHIP 1888 - 1932

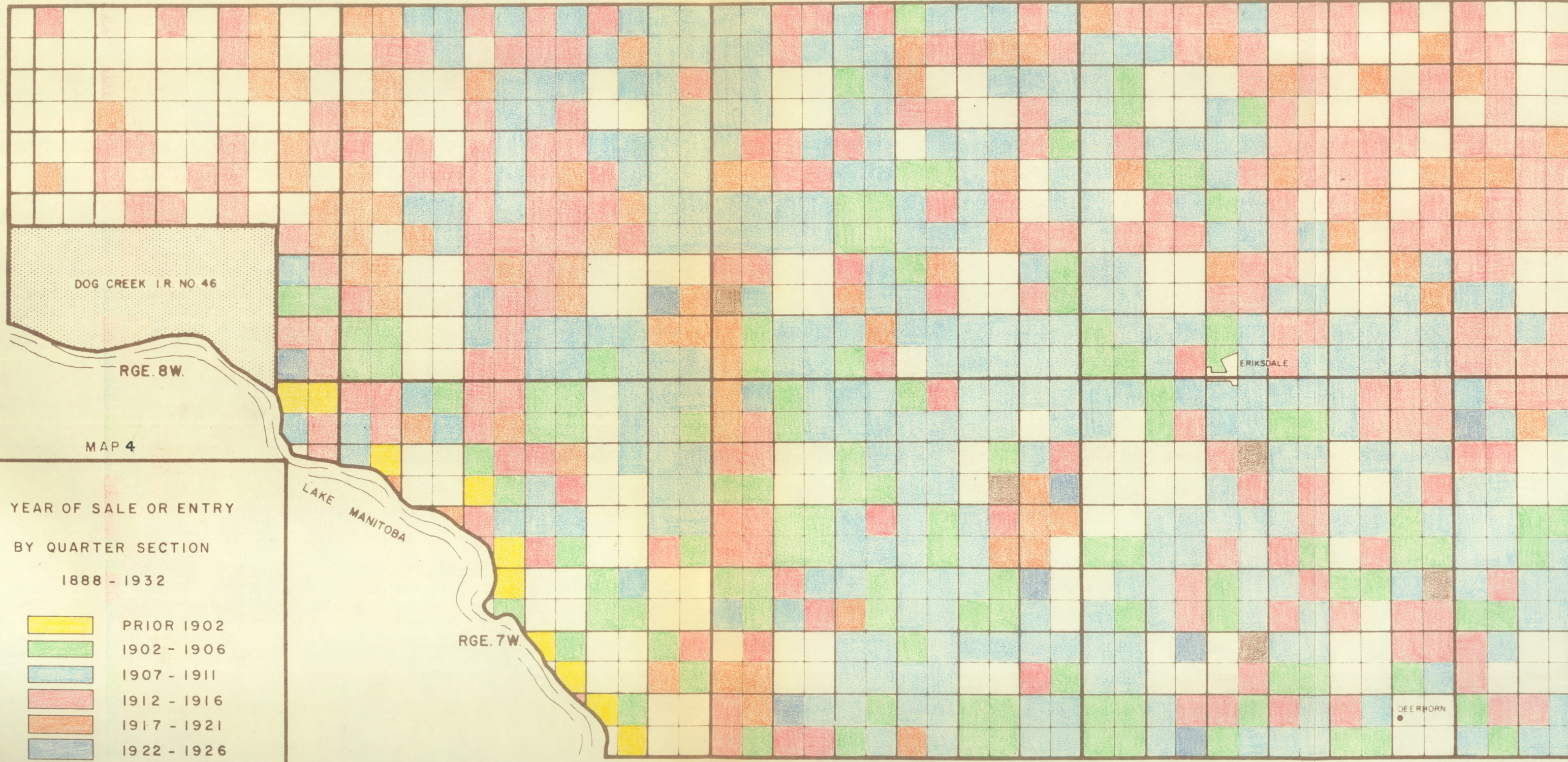
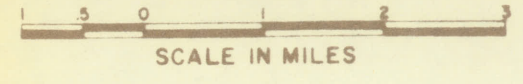
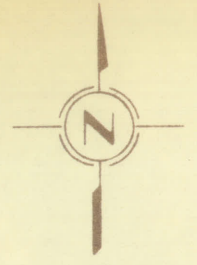
TOWNSHIP AND RANGE		1888- 1901	1902- 1906	1907- 1911	1912- 1916	1917- 1921	1922- 1926	1926- 1932	TOTAL
21-4W	No.	-	18	35	52	9	1	-	115
	%	-	15.7	30.4	45.2	7.8	0.9	-	100.0
22-4W	No.	-	-	6	68	13	-	-	87
	%	-	-	6.9	78.1	15.0	-	-	100.0
21-5W	No.	-	26	54	29	-	2	3	114
	%	-	22.8	47.4	25.4	-	1.8	2.6	100.0
22-5W	No.	-	11	44	45	13	-	-	113
	%	-	9.7	38.9	39.9	11.5	-	-	100.0
21-6W	No.	-	33	60	19	12	3	1	128
	%	-	25.8	46.9	14.8	9.4	2.3	0.8	100.0
22-6W	No.	-	15	67	27	13	-	1	123
	%	-	12.2	54.5	22.0	10.5	-	0.8	100.0
21-7W	No.	8	18	21	15	6	-	-	68
	%	11.8	26.4	30.9	22.1	8.8	-	-	100.0
22-7W	No.	-	5	48	38	24	1	-	116
	%	-	4.3	41.3	32.8	20.7	0.9	-	100.0
21-8W	No.	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	5
	%	40.0	-	20.0	40.0	-	-	-	100.0
22-8W	No.	-	2	1	21	10	1	-	35
	%	-	5.7	2.9	60.0	28.5	2.9	-	100.0
TOTAL	No.	10	128	337	316	100	8	5	904
	%	1.1	14.1	37.3	34.9	11.1	0.9	0.6	100.0

From 1888 to 1932, approximately 904 quarter sections or portions thereof were homesteaded or obtained by direct purchase. The majority of these quarter sections were homesteaded or purchased between 1907 and 1916. During this period of time, approximately 72.0 percent or 653 quarter sections were settled. From 1888 to 1907, 138 quarters or 15.3 percent were settled and from 1917 to 1932, 113 quarters or 12.5 percent were obtained.

From a comparison of the individual townships comprising the Municipality (see table no. 11), it can be observed that half of the townships experienced their maximum influx of settlers between 1907 and 1911 and the remaining half between 1912 and 1916. It can also be observed from the above table that Townships 21 Ranges 6 and 7 West experienced their peak influx of settlers, approximately 73 and 57 percent respectively, between 1902 and 1911. This early settlement was due to the presence of the Fairford Trail which paralleled Lake Manitoba.

On the other hand, Townships 22 Ranges 4 and 8 West were settled later. Because of the comparatively poor land and marshy conditions characteristic of these townships, they experienced their maximum settlement during the years 1912 and 1921. This later acquisition was likely due to the better and more accessible land being settled at an earlier date.

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO. 46

RGE. 8W.

ERIKSDALE

LAKE MANITOBA








RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

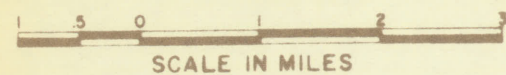
DEERHORN

YEAR OF SALE OR ENTRY  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1888 - 1932

-  PRIOR 1902
-  1902 - 1906
-  1907 - 1911
-  1912 - 1916
-  1917 - 1921
-  1922 - 1926
-  AFTER 1926

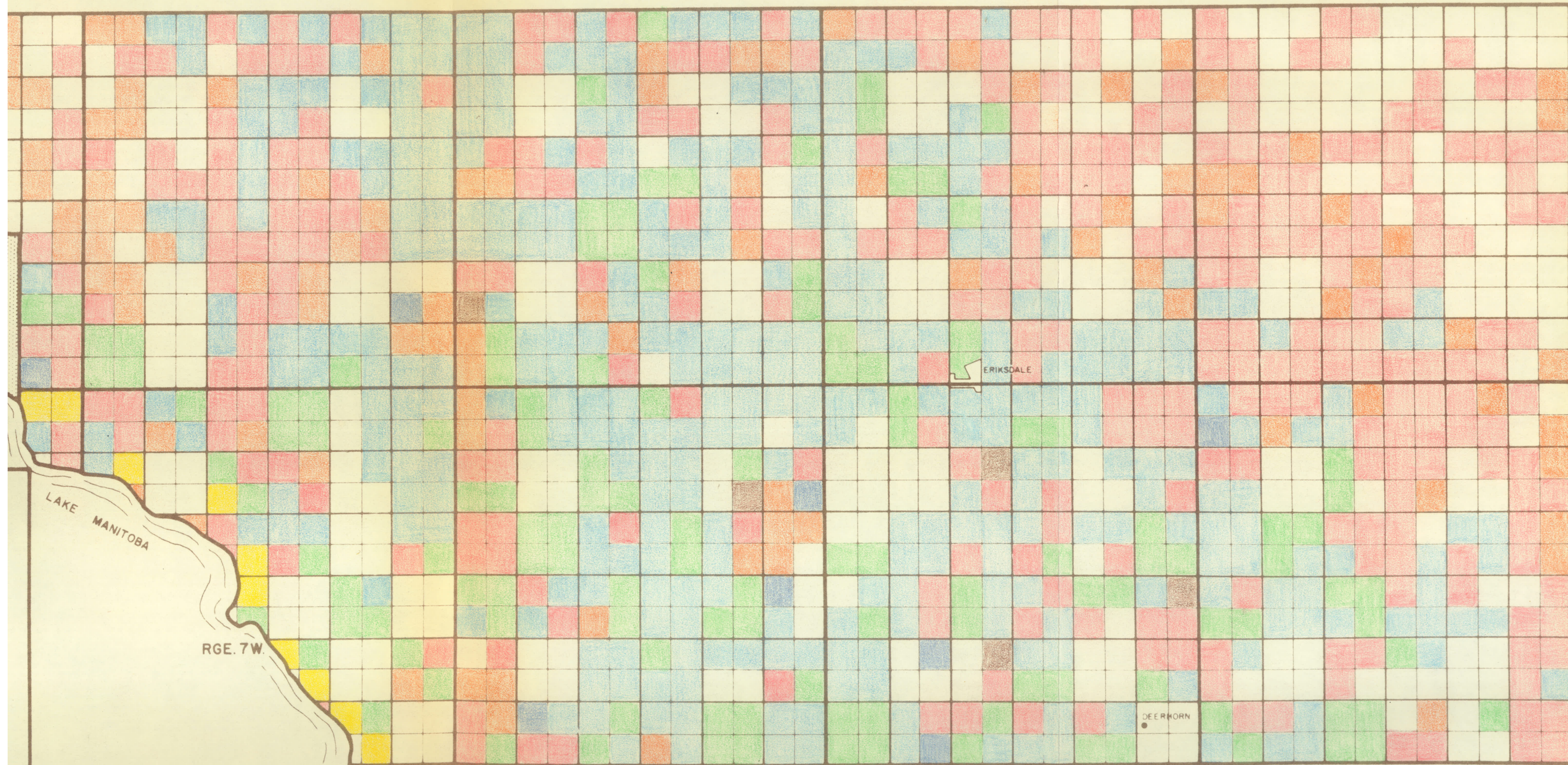
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SURVEYS - LANDS BRANCH

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



TWP. 22

TWP. 21

RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

RGE. 4W.

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SURVEYS - LANDS BRANCH

The year of sale and entry distribution on a quarter section basis may be observed on map no. 4.

#### ETHNIC ORIGIN OF SETTLERS

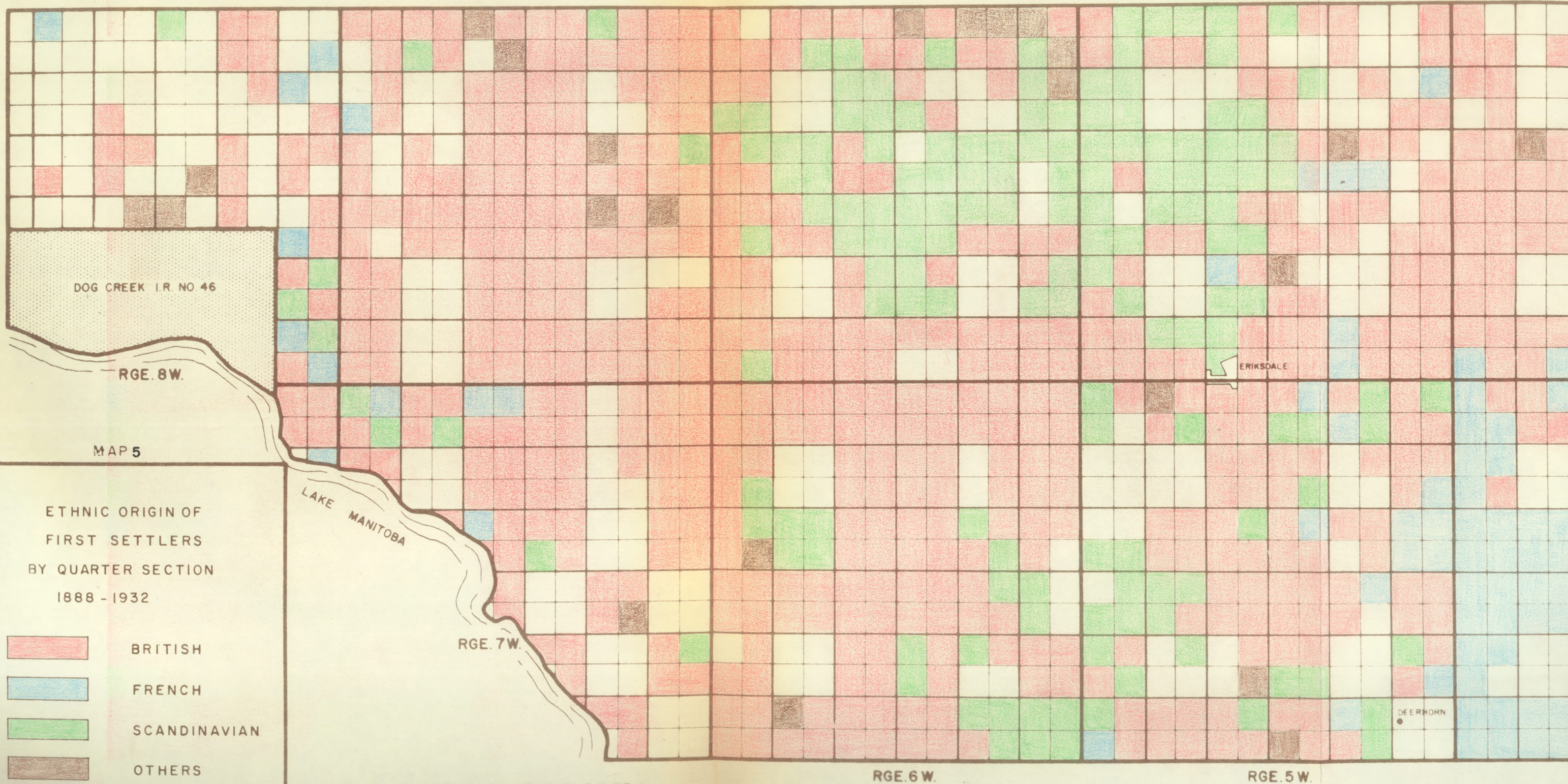
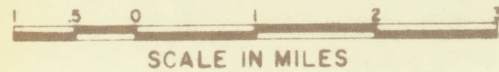
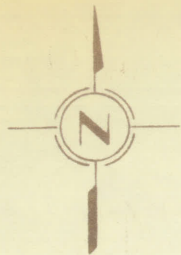
The majority of the people who first settled in the Municipality of Eriksdale were of British origin. They settled 596 or 65.9 percent of the 904 quarters settled.<sup>10</sup> The majority of these settlers were English with a small settlement of Scottish people in Township 21 Range 8 West bordering Lake Manitoba. The second largest group of people to settle in this area were of Scandinavian origin. They were found to be concentrated mainly in two areas. The first of these areas was the western half of Township 22 Range 5 West which extended through the central part of Township 22 Range 6 West to the boundary of Township 22 Range 7 West. A second concentration was found in the southwest corner of Township 21 Range 5 West and the southeast corner of Township 21 Range 6 West. A total of 165 quarters, or 18.3 percent of the quarters occupied, were occupied by persons of Scandinavian background.

People of French origin accounted for the third largest proportion of people to settle in the Municipality. Of a

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<sup>10</sup>Based on field work.

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO. 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 5

LAKE MANITOBA

RGE. 7W.

ERIKSDALE

DEERHORN

RGE. 6W.

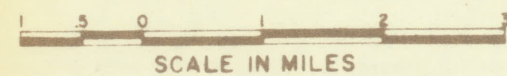
RGE. 5W.

ETHNIC ORIGIN OF  
FIRST SETTLERS  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1888 - 1932

- BRITISH
- FRENCH
- SCANDINAVIAN
- OTHERS

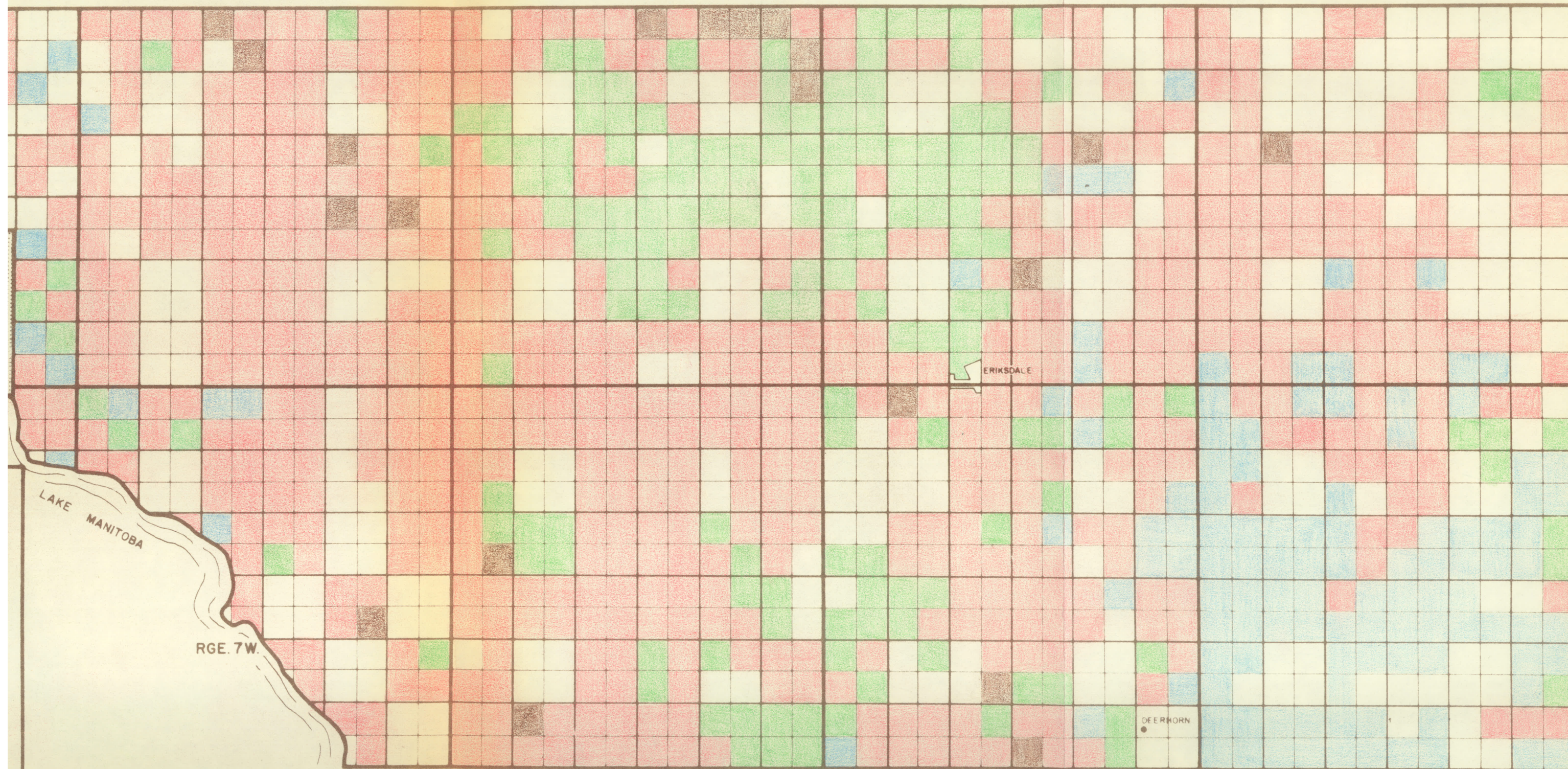
SOURCE 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



SOURCE 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MAP 5

total of 121 quarters settled by French, 82 or approximately 68 percent acquired land in Township 21 Range 4 West. The remaining 39 settlers were scattered throughout the Municipality with no particular area of concentration (see map no. 5).

The balance, 22 quarters, was acquired by persons of other ethnic origin and formed no particular pattern. They are found scattered through the Municipality (see map no. 5).

Table no. 12 shows the breakdown of ethnic groups on a township basis. It can be seen from this table that the British element was predominant in all townships, ranging from 52.9 percent in Township 22 Range 6 West to 92.2 percent in Township 22 Range 7 West. The exception was Township 21 Range 4 West where people of British origin accounted for only 22.6 percent, the French element being dominant.

As pointed out previously, Township 22 Range 6 West and Township 22 Range 5 West were occupied largely by settlers of Scandinavian origin and accounted for 38.1 percent and 42.3 percent of the total settlers respectively.

TABLE 12  
 ETHNIC ORIGIN OF FIRST SETTLERS BY TOWNSHIP  
 1888-1932

<u>TOWNSHIP AND RANGE</u>		<u>BRITISH</u>	<u>FRENCH</u>	<u>SCANDINAVIAN</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
21-4W	No.	26	82	7	-	115
	%	22.6	71.3	6.1	-	100.0
22-4W	No.	77	7	2	1	87
	%	88.5	8.0	2.3	1.2	100.0
21-5W	No.	71	12	28	3	114
	%	62.3	10.5	24.6	2.6	100.0
22-5W	No.	61	7	43	2	113
	%	54.0	6.2	38.1	1.7	100.0
21-6W	No.	105	1	21	1	128
	%	82.0	0.8	16.4	0.8	100.0
22-6W	No.	65	-	52	6	123
	%	52.9	-	42.3	4.8	100.0
21-7W	No.	58	4	5	1	68
	%	85.3	5.9	7.4	1.4	100.0
22-7W	No.	107	1	3	5	116
	%	92.2	0.9	2.6	4.3	100.0
21-8W	No.	4	1	-	-	5
	%	80.0	20.0	-	-	100.0
22-8W	No.	22	6	4	3	35
	%	62.9	17.1	11.4	8.6	100.0
TOTAL	No.	596	121	165	22	904
	%	65.9	13.4	18.3	2.4	100.0

SOURCE: Based on fieldwork.

SETTLEMENT TRENDSA. Total Population (Rural Farm, Non Farm and Urban)

As a result of the population trends between 1896 and 1961 (see figure 1) settlement in the Municipality of Eriksdale was divided into six major periods of settlement.

Figure no. 2 illustrates the population trends on a township basis and points out the variations in population change from township to township for a specific period on a Municipality basis.

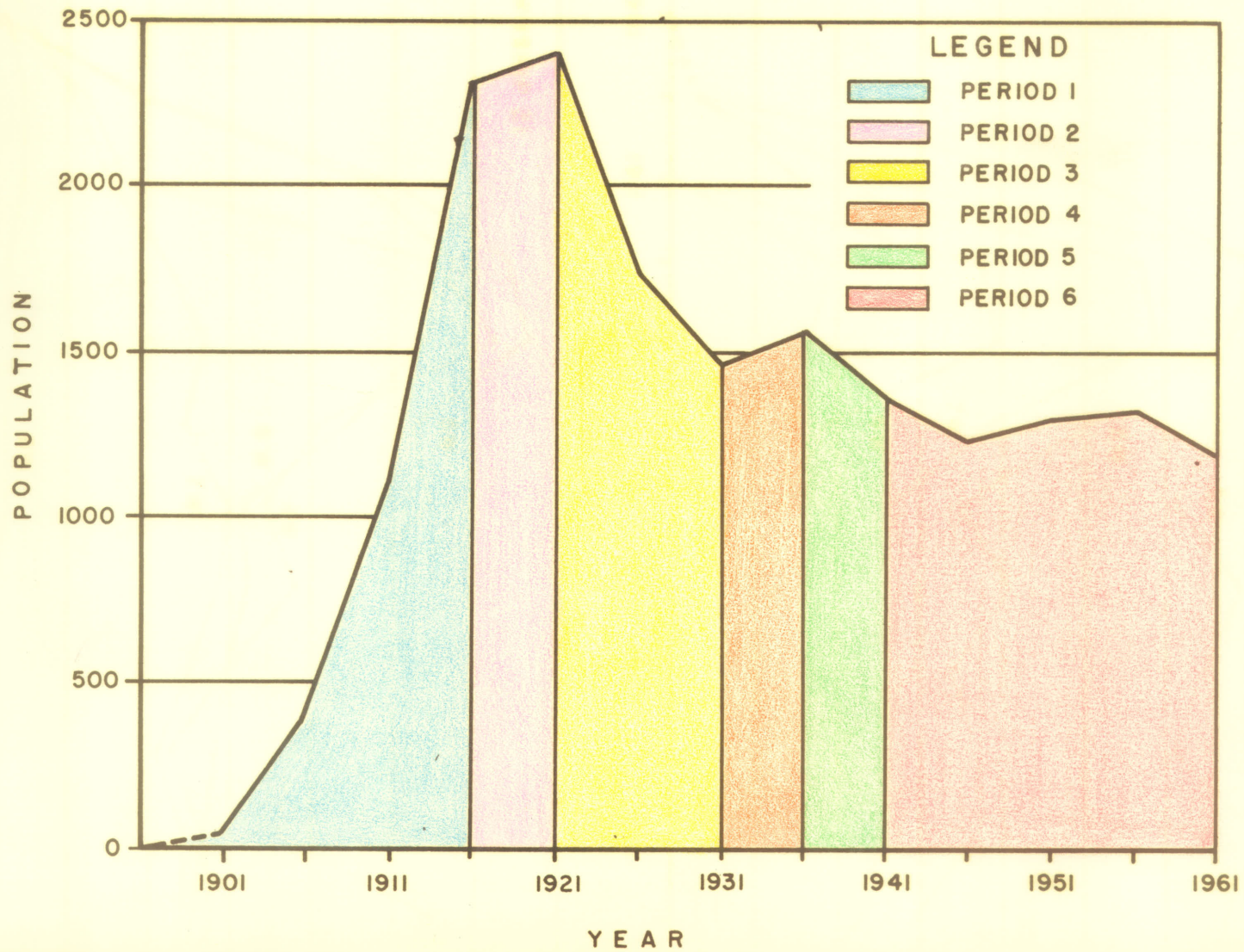
PERIOD 1 1896 - 1916

During this twenty year period, the area was characterized by a tremendous influx of homesteaders. By 1901 the Municipality had a total population of 42 persons. All of these persons were located in Townships 21 Ranges 6, 7 and 8 West as a result of the accessibility provided to this area by the Fairford Trail, which paralleled Lake Manitoba. From 1901 to 1916, the population of the Municipality increased from 42 to 2310 persons with Township 21 Range 6 West and Township 21 Range 8 West reaching their peak population in 1916 (see figure no. 2).

PERIOD 2 1916-1921

During this period of time, a slight increase of 100

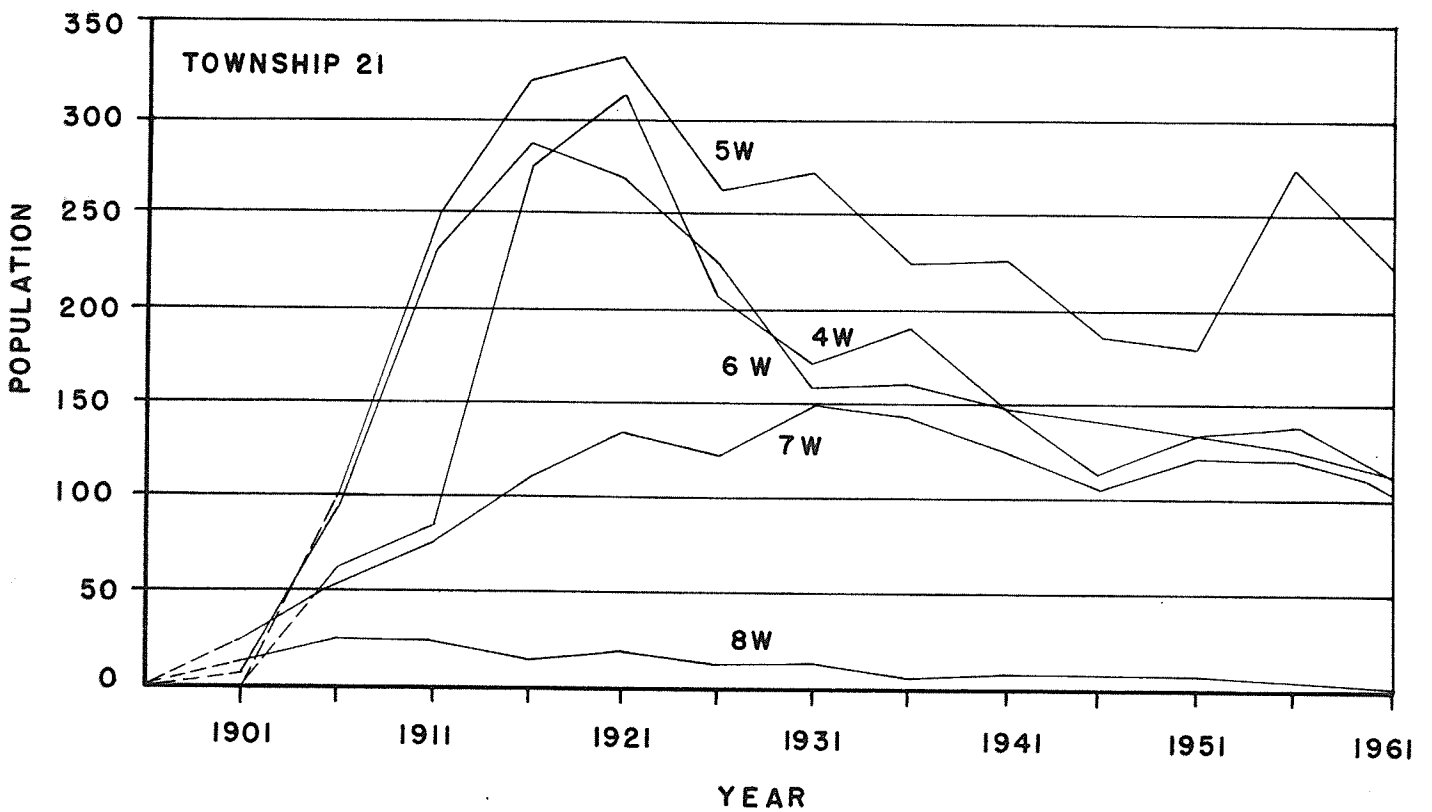
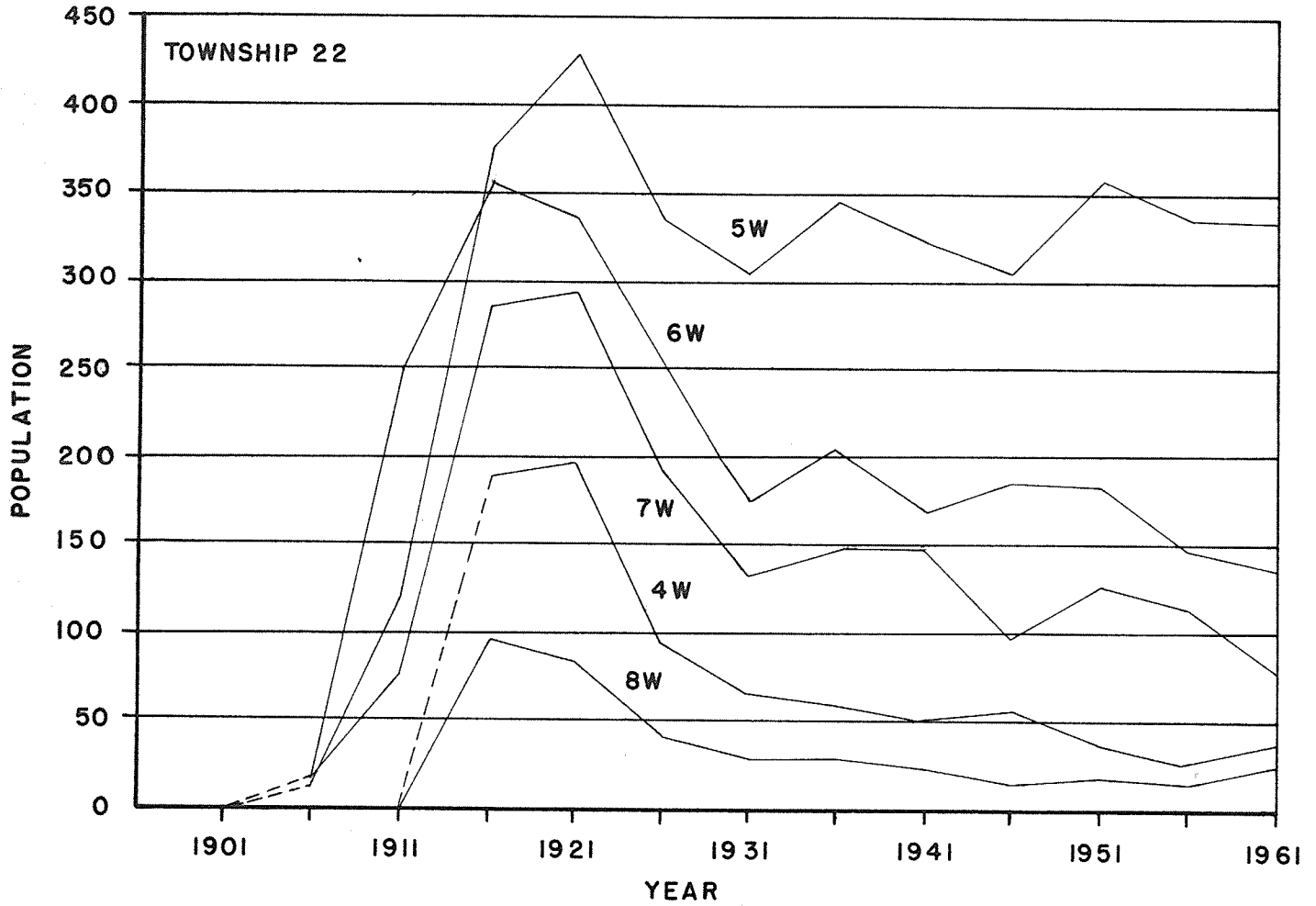
# MUNICIPAL POPULATION CHANGE 1896 - 1961



SOURCE: 1901-1961 D.B.S. CENSUS DATA

POPULATION CHANGE BY TOWNSHIP

1896 - 1961



persons was experienced in the study area. This was due to two factors:

1. the continuing influx of homesteaders; and
2. Soldier settlement which followed the end of World War I.

Seven of the ten townships showed an increase and three townships experienced slight decreases. Fifty percent of the townships reached their peak populations in 1921 (see figure no. 2) and the Municipality also reached its highest population of 2410 persons (see figure no. 1).

#### PERIOD 3 1921 - 1931

During this ten year period, the Municipality as a whole experienced a substantial loss of people (approximately 40 percent). This period could aptly be called a period of reassessment in that many of the homesteaders and entrants under The Soldier Settlement Act could not adequately support themselves - either because the land was too poor or because they attempted an unsuitable type of farming for the area - and were subsequently forced to leave. All but Township 21 Range 7 West experienced loss in population during this period (see figure no. 2).

PERIOD 4 1931 - 1936

Between 1931 and 1936, a slight increase (87 persons) was experienced by the Municipality. This increase was due to the influx of "Back to the Landers".<sup>11</sup> This period was characterized by the depression and many city dwellers were given a quarter section of land by the Government with the hope that this would relieve the unemployment pressures existing in the cities and provide a living for them.

Five of the townships showed a total increase of 153 persons and five experienced a loss of 66, a net gain of 87 persons for the Municipality (see figure no. 2).

PERIOD 5 1936 - 1941

During this five year period, the study area experienced a loss of 192 persons, or a little over 12 percent. This was due to the changes wrought by World War II as many either enlisted in the armed forces or tended to the production of war-time goods, both steps taking manpower from the farms, some to the factories located in the cities, others completely out of the country.

PERIOD 6 1941 - 1961

Between 1941 and 1961, the study period, the

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<sup>11</sup>See Appendix.

Municipality of Eriksdale experienced a total loss of 191 persons, or approximately 14 percent. From figure no. 2 it can be seen that this 20 year period was unstable as a result of the war years and the population per township fluctuated dramatically. Nevertheless, the general trend for every township was downward except for Township 22 Range 5 West and Township 22 Range 8 West where slight increases of 3.7 percent and 8.3 percent respectively were experienced. The growth experienced by the Town of Eriksdale was responsible for the former increase and an increase in the rural non farm element accounted for the positive change in the latter township.

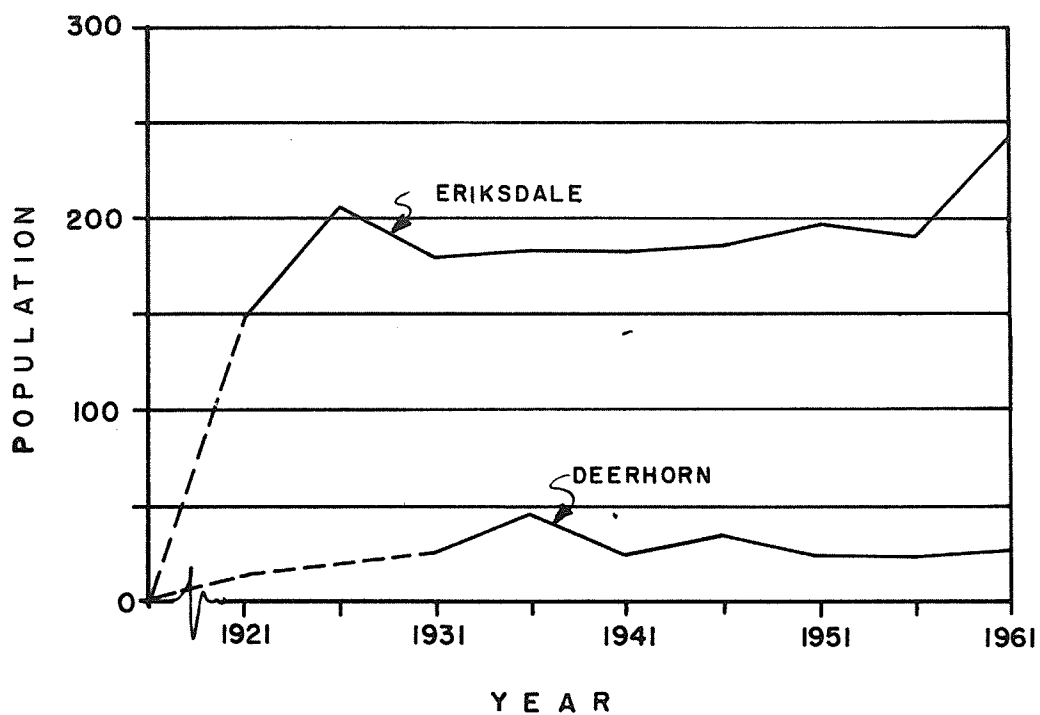
B. URBAN POPULATION

The Town of Eriksdale located between the township boundary of Township 21 Range 5 West and Township 22 Range 5 West, and the Hamlet of Deerhorn situate in the southeast corner of Township 21 Range 5 West, constitutes the urban population element in the Municipality of Eriksdale. From Dominion Bureau of Statistics, population figures were available from 1921 to 1961 and plotted on figure no. 3.

1. Town of Eriksdale

From figure no. 3 it can be seen that between 1921 and

FIGURE 3

URBAN POPULATION CHANGES  
1921 - 1961

SOURCE: 1921-1961 D.B.S. CENSUS DATA

1926, the Town of Eriksdale increased from 144 to 206, representing a 43.0 percent gain, and from 1926 to 1931 decreased by 27 persons, or approximately 13 percent. It is interesting to note that the 1926 peak coincided with a period of decrease experienced by the Municipality as a whole, almost seeming to indicate that some people first left the farm, migrated to the Town of Eriksdale and eventually departed altogether by 1931. From 1931 to 1956, the population of Eriksdale was almost static, showing an increase of only 11 persons. Between 1956 and 1961, Eriksdale experienced a substantial increase in population, increasing from 190 to 242. This increase was partly explained by the emerging trend for farm people to retire to nearby towns,<sup>12</sup> and also by the fact that people here migrated from the farms to a local town where more profitable work was available.

## 2. Hamlet of Deerhorn

From figure no. 3 it is evident that Deerhorn reached its peak population in 1936, when a total of 44 persons were reported. From 1936 to 1961, the population of Deerhorn decreased from 44 to 27 with minor fluctuations in the interim.

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<sup>12</sup>Eriksdale 1941 - 12 percent of total families retired  
1961 - 36 percent of total families retired

SUMMARY

The majority, as well as the first, of the persons who settled in the study area were of British, French or Scandinavian origin. Being the first to settle in the Municipality, they acquired the best land and subsequently realizing that even this land was unproductive due to the qualities characteristic of the soil, they were the first to emigrate. People of other ethnic groups, such as Ukrainians, Poles, Germans, etc., settled the area much later and, in most cases, acquired land that had been abandoned. This was borne out by the fact that during the early period of settlement only 2.4 percent of the land settled was by persons of "other" ethnic origin whereas by 1941 approximately 8 percent of the farm population was of "other" background, which increased by 1961 to almost 17 percent.

The majority of land was settled between 1907 and 1916. Worthy of note was the relatively early settlement of Townships 21 Range 7 West and 8 West, which can be attributed to the presence of the Fairford Trail paralleling Lake Manitoba and providing access into these two townships.

Although the majority of the land was acquired through

homesteads, many quarters were obtained by other grants such as Soldier Settlement Board, Soldier Grants and Rural Rehabilitation Commission. In most cases, these settlers had very little choice and consequently were forced, due to the poor nature of the land, to abandon their holdings after a very short period of settlement.

## CHAPTER III

### PHYSICAL BACKGROUND

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this chapter is to provide a brief description of the physical characteristics of the study area, as it was felt that these characteristics contributed to a decrease in population as well as to a change in the type of farming.

#### GEOLOGY AND SURFACE MATERIALS<sup>1</sup>

The Municipality of Eriksdale is underlain by limestone and dolostone of the Devonian and Silurian Periods. The Devonian rocks are found along the western portion of the study area whereas Silurian rocks underlie the eastern parts. It was these rock formations that contributed most of the material comprising the surface deposits, although Precambrian granite drift transported by continental ice sheets contributed some materials to these deposits.

The study area is located in a physiographic region called the Interlake Till Plain, which is characterized by gently undulating ground moraine primarily of limestone origin. These surface materials vary in depth from 40 feet at

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<sup>1</sup>Soils Report No. 12, Manitoba Department of Agriculture and Conservation, Winnipeg 1961, pp. 15 and 18

Eriksdale to actual rock outcrops in the northwest sector of Township 22 Range 6 West.

RELIEF AND DRAINAGE <sup>2</sup>

There are no prominent relief features in the study area. The elevation ranges from a little over 925 feet (A.S.L.) in the northeast corner of Township 22 Range 4 West, sloping gently down to 814 feet (A.S.L.) recorded on the shores of Lake Manitoba. This represents a drop in elevation of approximately 120 feet in 24 miles or approximately 5 feet per mile. The land has a distinctive low ridge and swale topography with a general northwest to southeast linear pattern. The swells rise only a few feet above the intervening depressions but, lying across the general direction of land-fall, they have a major damming effect on the country drainage. Poorly developed surface drainage is characteristic of the study area. There are no rivers in the Municipality and run-off from the ridges collects in the adjoining swales or in the larger swamps and intermittent lakes. There are two small lakes in the study area: Pine Lake, located in Township 22 Range 7 West, and Buffalo Lake, found in Township 22 Range 6 West, neither of which have any outlets.

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<sup>2</sup>Ibid, p. 15

### NATURAL VEGETATION<sup>3</sup>

The area covered by the Municipality of Eriksdale lies within the Boreal Forest Region of Canada and is characterized by two main sections of this region: Aspen Oak and Manitoba Lowland. The Aspen Oak section is found in the western half of the Municipality. This section is characterized mainly by aspen trees with a general distribution of balsam poplar and burr oak. Open grassland areas are also found but are limited to areas bordering Lake Manitoba.

The Manitoba Lowlands Section is found in the eastern half of the Municipality. Although aspen are still dominant, black spruce and tamarack are prevalent in the poorly drained areas whereas white spruce and jack pine are found on the better drained ridges.

### SOILS<sup>4</sup>

The study area is characterized by two general soil areas called the Isafold and Garson associations. These two soil associations have been grouped on the basis of similarities of parent materials, drainage patterns and soil

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<sup>3</sup>Ibid, pp. 20 and 23

<sup>4</sup>Ibid, pp. 26 and 28

zonality. A brief description of these two general soil areas is found below:

Isafold Association<sup>5</sup>

The Isafold Association is found in the southern half of Township 21 Range 4 West and small portions of the eastern edge of Township 21 Range 5 West. This area forms a portion of the Interlake Till Plain and the soils are thin, high in lime content and mostly very stoney. The land is nearly level with low ridge and swale local relief. Most of the land is still under natural vegetation of aspen and burr oak woods interspersed with areas of meadow grasses, sedges and reed.

Garson Association<sup>6</sup>

The remaining area of the Municipality is occupied by members of the Garson Association. This area contains very poorly drained soils, limestone rock outcrop and thin soils over rock as well as gravelly soils. This association occupies the Interlake Till Plain and is characterized by thin, very stoney soils developed from high-lime till that has been degraded under the prevailing aspen and spruce vegetation. This land has a distinct swell and swale topography with the ridges bending in a northwest to southeast

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<sup>5</sup>For further information regarding these soil associations, the reader is referred to: Soils Report No.12, Manitoba Department of Agriculture and Conservation, Winnipeg, 1961.

direction. These ridges lie across the direction of general land-fall and severely hamper the drainage of the study area. While most of the area is still under natural vegetation, cultivation has been fairly extensive in some portions of the Municipality.

In General, it can be said that stoniness is the dominant characteristic of these soil associations. The stoniness varies from stone free and slightly stoney along the west, to excessively stoney along the east, and on an average it can be said that the soils are moderately to very stoney.

#### SUMMARY

The fact that the study area is poorly drained and the soils are generally moderately to very stoney has had a detrimental effect on both the farming and population trends. Between 1941 and 1961 the land use has changed from mixed farming to cattle raising, thus reflecting the poor nature of the soils. In the process of doing so, farm size has increased substantially and many persons have been displaced.

## CHAPTER IV

### ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this chapter is to provide the reader with a brief economic background of the study area because it was felt that this would lead to a better understanding of population trends. Therefore, land use, farm and income characteristics were studied and related to both past, as well as to future probable, population trends. For the purposes of this study, both land use and farm characteristics have been discussed as part of the economic background. This is justified in view of the fact that these characteristics reflect the economic nature of the area.

#### LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS

Excluding Indian Reserve no. 46, the Municipality of Eriksdale has an area of 298.52 square miles, or 191,054 acres. The amount of land in agricultural use accounts for 58.6 percent, or 112,014 acres, of the total area. The greatest portion of this land is devoted to unimproved hay and pasture (49.7 percent). Very little is accounted for by improved hay and pasture (3.5 percent) and crops (5.4 percent).

The remaining land in the Municipality (41.4 percent or 79,040 acres) is land which is not in agricultural use - mainly wasteland and land which is devoted to some other

kind of non-agricultural use, such as roads and railway allowances, townsites, etc. (see table no. 13).

TABLE 13

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE	LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS BY TOWNSHIP IN PERCENT				NOT IN		GRAND TOTAL
	IN AGRICULTURAL USE			TOTAL	AGRICULTURAL USE		
	CROPS	HAY AND PASTURE			WASTELAND AND OTHER	TOTAL	
IMPROVED		UNIMPROVED					
21-4W	3.9	2.6	35.9	42.4	57.6	57.6	100.0
22-4W	3.4	2.3	26.8	32.5	67.5	67.5	100.0
21-5W	6.3	4.2	44.3	54.8	45.2	45.2	100.0
22-5W	3.5	2.3	51.5	57.3	42.7	42.7	100.0
21-6W	13.0	8.7	46.7	68.4	31.6	31.6	100.0
22-6W	7.8	5.1	63.1	76.0	24.0	24.0	100.0
21-7W	3.9	2.6	70.3	76.8	23.2	23.2	100.0
22-7W	4.1	2.7	63.2	70.1	29.9	29.9	100.0
21-8W	-	-	12.5	12.5	87.5	87.5	100.0
22-8W	-	-	55.4	55.4	44.6	44.6	100.0
GRAND TOTAL	5.4	3.5	49.7	58.6	41.4	41.4	100.0

SOURCE: "A General Classification of Land for Agricultural Use by Township, Manitoba", Economics Division, Canada Dept. of Agriculture, Winnipeg, 1963.

A further look at table no. 13 points out the land use characteristics on a township basis. It can be noted

from this table that the percentage of crop land varies from a low of 0 percent to a high of 13 percent - Townships 21 and 22 Range 8 West recording 0 percent and Townships 21 and 22 Range 6 West recording the highest, 13 percent and 7.8 percent respectively.

The distribution of improved hay and pasture closely parallels that of crop land with Townships 21 and 22 Range 8 West showing no land in this category and Townships 21 and 22 Range 6 West recording highs of 8.7 percent and 5.1 percent respectively.

The township recording the highest percentage of unimproved hay and pasture is Township 21 Range 7 West with a high of 70.3 percent. This is mainly due to the presence of the open grasslands bordering Lake Manitoba. With the exception of Township 21 Range 8 West, which represents a very small portion of a township (602 acres), the percentage of land devoted to unimproved hay and pasture ranges from 26.8 percent (Township 22 Range 4 West) to 63.2 percent (Township 22 Range 7 West).

The amount of land not in agricultural use varies, with the exception of Township 21 Range 8 West (a partial township), between 67.5 percent recorded for Township 22

Range 4 West to 23.2 percent for Township 21 Range 7 West. As is to be expected, Township 21 Range 7 West recorded the highest percentage of land in agricultural use.

To summarize, it can be noted from table no. 13 that approximately 60 percent of the Municipality is being utilized for agricultural purposes, whereas approximately 40 percent is either idle land or land being utilized for some purpose other than agriculture.

#### FARM CHARACTERISTICS

It was found from the fieldwork that the average size of farms in 1941 was 2.44 quarters and that by 1961 the average farm size had increased to 5.41 quarters, representing a change of +121.7 percent. Furthermore, by 1961 the Municipality had 69 farms greater than four quarter sections. This represents 43.6 percent of the total farms in the study area as compared to 10.6 percent in 1941.

From table no. 14, it can be noted that the total area of farms increased from approximately 66,000 acres in 1941 to 89,500 acres in 1961, representing an increase of 36 percent. This large increase is due mainly to a substantial increase in unimproved land acquired, probably

through hay permits, thus reflecting the cattle oriented nature of the farms in the area.

TABLE 14

FARM CHARACTERISTIC COMPARISON 1941-1961

YEAR	TOTAL AREA OF FARMS*	USE OF FARMLAND*		FIELD CROPS*				
		IMPROVED	UNIMPROVED	TOTAL	WHEAT	BARLEY	OATS	HAY
1941	65,886	10,472	55,414	4,500	574	1157	1837	752
1961	89,640	16,177	73,463	6,336	880	129	2846	1821
C H A N G E	NO. +23,754	+5,705	+18,049	+1,836	+306	-1028	+1009	+1069
	% +36.1	+54.5	+32.6	+40.8	+53.3	-88.9	+54.9	+142.1
* In Acres								

YEAR	LIVESTOCK					
	TOTAL	CATTLE		SHEEP	OTHER	
		BEEF	DAIRY		PIGS	POULTRY
1941	3413	1294	2119	3540	896	21,738
1961	6698	5364	1334	175	1140	14,164
C H A N G E	NO. +3285	+4070	-785	-3365	+244	-7,574
	% +96.2	+314.5	-37.0	-95.1	+27.2	-34.8

SOURCE: 1941 and 1961 D.B.S. Census Data

The fact that the study area has shifted from a mixed farming area to a predominantly beef-cattle ranch area

is further borne out by the data in the preceding table. Although all field crops except barley have shown an increase, hay acreage has increased by 1069 acres, or approximately 140 percent, since 1941. It can also be observed from table no. 14 that beef-cattle have more than tripled their number since 1941, further illustrating the ranching orientation of the study area. Dairy cattle, on the other hand, have decreased by 37 percent, possibly reflecting a shortage in labour supply.

From the above discussion, it can be seen that there is a strong trend toward beef-cattle farms in the study area. This is also substantiated by the fact that the average size of farms has increased between 1941 and 1961 and in the process of doing so has consolidated small farm units, thereby acquiring more land and thus displacing many persons.

#### ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS<sup>1</sup>

The net income for the Municipality in 1960 was found to be \$123,395 (see table no. 15). The net income on a town-

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<sup>1</sup>Economics Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg 1963.

ship basis ranges from a low of \$6,083 for Township 22 Range 8 West to a high of \$20,031 recorded by Township 21 Range 6 West. This represents a median net income per township of \$14,669.

TABLE 15

## INCOME CHARACTERISTICS BY TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE	INCOME CHARACTERISTICS						
	NET INCOME (\$)	OPTIMUM NO. OF FARMS <sup>1</sup>	ACTUAL NO. OF FARMS (1961)	INCOME/FARM		% INCOME DEFICIT	MIGRATION INDEX <sup>3</sup>
				ACTUAL (\$)	\$2500 <sup>2</sup>		
21-4W	11,874	4.8	16	742	2500	-70.7	3.3
22-4W	6,644	2.7	7	949	2500	-62.0	2.6
21-5W	14,669	5.9	29	506	2500	-79.8	4.9
22-5W	14,817	5.9	13	1140	2500	-54.4	2.2
21-6W	20,031	8.0	21	954	2500	-61.8	2.6
22-6W	19,819	7.9	25	793	2500	-68.2	3.2
21-7W	12,728	5.1	27	471	2500	-81.2	5.3
22-7W	16,730	6.7	15	1115	2500	-55.4	2.2
22-8W	6,083	2.4	5	1217	2500	-51.3	2.1
TOTAL	123,395	49.5	158	780	2500	-68.8	3.2

<sup>1</sup>Optimum number of farms =  $\frac{\text{Net Income of Township}}{\$2500}$

<sup>2</sup>The figure \$2500 represents the income necessary to maintain an adequate standard of living

<sup>3</sup>Migration Index =  $\frac{\text{Actual Number of Farms}}{\text{Optimum number of farms with } \$2500 \text{ net income}}$  was

borrowed from the unpublished report entitled "Rural Population Change - Interlake, 1941-1961" by Dr. T. R. Weir.

A further observation of table no. 15 on the preceding page reveals that the average net income per farm was \$780. Township 22 Range 8 West recorded the highest average net income per farm (\$1,217) and Township 21 Range 7 West recorded the lowest average net income per farm (\$471).

As is to be expected, there exists a direct correlation between the migration index and the average net income per farm. Township 21 Range 7 West recorded the lowest average net income per farm, the highest percentage income deficit and the highest migration index (5.3). On the other hand, Township 22 Range 8 West recorded the highest average income per farm, the lowest percentage income deficit and the lowest migration index (2.1).

The migration index for the Municipality as a whole was found to be 3.2. This implies that in order to maintain an average net income per farm of \$2500, a further loss of farms should be experienced as there are 3.2 times as many farms as there should be in the Municipality. Therefore, unless some other form of income producing employment is undertaken by the residents of the Municipality, a further decrease in population will be experienced in the study area as a result of persons leaving and seeking employment elsewhere.

SUMMARY

The "beef-cattle raising" nature of the study area is clearly reflected in the fact that only 5.4 percent of the total area is devoted to crops, whereas 53.2 percent is used as both improved and unimproved hay and pasture land.

The large increase (315 percent) in the number of beef-cattle between 1941 and 1961, along with the decrease in the number of farms (40.3 percent) as well as the increase in the size of farms (121.7 percent) substantiates the fact that the Municipality has changed from an area of mixed farming to one of "beef-cattle raising".

Finally, the assumption that the average income per farm should be \$2500 would suggest that a further decrease in the number of farms and in the farm population would be advisable.

## CHAPTER V

### POPULATION ANALYSIS

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this chapter is to discuss the 1941 and 1961 distribution of farm population, as well as the nature and extent of rural depopulation.

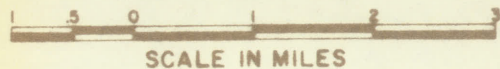
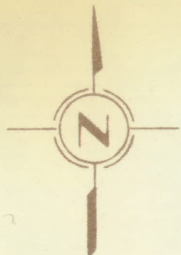
#### FARM POPULATION DENSITY

The distribution of farm population on a quarter section basis for the years 1941 and 1961 is illustrated on maps no. 6 and 7 respectively.

It is evident from an observation of these two maps that the study area was sparsely populated and that the majority of the farm residents were concentrated along the road system servicing the Municipality (see map no. 37).

In 1941, there were two particular areas which stood out as being void of population. The northern and eastern portion of Township 22 Range 4 West was completely without inhabitants and this can best be explained by the fact that this area is very poorly drained and consists mainly of swamp land. The second area was Township 22 Range 8 West where approximately two-thirds of the township was vacant. Again,

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO. 46

RGE. 8W.

ERIKSDALE

LAKE MANITOBA

RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

DEERHORN

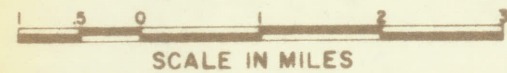
FARM POPULATION DENSITY  
PER QUARTER SECTION  
1941

- 1-2 PERSONS (yellow)
- 3-4 PERSONS (orange)
- 5-6 PERSONS (pink)
- 7-8 PERSONS (light blue)
- 9-10 PERSONS (green)
- >10 PERSONS (brown)

SOURCE 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

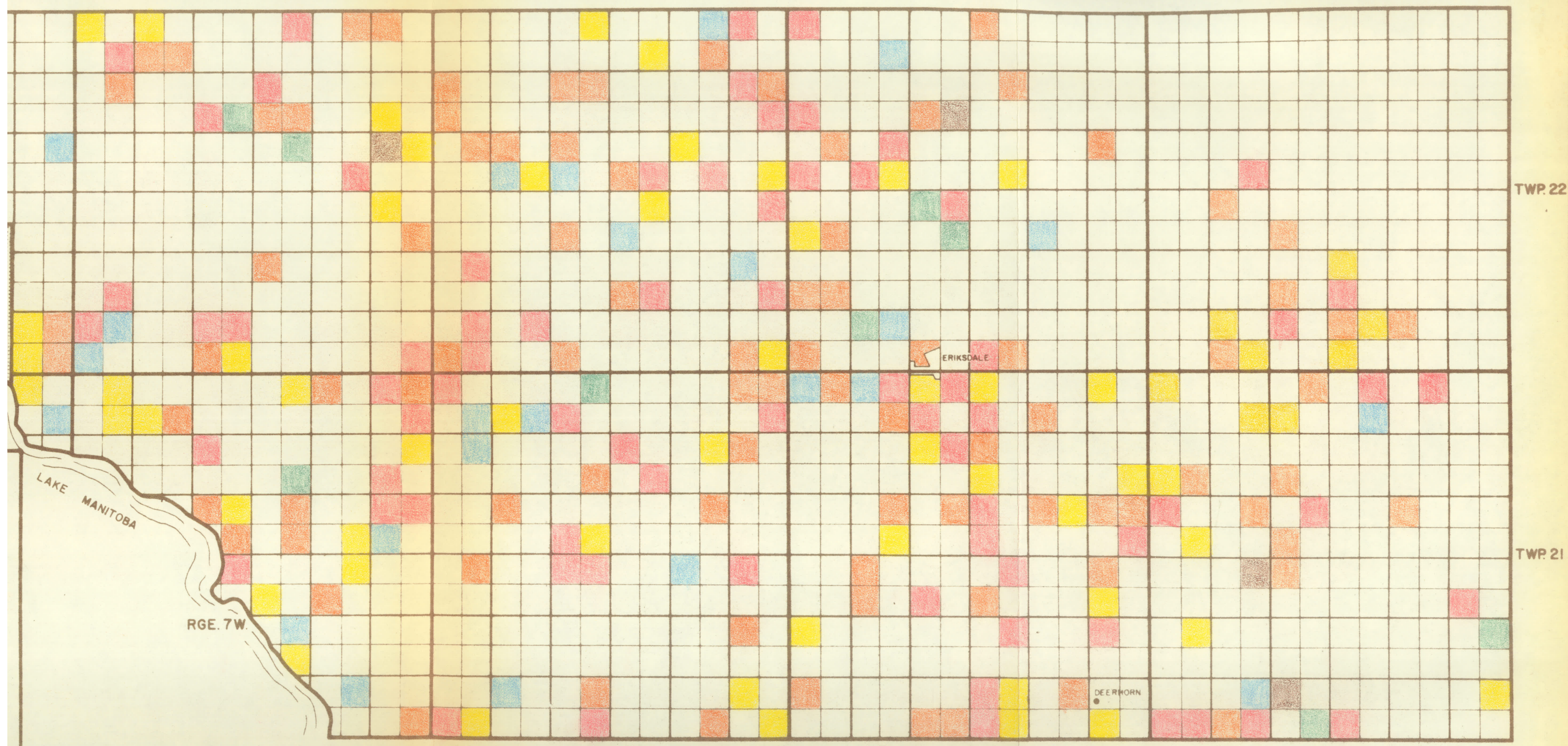
MAP 6

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

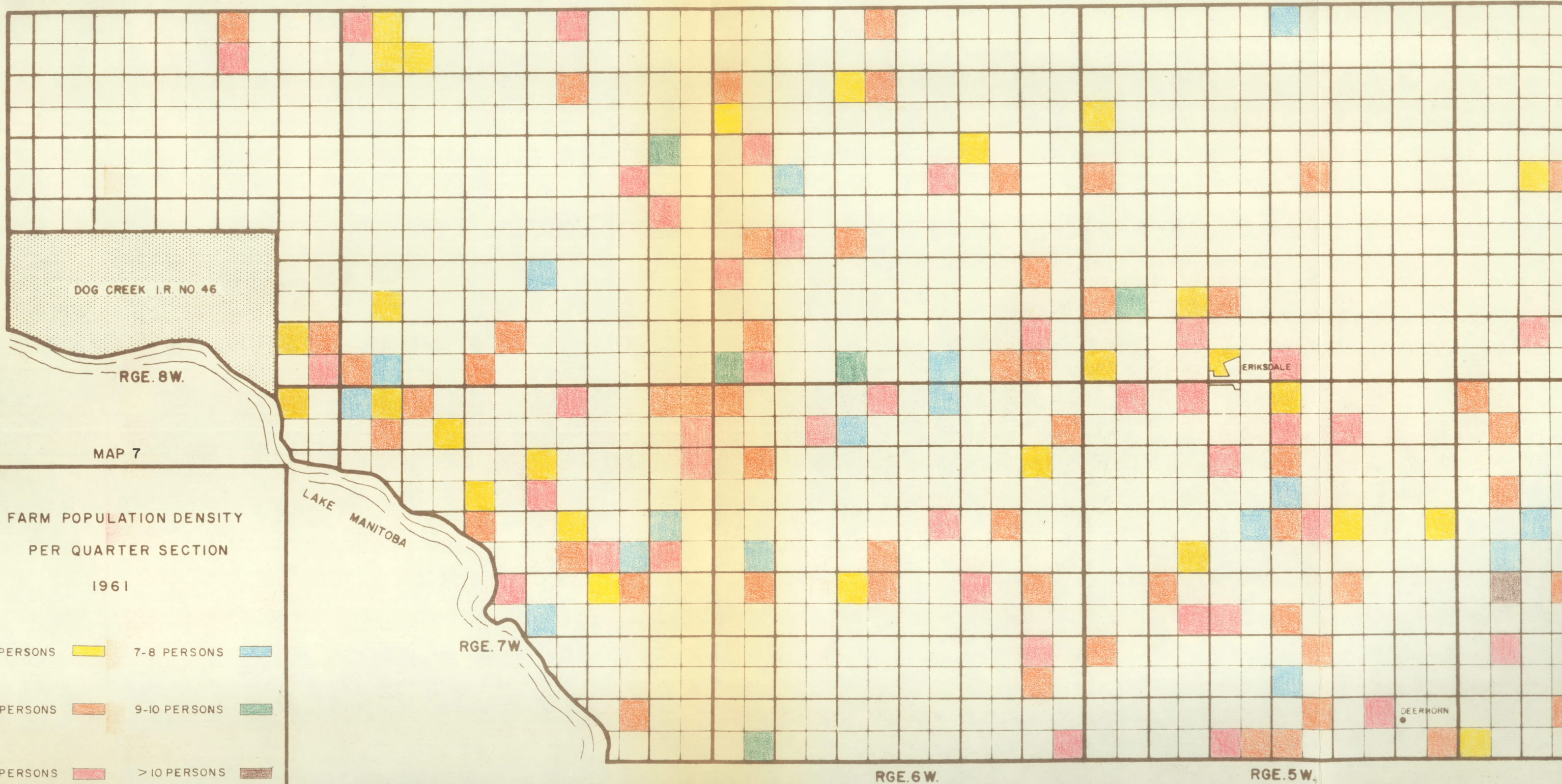
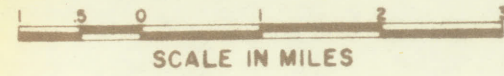
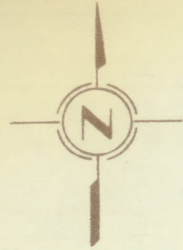
TOWNSHIP KEY



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MAP 6

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 7

FARM POPULATION DENSITY  
PER QUARTER SECTION

1961

- |             |  |              |  |
|-------------|--|--------------|--|
| 1-2 PERSONS |  | 7-8 PERSONS  |  |
| 3-4 PERSONS |  | 9-10 PERSONS |  |
| 5-6 PERSONS |  | > 10 PERSONS |  |

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

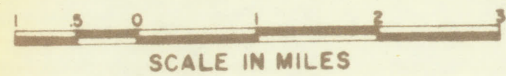
DEERPORN

ERIKSDALE

LAKE MANITOBA

RGE. 7W.

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MAP 7

this is related to the swampy condition characteristic of this area.

In general, it can be said that in 1941 the study area was sparsely populated with no particular concentration or pattern of settlement. In 1961, the distribution of settlement was again very scattered and without any pattern except for the concentration of residents along the roads running through the study area.

Townships 22 Ranges 4, 5, 7 and 8 West were characterized by large areas completely void of population. Again, this lack of population can be related to the poor drainage and swampy conditions of these townships.

#### CHANGES IN DENSITY PATTERNS

In 1941, approximately 24 percent of all quarters occupied had a density of between 1 and 2 persons, 34 percent between 3 and 4, 28 percent ranging from 5 to 6, and the remaining 14 percent accounting for densities of 7 and over per quarter section (see table no. 16).

TABLE 16

FARM POPULATION DENSITY BY CATEGORIES  
PERCENT OF TOTAL 1941-1961

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE	DENSITY CATEGORIES <sup>1</sup>													
	1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 6		7 - 8		9 - 10		Over 10		Total	
	1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961
21-4W	23.3	6.3	26.6	43.7	30.0	25.0	6.7	18.7	6.7	-	6.7	6.3	100.0	100.0
22-4W	35.7	14.3	42.9	14.3	21.4	57.1	-	-	-	14.3	-	-	100.0	100.0
21-5W	28.3	14.3	36.9	39.3	30.4	35.7	4.4	10.7	-	-	-	-	100.0	100.0
22-5W	10.7	33.3	35.7	33.3	28.6	16.8	7.1	8.3	14.3	8.3	3.6	-	100.0	100.0
21-6W	18.2	9.5	30.3	42.9	33.3	28.6	15.2	14.3	3.0	4.7	-	-	100.0	100.0
22-6W	20.0	12.5	37.5	45.9	30.0	25.0	12.5	8.3	-	8.3	-	-	100.0	100.0
21-7W <sup>2</sup>	33.3	26.9	27.3	30.8	21.3	26.9	12.1	15.4	3.0	-	3.0	-	100.0	100.0
22-7W	19.4	26.6	32.3	26.6	32.3	26.6	6.4	13.4	6.4	6.8	3.2	-	100.0	100.0
22-8W	42.9	20.0	42.9	40.0	-	40.0	14.2	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Density in persons per quarter section

<sup>2</sup>Includes Township 21 Range 8 West

By 1961, the picture changed slightly with a little over 17 percent (24 percent in 1941) of all quarters accounting for 1 to 2 persons per quarter section, 37 percent (34 percent in 1941) for 3 to 4, 29 percent (30 percent in 1941) for 5 to 6, and the remaining 17 percent (14 percent in 1941) for densities 7 and over. The percentage of the total decrease experienced in the low density areas and the slight increases reflected in the higher density areas correlate with the fact that between 1941 and 1961, although a 38.4 percent loss in farm population was experienced by the study area, an increase in both the persons per farm and the size of families occurred (see tables no. 30 and 24 for supporting data).

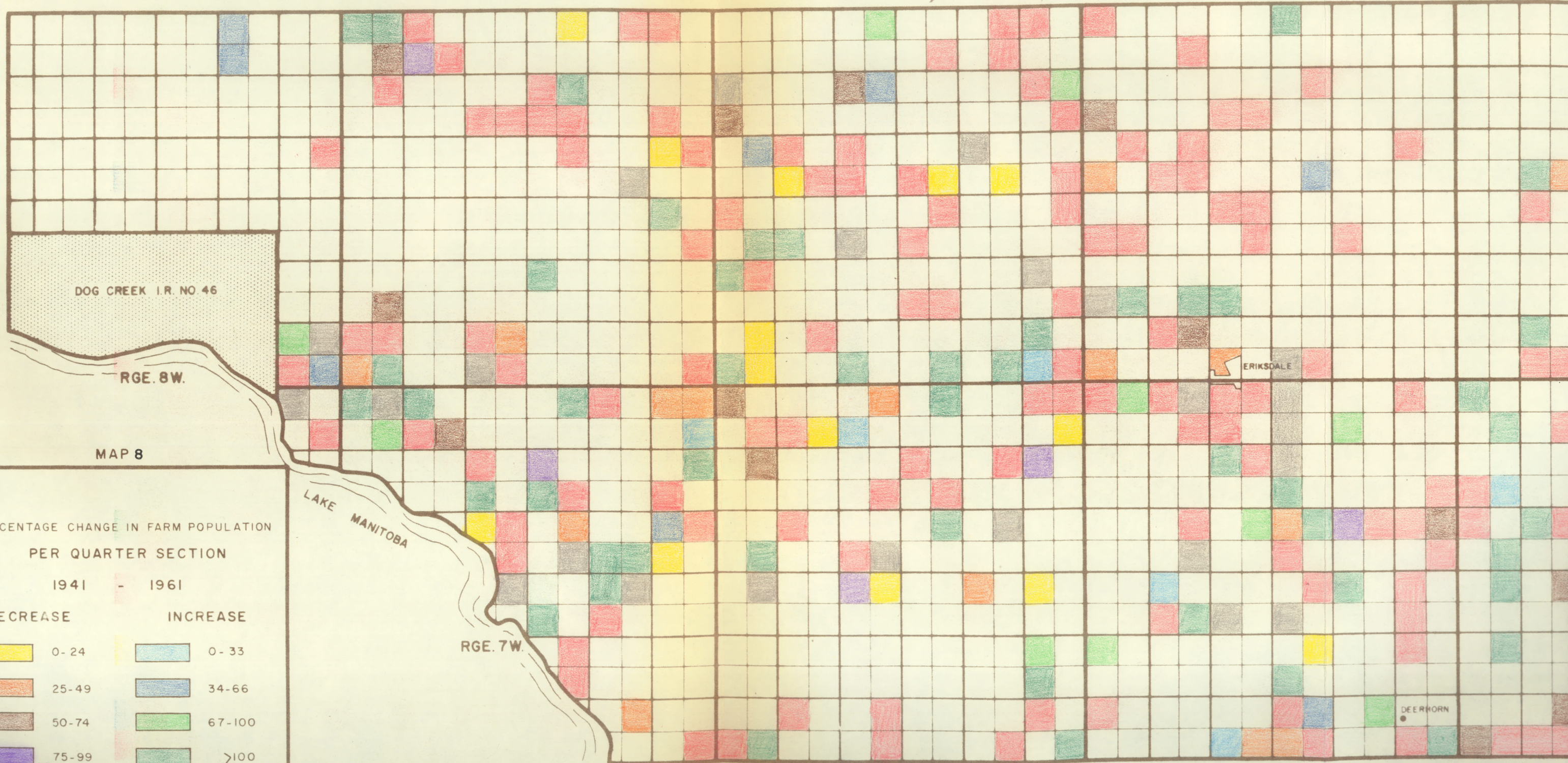
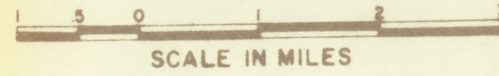
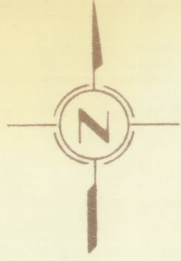
#### FARM POPULATION CHANGE BY QUARTER SECTION

Map no. 8 illustrates for the study area the percentage change in farm population per quarter section between the years 1941 and 1961.

##### Decreases in Population

Out of 295 quarter sections occupied in either 1941 or 1961, approximately 65 percent or 191 quarters experienced a loss in population, a little over 8 percent or 24 quarters

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 8

LAKE MANITOBA

RGE. 7W.

ERIKSDALE

DEERHORN

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN FARM POPULATION  
PER QUARTER SECTION

1941 - 1961

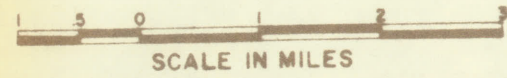
DECREASE

INCREASE

	0-24		0-33
	25-49		34-66
	50-74		67-100
	75-99		>100
	100		NO CHANGE

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

showed "no change" and 27 percent or 80 quarters were characterized by an increase. Of the 191 quarters which experienced a loss in population, the larger proportion, approximately 48 percent or 141 quarters, showed a complete loss of people (100 percent decrease). This was due to the fact that the total farm population of the quarter sections emigrated from the area. The remaining 50 quarters, or 17 percent, experienced losses ranging from 12 percent to 85 percent. These farm population losses were caused mainly by the following three factors or combination of factors:

1. Decrease in family size between 1941 and 1961;
2. The 1941 family was replaced by a smaller sized family between 1941 and 1961;
- 3) Death or retirement of members of the family between 1941 and 1961.

On a township basis, it was found that Township 22 Range 6 West and Township 21 Range 5 West showed the largest number of quarter sections experiencing losses between 1941 and 1961. For Township 22 Range 6 West, a total of 29 quarters (63.1 percent) out of 46 quarters occupied in either 1941 or 1961 were characterized by decreases, and out of these, 22 quarters showed a total loss of people (100 percent). In Township 21 Range 5 West, 29 quarters (56.9 percent) out of 51 experienced a loss, and out of these, 23

lost 100 percent of their population.

"No Change" in Population

Approximately 8.2 percent or 24 quarter sections out of 295 quarters occupied in 1941 or 1961 were characterized by "no change" in population; that is, the 1941 density per quarter section was equivalent to the 1961 density.

Township 21 Range 5 West recorded the highest number of quarters showing "no change" with 7 out of 51, or 13.7 percent.

Increases in Population

A total of 80 quarter sections or approximately 27 percent showed increases between 1941 and 1961. The majority of these, 52 or 65 percent, experienced increases greater than 100 percent. This large increase is due mainly to new residents who settled in the area between 1941 and 1961. Out of these 52 quarters, 33 or 63.5 percent were vacant in 1941 and occupied in 1961, and 19 quarters or 36.5 percent experienced increases ranging from 125 percent to 600 percent. The remaining 28 quarters recorded increases ranging from 20 percent to 100 percent. This increase in population per quarter section is a result of either an increase in family size or the fact that the 1941 family was replaced by a

larger sized family between 1941 and 1961.

On a township basis, it can be seen from map no. 8 that Township 21 Range 7 West and Township 22 Range 6 West each recorded 13 quarter sections with increases, representing 35.1 percent and 28.2 percent respectively of the total quarter sections occupied in either 1941 or 1961.

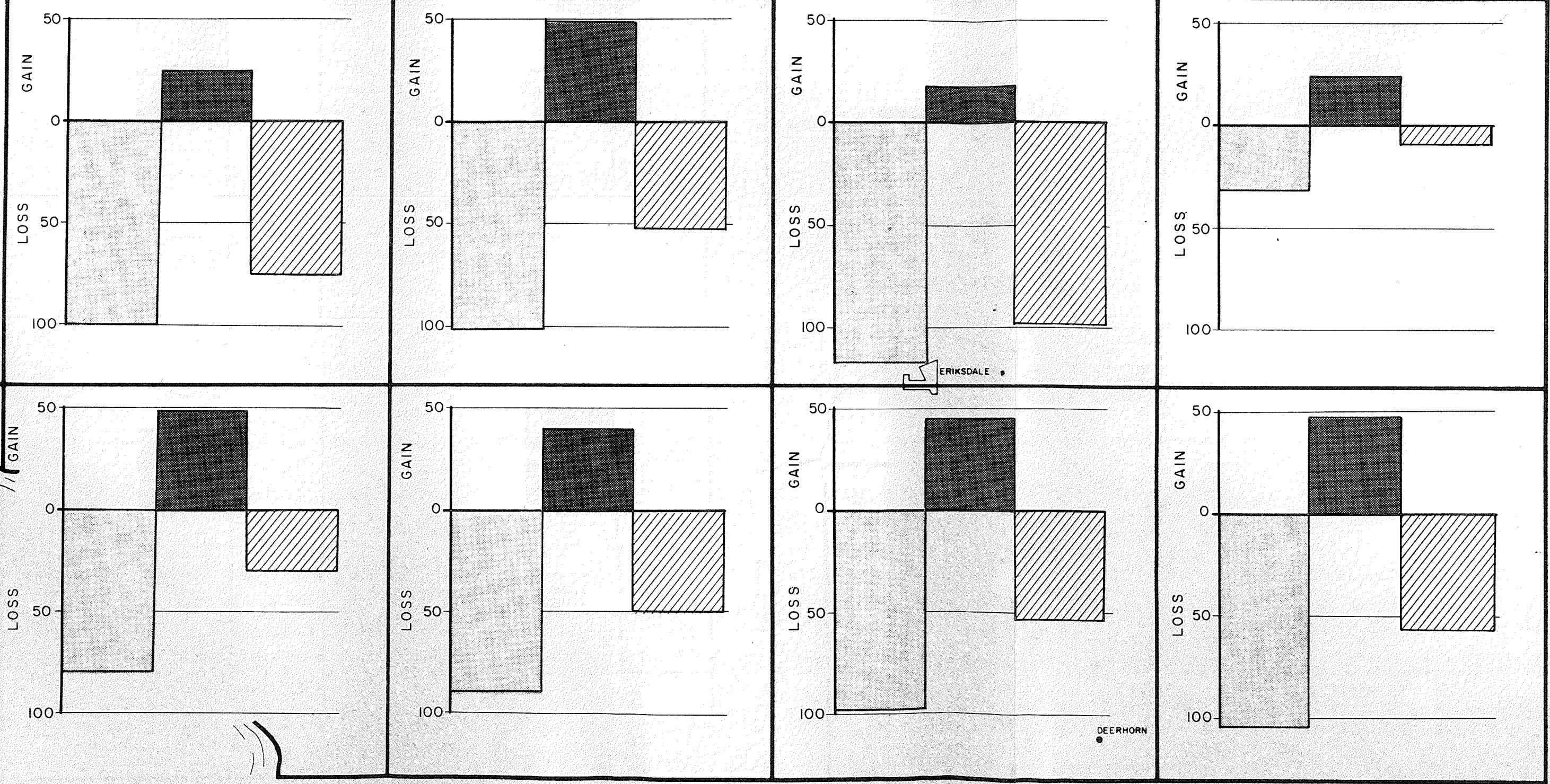
#### FARM POPULATION CHANGE BY TOWNSHIP

Map no. 9 illustrates the population trends that have taken place between 1941 and 1961 on a township basis. This information was obtained by comparing on a quarter section basis the 1941 and 1961 population, and determining whether the quarter section in question experienced a loss or a gain in population. Totals for these were then obtained and added to produce the net loss experienced by the various townships.

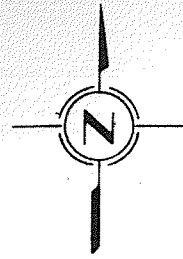
The major factors contributing to losses in population are emigration, decrease in family size, death, or the replacement of the 1941 family by a family smaller in size. Increases are due mainly to immigration, increase in family size or the replacement of the 1941 family by a family of larger size in 1961.

The Municipality as a whole lost a total of 729 farm

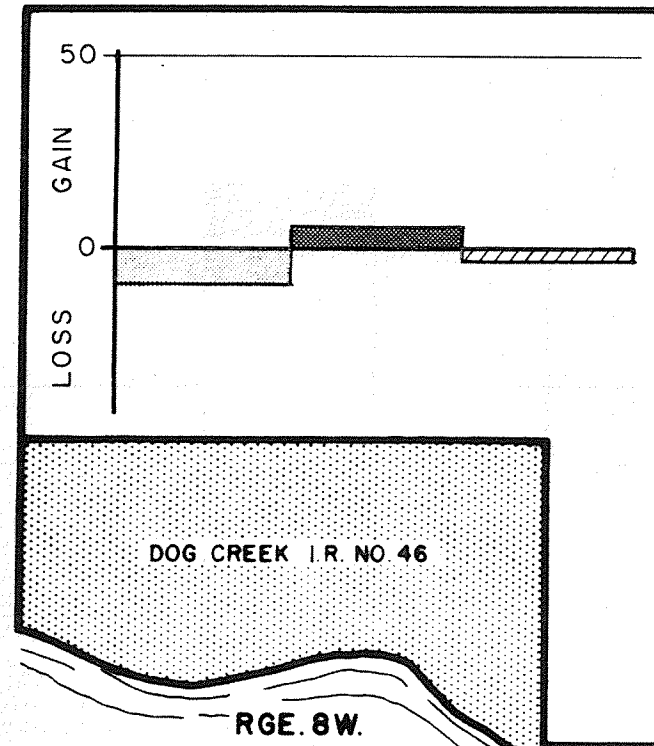
# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

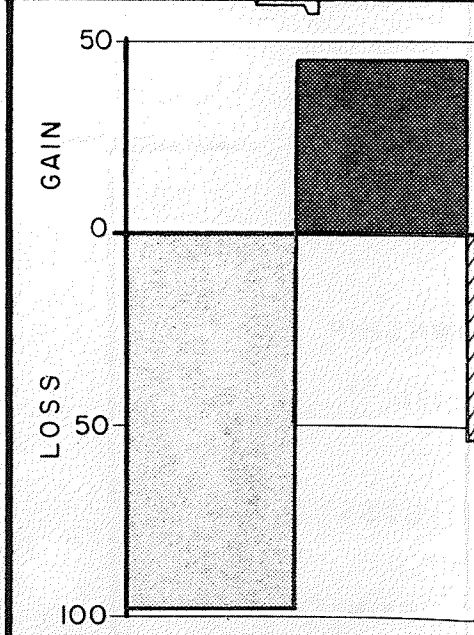
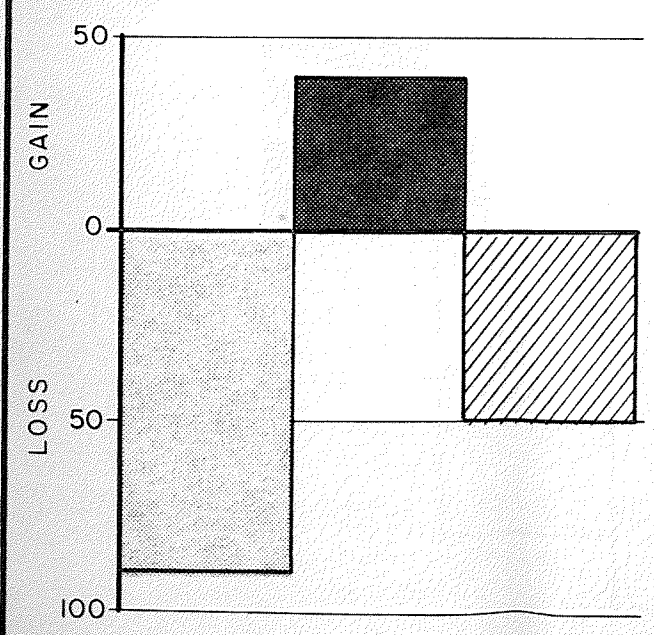
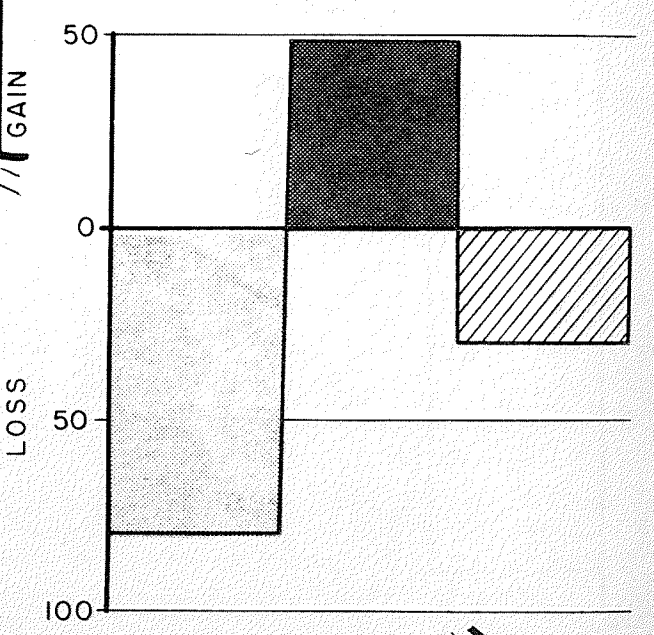
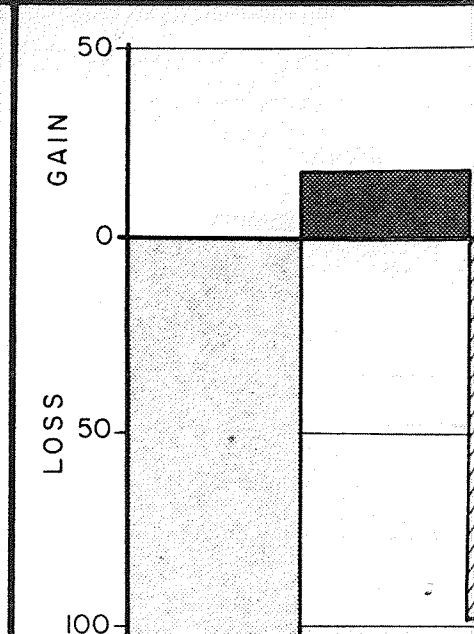
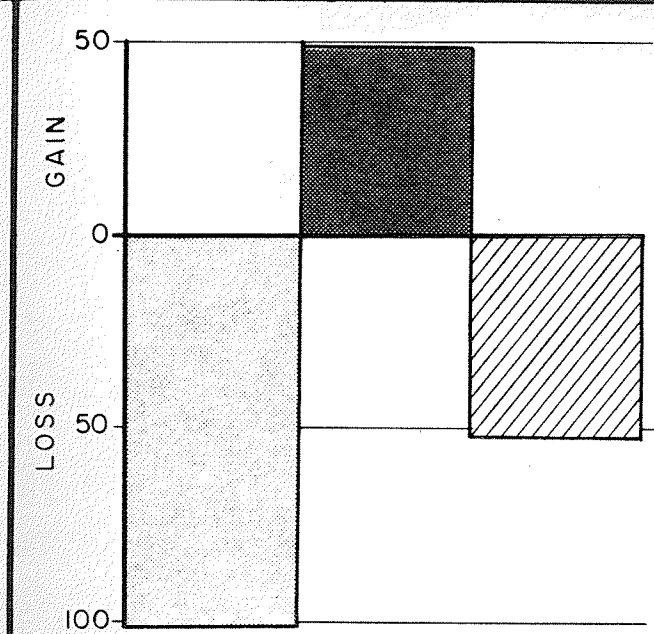
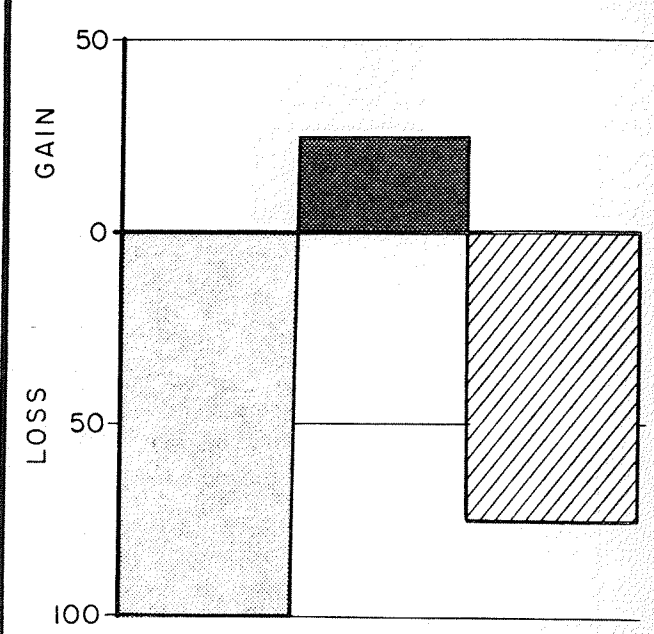
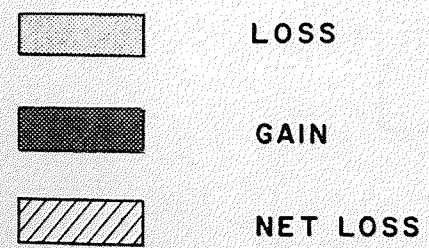


# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



MAP 9

## NUMERICAL FARM POPULATION CHANGE BY TOWNSHIP 1941-1961



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

people between 1941 and 1961, gained 302 people, and thus produced a net loss of 427 farm people (see table no. 17).

TABLE 17  
NUMERICAL FARM  
POPULATION CHANGE BY TOWNSHIP  
1941-1961

<u>TOWNSHIP AND RANGE</u>	<u>POPULATION CHANGE</u>		
	<u>LOST</u>	<u>GAINED</u>	<u>NET LOSS</u>
21-4W	104	48	56
22-4W	32	23	9
21-5W	98	45	53
22-5W	117	18	99
21-6W	89	39	50
22-6W	101	49	52
21-7W	72	49	23
22-7W	100	25	75
21-8W	7	0	7
22-8W	9	6	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>427</b>

A further analysis of table no. 17 reveals the population changes experienced by the townships comprising the study area. As can be observed, losses in population ranged from 117 for Township 22 Range 5 West to 7 for Township 21

Range 8 West, representing an average loss of 72.9 persons per township. No single factor can be used to explain these losses since it was found that the four factors previously mentioned combined to contribute to the process of depopulation. However, it can be said that the major factor in farm population losses was emigration.

All of the townships, except Township 21 Range 8 West, experienced some population gains. These gains ranged from a high of 49 persons, recorded in Township 22 Range 6 West and Township 21 Range 7 West, to a low of 6 persons found in Township 22 Range 8 West. The average gain per township was found to be 30.2 persons between 1941 and 1961. Again, no single factor correlated with gains in population but it was felt that the two most important factors were increases in family size and immigration.

A further look at map no. 9 will illustrate the increases in population on a township basis.

All townships recorded a net loss in population with Township 22 Range 5 West experiencing the highest (99 persons) and Township 22 Range 8 West the lowest (3 persons). The average net loss per township between 1941 and 1961 was found to be 42.7 persons.

POPULATION COMPONENTS

For the purpose of this study, total population was divided into three major components - Farm, Non-Farm and Urban. By Farm population was meant those whose existence depended in whole or in part on farming; that is, it included both full time and part-time farmers. Non-Farm population was that portion of the total population who resided in rural areas but whose occupation was entirely divorced from farming operations. Urban population included all persons living in either Eriksdale or Deerhorn and whose occupation was or was not related to farming.

In 1941, the total population of the Municipality of Eriksdale was found to be 1,355, of which 1,113 or 82.1 percent was Farm population, 42 or 3.1 percent was Non-Farm and 200 or 14.8 percent was Urban. By 1961, the population component distribution changed considerably with the Farm population representing 61.4 percent, the Non-Farm component increasing to 14.6 percent and the Urban population accounting for 24.0 percent (see table no. 18).

TABLE 18

POPULATION COMPONENT COMPARISON  
PERCENT OF TOTAL 1941-1961

POPULATION COMPONENTS	YEAR			
	1941		1961	
	NO.	%	NO.	%
Total	1355	100.0	1118	100.0
Farm	1113	82.1	686	61.4
Non-Farm	42	3.1	163	14.6
Urban	200	14.8	269	24.0

It is evident from table no. 18 that although the Municipality as a whole experienced a slight loss, 237 persons or 17.5 percent between 1941 and 1961, the Farm population component decreased from 1,113 in 1941 to 686 in 1961, representing a loss of 38.4 percent. The Non-Farm component nearly quadrupled, 42 to 163, and the Urban element increased by 69 or 34.5 percent. It can therefore be concluded that for the Municipality as a whole the increases <sup>partially</sup> in the Non-Farm and Urban population/offset the substantial decrease experienced by the Farm population. This trend illustrated the movement of people out of agriculture into other types of employment, either locally or outside the study area.

TABLE 19

POPULATION COMPONENT COMPARISON BY TOWNSHIP 1941-1961

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE	RURAL								URBAN				TOTAL			
	FARM				NON-FARM				Year		Change		Year		Change	
	1941	1961	No.	%	1941	1961	No.	%	1941	1961	No.	%	1941	1961	No.	%
Tp. 21-R 4W	139	83	-56	-40.3	5	31	+26	+520.	-	-	-	-	144	114	-30	-20.8
Tp. 22-R 4W	45	36	-9	-20.0	3	2	-1	-33.3	-	-	-	-	48	38	-10	-20.8
Tp. 21-R 5W	168	115	-53	-31.5	3	18	+15	+500.	57	83	+26	+45.6	228	216	-12	-5.3
Tp. 22-R 5W	148	49	-99	-66.9	24	48	+24	+100.	143	186	+43	+30.1	315	283	-32	-10.2
Tp. 21-R 6W	147	97	-50	-34.0	-	15	+15	N.D.*	-	-	-	-	147	112	-35	-23.8
Tp. 22-R 6W	162	110	-52	-32.1	7	27	+20	+285.7	-	-	-	-	169	137	-32	-18.9
Tp. 21-R 7W	127	104	-23	-18.1	-	2	+2	N.D.	-	-	-	-	127	106	-21	-16.5
Tp. 22-R 7W	144	69	-75	-52.1	-	15	+15	N.D.	-	-	-	-	144	84	-60	-41.7
Tp. 21-R 8W	9	2	-7	-77.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	2	-7	-77.8
Tp. 22-R 8W	24	21	-3	-12.5	-	5	+5	N.D.	-	-	-	-	24	26	+2	+8.3
GRAND TOTAL	1113	686	-427	-38.4	42	163	+121	+288.1	200	269	+69	+34.5	1355	1118	-237	-17.5

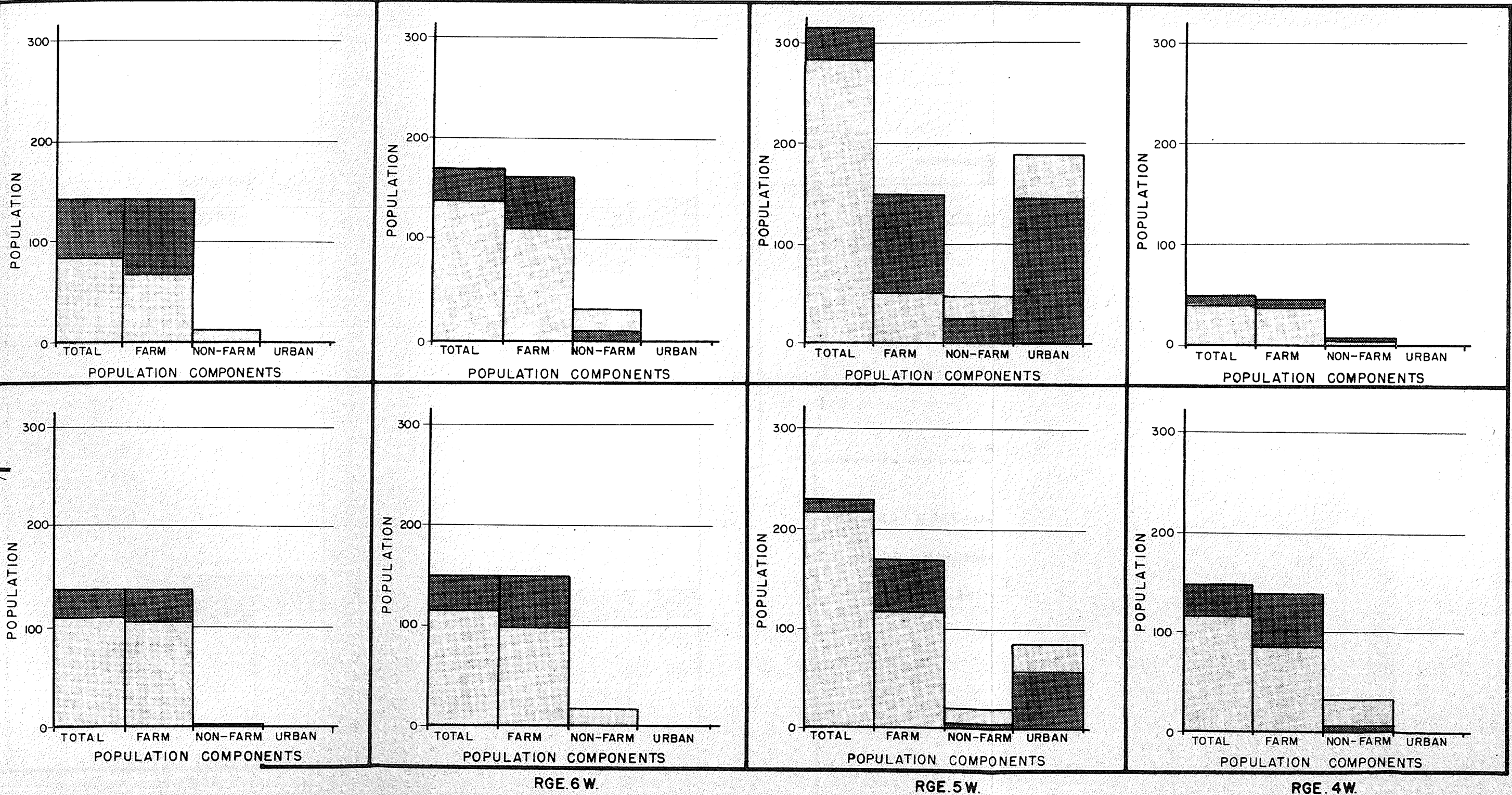
\*Not Defined.

Maps no. 10, 11 and table no. 19 combine to effectively illustrate the numerical and percentage changes in population components on a township basis between the years 1941 and 1961.

From these, it can be observed that Township 22 Range 7 West experienced both the largest numerical and percentage changes in total population between 1941 and 1961, recording a loss of 60 persons, 41.6 percent. For the remaining townships, the decreases ranged from 10 or 20.8 percent (recorded by Township 22 Range 4 West) to 35 or 23.8 percent (Township 21 Range 6 West). The only township which recorded an increase was Township 22 Range 8 West where a slight increase of 2 (8.3 percent) was recorded. This slight increase was due to the Non-Farm component found in this township in 1961.

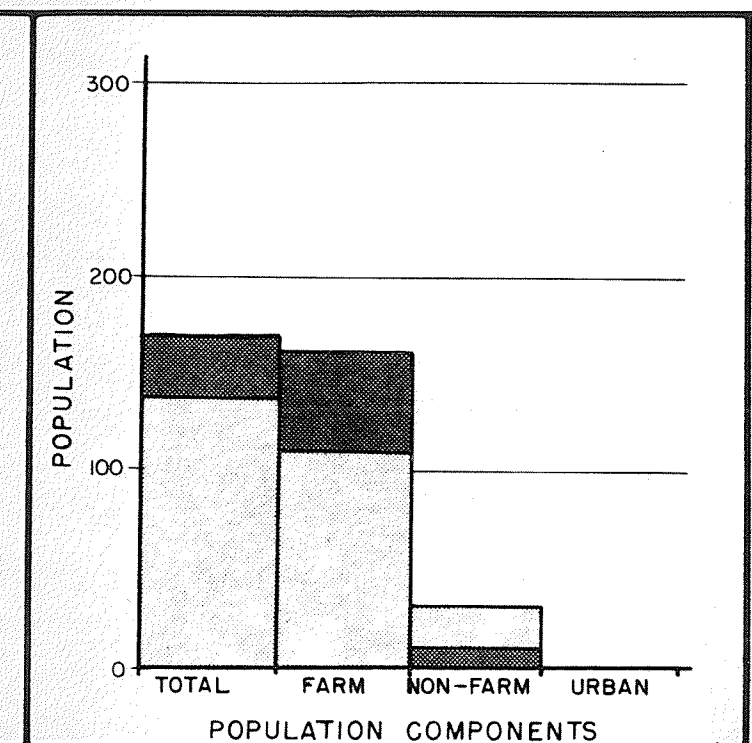
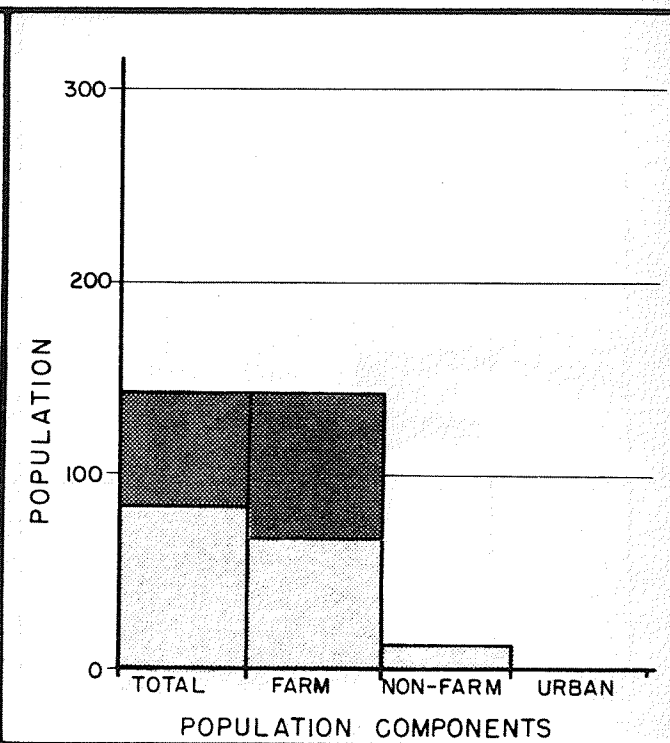
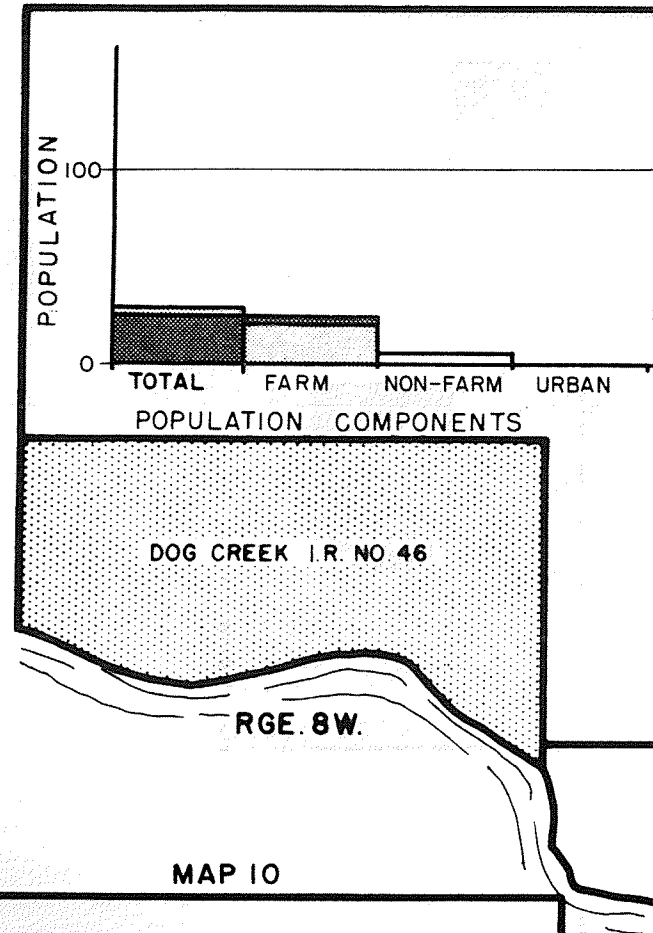
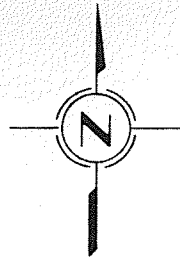
By comparing the 1941 and 1961 population components found on table no. 19, it is evident that in all cases, with the exception of Township 22 Range 4 West, either the Non-Farm or Urban element offset the otherwise substantial decrease recorded by the Farm component. For example, Township 22 Range 5 West recorded a slight loss of 32 or 10.2 percent in terms of total population, but in terms of Farm population actually experienced the largest decrease

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

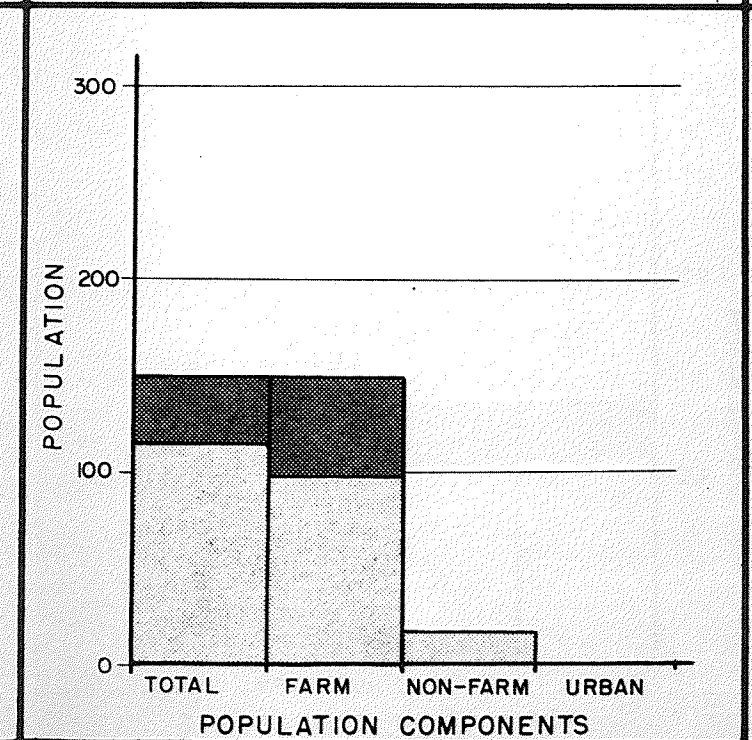
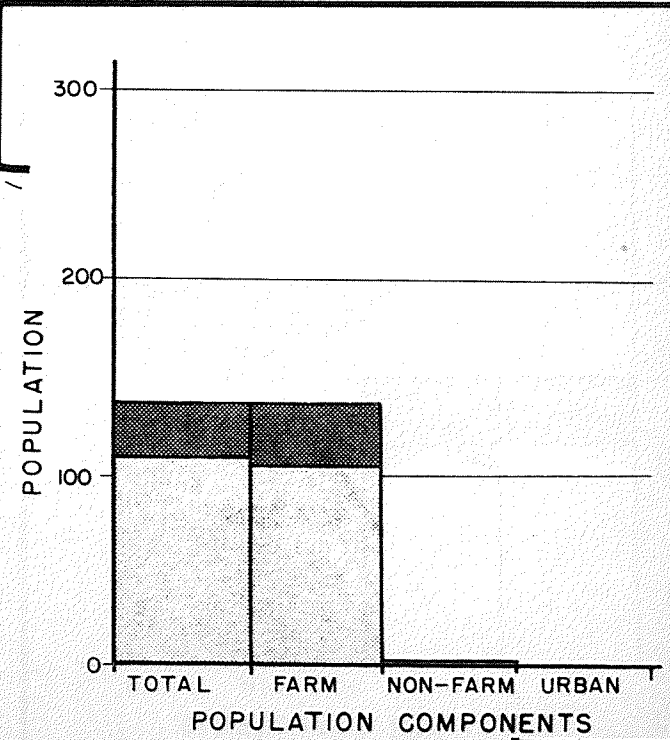
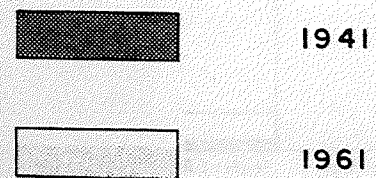


SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



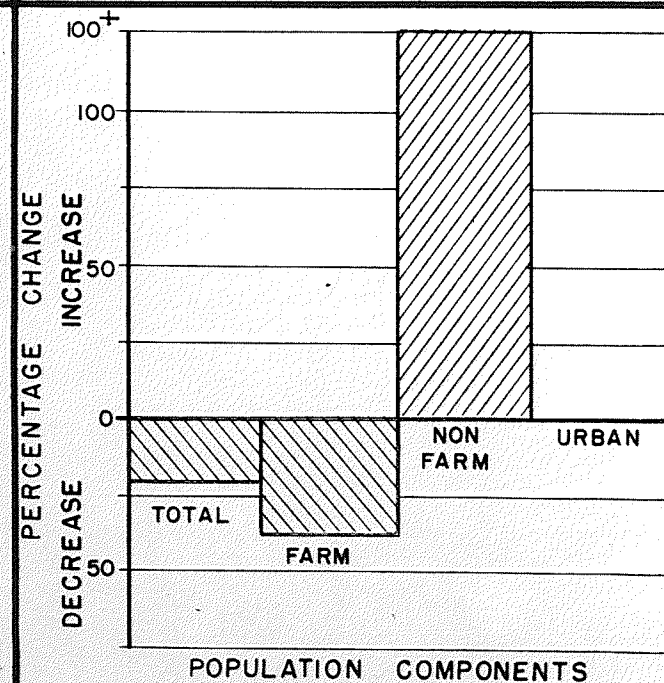
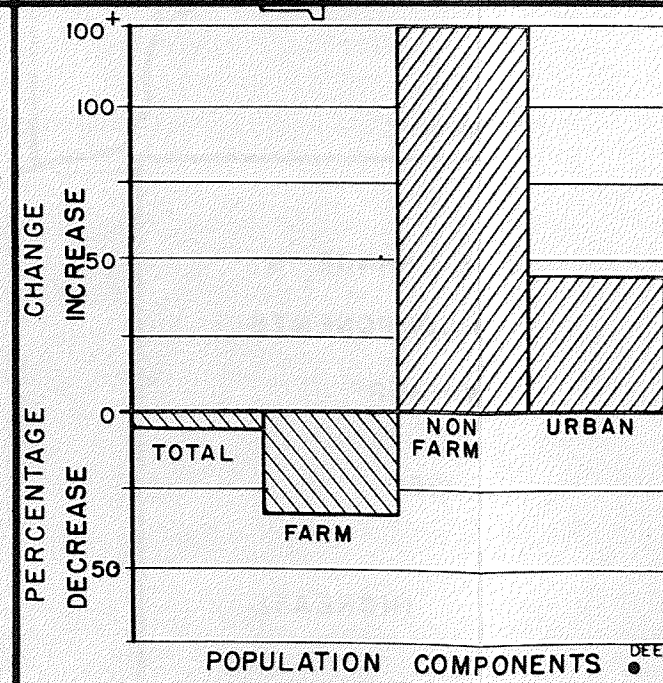
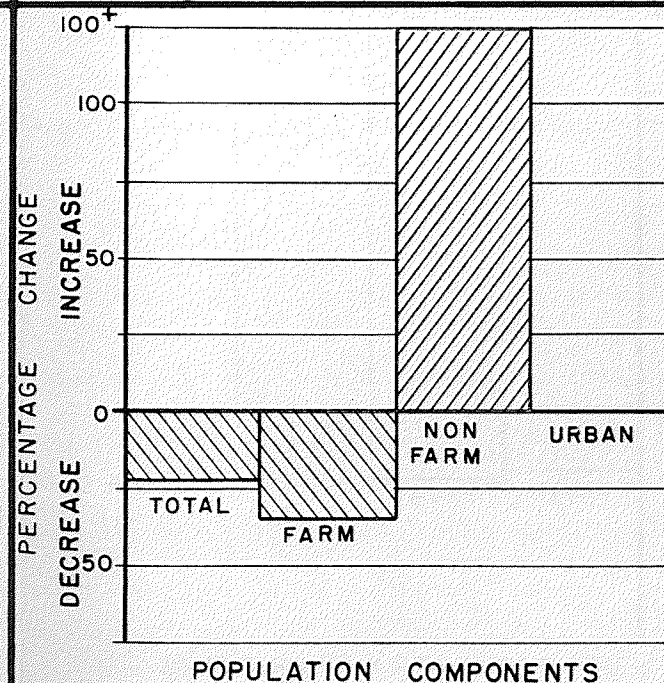
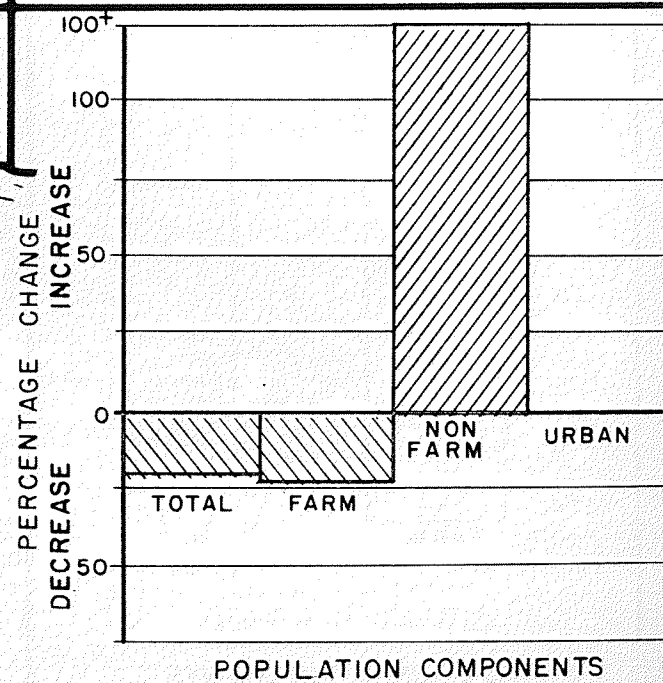
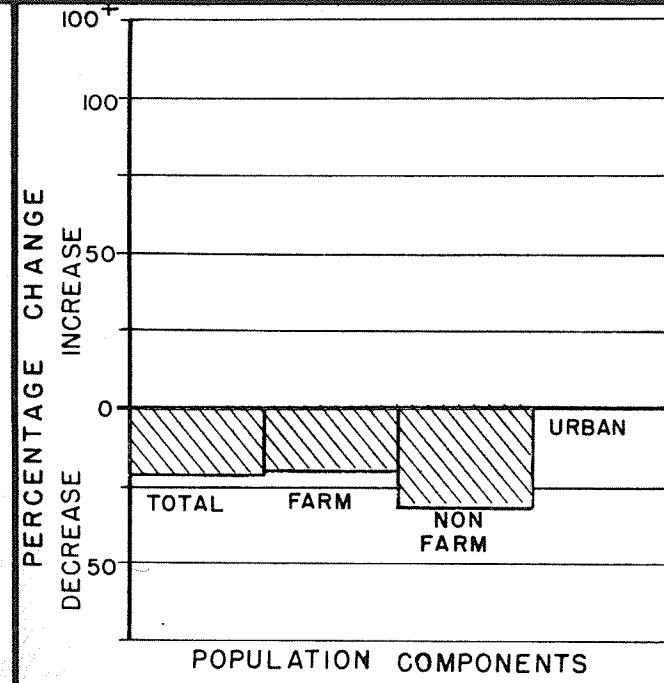
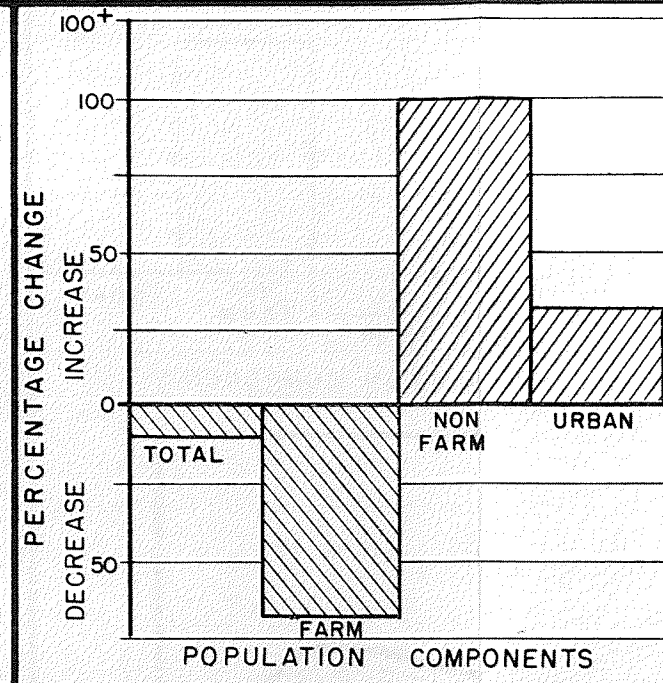
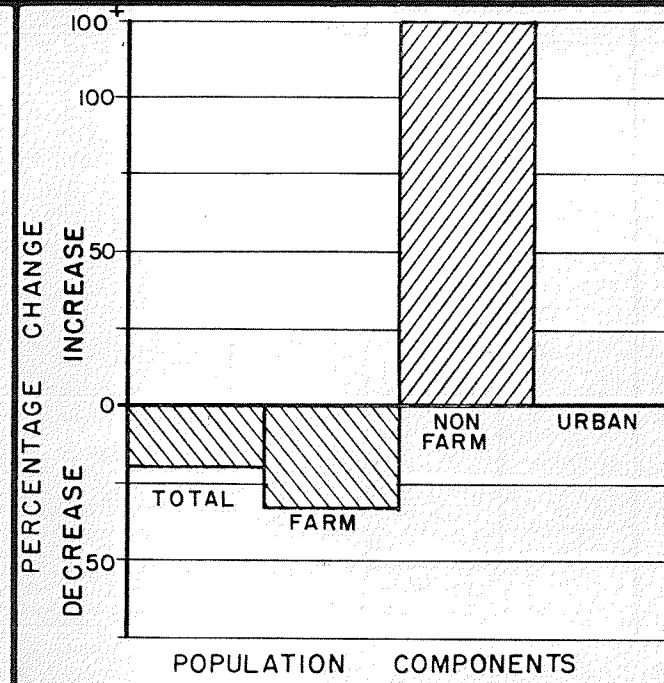
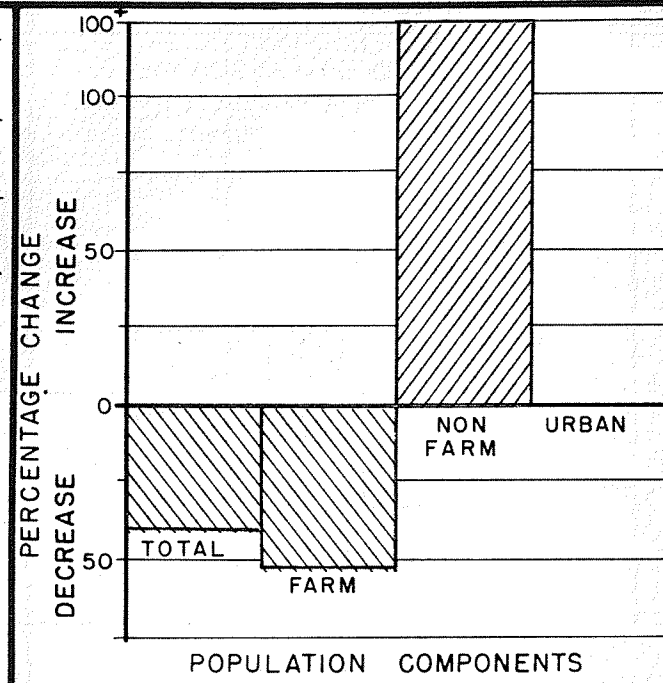
## POPULATION COMPONENT CHANGE BY TOWNSHIP 1941-1961



RGE. 6W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6 W.

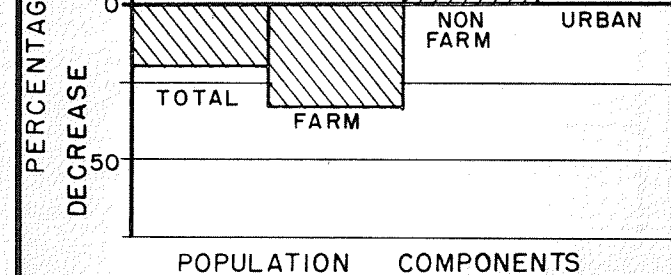
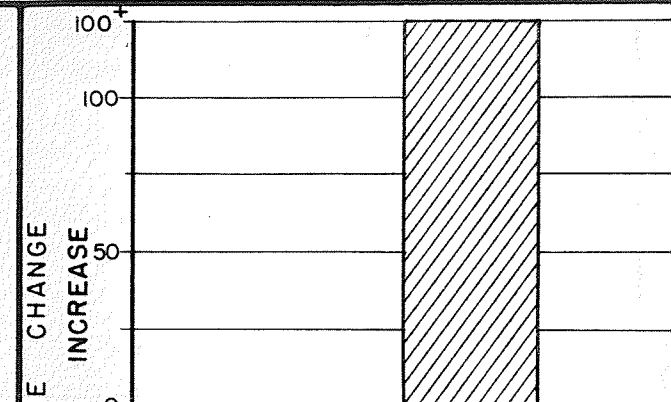
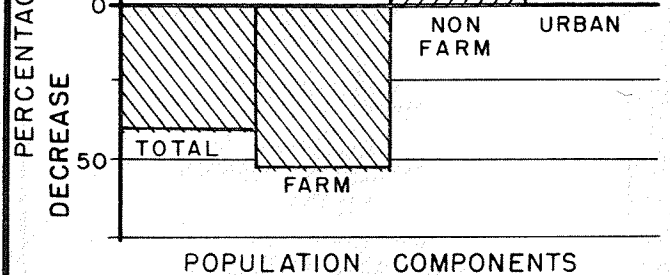
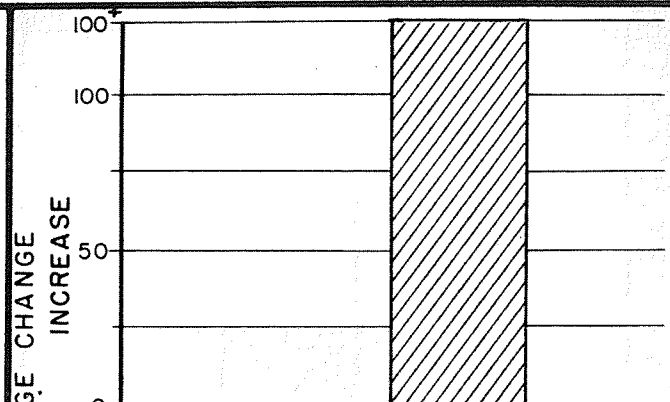
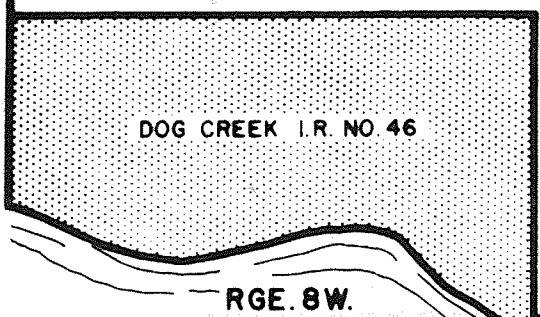
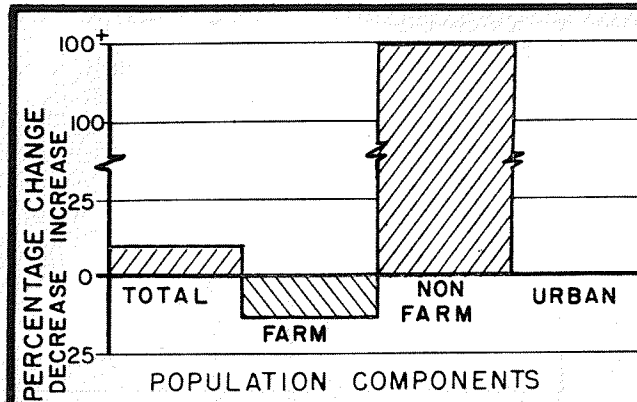
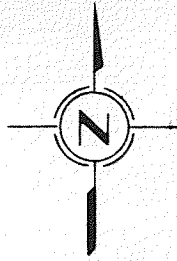
RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4 W.

TWP. 22

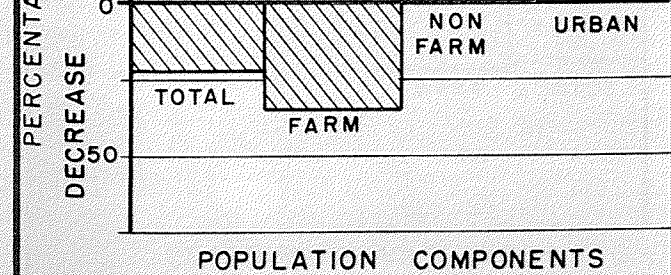
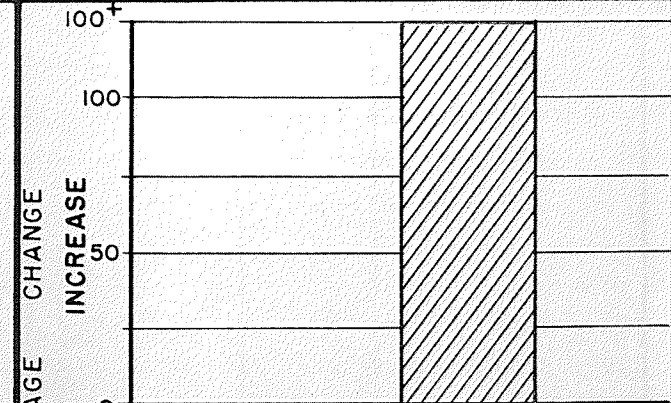
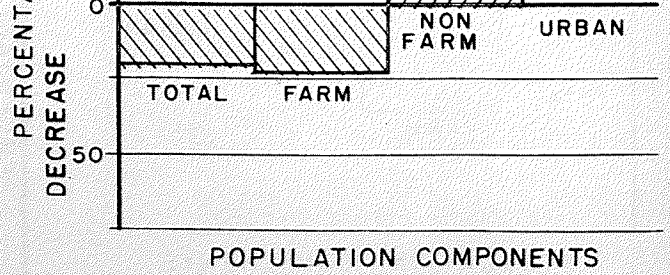
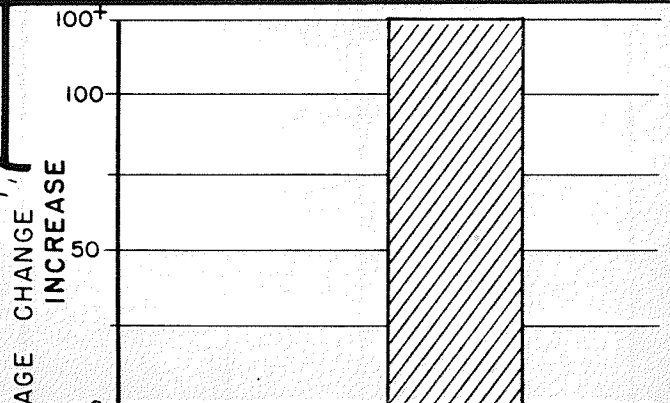
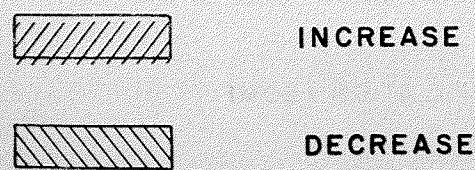
TWP. 21

MAP II



MAP II

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN  
POPULATION COMPONENTS  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941 - 1961



RGE. 6W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

both numerically and in terms of percentage. A total loss of 99 persons or 67.0 percent was experienced by this township between 1941 and 1961, whereas the Non-Farm component doubled (24 to 48) and the Urban component increased from 143 to 186 or 30.1 percent.

#### FARM POPULATION COMPOSITION

The farm population composition for the years 1941 and 1961 for the Municipality as a whole and the change which occurred during this period of time can be seen on table no. 20. This table reveals that the element of the population which suffered the largest percentage change and almost the largest numerical change was "children of working age".\* In this group, a loss of nearly 77 percent or 130 persons was experienced - the males losing 68 or 65.4 percent, and the females losing 62 or 93.9 percent. This points up a trend experienced in most rural areas whereby the majority of the younger people is no longer interested in farming as an occupation but is attracted to city life where the wages are higher, working hours shorter and amenities more abundant. It is interesting to note that in 1941 "children of working age" accounted for 15.2 percent of the total farm population but by 1961 this age group accounted for only 5.9 percent, further substantiating the mass exodus of youth from the farm.

\*Includes all children who have left school, reside with their parents and work on the family farm.

TABLE 20

FARM FAMILY COMPOSITION COMPARISON 1941-1961

		ADULTS							CHILDREN							
		PARENTS WORKING			PARENTS RETIRED				B.&S.*	H.H.*	PRE-SCHOOL & SCHOOL AGE			WORKING AGE		
		M.*	F.*	T.*	M.	F.	T.	M.			F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	
Y																
E	1941	223	232	455	12	15	27	39	3	212	207	419	104	66	170	
A																
R	1961	136	141	277	10	10	20	27	13	162	147	309	36	4	40	
C																
H	40.	-87	-91	-178	-2	-5	-7	-12	+10	-50	-60	-110	-68	-62	-130	
A																
N																
G	%	-39.0	-39.2	-39.1	-16.7	-33.3	-25.9	-30.8	+333.3	-23.6	-29.0	-26.3	-65.4	-93.9	-76.5	
E																

\* M Male  
 F Female  
 T Total  
 B&S Bachelors and Spinsters  
 HH Hired Help

"Parents working" accounted for the largest numerical loss in the population composition between 1941 and 1961 (178 or 39.1 percent). On the other hand, "children of pre-school and school age" experienced a loss of 110 or 26.3 percent as compared to the 39.1 percent of "parents working". The fact that "children of pre-school and school age" had not decreased as substantially or at the same rate as the "parents working" was reflected in the increase in family size between 1941 and 1961. Further substantiating this relationship was the fact that in both 1941 and 1961 "parents working" accounted for a little over 40 percent of the total farm population whereas "children of pre-school and school age" accounted for 37.7 percent in 1941 and increased to 45.0 percent by 1961.

"Parents retired" experienced a slight decrease (7 persons) of 25.9 percent, reflecting the tendency for older people to retire to the nearby Town of Eriksdale<sup>1</sup>, the Hamlet of Deerhorn<sup>2</sup> or to other larger urban areas.

"Bachelors and Spinsters" and "Hired Help" accounted for a very small portion of the population. A slight loss of 12 or 30.8 percent was experienced by "Bachelors and

---

<sup>1</sup>Eriksdale - 1941 - 12 percent of total families retired  
 1961 - 36 percent of total families retired

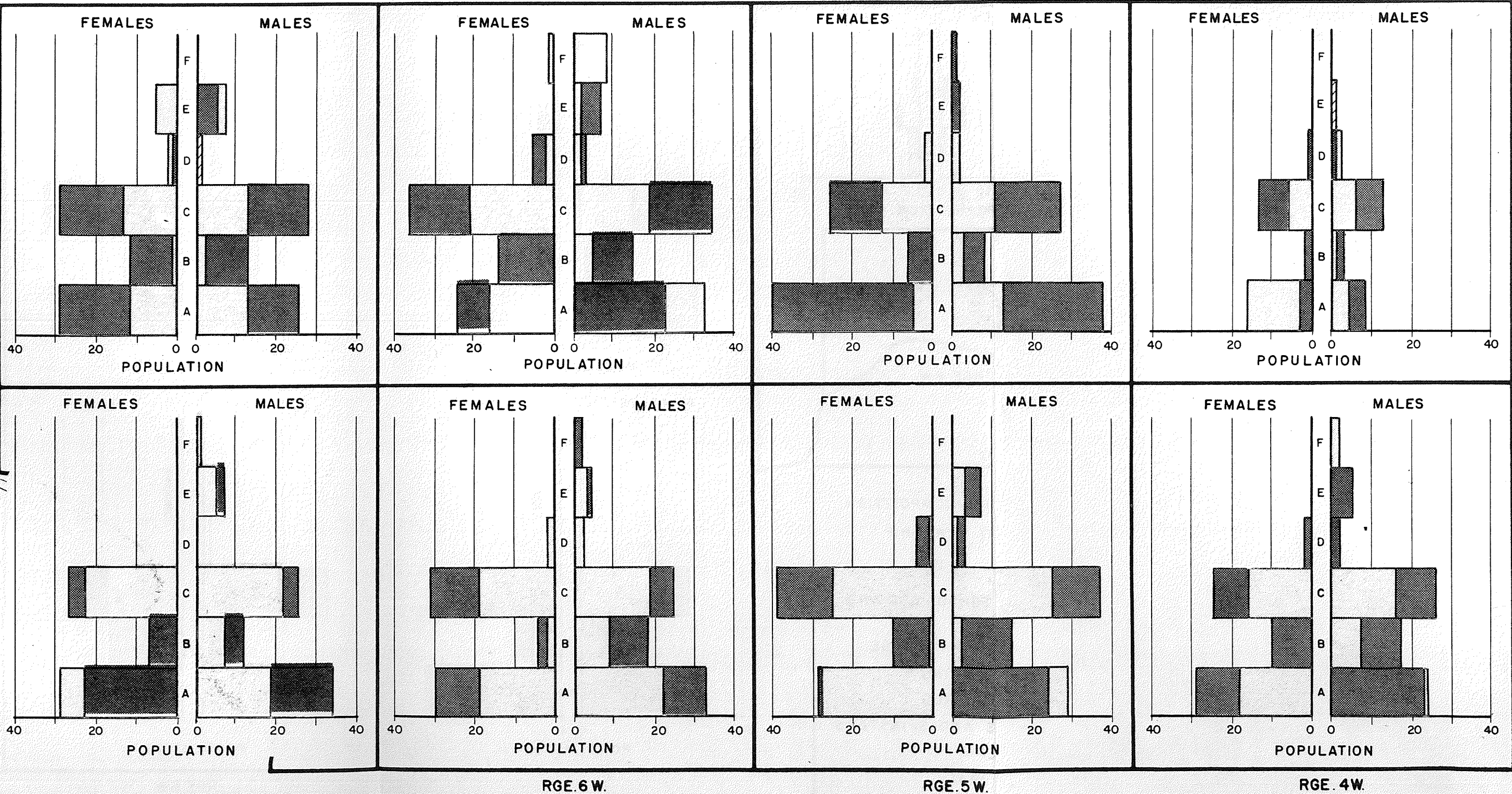
<sup>2</sup>Deerhorn - 1941 - 10 percent of total families retired  
 1961 - 22 percent of total families retired

"Spinsters", and "Hired Help", the only category to show an increase, gained 10 persons or 33.3 percent. This increase was accounted for by the hiring of some 8 to 15 persons, as warranted by seasonal demand, by a large cattle ranch found in the study area in 1961.

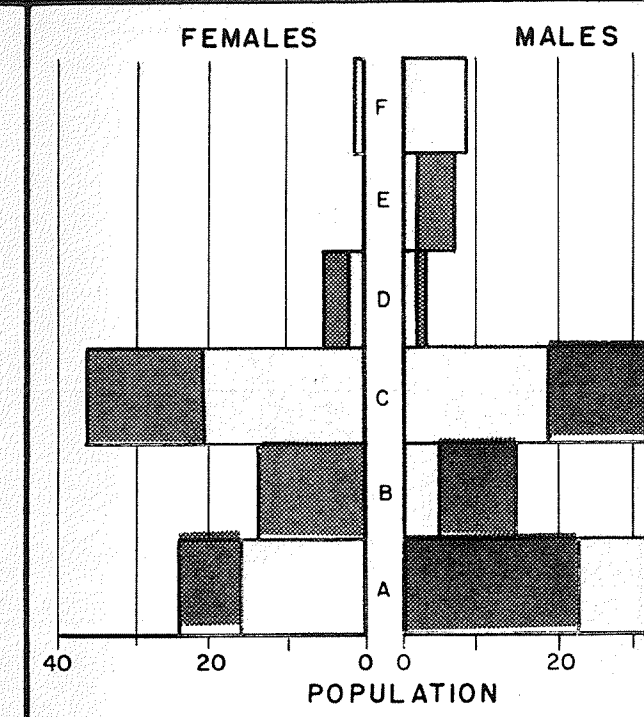
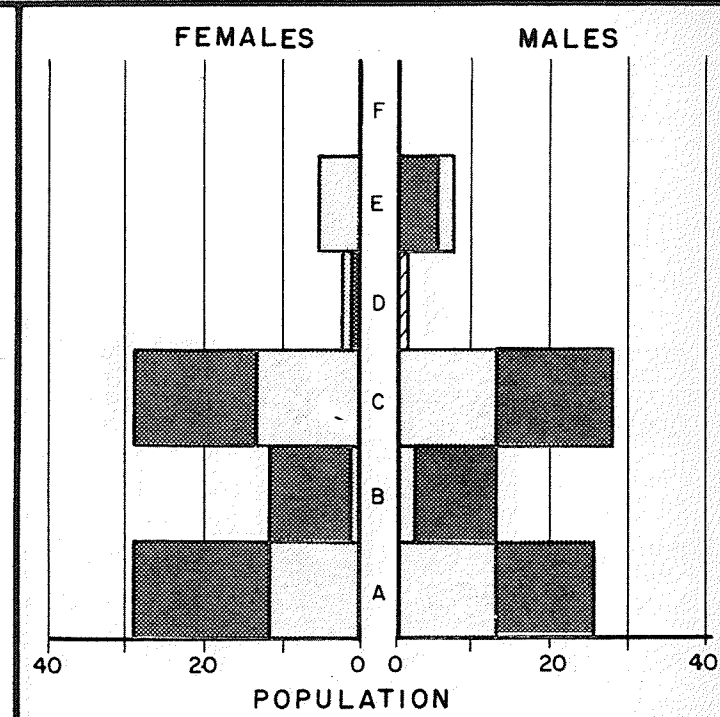
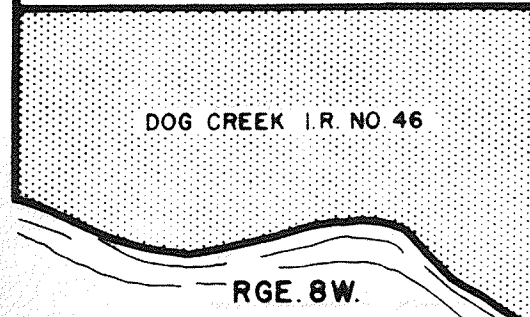
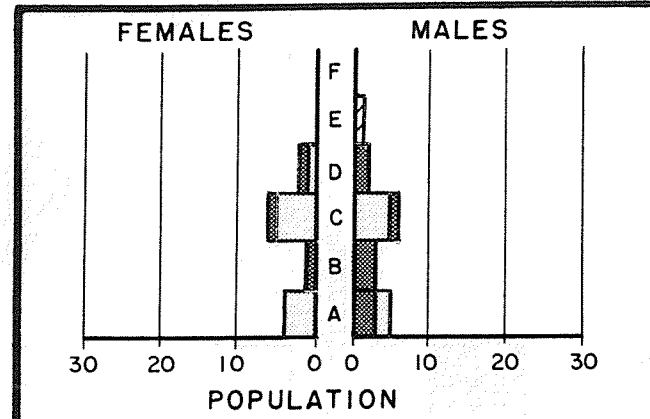
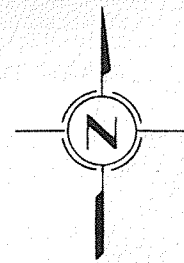
Maps no. 12 and 13 illustrate the 1941 and 1961 farm population composition comparison and percentage change on a township basis. From an observation of these maps it can be seen that all townships experienced losses in "children of working age" with Township 22 Range 6 West reporting the largest numerical loss (24 persons or 82.8 percent). The remaining townships show losses ranging from 4 to 22 persons (50.0 percent to 88.0 percent).

"Parents of working age" also experienced losses in all townships ranging from 8 persons in Township 21 Range 7 West to 31 persons in Townships 22 Ranges 6 and 7 West. As was pointed out for the Municipality as a whole, there existed a strong relationship between changes in "children of pre-school and school age", changes in "parents working" and changes in family size. Five townships (22 Range 4 West, 21 Range 5 West, 21 Range 4 West, 22 Range 6 West and 22 Range 8 West) experienced either an increase in "children of pre-school and school age" or a slower rate of decrease as

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK



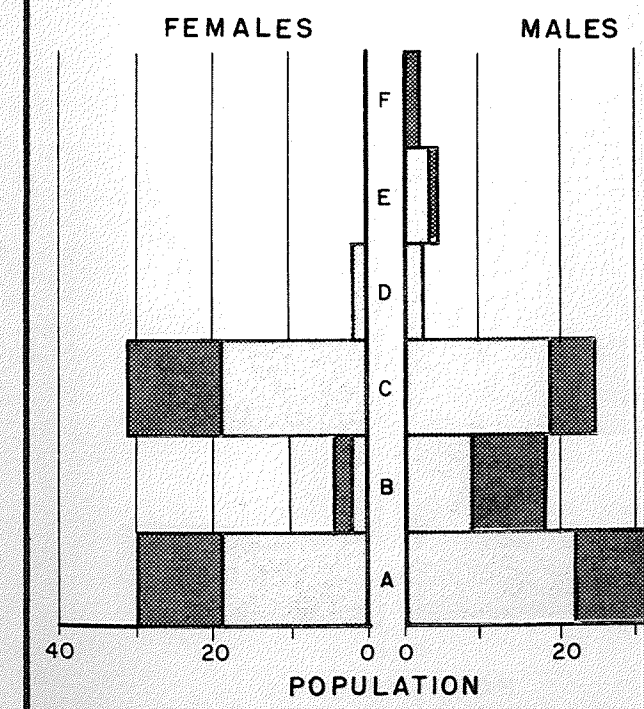
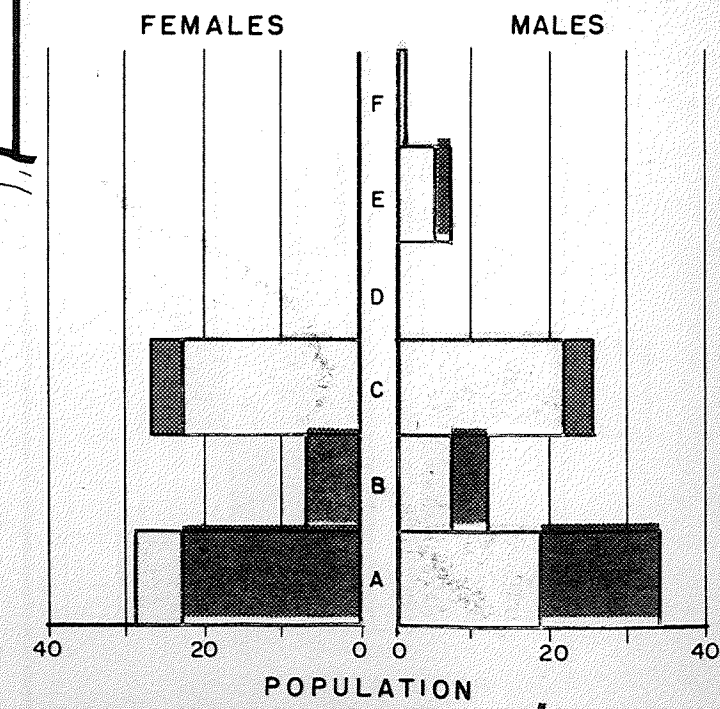
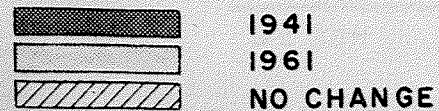
MAP 12

**FARM POPULATION COMPOSITION**

CHANGE BY TOWNSHIP

1941 - 1961

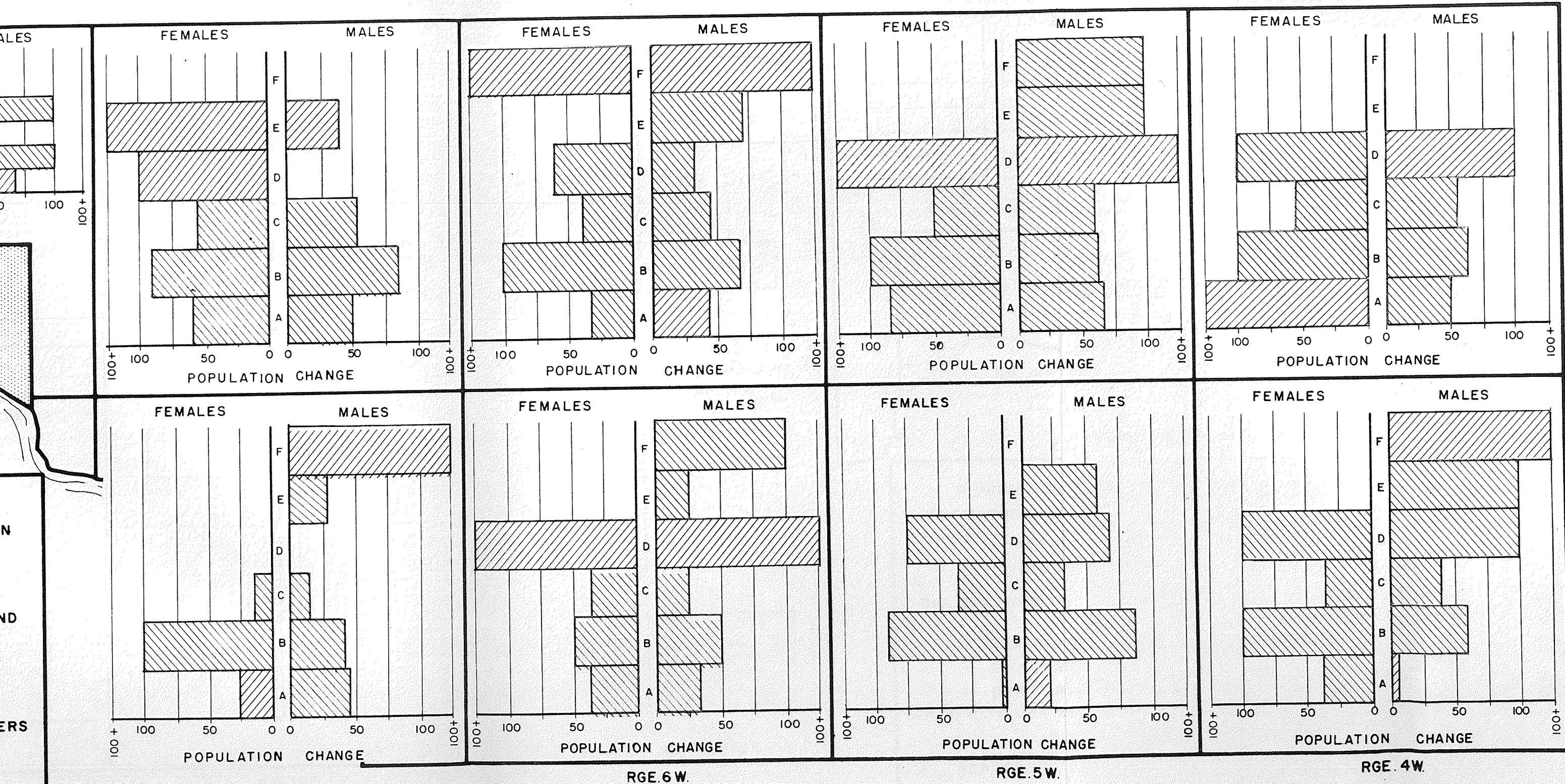
- A. CHILDREN - SCHOOL AGE AND UNDER
- B. CHILDREN - WORKING AGE
- C. PARENTS - WORKING
- D. PARENTS - RETIRED
- E. BACHELORS AND SPINSTERS
- F. HIRED HELP



RGE. 6W.

SOURCE: 1962 - 1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



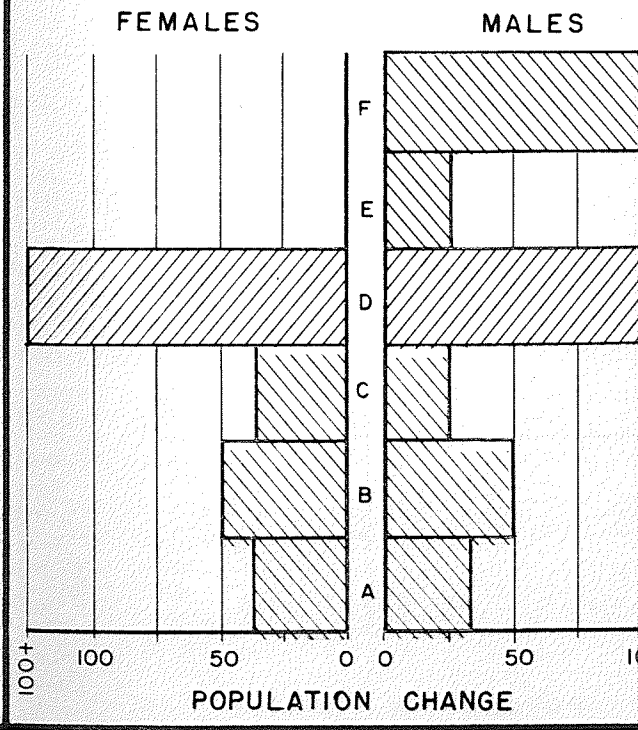
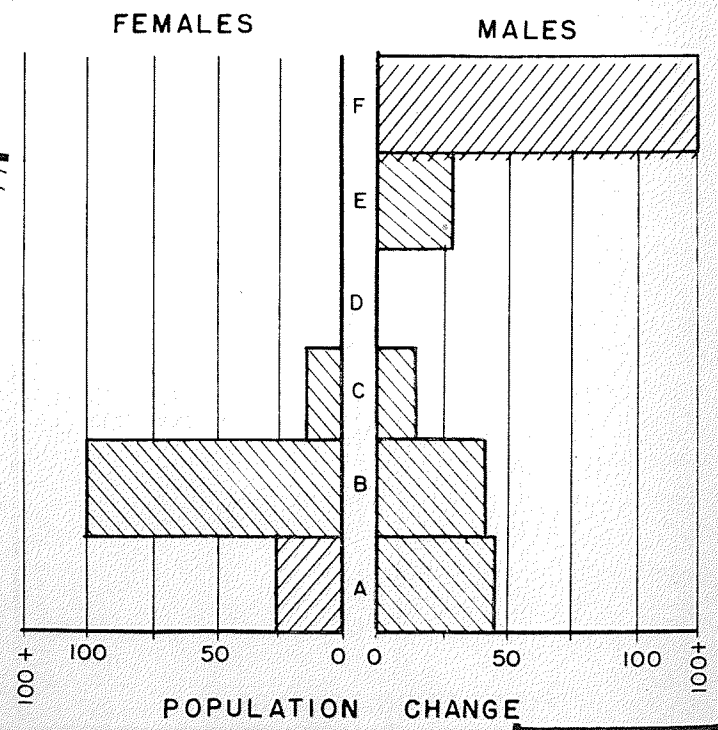
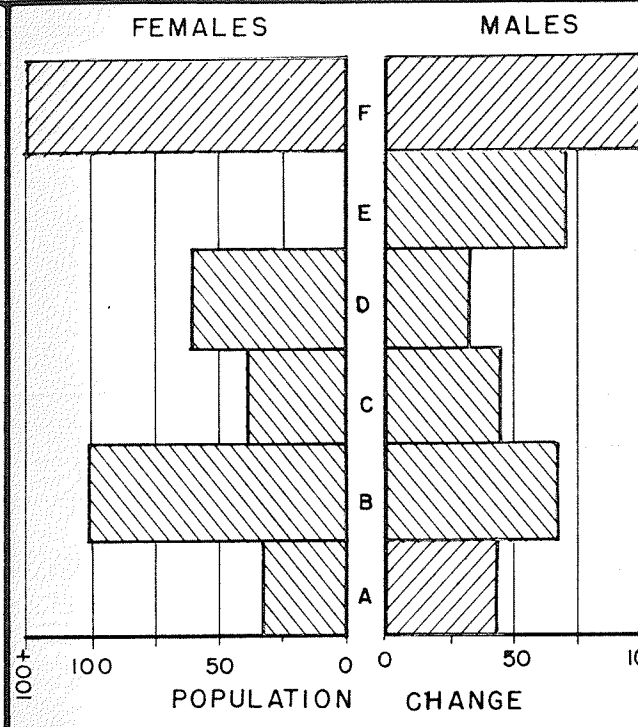
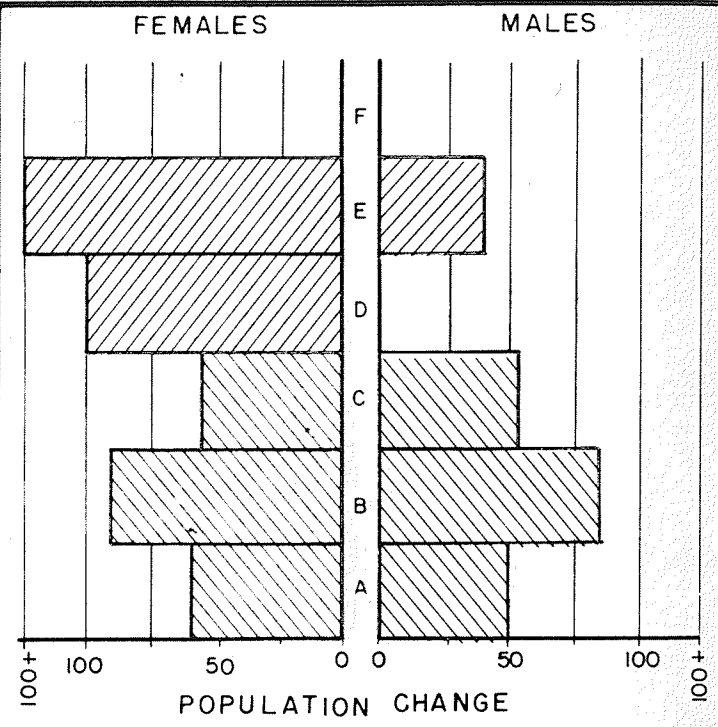
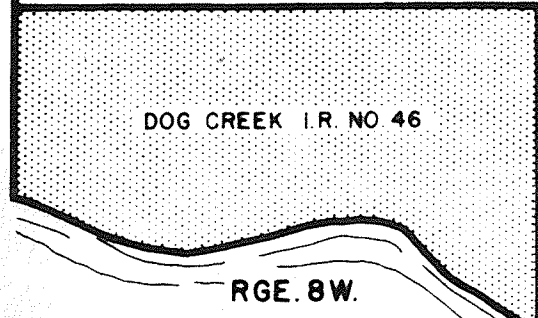
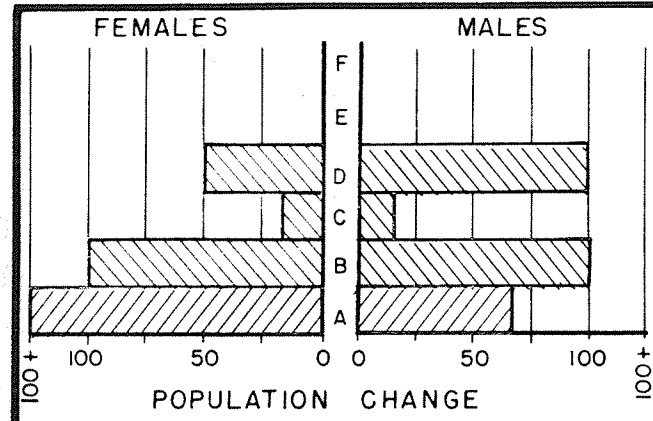
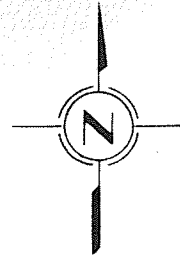
TWP. 22

TWP. 21

RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4 W.



MAP 13

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN  
FARM POPULATION COMPOSITION  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941 - 1961

A. CHILDREN - SCHOOL AGE AND UNDER  
B. CHILDREN - WORKING AGE  
C. PARENTS - WORKING  
D. PARENTS - RETIRED  
E. BACHELORS AND SPINSTERS  
F. HIRED HELP

DECREASE  
INCREASE

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6 W.

compared with "parents working", with a corresponding increase in family size. For Township 22 Range 5 West, a faster rate of decrease in "children of pre-school and school age" as compared with "parents working" was experienced and was reflected by an increase in family size. In Township 21 Range 6 West, the rates of decrease for both "parents working" and "children of pre-school and school age" were almost identical and a very slight increase (1.1 percent) was reported. Township 21 Range 7 West and Township 22 Range 7 West experienced similar rates of decrease for both "parents working" and "children of pre-school and school age". However, slight decreases (13.1 percent and 13.6 percent respectively) in family size were evidenced. This was best explained by the fact that in Township 21 Range 6 West the "children of pre-school and school age" had decreased at a slower rate (50 percent) than in Township 21 Range 7 West (63 percent) and Township 22 Range 7 West (88 percent) therefore having less effect on the family size and resulting in a slight increase.

#### ETHNIC ORIGIN OF FARM POPULATION

Maps no. 14 and 15 illustrate for the years 1941 and 1961

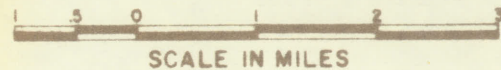
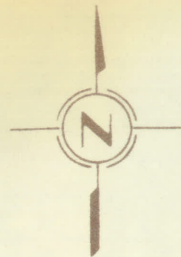
respectively the ethnic origin of the farm population on a quarter section basis.

#### 1941 Ethnic Origin Distribution

From an observation of map no. 14 it can be seen that the British element accounted for the largest proportion of all the ethnic groups and is scattered throughout the Municipality with no particular pattern. Those of Scandinavian origin are concentrated mainly in Township 22 Range 6 West and along the west half of Township 22 Range 5 West. People of French background are found mainly in Township 21 Range 4 West and in the vicinity of the Town of Deerhorn. That portion of the population classified as "other" ethnic background was found scattered throughout the study area with no particular concentration save a small pocket located in the northeast corner of Township 22 Range 6 West.

For the Municipality as a whole, people of British extraction accounted for the largest proportion of the total farm population, reporting 636 persons or 57.1 percent of the total (see table no. 21). The second largest ethnic group was Scandinavian (228 persons or 20.5 percent) and the third was French (159 persons or 14.3 percent). The remaining "other" ethnic group (German, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian, etc) accounted for 90 persons or 8.1 percent of the total.

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE







DOG CREEK I.R. NO. 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 14

ETHNIC ORIGIN OF FARM POPULATION  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1941

-  BRITISH
-  FRENCH
-  SCANDINAVIAN
-  OTHERS

SOURCE 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

LAKE MANITOBA

RGE. 7W.

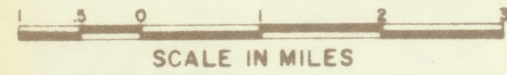
RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

ERIKSDALE

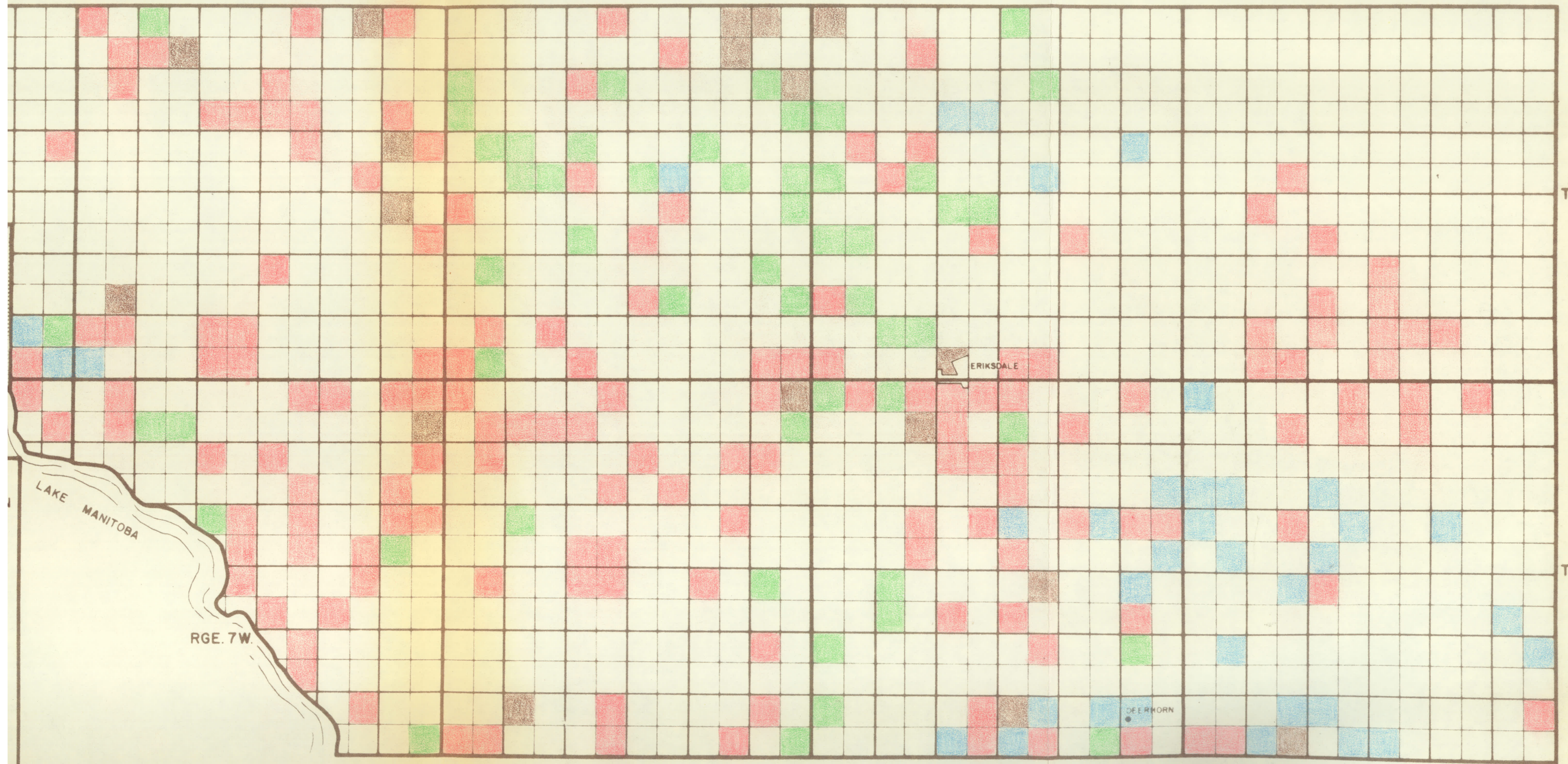
DEERHORN

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



SOURCE 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

TABLE 21  
FARM POPULATION  
ETHNIC ORIGIN COMPARISON BY TOWNSHIP 1941-1961

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE		ETHNIC ORIGIN									
		BRITISH		FRENCH		SCANDINAVIAN		OTHERS		TOTAL	
		YEAR		YEAR		YEAR		YEAR		YEAR	
		1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961
21-4W	No.	51	10	82	64	-	-	6	9	139	83
	%	36.7	12.1	59.0	77.1	-	-	4.3	10.8	100.0	100.0
22-4W	No.	45	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	36
	%	100.0	100.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	100.0
21-5W	No.	77	35	39	29	38	7	14	44	168	115
	%	45.9	30.4	23.7	25.2	22.6	6.1	8.3	38.3	100.0	100.0
22-5W	No.	57	17	20	2	62	26	9	4	148	49
	%	38.5	34.7	13.5	4.1	41.9	53.0	6.1	8.2	100.0	100.0
21-6W	No.	121	77	-	-	15	4	11	16	147	97
	%	82.3	79.3	-	-	10.2	4.1	7.5	16.6	100.0	100.0
22-6W	No.	51	64	6	9	86	24	19	13	162	110
	%	31.5	58.2	3.7	8.2	53.1	21.8	11.7	11.8	100.0	100.0
21-7W	No.	101	69	-	5	21	24	5	6	127	104
	%	79.6	66.3	-	4.8	16.5	23.1	3.9	5.8	100.0	100.00

continued overleaf

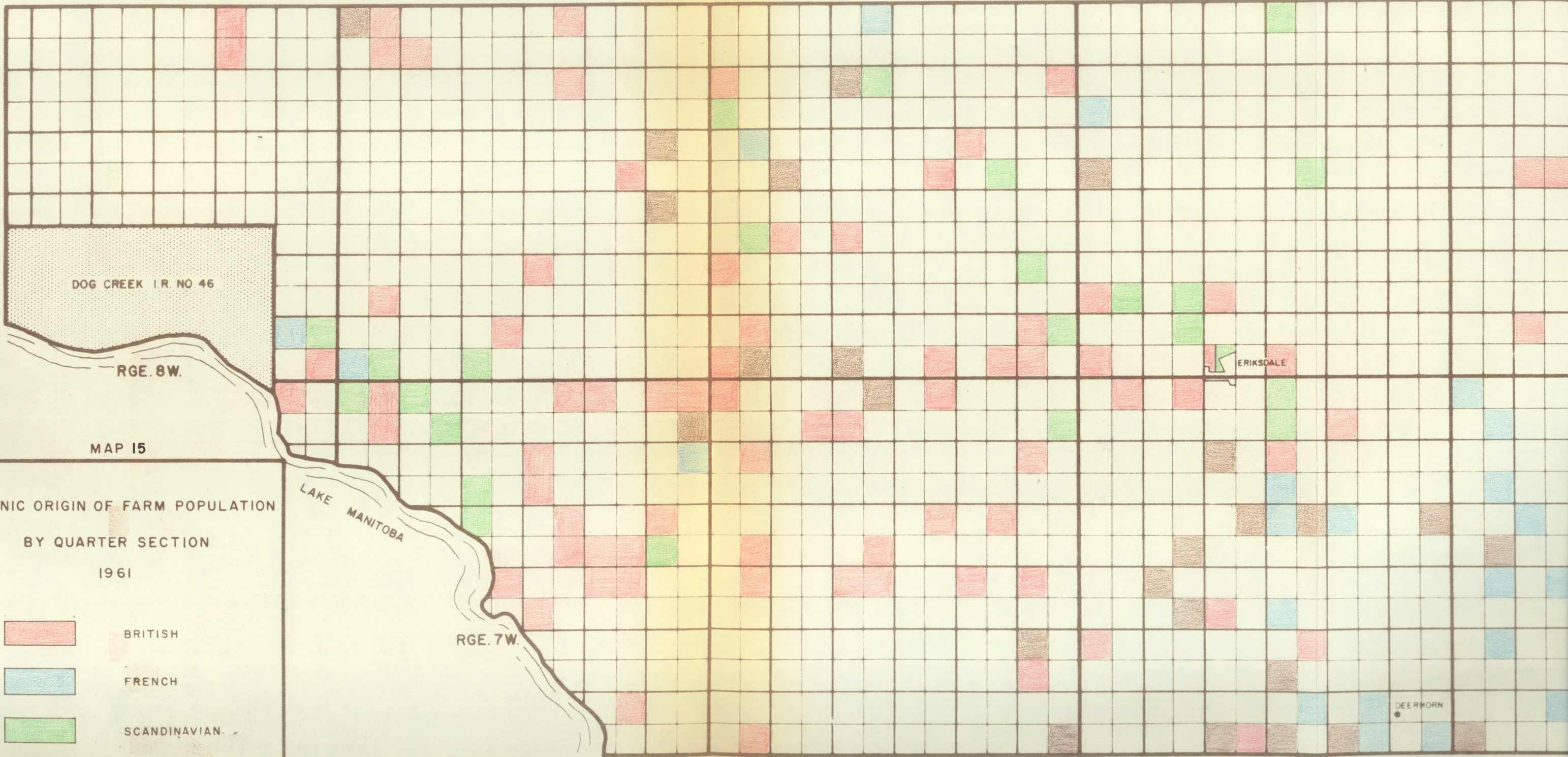
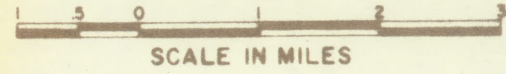
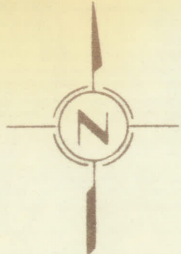
TABLE 21 - continued

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE		ETHNIC ORIGIN									
		BRITISH		FRENCH		SCANDINAVIAN		OTHERS		TOTAL	
		YEAR		YEAR		YEAR		YEAR		YEAR	
		1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961	1941	1961
22-7W	No.	109	32	7	4	2	12	26	21	144	69
	%	75.7	46.4	4.9	5.8	1.3	17.4	18.1	30.4	100.0	100.0
21-8W	No.	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	2
	%	100.0	100.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	100.0
22-8W	No.	15	15	5	2	4	4	-	-	24	21
	%	62.5	71.4	20.8	9.5	16.7	19.1	-	-	100.0	100.0
TOTAL	No.	636	357	159	115	228	101	90	113	1113	686
	%	57.1	52.0	14.3	16.8	20.5	14.7	8.1	16.5	100.0	100.0

A further appraisal of table no. 21 reveals that on a township basis, 6 out of 10 townships reported British as the dominant group (50 percent and over were British). Townships 21 Range 4 West, 22 Range 5 West and 22 Range 6 West recorded 36.7 percent, 38.5 percent and 31.5 percent respectively to be British. These lower percentages were due to the dominant French element in Township 21 Range 4 West and the Scandinavian element in Township 22 Range 6 West and Township 22 Range 5 West.

As mentioned previously, people of Scandinavian descent were most numerous in Township 22 Range 5 West and Township 22 Range 6 West, accounting for 41.9 percent and 53.1 percent respectively of the total population. The French element was concentrated mainly in Township 21 Range 4 West and Township 21 Range 5 West, these townships reporting 77.1 percent and 23.2 percent respectively. There was also a small pocket of French in the southeast corner of Township 22 Range 8 West (20.8 percent). As discussed previously, those classified as of "other" ethnic origin were found to be scattered throughout the study area and recorded percentages ranging from 4.3 percent (Township 21 Range 4 West) to a high of 18.1 percent (Township 22 Range 7 West).

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 15

LAKE MANITOBA

RGE. 7W.





ERIKSDALE

DEERHORN

RGE. 6W.

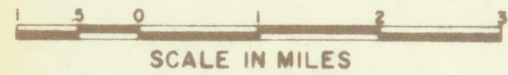
RGE. 5W.

ETHNIC ORIGIN OF FARM POPULATION  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1961

-  BRITISH
-  FRENCH
-  SCANDINAVIAN
-  OTHERS

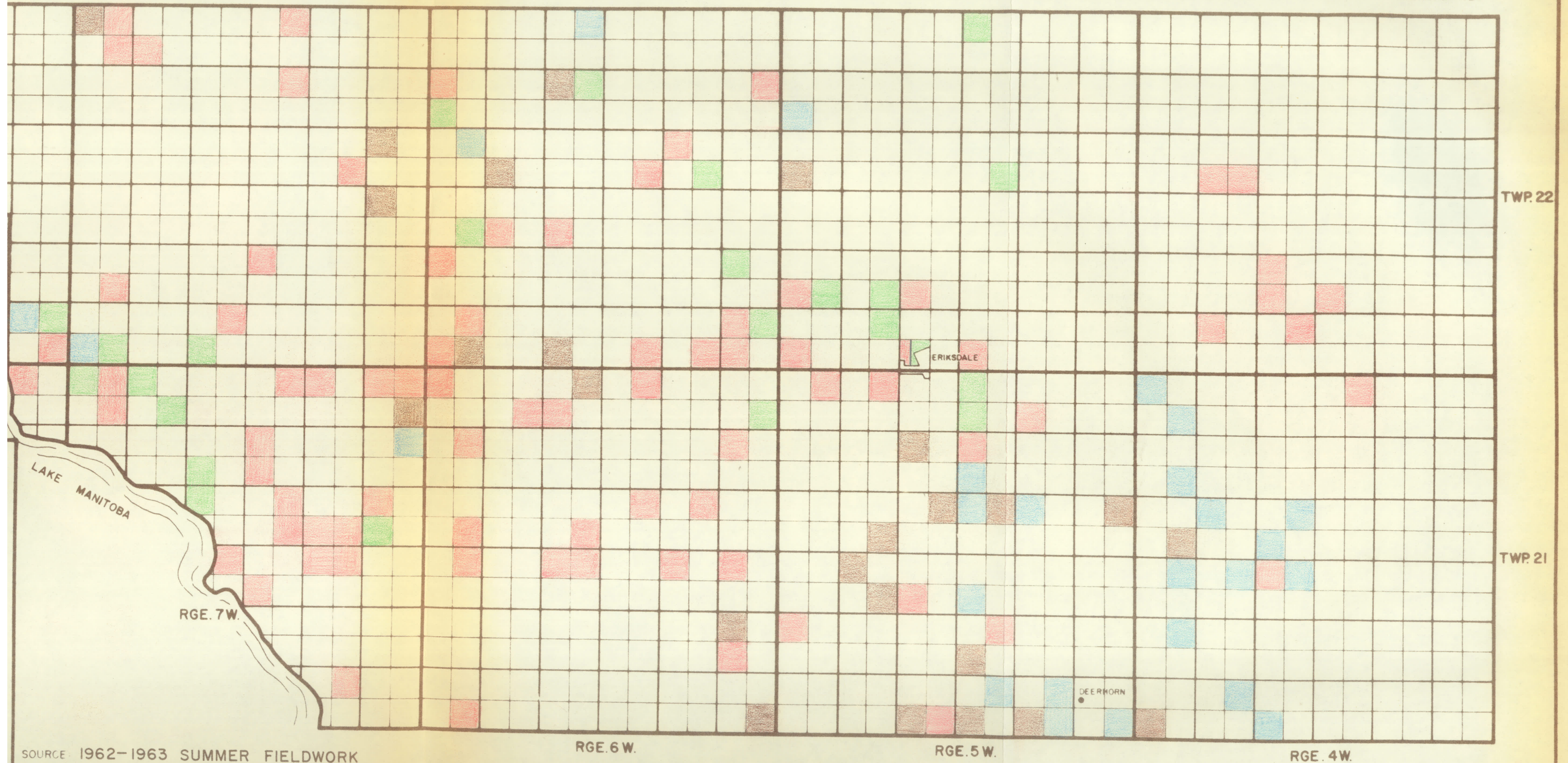
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

### 1961 Ethnic Origin Distribution

It can be observed from map no. 15 that, as in 1941, people of British origin accounted for the greatest proportion of all ethnic groups. These numbers, however, were substantially reduced and were again scattered throughout the study area with no noticeable or well-defined pattern.

Similarly, as in 1941, those of Scandinavian background were found mainly in Township 21 Range 6 West and Township 22 Range 5 West. Worthy of note was the fact that a small pocket of Scandinavians had developed in the northwest corner of Township 21 Range 7 West and southwest corner of Township 22 Range 7 West.

As in 1941, the French element of the population was found mainly in Township 21 Range 4 West and Township 21 Range 5 West. A comparison of maps no. 14 and 15 reveals that those of "other" ethnic origin were more numerous in 1961 than in 1941. Whereas people of British, French and Scandinavian origin showed similar patterns and depopulation trends, those of "other" origin showed an increase. This was due to the later immigration of other ethnic groups to the study area who bought established farms or settled on land purchased from the local government. They were found

mainly in Township 21 Range 5 West between the Towns of Deerhorn and Eriksdale.

An examination of table no. 21 reveals that for the Municipality as a whole the British element, as in 1941, accounted for the largest proportion of all ethnic groups (recording 52.0 percent of the total). On the other hand, Scandinavians, who accounted for the second largest group in 1941, had been replaced by the French with 16.8 percent, and those of "other" ethnic origin occupied third position with 16.5 percent. Scandinavians recorded 14.7 percent of the total population.

An examination of table no. 21 further reveals on a township basis that in 1961, as in 1941, 6 out of 10 townships had a majority (50 percent and over) of British residents. However, of these 6, only 5 had maintained this majority from 1941. Township 22 Range 7 West, primarily British in 1941, experienced a faster rate of decrease in British than did the other ethnic groups in this township. On the other hand, Township 22 Range 6 West recorded an increase in the British element to over 50 percent. The four other townships (those with less than 50 percent British) indicated the British element to vary from 12.1 per-

cent (Township 21 Range 4 West) to 46.4 percent (Township 22 Range 7 West).

As in 1941, the French element was concentrated in Township 21 Range 4 West (77.1 percent) and Township 21 Range 5 West (25.2 percent). Three townships reported no French and the remaining 5 had from 4.1 percent to 9.5 percent.

Whereas in 1941, the Scandinavian element was dominant in Township 22 Range 6 West (53.1 percent), in 1961 this group accounted for 53 percent of the total population in Township 22 Range 5 West. This shift was not due to a change in distribution but rather that in Township 22 Range 6 West the Scandinavian element decreased at a faster rate than other ethnic groups in that Township, and in Township 22 Range 5 West the reverse had taken place; that is, other ethnic groups had migrated at a faster rate.

People of "other" ethnic groups had become more significant by 1961. In terms of percentage of the total population of the township in which they were found, all showed increases and accounted for between 5.8 percent (Township 21 Range 7 West) and 38.3 percent (Township 21 Range 5 West).

1941-1961 Ethnic Origin Comparison

In 1941, for the Municipality as a whole, the British element decreased from 636 to 357 persons, producing a net loss of 279 or 43.8 percent. This represented the largest numerical decrease and the second largest percentage rate loss (see table no. 22). People of French background, on the other hand, experienced less dramatic losses and between 1941 and 1961 a decrease from 159 to 115 persons occurred, producing a net loss of 44 persons or 27.7 percent. This represented both the smallest numerical and percentage decrease (see table no. 22).

From table no. 22, it can also be seen that the Scandinavian element experienced the largest rate of loss and the second largest numerical loss. Between 1941 (228 persons) and 1961 (101 persons) a decrease of 117 persons or 55.7 percent occurred.

As noted earlier, people of "other" ethnic origin experienced an increase from 90 persons in 1941 to 113 persons in 1961. This represented an increase of 23 persons or 25.6 percent (see table no. 22). This was due to the immigration of people into the Municipality.

From the above discussion, it is obvious that the British element was the most significant contributor to farm

TABLE 22

ETHNIC ORIGIN COMPARISON AND CHANGE BY TOWNSHIP 1941-1961

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE	ETHNIC ORIGIN																			
	BRITISH				FRENCH				SCANDINAVIAN				OTHERS				TOTAL			
	Year		Change		Year		Change		Year		Change		Year		Change		Year		Change	
	1941	1961	No.	%	1941	1961	No.	%	1941	1961	No.	%	1941	1961	No.	%	1941	1961	No.	%
21-4W	51	10	-41	-80.4	82	64	-18	-22.0	-	-	-	-	6	9	+ 3	+50.0	139	83	-56	-40.3
22-4W	45	36	- 9	-20.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	36	- 9	-20.0
21-5W	77	35	-42	-54.5	39	29	-10	-25.6	38	7	-31	-81.6	14	44	+30	+214.2	168	115	-53	-31.5
22-5W	57	17	-40	-70.2	20	2	-18	-90.0	62	26	-36	-58.1	9	4	- 5	-55.6	148	49	-99	-66.4
21-6W	121	77	-44	-36.4	-	-	-	-	15	4	-11	-73.3	11	16	+ 5	+45.5	147	97	-50	-34.0
22-6W	51	64	+13	+25.5	6	9	+ 3	+50.0	86	24	-62	-72.1	19	13	- 6	-31.6	162	110	-52	-32.1
21-7W	101	69	-32	-31.7	-	5	+ 5	n.d.*	21	24	+ 3	+14.3	5	6	+ 1	+20.0	127	104	-23	-18.1
22-7W	109	32	-77	-70.6	7	4	- 3	-42.9	2	12	+10	+500.0	26	21	- 5	-23.8	144	69	-75	-52.1
21-8W	9	2	- 7	-77.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	2	- 7	-77.8
22-8W	15	15	-	-	5	2	- 3	-60.0	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	21	- 3	-12.5
GRAND TOTAL	636	357	-279	-43.8	159	115	-44	-27.7	228	101	-127	-55.7	90	113	+23	+25.6	1113	686	-427	-38.4

\*Not Defined.

population decrease. Out of a total loss of 427 persons, those of British origin accounted for 65.3 percent. The Scandinavian element was also very significant with a decrease of 127 persons or 29.8 percent out of a total loss of 427 persons.

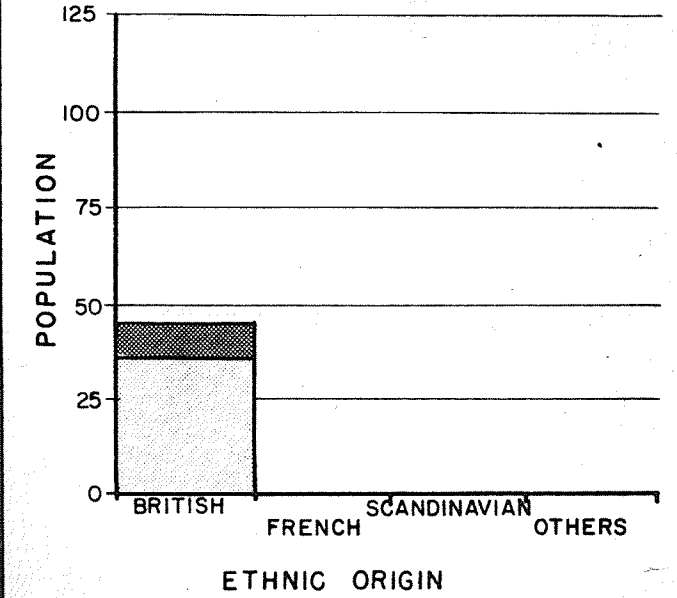
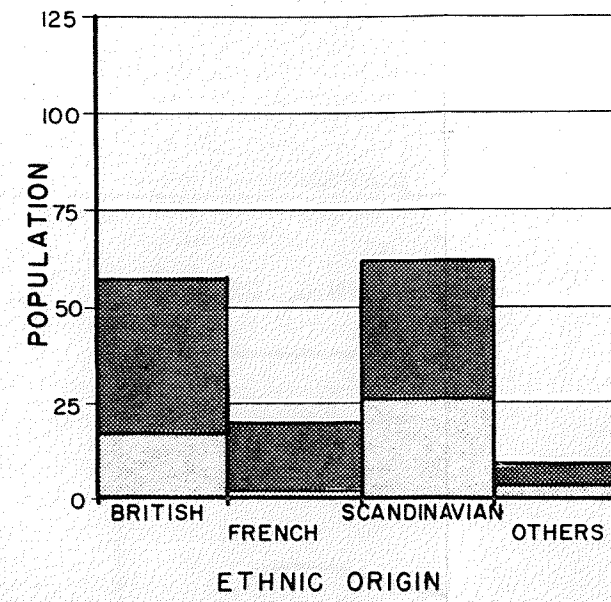
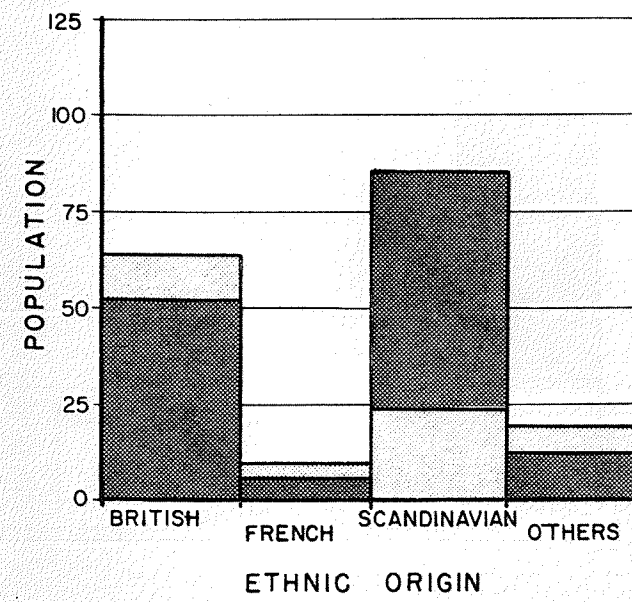
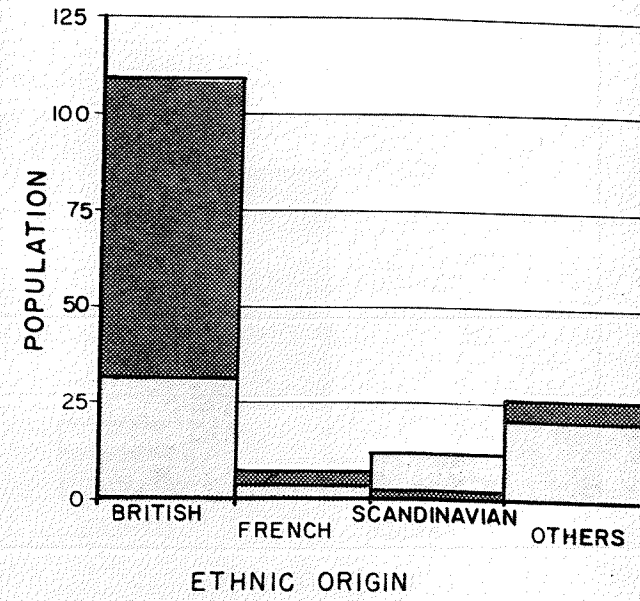
The French element, by way of contrast, was considerably more stable and accounted for only a slight decrease (44 persons or 10.3 percent of the total).

Those of "other" ethnic groups showed an actual increase in population and in terms of the total loss of 427 persons, this group was responsible for an increase of 23 persons or 5.4 percent.

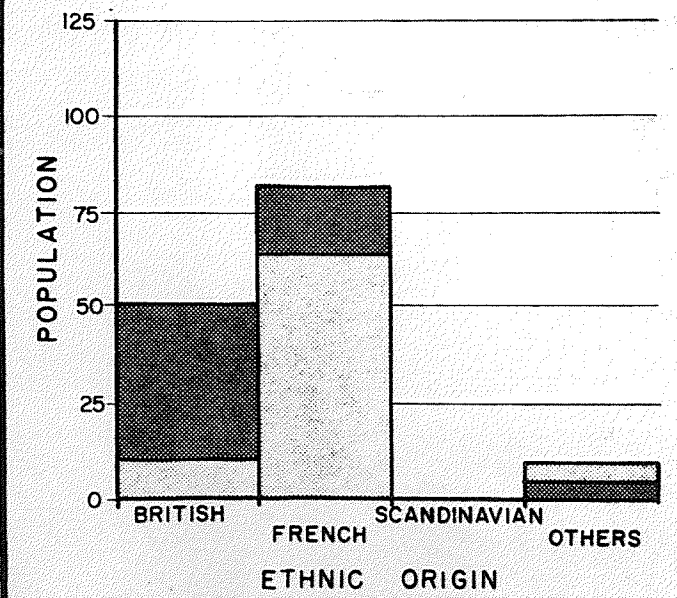
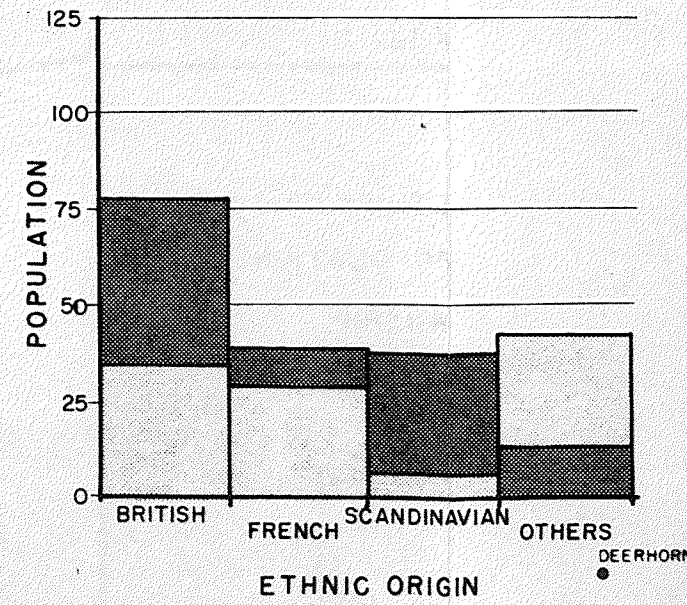
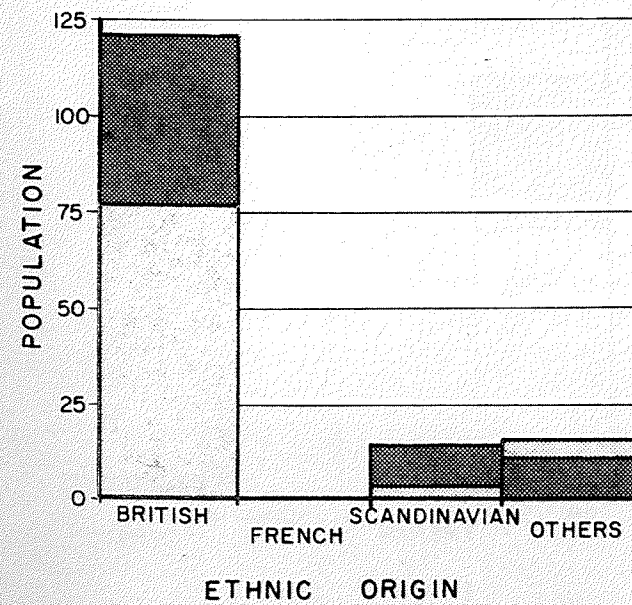
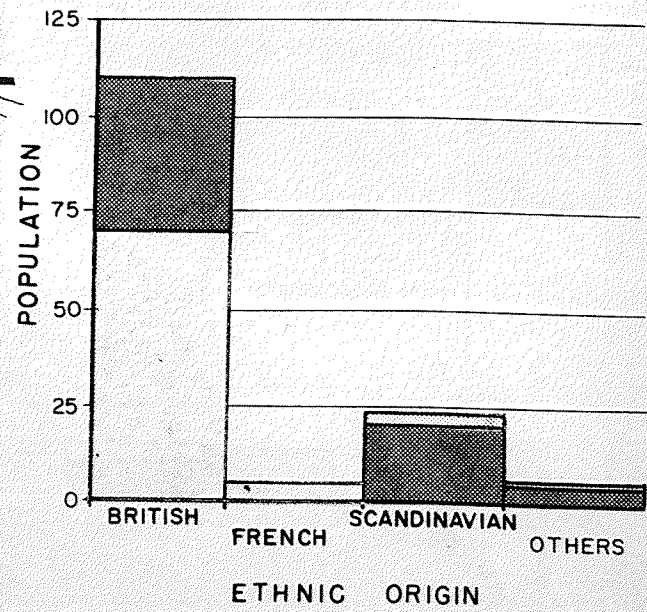
Maps no. 16 and 17 illustrate respectively the numerical and percentage change in ethnic origin of farm population on a township basis. It is apparent from these maps that all townships, with the exception of Township 22 Range 6 West, experienced losses in residents of British origin. These losses ranged from 20 percent in Township 22 Range 4 West to a high of 80.4 percent in Township 21 Range 4 West. Township 22 Range 6 West recorded an increase of 13 persons or 25.5 percent. This increase was partly explained by an increase in family size.

People of French origin recorded losses in 5 out of 7 townships. The losses ranged from 22.0 percent to 90.0

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



TWP. 22



TWP. 21

RGE. 6 W.

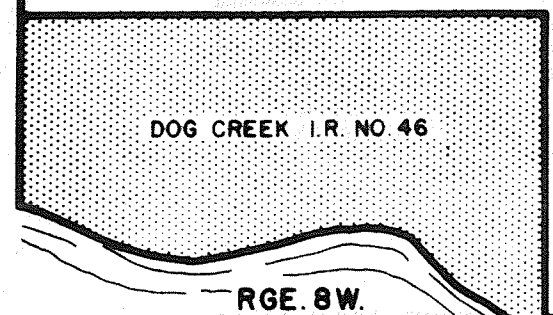
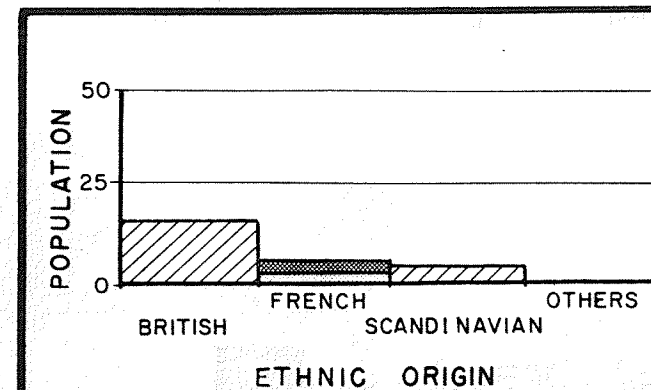
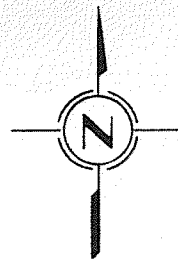
RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4 W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

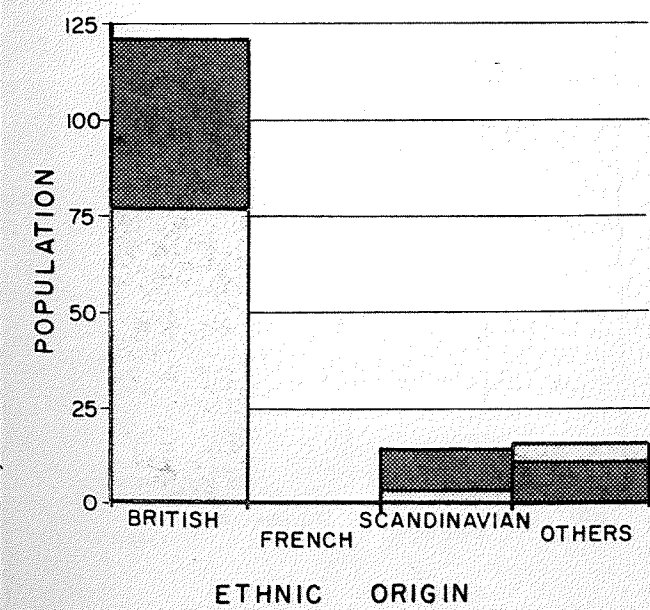
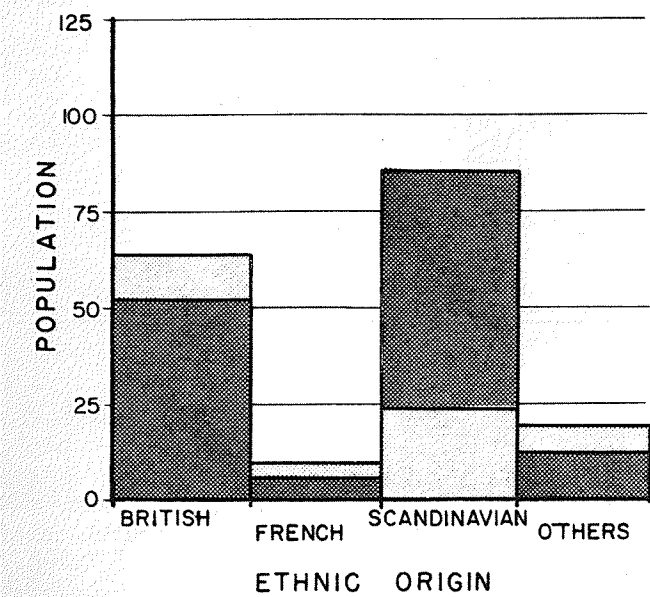
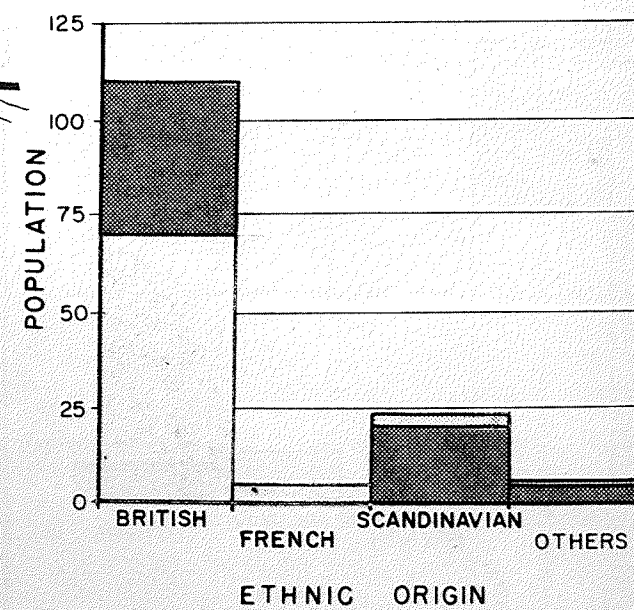
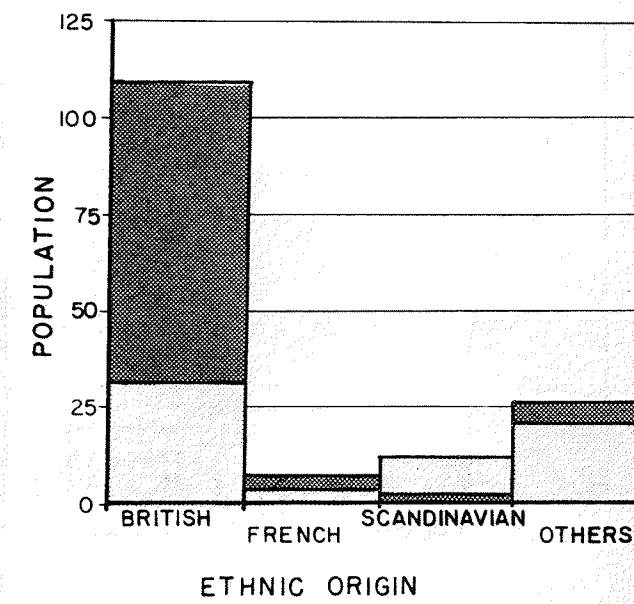
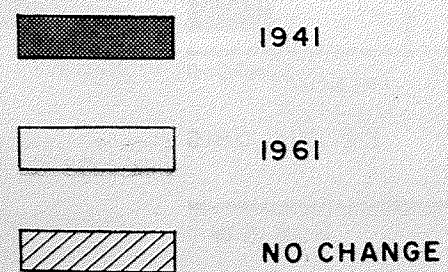
MAP 16

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



MAP 16

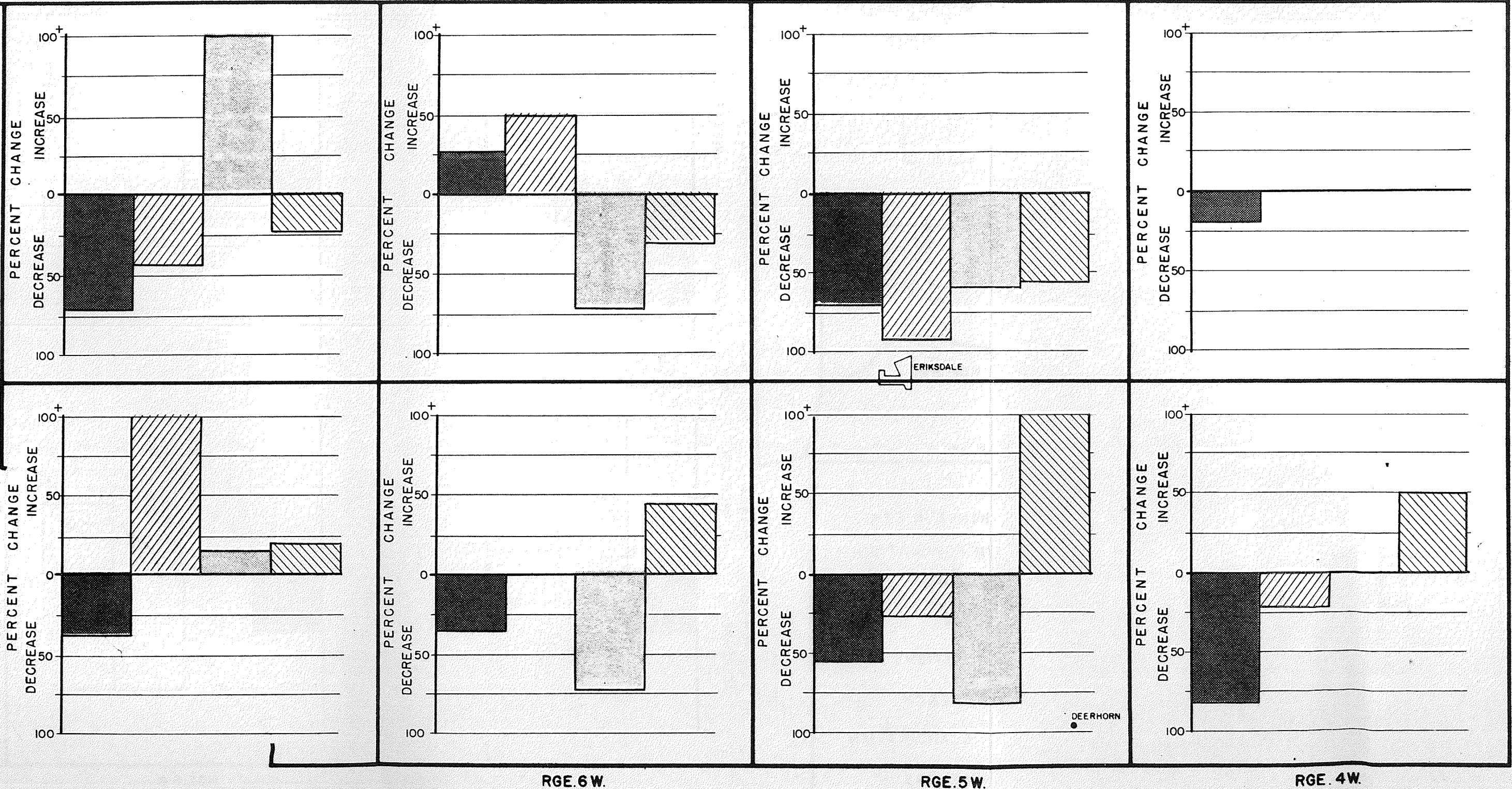
CHANGE IN ETHNIC ORIGIN  
OF FARM POPULATION  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941 - 1961



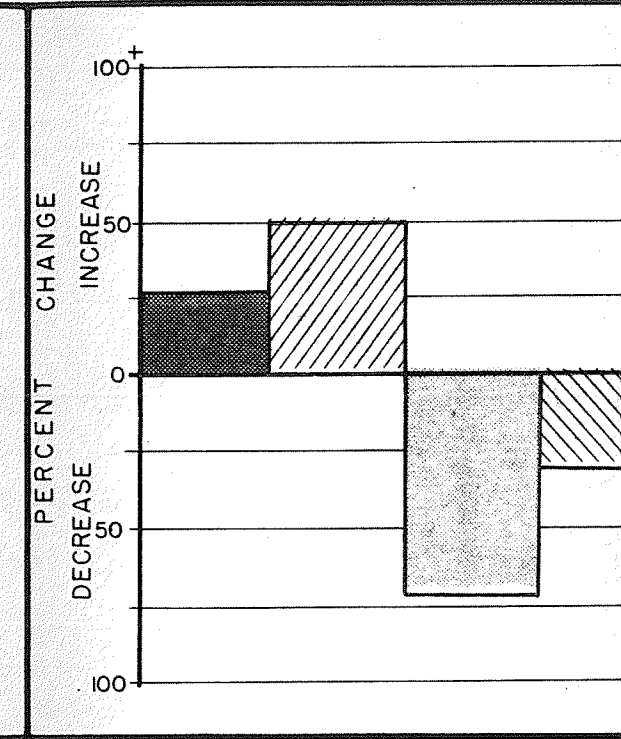
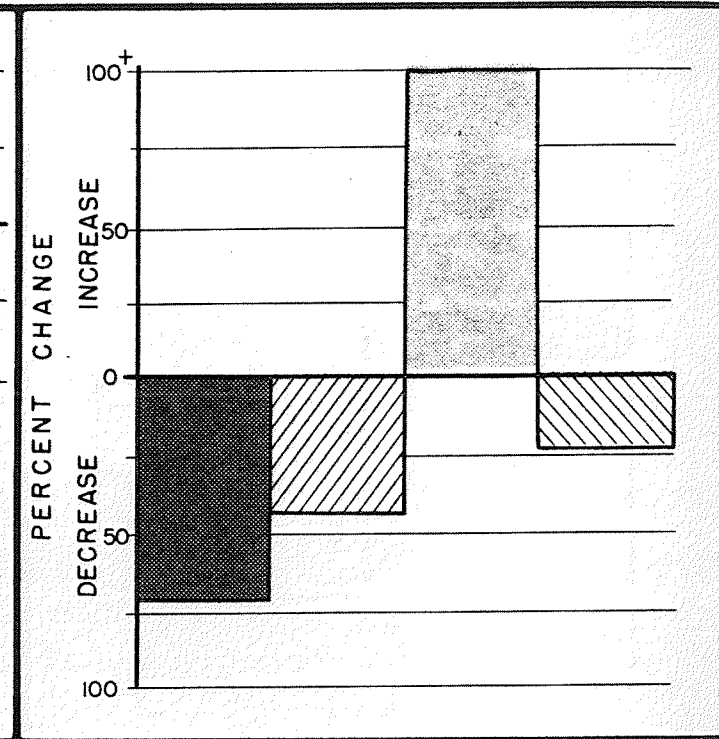
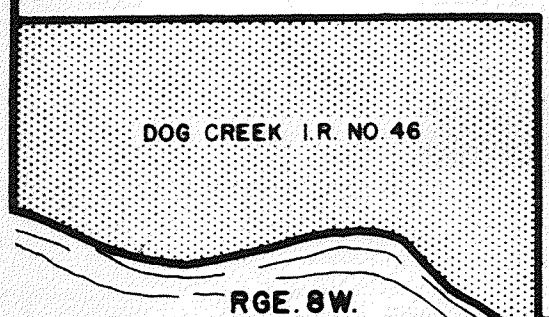
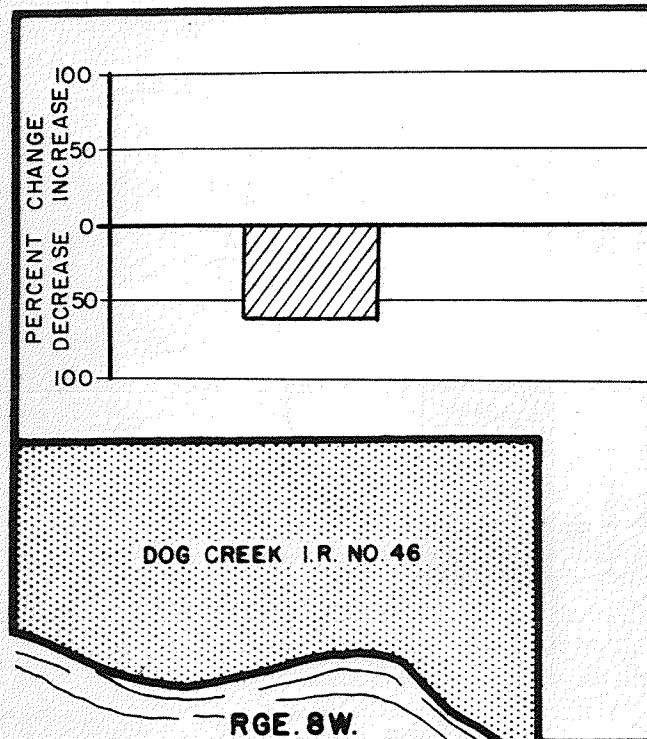
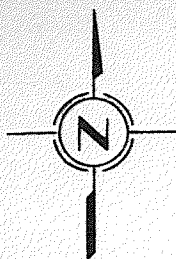
RGE. 6W.

SOURCE: 1962 - 1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



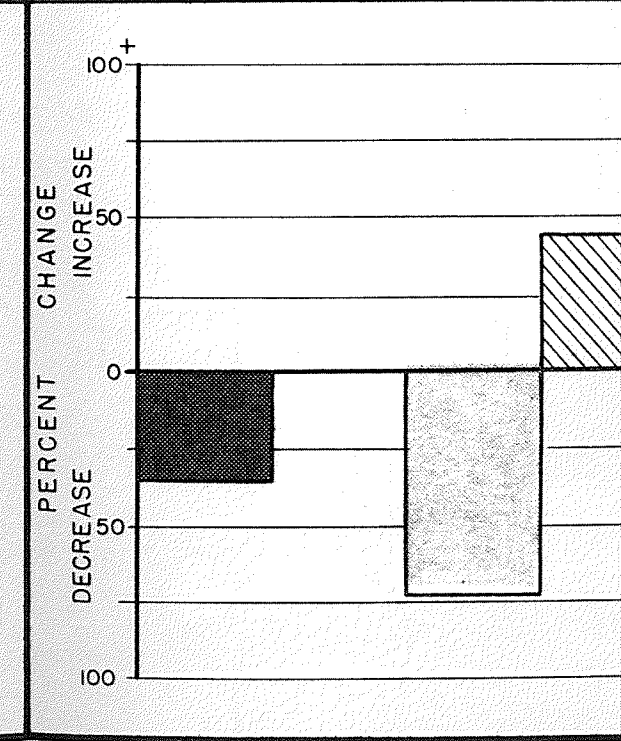
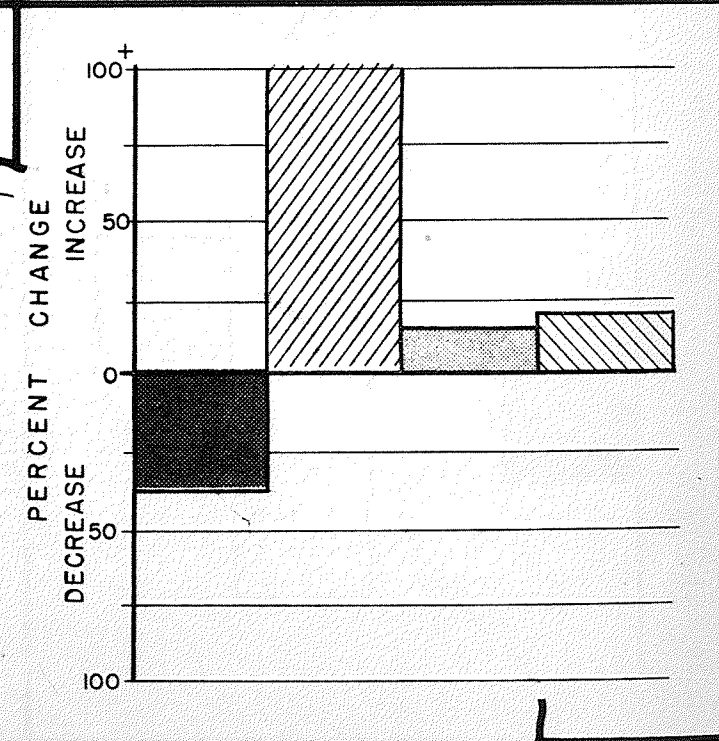
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK



MAP 17

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN ETHNIC  
ORIGIN OF FARM POPULATION  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941-1961

- BRITISH
- FRENCH
- SCANDINAVIAN
- OTHERS



RGE. 6W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

percent and accounted for a loss of 52 persons. The increases (Township 22 Range 6 West and Township 21 Range 7 West) although high percentagewise, accounted for only 8 persons.

The Scandinavian element, as discussed previously, was relatively significant in accounting for population losses. Four townships recorded losses ranging from 58.1 percent to 81.6 percent. Expressed numerically, this decrease accounts for a loss of 140 residents. Two townships (21 Range 7 West and 22 Range 7 West) experienced increases ranging from 14.3 percent to 500.0 percent.

Those of "other" ethnic origin experienced mainly increases on a township basis. Although a few decreases were recorded, the large increases offset the small decreases, producing a net increase. Township 21 Range 5 West experienced the largest increase (30 persons or 214.2 percent) whereas Township 22 Range 6 West experienced a slight decrease (6 persons or 31.6 percent).

#### SUMMARY

In both 1941 and 1961, the Municipality was sparsely populated and the concentration of people occurred generally

along the roads dissecting the area. The areas void of population coincided with poor drainage.

All townships experienced losses in farm population but the loss was often offset by an increase in either rural non-farm population or urban population thereby producing a slight decrease in total population.

"Children of working age" experienced a substantial loss between 1941 and 1961 as a result of the attraction of larger urban areas.

In both 1941 and 1961, the British element predominated but in diminishing proportions. People of "other" ethnic groups had immigrated to the study area between 1941 and 1961, which resulted in reducing the over all loss in farm population in the Municipality.

## CHAPTER VI

### FARM FAMILY ANALYSIS

#### INTRODUCTION

One of the major contributing factors to population loss was a decrease in the number of farm families. As discussed previously, the total farm population decreased by 38.4 percent compared to 40.8 percent for the farm families, thus substantiating the strong relationship between population loss and changes in the number of farm families.

#### FARM FAMILY ANALYSIS

In 1941, the study area reported a total of 250 farm families, of which 238 were working on the farm and 12 were retired but living on the farm. By 1961, the total number of families decreased to 148, representing a loss of 102 or 40.8 percent, the number of working families declined by 96 or 40.3 percent and the number of retired families was reduced by 6 or 50 percent. Since the farm working families accounted for 95.2 percent and 96.0 percent of the total families in 1941 and 1961 respectively, it is obvious that this element of the total farm families was closest related to the changes in population (see table no. 23).

TABLE 23

## FARM FAMILY COMPARISON 1941-1961

TOWNSHIP AND RANGE	FARM FAMILIES											
	TOTAL				WORKING				RETIRED			
	YEAR		CHANGE		YEAR		CHANGE		YEAR		CHANGE	
	1941	1961	No.	%	1941	1961	No.	%	1941	1961	No.	%
21-R4W	28	16	-12	-42.9	26	16	-10	-38.4	2	-	- 2	-100.0
22-R4W	14	6	- 8	-57.1	13	6	- 7	-53.8	1	-	- 1	-100.0
21-R5W	44	26	-18	-40.9	41	25	-16	-39.1	3	1	- 2	- 66.7
22-R5W	27	15	-12	-44.5	27	13	-14	-51.9	-	2	+ 2	n.d.*
21-R6W	31	20	-11	-35.4	31	19	-12	-38.7	-	1	+ 1	n.d.
22-R6W	41	22	-19	-46.4	38	21	-17	-44.7	3	1	- 2	- 66.7
21-R7W	25	23	- 2	- 8.0	25	23	- 2	- 8.0	-	-	-	-
22-R7W	30	14	-16	-53.3	29	13	-16	-55.2	1	1	0	0
21-R8W	2	1	- 1	-50.0	2	1	- 1	-50.0	-	-	-	-
22-R8W	8	5	- 3	-37.5	6	5	- 1	-16.7	2	-	- 2	-100.0
GRAND TOTAL	250	148	-102	-40.8	238	142	-96	-40.3	12	6	- 6	- 50.0

\* Not Defined

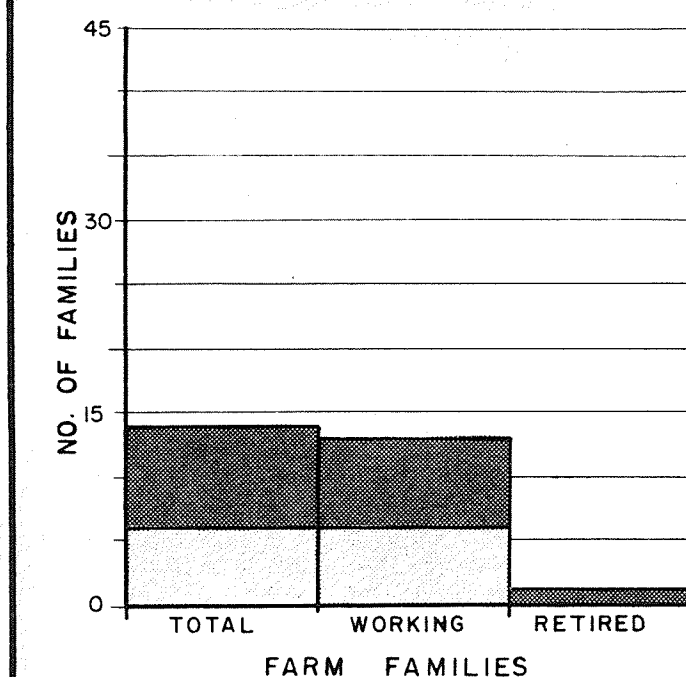
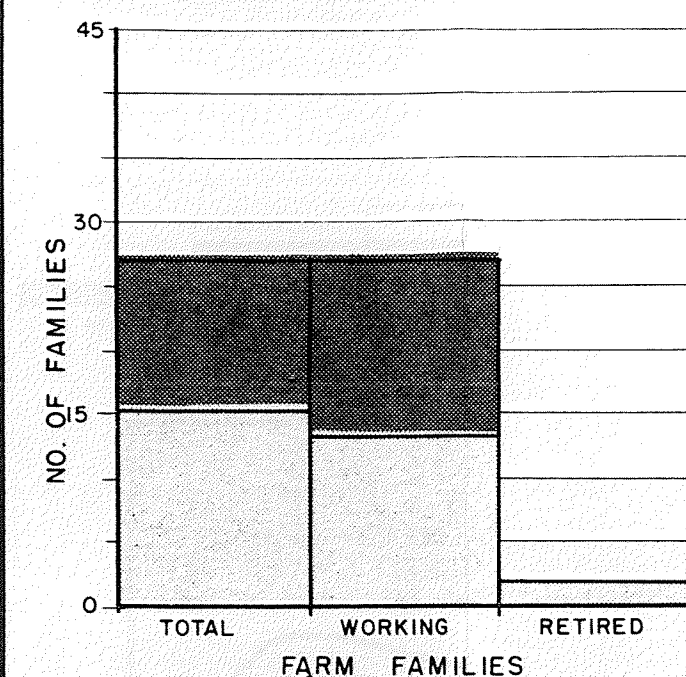
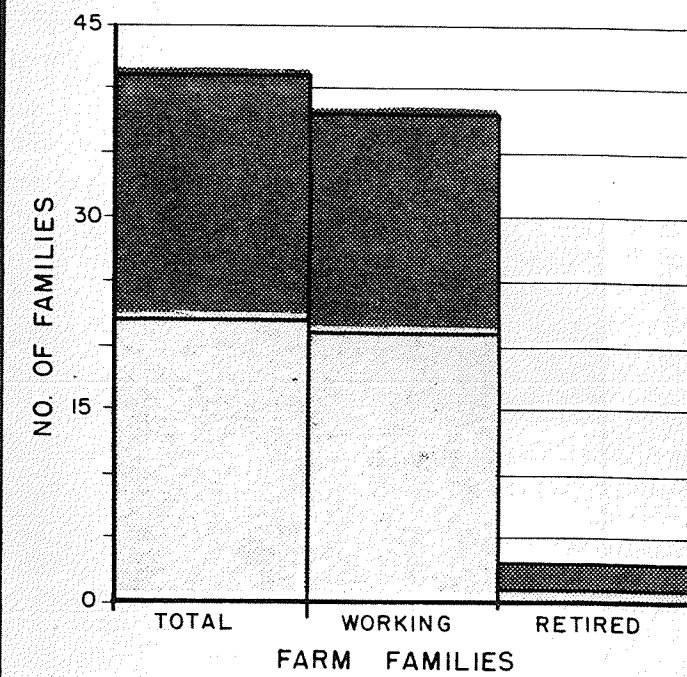
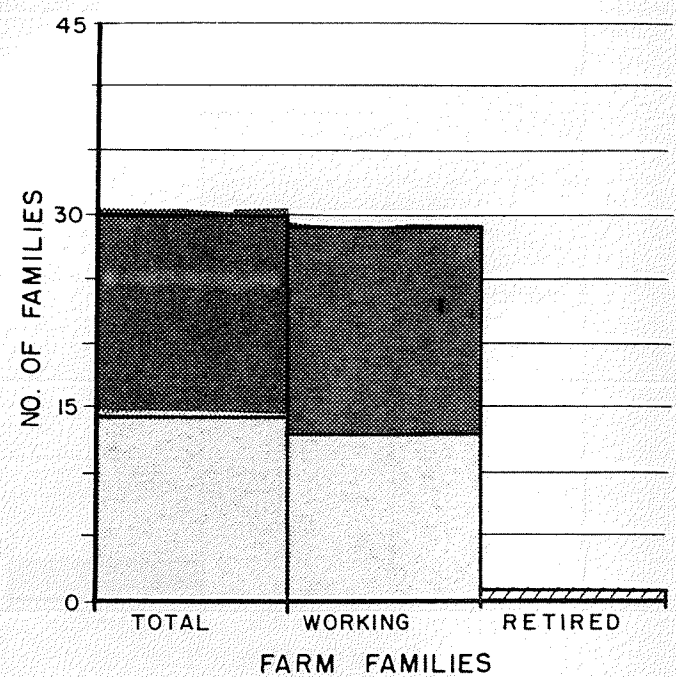
The 1941 and 1961 numerical and percentage comparison of farm families can be seen on maps no. 18 and 19. As illustrated on these maps, all townships experienced losses in total farm families with Township 22 Range 6 West experiencing the largest numerical loss (19) and Township 22 Range 4 West, the largest percentage loss (57.1 percent). The remaining townships reported numerical losses ranging from 3 (Township 21 Range 7 West) to 18 (Township 21 Range 5 West), and percentage losses ranging from 11 percent (Township 21 Range 7 West) to 53.3 percent (Township 22 Range 7 West). It is interesting to note that Township 21 Range 7 West, the earliest settled township in the Municipality, reported the smallest change in number of families and one of the smallest losses in population (22.1 percent) reflecting the relatively stable nature characteristic of this township. As would be expected, since farm working families account for 95 percent and 96.0 percent of the total farm families in 1941 and 1961 respectively, a similar rate of change was characteristic of this component of the total farm families - the only exception was Township 22 Range 7 West which recorded the largest percentage loss in farm working families of 55.2 percent whereas in terms of total farm families, Township 22 Range 4 West experienced the largest percentage decrease (57.1 percent). This was

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

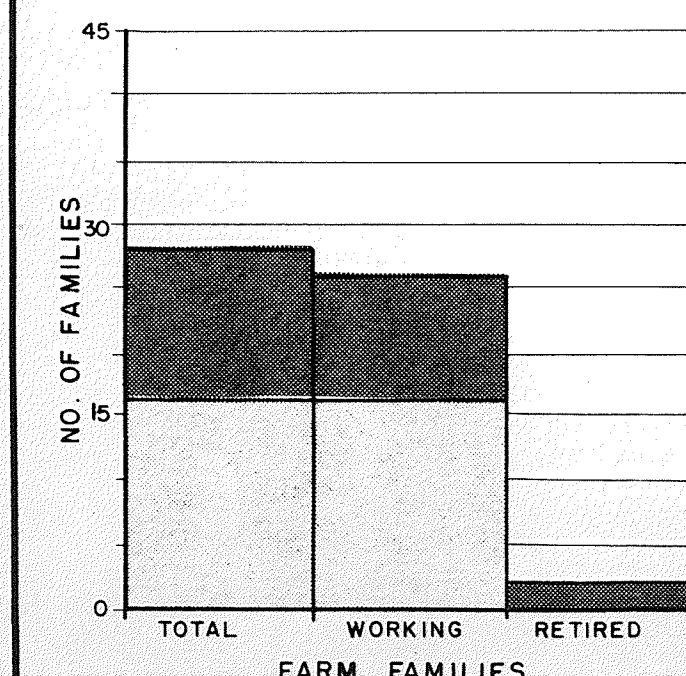
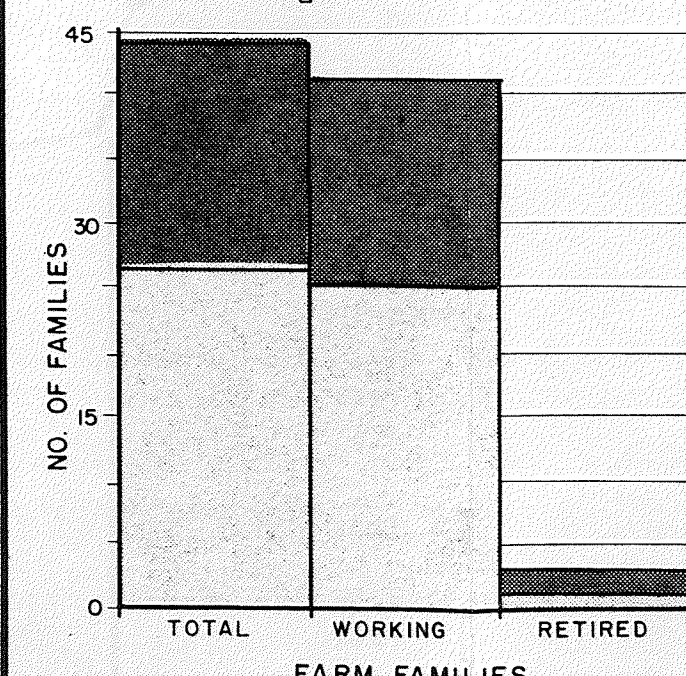
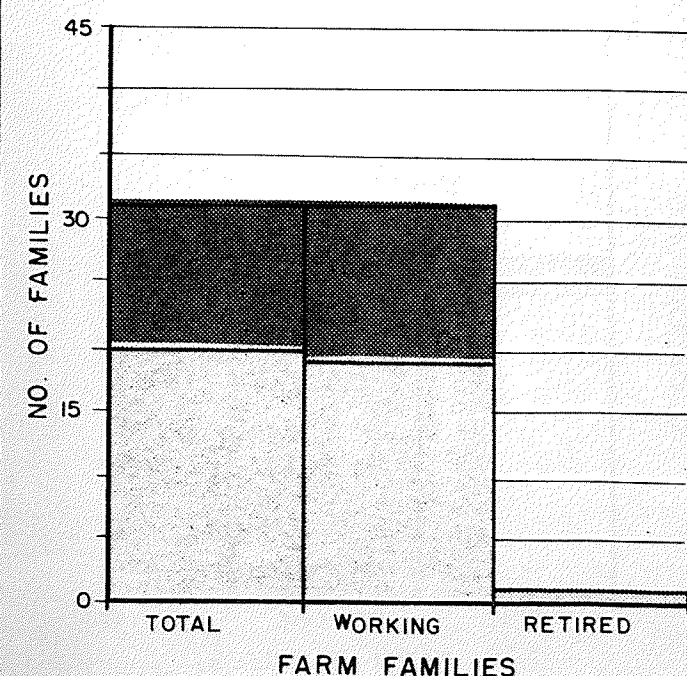
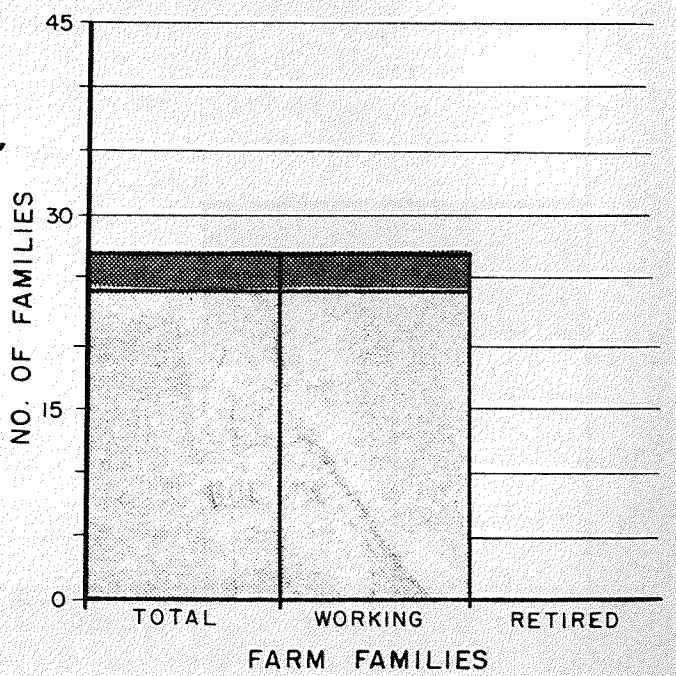


RANGE 8W. TOTAL  
FARM FAMILIES.  
SYMBOLS ARE  
OULD RECORD

RETIRED



TWP. 22



TWP. 21

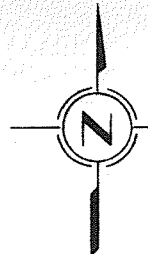
RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

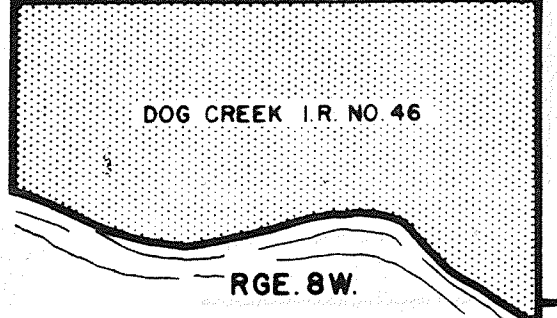
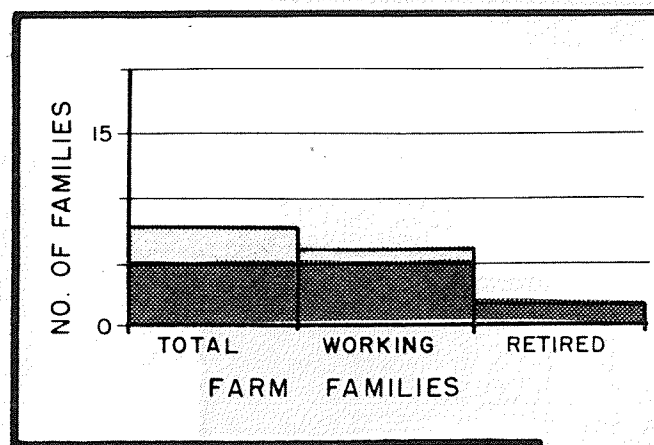
RGE. 4W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MAP 18



**ERRATA:**  
 TOWNSHIP 22 RANGE 8W. TOTAL  
 AND WORKING FARM FAMILIES.  
 1941 and 1961 SYMBOLS ARE  
 INVERTED. SHOULD RECORD  
 DECREASES.

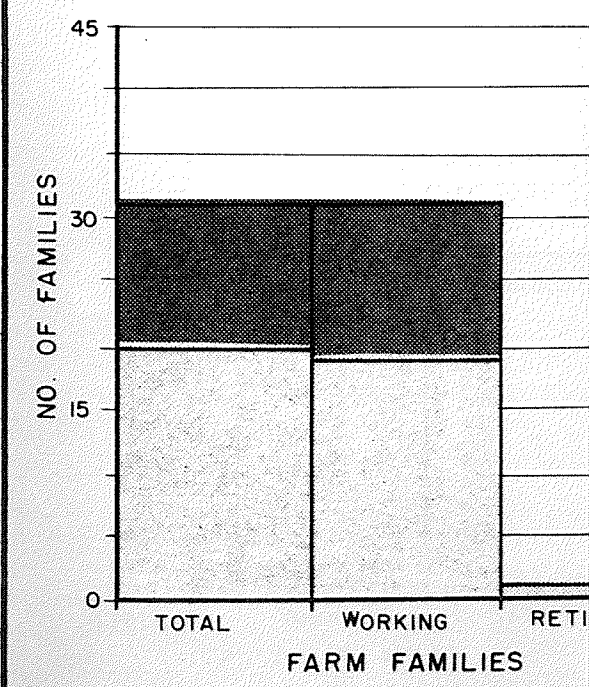
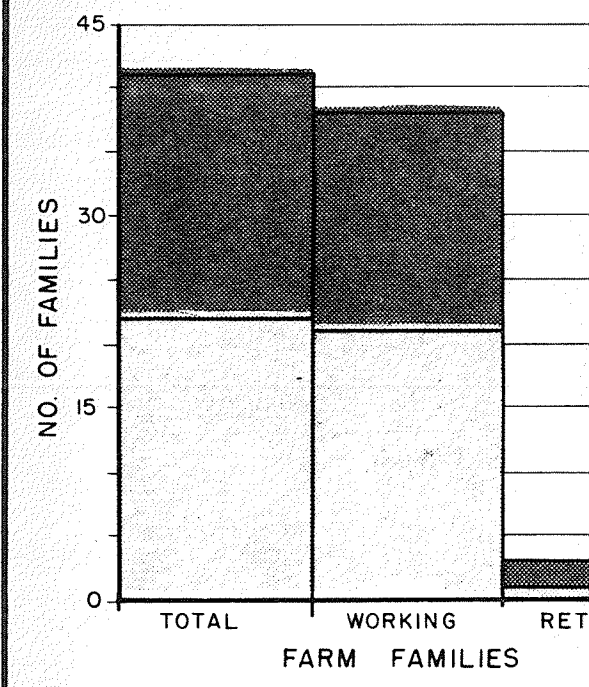
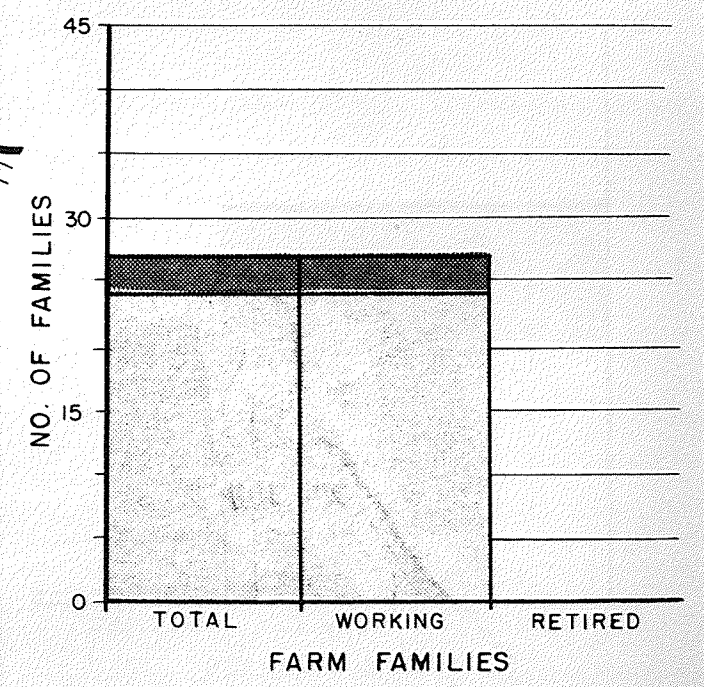
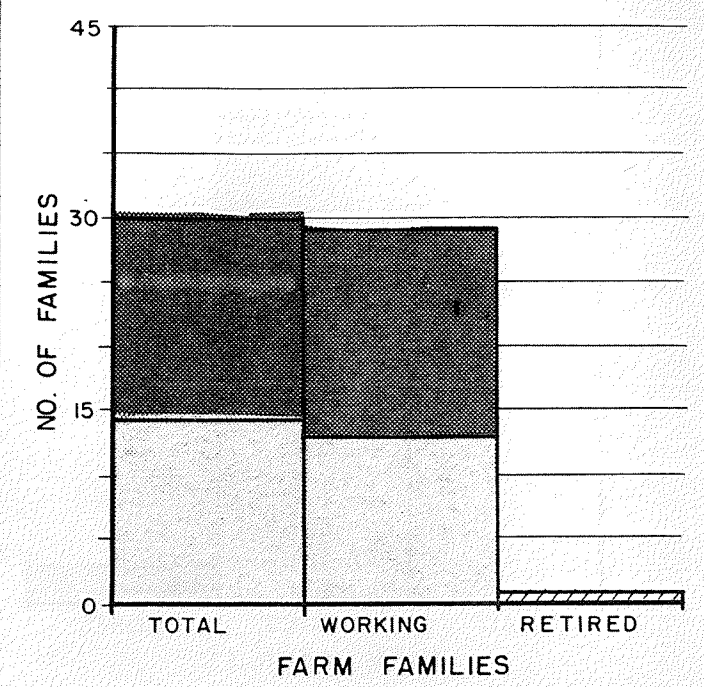
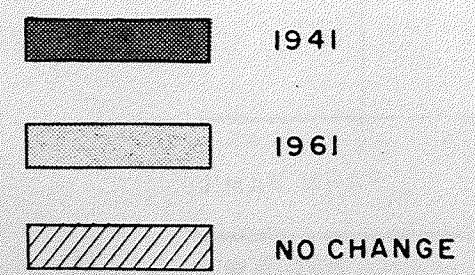


MAP 18

**CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FARM FAMILIES**

BY TOWNSHIP

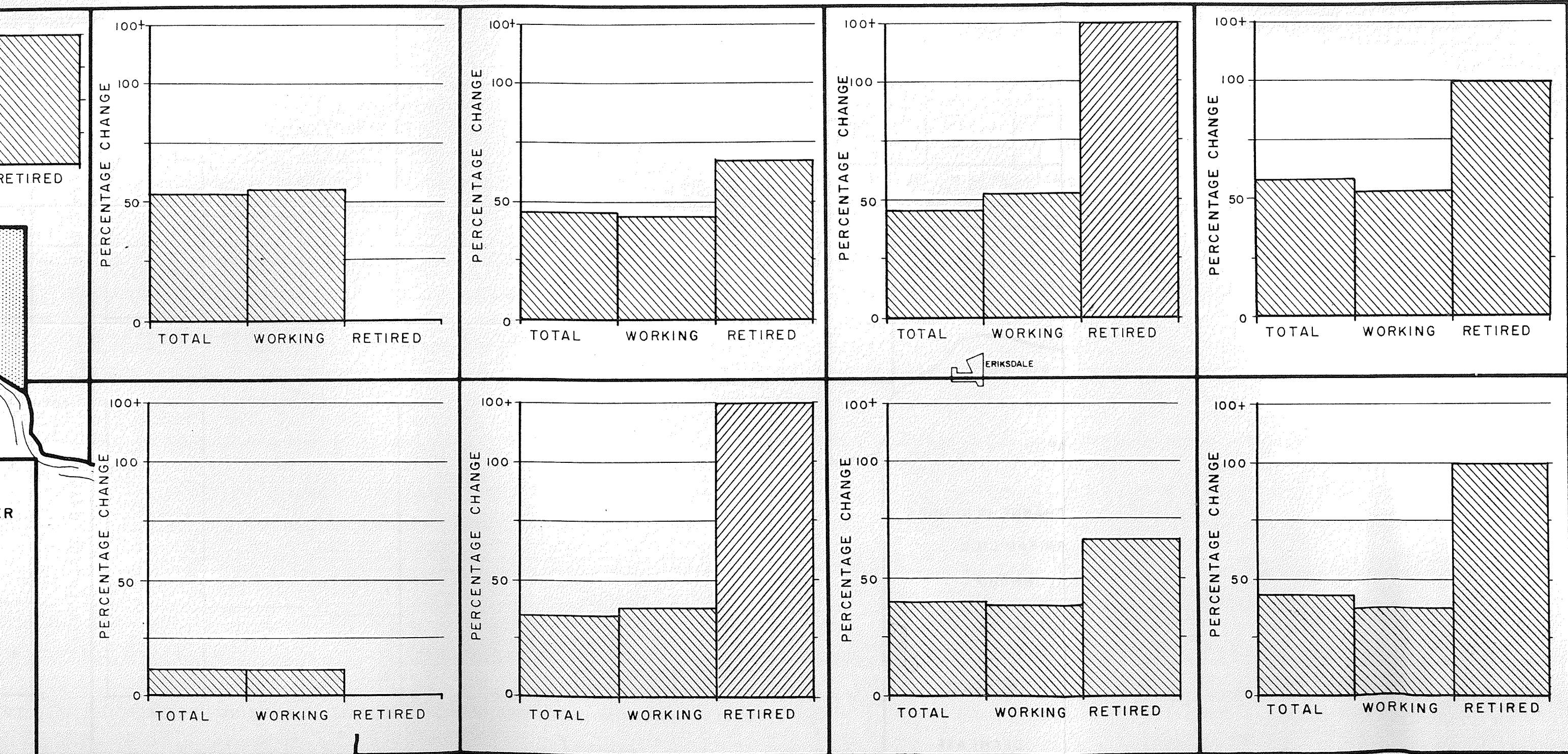
1941 - 1961



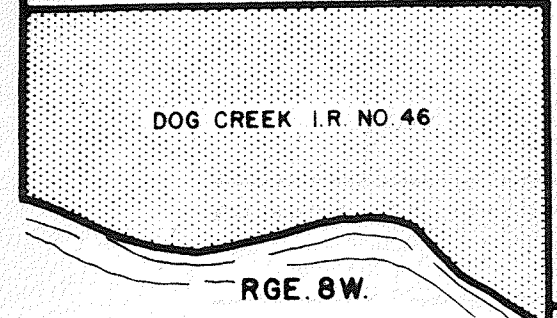
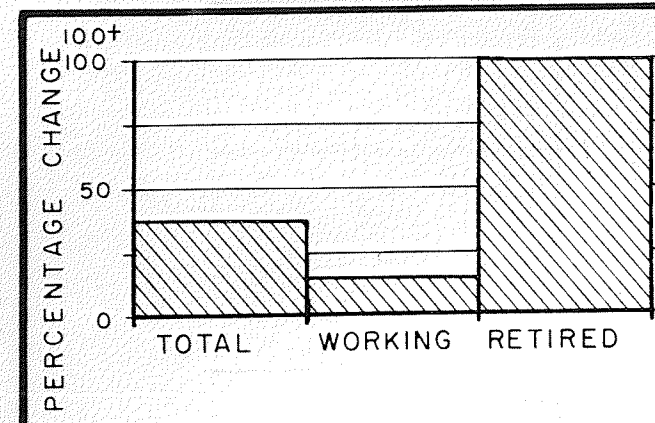
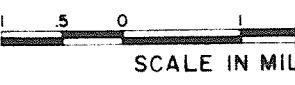
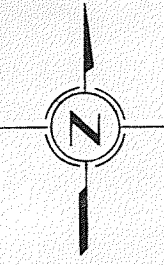
RGE. 6W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

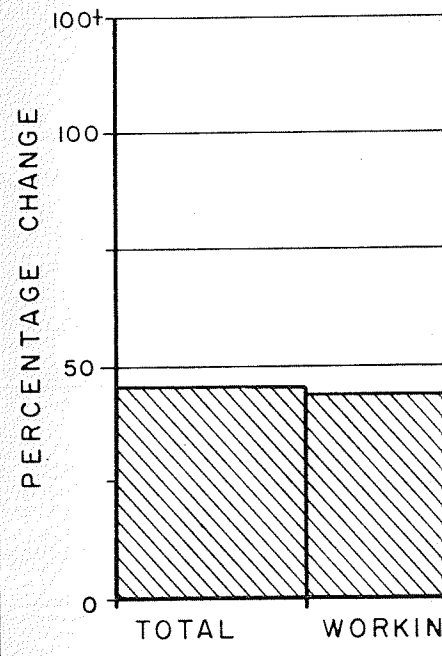
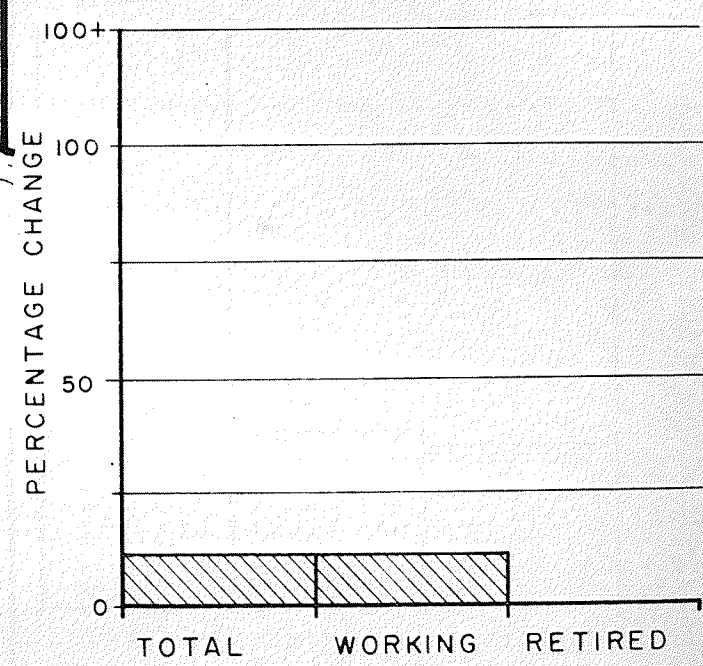
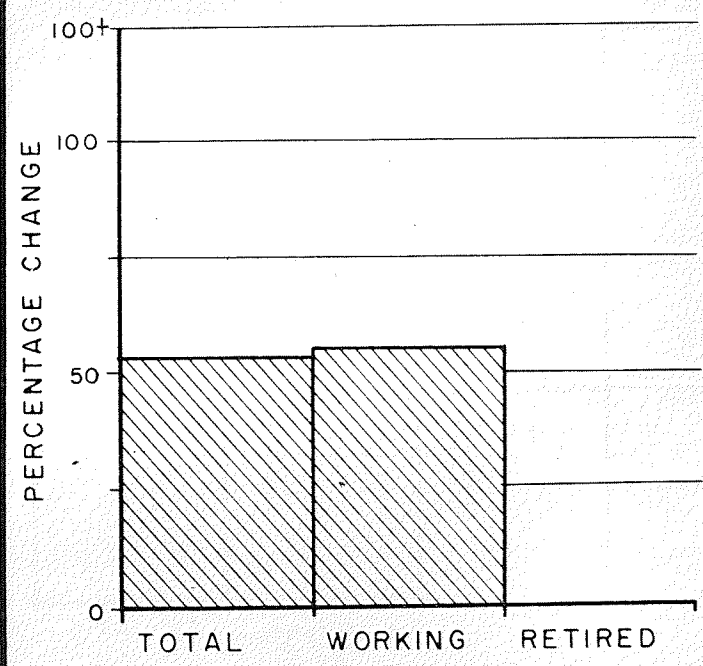
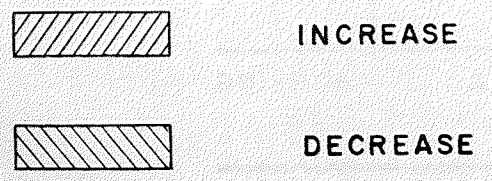


SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK



MAP 19

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN NUMBER  
OF FARM FAMILIES  
PER TOWNSHIP  
1941-1961



RGE. 6W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

due to the fact that for Township 22 Range 7 West no change was reported by the retired families.

The effect of retired families on population trends was insignificant and was pointed up by the fact that they accounted for a reduction of only 7 persons for the whole study area. Five townships recorded losses ranging from 66.7 percent to 100 percent (total loss), two experienced increases and the remaining townships reported no change in number of retired families between 1941 and 1961.

#### FARM FAMILY SIZE ANALYSIS

From table no. 24, it can be seen that for the study area, the average farm family size<sup>1</sup> in 1941 was 4.28 as compared to 4.37 in 1961, representing an increase of .09 or 2.1 percent. The fact that an increase in family size took place would seem to indicate that an increase in population would follow. However, this was not the case. A closer examination of the actual percentage increase in family size revealed the increase to be slight (2.1 percent) and therefore its effect, if any, on population trends was negligible; it was therefore necessary to look to some other factor or combination of factors to which decrease in

<sup>1</sup>Calculation of family size  
 = Parents working + parents retired + children  
 number of families

TABLE 24

FARM FAMILY SIZE COMPARISON 1941-1961

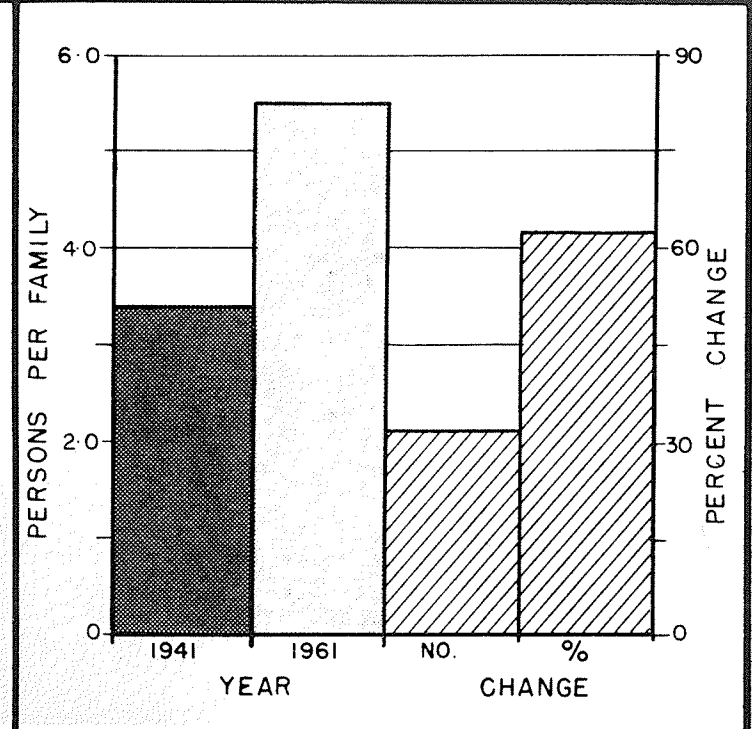
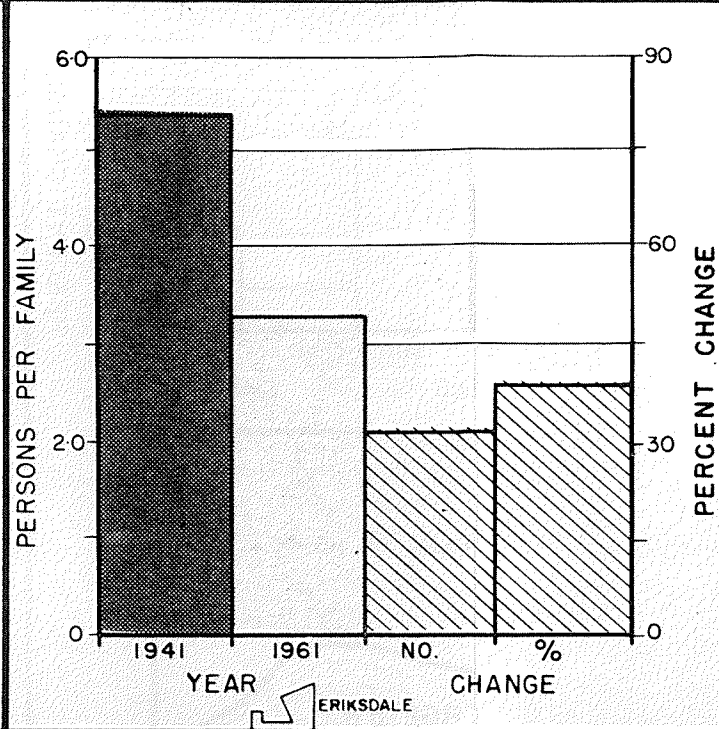
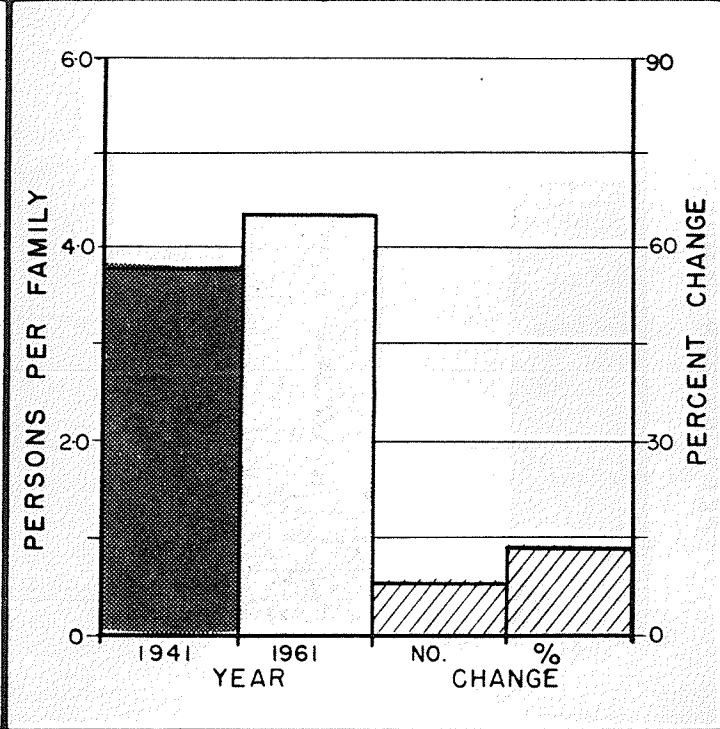
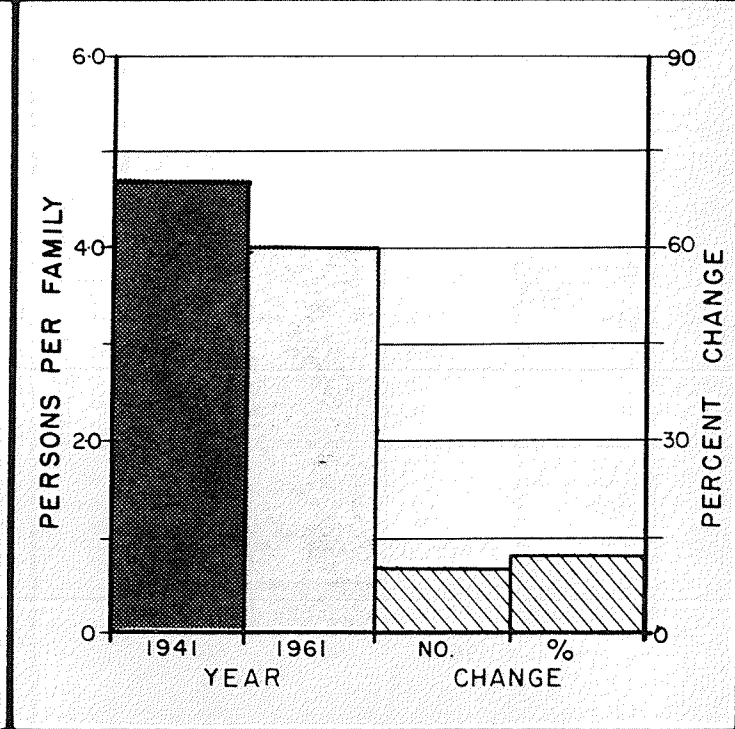
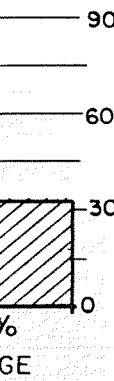
RANGE	FAMILY SIZE										TOTAL	
	4W		5W		6W		7W		8W			
TOWNSHIP	21	22	21	22	21	22	21	22	21	22		
Y E A R	1941	4.79	3.39	3.64	5.37	4.55	3.81	4.80	4.63	4.50	2.87	4.28
	1961	5.06	5.50	4.42	3.27	4.60	4.36	4.25	4.00	2.00	3.80	4.37
C H A N G E	No.	+0.27	+2.10	+0.78	-2.10	+0.05	+0.55	-0.55	-0.63	-2.50	+0.93	+0.09
	%	+5.64	+62.0	+21.4	-39.2	+1.1	+14.4	-11.5	-13.6	-55.6	+32.4	+2.1

farm population could be attributed.

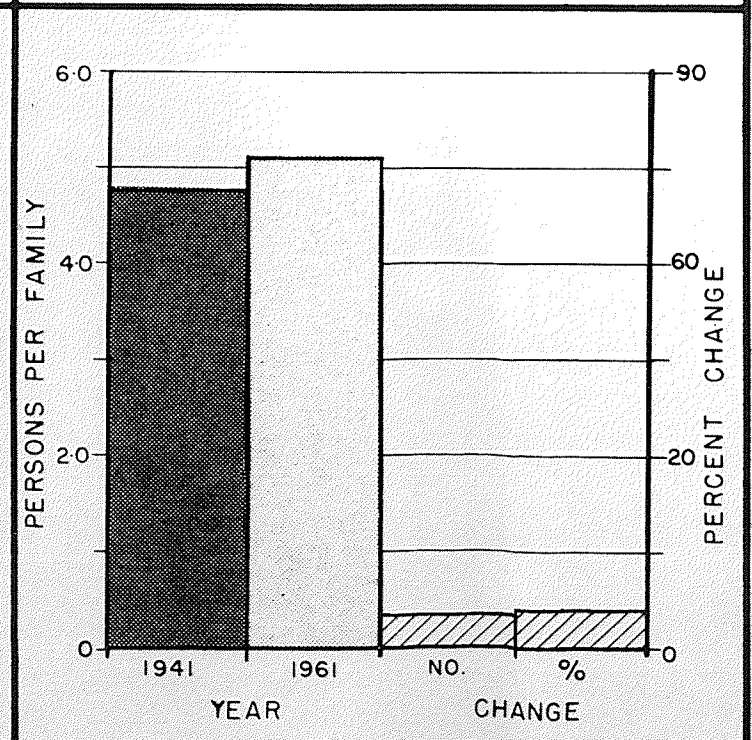
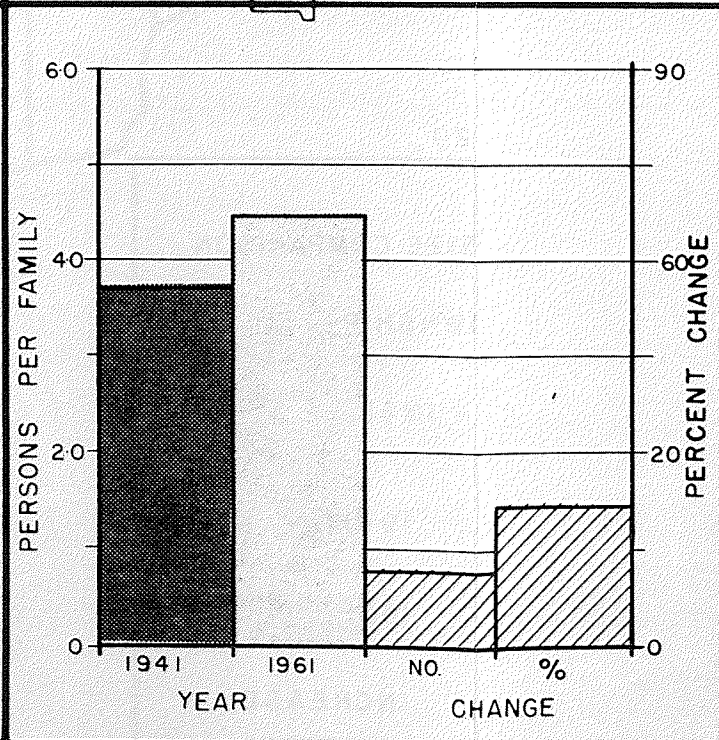
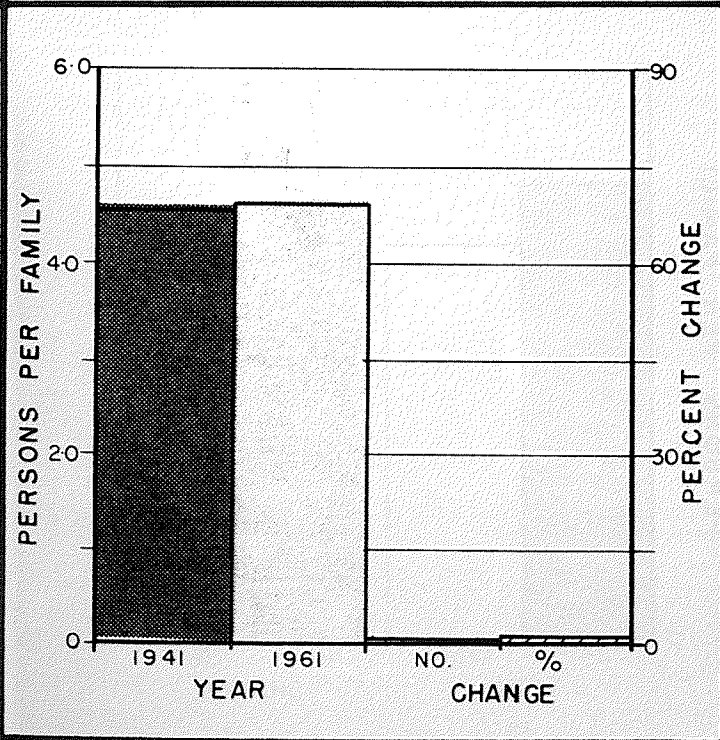
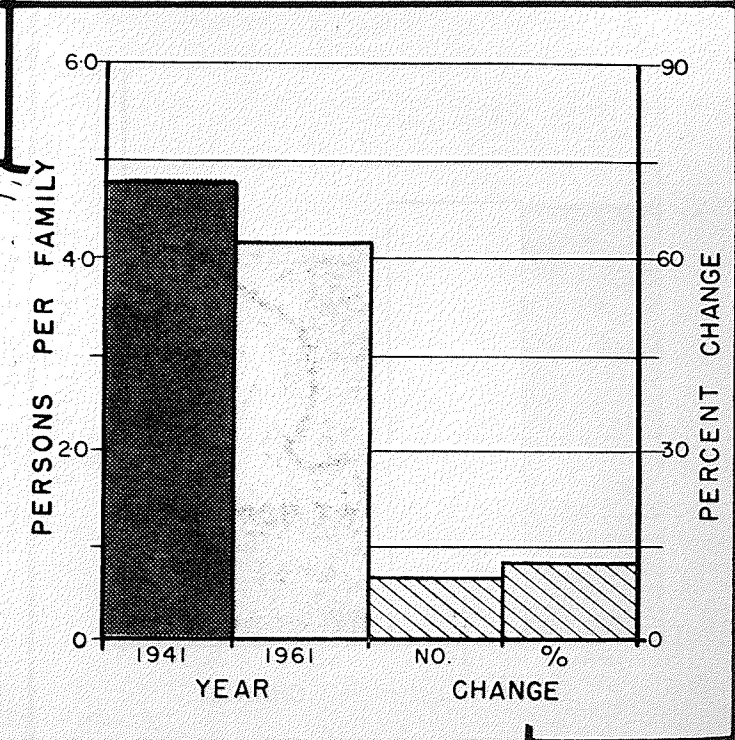
Table no. 24 on the preceding page and map no. 20 illustrate the changes in the average size of families on a township basis. As can be observed from this table and map, 6 townships experienced increases in family size ranging from 1.1 percent (Township 21 Range 4 West) to 62.0 percent (Township 22 Range 4 West). These increases in family size were offset by a substantial loss in farm families (decreases ranging from 35.4 percent to 57.1 percent for the above considered townships) to produce a loss in population (population losses ranged from 12.5 percent to 40 percent).

The remaining townships recorded decreases in family size ranging from 13.1 percent to 39.2 percent with corresponding losses in number of families ranging from 11.1 percent to 53.3 percent. For these particular townships, the double impact of decreases in both families and family size resulted in some of the largest percentage losses in population - Township 22 Range 5 West recorded a loss in population of 67.0 percent, family loss of 44.5 percent and a decrease in farm family size of 39.2 percent. The only exception to this was Township 22 Range 7 West which experienced slight decreases in population (18.1 percent), families (11.1 percent) and family size (13.1 percent). As mentioned pre-

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



TWP 22



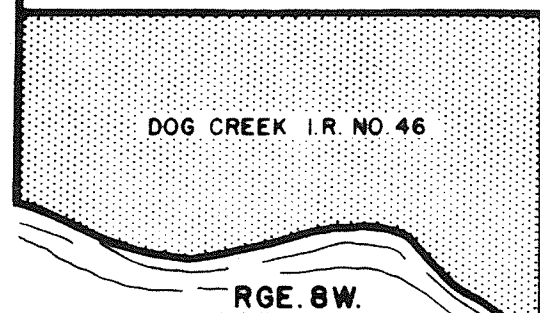
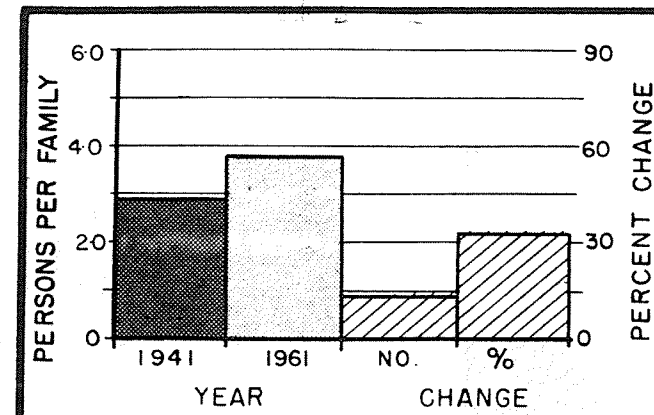
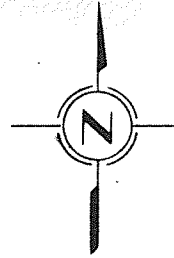
TWP 21

RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4 W.

SOURCE: 1962 - 1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

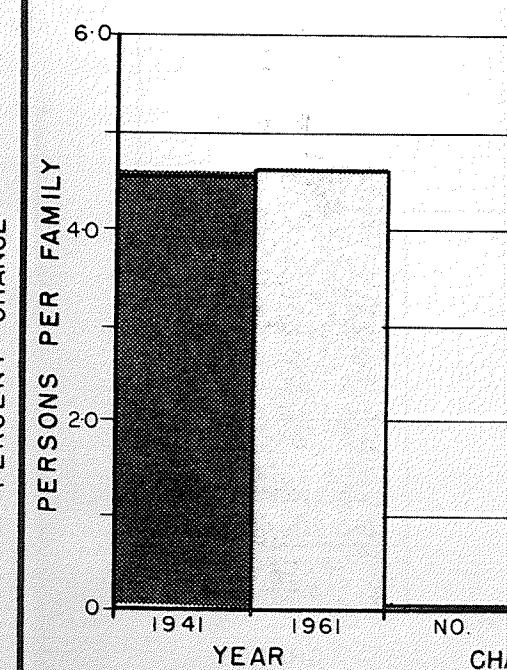
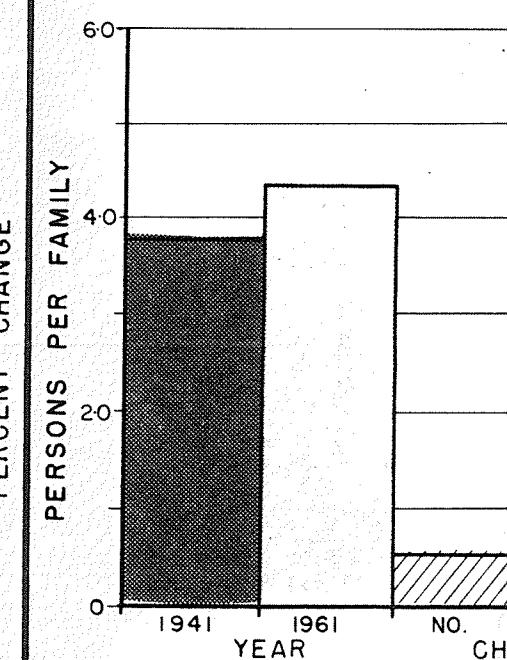
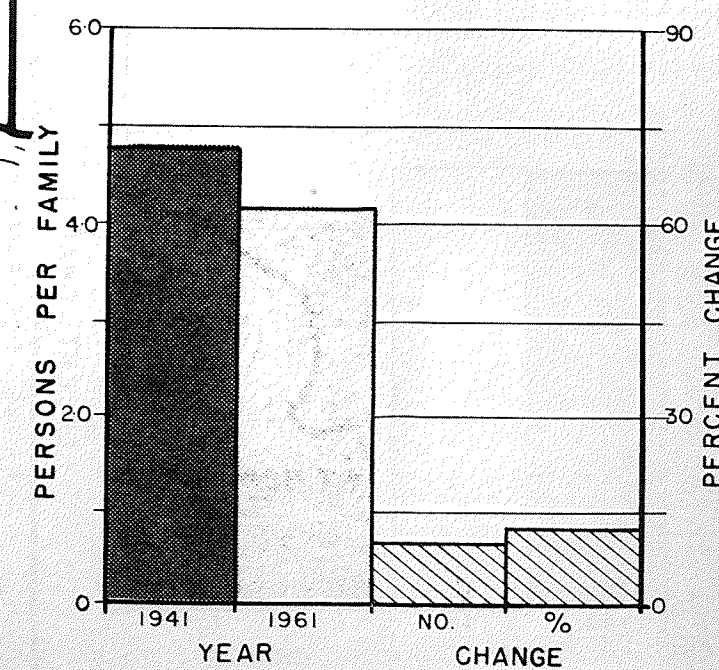
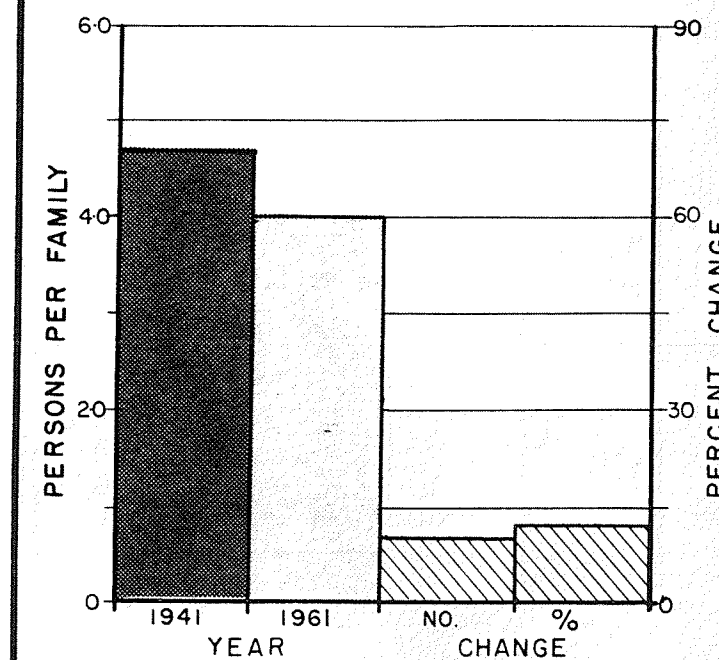
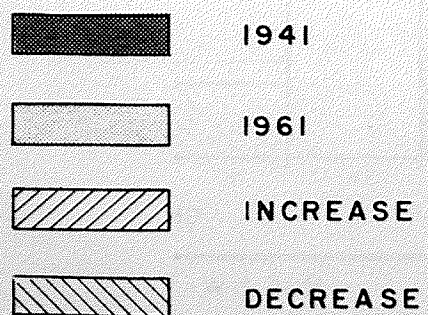


MAP 20

FARM FAMILY SIZE COMPARISON

BY TOWNSHIP

1941 - 1961



RGE. 6W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

viously, this was related to the stable nature of this particular township.

#### SUMMARY

The fact that both population and number of farm families generally decreased at a similar rate indicated the close relationship between these two factors.

For townships in which an increase in family size were recorded, the substantial decreases in the number of farm families appeared to explain the population loss. Nevertheless, where townships experienced both a decrease in the size of farm families and a decrease in the number of farm families, the substantial decreases in population appeared to be the result of both these factors.

## CHAPTER VII

### FARM ANALYSIS

#### INTRODUCTION

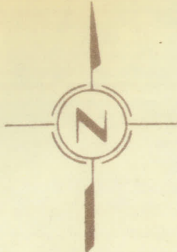
The purpose of this chapter is to show that due to both mechanization and a change in type of farming, the study area experienced a loss in farm population, a decrease in the number of farms and an increase in the size of farms.

#### LAND OWNERSHIP

For the purpose of this study, land ownership was divided into three categories: 1) privately owned land, 2) Municipal land, and 3) Crown land. The increase in privately owned land and the decrease in Municipal land between 1941 and 1961 was partially responsible for the change in farm size.

Maps no. 21, 22 and 23, as well as table no. 25, effectively illustrate the 1941 and 1961 patterns of land ownership and subsequent changes.

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO. 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 21

ERIKSDALE

LAKE MANITOBA




RGE. 7W.

DEERHORN

RGE. 6W.

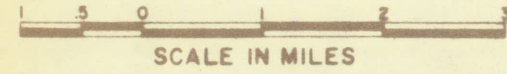
RGE. 5W.

LAND OWNERSHIP  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1941

-  PRIVATELY OWNED
-  MUNICIPAL LAND
-  CROWN LAND

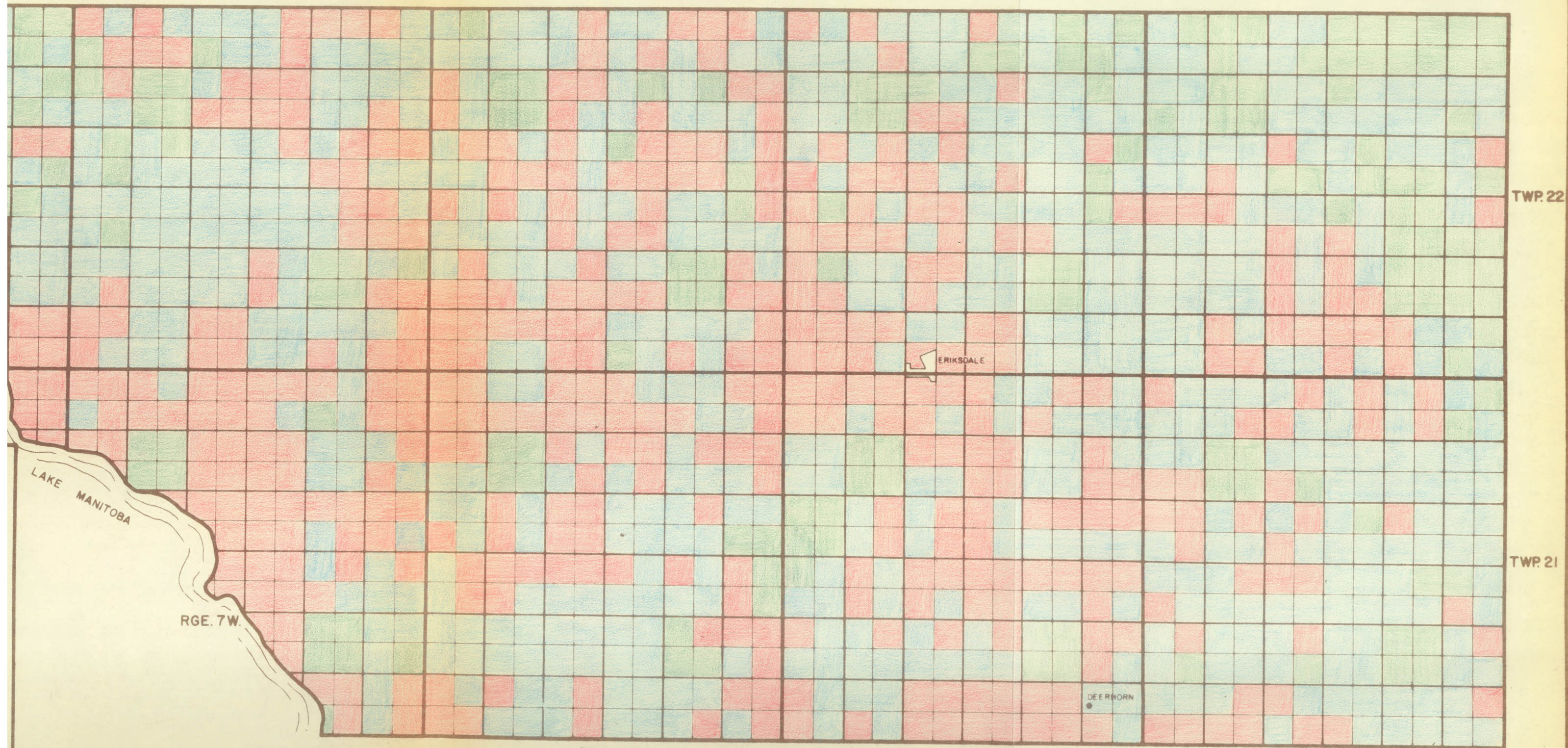
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY

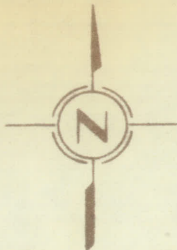


SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

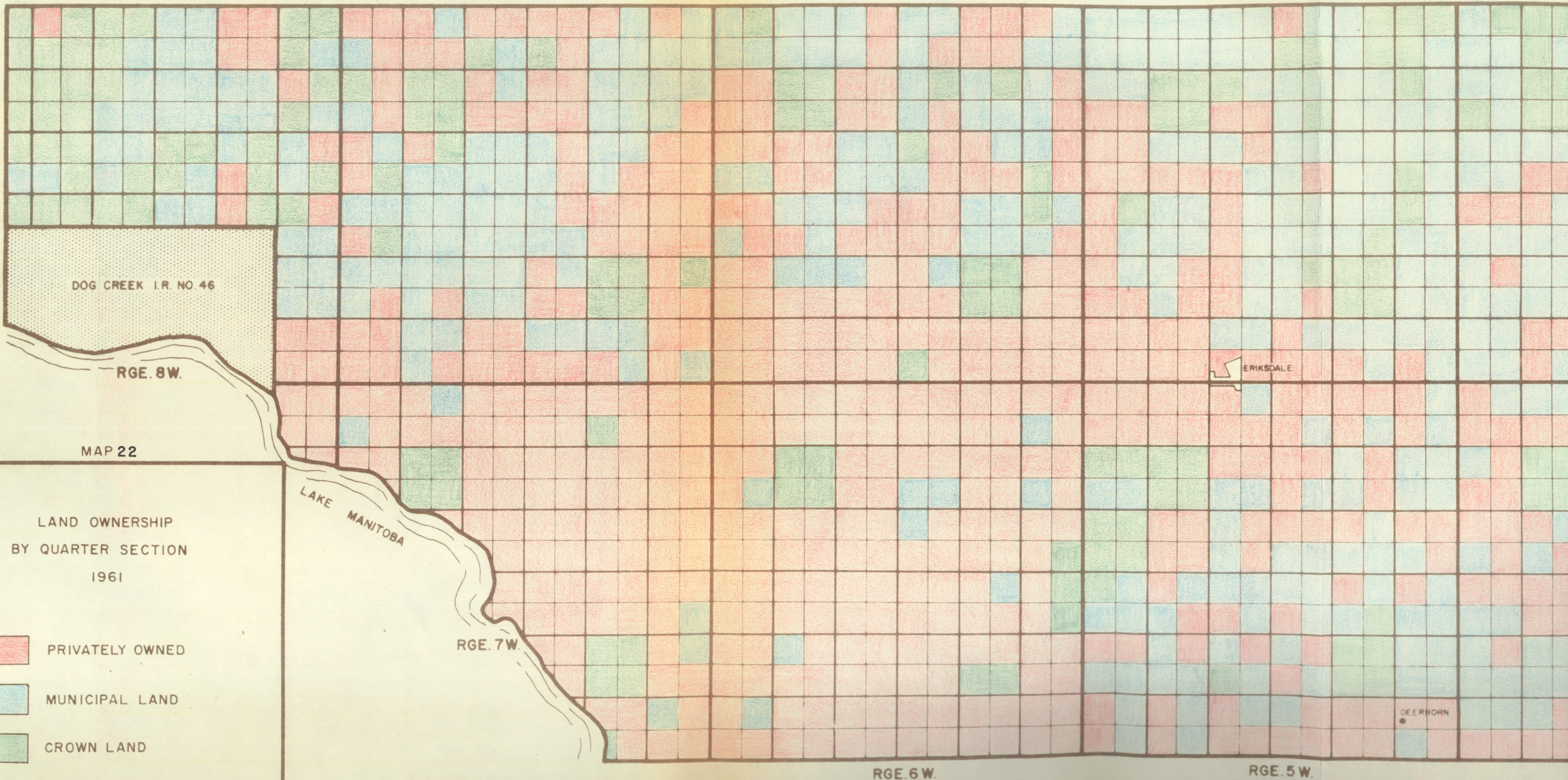
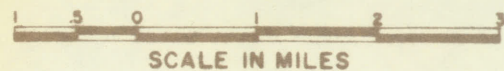
RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4 W.



# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE






DOG CREEK I.R. NO 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 22

LAND OWNERSHIP  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1961

-  PRIVATELY OWNED
-  MUNICIPAL LAND
-  CROWN LAND

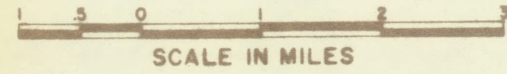
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

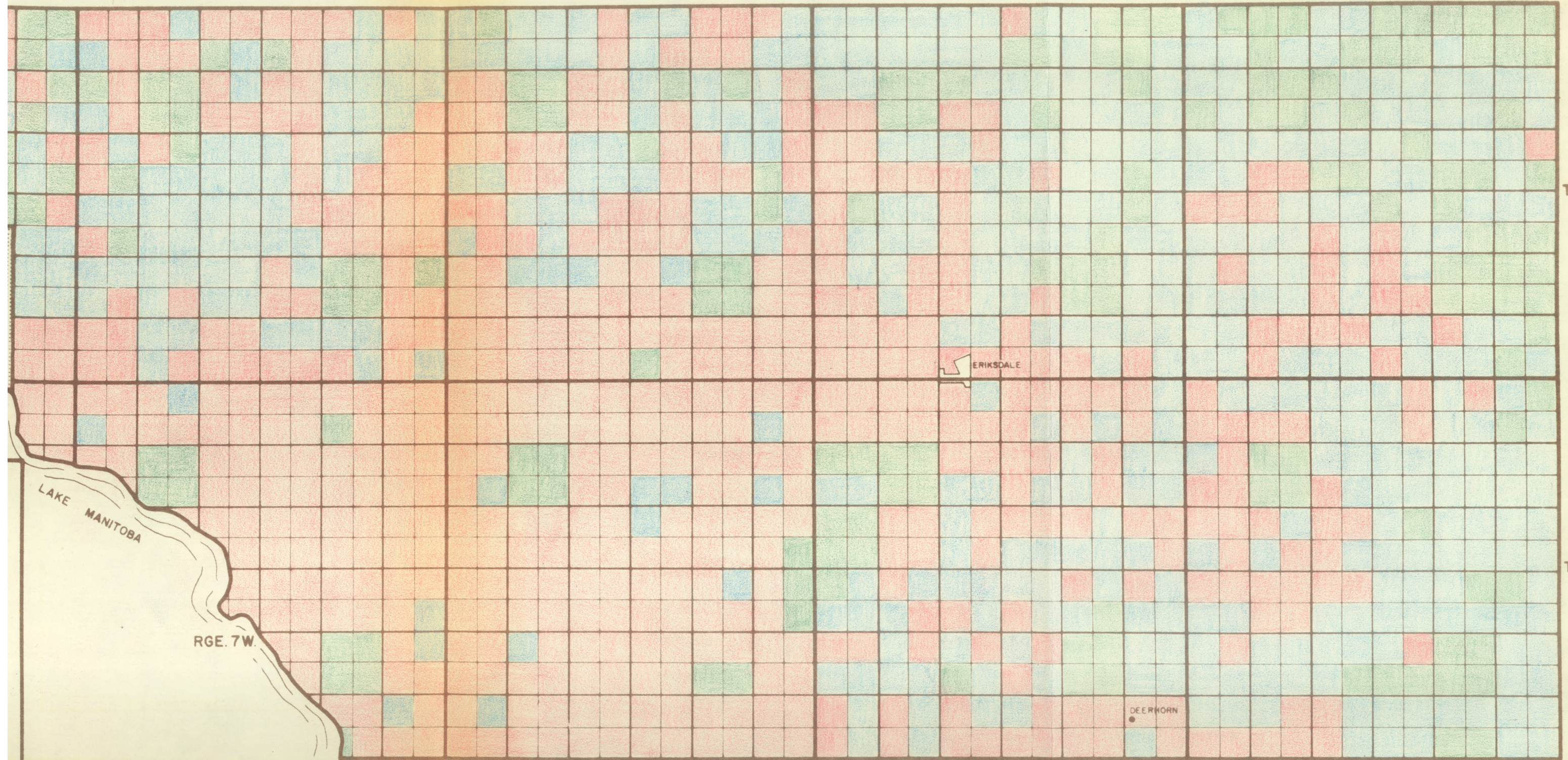
DEERHORN

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



TWP. 22

TWP. 21

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

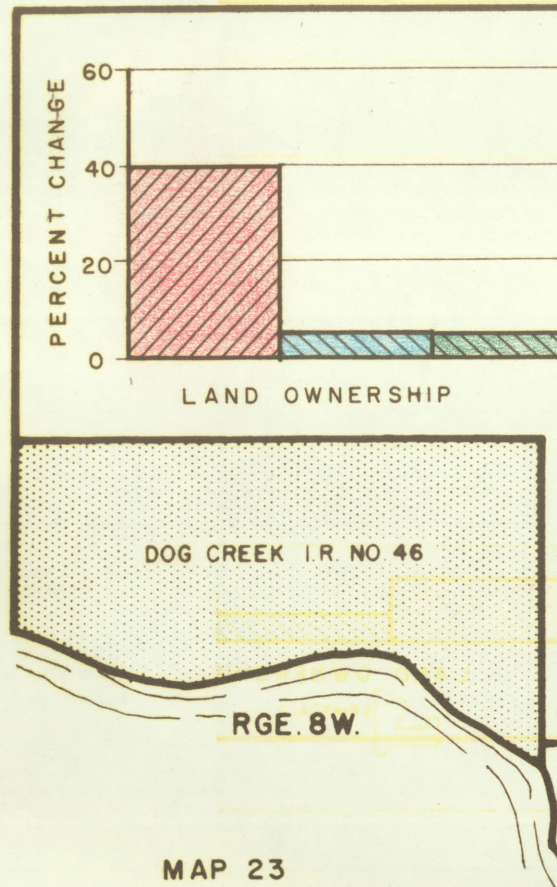
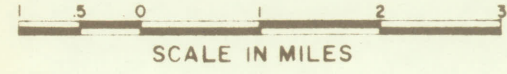
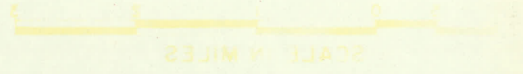
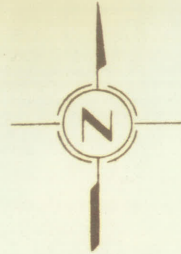
RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4 W.

MAP 22

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

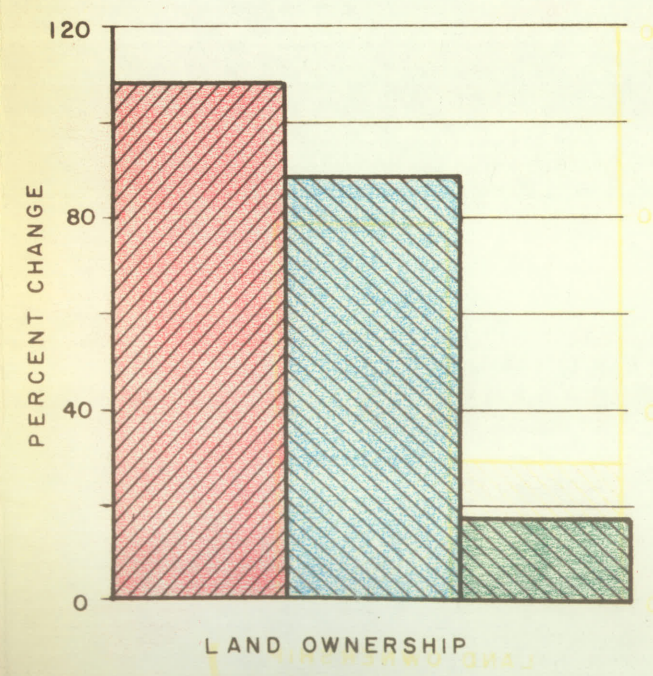
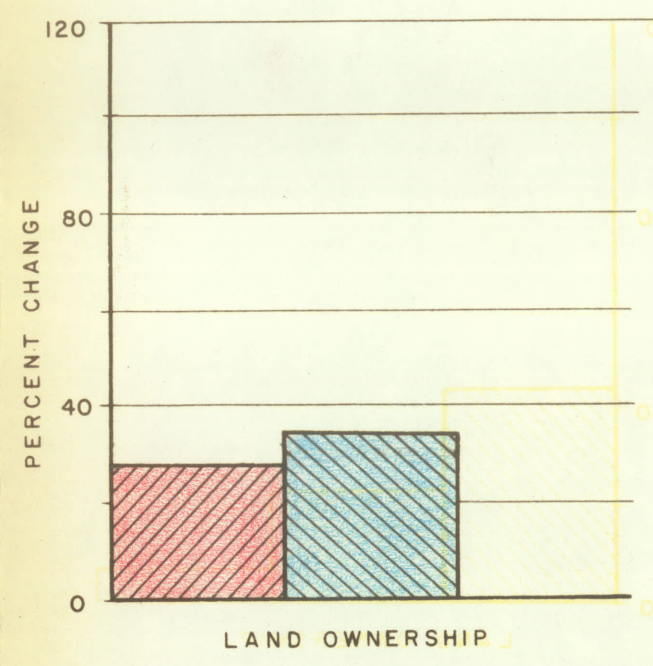
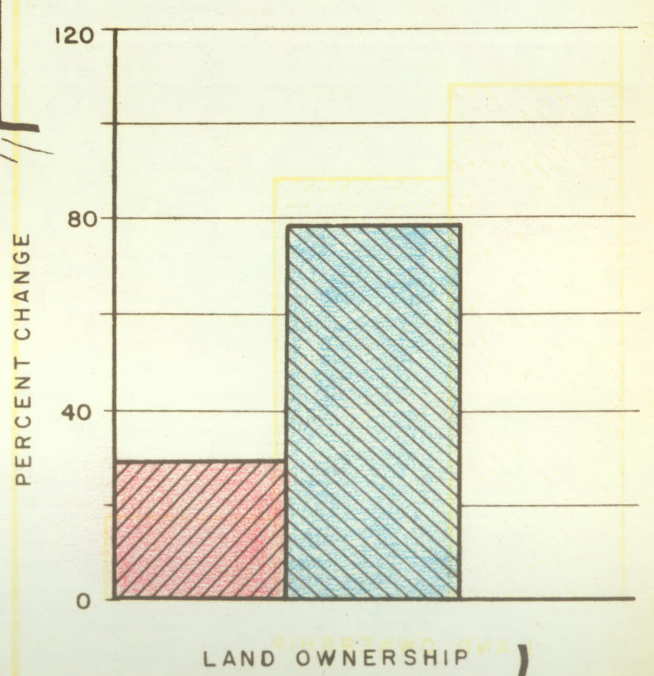
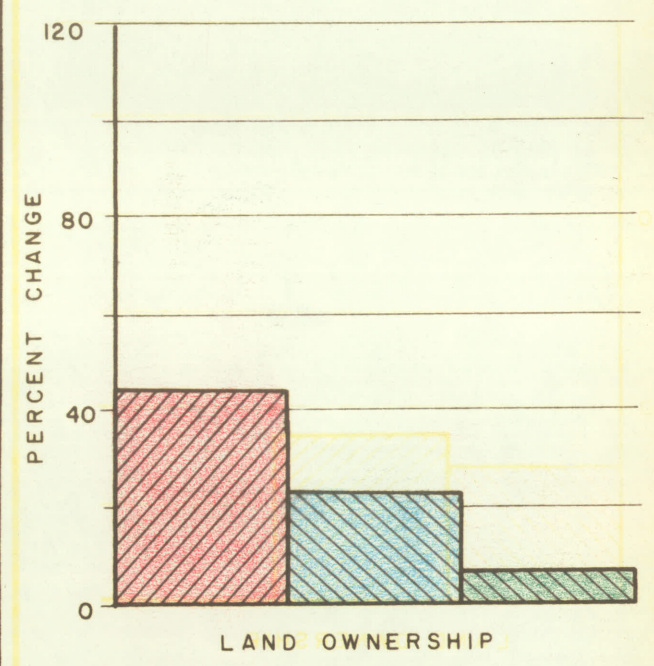


MAP 23

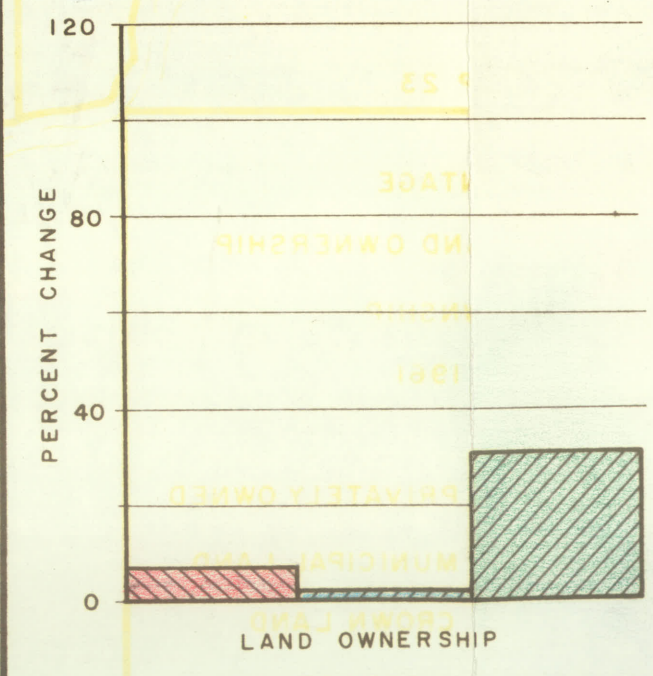
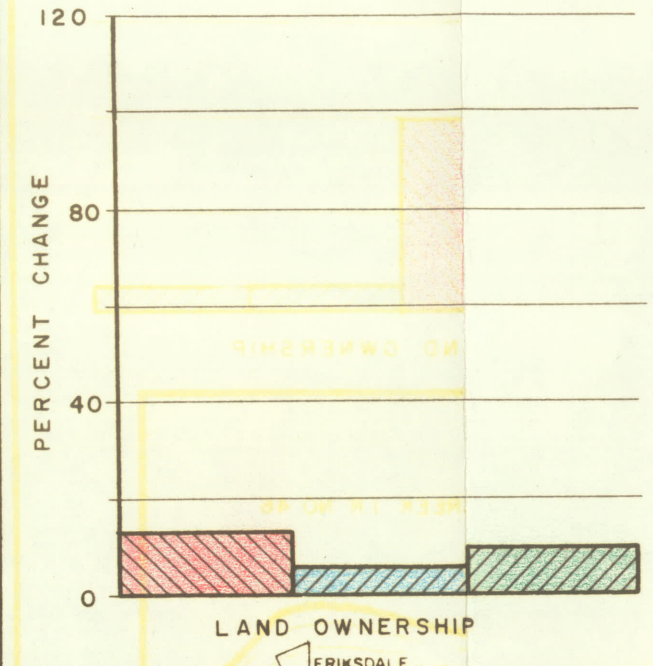
PERCENTAGE  
CHANGE IN LAND OWNERSHIP  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941 - 1961

- PRIVATELY OWNED
- MUNICIPAL LAND
- CROWN LAND
- INCREASE
- DECREASE

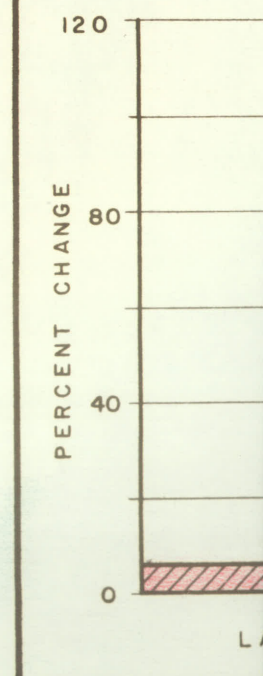
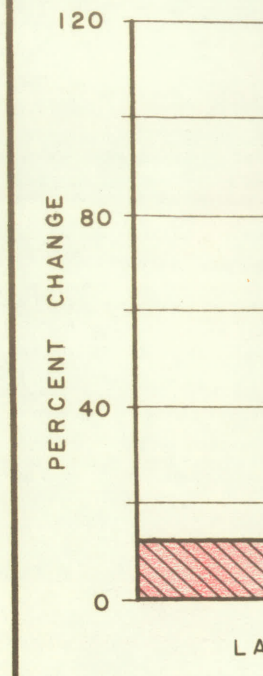
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

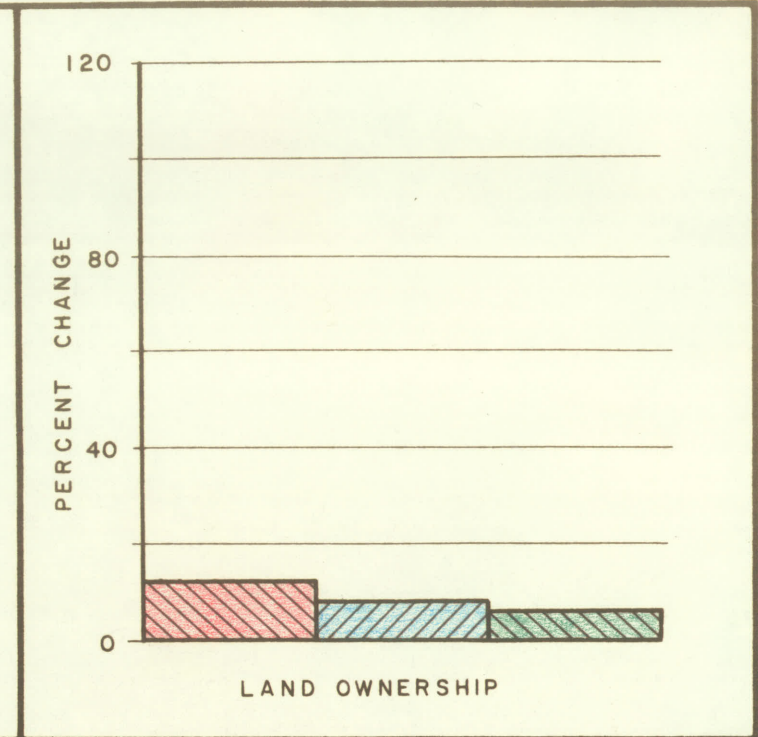
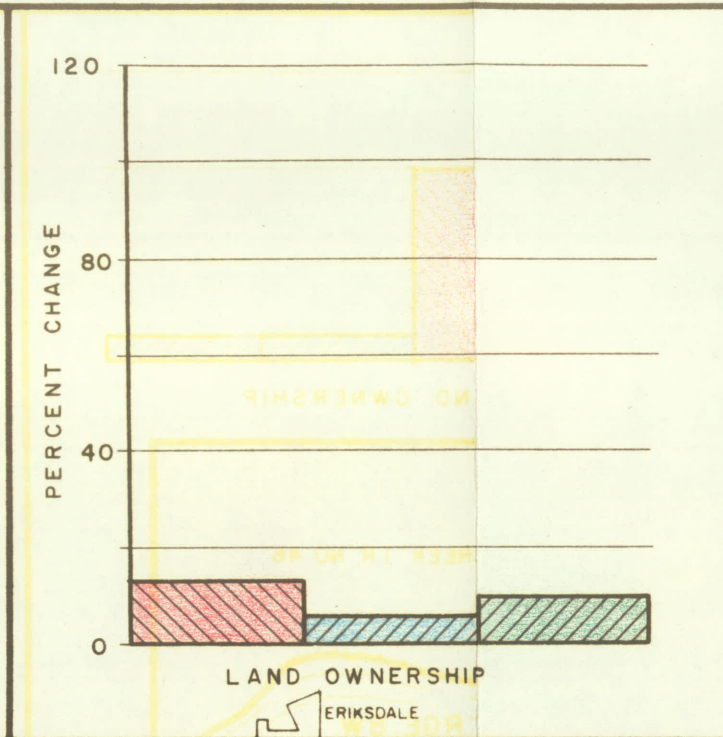
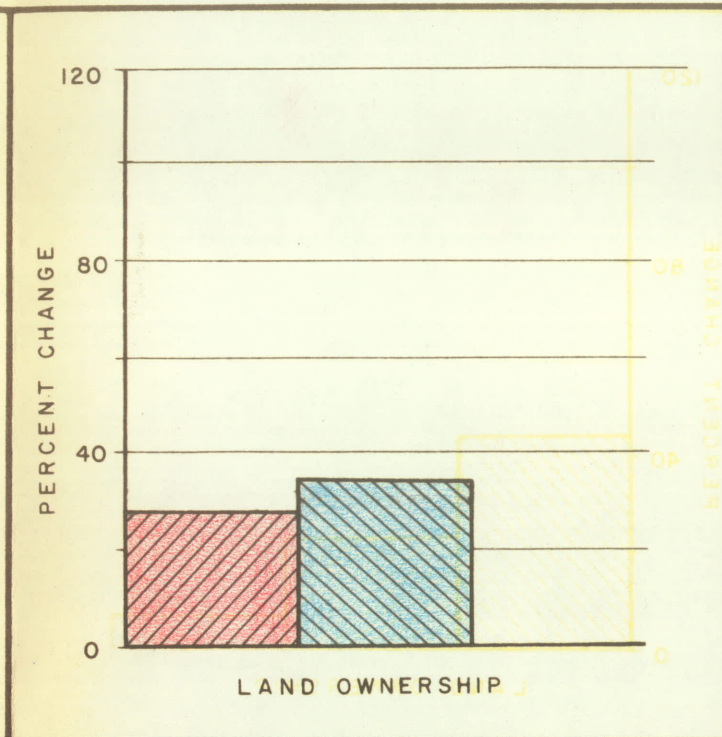
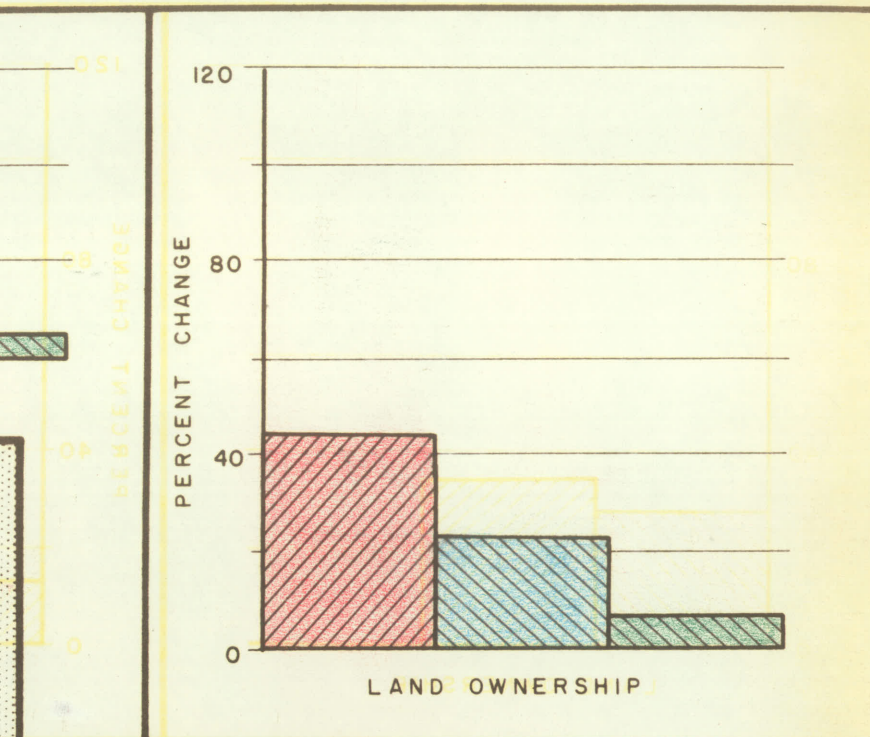
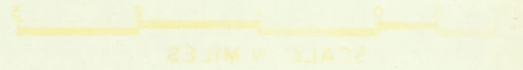


RGE. 6W.

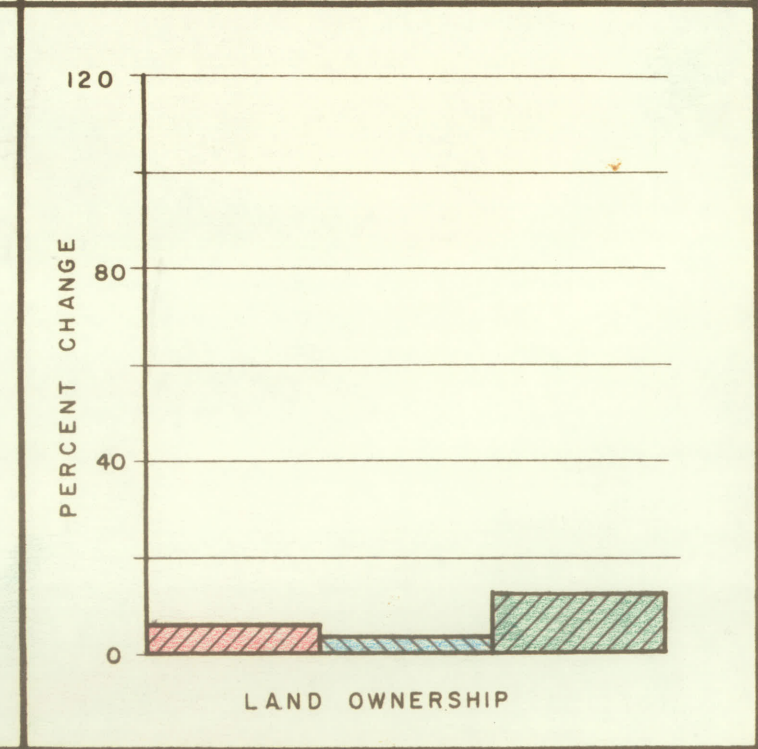
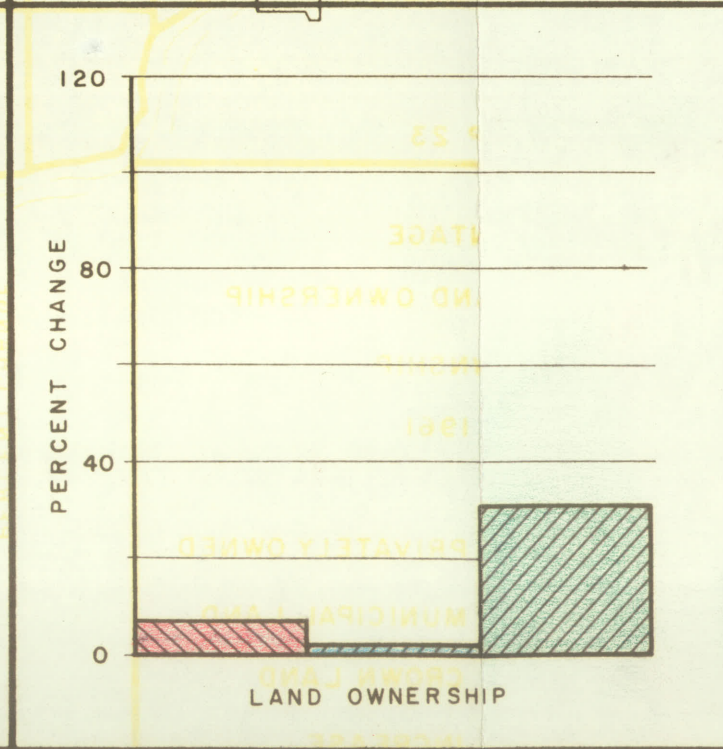
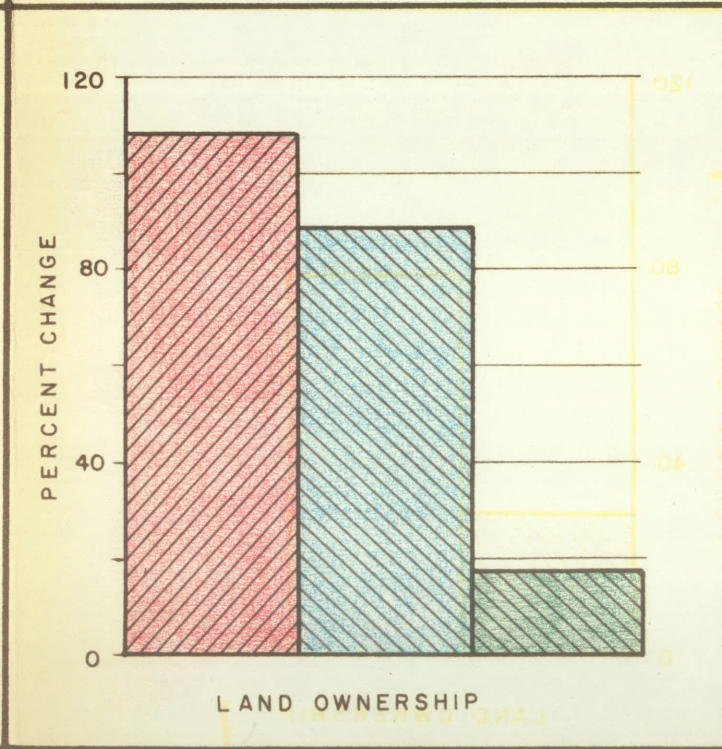
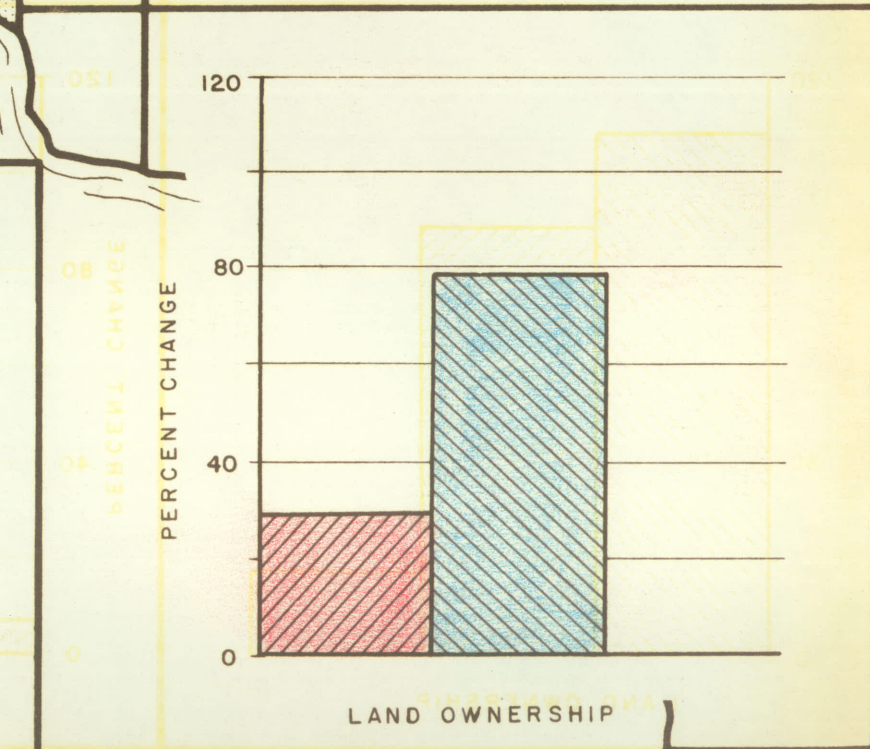


RGE. 5W.





TWP. 22



TWP. 21

TABLE 25

LAND OWNERSHIP COMPARISON  
1941-1961

---

LAND OWNERSHIP IN QUARTER SECTIONS					
PRIVATELY OWNED LAND					
	LAND	MUNICIPAL LAND	CROWN LAND	TOTAL	
Y E A R	1941	426.5	581.0	186.75	1194.25
	1961	539.5	468.0	186.75	1194.25
C H A N G E	No.	+113.0	-113.0	0	-
	%	+ 27.2	- 19.3	0	-

From table no. 25 it can be seen that for the study area as a whole in 1941, out of 1,194.25 quarters, 426.5 quarters or 35.7 percent were privately owned, 581.0 quarters or 48.7 percent belonged to the Municipality and 186.75 quarters were Crown land. By 1961, the land ownership pattern changed considerably. Individual land ownership increased to 539.5 or 45.1 percent of the total, Municipal land decreased to 468.0 quarters or 39.2 percent and Crown land remained static at 186.75 or 15.7 percent of the total area.

In terms of percentage change, privately owned land

increased by 113 quarters or 27.2 percent, Municipal land decreased by 113 quarters or 19.3 percent, and Crown land remained static.

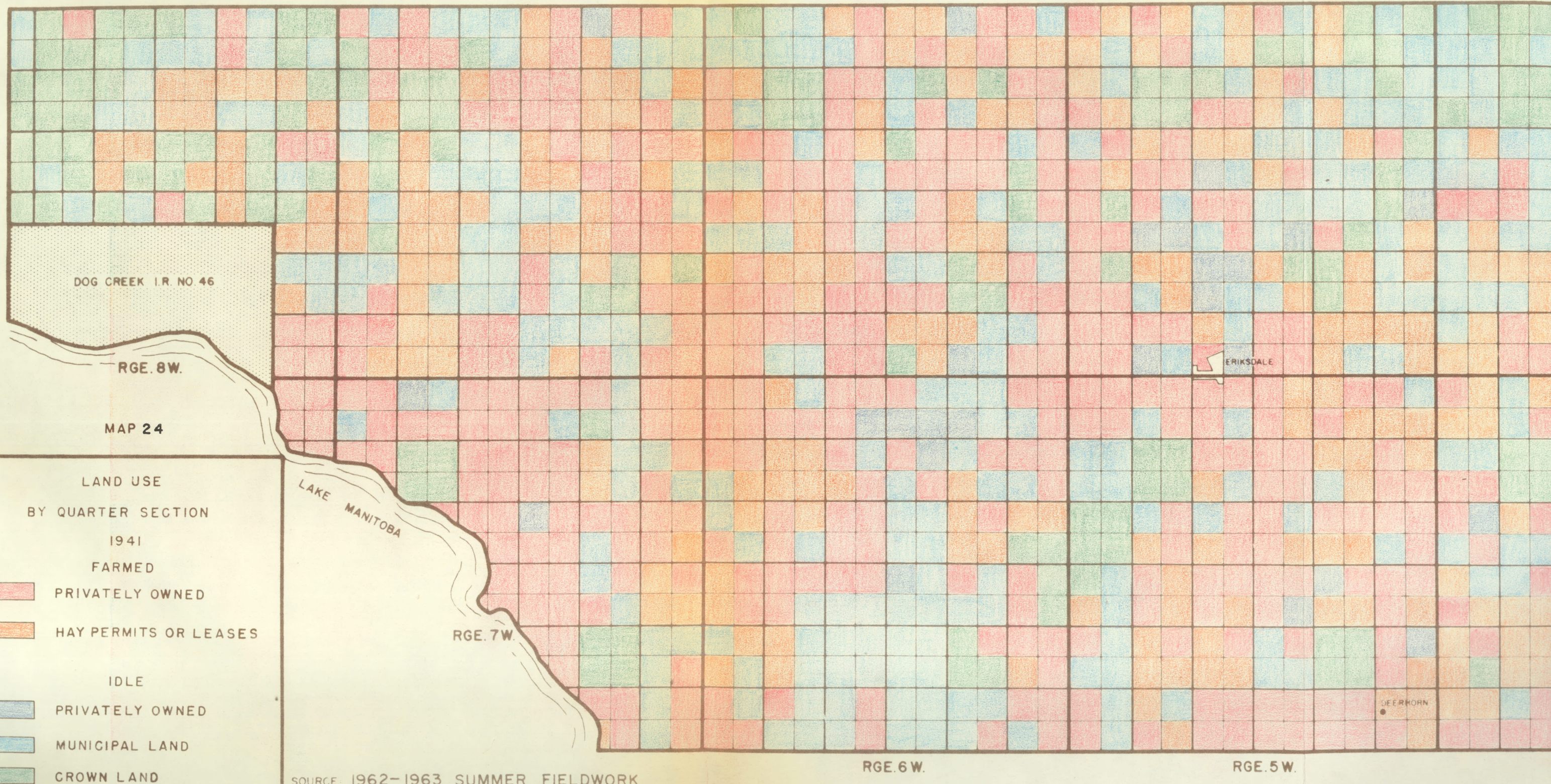
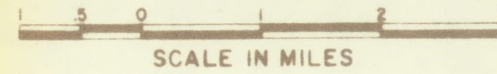
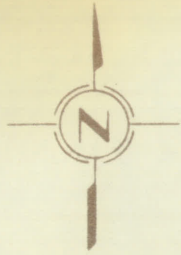
On a township basis, it can be observed from map no. 23 that six townships experienced increases in privately owned land ranging from 2 quarters or 5.7 percent (Township 21 Range 4 West) to 65 quarters or 108.0 percent (Township 21 Range 6 West). This large increase in the latter township was due primarily to the presence of a large ranch established between 1941 and 1961. The three remaining townships showed decreases in privately owned land ranging from 3 to 6 quarters or 6.90 percent and 12.9 percent.

The increases experienced by the privately owned land were directly reflected in the decrease in Municipal land since in general the Crown land remained almost static. Township 21 Range 6 West recorded the largest decrease, 64 quarters or 89 percent, and Township 21 Range 4 West the smallest, 4 quarters or 4.3 percent.

Slight increases in Municipal land were recorded for three townships (see map no. 23).

As previously discussed, Crown land remained relatively static and changes in privately owned land were for the most

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO. 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 24

LAND USE  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1941


FARMED

 PRIVATELY OWNED

 HAY PERMITS OR LEASES

IDLE

 PRIVATELY OWNED

 MUNICIPAL LAND

 CROWN LAND

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

ERIKSDALE

LAKE MANITOBA

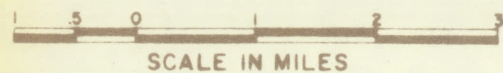
RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

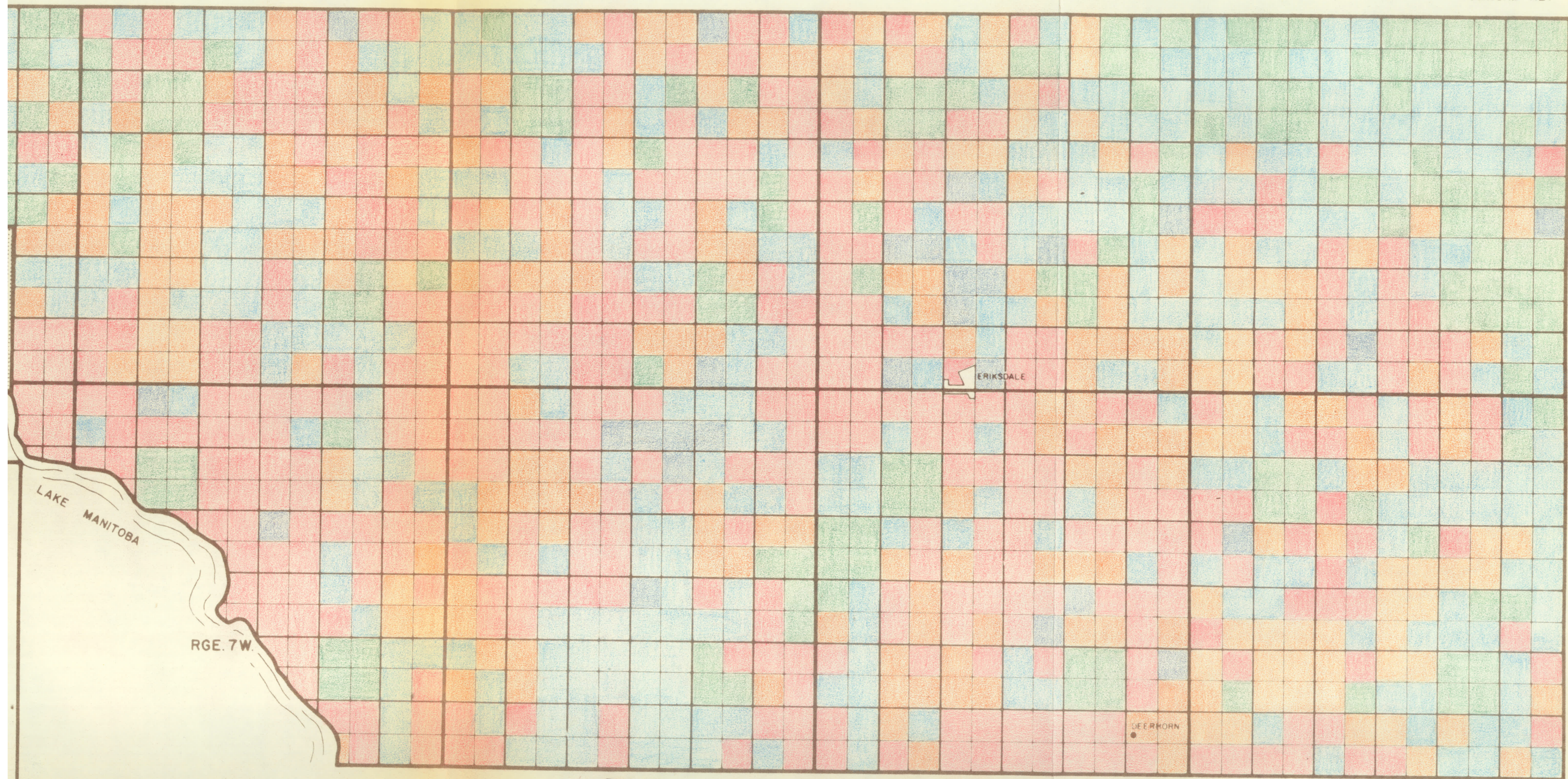
DEERHORN

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



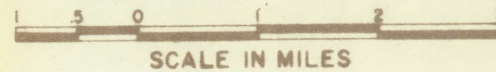
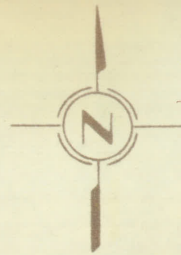
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4 W.

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 25


LAND USE  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1961


FARMED

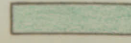
 PRIVATELY OWNED

 HAY PERMITS OR LEASES

IDLE

 PRIVATELY OWNED

 MUNICIPAL LAND

 CROWN LAND

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 7W.

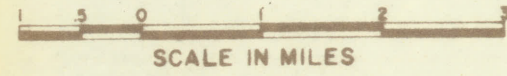
RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

DEERHORN

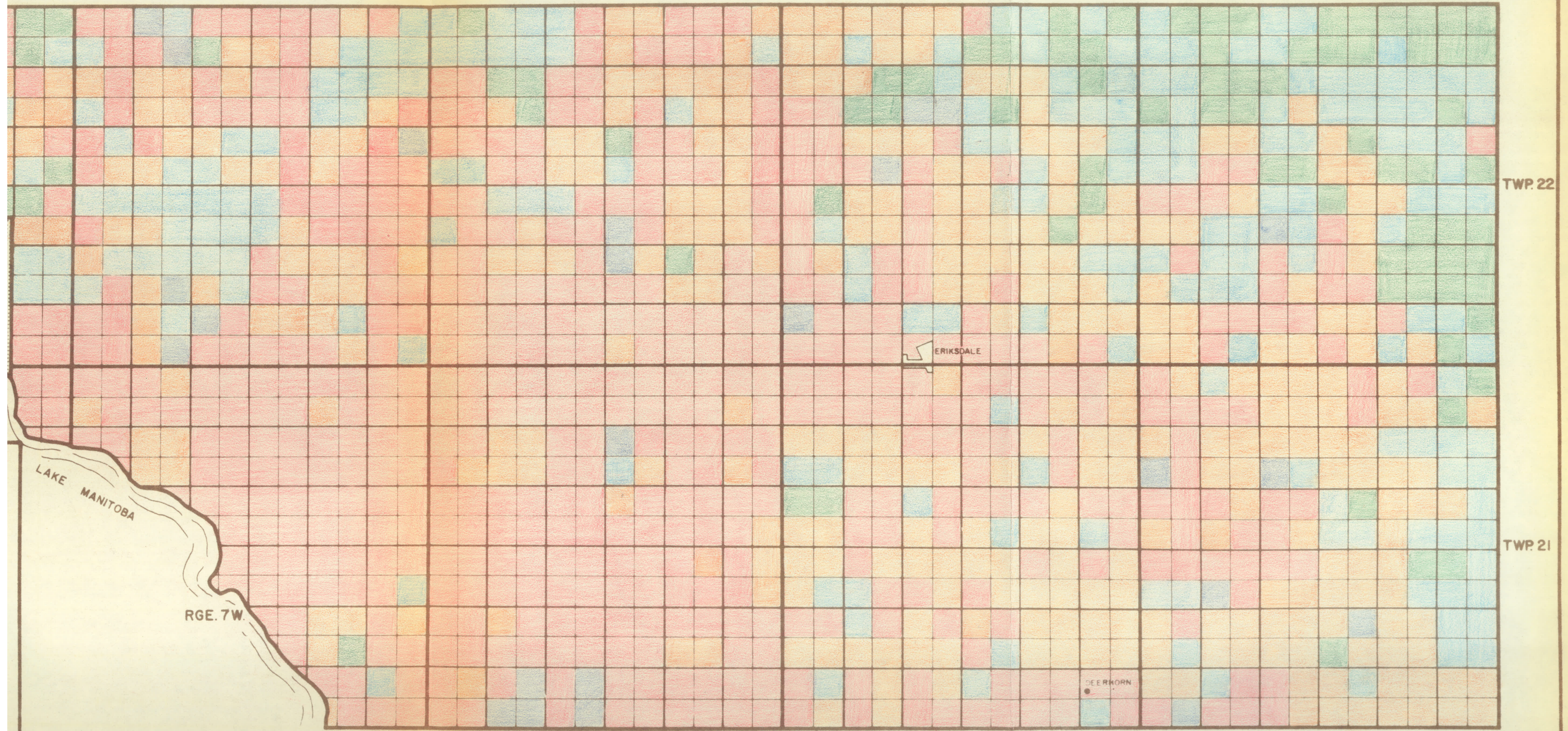
ERIKSDALE

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



LAKE MANITOBA

RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4W.

TWP. 22

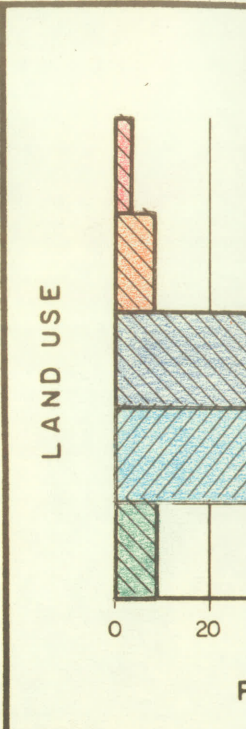
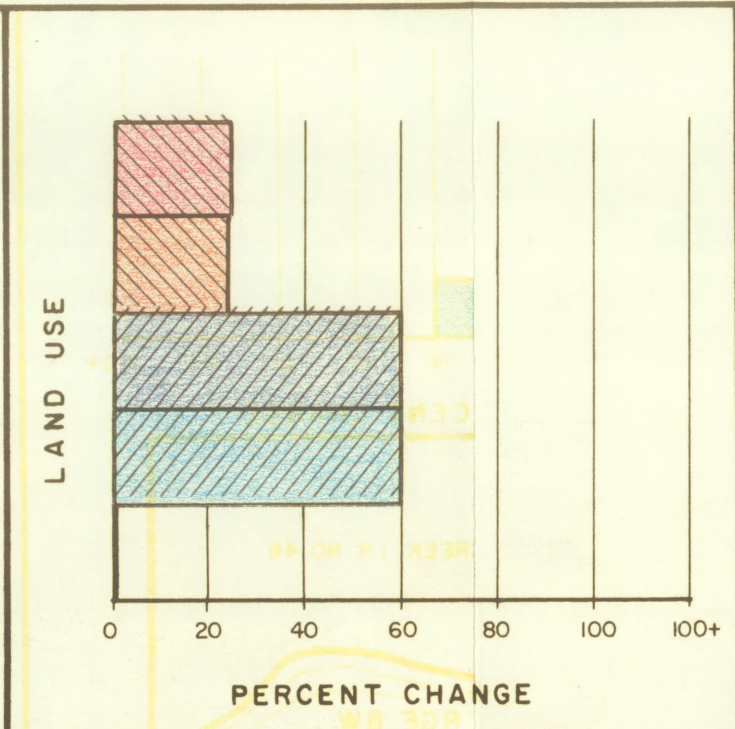
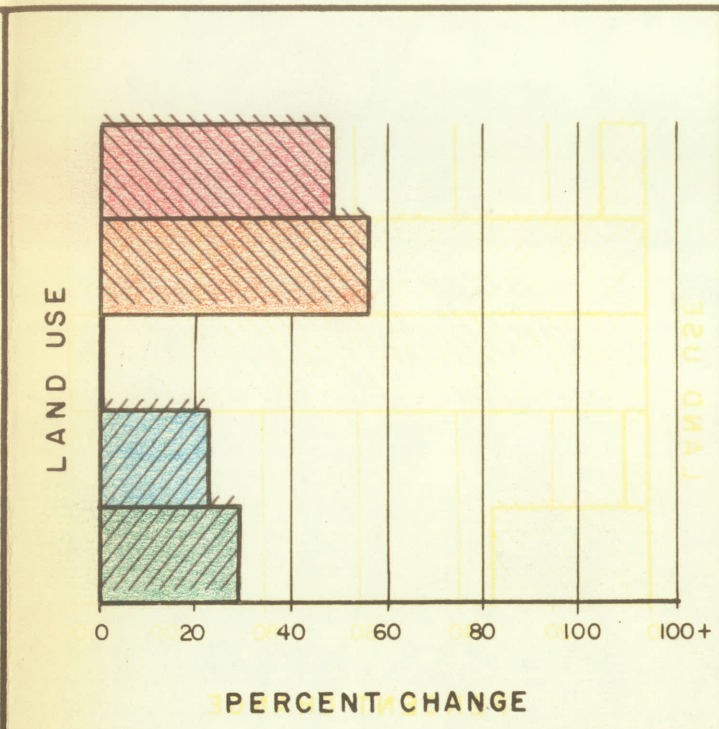
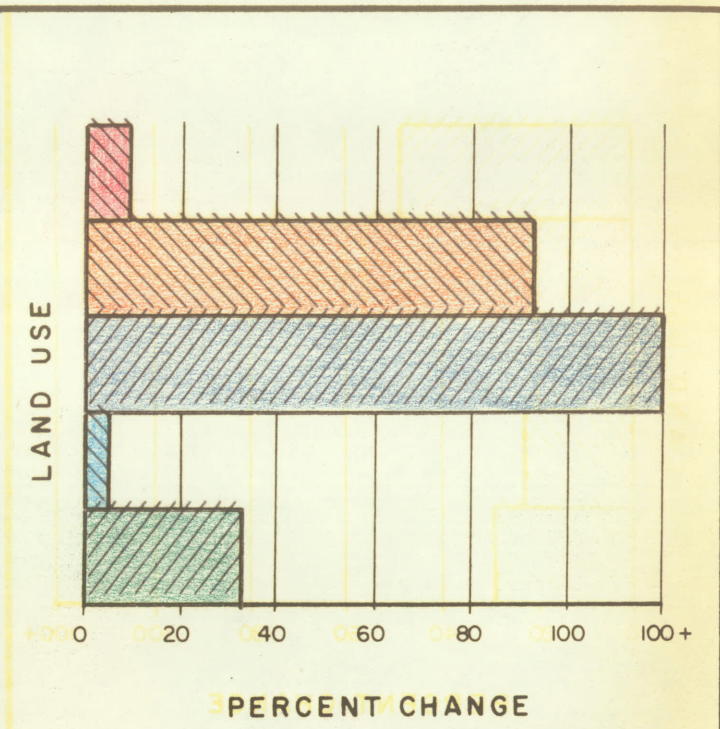
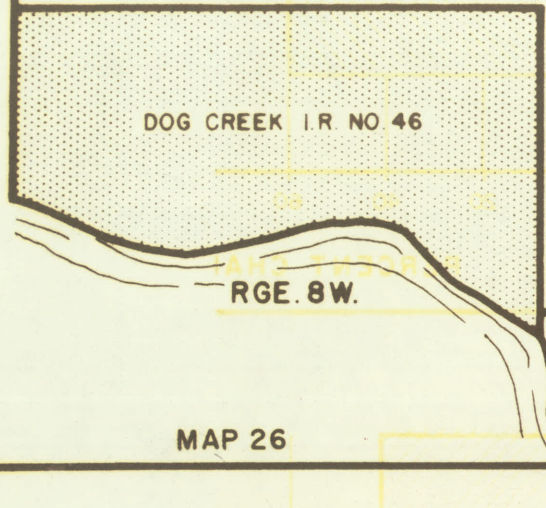
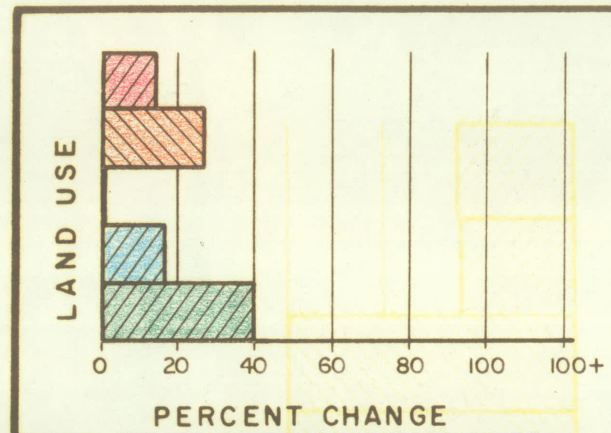
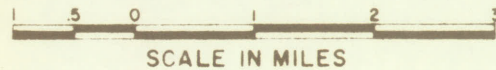
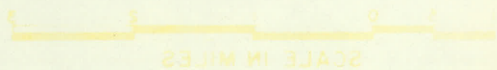
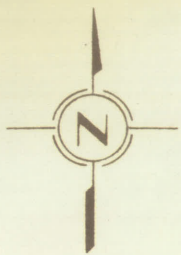
TWP. 21

ERIKSDALE

DEERHORN

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MAP 25



**MAP 26**

**PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN LAND USE BY TOWNSHIP 1941 - 1961**

**LAND USE**

**FARMED**

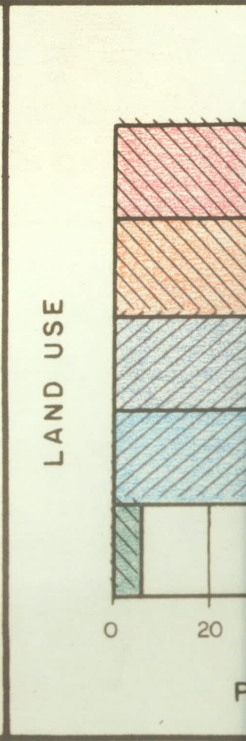
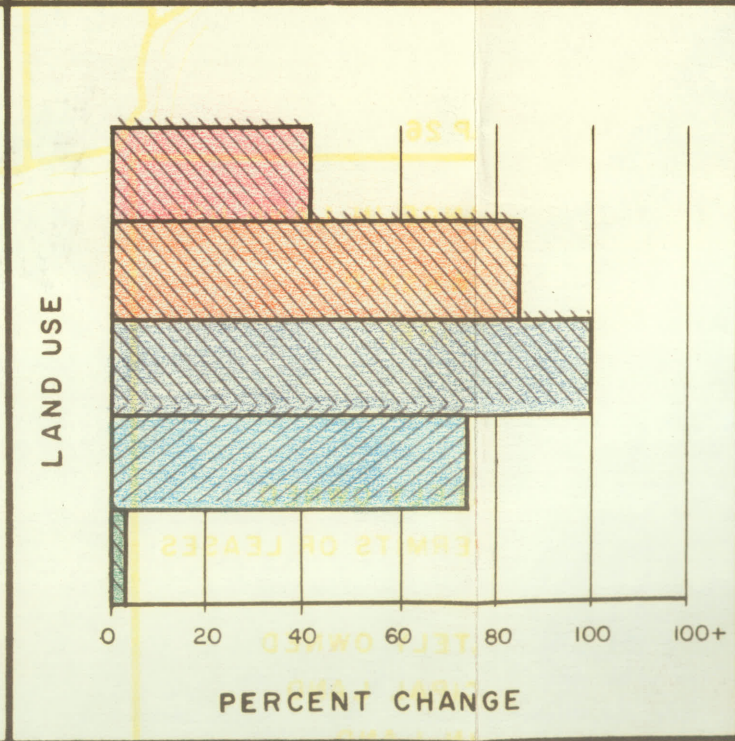
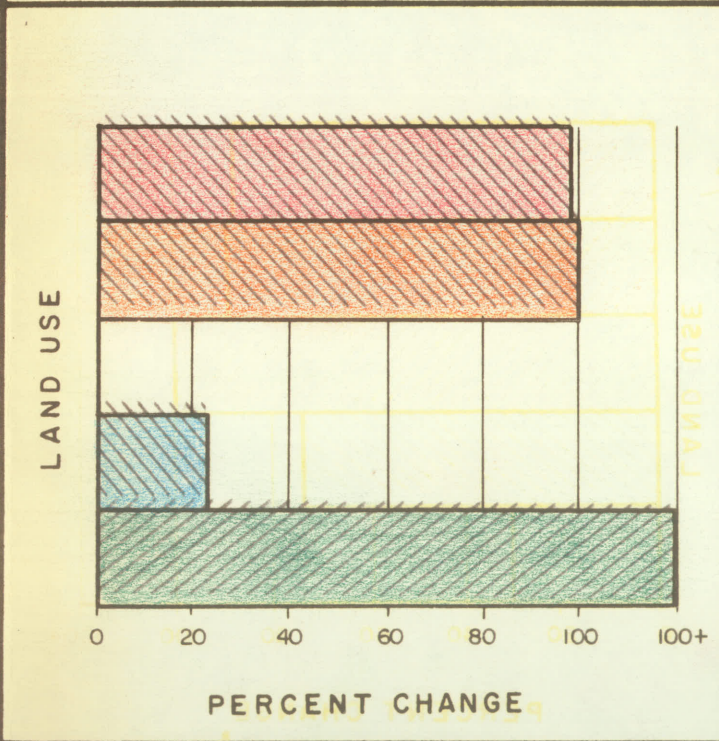
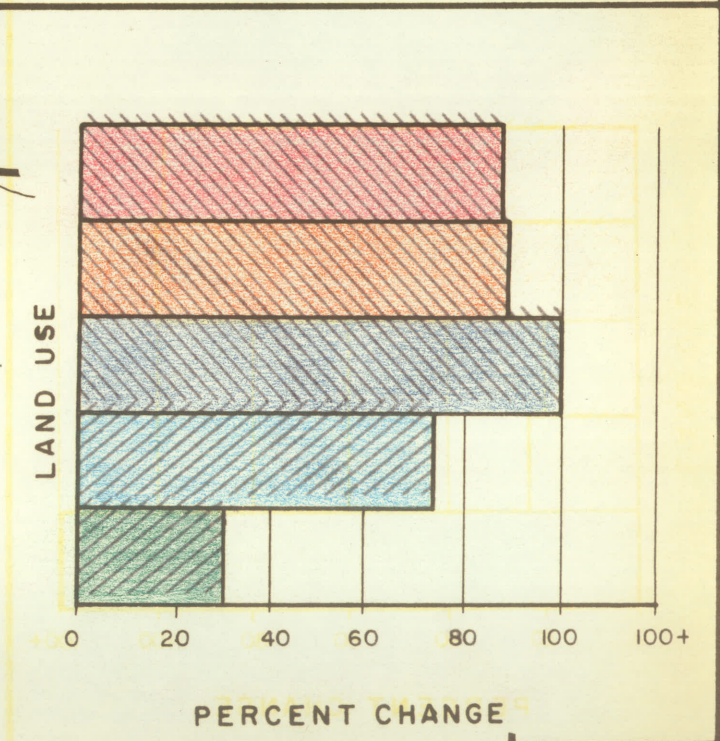
- PRIVATELY OWNED (Green)
- HAY PERMITS OR LEASES (Blue)

**IDLE**

- PRIVATELY OWNED (Light Blue)
- MUNICIPAL LAND (Red)
- CROWN LAND (Orange)

**PERCENTAGE CHANGE**

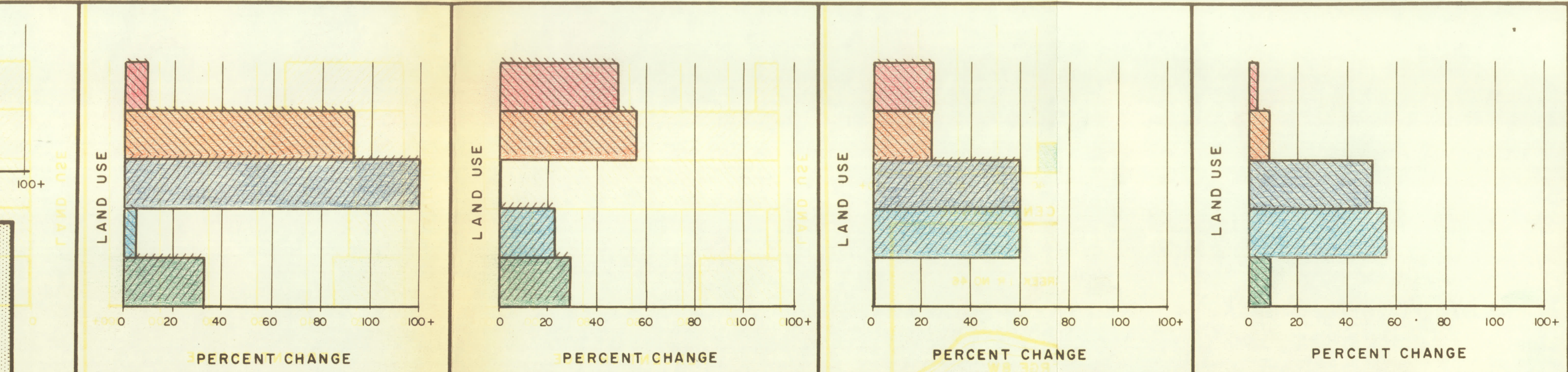
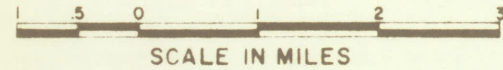
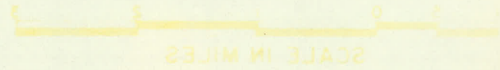
- INCREASE (Diagonal lines)
- DECREASE (Cross-hatch)



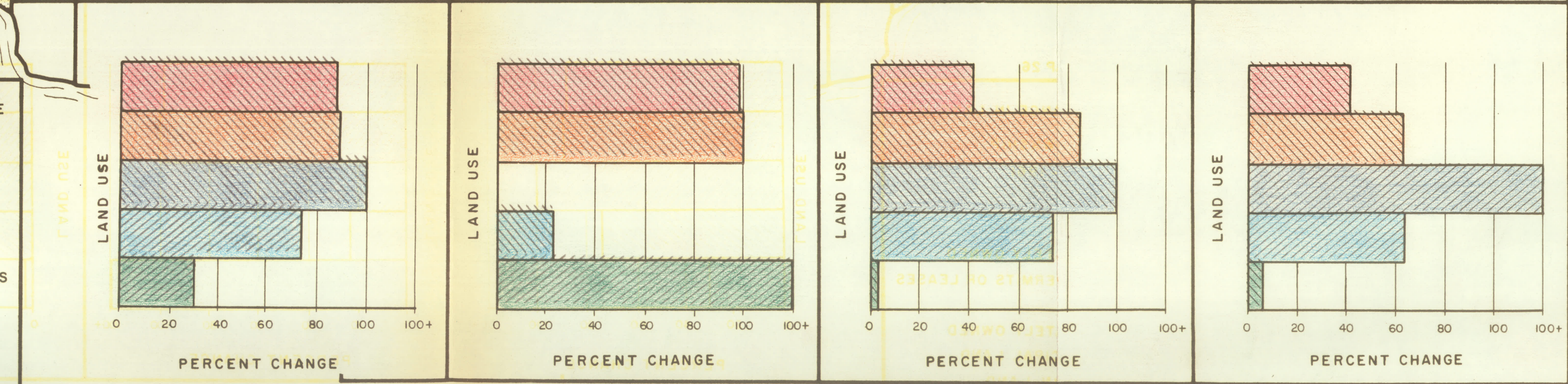
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.



TWP.22



TWP.21

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

part reflected by changes in Municipal land.

### LAND USE

Although a decrease in both farm families and the number of farms was characteristic of the study area between 1941 and 1961, a substantial increase in land farmed and a decrease in idle land occurred. The total effect of these factors resulted in an increase in farm size. The purpose of this section is to illustrate that changes in land use resulted in an increase in farm size.

Maps no. 24, 25, 26 and table no. 26 indicate the 1941 and 1961 pattern of land use and the change therein which occurred in the study area.

TABLE 26

		<u>LAND USE* COMPARISON 1941-1961</u>						
		<u>FARMED LAND</u>			<u>IDLE LAND</u>			
		<u>PRIVATELY OWNED</u>	<u>HAY PERMITS &amp; LEASES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PRIVATELY OWNED</u>	<u>CROWN LAND</u>	<u>MUNICIPAL LAND</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Y	1941	399.50	247.75	647.25	27.00	179.00	341.00	547.00
E	1961	515.50	339.75	855.25	24.00	102.00	213.00	339.00
A	No.	+116.00	+ 92.00	+208.00	- 3.00	-77.00	-12 .00	-208.00
R	%	+ 29.0	+ 37.1	+ 32.1	-11.1	-43.0	- 37.7	- 37.7

\* In quarter sections

For the study area as a whole, table no. 26 indicates that privately owned farm land increased from 399.5 quarters in 1941 to 515.5 quarters in 1961. This represented an increase of 116.0 quarters or 29.0 percent. Hay permits increased at a slightly faster rate, increasing from 247.75 quarters in 1941 to 339.75 quarters in 1961, resulting in an increase of 92 quarters or 37.1 percent. The combination of these two produced a net increase in farmed land of 208 quarters or 32.1 percent.

Idle land experienced a dramatic reduction between 1941 and 1961. From table no. 27 it is evident that privately owned idle land remained virtually static between 1941 and 1961, showing a decrease of only 3 quarters or 11.1 percent. However, both idle Crown and Municipal land, in contrast, experienced substantial decreases, the former showing a reduction of 77 quarters or 43.0 percent and the latter a reduction of 128 quarters or 37.7 percent. The total reduction in these three types of idle land was 208 quarters or 37.7 percent. This substantial decrease in idle land (208 quarters) was accounted for by an increase in farmed land, both privately owned (29.0 percent) and hay permits and leases (37.1 percent).

A further analysis of map no. 26 will reveal the changes in land use on a township basis. All townships experienced increases in total land farmed between 1941 and 1961. Township 21 Range 6 West showed the largest increase (77.9 percent) and Township 22 Range 7 West, the smallest (15.3 percent).

Conversely, all townships showed decreases in idle land with Township 21 Range 6 West recording the highest (89.6 percent) and Township 22 Range 4 West (6.6 percent).

#### NUMBER OF FARMS

As indicated previously, there existed a direct relationship between the change in number of families and the change in number of farms. This was borne out by the similar rate of decrease for both the number of farm families and the number of farms. From table no. 27, it is apparent that for the study area as a whole, the number of farms decreased from 265 in 1941 to 158 in 1961. This represents a total loss of 107 farms or 40.3 percent compared to a loss of 40.8 percent experienced in the total farm families.

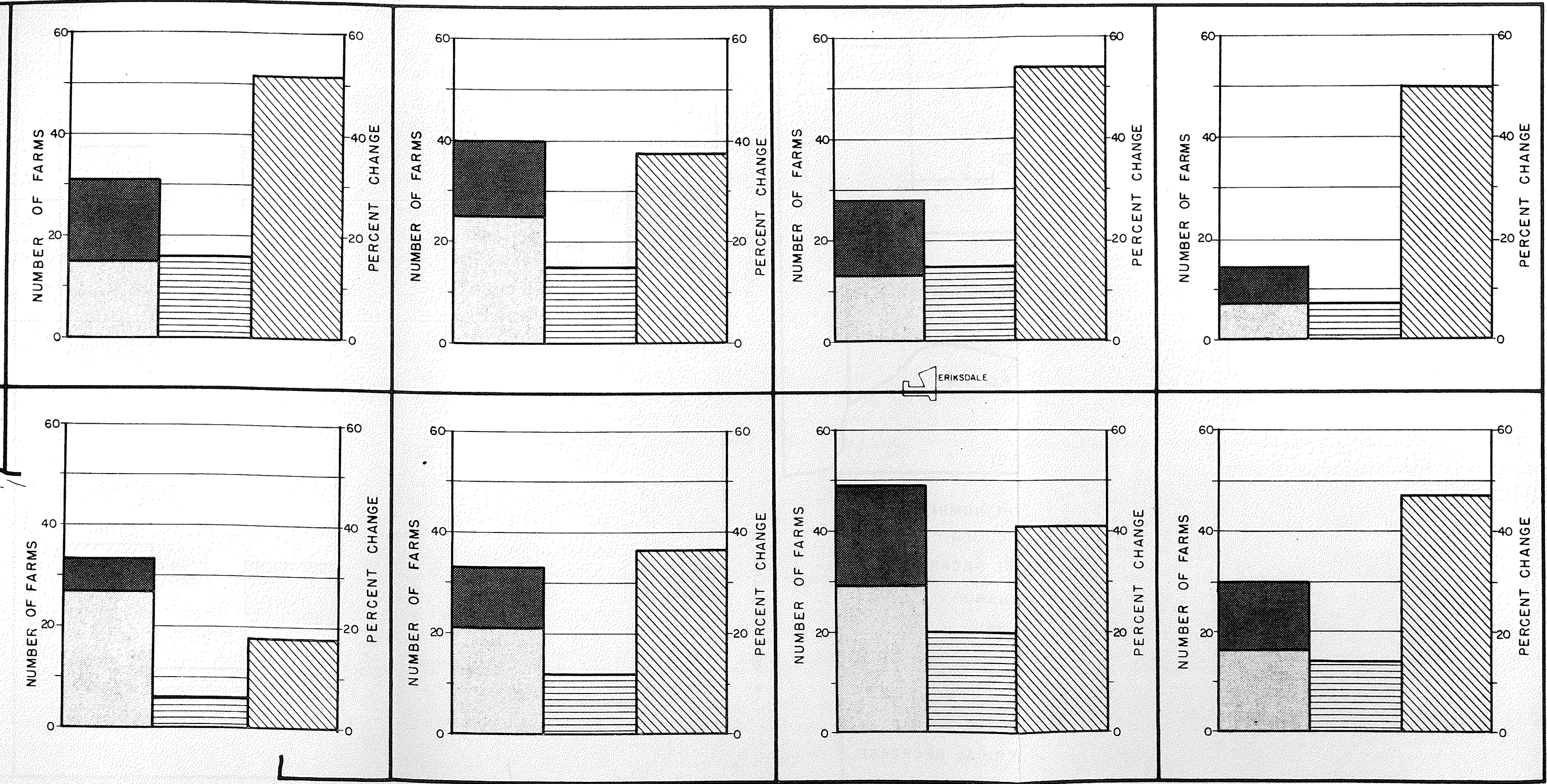
TABLE 27

CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF FARMS BY TOWNSHIP  
1941-1961

RANGE	4W		5W		6W		7W		8W		TOTAL	
	21	22	21	22	21	22	21	22	21	22		
Y E A R	1941	30	14	49	28	33	40	31	31	2	7	265
	1961	16	7	29	13	21	25	26	15	1	5	158
C H A N G E	No.	-14	-7	-20	-15	-12	-15	-5	-16	-1	-2	-107
	%	-46.7	-50.0	-40.8	-53.6	-36.3	-37.5	-16.1	-51.6	-50.0	-28.6	-40.3

Map no. 27 illustrates the numerical and percentage decrease in number of farms on a township basis. All townships recorded decreases in number of farms with changes ranging from a low of 3 farms (11.1 percent) for Township 21 Range 7 West, to a high of 19 farms (46.4 percent) for Township 22 Range 6 West. This relatively small decrease for Township 21 Range 7 West can be attributed to the rather stable nature of this township as a result of its early settlement. The substantial decrease observed in Township 22 Range 6 West was partially related to the change in the ethnic make-up of this township (a loss of 72.1 percent or 62 persons of Scandinavian origin).

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



TWP. 22

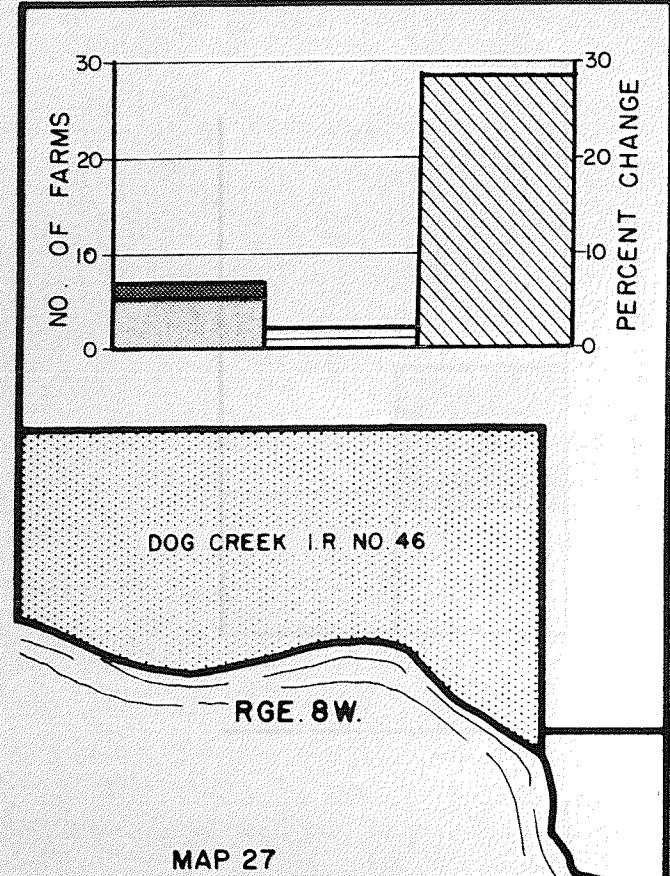
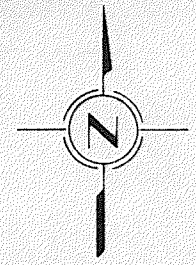
TWP. 21

RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4 W.

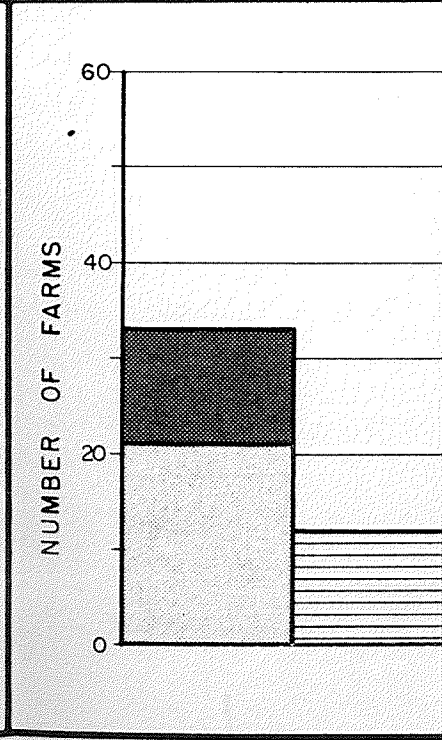
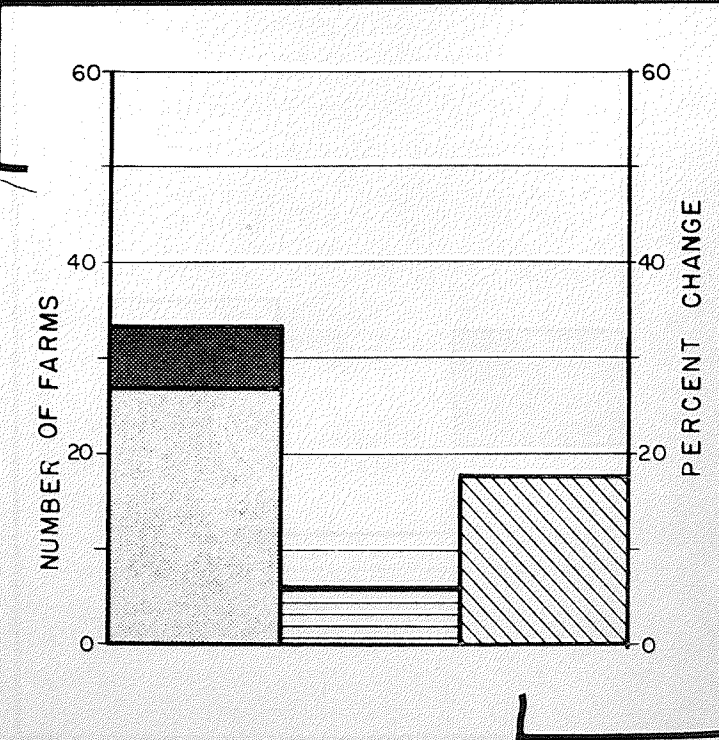
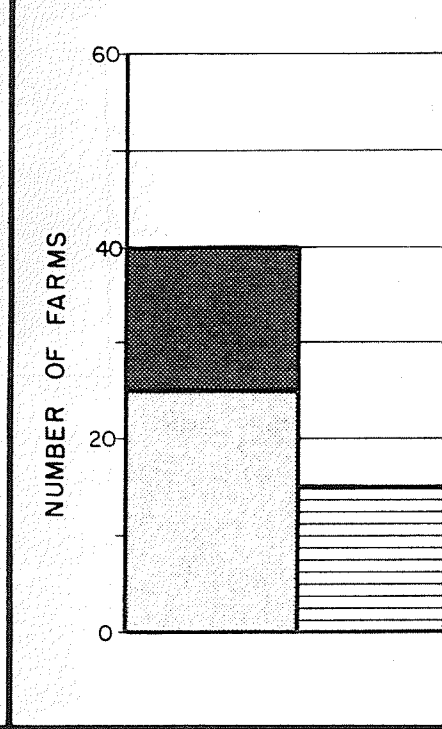
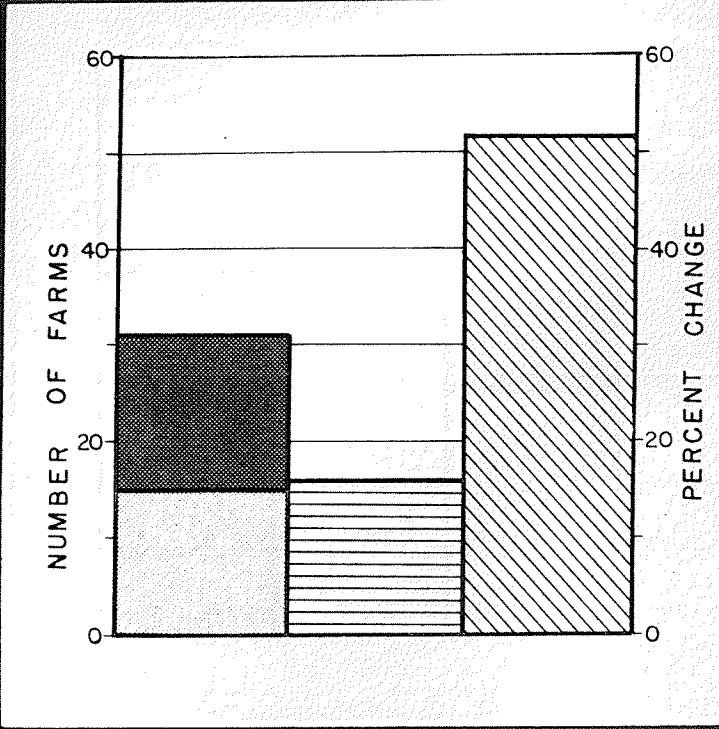
SOURCE: 1962 - 1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK



MAP 27

COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF FARMS AND THE NUMERICAL AND PERCENTAGE DECREASE BY TOWNSHIP 1941 - 1961

- 1941
- 1961
- NUMERICAL DECREASE
- PERCENTAGE DECREASE



SOURCE: 1962 - 1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6 W

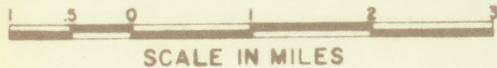
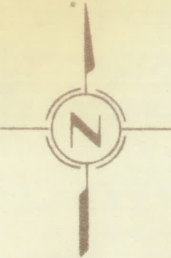
DISTRIBUTION AND FREQUENCY OF FARMS BY SIZE

Maps no. 28 and 29 illustrate the distribution of farms by size of farm for both 1941 and 1961. It is obvious from a comparison of these two maps that there was a substantial loss in the number of farms as well as a dramatic reduction in small farms and an increase in the larger farms.

This is further borne out by an analysis of maps no. 30 and 31 where map no. 30 illustrates the numerical change in the frequency of farms by size and map no. 31 shows the percentage change.

For the municipality as a whole, it can be seen from map no. 28 on the following page, that in 1941 farms ranging from 0.25 quarters to 5.0 quarters accounted for 253 out of 265 farms, or 95.5 percent, and farms greater than 5 quarters numbered 12 or 4.5 percent of the total farms. By 1961, the pattern changed markedly with farms in the 0.25 quarter to 5.0 quarter range representing 104 out of 158 or 65.8 percent and farms greater than 5 quarters accounting for 54 or 34.2 percent. This substantial increase in the larger farm units was a reflection of a change from mixed farming to beef-cattle farms, with a resulting loss in number

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO. 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 28

SIZE OF FARMS  
IN QUARTER SECTIONS  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941

- .25 Q - 1.0 Q
- 1.1 Q - 2.0 Q
- 2.1 Q - 3.0 Q
- 3.1 Q - 4.0 Q
- 4.1 Q - 5.0 Q
- 5.1 Q AND GREATER

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 7W.

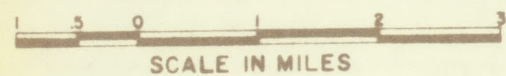
RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

ERIKSDALE

DEERHORN

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



TWP. 22

TWP. 21

RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6W.

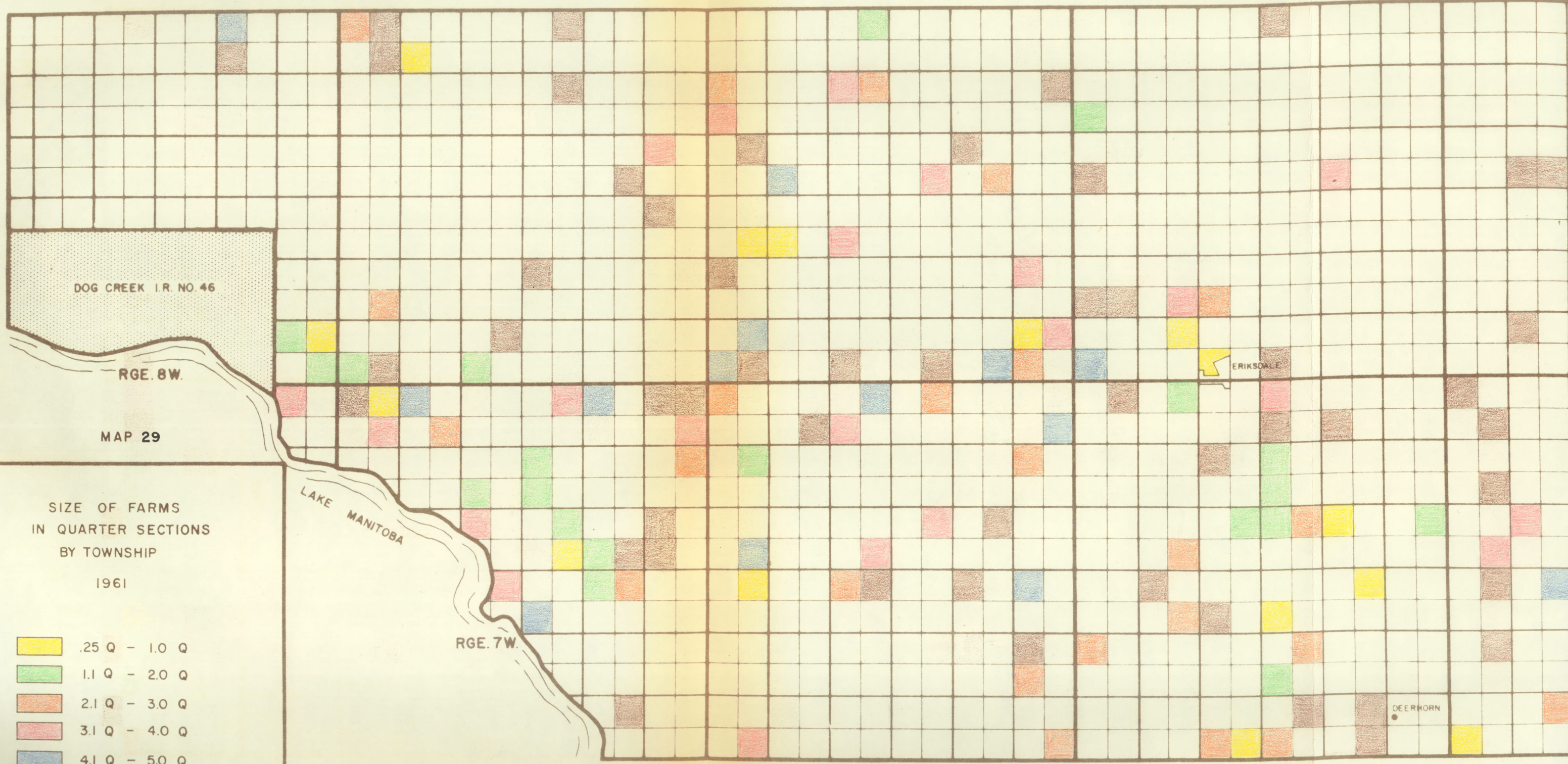
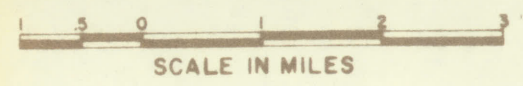
RGE. 5W.

RGE. 4W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MAP 28

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



DOG CREEK I.R. NO. 46

RGE. 8W.

MAP 29

SIZE OF FARMS  
IN QUARTER SECTIONS  
BY TOWNSHIP

1961

- .25 Q - 1.0 Q
- 1.1 Q - 2.0 Q
- 2.1 Q - 3.0 Q
- 3.1 Q - 4.0 Q
- 4.1 Q - 5.0 Q
- 5.1 Q AND GREATER

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6W.

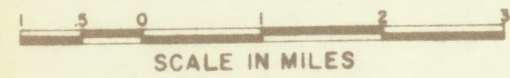
RGE. 5W.

RGE. 7W.

ERIKSDALE

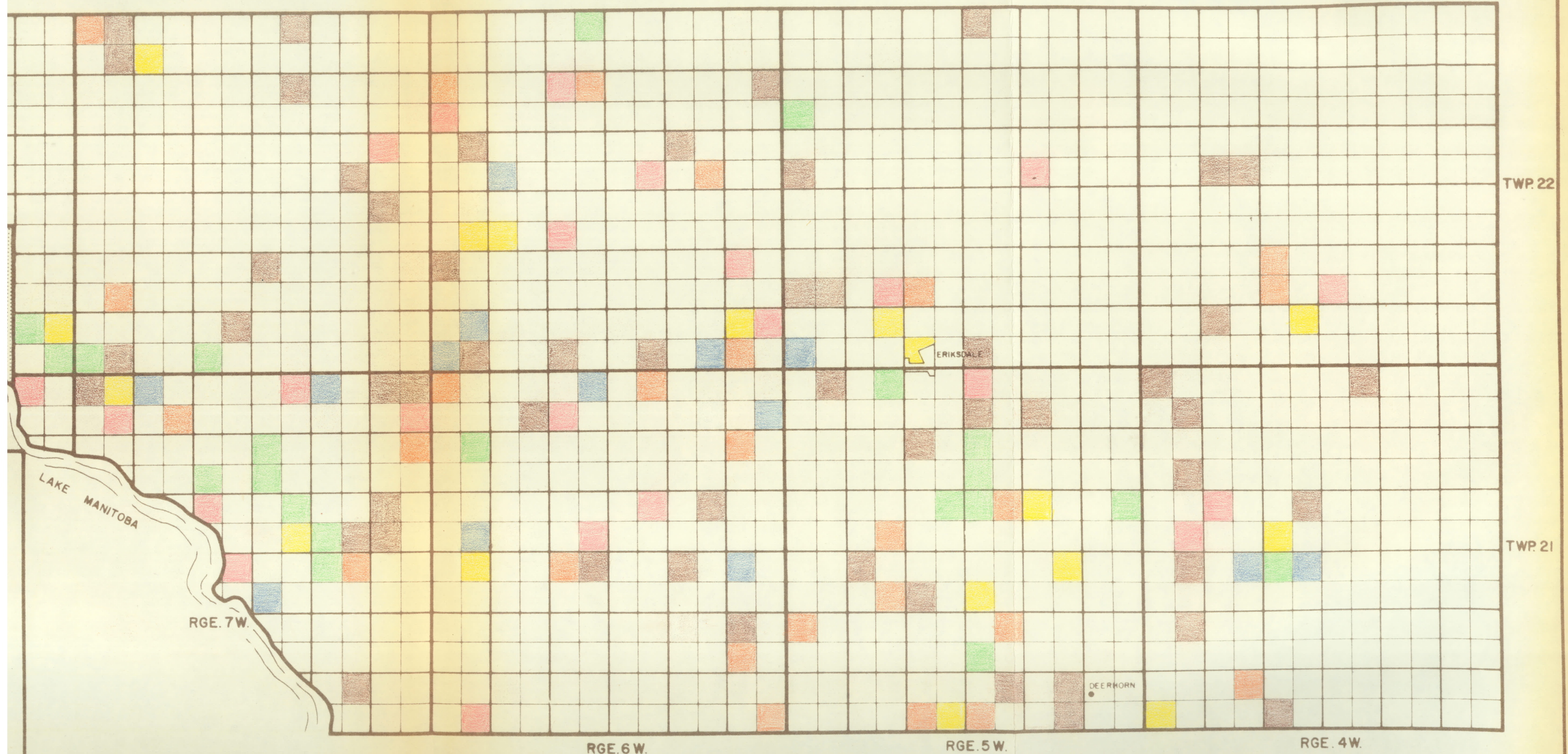
DEERHORN

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



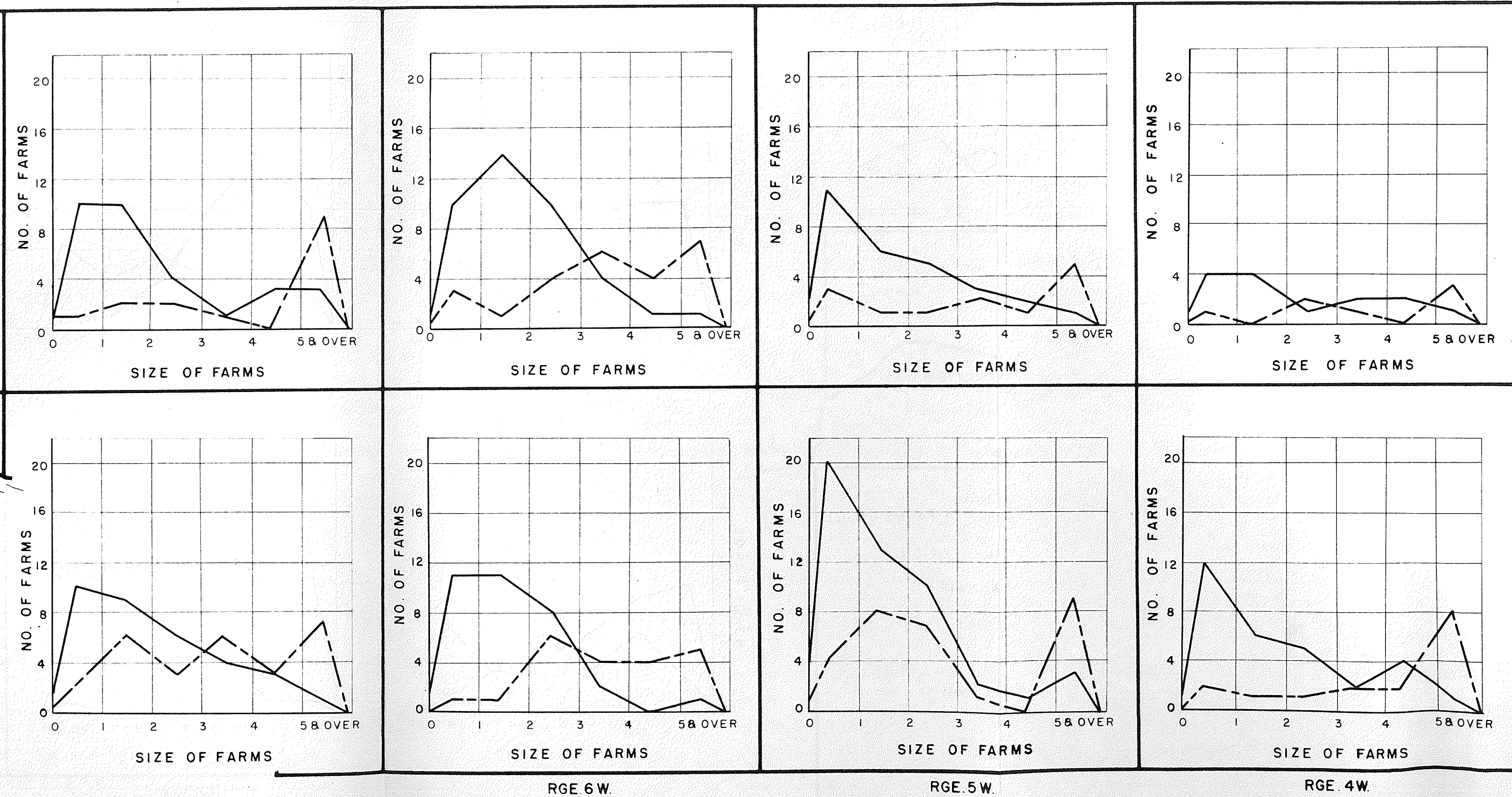
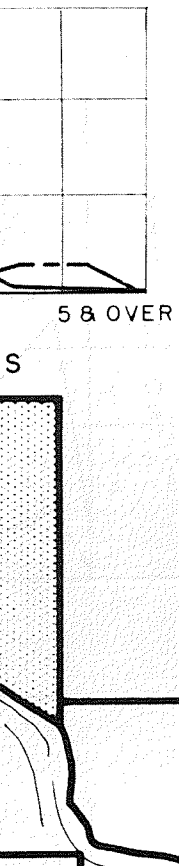
31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

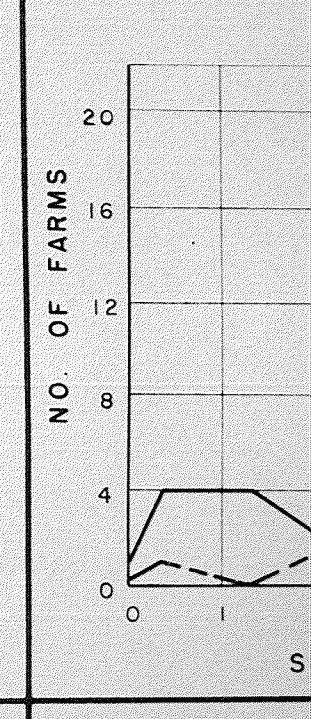
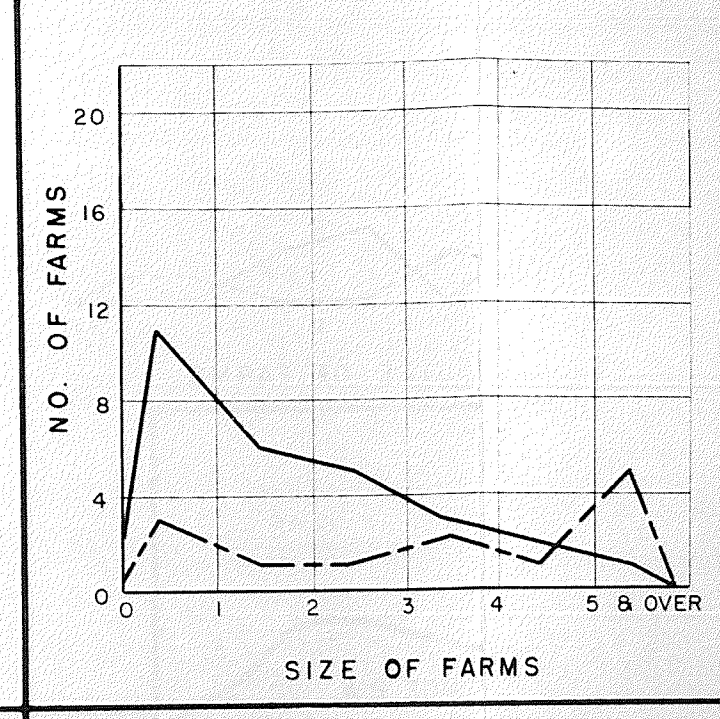
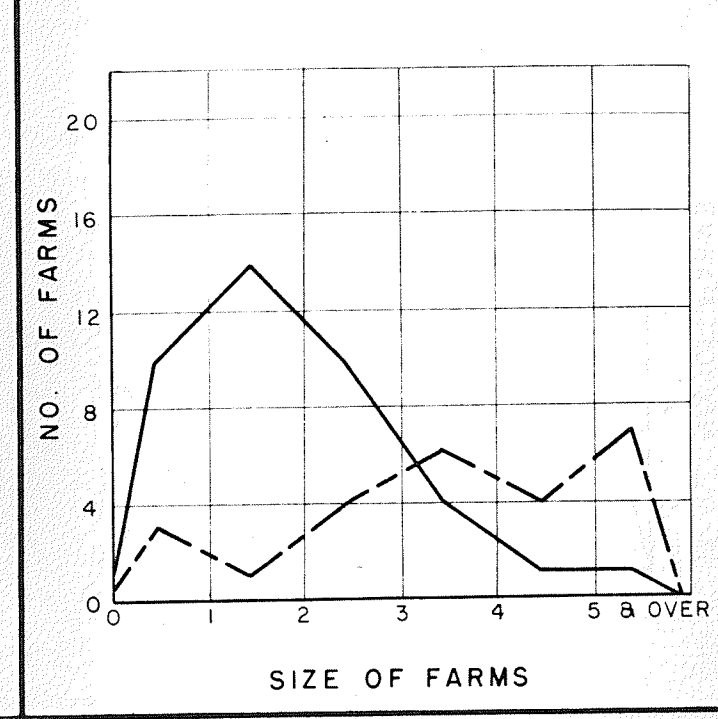
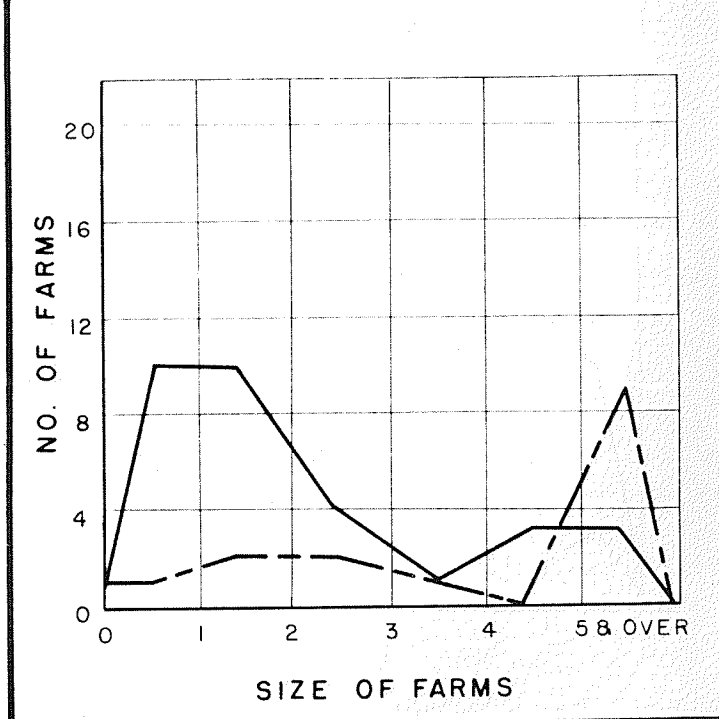
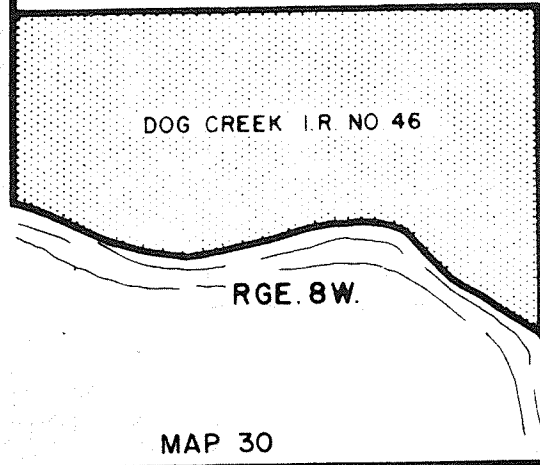
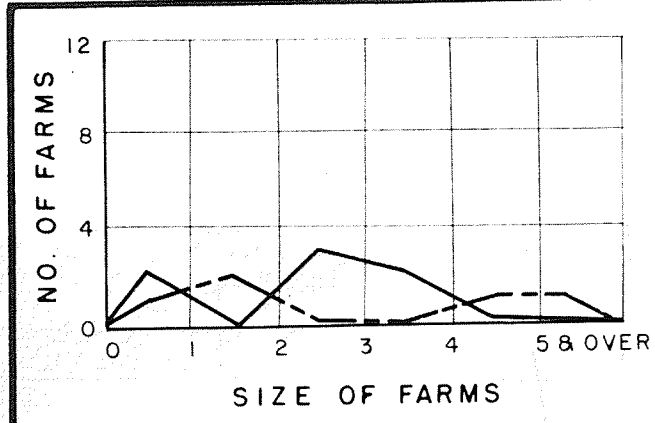
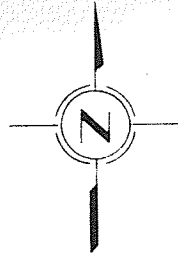


TWP. 22

TWP. 21

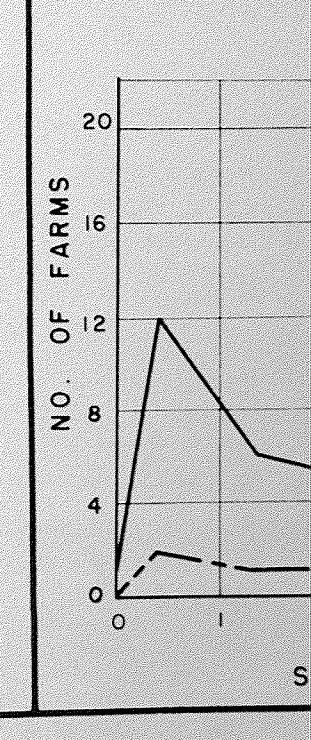
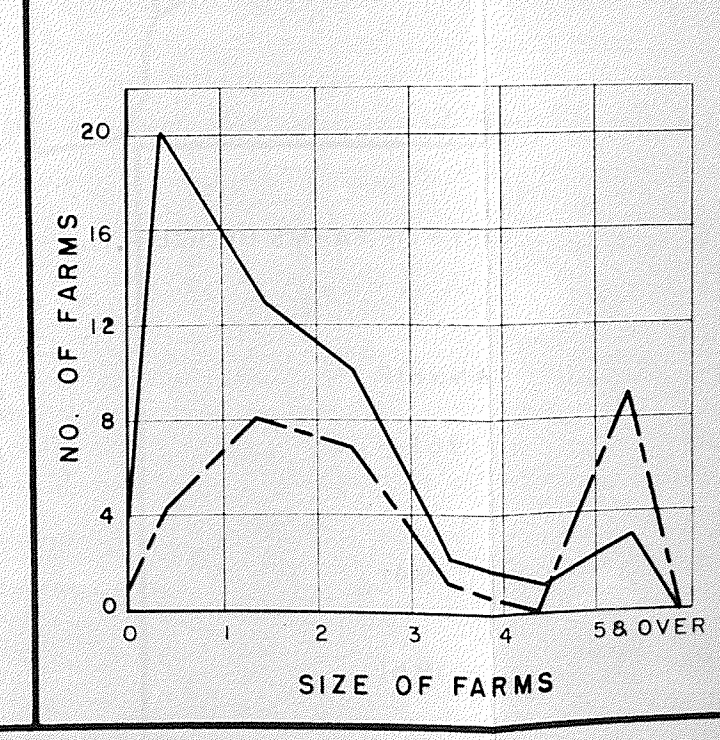
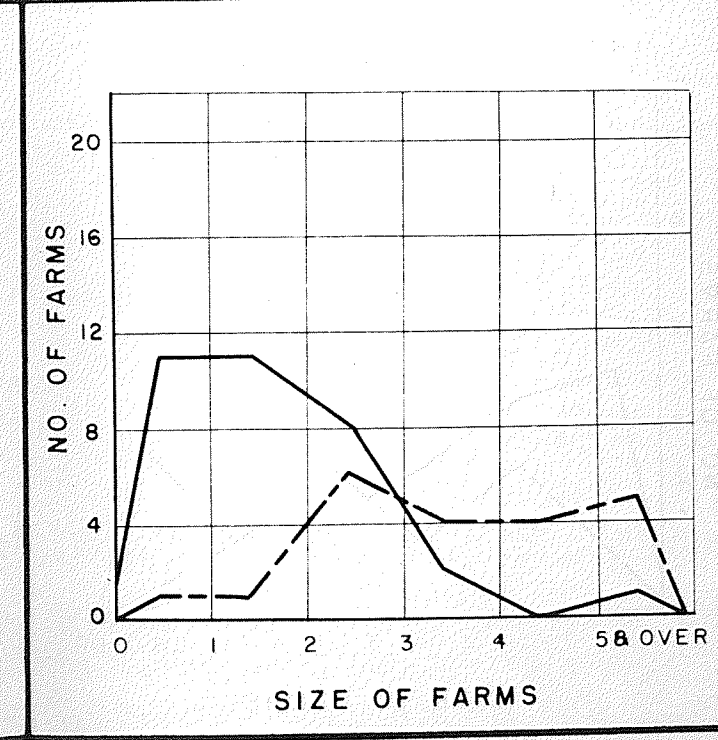
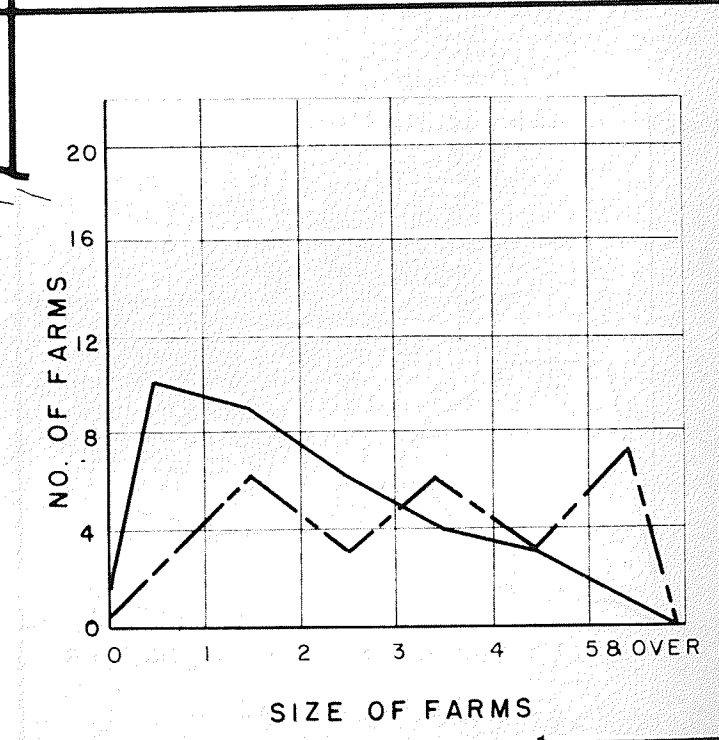
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

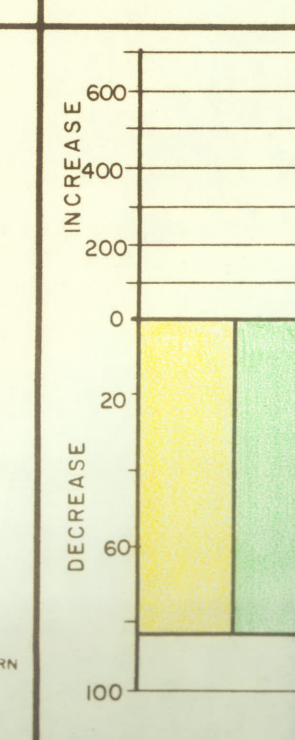
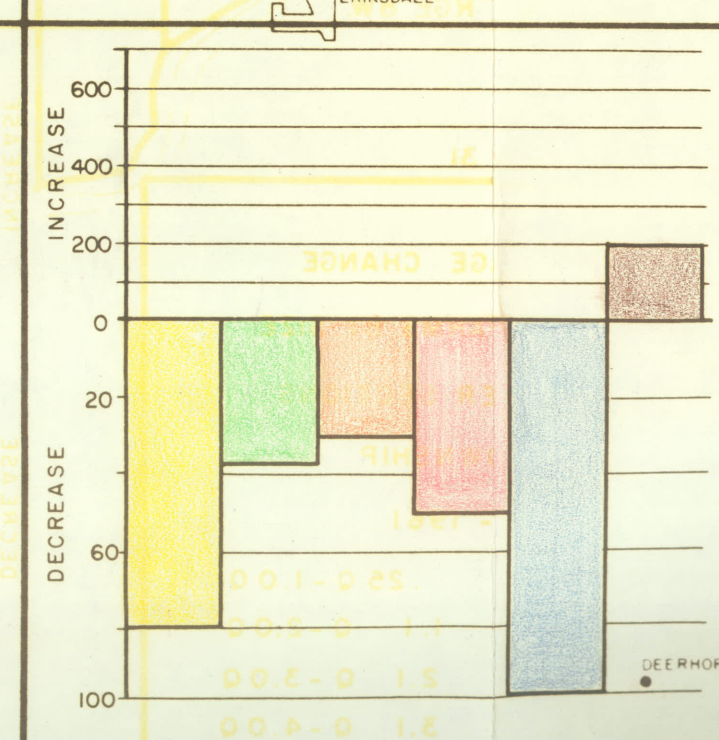
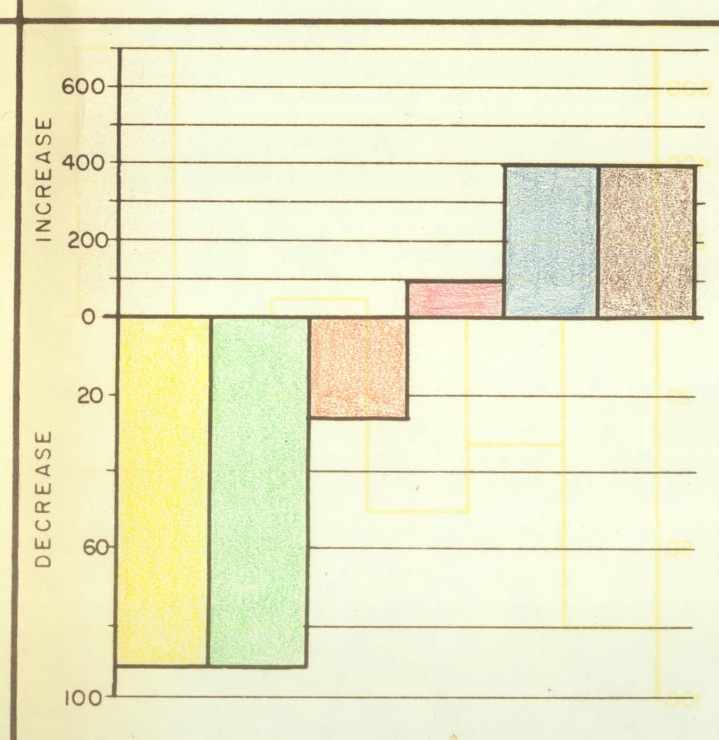
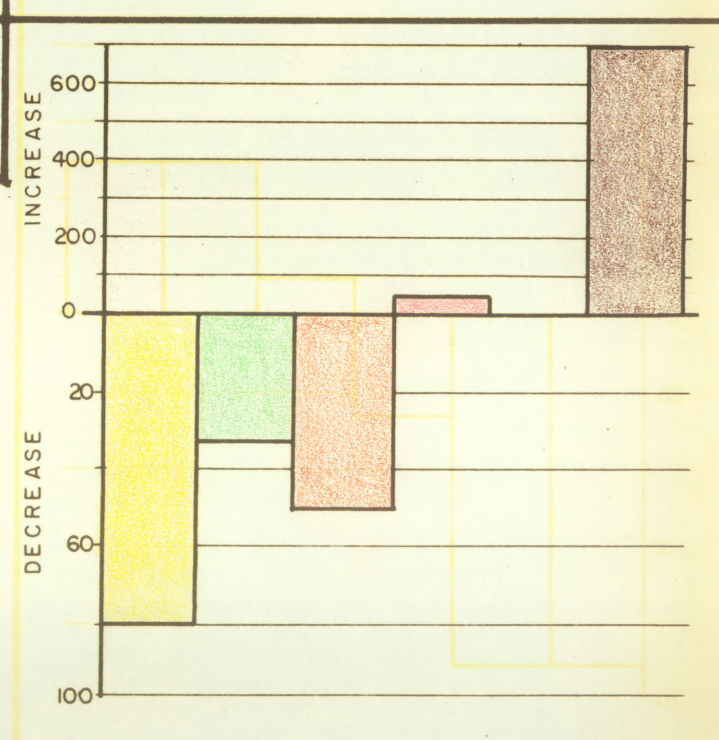
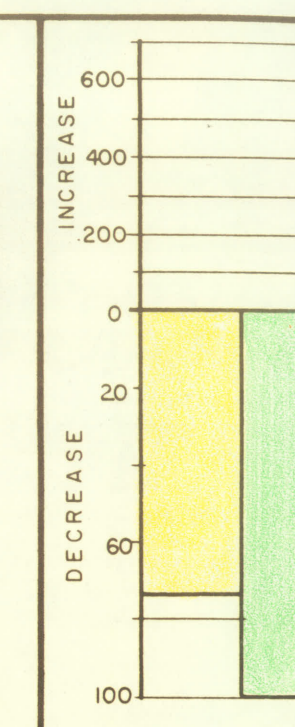
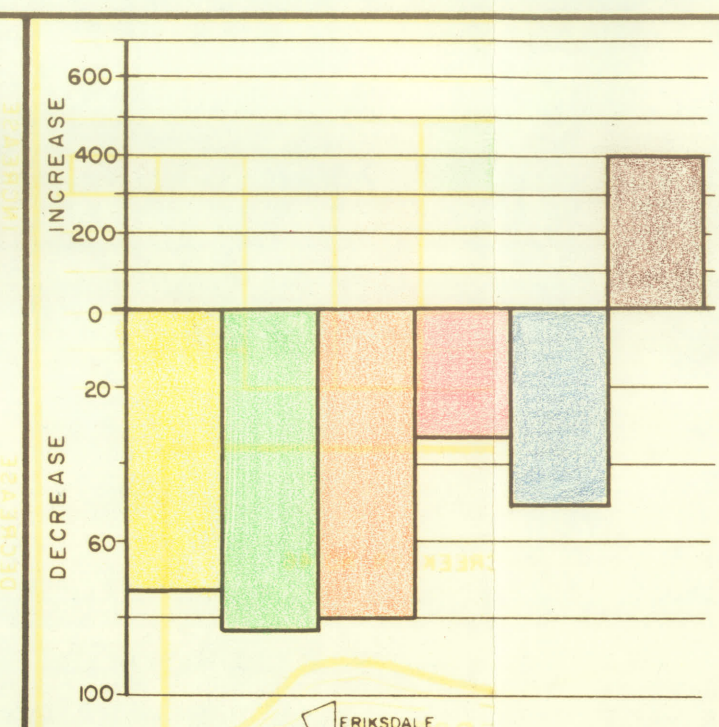
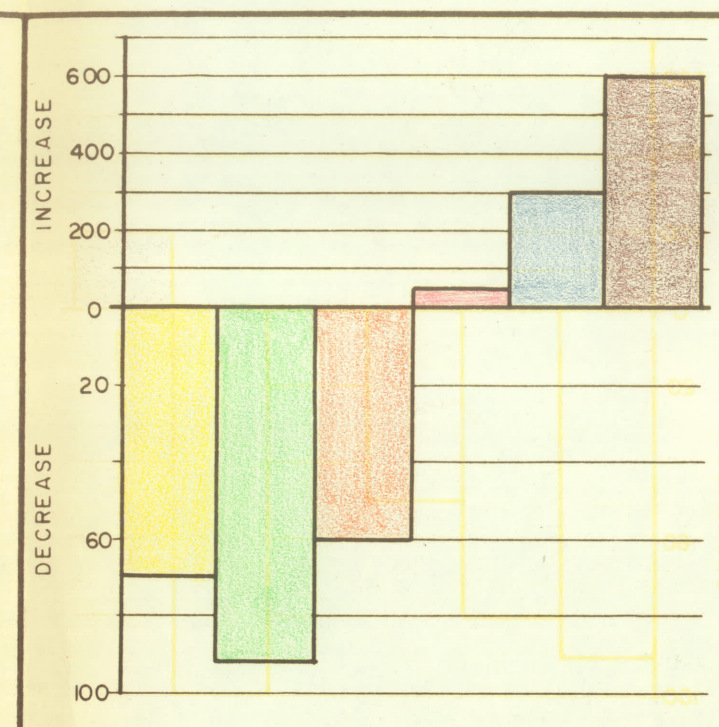
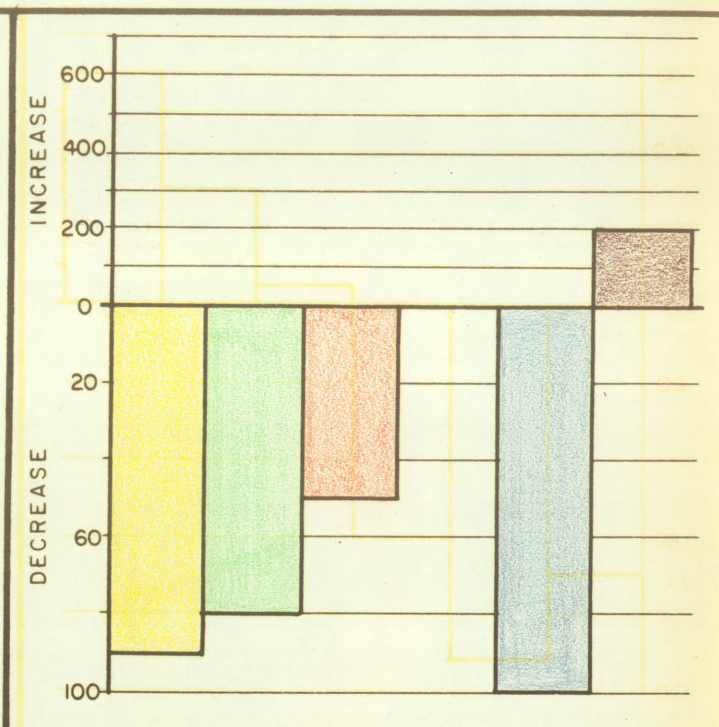
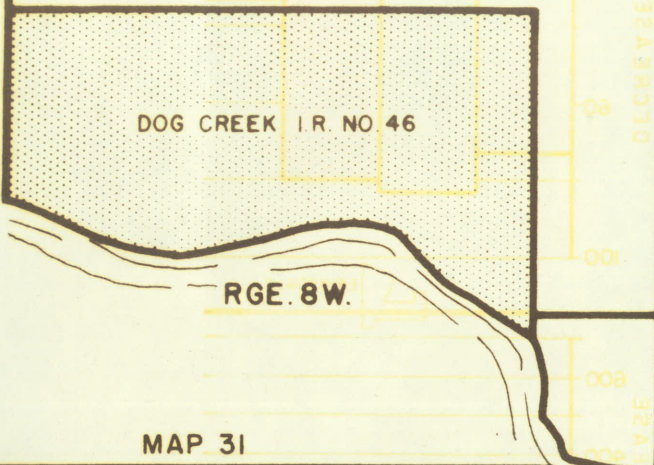
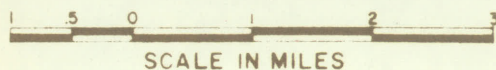
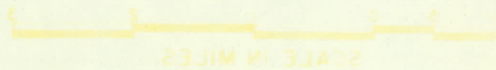


CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF FARMS BY SIZE  
IN QUARTER SECTIONS  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941 - 1961

———— 1941  
----- 1961



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK



MAP 31

PERCENTAGE CHANGE  
IN NUMBER OF FARMS BY SIZE  
IN QUARTER SECTIONS  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941 - 1961

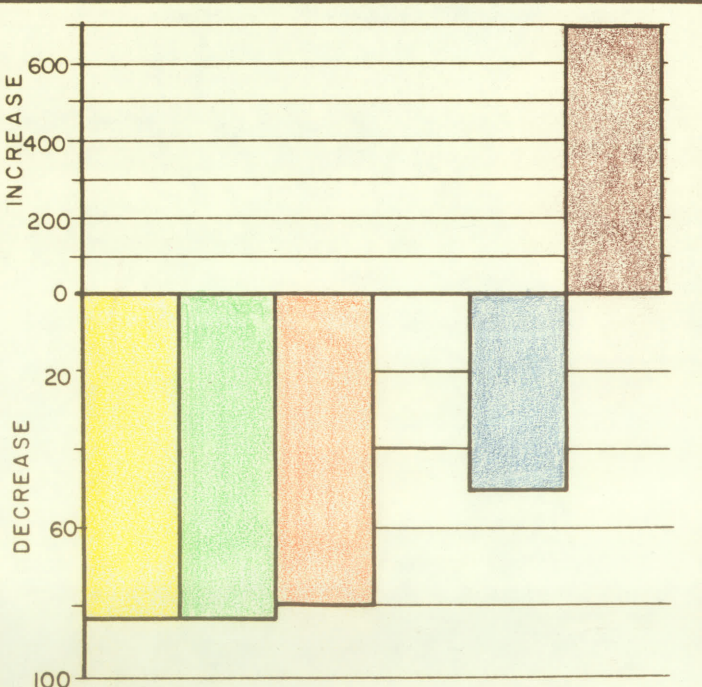
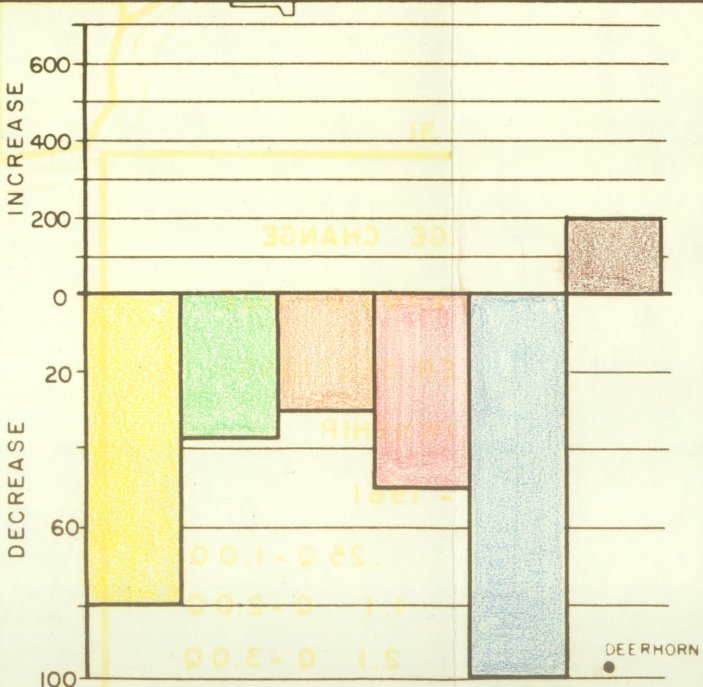
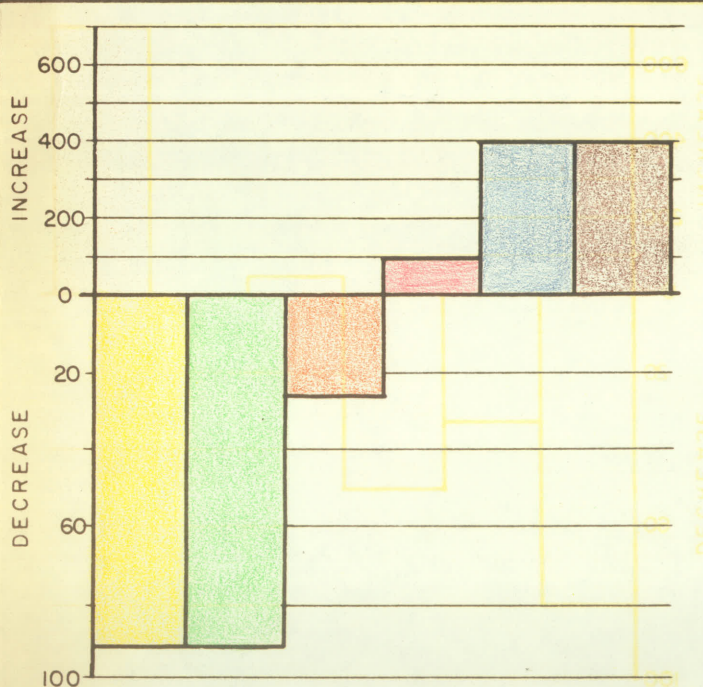
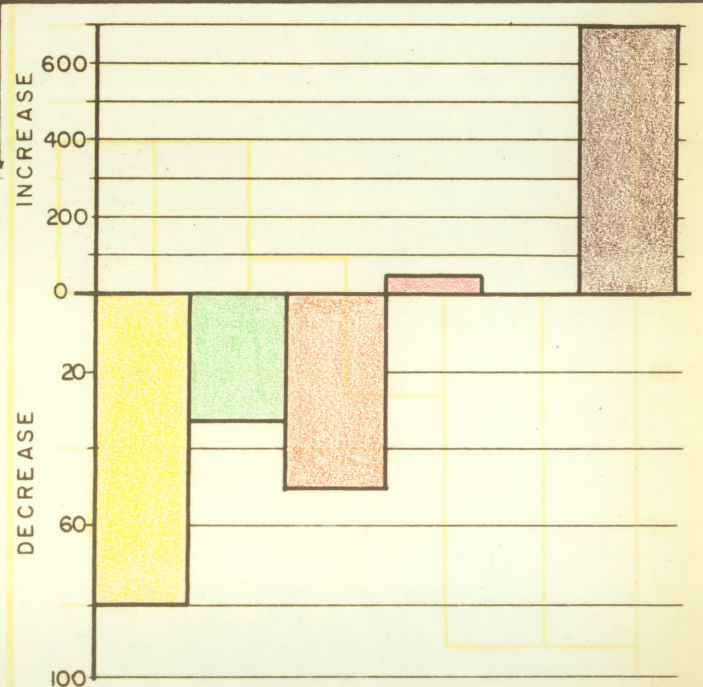
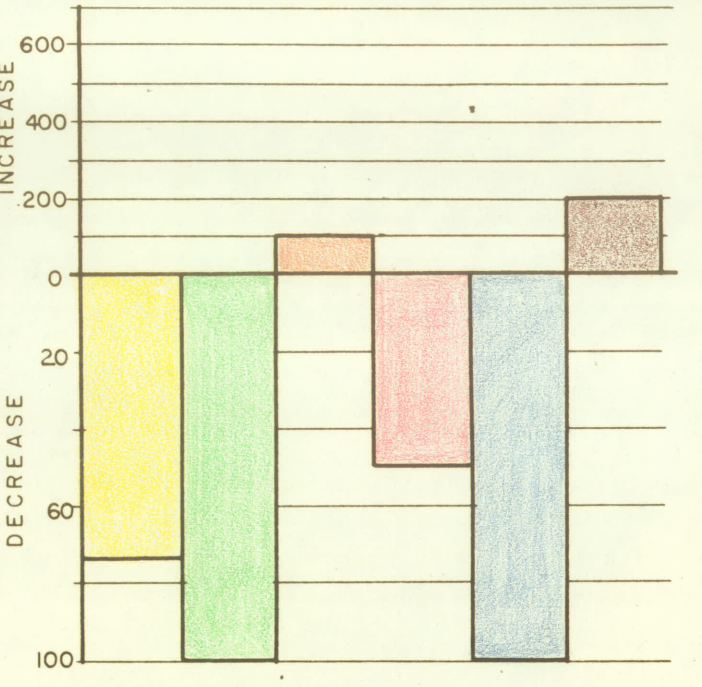
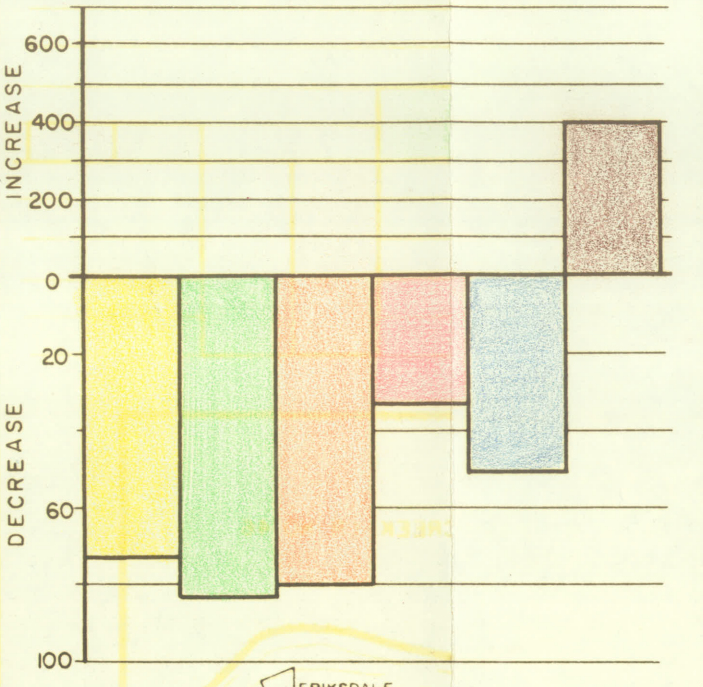
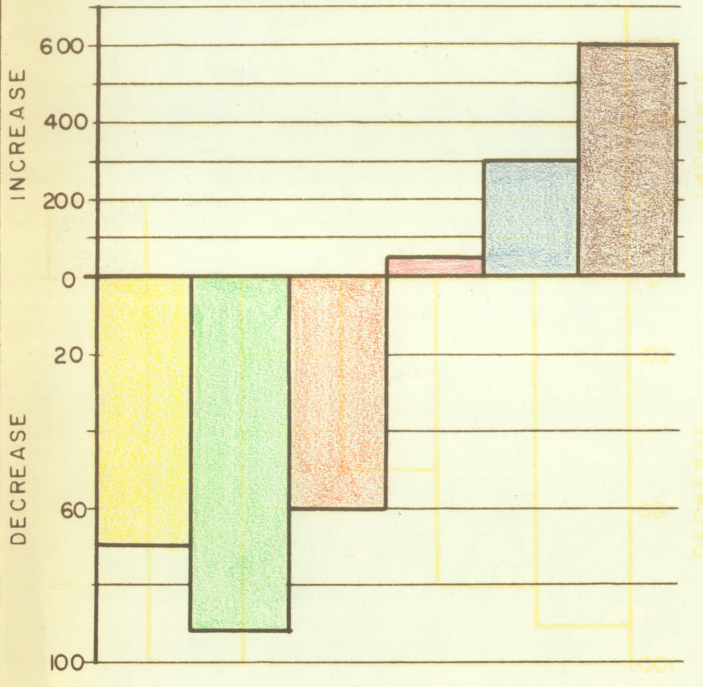
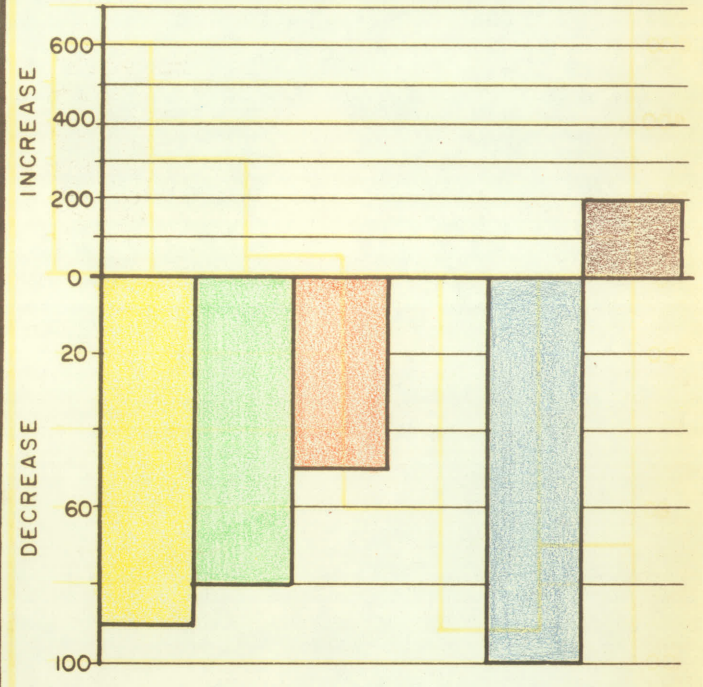
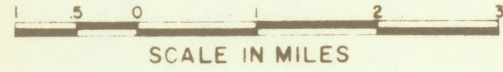
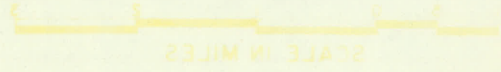
Yellow	0.25 Q - 1.0 Q
Green	1.1 Q - 2.0 Q
Orange	2.1 Q - 3.0 Q
Pink	3.1 Q - 4.0 Q
Blue	4.1 Q - 5.0 Q
Brown	5.1 Q - AND GREATER

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

DEERHORN



TWP. 22

TWP. 21

RGE 8W

RGE 6W

RGE 5W

RGE 4W

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

of farms and families and an increase in land farmed.

TABLE 28

FREQUENCY OF FARMS BY SIZE\* COMPARISON  
1941-1961

		<u>FARM SIZE IN QUARTER SECTIONS</u>						
		<u>0.25Q-1.0Q</u>	<u>1.1Q-2.0Q</u>	<u>2.1Q-3.0Q</u>	<u>3.1Q-4.0Q</u>	<u>4.1Q-5.0Q</u>	<u>&gt;5.1Q</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Y E A R	1941	90	73	52	22	16	12	265
	1961	18	22	26	23	15	54	158
C H A N G E	No.	-72	-51	-26	+ 1	- 1	+42	-107
	%	-80.0	-69.9	-50.0	+ 4.5	- 6.2	+350.0	-40.3

\* In quarter sections.

Map no. 30 reveals that for every township, the shape of the graph in 1941 is considerably unlike the 1961 graph. In 1941, the graphs are generally skewed to the right indicating the smaller farms to be more numerous. However, in 1961 the graphs are skewed to the left indicating the larger farms to predominate. This pattern is further substantiated by map no. 31 where in most cases the number of smaller farms decreased and the number of larger farms increased.

AVERAGE SIZE OF FARMS

With a loss in number of families and number of farms

and an increase in land farmed, an increase in the average size of farms was expected. From table no. 29 below, it is apparent that for the Municipality as a whole a substantial increase in the average size of farms took place between 1941 and 1961.

TABLE 29

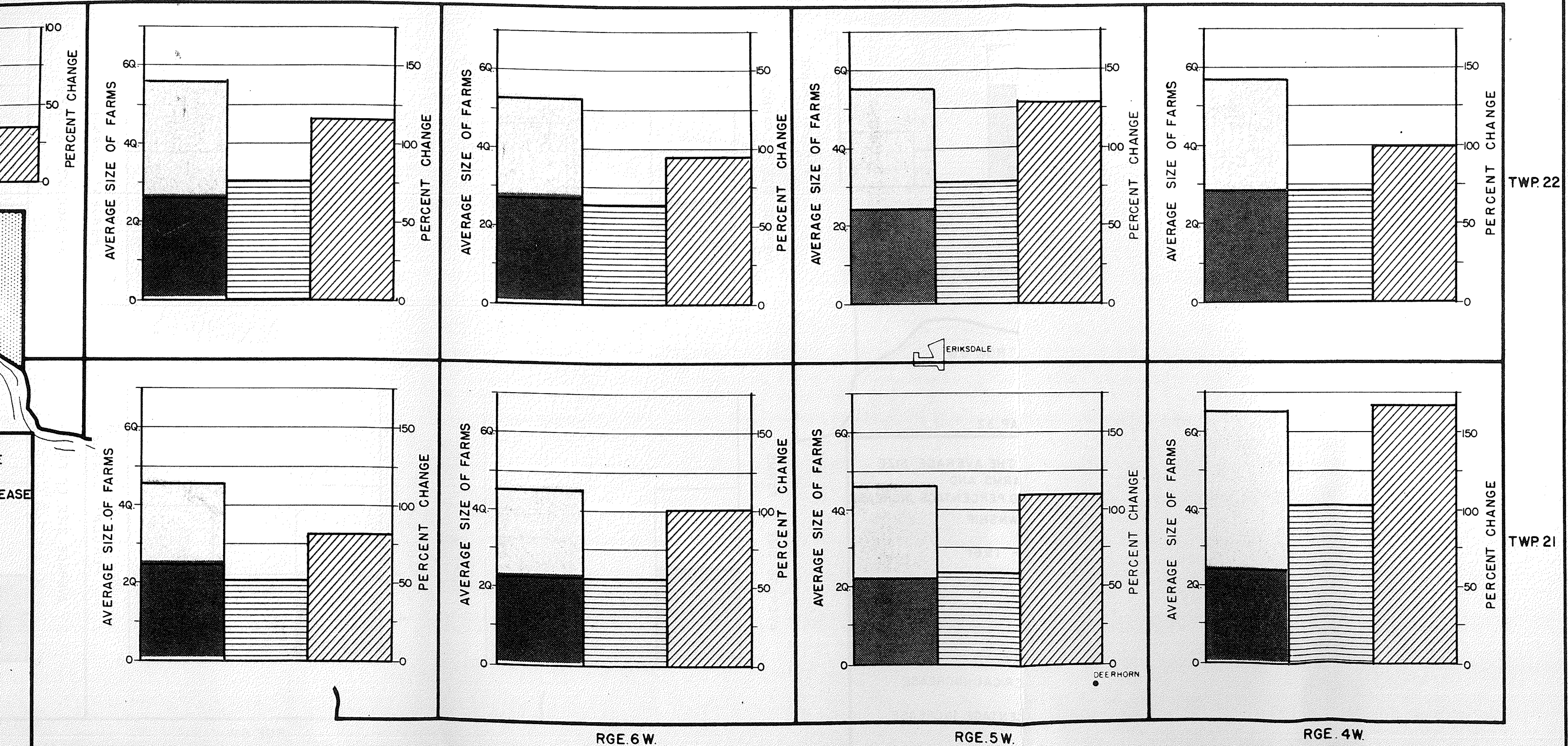
AVERAGE SIZE\* OF FARM COMPARISON BY TOWNSHIP  
1941-1961

RANGE	4W		5W		6W		7W		8W		TOTAL	
	21	22	21	22	21	22	21	22	21	22		
Y E A	1941	2.43	2.85	2.17	2.39	2.24	2.72	2.35	2.58	4.50	2.64	2.44
R	1961	6.50	5.71	4.55	5.46	4.47	5.28	4.50	5.60	4.00	3.60	5.41
C H A N G E	No.	+4.07	+2.86	+2.38	+3.07	+2.23	+2.56	+2.15	+3.02	-0.50	+0.96	+2.97
	%	+167.0	+100.0	+109.6	+128.5	+100.0	+94.2	+91.5	+117.1	-11.1	+36.4	+121.7

\* In quarter sections

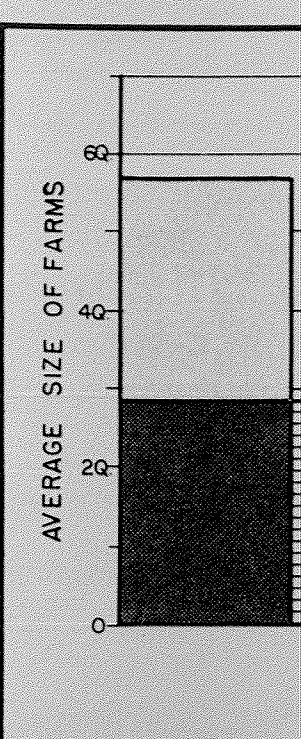
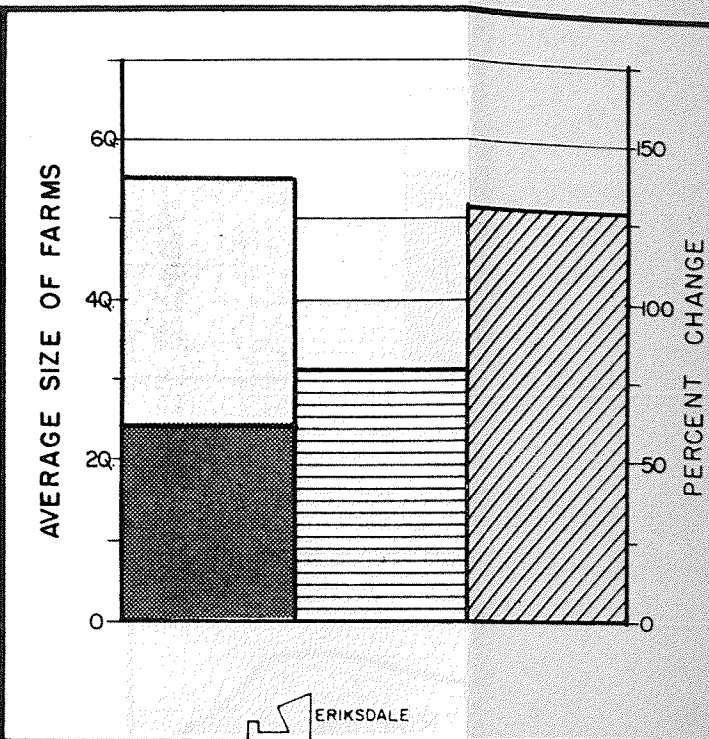
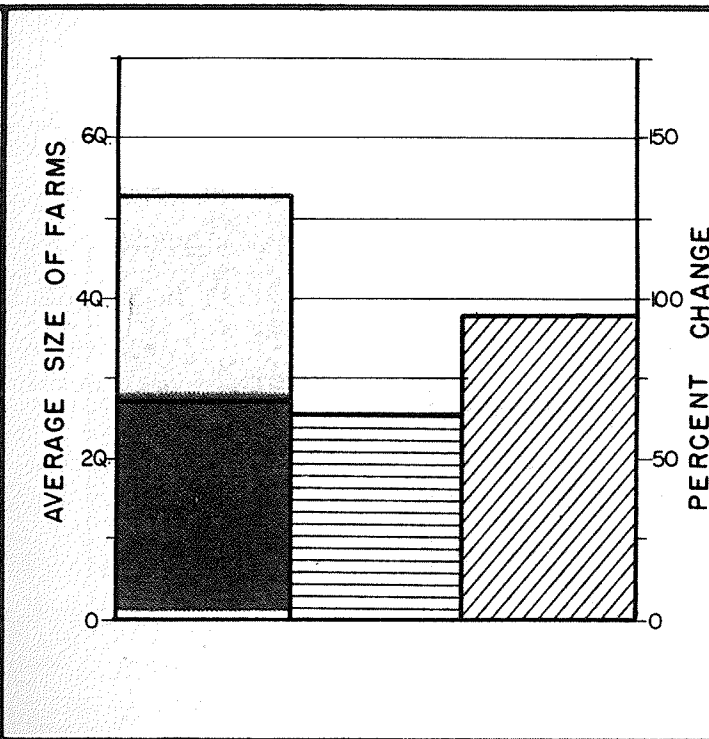
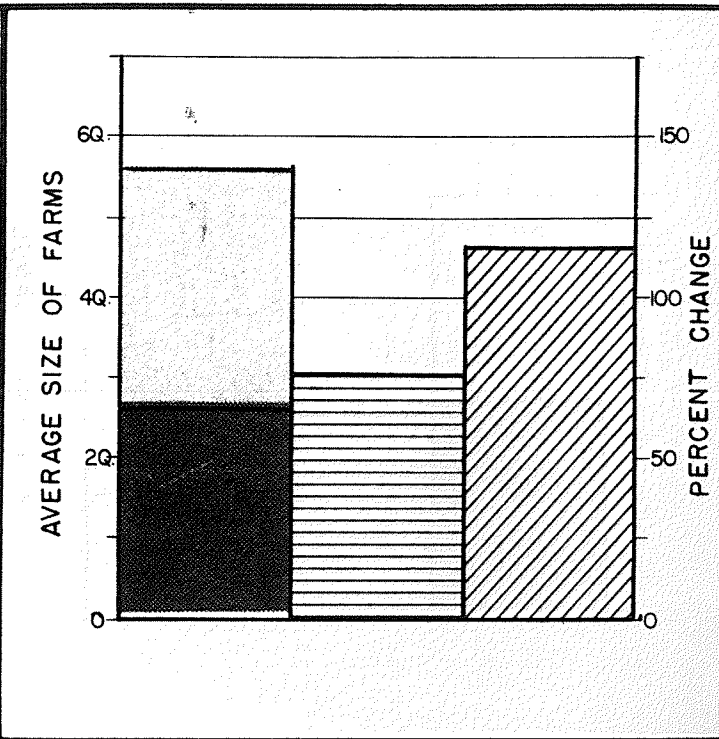
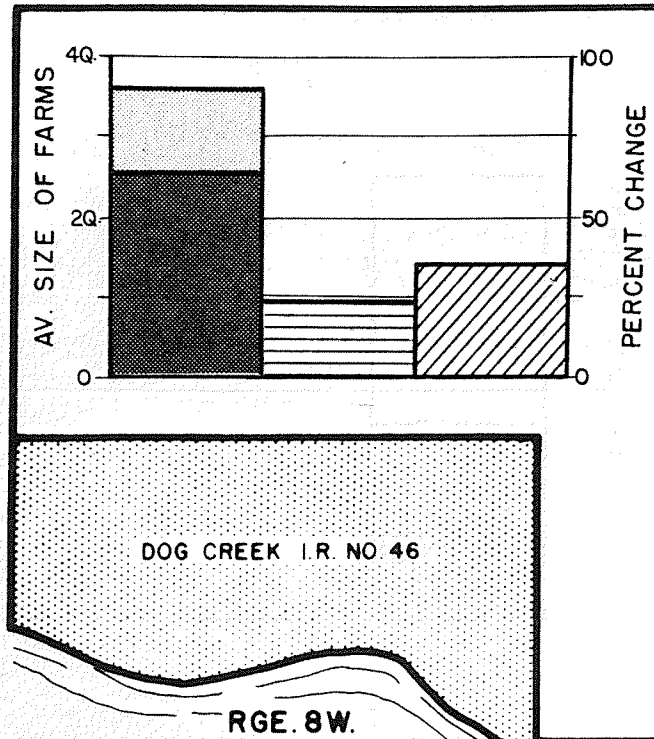
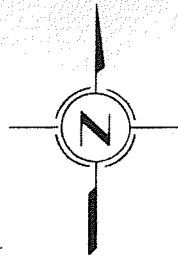
From table no. 29, it can be observed that the average size of farms in 1941 was 2.44 quarters and increased to 5.41 quarters by 1961, resulting in an average increase of 2.97 quarters, or 121.7 percent. This substantial increase in the average size of farms is probably best explained by a change in the type of farming. Whereas in 1941 mixed farming was

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

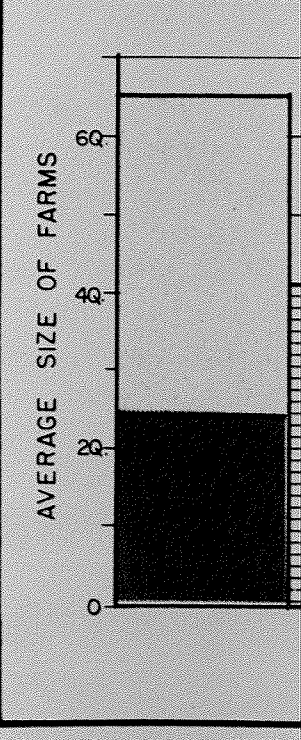
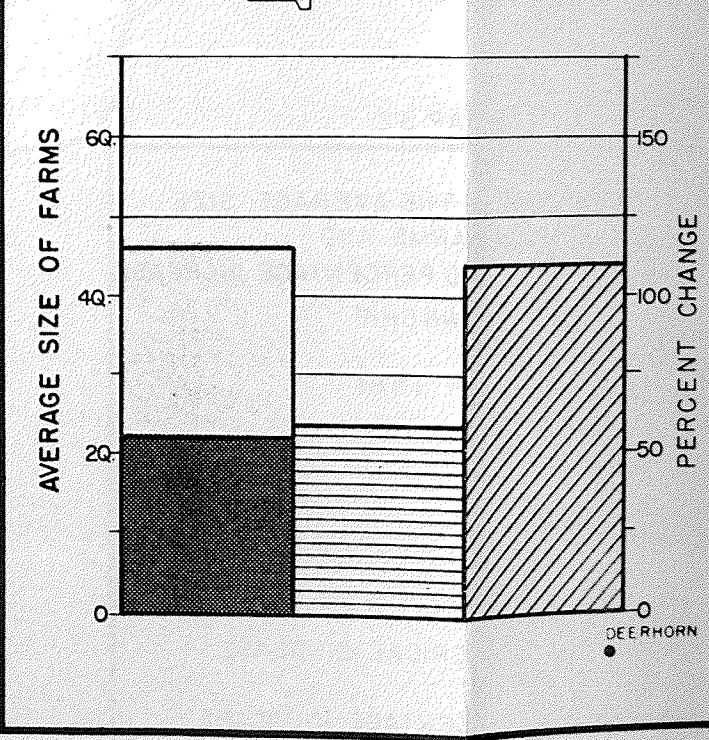
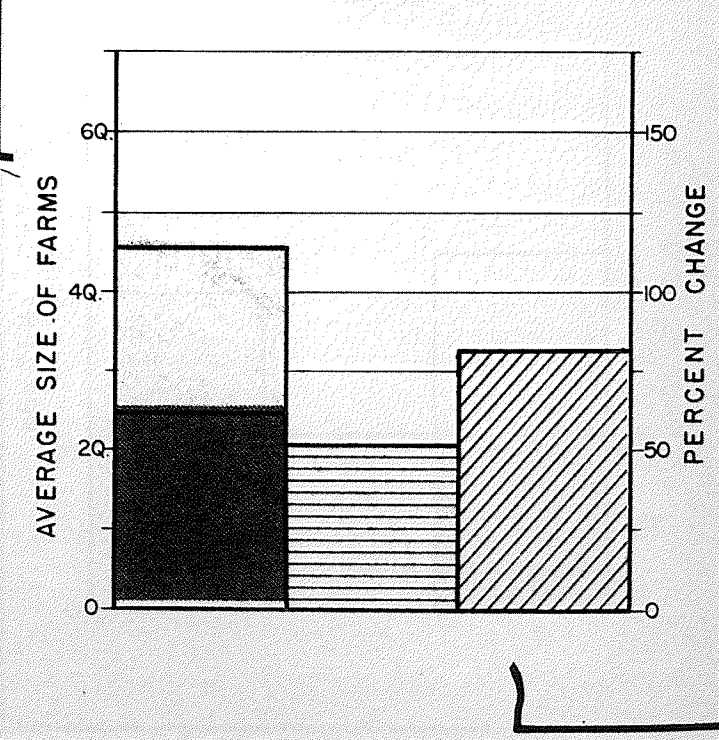


ERIKSDALE

MAP 32

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE SIZE OF FARMS AND THE NUMERICAL AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE BY TOWNSHIP 1941 - 1961

- 1941
- 1961
- NUMERICAL INCREASE
- PERCENTAGE INCREASE



DEERHORN

RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

SOURCE: 1962 - 1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

more common, by 1961 "beef-cattle ranches" had developed and in the process of expansion many small farm units were displaced and consolidated to produce larger farm units.

From map no. 32 can be seen on a township basis both the 1941 and 1961 average size of farms in quarter sections as well as the numerical and percentage changes which occurred. All townships experienced increases in the average size of farms with Township 21 Range 4 West recording the largest change (4.07 quarters or 167.0 percent) and Township 22 Range 8 West recording the smallest (0.96 quarters or 36.4 percent).

#### PERSONS PER FARM

As a result of mechanization and the change in type of farming characteristic of the study area, it would be expected that the persons per farm ratio would drop between 1941 and 1961. However, for the Municipality as a whole this was not the case and an actual increase from 4.20 persons per farm in 1941 to 4.34 persons per farm in 1961 occurred. This was an increase of 0.14 persons per farm or 3.33 percent. This increase was best explained by the increase in family size experienced in the study area between 1941 and 1961.

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<sup>1</sup>See table 14.

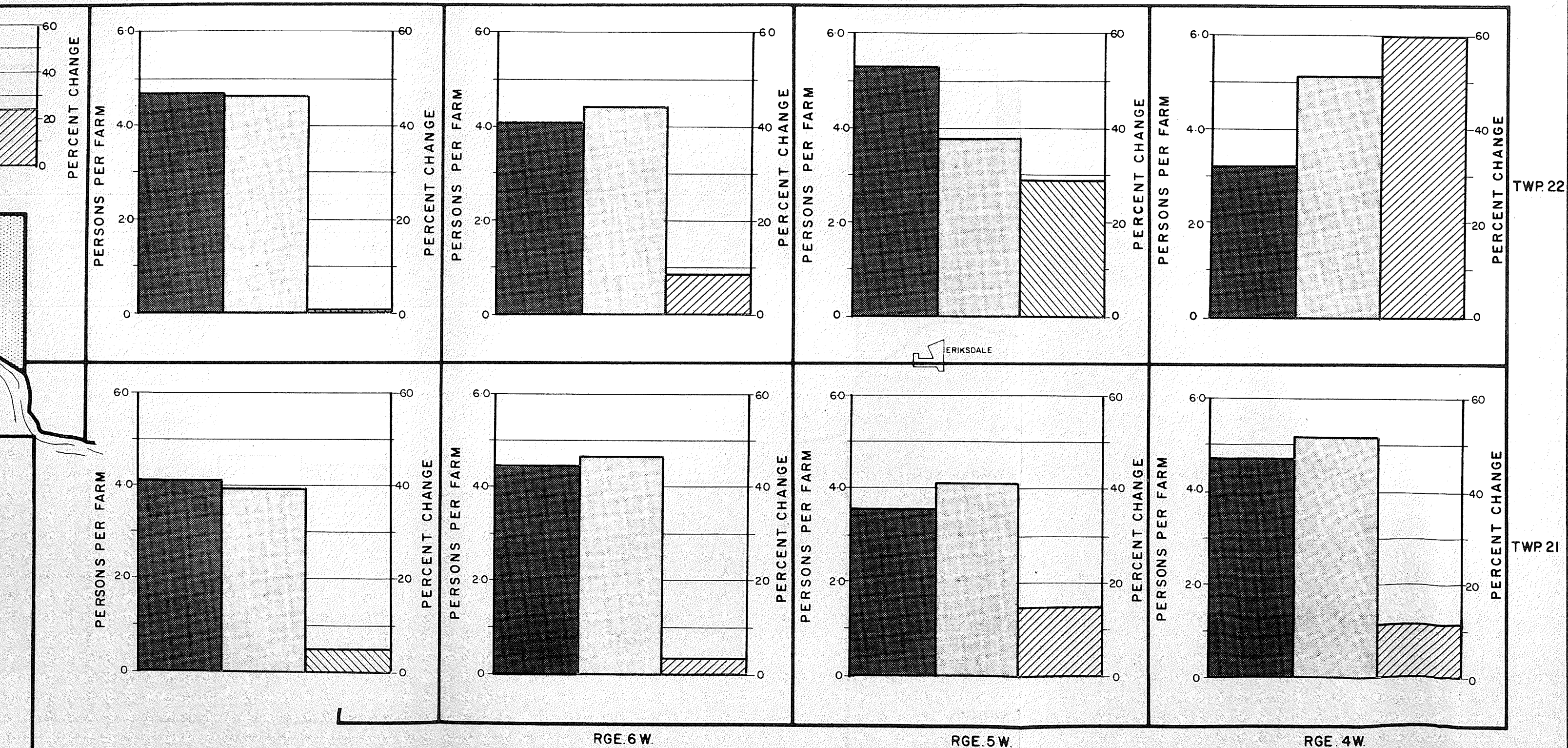
TABLE 30  
 PERSONS PER FARM COMPARISON BY TOWNSHIP  
 1941-1961

RANGE	4W		5W		6W		7W		8W		TOTAL	
	21	22	21	22	21	22	21	22	21	22		
Y E A R	1941	4.64	3.21	3.59	5.29	4.45	4.05	4.10	4.64	4.50	3.43	4.20
	1961	5.19	5.15	4.11	3.76	4.61	4.40	4.00	4.61	2.00	4.20	4.34
C H A N G E	No.	+0.55	+1.94	+0.52	-1.53	+0.16	+0.35	-0.10	-0.03	-2.50	+0.77	+0.14
	%	+11.8	+60.4	+14.5	-28.9	+ 3.6	+8.6	-2.4	-0.7	-55.6	+22.4	+3.33

A comparison of table no. 30 with table no. 24 clearly indicates the close correlation between average family size and persons per farm in that all townships recording increases in family size show increases in persons per farm and vice versa.

Map no. 33 illustrates on a township basis for 1941 and 1961 the number of persons per farm as well as the numerical and percentage change. From this map, it can be seen that six out of nine townships recorded increases ranging from 3.6 percent for Township 22 Range 4 West to 60.4 percent for Township 21 Range 4 West, and three town-

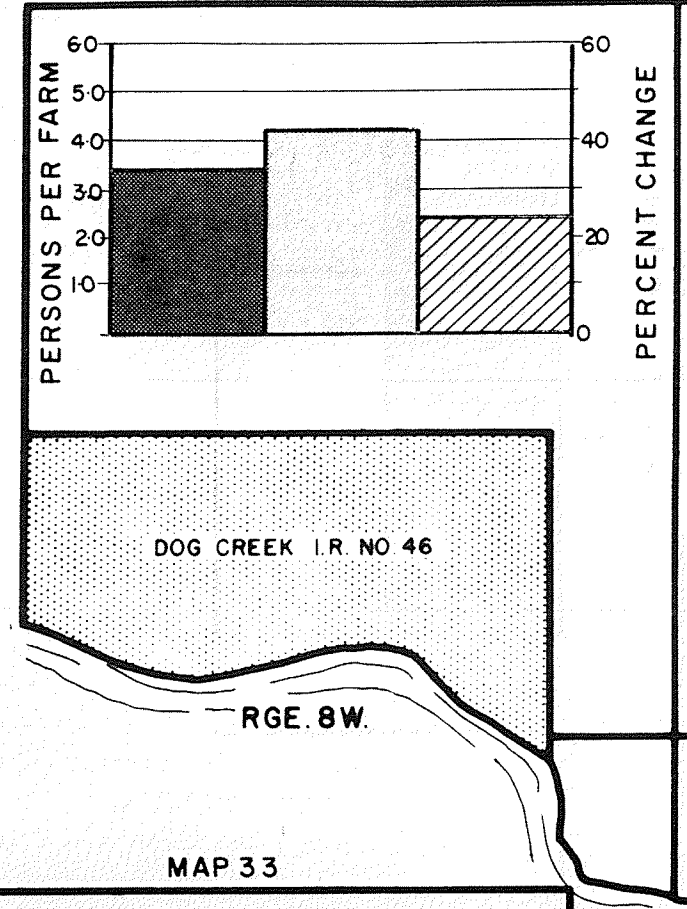
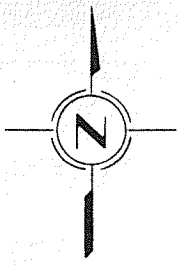
# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

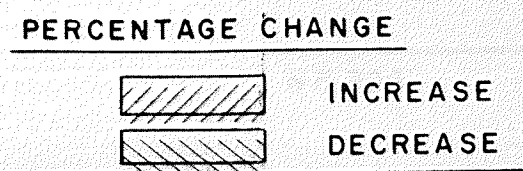
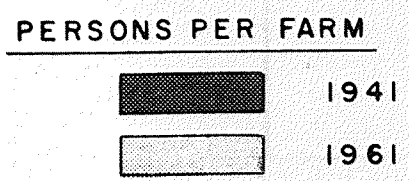
BLANCKHOED TO YLLASVA

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

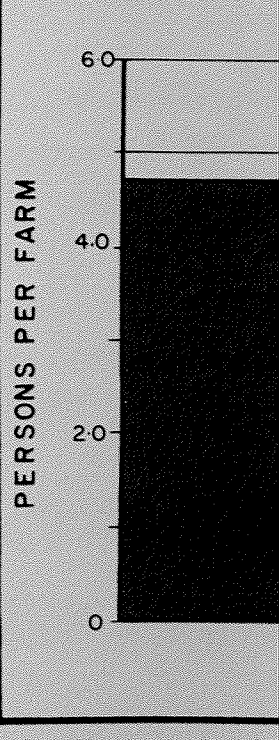
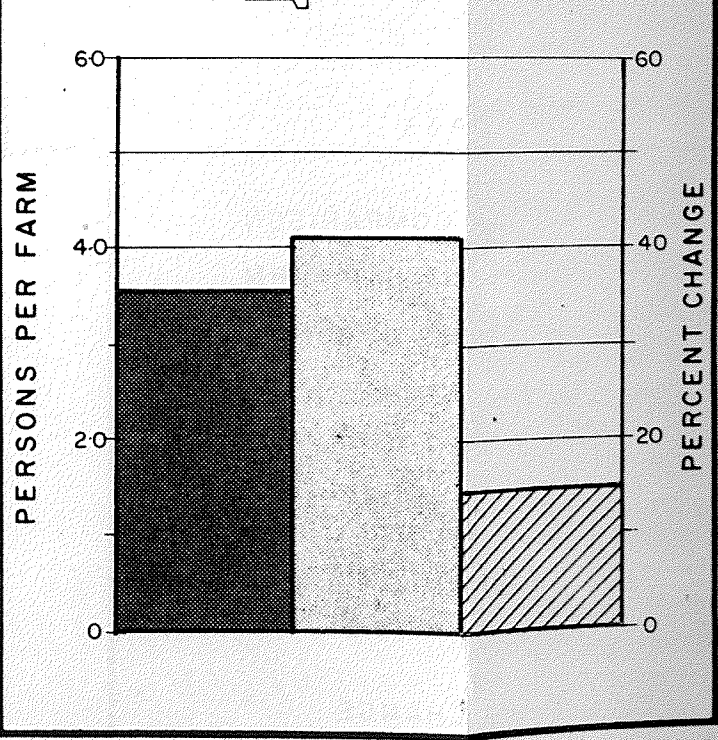
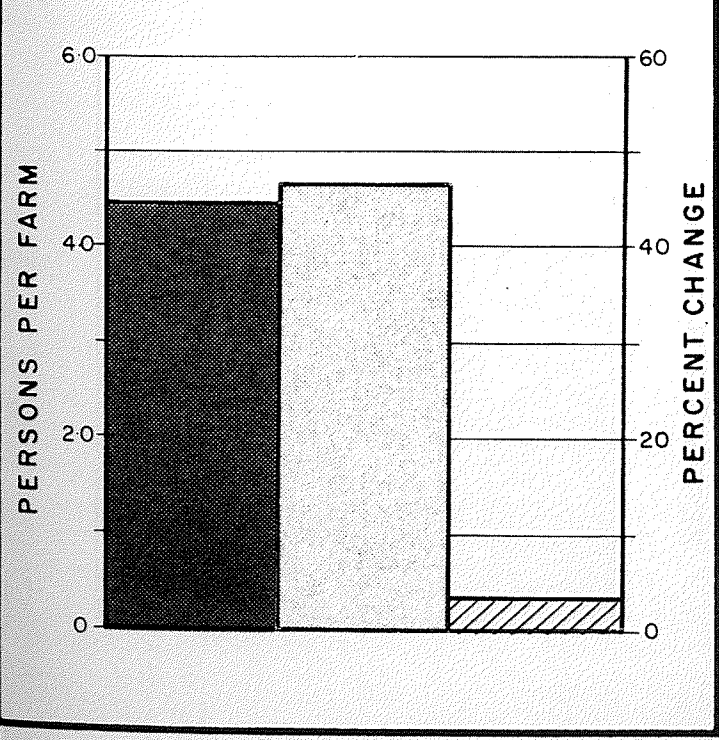
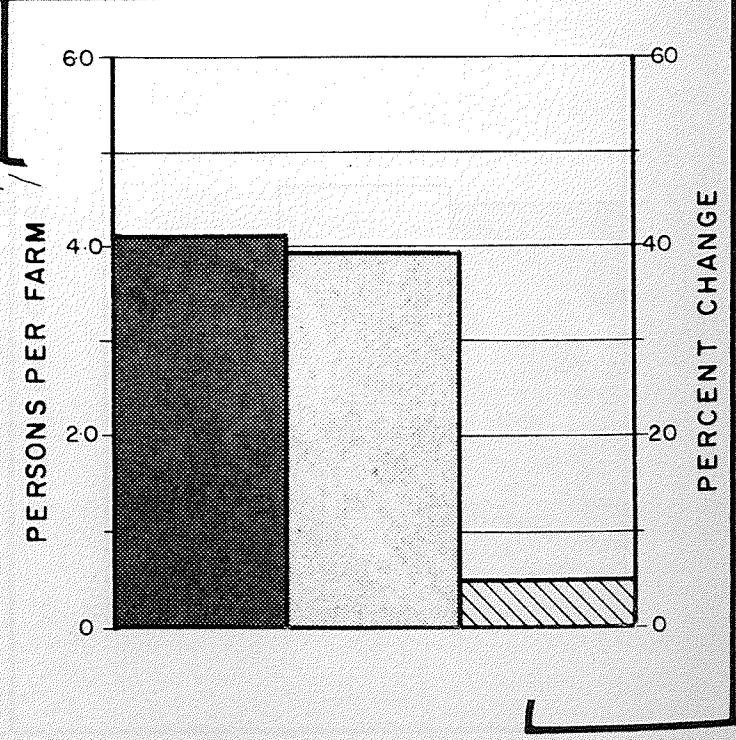
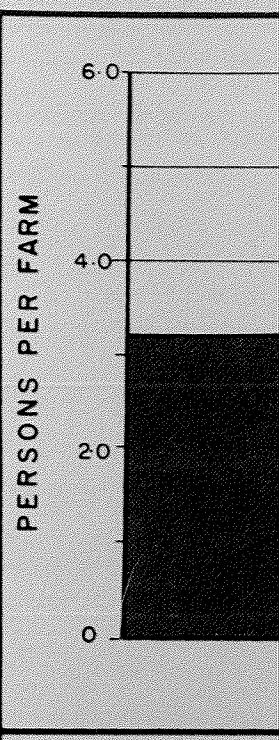
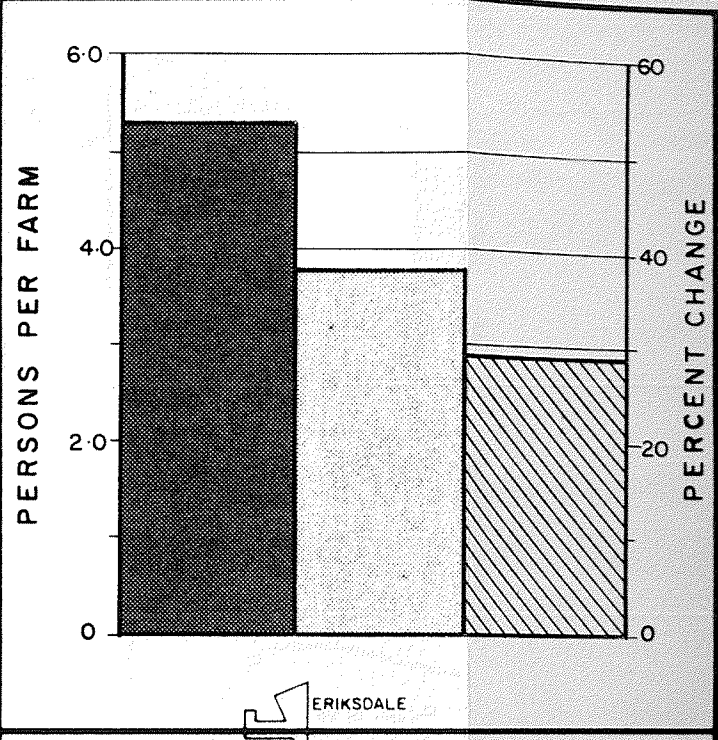
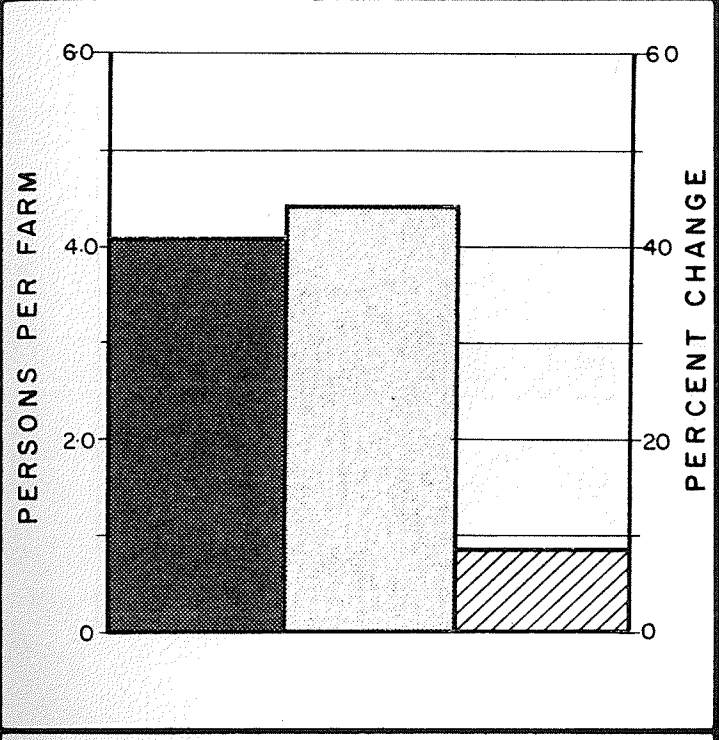
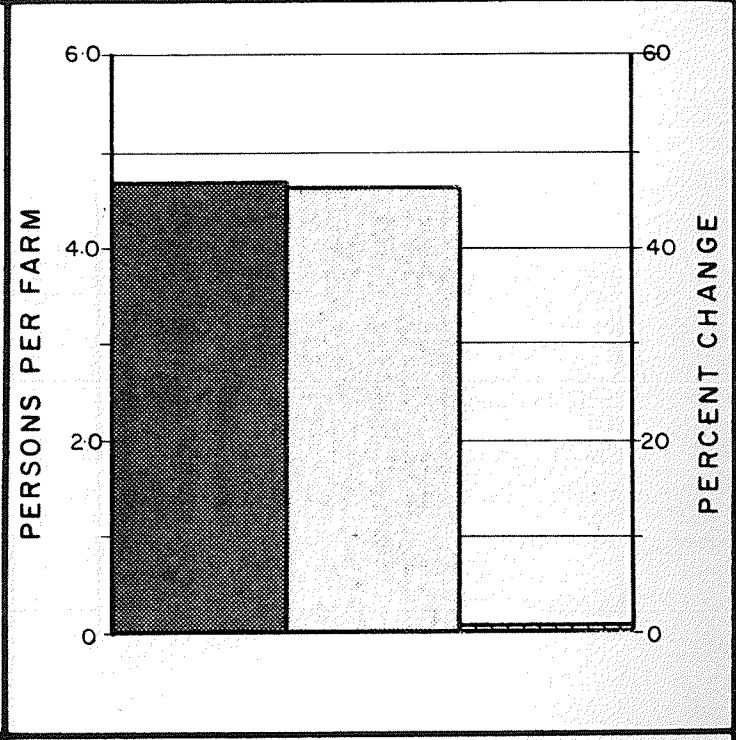


MAP 33

NUMERICAL COMPARISON  
OF PERSONS PER FARM  
AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941 - 1961



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK



RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

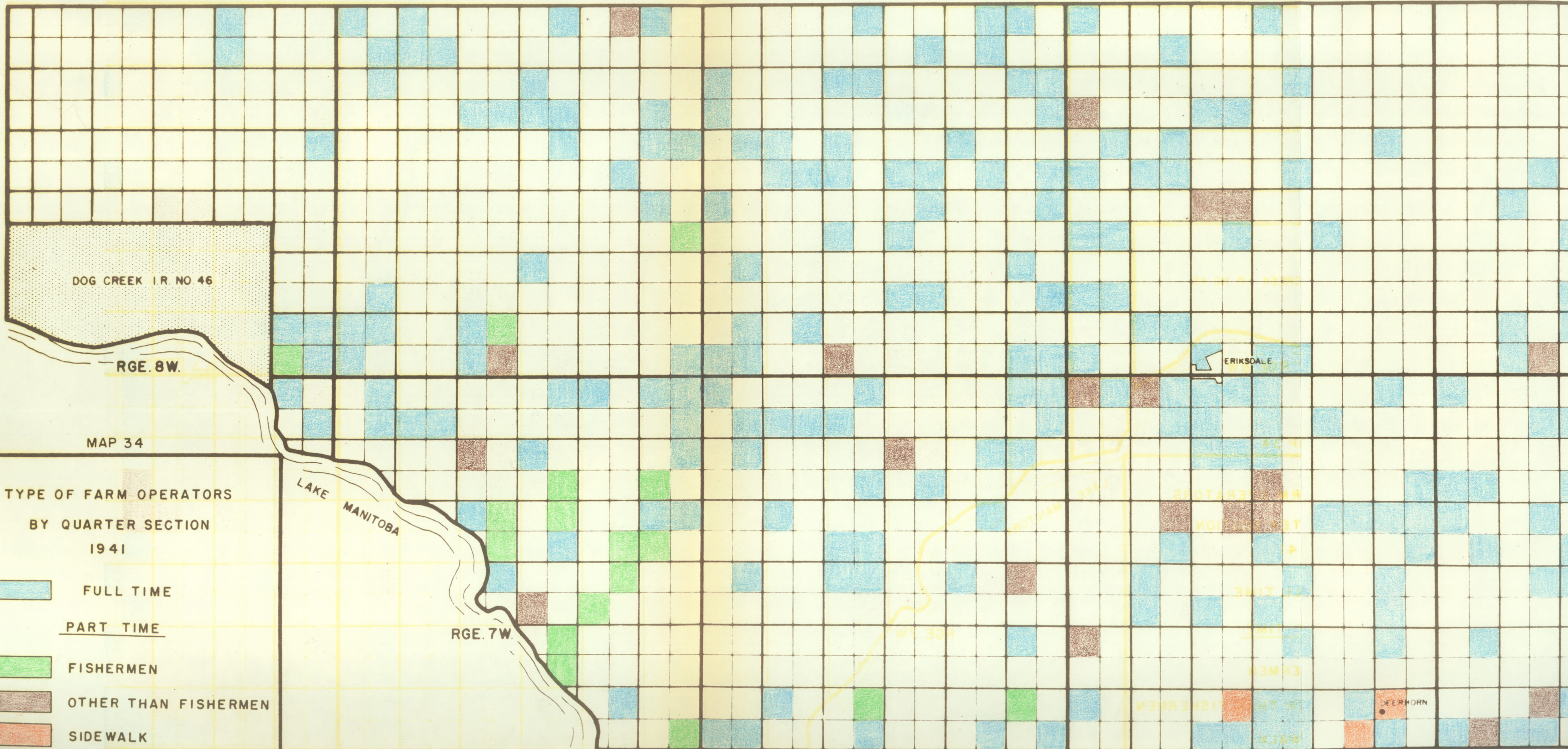
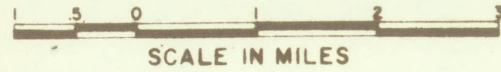
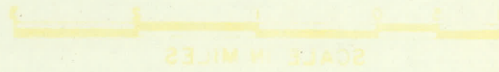
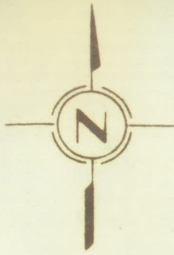


ships reported decreases ranging from 2.4 percent for Township 21 Range 7 West to a high of 28.9 percent for Township 22 Range 5 West.

#### ANALYSIS OF FARM OPERATORS

For the purpose of this study, farm operators were divided into four categories: full-time, part-time-fishermen, part-time-other than fishermen, and sidewalk farmers. A "full-time" farmer was one whose income was derived solely from the operation of his farm. A "part-time-fisherman" farmer was one whose income was derived in part from his farm and in part from his fishing enterprise. A "part-time-other than fisherman" farmer was one who was engaged in some other form of employment, such as a painter, labourer, carpenter, etc., in addition to the operation of his farm. A "sidewalk farmer" was one who did not reside on the land which he farmed but resided in either Eriksdale or Deerhorn and operated his farm from there.

Maps no. 34 and 35 illustrate for 1941 and 1961 respectively the distribution of farm operators by type on a quarter section basis. It is interesting to note from a comparison of these two maps the significant increase in



TYPE OF FARM OPERATORS  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1941

- FULL TIME
- PART TIME
- FISHERMEN
- OTHER THAN FISHERMEN
- SIDEWALK

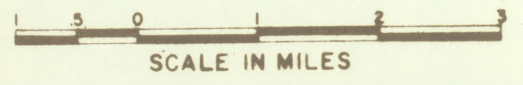
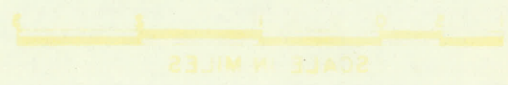
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

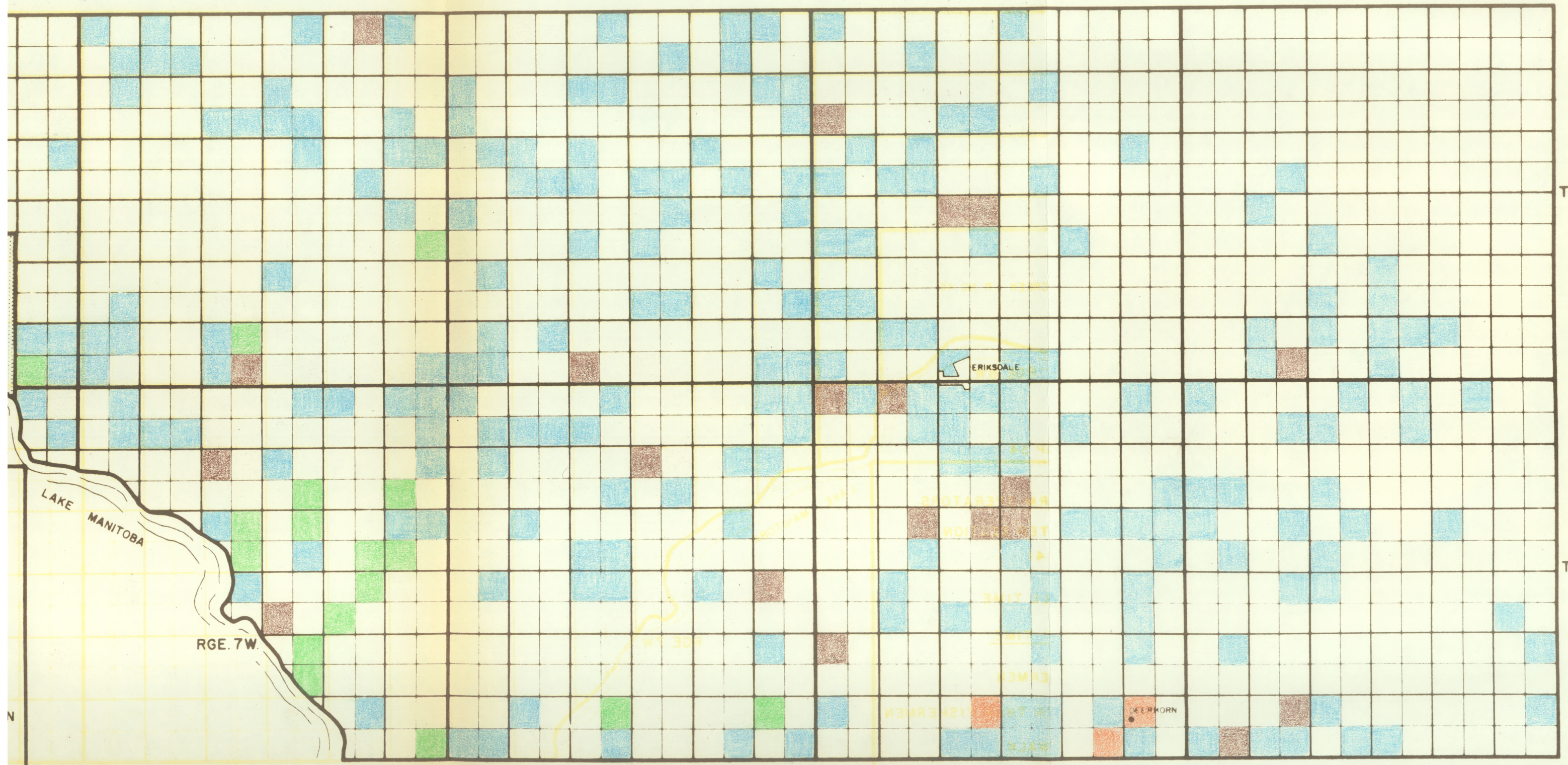
MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



TWP. 22

TWP. 21

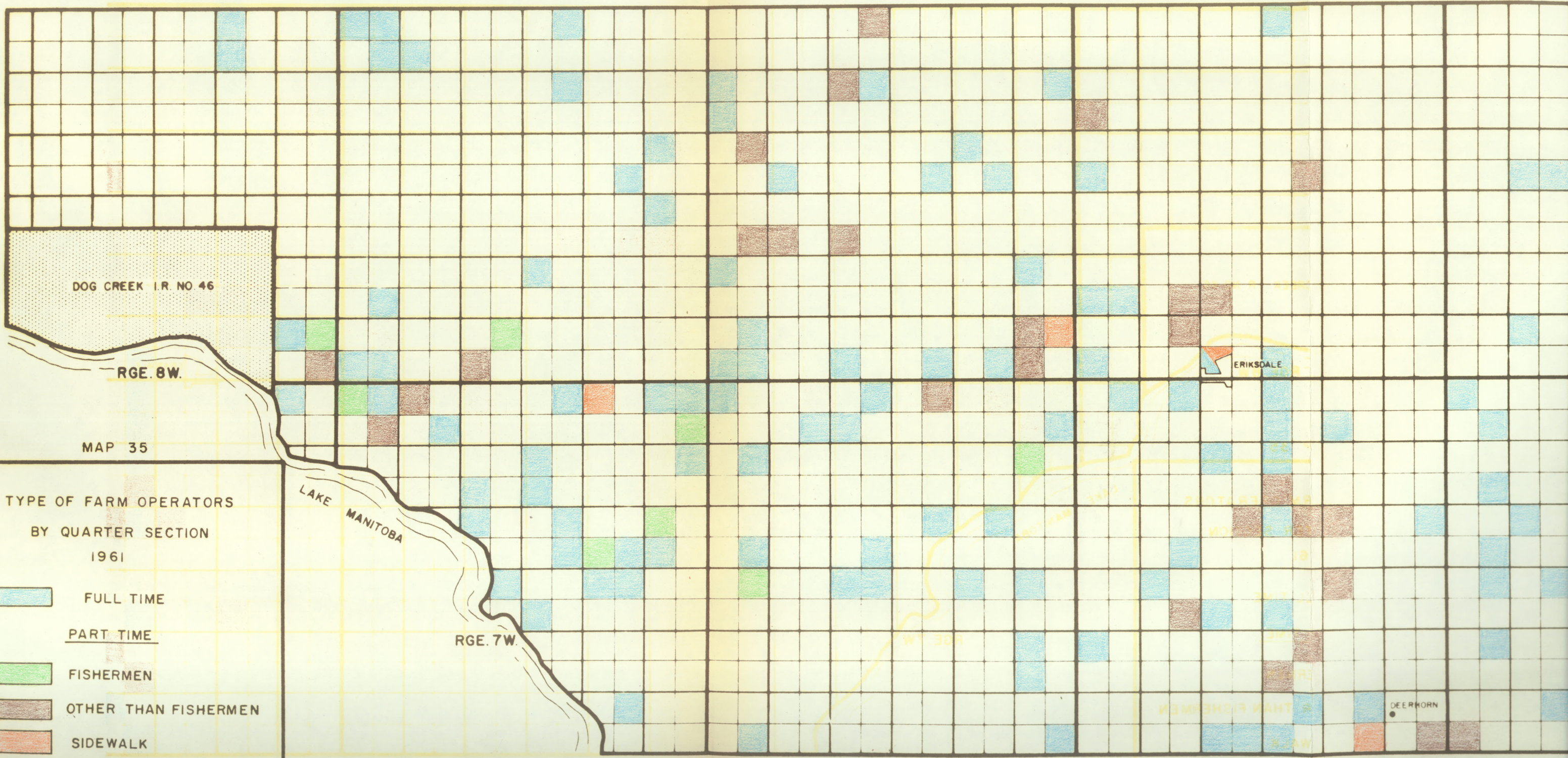
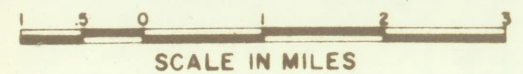
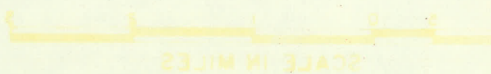
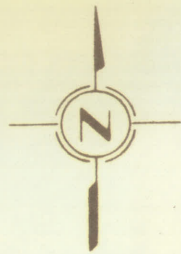
RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6W.





RGE. 5W.

RGE. 4W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK



TYPE OF FARM OPERATORS  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1961

-  FULL TIME
-  FISHERMEN
-  OTHER THAN FISHERMEN
-  SIDEWALK

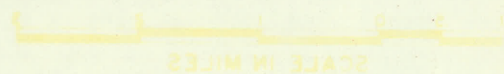
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

DEERHORN

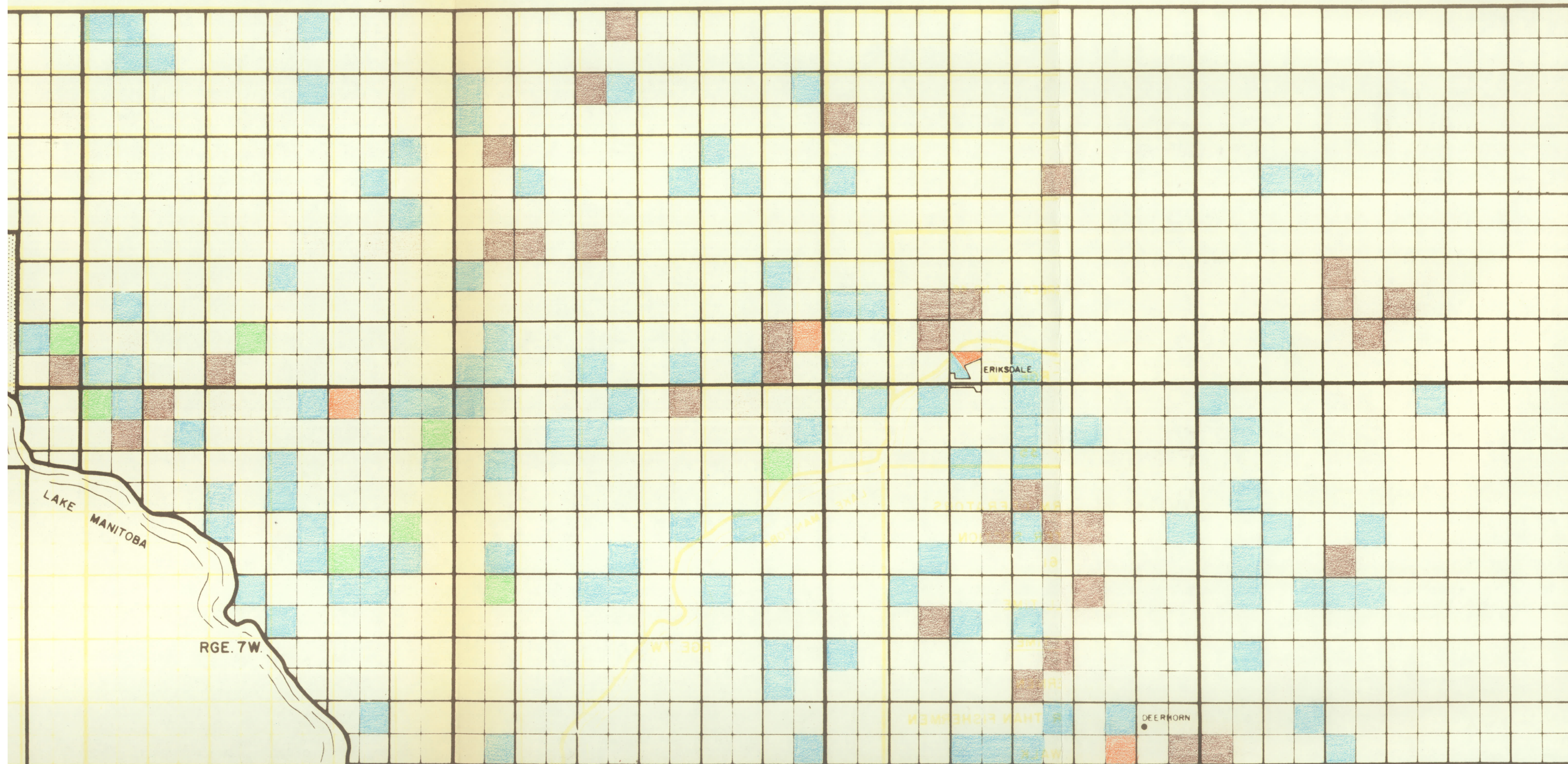
MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



TWP. 22

TWP. 21

RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

RGE. 4W.

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

"part-time-other than fishermen" farmers as well as a substantial decrease in the "part-time fishermen" farmers.

TABLE 31

TYPE OF FARM OPERATOR COMPARISON  
1941-1961

		<u>PART-TIME</u>				<u>TOTAL</u>
		<u>FULL-TIME</u>	<u>OTHER THAN FISHERMEN</u>	<u>FISHERMEN</u>	<u>SIDEWALK</u>	
Y E A R	1941	225	20	17	3	265
	1961	113	33	8	4	158
C H A N G E	No.	-112	+13	-9	+1	-107
	%	-49.8	+65.0	-52.9	+33.3	-40.3

From table no. 31 above, it can be seen that for the Municipality as a whole, the "full-time" and "part-time-fisherman" farmers experienced the greatest losses between 1941 and 1961 and that the "part-time-other than fisherman" and "sidewalk" farmers recorded increases. In 1941, there were 225 full-time farmers and by 1961 there were 113. This represented a loss of 112 or 49.8 percent. It is interesting to note that the full-time farmers decreased at a faster rate than the number of farms (40.3 percent). This was due to the

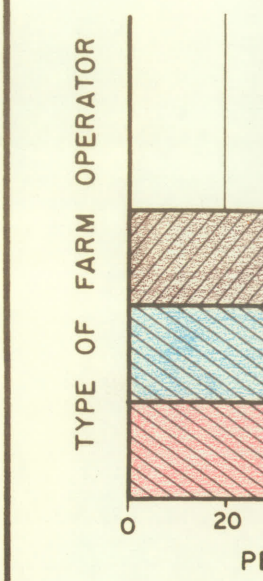
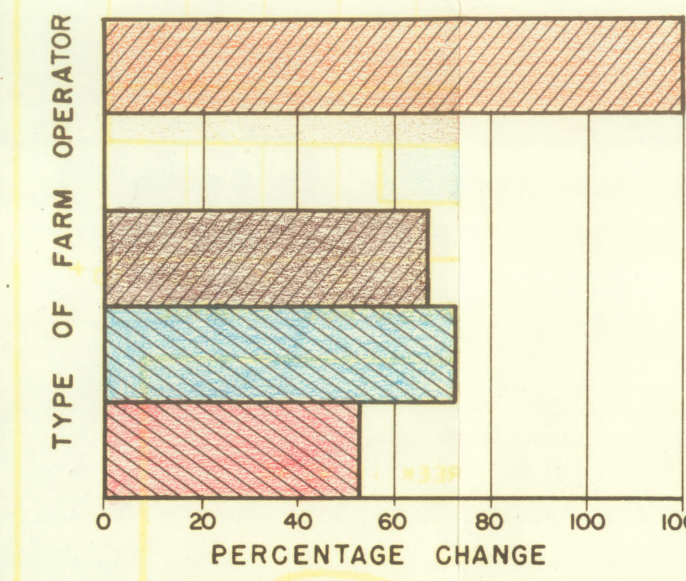
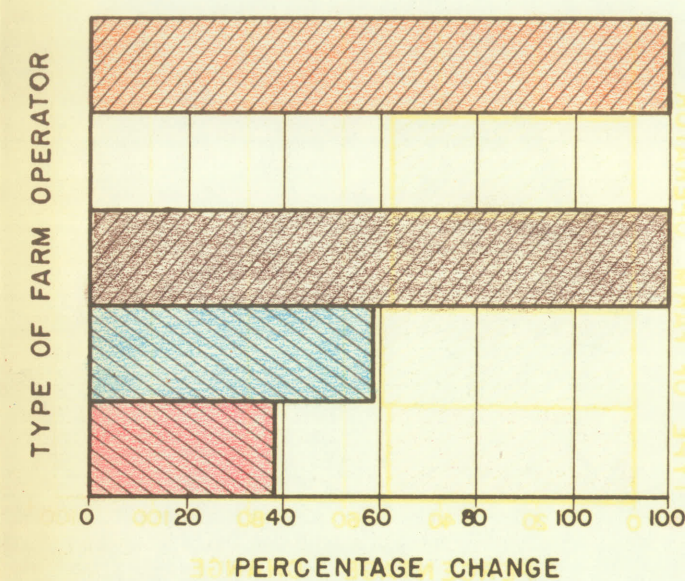
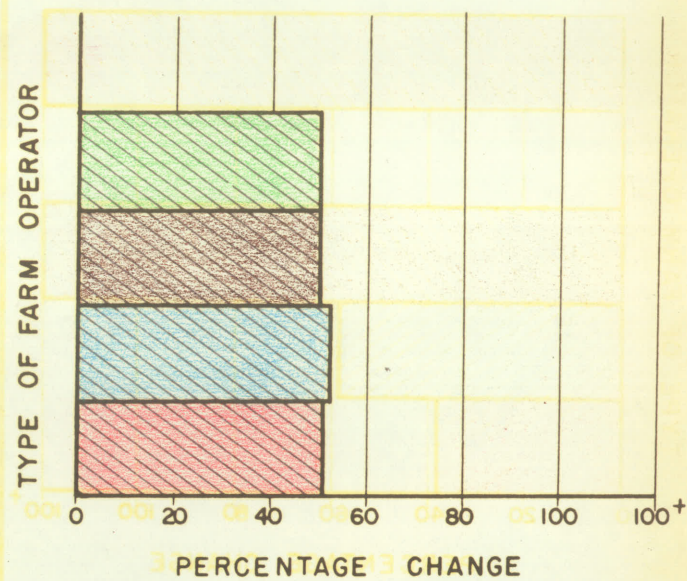
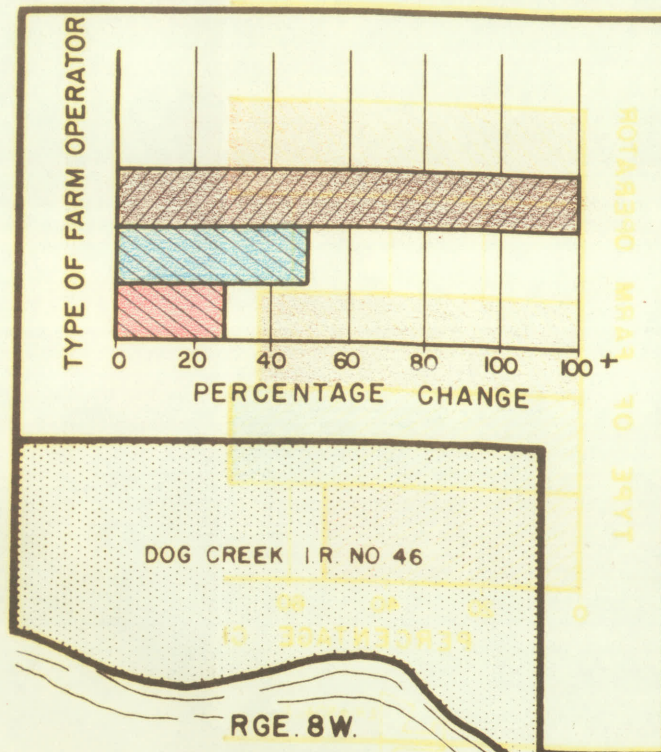
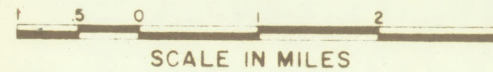
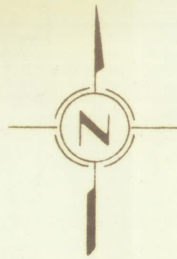
increase in both "part-time other than fishermen" and "sidewalk" farmers which has offset the rate of decrease experienced by the "full-time" farmers.

The "part-time-other than fishermen" farmers increased from 20 in 1941 to 33 in 1961, representing an increase of 13 or 65.0 percent. This increase in "part-time" farmers was due to the fact that many of the farmers could not obtain an adequate income from the operation of their farms and were therefore forced to find other types of employment, such as carpenter, labourer, etc., to supplement their farm income.

"Part-time fishermen" farmers experienced a decrease between 1941 and 1961. In 1941, they numbered 17 and decreased to 8 in 1961, a decrease of 9 or 52.9 percent. This was explained by the fact that fishing had become less popular due to its marginal income and the capital required to initiate and maintain such an operation. In addition, the monetary return in relation to the time expended was unsatisfactory.

Unlike the trends characteristic of grain growing areas, the number of "sidewalk" farmers remained virtually unchanged between 1941 and 1961. This was due to the type of farming found in the study area which required that the

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



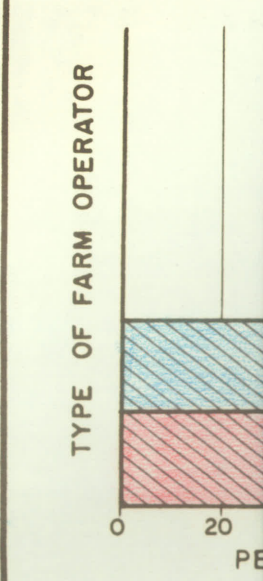
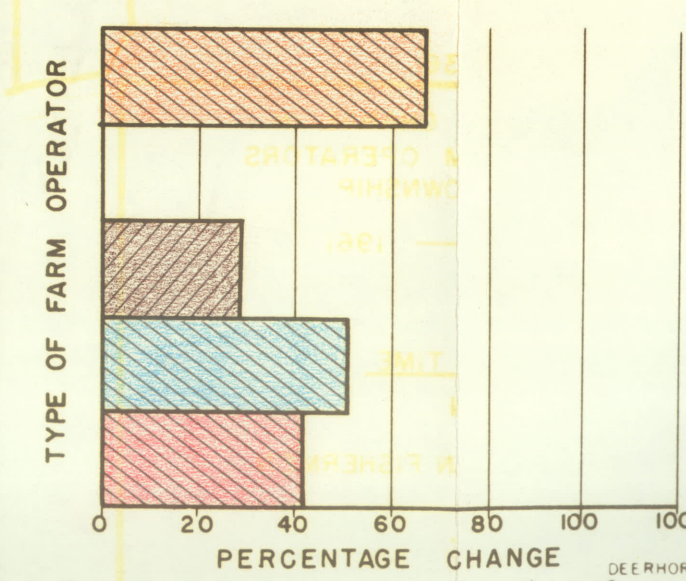
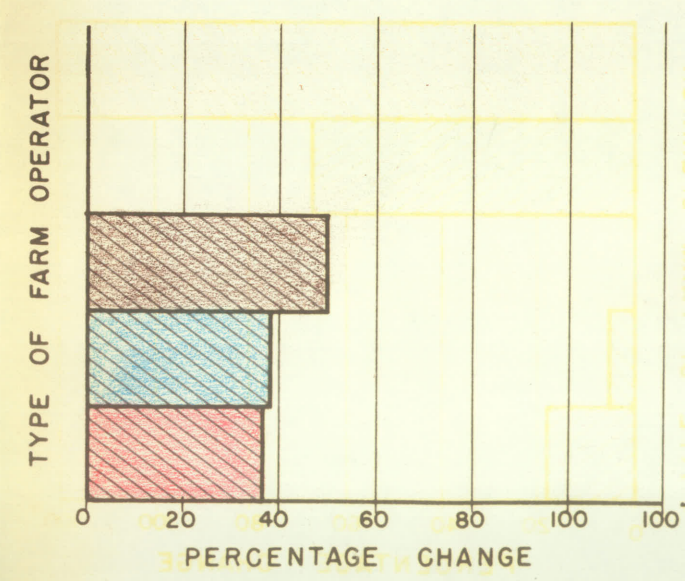
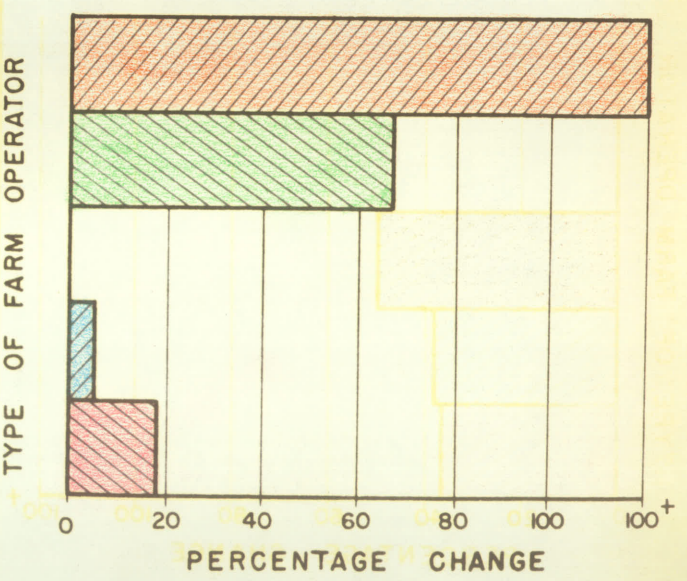
MAP 36

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN TYPE OF FARM OPERATORS BY TOWNSHIP 1941 — 1961

- SIDEWALK
- PART TIME
- FISHERMEN
- OTHER THAN FISHERMEN
- FULL TIME
- TOTAL

PERCENT CHANGE

- INCREASE
- DECREASE

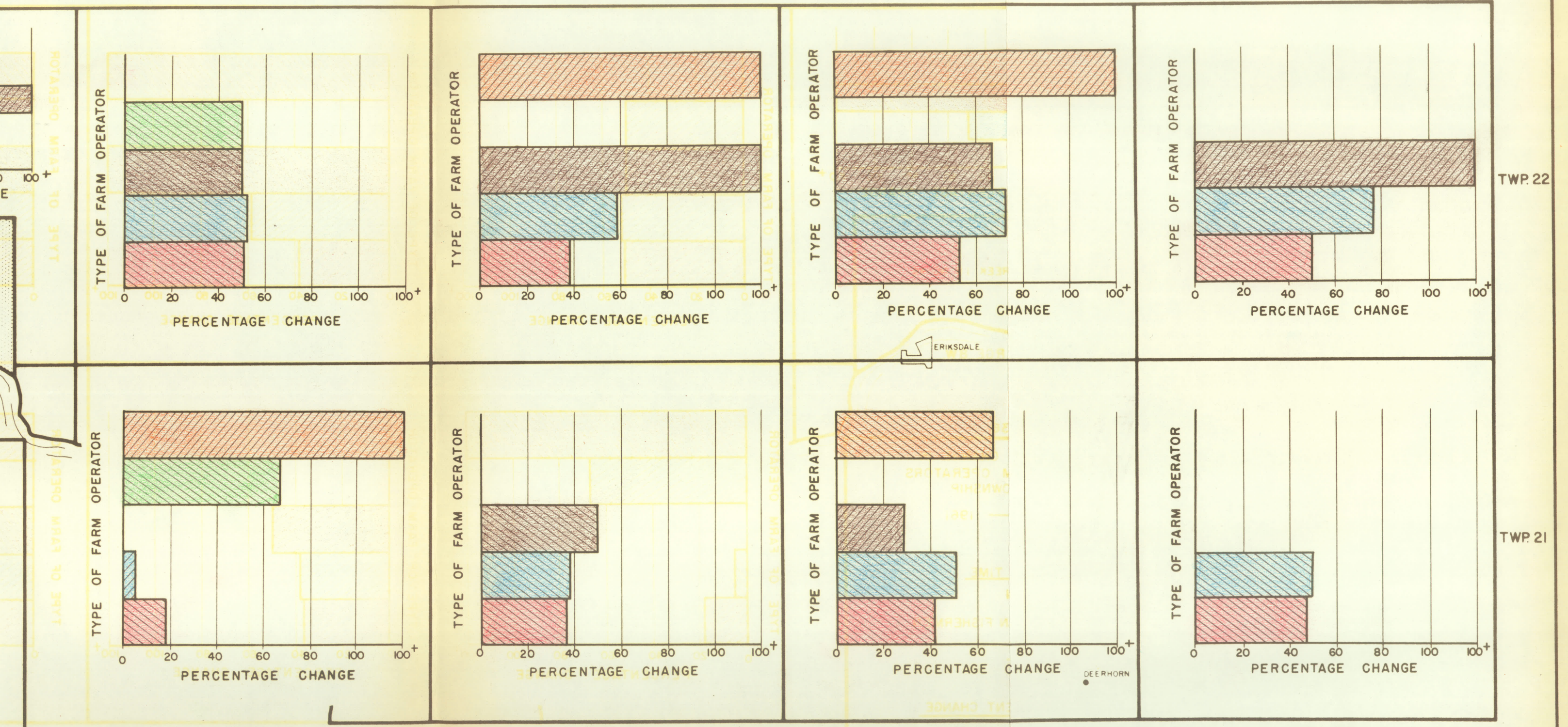
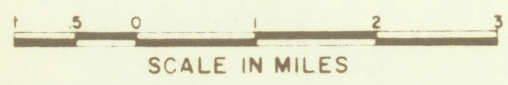
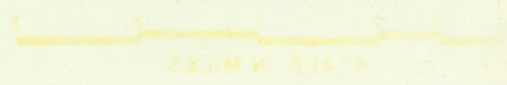


SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

farm operators remain on their farms in order to tend their cattle.

A further analysis of map no. 36 illustrates on a township basis the significant changes in type of farm operators that occurred between 1941 and 1961: All townships experienced losses in "full-time" farmers with the exception of Township 21 Range 7 West, which increased by 5.3 percent. Five out of 9 townships recorded increases in "part-time-other than fisherman" farmers with Township 22 Range 6 West showing the highest increase, 700.0 percent. Two townships experienced slight decreases and two reported no change.

"Part-time-fishermen" farm operators, as would be expected, were located in the four townships nearest Lake Manitoba. Worthy of mention was Township 21 Range 7 West which suffered the greatest loss, decreasing by 66.7 percent between 1941 and 1961. The three other townships remained more or less stable.

The number of "sidewalk" farmers remained almost static with Township 21 Range 5 West reporting a loss of 2 and Township 21 Range 7 West experiencing a slight increase between 1941 and 1961.

PATTERN OF ROADS AND CHANGE IN FARMSTEAD LOCATIONPattern of Roads

From map no. 37 can be seen the pattern of roads dissecting the study area. In general, it can be stated that most of the farmsteads were well serviced by the road system either in the form of provincial trunk highways, approved market roads, or other roads and trails.

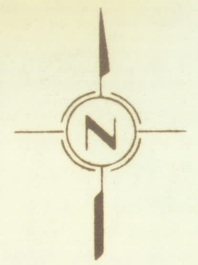
Change in Farmstead Location

Map no. 37 also illustrates the approximate location of the farmsteads in 1941 and 1961. In addition, this map illustrates the location of the 1941 farmsteads which were sold or abandoned between 1941 and 1961, and new farmsteads established during this 20 year period.

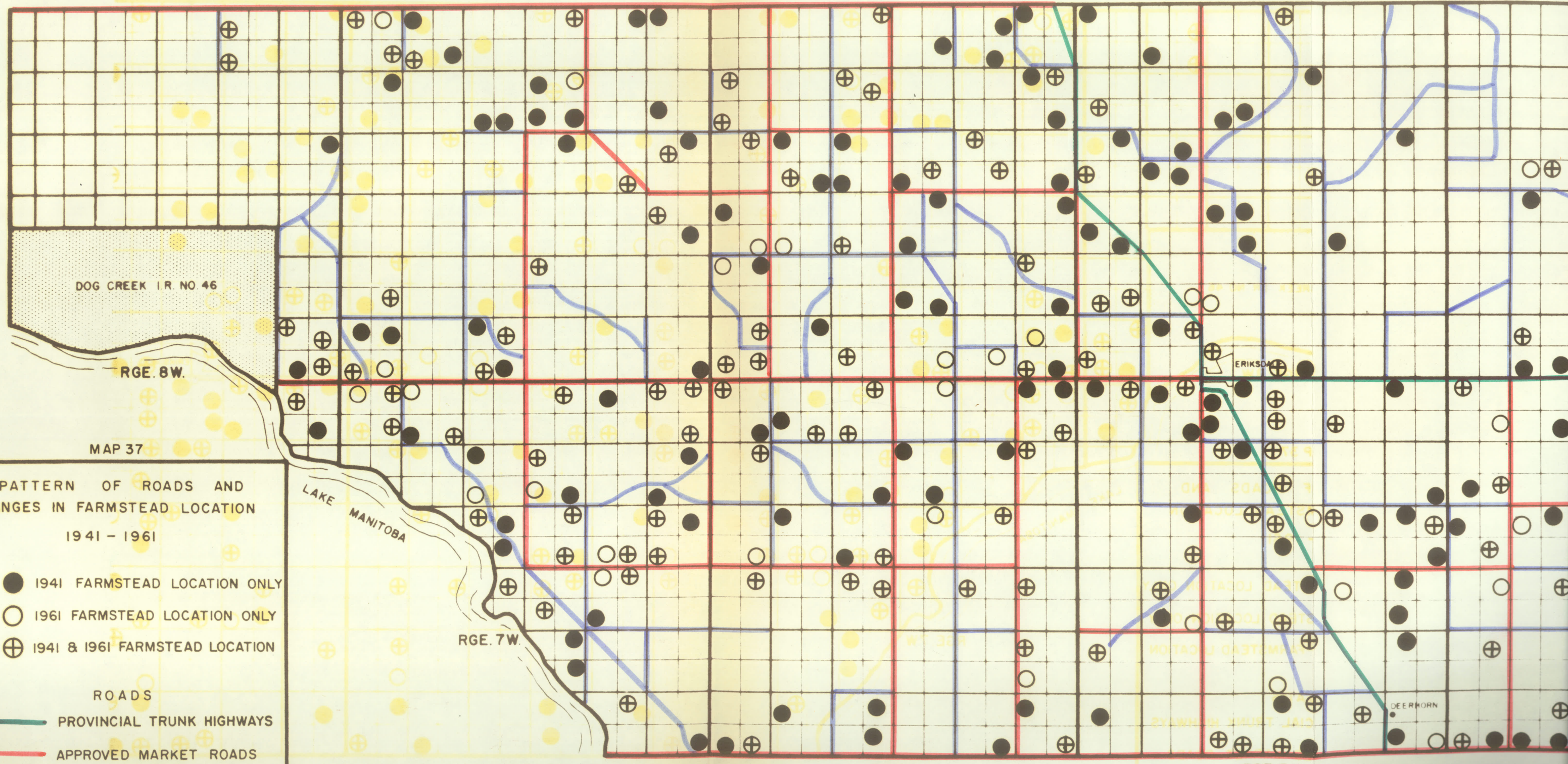
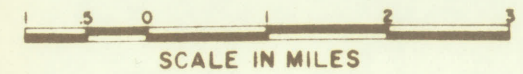
The "1941 farmstead location only" means that these farmsteads were either sold or abandoned between 1941 and 1961 and that these quarter sections were void of farm population in 1961. The "1961 farmstead location only" are those farmsteads which were established between 1941 and 1961, and the "1941 and 1961 farmstead location" are those which were occupied in both 1941 and 1961.

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



SCALE IN MILES



PATTERN OF ROADS AND CHANGES IN FARMSTEAD LOCATION 1941 - 1961

- 1941 FARMSTEAD LOCATION ONLY
- 1961 FARMSTEAD LOCATION ONLY
- ⊕ 1941 & 1961 FARMSTEAD LOCATION

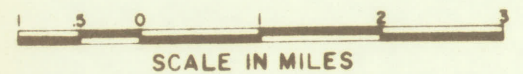
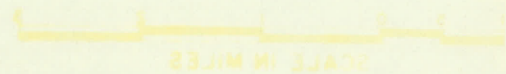
ROADS

- PROVINCIAL TRUNK HIGHWAYS
- APPROVED MARKET ROADS
- OTHER ROADS AND TRAILS

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK AND MAPS 62 I, 62 J NATIONAL TOPOGRAPHIC SERIES

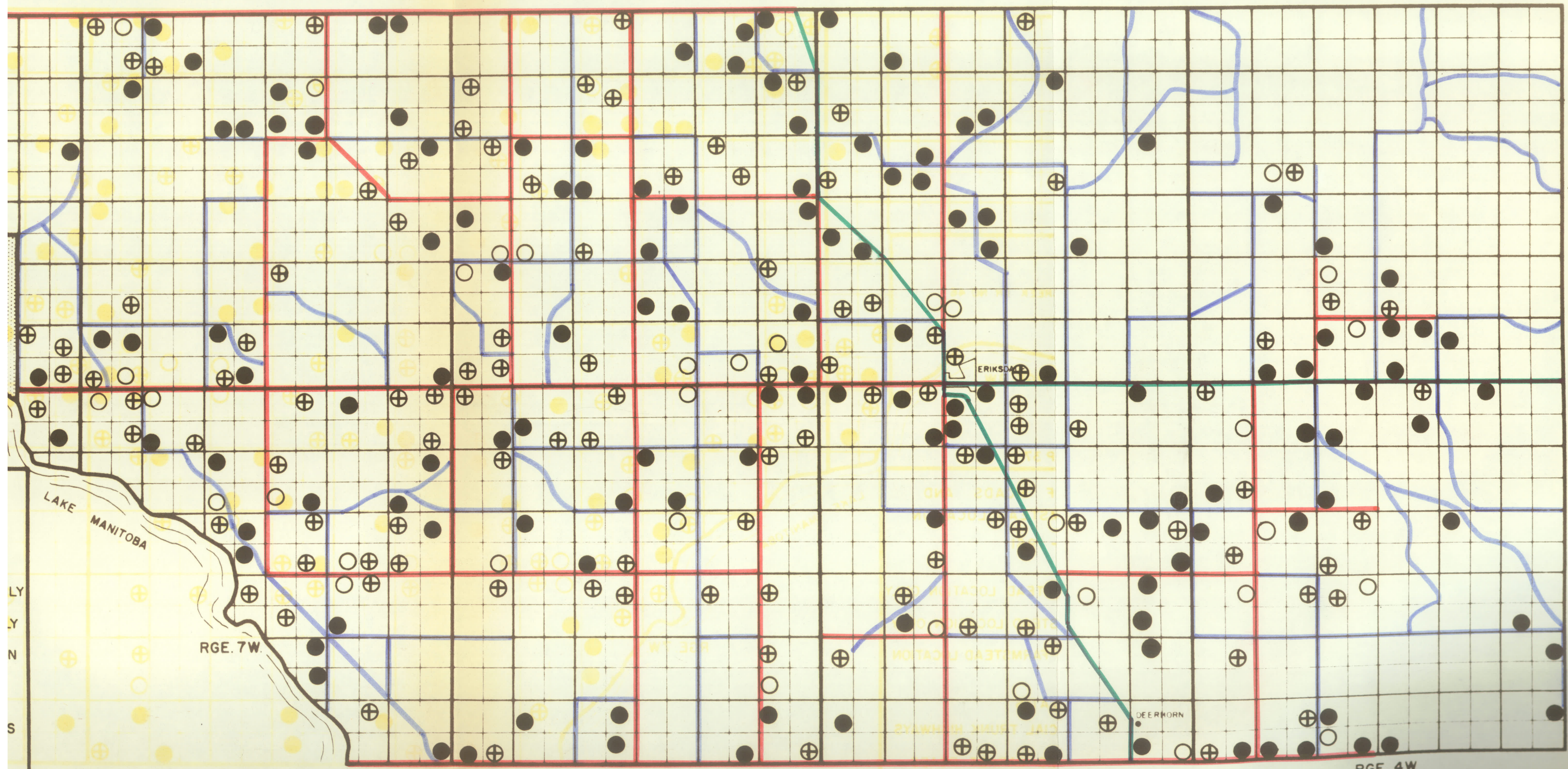
MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK AND  
 MAPS 62 I, 62 J NATIONAL TOPOGRAPHIC SERIES

TABLE 32

CHANGES IN FARMSTEAD LOCATIONS  
1941-1961

---

	No.	%
1941 Farmstead Location Only	142	48.1
1961 Farmstead Location Only	34	11.5
1941-1961 Farmstead Location	119	40.4
TOTAL	295	100.0

From the above table, it can be noted that 142 or 48.1 percent of the farmsteads were either sold or abandoned between 1941 and 1961, 34 or 11.5 percent were settled by new residents, and 119 or 40.4 percent were occupied in both 1941 and 1961.

SUMMARY

From an investigation of the change in land ownership and land use between 1941 and 1961, it was found that both privately owned land and farmed land increased substantially. These increases were reflected by an increase in the average size of farms.

It was also found that with a decrease in population, the number of farms decreased and the size of farms increased. The decrease in population was reflected by a decrease in the

number of farm families as well as a decrease in the number of farms. The total effect of these three factors was to produce an increase in the average size of farms.

Furthermore, it was observed that the noneconomic small farms almost disappeared whereas the larger sized farms increased substantially.<sup>1</sup>

From an analysis of the farm operators, it was seen that in 1941 only 14 percent of all farmers were considered to be "part-time" whereas by 1961 this proportion increased to almost 26 percent. This trend suggested that many farm operators were not able to rely solely on their farms to maintain an adequate standard of living and must supplement their income by other forms of work. This further suggests that there are too many farmers in the area and more will probably migrate in order to allow those remaining room for needed expansion.

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<sup>1</sup>See table 28.

## CHAPTER VIII

### TENURE ANALYSIS

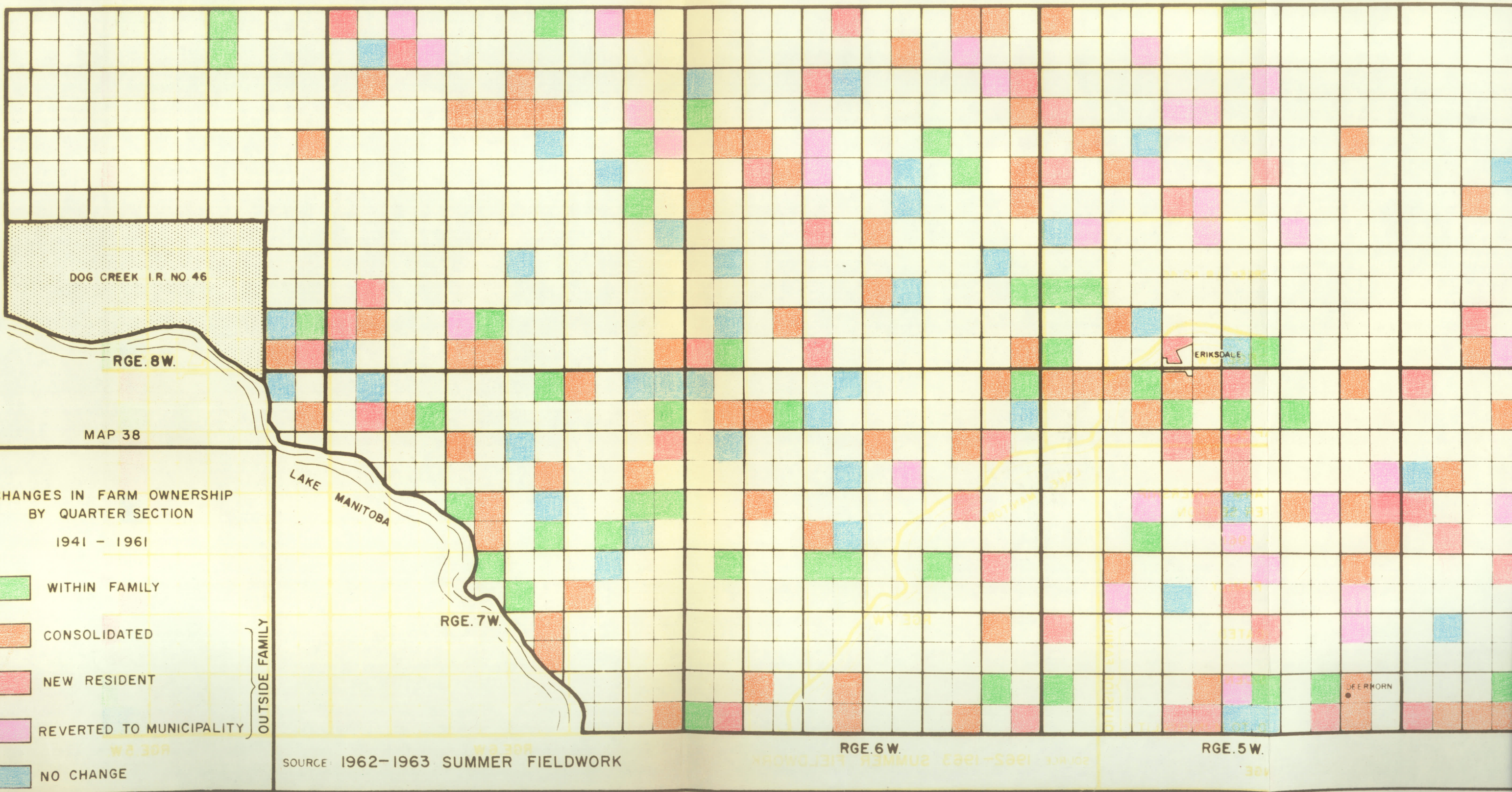
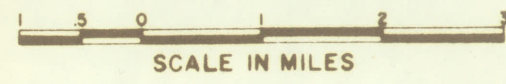
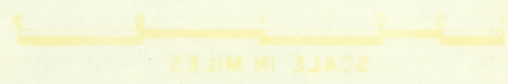
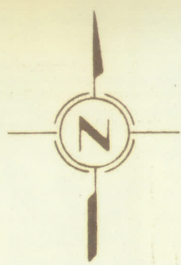
#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this chapter is to show the changes in tenure which have taken place between the years 1941 and 1961. Changes have been grouped into three main categories: 1) changed ownership within the family, 2) changed ownership outside the family, and 3) no change in ownership. The category "changed ownership outside the family" was further subdivided into a) incorporated in the area, b) occupied by a new resident, and c) abandoned or reverted to the Municipality.

#### TENURE ANALYSIS

Map no. 38 reveals the changes in farm ownership on a quarter section basis between the years 1941 and 1961.

From table no. 33 it can be observed that for the Municipality as a whole, of the 265 farms in existence in 1941, 48 farms, or 18.1 percent, changed ownership within the family, 174 farms, or 65.7 percent, changed ownership outside the family, and 43, or 16.2 percent, reported no change in land ownership.



CHANGES IN FARM OWNERSHIP  
BY QUARTER SECTION  
1941 - 1961

- WITHIN FAMILY
  - CONSOLIDATED
  - NEW RESIDENT
  - REVERTED TO MUNICIPALITY
  - NO CHANGE
- } OUTSIDE FAMILY

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

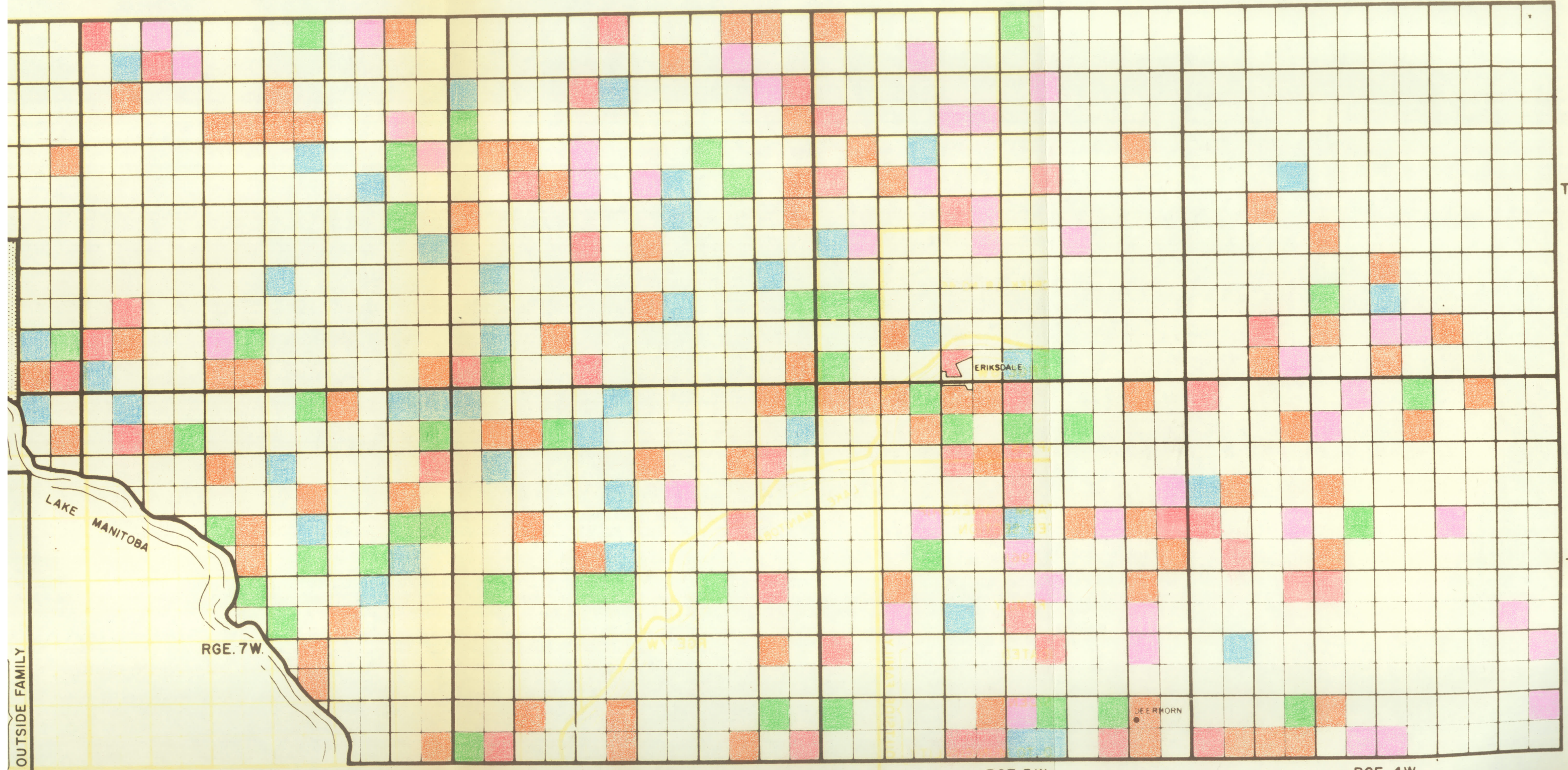
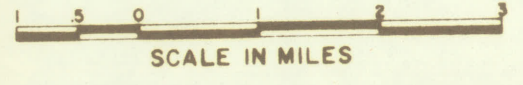
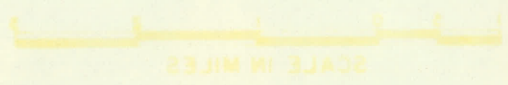
DEERHORN

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY



TWP. 22

TWP. 21

LAKE MANITOBA

RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

RGE. 4W.

DEER HORN

OUTSIDE FAMILY

SOURCE 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MAP 38

TABLE 33

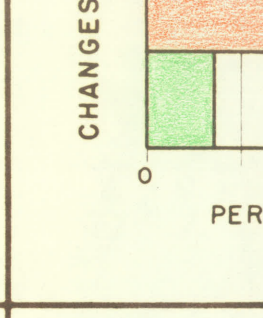
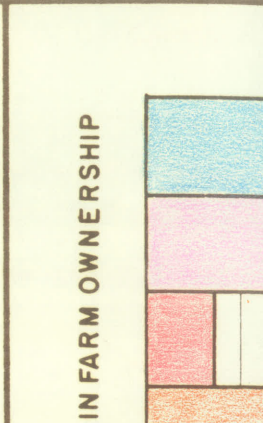
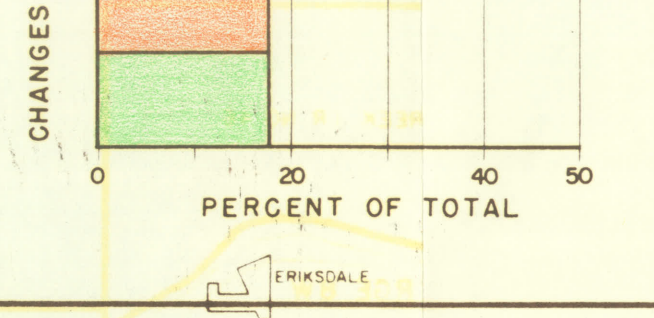
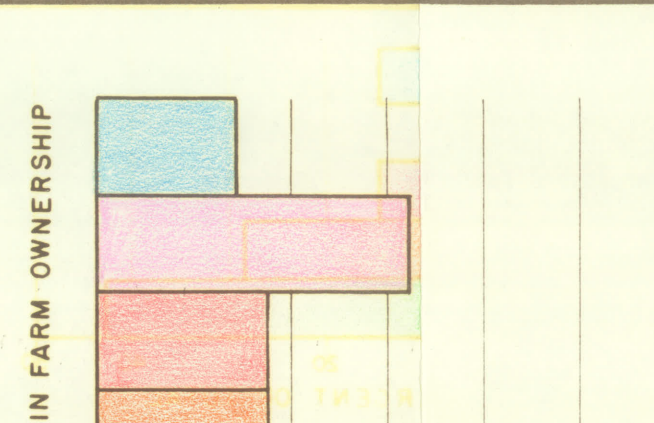
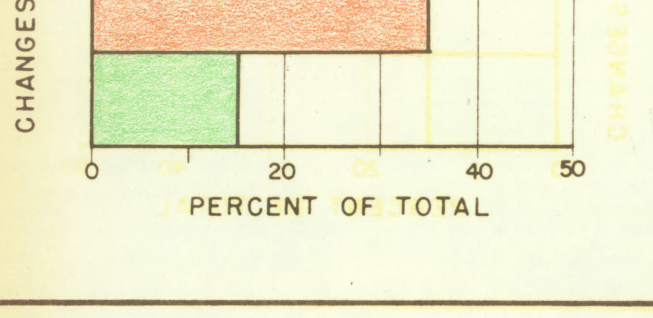
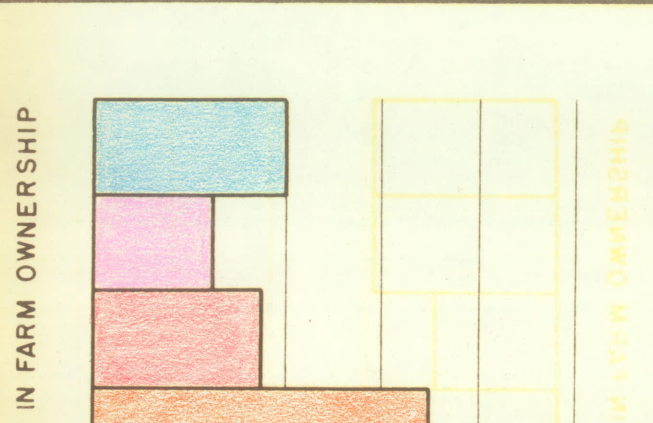
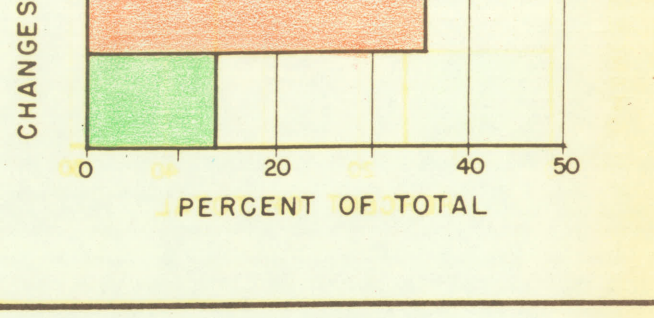
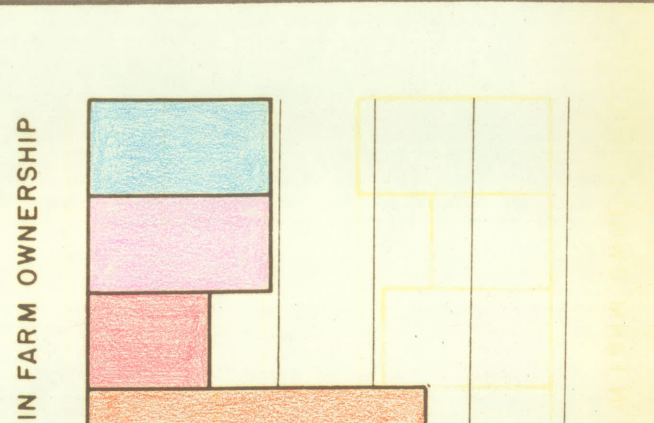
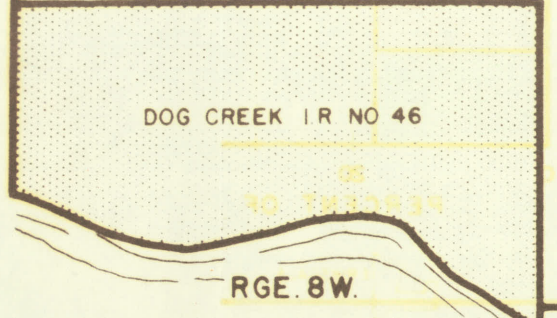
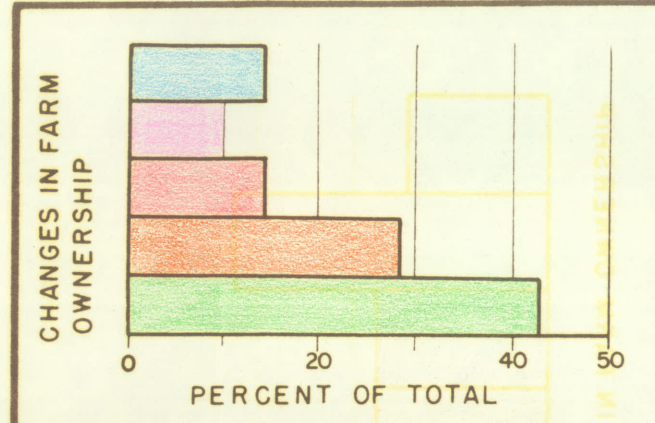
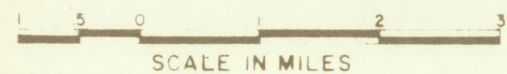
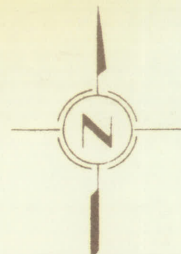
FARM TENURE CHANGES  
1941-1961

	WITHIN FAMILY	OUTSIDE FAMILY			NO CHANGE	GRAND TOTAL	
		CONSOLI- DATED	NEW RESIDENT	MUNICIPAL OR ABANDONED			TOTAL
No.	48	89	43	42	174	43	265
%	18.1	33.6	16.2	15.9	65.7	16.2	100.0
<hr/>							
No.		89	43	42	174		
%		51.2	24.7	24.1	100.0		

Of the 174 farms which changed hands outside the family, 89 or 51.2 percent were consolidated as part of other farms, 43 or 24.7 percent were purchased by new residents and 42 or 24.1 percent were abandoned or reverted to the Municipality.

Map no. 39 illustrates the changes in farm ownership on a township basis. All townships with the exception of Township 22 Range 5 West and Township 22 Range 8 West experienced a high rate of consolidation (33.3 percent to 50.0 percent). In the case of Township 22 Range 5 West, a large portion of the farms (9 or 32.1 percent) reverted to the Municipality. This probably resulted from the substantial

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



MAP 39

CHANGES IN FARM OWNERSHIP  
BY TOWNSHIP  
PERCENT OF TOTAL  
1941 — 1961

- NO CHANGE
- OUTSIDE FAMILY
- REVERTED TO MUNICIPALITY
- NEW RESIDENT
- CONSOLIDATED
- WITHIN FAMILY

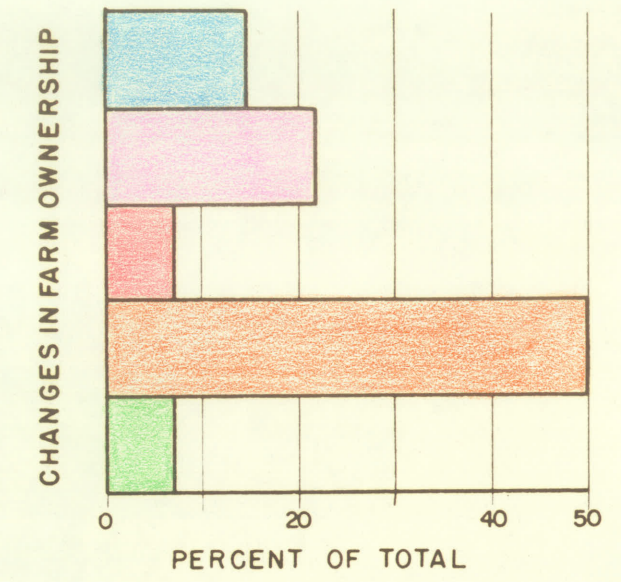
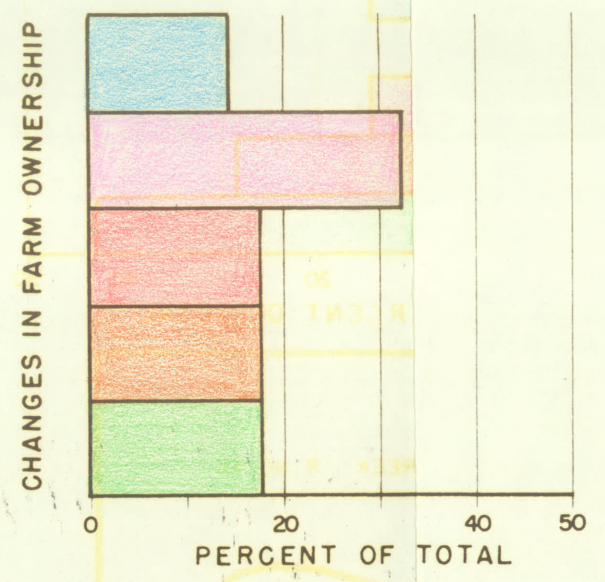
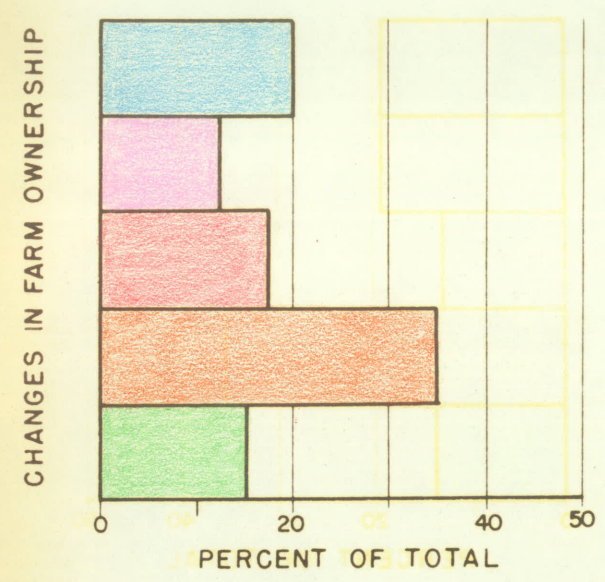
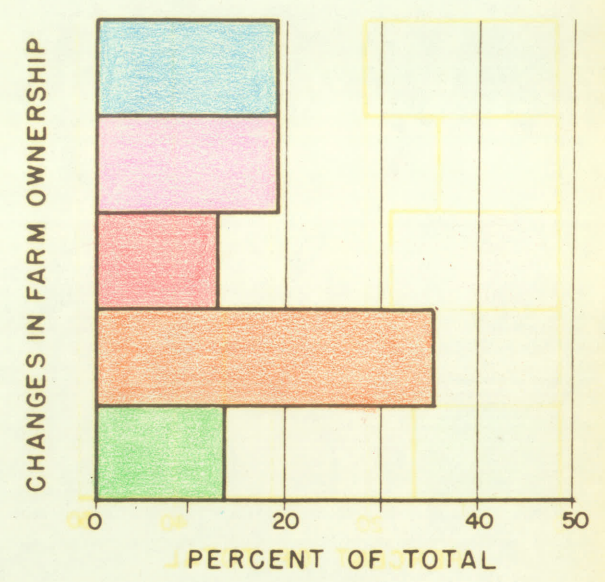
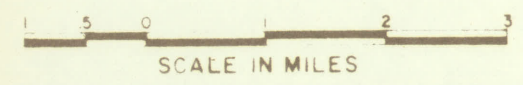
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6W.

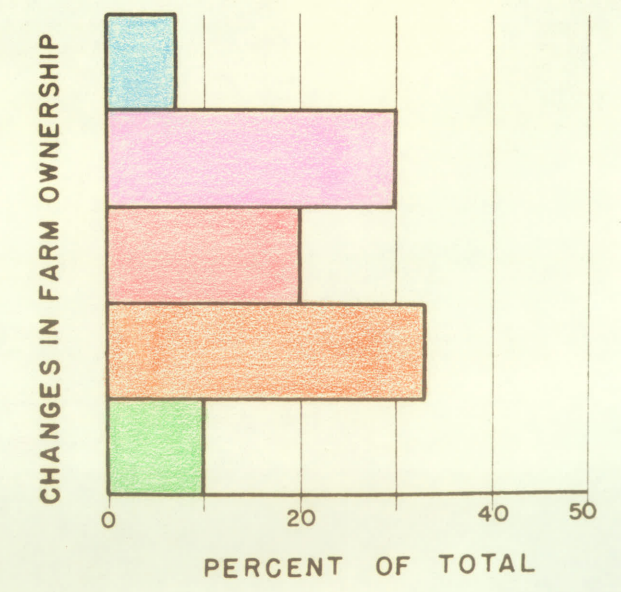
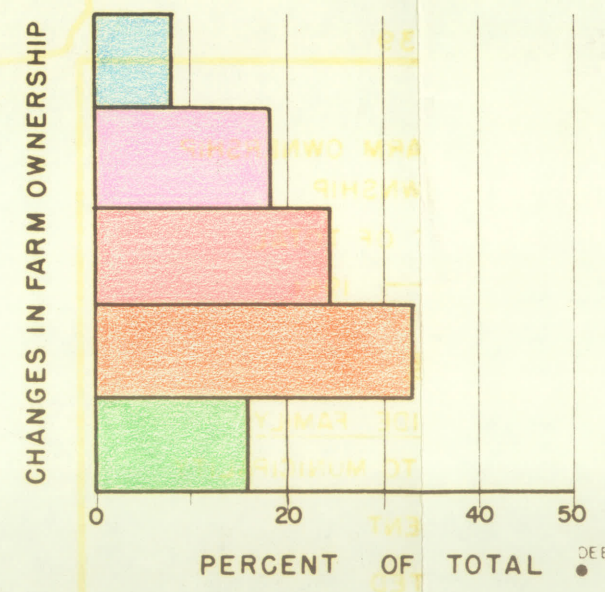
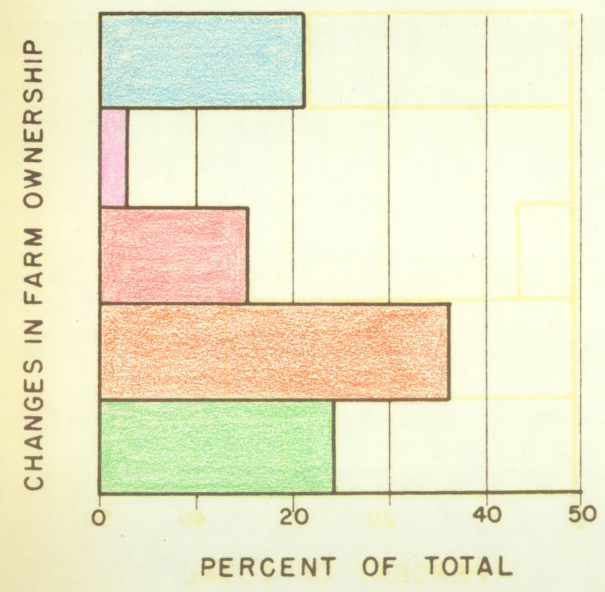
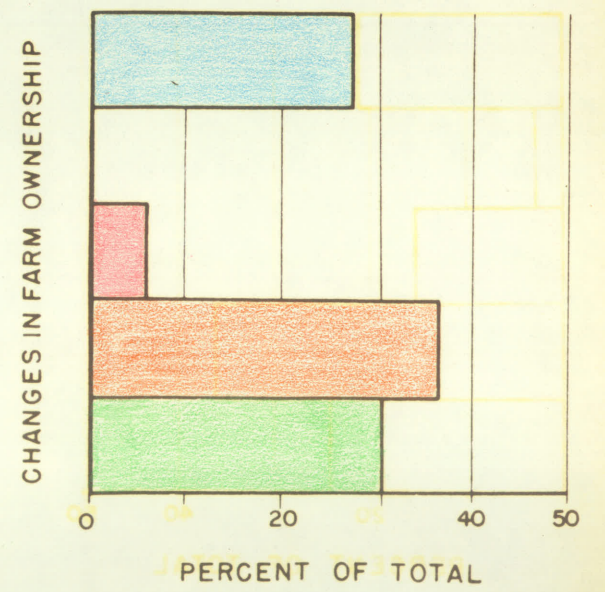
RGE. 5W.

DEERHORN

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



TWP. 22



TWP. 21

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

RGE. 6 W.

RGE. 5 W.

RGE. 4 W.

acreage in this Township which was initially settled by "back to the landers"\* who, lacking experience and determination, abandoned their farms within a relatively short period of time. In Township 22 Range 8 West the largest number of the farms (42.9 percent) remained within the family. This had a direct effect on the population change for this township in that it experienced a minimal loss, 3 farms or 12.5 percent.

#### SUMMARY

From an investigation of the tenure changes, it was observed that the majority of the farms changed ownership between 1941 and 1961 and that of these, the larger proportion were consolidated by local residents. The consolidation of farms was largely responsible for the decrease in the number of farms and the increase in farm size.

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\* See Appendix.

## CHAPTER IX

### MIGRATION ANALYSIS

#### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the migration of farm families has been analyzed. Such data as the reasons for leaving the farm, destination after leaving, and the type of employment at destination has been discussed. Interviews were the source of information for this chapter.

#### REASONS FARM FAMILIES LEFT THE FARM

Of the 174 farms which changed hands between 1941 and 1961, it was found that 42 or 24.1 percent did so due to the death of the farm operator, 41 or 23.6 percent did so as a result of the retirement of the farm operator, and the remaining 91 or 52.3 percent did so due to "other" reasons. For the purpose of this analysis, the number of farms which changed hands due to death has been omitted and only those changes in farm ownership resulting from retirement and "other" reasons have been considered.

An examination of table no. 34 reveals that of the 132 farms which changed hands for reasons other than death, 41 or 31.1 percent left the farm to retire. The reasons for the children (if any) not acquiring the farm from their parents

TABLE 34

REASONS FOR FARM FAMILY MIGRATION BY TOWNSHIP 1941-1961

TOWN- SHIP AND RANGE	DEATH No.	INCOME TOO SMALL DUE TO												TOTAL*									
		RETIRE- MENT		BETTER JOB		FAMILY PROBLEMS		ACREAGE TOO SMALL		SOILS POOR		POOR MANAGE- MENT			LACKED CAPITAL		LACKED SUCCESSOR		ISOLA- TION		MISC.		
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
21-4W	6	7	36.8	3	15.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	31.5	1	5.3	1	5.3	1	5.3	19	100.
22-4W	3	4	50.0	3	37.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	100
21-5W	9	9	32.1	6	21.4	1	3.6	2	7.2	6	21.4	4	14.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	100
22-5W	1	6	33.3	4	22.2	1	5.6	2	11.1	-	-	3	16.6	1	5.6	-	-	1	5.6	-	-	18	100
21-6W	3	4	26.6	3	20.0	1	6.7	2	13.3	-	-	-	-	1	6.7	-	-	1	6.7	3	20.0	15	100
22-6W	9	4	23.5	5	29.4	1	5.9	-	-	-	-	4	23.5	2	11.8	-	-	1	5.9	-	-	17	100
21-7W	2	5	45.5	4	36.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	18.1	11	100
22-7W	8	2	15.4	5	38.4	-	-	1	7.7	-	-	2	15.4	1	7.7	2	15.4	-	-	-	-	13	100
21-8W	-	-	-	1	100.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
22-8W	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	50.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	50.0	-	-	2	100
TOTAL	42	41		34		4		8		6		14		11		3		5		6		132	
TOTAL		41		34		4		8		6		14		11		3		5		6		132	
PERCENTAGE		31.1		25.8		3.0		6.1		4.5		10.6		8.3		2.3		3.8		4.5		100.0	

\*Excluding "Death"

was that in most cases they were already established elsewhere. Four of the primary reasons given for heirs not continuing the operation of the family farm were as follows:

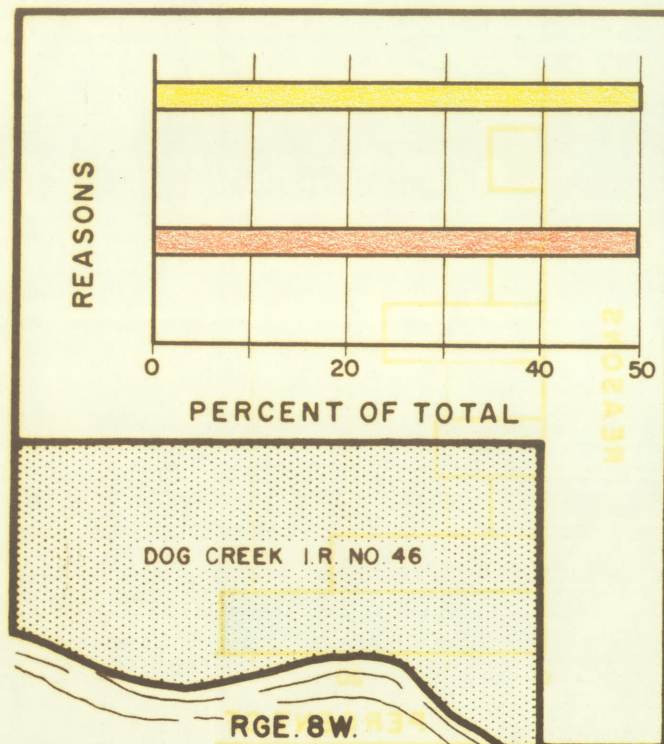
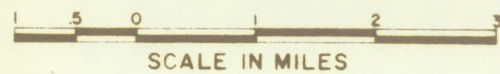
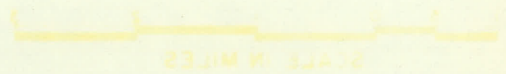
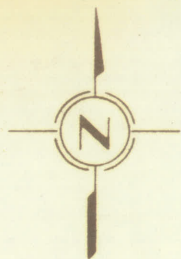
1. Children did not like and were not interested in farm work.
2. Attraction of the city in terms of better wages.
3. Higher education in larger urban areas.
4. Insufficient land to inherit.

The second significant reason given for farm operators leaving the farm was due to insufficient income obtained from the operation of the farm. It was observed that 39 or 29.5 percent left the farm for this reason. A more detailed breakdown of this reason for farm family migration reveals that small acreages (8 or 6.1 percent), poor soils (6 or 4.5 percent), poor management (14 or 10.6 percent) and insufficient capital necessary for expansion (11 or 8.3 percent) were responsible for migration.

A total of 34 or 25.8 percent stated "better job" as the reason for leaving the farm. "Better job" was found to mean either shorter working hours or better monetary returns in comparison with farm work.

The remaining reasons for leaving the farm, i.e.

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

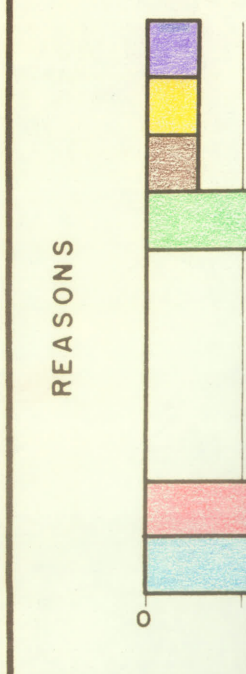
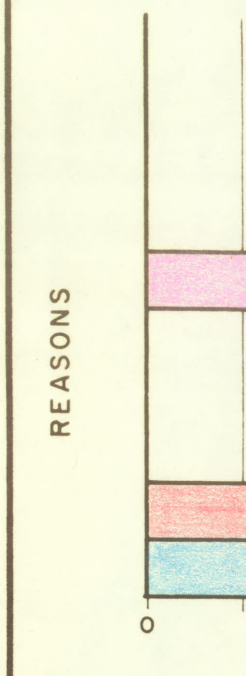
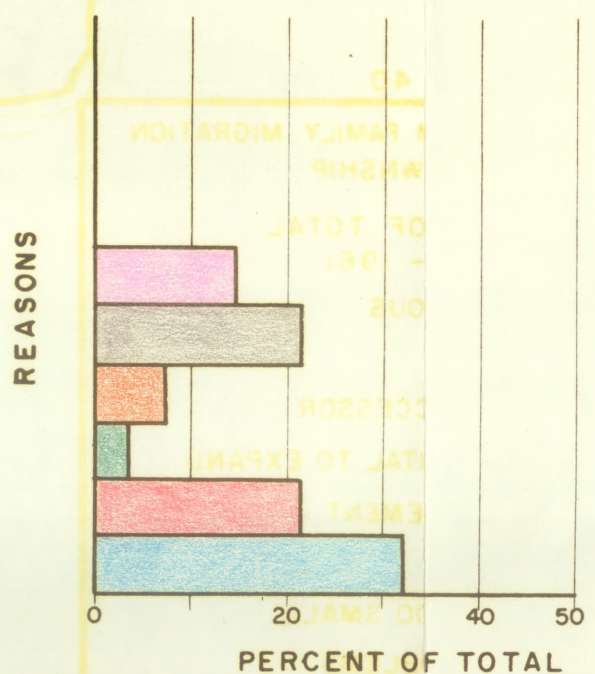
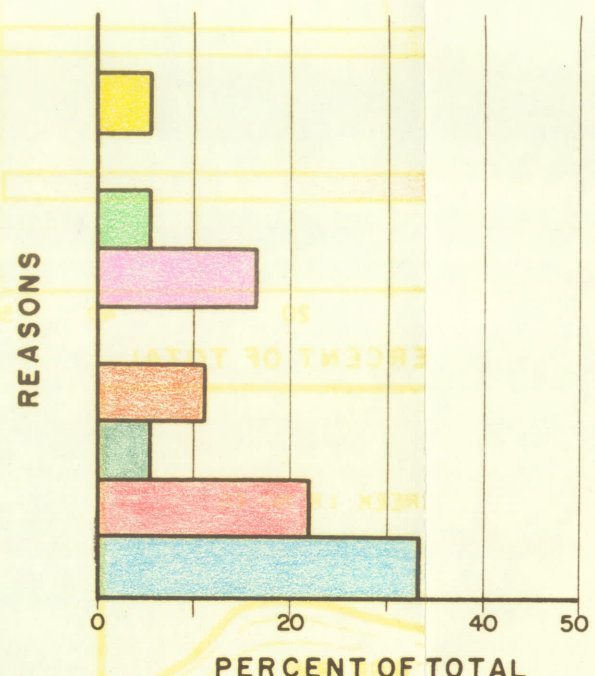
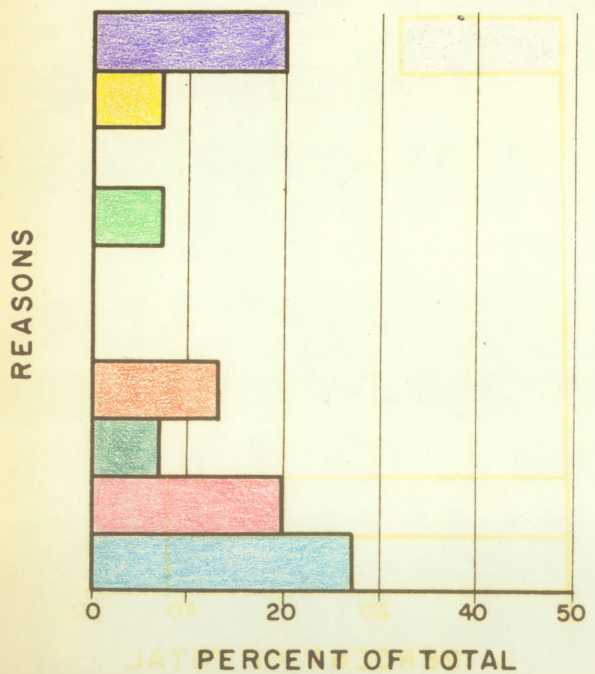
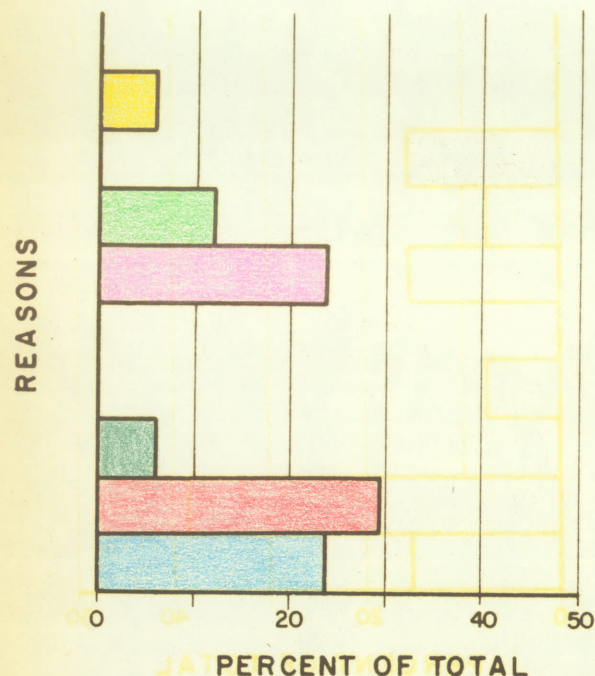
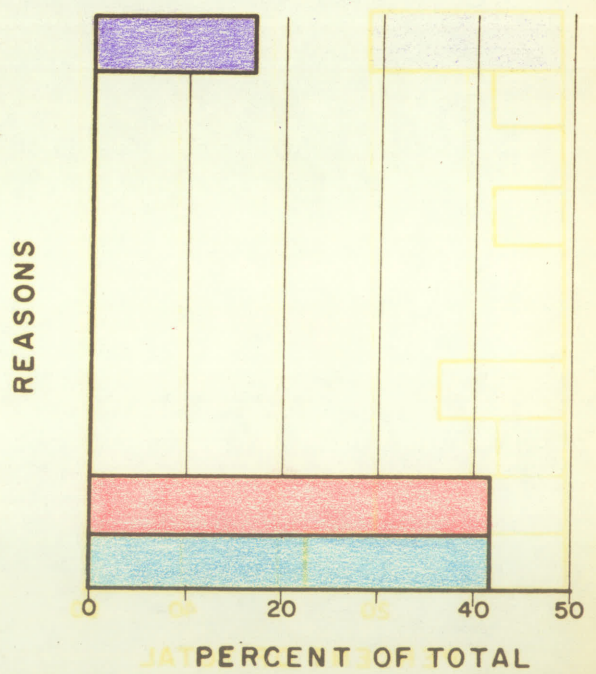
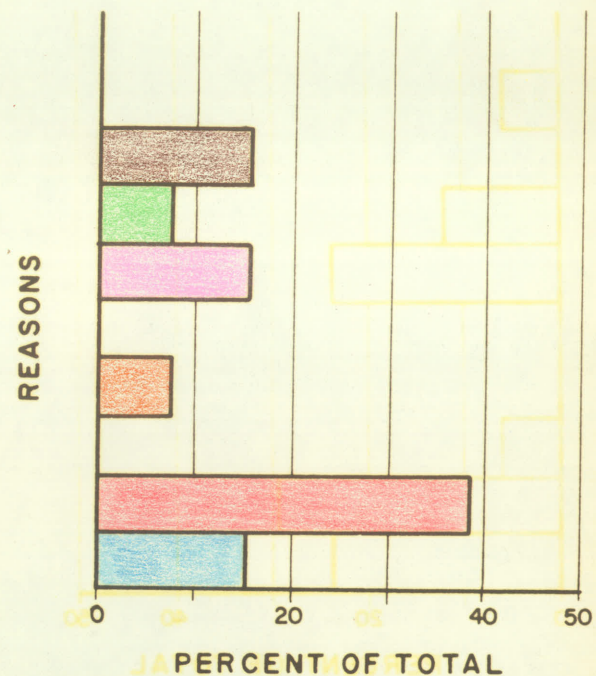


REASONS FOR FARM FAMILY MIGRATION BY TOWNSHIP

PERCENT OF TOTAL  
1941 — 1961

- MISCELLANEOUS
- ISOLATION
- LACKED SUCCESSOR
- LACKED CAPITAL TO EXPAND
- POOR MANGEMENT
- POOR SOILS
- ACREAGE TOO SMALL
- FAMILY PROBLEMS
- BETTER JOB
- RETIREMENT

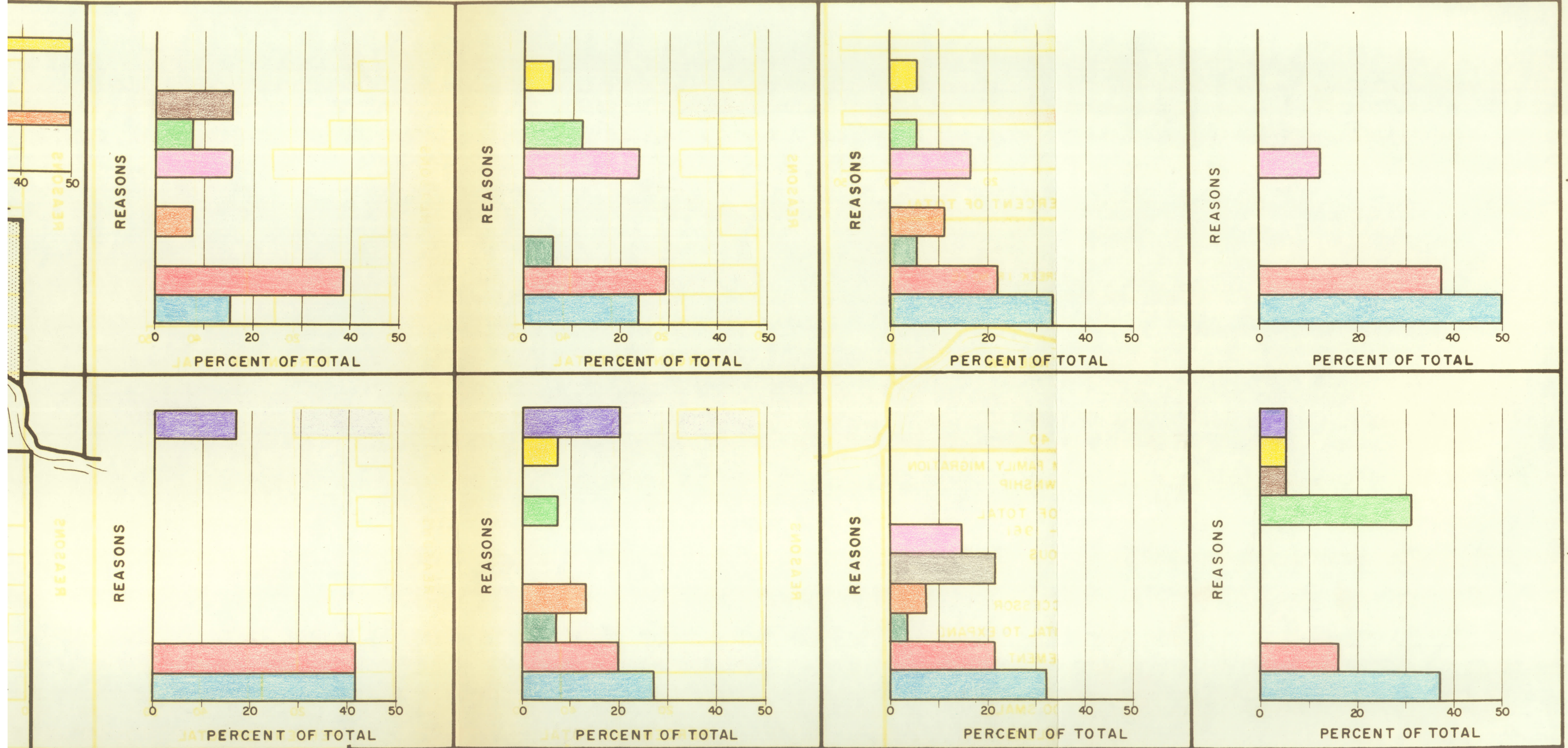
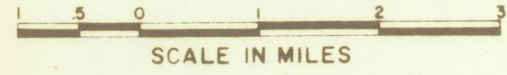
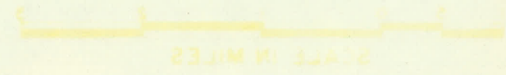
SOURCE: 1962 - 1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK



SOURCE: 1962 - 1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



TWP. 22

TWP. 21

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

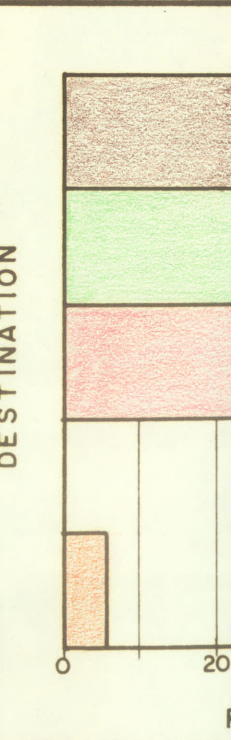
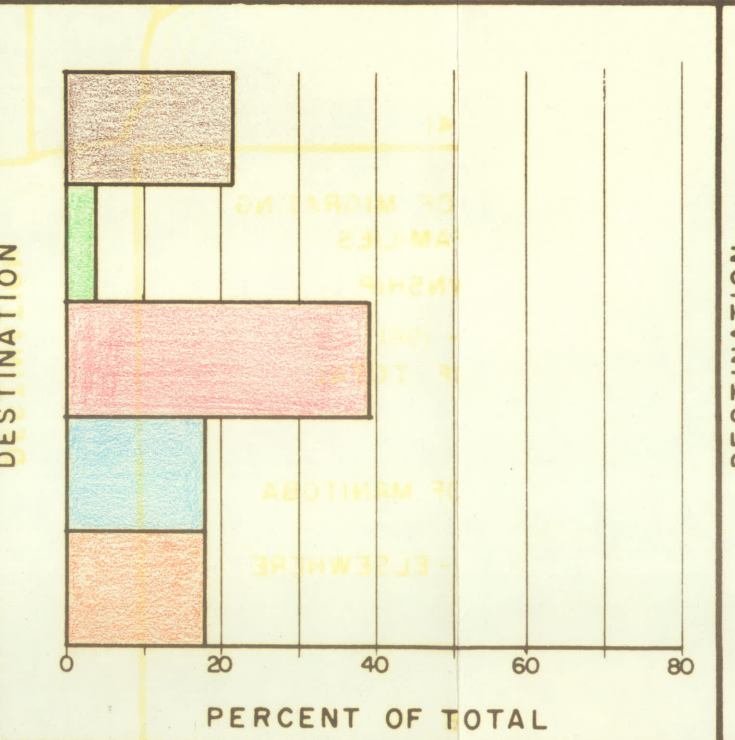
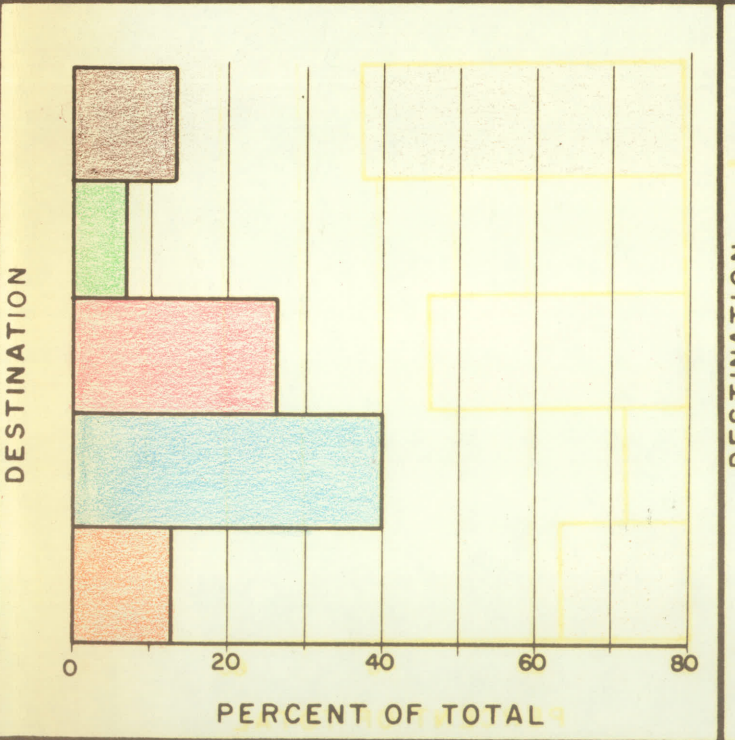
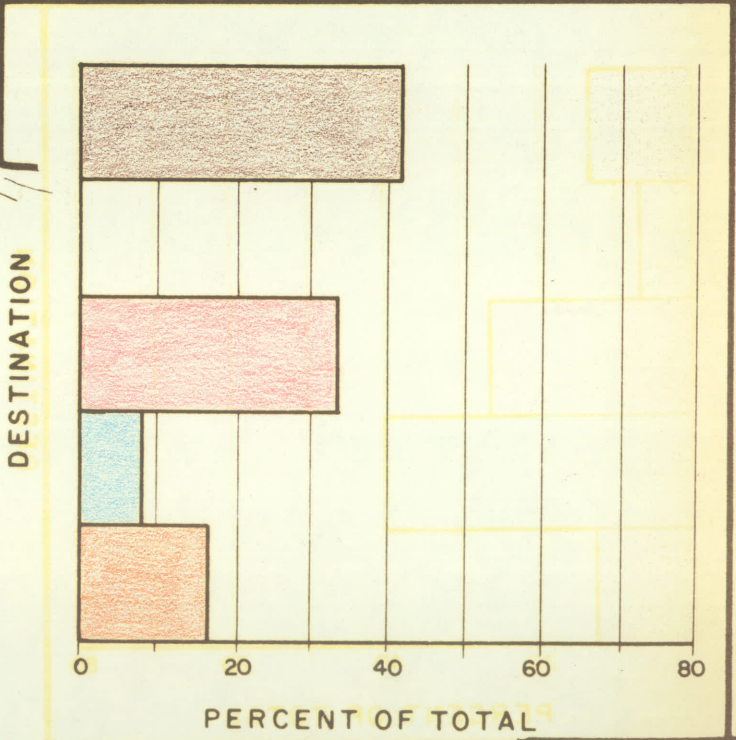
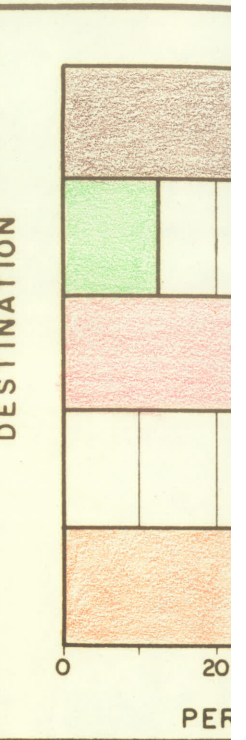
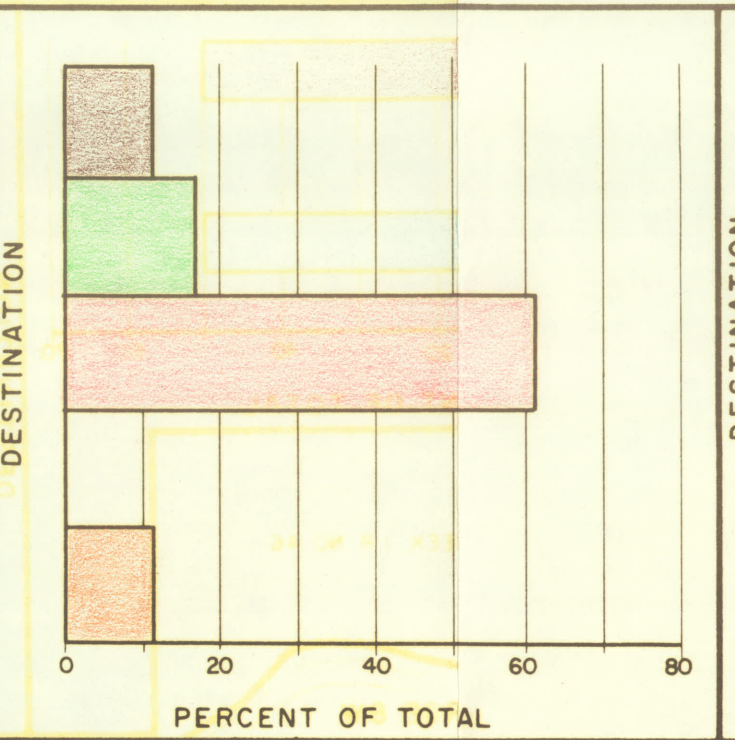
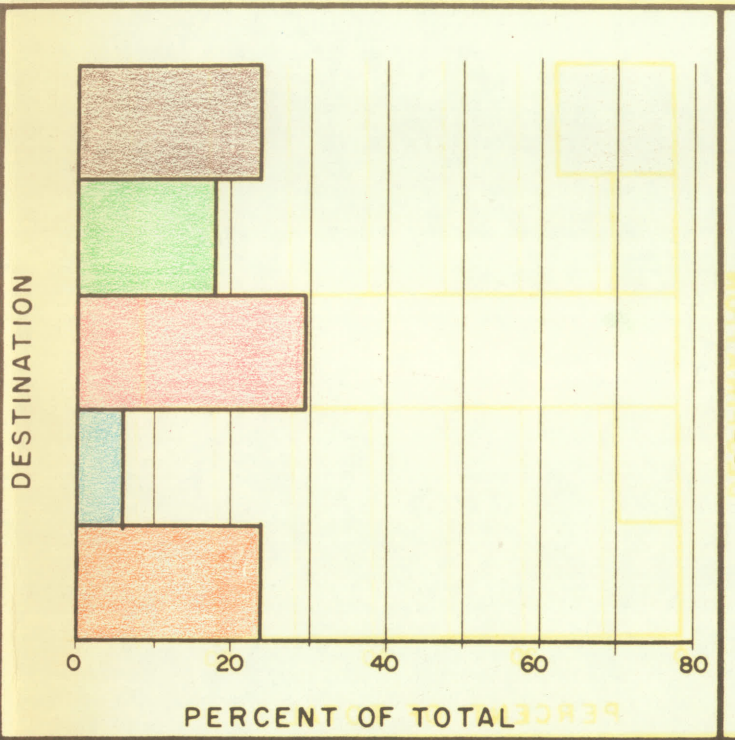
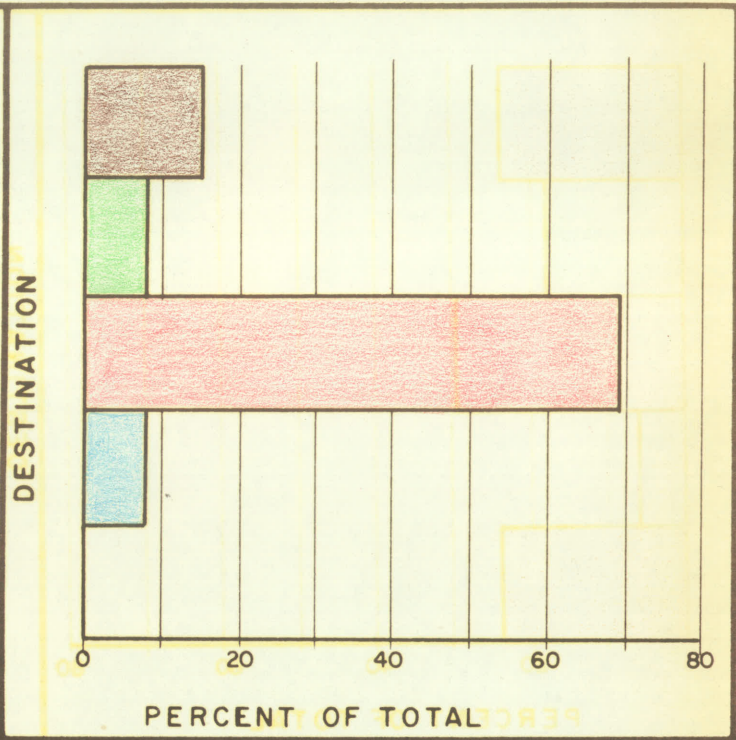
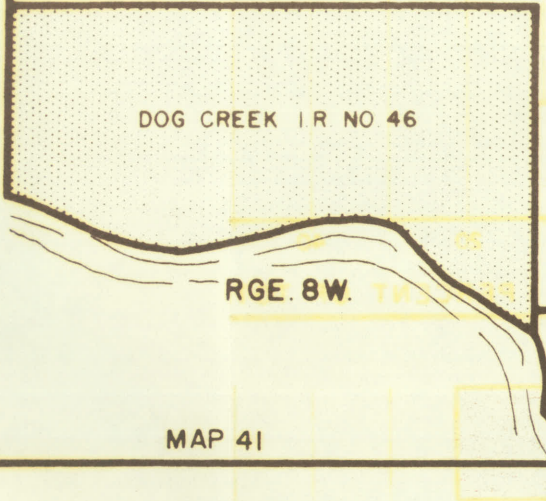
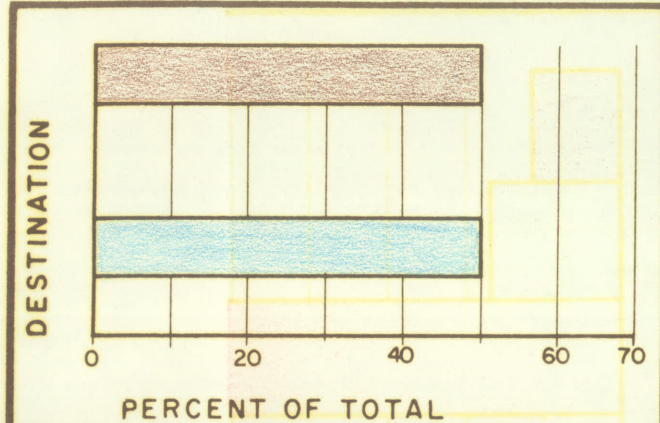
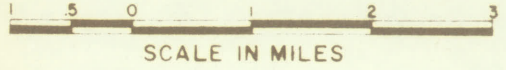
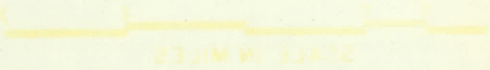
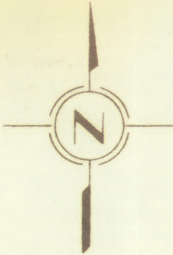
1) family problems, 2) lacked successor, 3) isolation, and 4) miscellaneous, were relatively insignificant and accounted for a combined total of 18 or 13.6 percent.

Map no. 40 illustrates on a township basis and as a percentage of the total, the reasons for farm families migrating from the study area between the years 1941 and 1961.

#### DESTINATION AFTER LEAVING THE FARM

Metropolitan Winnipeg, the largest and most diverse city in Manitoba, definitely influenced the destination choice of many of the farm families leaving the study area. From table no. 35 on the following page, it can be observed that out of 132 farm families who left the Municipality, 53 or 40.2 percent relocated in Winnipeg.

Areas outside Manitoba attracted the second largest group, 29 or 21.9 percent. Several families relocated in Eriksdale Municipality, as is indicated by the 18 or 13.6 percent whose destination was reported as being local. Seventeen or 12.9 percent of the migrating families found residences elsewhere in Manitoba (excluding local, Interlake and Winnipeg) and 15 or 11.4 percent relocated within the Interlake District.



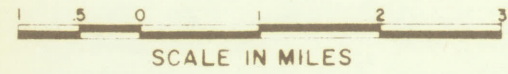
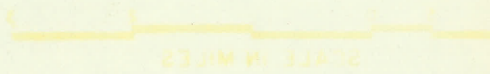
MAP 41  
DESTINATION OF MIGRATING FARM FAMILIES BY TOWNSHIP 1941 - 1961 PERCENT OF TOTAL

- OUTSIDE OF MANITOBA
- MANITOBA - ELSEWHERE
- WINNIPEG
- INTERLAKE
- LOCAL

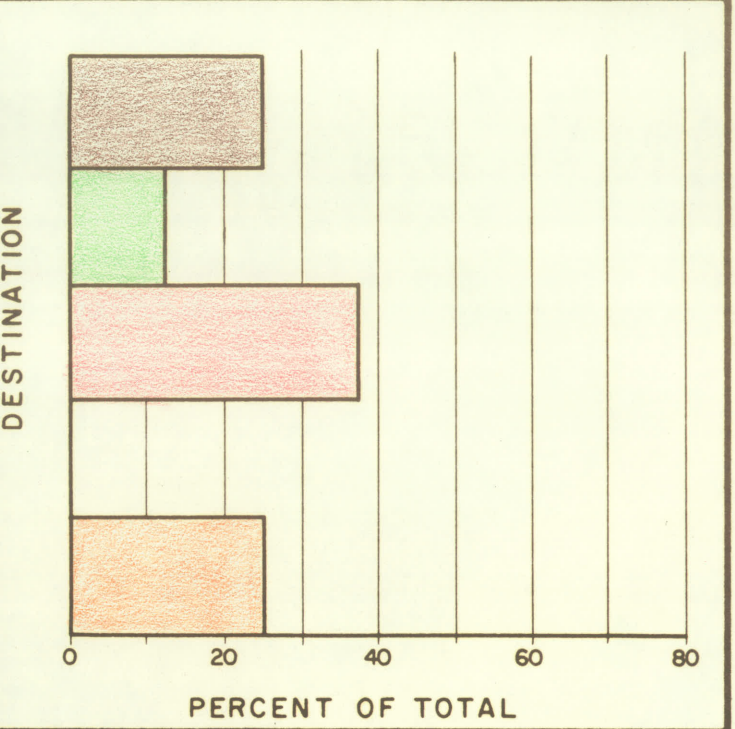
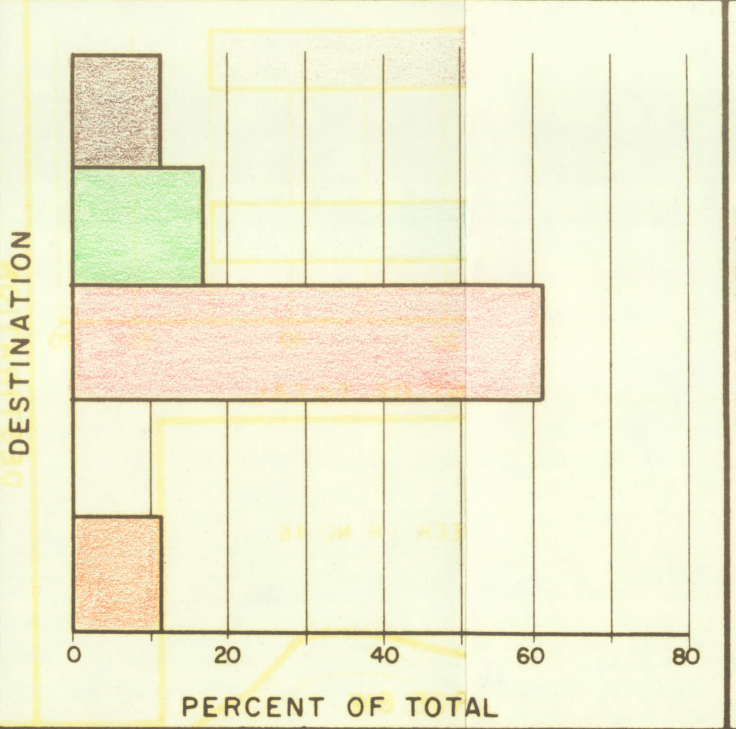
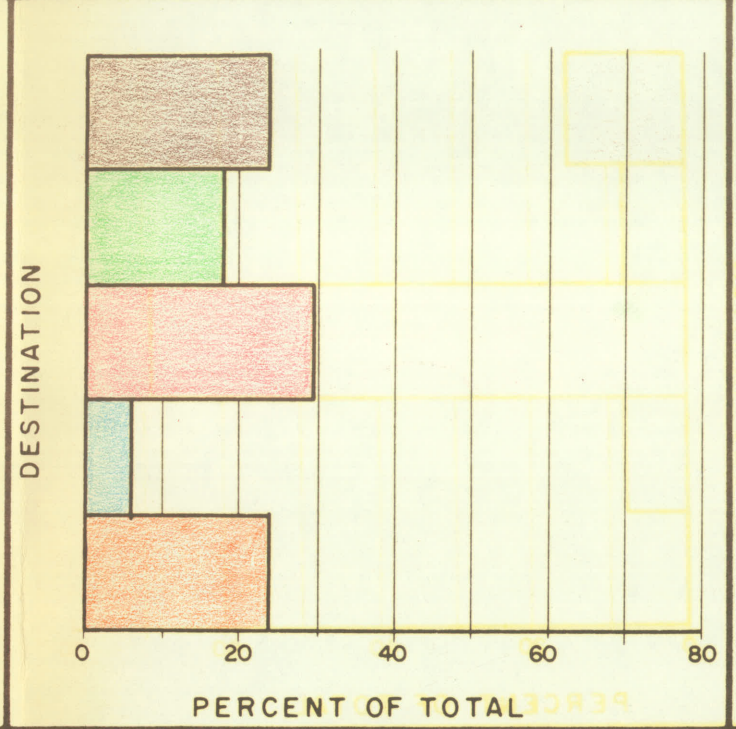
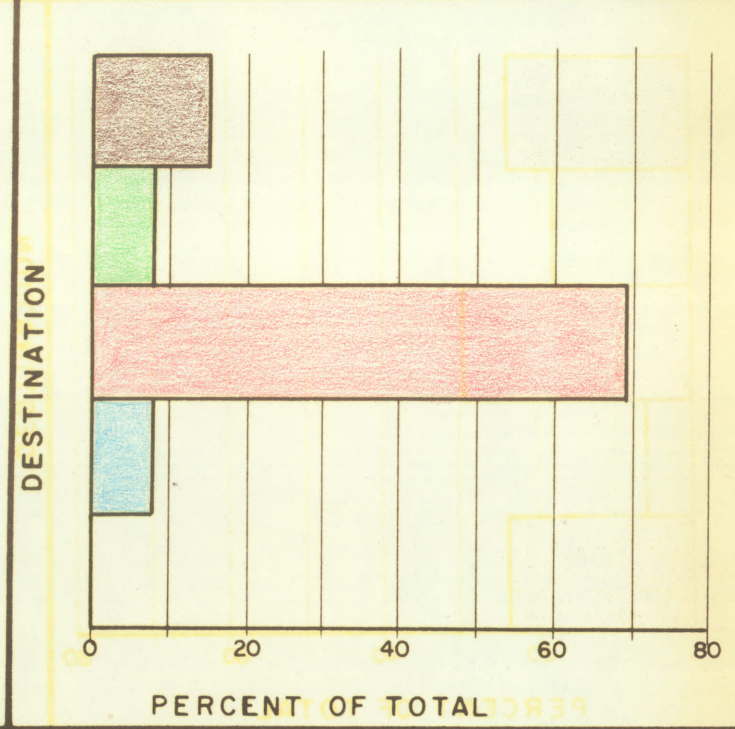
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

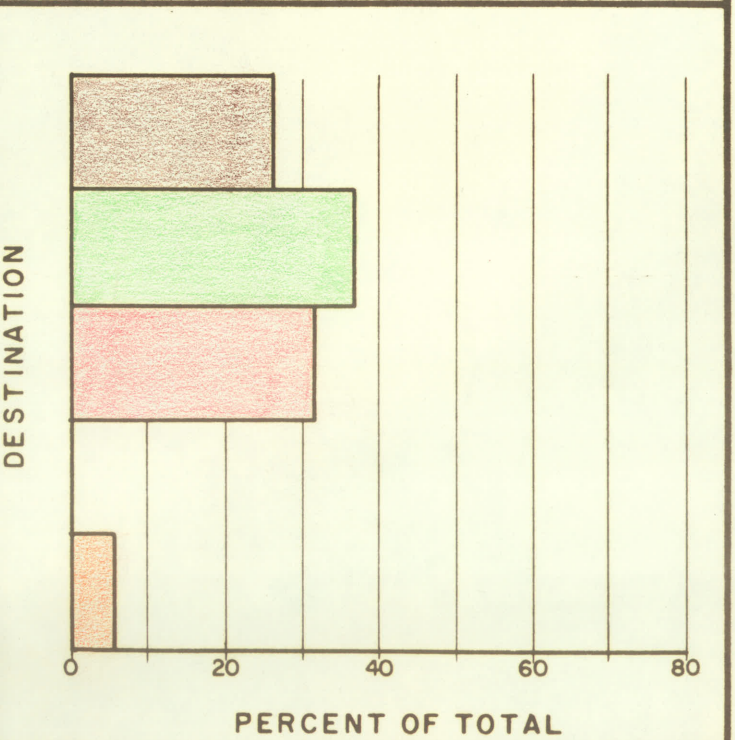
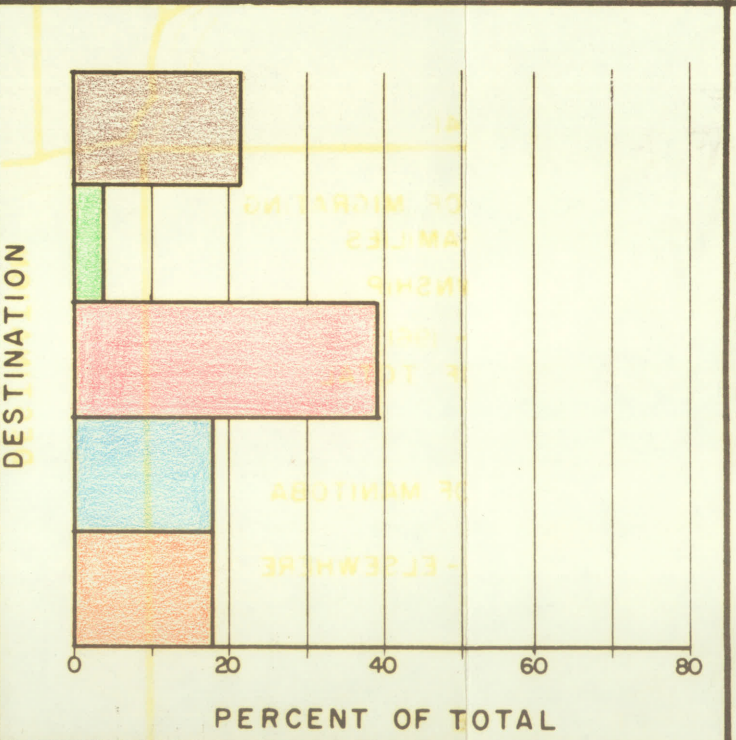
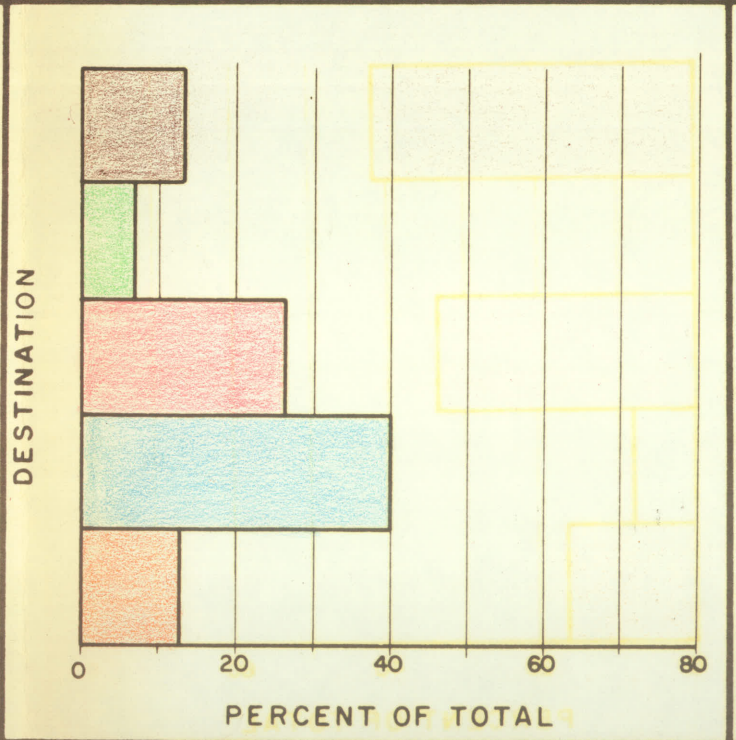
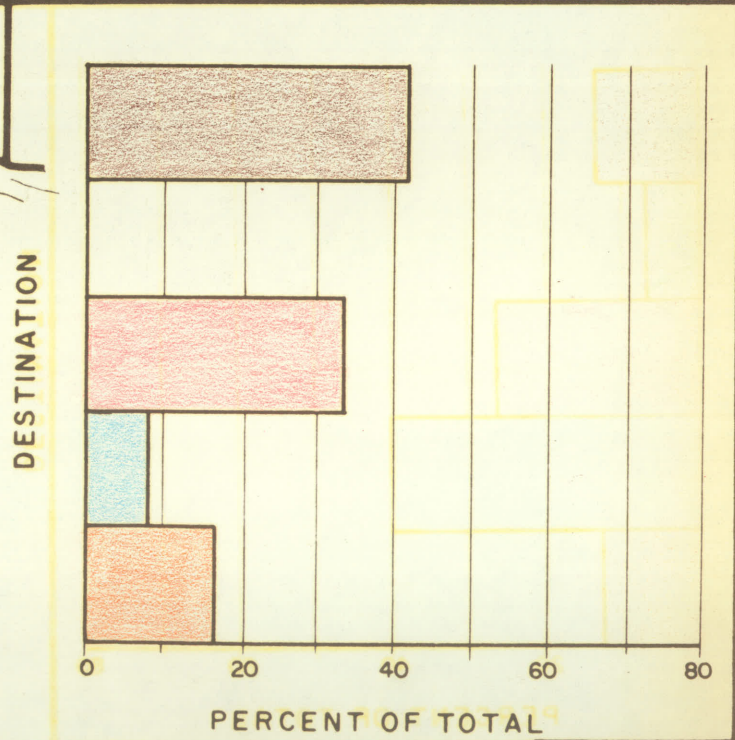
# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



60 70



TWP. 22



TWP. 21

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

TABLE 35

DESTINATION AND OCCUPATION OF MIGRATING  
FARM FAMILIES 1941-1961

EMPLOYMENT DESTINATION	RETIRED	FARMER	LABOURER	TRUCK DRIVER	MISC. TRADES	CLERICAL	MISC. SERVICE	TOTAL	PERCENT
LOCAL	9	3	2	1	2	-	1	18	13.6
INTERLAKE	7	6	1	-	1	-	-	15	11.4
WINNIPEG	15	2	25	2	5	4	-	53	40.2
MANITOBA ELSEWHERE	6	3	1	1	5	-	1	17	12.9
OUTSIDE MANITOBA	4	4	16	1	2	1	1	29	21.9
TOTAL	41	18	45	5	15	5	3	132	100.0
PERCENT	31.1	13.6	34.1	3.8	11.4	3.8	2.2	100.0	
TOTAL	18	45	5	15	5	3	91		
PERCENT	19.7	49.5	5.5	16.5	5.5	3.3	100.0		

A more detailed examination of map no. 41 will indicate on a township basis the destination of the migrating farm families as a percentage of the total.

EMPLOYMENT AT DESTINATION

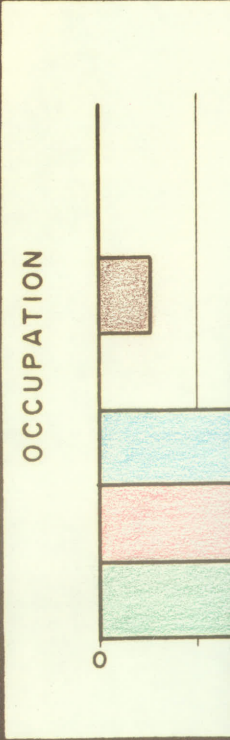
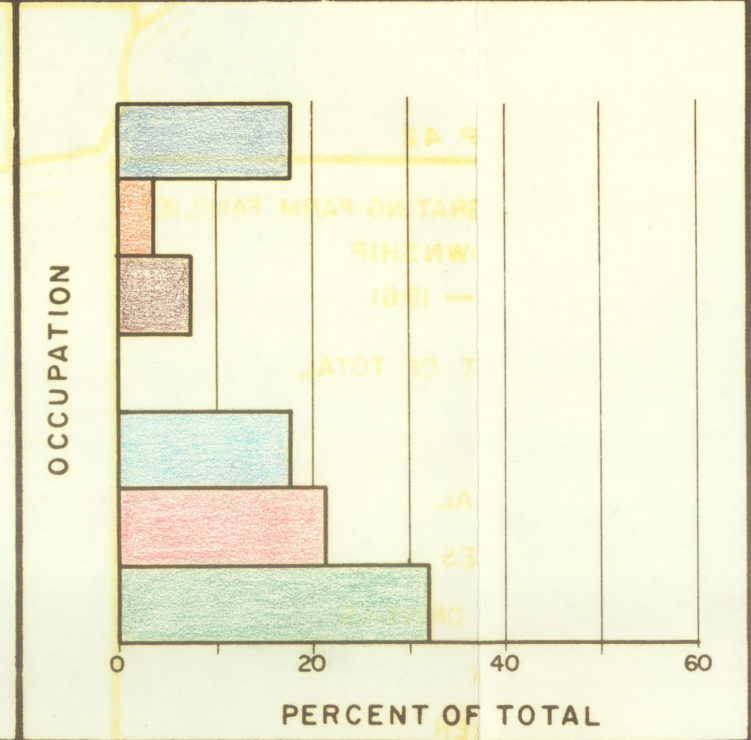
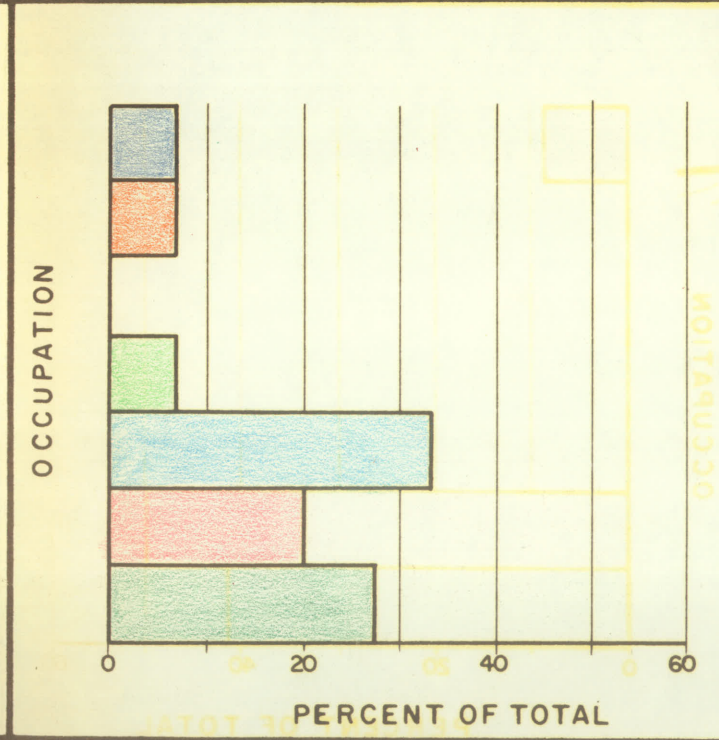
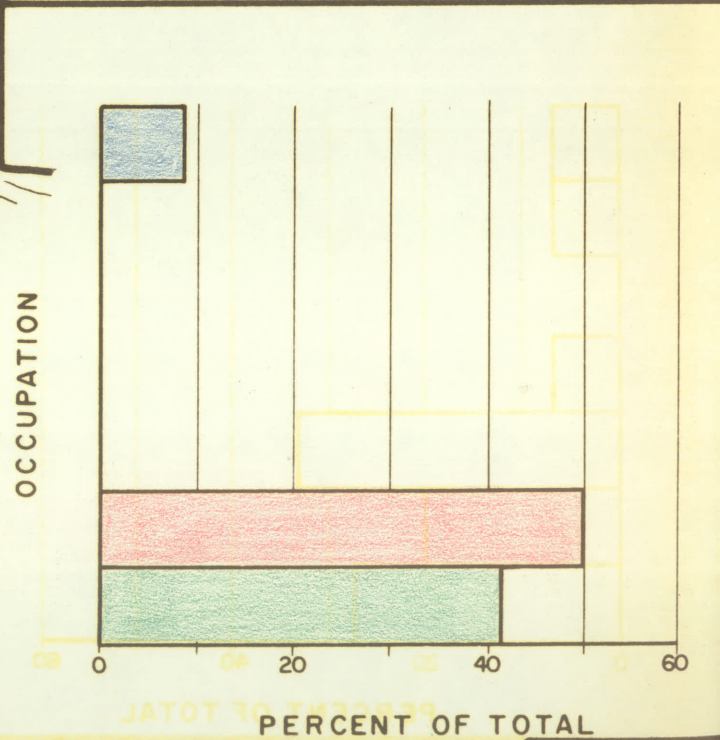
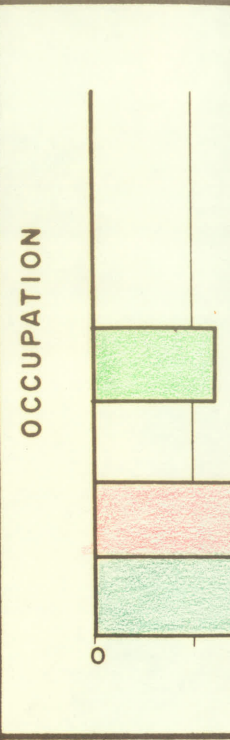
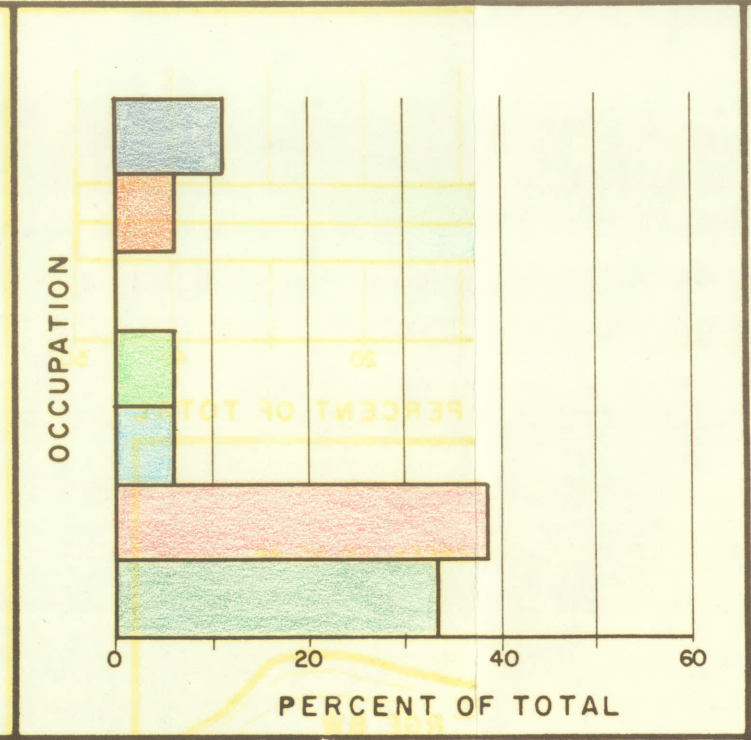
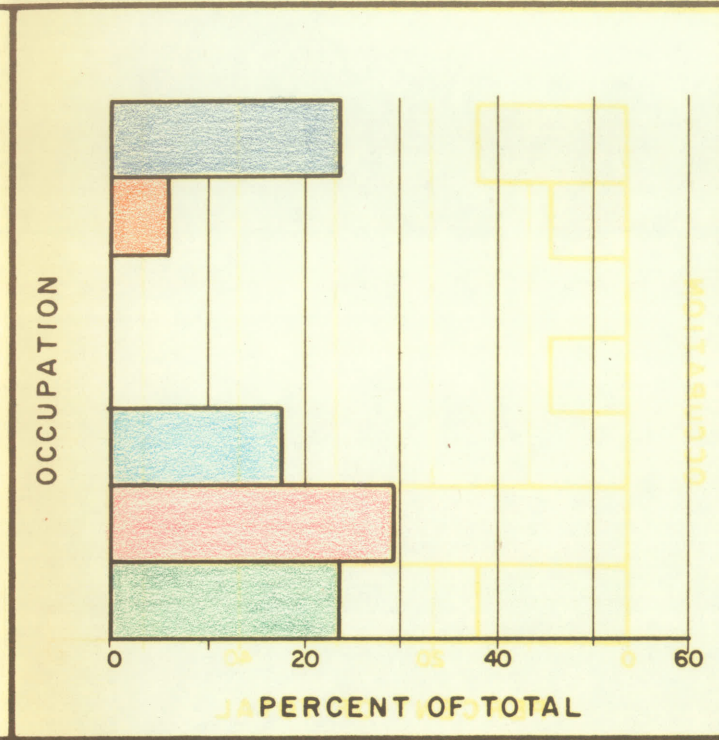
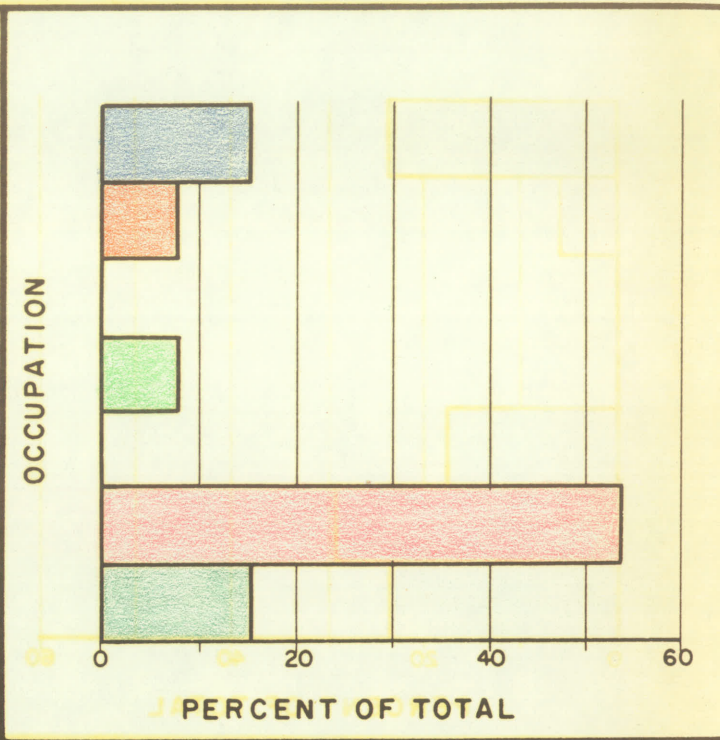
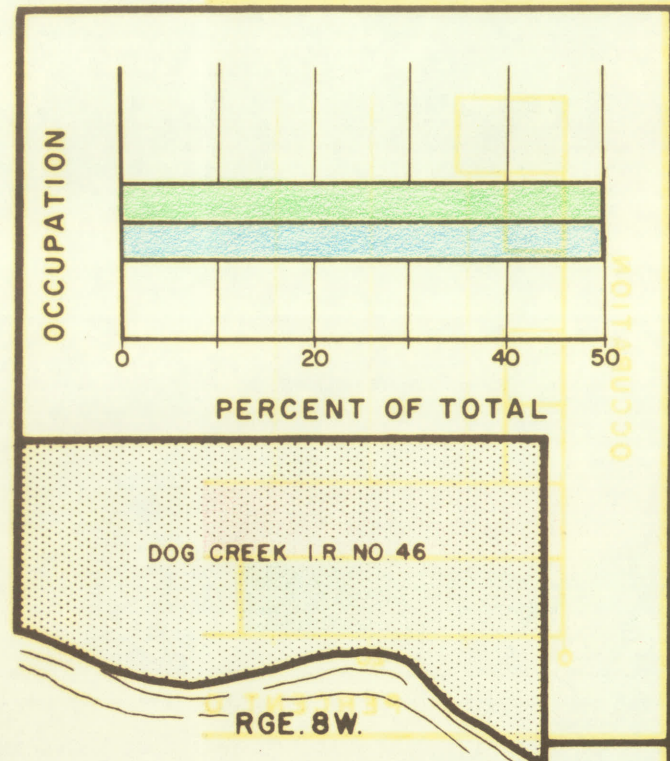
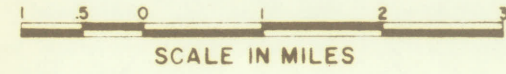
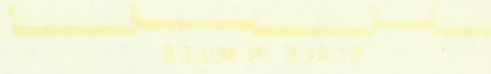
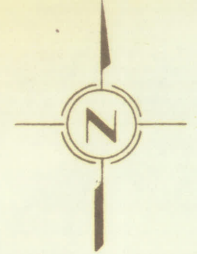
From table no. 35 can also be seen the type of employment undertaken by the migrating farm families. The fact

that the majority of the farm families were of an "unskilled" nature is reflected in the type of employment at their destination. Since retirement is not considered a type of employment, it has been deleted for purposes of the following analysis. However, worthy of note is the fact that almost one-third of the migrating farmers retired and approximately 38 percent did so in Winnipeg.

Labourers accounted for the majority of all employment undertaken and numbered 45 or 49.5 percent. Many chose to find employment in the field in which they felt themselves best qualified, as shown by the 18 or 19.7 percent who continued farming. Miscellaneous trades such as carpentry attracted the third largest number of persons. In this category there were approximately 17 percent. The remaining forms of employment, such as truck driving (5.5 percent), clerical (5.5 percent) and miscellaneous service<sup>1</sup> (3.3 percent) were found to be relatively insignificant. Map no. 42 illustrates on a township basis and as a percentage of the total, the occupation of migrating farm families between 1941 and 1961.

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<sup>1</sup>Miscellaneous service includes persons occupied as hotel keepers, summer camp operators and shoemakers.



MAP 42

OCCUPATION OF MIGRATING FARM FAMILIES  
BY TOWNSHIP  
1941 — 1961

PERCENT OF TOTAL

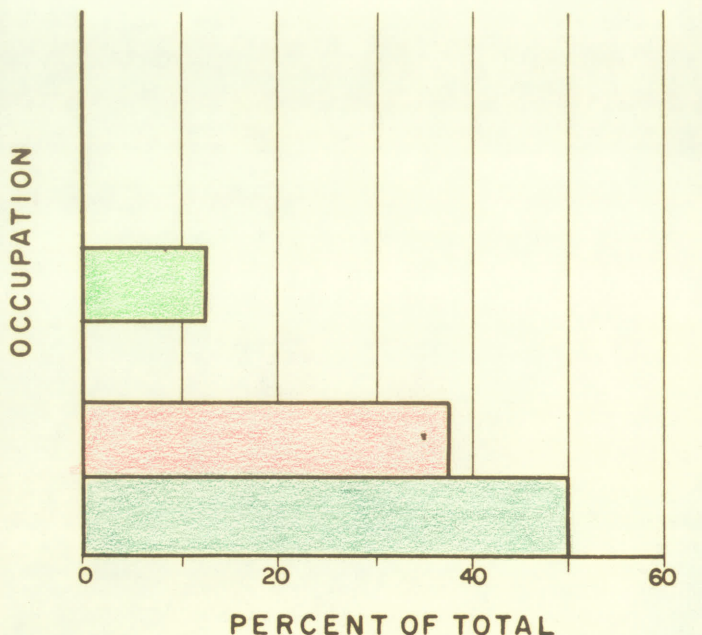
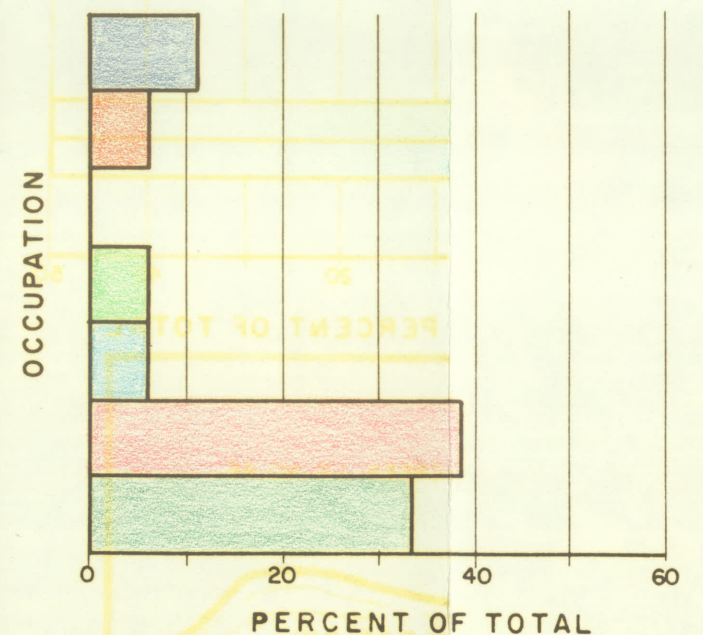
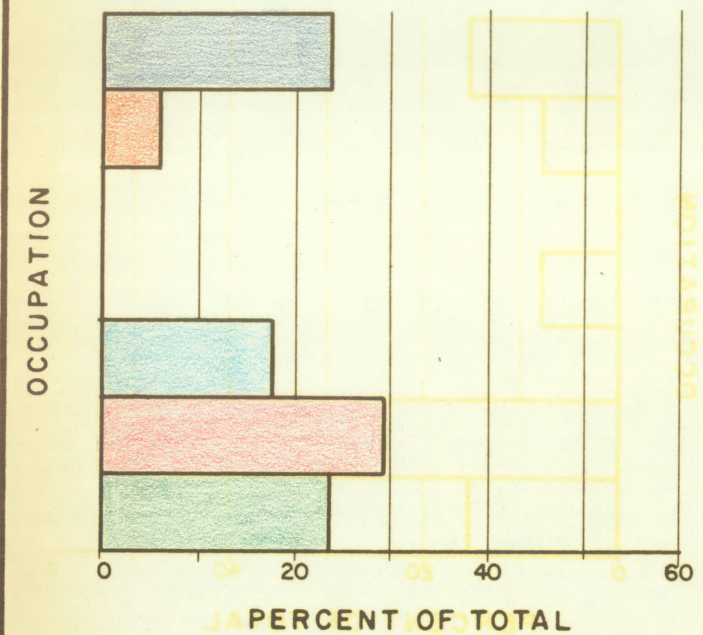
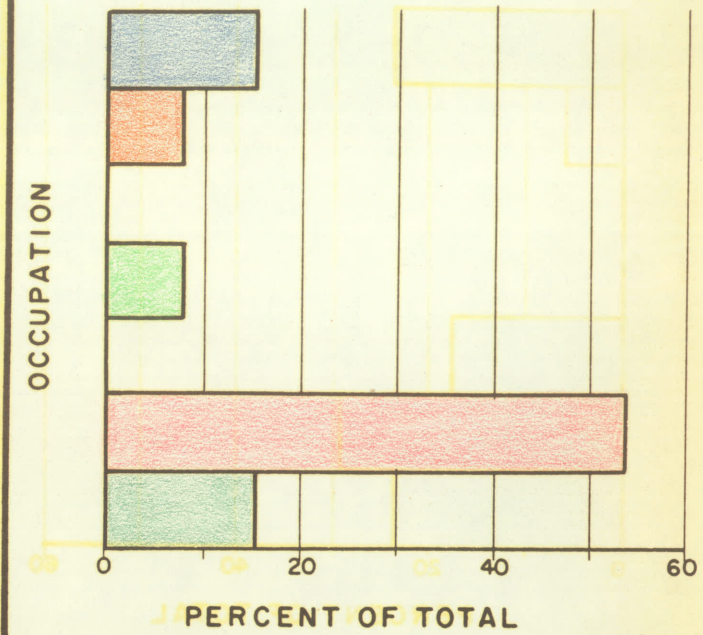
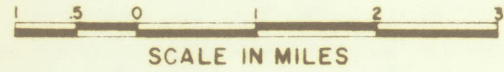
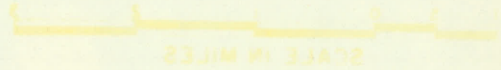
- TRADE
- CLERICAL
- SERVICES
- TRUCK DRIVERS
- FARMER
- LABOURER
- RETIRED

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

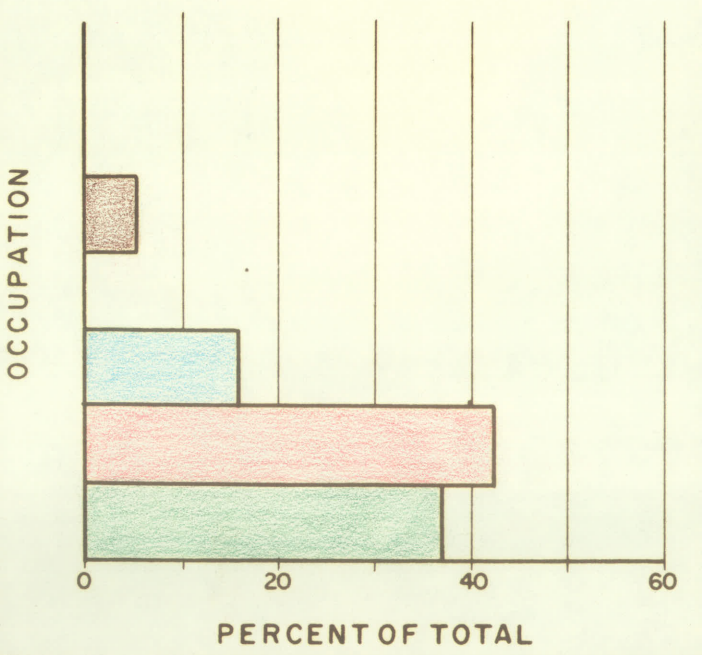
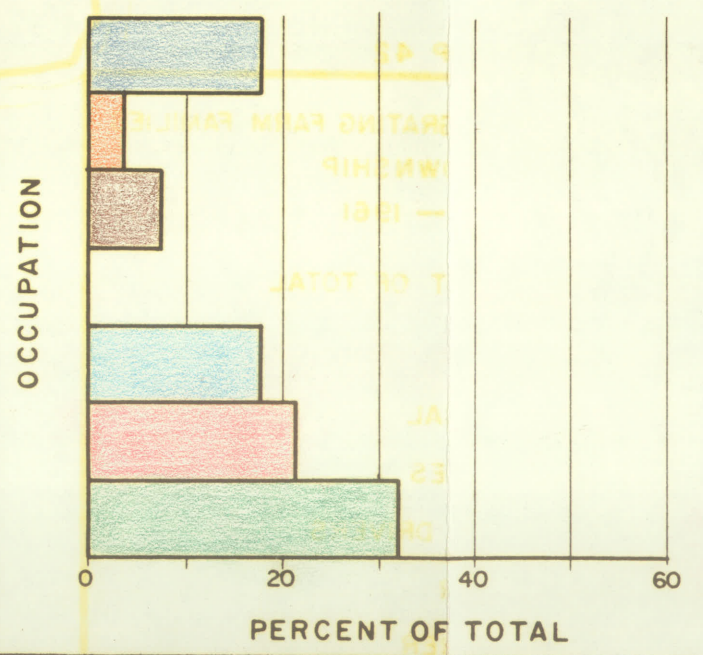
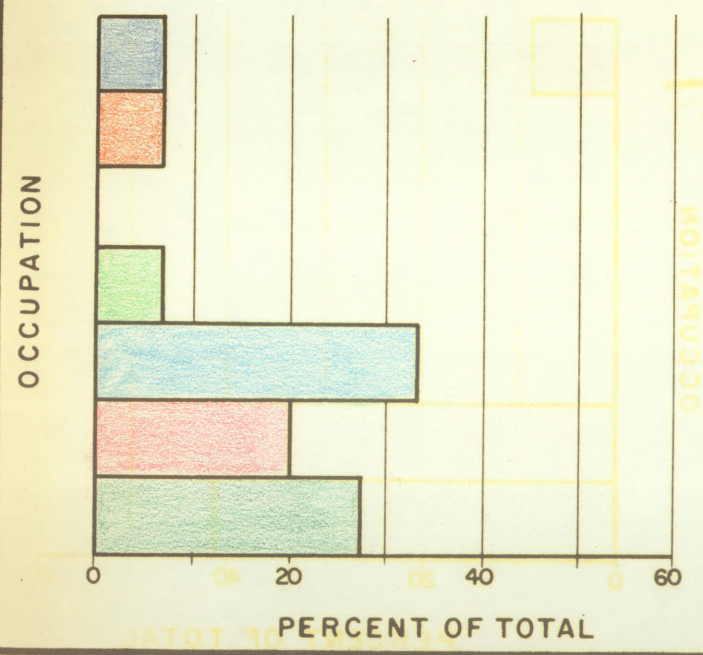
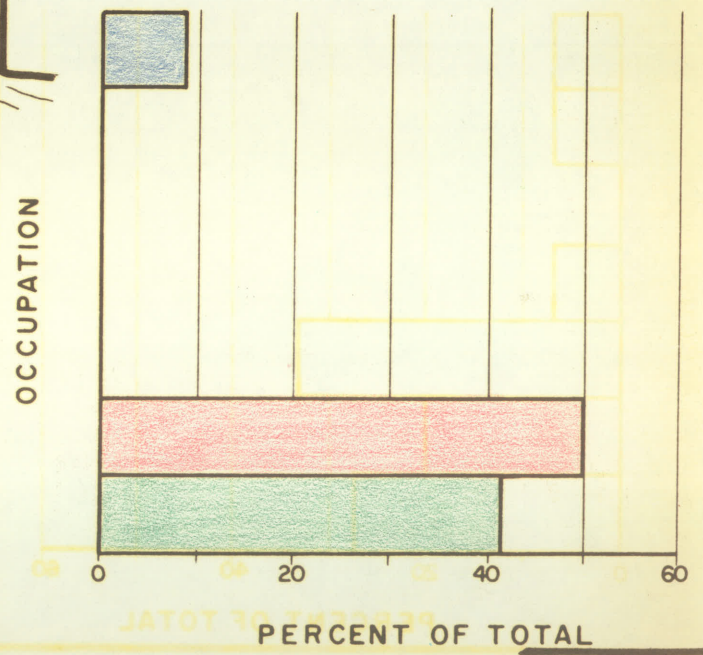
SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



TWP. 22



TWP. 21

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

SOURCE: 1962-1963 SUMMER FIELDWORK

In addition to the above, table no. 35 also indicates the type of employment connected with a specific destination. Worthy of note was the one-third who chose farming as an occupation and who relocated in the Interlake. This seemed to indicate that many were trying to find employment in the vocation in which they were best qualified and because of the poor soil characteristic of their present farm were searching for better farmland in the area. It was found that a large number of these became specialized farmers.<sup>2</sup>

The majority of the labourers (56 percent) found employment in the Winnipeg area where wages were higher and job opportunities more numerous. Many labourers (36 percent) migrated outside of Manitoba where, again, opportunities were much greater than those found in the local area.

Slightly over two-thirds of those who became tradesmen found employment in Manitoba (excluding Local and Interlake), of which 50 percent relocated in Winnipeg.

Eighty percent of those involved in clerical work did so in Winnipeg. A large proportion of these found work with the Provincial Government.

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<sup>2</sup> Chicken farms, pig farms, etc.

SUMMARY

It can be concluded from the migration analysis that the three most recurrent reasons given for farm family migration were those dealing with retirement, insufficient income to be derived from the farm operation, and better employment opportunities elsewhere. It was also found that due to the diversity and proximity of Winnipeg, slightly over 40 percent chose this urban area as their new place of residence.

Generally, due to the unskilled nature characteristic of the majority of the migrants, many of them found employment as labourers.

## CHAPTER X

### SCHOOL CHILDREN ANALYSIS

#### INTRODUCTION

Since it was felt that one of the major underlying causes of farm depopulation was related to the migration of children from rural areas, a comprehensive study of all schools in the study area was undertaken. A sample of two 3 year periods (1949 to 1951, 1959 to 1961) was studied in an attempt to determine the reasons for children leaving school and, in most cases, the district, as well their destination and the type of employment in which they found themselves.

In the analysis of 1) reasons for leaving the district, and 2) destination and employment, the data for the two 3 year periods was combined.

#### NAME AND LOCATION OF SCHOOLS

Between 1941 and 1961, 14 schools were in existence in the study area, the names and locations of which can be seen on map no. 43. As will be discussed in the next section, not all schools were open during the same period of time.

YEARS OPEN AND CLOSED

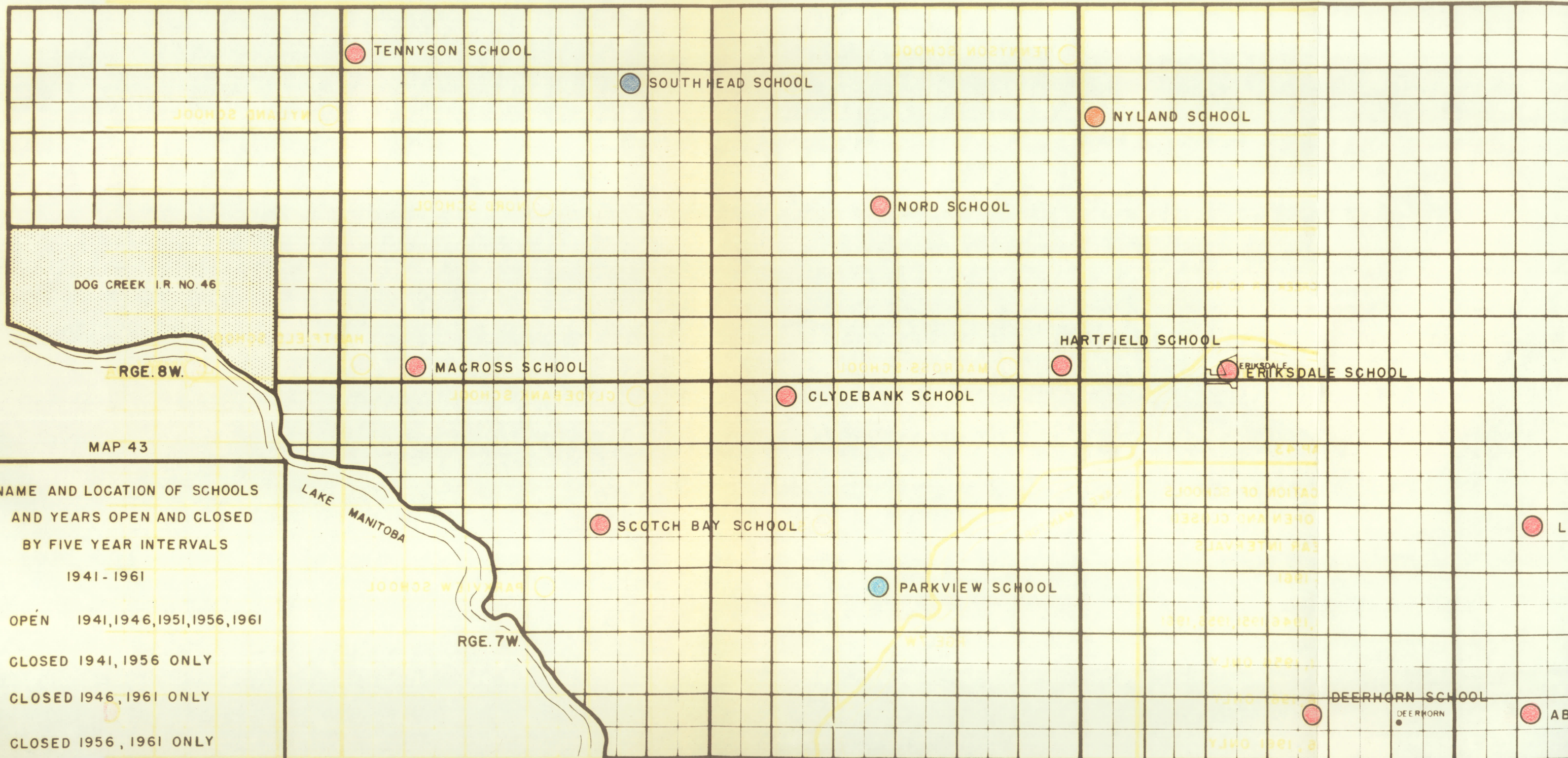
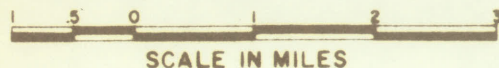
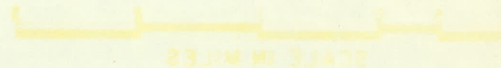
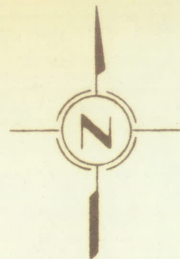
Map no. 43 also illustrates on a school basis the years in which the schools were either open or closed at five year intervals between 1941 and 1961. As can be seen from this map and the following table, the majority of the schools were open between 1941 and 1951, but between 1956 and 1961 a greater proportion were beginning to close as a result of school consolidation.

TABLE 36

YEAR SCHOOLS OPEN AND CLOSED AT  
FIVE YEAR INTERVALS  
1941-1961

	<u>OPEN</u>	<u>CLOSED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1941	13	1	14
1946	13	1	14
1951	14	0	14
1956	12	2	14
1961	11	3	14

In 1941, the only school closed was Parkview School (NE 16 Township 21 Range 6 West). This was possibly a result of a 9 percent loss in population experienced by Township 21 Range 6 West between 1936 and 1941, thus resulting in a decrease in the number of children of school age. Furthermore, since in 1941 the majority of the population was located in



NAME AND LOCATION OF SCHOOLS  
AND YEARS OPEN AND CLOSED  
BY FIVE YEAR INTERVALS

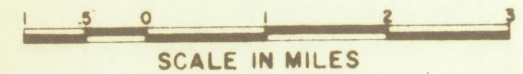
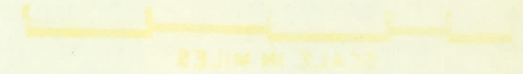
1941 - 1961

- OPEN 1941, 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961
- CLOSED 1941, 1956 ONLY
- CLOSED 1946, 1961 ONLY
- CLOSED 1956, 1961 ONLY
- CLOSED 1961 ONLY

SOURCE: MANITOBA DEPT. OF EDUCATION

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE

# MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE



31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

TOWNSHIP KEY

TENNYSON SCHOOL

SOUTH HEAD SCHOOL

NYLAND SCHOOL

NORD SCHOOL

HARTFIELD SCHOOL

EASTLAND SCHOOL

MACROSS SCHOOL

CLYDEBANK SCHOOL

ERIKSDALE SCHOOL

SCOTCH BAY SCHOOL

LAFONTAINE SCHOOL

PARKVIEW SCHOOL

DEERHORN SCHOOL

ABBERVILLE SCHOOL

LAKE MANITOBA

RGE. 7W.

RGE. 6W.

RGE. 5W.

RGE. 4W.

SOURCE: MANITOBA DEPT. OF EDUCATION

TWP. 22

TWP. 21

the north half of that township, the location of Clydebank School, children were sent to this particular school.

Eastland School (NW 4 Township 22 Range 4 West) was the only school closed in 1946. This township had only 53 persons in 1946 and likely did not warrant a school - those children attending school did so at a nearby school such as LaFontaine, located some two to three miles away. In 1951, all schools were reported open. By 1956, two schools were reported to be closed: Parkview (NE 16 Township 21 Range 6 West) and Southhead (NE 26 Township 22 Range 7 West). In both cases, the loss in population experienced by these townships between 1951 and 1956, the distribution of the remaining population, and the presence of other schools in neighbouring areas, best explained the closing of these schools.

With the consolidation of schools by 1961, came a new High School in the Town of Eriksdale which catered to a fairly large area as a result of the bus service provided to the students who wished to attend. This resulted in the closing of three schools and concentrated the teaching of secondary education in the Town of Eriksdale. The eleven schools remaining open in the rural part of the Municipality

catered only to the elementary grades and thus further reduced the number of rural schools required.

SCHOOL ENROLMENT

An examination of table no. 37 will reveal on a school basis and at five year intervals between 1941 and 1961 the enrolment of students at the various schools in the study area.

TABLE 37

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE  
SCHOOL ENROLMENT AT FIVE YEAR INTERVALS 1941-1961

NAME	LOCATION	SCHOOL ENROLMENT				
		1941	1946	1951	1956	1961
LaFontaine	NW20-21-4W	15	12	15	19	8
Abbeville	SW 5-21-4W	30	20	27	29	26
Eastland	NW 4-22-4W	6	C	11	8	C
Nyland	SW30-22-5W	20	21	19	10	C
Eriksdale	SW 4-22-5W	74	62	68	91	197
Deerhorn	NE 3-21-5W	20	14	20	19	15
Hartfield	SE 1-22-6W	15	19	10	14	18
Nord	NE16-22-6W	18	18	21	15	10
Clydebank	NW32-21-6W	29	23	18	21	20
Parkview	NE16-21-6W	C	9	9	C	12
Tennyson	SW31-22-7W	9	5	9	13	13
Macross	SW 5-22-7W	15	11	12	13	15
Southhead	NE26-22-7W	10	11	9	C	C
Scotch Bay	NE23-21-7W	23	9	10	16	10
TOTAL		284	234	258	268	344

C - Closed

SOURCE - Manitoba Department of Education

As might be expected, there was a direct relationship between the population of the study area and school enrolment in that a decrease in population resulted in a decrease in school enrolment, and an increase in population produced an increase in school enrolment. This relationship maintained itself until 1956, after which a decrease in population was accompanied by an increase in school enrolment (see table no. 38). This was explained by the tremendous emphasis on education which began to have a marked effect in those years.

TABLE 38

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE SCHOOL  
ENROLMENT/POPULATION COMPARISON  
AT FIVE YEAR INTERVALS 1941-1961

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>POPULATION*</u>	<u>SCHOOL ENROLMENT**</u>	<u>% SCHOOL ENR'T POPULATION</u>
1941	1364	284	20.8
1946	1214	234	19.3
1951	1301	258	19.8
1956	1311	268	20.4
1961	1173	344	29.4

SOURCE: D.B.S.\* and MANITOBA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION\*\*

From the above table, it can be seen that in 1941, 20.8 percent of the total population attended school and

by 1946 the percentage enrolment had dropped to 19.3 percent. This reflected an 11 percent decrease in population and a 17.5 percent decrease in school enrolment. The fact that the school enrolment decreased at a faster rate than population was due in part to the effect of World War II which attracted many young people either to the armed forces or to factories producing war goods. From 1946 to 1956 the percentage of school enrolment to population increased from 19.3 percent to 20.4 percent. This reflected an 8 percent increase in population as compared to a substantially higher increase of 15.5 percent in school enrolment, thus indicating the beginning of the trend emphasizing education.

By 1961, the emerging emphasis on education was evidenced. Whereas the study area experienced a substantial loss (10.5 percent) in population between 1956 and 1961, the school enrolment increased by 28.4 percent, representing 29.4 percent of the total population.

#### SCHOOL CHILDREN ANALYSIS<sup>1</sup>

##### Age and Grade

From analysis of the school data gathered, it was found that for the period 1949 to 1951 the median age on

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<sup>1</sup>Interviews were the source of information for this section.

leaving school was 15 years and the median grade completed was 8. On the other hand, for the period of years 1959 to 1961, the median leaving age was calculated to be 17 years and the median grade completed, 11. This increase in both median age and median grade on leaving school further bore out the effect of the emphasis on education previously discussed.

Reasons for Leaving District

Of 139 students who left school between 1949 and 1951, and 1959 to 1961, 104 or approximately 75 percent left the district completely. The remaining 35 students did not migrate from the study area upon leaving school and chose to find employment in the local district (see table no. 40). Those remaining in the area were deleted from table no. 39 below. This table indicates the reasons why children left the area upon leaving school.

TABLE 39

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE		
<u>REASONS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN LEAVING DISTRICT 1949-1951; 1959-1961</u>		
	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
FURTHER EDUCATION	18	17.3
SEEK EMPLOYMENT	63	60.6
NO FARM TO TAKE OVER	10	9.6
LEFT WITH FAMILY	6	5.8
TO BECOME A HOUSEWIFE	7	6.7
TOTAL	104	100.0

The fact that there were very few employment opportunities in the Municipality is readily observed from table no. 39 on the previous page. Of 104 students who left the study area, 63 or 60.6 percent did so in order to find employment and were generally attracted to larger urban areas where work was plentiful and wages substantially higher. Many students left to further their education, as represented by the 18 or 17.3 percent who migrated for reasons of education.

Some children would presumably have taken over their parents' farm had it been available (note the 10 or 9.6 percent who left the area for lack of a farm to "take over"). In most of these cases, the children migrated because the farm was not large enough to support all the children or it was still being managed by the parents.

The 7 or 6.7 percent who indicated their reason for leaving the district as "to become a housewife" were deemed to be females marrying outside the study area.

Some children left with their parents as a result of the family's migration from the area. It was found that the 6 or 5.8 percent who "left with family" did so because of their age, and in all cases continued their education upon reaching their destination.

Destination and Occupation

As a result of the wide variety of occupations undertaken by the migrating children, it was felt that in order to develop relationships, certain combinations should be made. Table no. 40 below sets forth the four types of occupation finally attained.

TABLE 40

MUNICIPALITY OF ERIKSDALE  
DESTINATION AND OCCUPATION OF MIGRATING SCHOOL CHILDREN  
1949-1951 and 1959-1961

<u>OCCUPATION</u> <u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>FARMER</u>	<u>UNSKILLED</u>	<u>SKILLED</u>	<u>EDUCATION</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
					<u>NO.</u>	<u>%</u>
LOCAL	8	24	3	-	35	25.2
INTERLAKE	1	10	1	3	15	10.8
WINNIPEG	-	40	7	18	65	46.8
MANITOBA ELSEWHERE	3	11	-	3	17	12.2
OUTSIDE MANITOBA	-	5	1	1	7	5.0
TOTAL	12	90	12	25	139	100.0
PERCENT	8.6	64.8	8.6	18.0	100.0	

### Destination

From table no. 40, in the preceding paragraph, it can be seen that, as in the case of the farm families, the majority (65 or 46.8 percent) of the migrating children found employment in Winnipeg and likely did so for the reasons previously discussed. Approximately one out of four remained in the study area and 15 or 10.8 percent did not leave the "Interlake". Seventeen or 12.2 percent chose other areas in Manitoba as their place of residence and 7 or 5.0 percent left Manitoba.

### Occupation

The fact that many of the children who left the area were not qualified for higher paid forms of employment is clearly indicated in table no. 40 above where 90 of 139 or 64.8 percent found employment of an "unskilled" type. Very few (12 or 8.6 percent) were able to obtain employment in the "skilled" field. Twenty-five or 18.0 percent continued their education at high school, vocational school or the University of Manitoba. The fact that children were not interested in farming, lacked capital to obtain land or had no farm to inherit, was further borne out by the small number (12 or 8.6 percent) who chose farming as an occupation.

Table no. 40 also reveals the type of occupation at a particular destination. Worthy of note are the 8 out of 12 children who chose farming as an occupation and remained in the local area. In all cases, these children returned to their parents' farm knowing full well that they would eventually inherit these holdings. Also noteworthy is the importance of Winnipeg as an educational centre due to its proximity and diversification of educational facilities.

#### SUMMARY

The emphasis on education became apparent by 1961.

The following observations tended to substantiate this:

1. as the population of the study area decreased an increase in school enrolment occurred; and
2. both the median age and grade upon leaving school increased from 15 and 8 to 17 and 11.

It was found that the approximately 75 percent who left school migrated from the study area and that the majority of those who left the district found work of an "unskilled" type. Furthermore, it was observed that many left the study area due to the lack of employment opportunities. As in the case of the migrant farm families, a large portion of

the school children relocated in Winnipeg because of its attractiveness as an employment area and also its proximity to the study area.

## CHAPTER XI

### CONCLUSIONS

It was found from an analysis of the historical, physical and economic background of the Municipality that these factors contributed to the loss in farm population experienced by the Municipality of Eriksdale between the years 1941 and 1961. From the historical background, it was evident that persons of British origin were the first to settle the area and were the dominant ethnic group to immigrate to the area. Furthermore, it emerged that many who obtained land through Soldier Settlement Board and Rural Rehabilitation Commission Grants acquired land which was not suitable to the type of farming which they attempted to practice, and were eventually forced to abandon their farms due to insufficient income. The swampy and stony characteristics of the soils in the study area were not suited to a mixed type of farming but rather to cattle raising farms. Unfortunately few realized this in time to remedy the situation; many became bankrupt and left the area to start afresh elsewhere.

Between 1941 and 1961, the shift from mixed farming to cattle raising was clearly indicated through increases

in both hay land and in the number of cattle. Since cattle ranching requires large expanses of land, many of the small farms were bought out by the more progressive farmers, thus displacing many persons.

From the analysis of the economic background of the study area, it was found that in order to maintain an average income of \$2,500.00 per farm, many more farms will be purchased by the larger farms so that conceivably the farm depopulation trend that has taken place between 1941 and 1961 will continue until an adequate income per farm is established.

It was found from an analysis of population trends between 1941 and 1961 that the study area experienced a total loss of 237 persons or 17.5 percent and that the farm population decreased at a faster rate, recording a loss of 427 persons or 38.4 percent. The large decrease in the farm population element was found to be offset by an increase in both the non-farm (288.1 percent) and urban (34.5 percent) elements of the population. It was also discovered that, in general, young people were not interested in farming as an occupation or a way of life and preferred to leave the area to find more profitable types of employment.

The fact that the farm families decreased at approximately the same rate as the farm population best explains the farm population loss since an actual increase in farm family size took place between 1941 and 1961.

It was also shown that mechanization and a change in type of farming contributed to a loss of farm population since the number of farms decreased but the average size of farms increased substantially.

The fact that many farms were not capable of producing an adequate income for the operators is clearly indicated by the 12.5 percent increase in the part-time farm operators between 1941 and 1961.

The majority (33.6 percent) of the farms which changed hands between 1941 and 1961 merged with other farms, thus illustrating the process of farm consolidation.

Of those who left their farms between 1941 and 1961, it was found that a little over 25 percent did so in order to find better employment. This suggests that if some form of employment were available in the study area, many would remain here rather than migrate.

Finally, from an analysis of the movements of school children, it was revealed that the trend toward higher

education had its effect in the study area, as witnessed by the increase in both the median age of school children upon leaving school and grade attained. As in the case of the migrating farm families, it was found that almost 60 percent of the school children who left the study area did so in order to find employment. Furthermore, almost 20 percent left to further their education. Both of these observations strongly suggest the need for diversified educational facilities as well as employment opportunities in the study area.

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## APPENDIX

### DEFINITIONS

#### SOLDIER SETTLEMENT BOARD<sup>1</sup> (S.S.B.)

The original Soldier Settlement Act of 1917 was predicated on the assumption that there were free suitable Dominion Lands. This premise turned out to be unsound as such lands were not readily accessible to transportation and were unsuitable in other respects, as well as insufficient to meet the demand. Therefore in 1919, the Soldier Settlement Act of 1917 was amended, giving wide powers to the Soldier Settlement Board to purchase land to be settled by returning soldiers. Every holder of a soldier entry (a free entry on Dominion Lands granted to a veteran recommended by the Board) was required to fulfill the following conditions before the issue of letters patent:

- a) to have held the land for his own exclusive use and benefit for three years;
- b) to have resided thereon or in the vicinity thereof for at least six months in each of three years from the date of entry, or the date of commencement of residence;
- c) to have cultivated in each year a satisfactory area of the land;
- d) to have erected a habitable house;

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<sup>1</sup>Robert England, Discharged, The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited, Toronto, 1943, p. 265.

e) to have paid in full the loan, if any, and interest thereon, made to him on the land entered for under the provisions of the Soldier Settlement Loan Regulations, and other charges, if any;

f) to be a British subject, except as otherwise provided.

#### RURAL REHABILITATION COMMISSION GRANT<sup>2</sup> (R.R.C.)

This was a Manitoba Provincial Government Agency established during the depression of the 1930s. It was designed to alleviate urban unemployment and encourage self-sufficiency by providing urban dwellers with the opportunity of working a farm. Persons receiving this grant were commonly referred to as "Back to the Landers". The Agency was disbanded in 1946 and the remaining lands were turned over to the Department of Health and Public Welfare.

#### SOLDIER GRANTS<sup>3</sup> (S.G.)

Soldier Grants and Soldier Settlement Board Grants are terms which were taken from the Lands Branch records during the field work stage of this study. Further research, however, would seem to indicate that these are one and the same and should be considered accordingly.

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<sup>2</sup>Source: Department of Mines & Technical Surveys-Lands Branch.

<sup>3</sup>Source: Department of Mines & Technical Surveys Lands Branch.