

Creation of Locational Value

There are certain costs attached to modifying the existing landscape. These may be direct costs such as construction costs or service costs in terms of erosion, or flood protection, provision of sewers, roads, and water supply. There may also be indirect costs in terms of rare opportunities or resources lost with respect to preserving vegetation and wildlife, natural water supply, or visual amenity. To find the residential development areas of least cost (both direct and indirect) was the goal of determining locational values. Physical and ecological factors were matched in order to obtain a ranking. The ranking was done on the basis of a gradient of the most to least favorable condition for locating residential development. The following ecological factors were considered the most important in this analysis leading to the synthesis of landscape values.