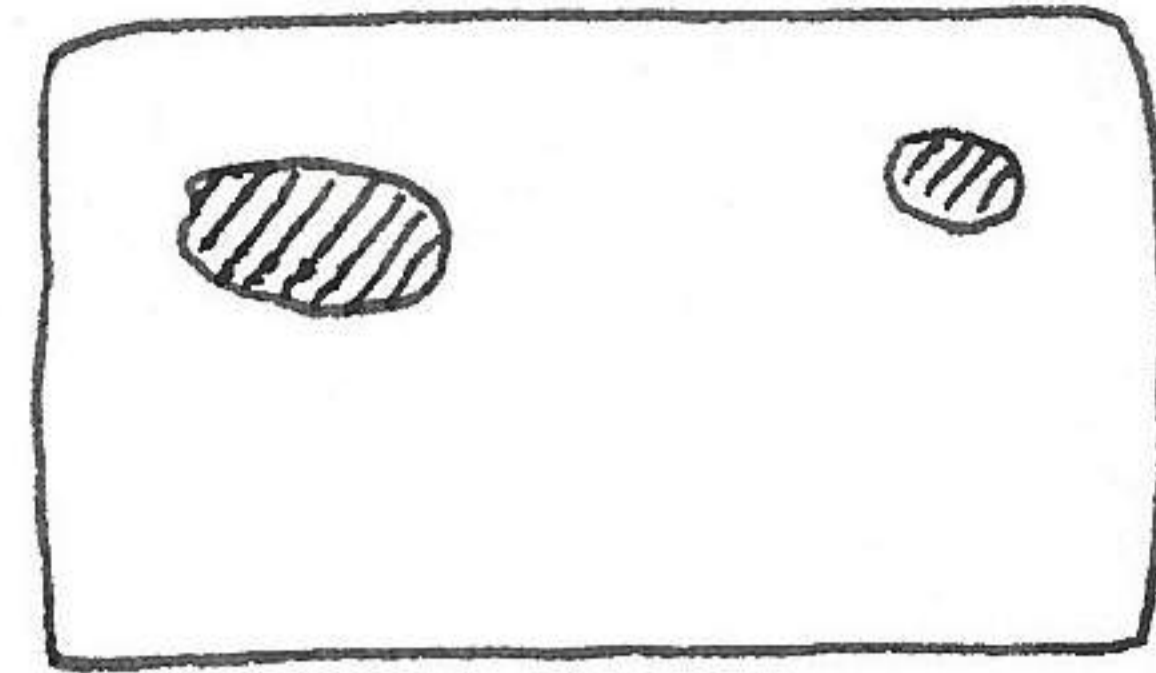

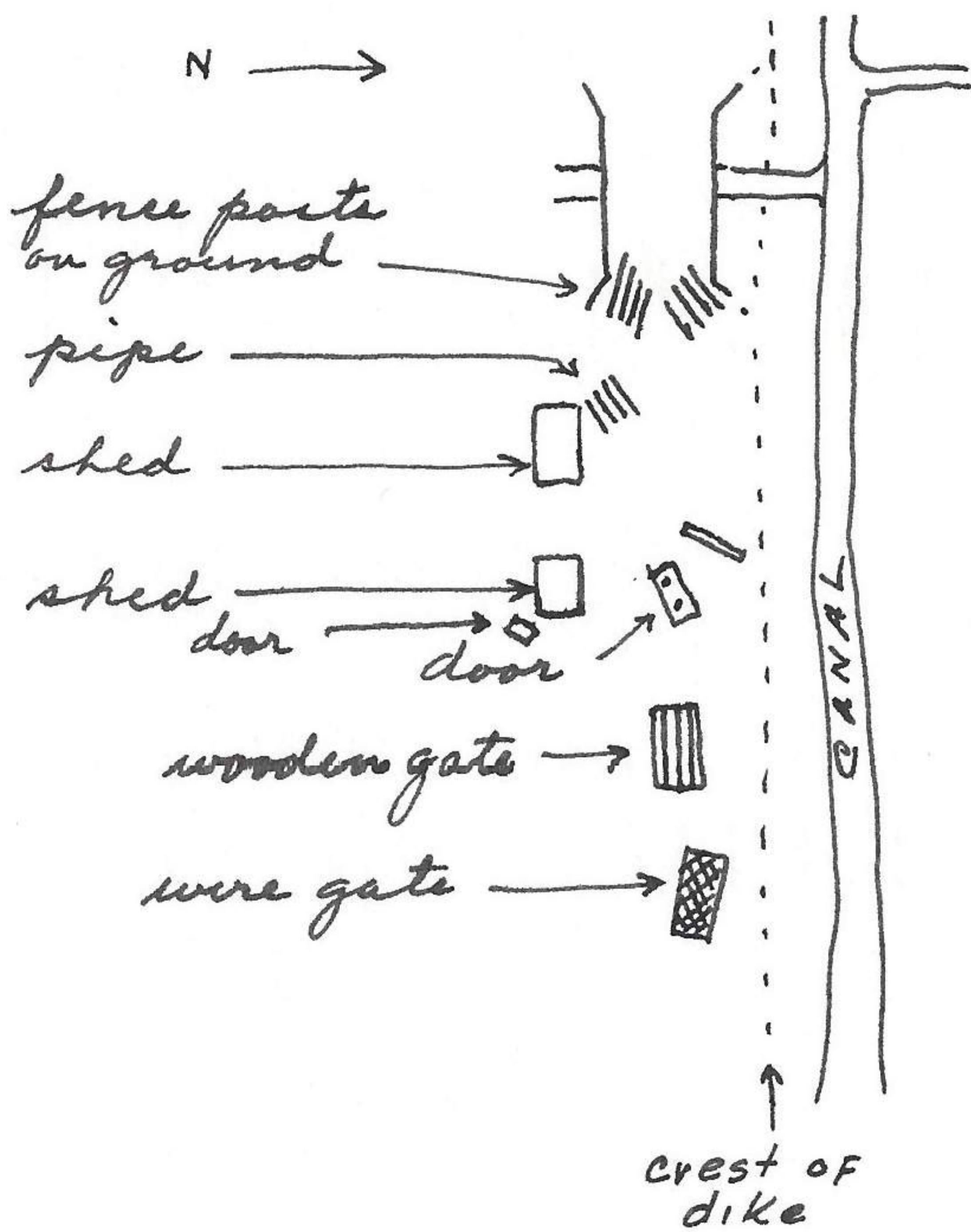
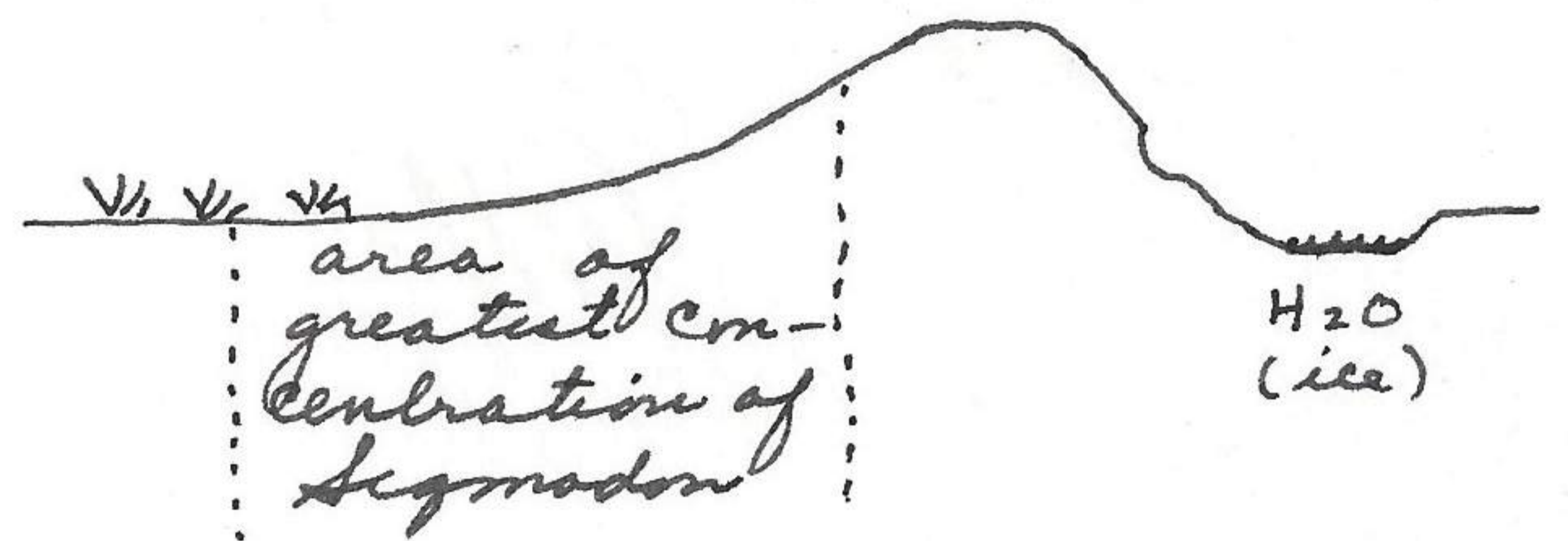


turned over a door (3'x5' wooden) which was lying on the ground and found approximately 28 Sigmodon hispidus. They were confined to two nests.

As the door was lifted the Sigmodon left in all directions and took refuge under other boards or mat grass or escaped into holes in the ground. At one moment the ground and fleeing mammals reminded me of the tundra in northern Alaska when the lemming population is high.



Twelve other Sigmodon were noted in the immediate area under and old wooden gate  on the ground, under fence posts lying on ground, in pipe, under an old wooden gate of wire on ground and sealed in with weeds and grasses. The area of Sigmodon concentration consisted of approx 600 sq. feet or approx. 42 x 15 feet.



The raised area under the shed was not used by Sigmodon but for all tense and purposes should have been used for retreating. The Sigmodon were using established trails although when confused they would escape in all directions regardless of trails. The fields of grasses and weeds south of the dike beyond the sheds were saturated and sealed with frozen water and soils. The crest of the dike lacked good overhead protection.

The largest nest under the door measured as follows:

