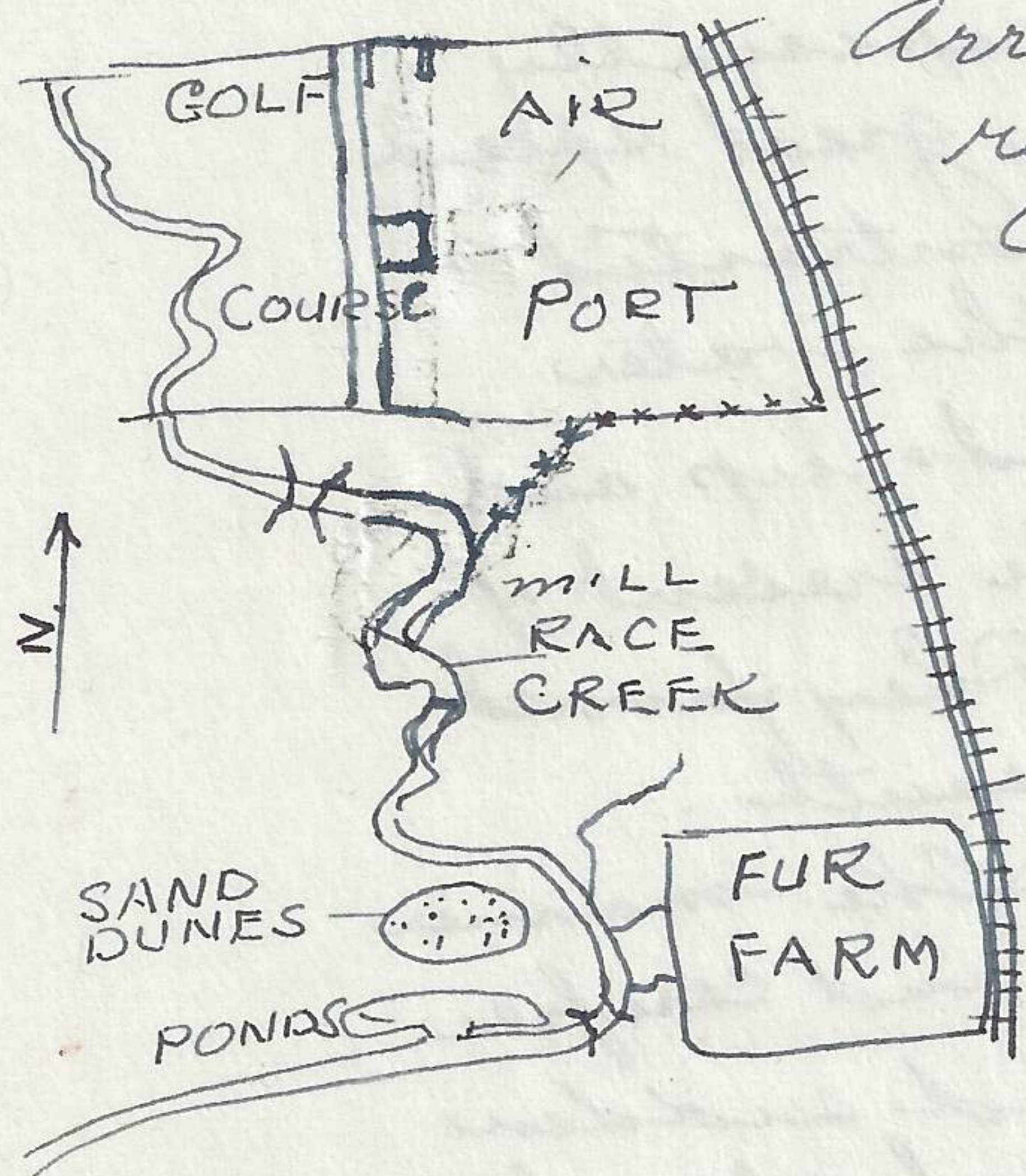


4/12/38 Spent the afternoon at the first Ward ³⁸⁰⁴¹²⁻⁴⁹ of Provo City observing the movements of the ducks. Stationed myself on the prominent sand dunes situated about 3/4 miles south of Airplane Field and from that point could watch the ducks upon the ponds from the overflow of the mill race to the south and the Bullocks Fur Farm to the east. The mill race to the north swings out around the dunes and many ducks were seen here also.



The mill race supports the City Sewer. Arrived about 1 hour before sunset and remained until late twilight. Three C.C.C. men were tramping the fields and were continually frightening the ducks from the different portions of the sloughs, so the arrival to the areas under observation will not represent the normal flight. Estimated about 500 birds in ponds & creek that were under observation. The number is conservative and probably should represent a greater number.

The Baldpate dominated the numbers. The percentages as near as I could account is Baldpate 60%, Gadwall 15%, Scaup 10%, Green wing Teal .05%, Red head .04%, Cinnamon Teal .03%, Mallard .02%, Shoveler .01%

Birds Seen

Baldpate: These birds were in the majority. Was interesting to note the characteristics of the bird that could be used as identification at distances ~~greater~~ that ~~then necessary~~ would not allow differentiation of feather colors. The two most noticeable features in ♂ are the white strip or banner in fore part of wing and the sharp demarcation between the black under tail coverts and the white belly. The wing patch can best be seen when the birds are flying away from the observer or wheeling to the right or left, in which instance a greater portion of the upper surface is showing. The birds in the air are very noisy and lively their call sounding like a squeaking rubber doll or ~~dog~~ rubber dog except the noise of the bird would represent two forced squeaks instead of one. When alighting they approach the water in retarded steps alighting upon the water or land in a more gentle and less forceful manner. Upon the land they managed themselves very well.