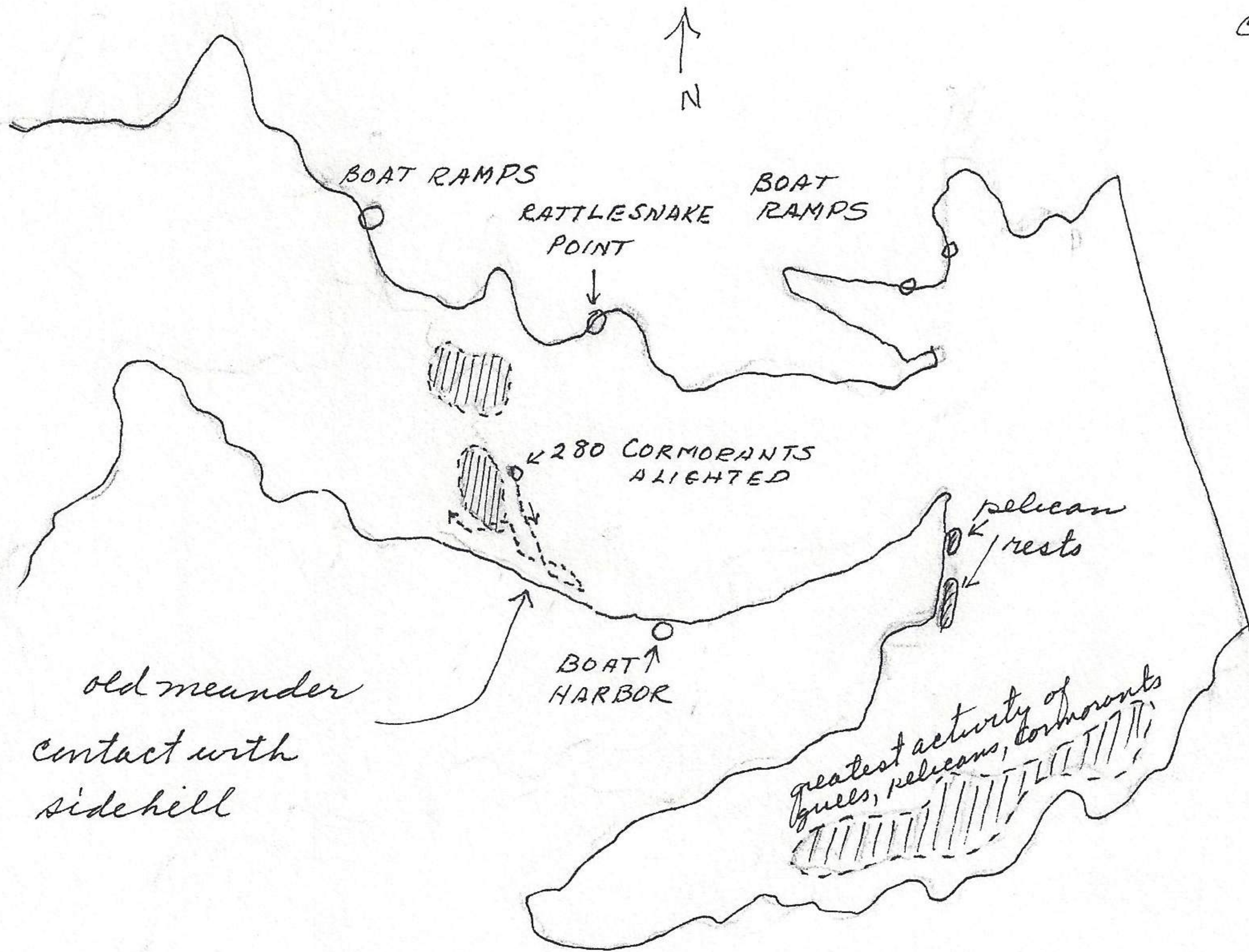


Clinton Reservoir, Douglas Co., Kansas

Oct 10, 1979



Clinton Reservoir showing some areas of activity referred to in notes. Water level is at 867 and is approx 10 feet below the projected recreation level of the lake.

Checked reservoir from base of Rattlesnake Point. at 9:40 A.M. 280 cormorants alighted in a compact formation on the E side of one of the tree islands. Their immediate reaction was diving with noticeable ^{and splashing of} spray of water. Their arrival was anticipated by the ring-billed gulls and pelicans that immediately zero'd on the fishing cormorant. The accentuated activity of these cormorant was continuous throughout their fishing behavior. In three minutes 28 ring-billed gulls and 16 pelican had joined the cormorants which now were moving SE along the edge of the tree island, splashing, diving and extending the raft forward by swimming and raft-hopping by those birds at the rear of the raft. At 4:45 the cormorant were joined by 35 ring-billed gulls and 30 pelicans each benefiting from the fishing activity of the cormorants. At 9:52 there were 38 gulls and 52 pelicans. By 9:55 the gulls had dropped to 15 gulls + 63 pelicans. The cormorants were still fishing with their original enthusiasm and splashing. I have never seen so probing and persistent behavior. 10:05 cormorants still feeding. at 10:13 there were 46 pelicans and 27 gulls associated closely with the cormorants. At 10:¹⁵~~45~~ 120 more cormorant joined the original 280. At this time the cormorants passed thru a segment of inundated trees and the linear line of pelicans jammed against the tree barrier in a compact