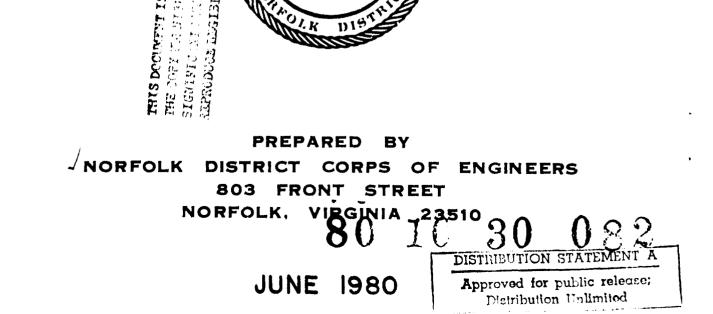
JAMES RIVER BASIN

Name Of Dam: MOORE CREEK Location: ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY Inventory Number: VA. 16304

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM







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20. Abstract

Pursuant to Public Law 92-367, Phase I Inspection Reports are prepared under guidance contained in the recommended guidelines for safety inspection of dams, published by the Office of Chief of Engineers, Washington, D. C. 20314. The purpose of a Phase I investigation is to identify expeditiously those dams which may pose hazards to human life or property. The assessment of the general conditions of the dam is based upon available data and visual inspections. Detailed investigation and analyses involving topographic mapping, subsurface investigations, testing, and detailed computational evaluations are beyond the scope of a Phase I investigation; however, the investigation is intended to identify any need for such studies.

Based upon the field conditions at the time of the field inspection and all available engineering data, the Phase I report addresses the hydraulic, hydrologic, geologic, geotechnic, and structural aspects of the dam. The engineering techniques employed give a reasonably accurate assessment of the conditions of the dam. It should be realized that certain engineering aspects cannot be fully analyzed during a Phase I inspection. Assessment and remedial measures in the report include the requirements of additional indepth study when necessary.

Phase I reports include project information of the dam and appurtenances, all existing engineering data, operational procedures, hydraulic/hydrologic data of the watershed, dam stability, visual inspection report and an assessment including required remedial measures.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE(When Date Entered)

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NAME OF DAM: MOORE CREEK ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA LOCATION: INVENTORY NUMBER: VA 16304 PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM, Moore Creek Dam (Inventory Number VA 16320, James River Basin Rockbridge County, Virginia, Phase I Inspection Report. James A. Walsh Final rept PREPARED NORFOLK DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS 803 FRONT STREET NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23510

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PREFACE

This report is prepared under guidance contained in the Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams, for Phase I Investigations. Copies of these guidelines may be obtained from the Office of the Chief of Engineers, Washington, D.C. 20314 The purpose of a Phase I investigation is to identify expeditiously those dams which may pose hazards to human life or property. The assessment of the general condition of the dam is based upon available data and visual inspections. Detailed investigation and analyses involving topographic mapping, subsurface investigations testing, and detailed computational evaluations are beyond the scope of a Phase I investigation; however, the investigation is intended to identify any need for such studies.

In reviewing this report, it should be realized that the reported condition of the dam is based on observations of field conditions at the time of inspection along with data available to the inspection team. In cases where the reservoir was lowered or drained prior to inspection, such action, while improving the stability and safety of the dam, removes the normal load on the structure and may obscure certain conditions which might otherwise be detectable if inspected under the normal operating environment of the structure. It is important to note that the condition of a dam depends on numerous and constantly changing internal and external conditions, and is evolutionary in nature. It would be incorrect to assume that the present condition of the dam will continue to represent the condition of the dam at some point in the future. Only through continued care and inspection can there be any chance that unsafe conditions be detected.

Phase I inspections are not intended to provide detailed hydrologic and hydraulic analyses. In accordance with the established guidelines, the spillway design flood is based on the estimated "Probable Maximum Flood" for the region (flood discharges that may be expected from the most severe combination of critical meteorologic and hydrologic conditions that are reasonably possible), or fractions thereof. Because of the magnitude and rarity of such a storm event, a finding that a spillway will not pass the design flood should not be interpreted as necessarily posing a highly inadequate condition. The design flood provides a measure of relative spillway capacity and serves as an aide in determining the need for more detailed hydrologic and hydraulic studies, considering the size of the dam, its general condition and the downstream damage potential.

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PHASE I REPORT NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM

BRIEF ASSESSMENT OF DAM

Name of Dam:	Moore Creek
State:	Virginia
Location:	Rockbridge County
USGS Quad Sheet:	Sugarloaf Mountain
Stream:	Moore Creek
Date of Inspection:	30 April 1980

Moore Creek Dam is an earthfill structure about 950 feet long and 88.9 feet high. The dam is owned and maintained by the City of Lexington, Virginia. The dam is classified as an intermediate size with a significant hazard classification. The principal spillway is a concrete lined open channel located between the left abutment and the earth embankment. Two pipes running through the dam at low level can be operated for water supply discharging into the discharge channel of the principal spillway or into a concrete flume running to the right of the discharge channel. This reservoir, at one time, was used for water supply; although, it serves no purpose now. The dam is located 15 miles west of Lexington, Virginia on Moore Creek. Based on criteria established by the Department of the Army, Office of the Chief of Engineers (OCE), the Spillway Design Flood (SDF) is the 1/2 PMF. The spillways will pass 27 percent of the PMF without overtopping the dam. The SDF will overtop the dam by a maximum 1.5 feet, reach an average critical velocity of 5.5 feet per second and flow over the dam for 2 hours. A stability check is not required. However, overtopping flows are considered detrimental because water velocities will cause erosion and potential failure of the dam. Therefore, the principal spillway is adjudged seriously inadequate and the dam is assessed as unsafe non-emergency.

The classification of "unsafe" applied to a dam because of a seriously inadequate spillway is not meant to connote the same degree of emergency as would be associated with an "unsafe" classification applied for a structural deficiency. It does mean, however, that based on an initial screening, and preliminary computations, there appears to be a serious deficiency in the spillway capacity so that if a severe storm were to occur, overtopping and failure of the dam would take place, significantly increasing the hazard to loss of life downstream from the dam.

It is recommended that within 2 months from the date of notification to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the owner engage the services of a professional consultant to determine by more sophisticated methods and procedures the adequacy of the

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spillway. The study should include a more detailed study of the Spillway Design Flood appropriate to this dam. Remedial measures to be considered include modification to the dan, spillway, flood plain, and/or any other method of eliminating the danger imposed by the project.

Within 6 months of the notification to the Governor, the professional consultant's report of appropriate remedial mitigating measures should have been completed and the owner should have an agreement with the Commonwealth of Virginia for a reasonable time frame in which all remedial measures will be complete.

The spillway is rated seriously inadequate beacuse of the detrimental effect of overtopping. The problem is directly related to the sparse vegetation and erosion on portions of the dam. It is recommended that within 2 months from the date of notification to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the owner perform the following items:

a. Seed the sparsely vegetated areas and bare spots on the new portion of the embankment and left downstream abutment.

b. Regrade the irregular fill on the downstream slope and seed to stabilize the slopes.

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These items are needed to maintain the integrity of the structure during overtopping and should become part of a regular maintenance program once initiated. Also a detailed emergency operation plan and warning system should be promptly developed. The plan should include around-the-clock surveillance during unusually heavy precipitation until the suggested corrective measures have been performed and sufficient vegetative cover, like the rest of the dam, has taken hold. The inspection also revealed several other items that require attention. The following items should be scheduled as part of an annual maintenance program:

a. Seed the eroded area in the upstream slope just above the slope protection.

b. Trim the brush on the embankment and in the riprap, and cut all saplings down to the ground.

c. Clean and repair the concrete flumes.

d. Clean out the catch basins and collection pipe system.

iii

e. Monitor the seeps during regular maintenance inspections. Should the wet spot develop flow and flow rates change for the other two seeps without explanation or become turbid, contact a geotechnical consulting firm for further evaluation.

f. Monitor the vertical crack in the principal spillway concrete weir. If turbid flow begins to pass through the crack, then seal the crack.

g. A staff gage should be installed in the reservoir to extend above the top of the dam.

Submitted By:

Approved:

Original signed by JAMES A. WALSH

JAMES A. WALSH, P. E.

Chief, Design Branch

Original signed by: Douglas L. Haller DOUGLAS L. HALLER Colonel Corps of Engineers District Engineer

Recommercial Angened by JACK G. STARR Date: SEP 12 1980

JACK G. STARR Chief, Engineering Division



DOWNSTREAM EMBANKMENT



CREST & PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY

OVERALL VIEW OF MOORE CREEK DAM 30 APRIL 1980

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PROJECT INFORMATION

1.1 GENERAL:

1.1.1 Authority: Public Law 92-367, 8 August 1972, authorized the Secretary of the Army, through the Corps of Engineers to initiate a national program of safety inspections of dams throughout the United States. The Norfolk District has been assigned the responsibility of supervising the inspection of dams in the Commonwealth of Virginia. DESERVATION OF THE PROPERTY OF

1.1.2 Purpose of Inspection: The purpose is to conduct a Phase I inspection according to the <u>Recommended Guidelines for Safety</u> <u>Inspection of Dams</u> (Reference 1, Appendix V). The main responsibility is to expeditiously identify those dams which may be a potential hazard to human life or property.

1.2 Project Description:

1.2.1 Dam and Appurtenances: Mocre Creek Dam is an earthen embankment dam about 950 feet long and 88.9 feet high. The crest of the dam is 21 feet wide with a crest elevation of 1970.9 ft. msl. The upstream slope is 2.75 horizontal to 1 vertical (2.75H:1V) with large placed riprap across the entire embankment. The downstream slope is 3H:1V with benches at elevations 1952.5, 1932.5, 1912.5 and 1892.5.

The embankment is keyed into the foundation and there is no foundation drainage system.

The principal spillway is a concrete lined open channel spillway located at the left abutment. The entire length of the spillway is 100 feet, 20 feet of which is at elevation 1965.0 that helps maintain a normal pool. The additional 80 feet of spillway is at elevation 1965.4, which is called the floodway crest.

A water supply intake tower is located in the left side of the reservoir that services a 30-inch pressure pipe and a 12-inch MJ pipe. The 30-inch pressure pipe is a drain for the reservoir taking the water level from full stage to elevation 1934. The 12-inch pipe is a drain to be used to complete the dewatering of the reservoir.

A 12-inch pipe is available for dewatering the reservoir. The intake is located in the center of the reservoir and discharges at the downstream toe of the dam.

1.2.2 Location: Moore Creek Dum is located 15 miles west of Lexington, Virginia on Moore Creek.

1.2.3 <u>Size Classification</u>: The dam is classified as an intermediate size structure because of height.

1.2.4 <u>Hazard Classification</u>: The dam is located about 2.8 miles upstream of Oakdale, "ginia, a small community along Moore Creek. A flood wave from a dam failure could possibly create economic losses and endanger some lives, therefore, a significant hazard classification is given to this structure according to guidelines contained in Section 2.1.2 of Reference 1, Appendix V. The hazerd classification used to categorize dams is a function of location only and has nothing to do with their scability or probability of failure. 1.2.5 Ownership: City of Lexington, Virginia

1.2.6 <u>Purpose</u>: The dam was used as a water supply structure in the past. At present the dam provides a supplement to Woods Creek Park in Lexington, Virginia. Limited recreation is allow ⁴ by permit from the City.

1.2.7 Design and Construction History: Records do not show when the original dam was constructed. The dam was raised 10 feet in height in 1926 by S. R. Williamson, Consulting Engineer, Charlottesville, Virginia. In 1964, the dams height was raised again and a new concrete open channel spillway added. In 1977, the water supply pipes through the dam were excavated and replaced. The work in 1964 and 1977 was performed by Wiley & Wilson, Consulting Engineers. The resrvoir was refilled in 1979. The dam is also known as Ad Cox Knob Dam.

1.2.8 <u>Normal Operational Procedures</u>: Water passes automatically through the principal spillway as the reservoir rises above the crest of the principal spillway.

1.3 Pertine : Data:

1.3.1 Drainage Area: The dam controls a drainage area of 2.72 square miles.

1.3.2 Discharge at Dam Site: Maximum flood - unknown

Pool level at top of dam

Principal Spillway 4586 cfs

1.3.3 Dam and Reservoir Data: Pertinent data on the dam and reservoir are shown in the following table.

	Reservoir								
	Elevation		(
Item	feet msl	Area, acres	Acre, feet	Watershed, inches	Length miles				
Top of Dam	1970.9	44	1220	8.4	.55				
Principal Spill- way Crest	1965.0	37.5	994	6.9	.51				
Streambed at Down- steam Toe of Dam	1882.0 <u>+</u>								

TABLE 1.1 DAM AND RESERVOIR DATA

ENGINEERING DATA

2.1 <u>Design</u>: Drawings are available for work undertaken on this structure in 1926, 1964, and 1977 and are provided in Appendix I. The basic dimensions of the original dam are indicated on the 1926 plans. A report on the seepage problem prepared by Wiley & Wilson in 1977 was also available and is provided in Appendix IV. This firm provided the design for the 1964 addition. The 1926 plans were prepared by S. R. Williamson, Consulting Engineer.

2.2 <u>Construction</u>: Wiley and Wilson, Architects Engineers Planners, of Lynchburg, Virginia maintains the construction records for the 1964 and 1977 alterations to the dam. There are no known construction records prior to 1964.

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2.3 Evaluation: There is insufficient information to evaluate foundation conditions and embankment stability.

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VISUAL INSPECTION

3.1 Findings:

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3.1.1 General: The results of the 30 April 1980 inspection are recorded in Appendix III. At the time of the inspection, the weather was partly cloudy and windy, with a temperature of 640F. Ground conditions were moist. The water level in the reservoir was at elevation 1965.1 feet, or normal pool. There is no true tailwater for this cam. An unestimated amount of flow was passing through the principal spillway. There are no reports of formal inspections of the dam. The 1977 report, prepared by Wiley & Wilson, outlines the seepage problems existing at that time.

3.1.2 Embankment: The embankment is in fair condition. A sketch showing a plan view is provided as Plate I, Appendix I. Overall views of the crest and downstream slope are provided at the beginning of the report. There are no signs of surface cracks, sloughing, or misalignment. The upstream slope is riprapped with dumped gravel to boulder size sandstone. Light vegetation consisting of grass and small trees is growing through the riprap. There is erosion on the slope along and just above the riprap.

The new portion of the embankment is sparsely vegetated with grass and there are several bare spots. The original portion of the downstream slope is covered with brush and some locust and pine saplings as shown in Photo 1, Appendix II. There is intermittent surface erosion due to runoff on the downstream slope in the irregular fill below the third bench as shown in Photo 2. There is local ponding on the benches at various locations.

The right abutment is an exposed vertical cut. The left abutment is sparsely vegetated with grass. Abutment contacts are protected with concrete flumes. Portions of each flume are damaged and filled with debris.

There is no movement or cracking at or beyond the toe. The area at the toe is wet and soggy as shown in Photo 6. There is uncontrolled erosion due to runoff in the area beyond the toe where it drops off to a ravine below.

Three seeps were found and are as located on Plate I. Seep 1, shown in Photo 7, is a wet spot. It has created a wet, soggy area about 7 x 25 feet on the downstream slope at the first banch. Seeps 2 and 3 are flowing freely and clearly. No attempt was made to estimate the flow. Seep 3 is a boil and is shown in Photos 9 and 10. It was reported by Wiley and Wilson, that seep 3 is the result of the discharge from a six inch drain tile line which is used to pipe water from an iron water spring which existed in this area.

There are no foundation drains. There is a series of catch basins on the downstream benches. Several were filled with debris. One, as shown on Plate I, is overflowing and there is local ponding surrounding the basin. Also, a gully is developing on the slope just below the basin caused by the overflow. The gully is within the irregular fill.

3.1.3 <u>water Supply Intake Structure</u>: The intake tower is located about 100 feet upstream of the embankment as shown in Photo 5. Leakage along three pipes exiting from the intake structure and passing through the dam prompted the repair work undertaken in 1977. A slight flow was noted from the 12-inch and 30-inch lines; the third pipe has been plugged and abandoned. The abandoned pipe outlet is shown in Photo 8. The steel bridge that connects the intake structure to the embankment is presently resting on the crest of the dam. A 12-inch pipe at low elevation leading from a separate gate valve located some distance to the right of the intake structure can be used to drain the reservoir. A diver had to use a pipe wrench in 1978 to open outlet. The pipe stem is about 12 feet long. and the second second

3.1.4 <u>Principal Spillway</u>: The concrete weir which serves as the principal spillway is in good condition, except for a vertical crack located about 20 feet from t'.2 right wingwall. The earth discharge channel beyond the principal spillway was scoured considerably in 1969, exposing large boulders and chunks of concrete. The spillway and discharge channel are as shown in Photos 3 and 4, respectively. It was reported by Wiley and Wilson that the spillway crest was constructed outside the dam embankment through an existing saddle well removed from the dam embankment.

3.1.5 <u>Instrumentation</u>: There is no instrumentation on the dam other than the reservoir elevations which are marked on the water intake tower. The elevation marking(s) were difficult to read.

3.1.6 <u>Reservoir Area</u>: The refervoir is surrounded by heavily wooded mountainous terrain. There-are no signs of erosion or slope failures. A portion of the reservoir slope just upstream of the right abutment is an exposed vertical cut. A thin layer of sedimentation was noted when the diver opened the emergency gate in 1978.

3.1.7 <u>Downstream Channel</u>: The downstream channel is a natural streambed between wooded slopes, which drops steadily in elevation below the dam. The discharge channel side slopes showed some minor erosion. Several homes are located near the banks of Moore Creek, about 1 to 1.5 miles downstream from the dam.

3.2 <u>Evaluation</u>: Overall, the dam appears to be in fair condition. Portions of the embankment are sparsely vegetated and there is surface erosion on the downstream slope. The inspection revealed several items which need to be corrected. These are:

a. Seed the eroded area on the upstream slope just about the slope protection.

b. Seed the sparsely vegetated area and bare spots in the new portion of the embankment and left downstream abutment.

c. Regrade the irregular fill in the downstream slope and seed to stabilize the slope.

d. Trim the brush on the embankment and in the riprap, and cut all saplings down to the ground.

e. Clean and repair the concrete flumes.

f. Clean out the catch basins and associated piping system.

g. Monitor the seeps during regular maintenance inspections. Should the wet spot develop flow, and flow rates change for the other two seeps without explanation or become turbid, contact a geotechnical consulting firm for further evaluation.

h. Monitor the vertical crack in the principal spillway concrete weir. If turbid flow begins to pass through the crack, then seal the clack.

i. A staff gage should be installed in the reservoir to extend above the top of the dam.

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

4.1 <u>Procedures</u>: The normal storage pool elevation is 1965.0 feet msl, which is the crest of the principal spillway. At one time the reservoir was used to supply water to Lexington, Virginia. Presently, the dam supplements Woods Creek Park in Lexington, Virginia. Limited recreation is allowed by permit from the City. Water passes automatically over the principal spillway as the water level in the reservoir rises above the principal spillway crest as the pool level in the reservoir rises above normal pool. A 12-inch concrete pipe at a low level in the reservoir is provided to lower the reservoir below normal pool.

4.2 Maintenance: There is no maintenance program for the Moore Creek Dam.

4.3 Warning Sys.em: At present time there is no warning system or evacuation plan for Moore Creek Dam.

4.4 Evaluation: The dam does not require an elaborate operational and maintenance program. However, a program should be initiated to help detect and correct problems as they occur. An emergency operation and warning plan should be developed. It is recommended that a formal emergency procedure be prepared and furnished to responsible persons of the City of Lexington, Virginia. This should include: a. How to operate the dam during an emergency.

b. Who to notify, including public officials, in case evacuation from the downstream area is necessary.

HYDRAULIC/HYDROLOGIC DATA

5.1 Design: None were available.

5.2 Hydrologic Records: None were available.

5.3 Flood Experience: The maximum flow through the structure is not known. The worst flood to be experienced by the dam was Tropical Storm Camille in August of 1969.

5.4 <u>Flood Potential</u>: The 1/2 PMF and PMF were developed and routed through the reservoir by use of the HEC-IDB computer program (Reference 2, Appendix IV) and appropriate unit hydrograph, precipitation and storage-outflow data. Clark's Tc and R coefficients for the local drainage area were estimated from basin characteristics. The rainfall applied to the developed unit hydrograph was obtained from a U. S. Weather Bureau Publication (Reference 3, Appendix V).

5.5 <u>Reservoir Regulation</u>: Pertinent dam and reservoir data are shown in Table 1.1.

Water passes automatically through the principal spillway as the reservoir rises above the spillway crost.

The storage curve was developed based on areas obtained from U. S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Maps. Rating curves were developed for the principal spillway, 12-inch drawdown outlet and the non-overflow section of the dam. In routing hydrographs through the reservoir, it was assumed that the initial porl level was at elevation 1965.0.

5.6 <u>Overtopping Potential</u>: The probable rise in the reservoir and other pertinent information on reservoir performance is shown in the following table:

Table 5.1 RESERVOIR PERFORMANCE

	Normal	1/2 PMF	PMF 1/
Item	Flow	······································	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Peak flow, c.f.s.			
Inflow	3	11071	22142
Outflow	3	11000	22100
Maximum elevation			
ft, msl	1965.0	1972.4	1974.1
Non-overflow section (el. 1970.9)			
Depth of flow, ft.	-	1.5	3.2
Duration, hrs	-	2.0	3.5
Velocity, fps 2/	-	5.5	8.0
Tailwater elevation			
ft., msl 3/	-	-	-

1/ The PMF is an estimate of flood discharges that may be expected from the most severe combination of critical meteorologic and hydrologic conditions that are reasonably possible in the region. 2/ Critical velocity.

 $\frac{3}{1}$ Flow through the principal spillway discharge channel discharges down the mountain side inhibiting a tailwater.

5.7 <u>Reservoir Emptying Potential</u>: A 12-inch gate outlet at elevation 1908.5 is available for dewatering the reservoir. The low level opening located in the center of the reservoir will permit withdrawal of about 30 cfs with the reservoir at normal pool and essentially dewater the reservoir in about 24 days. This is equivalent to an approximate drawdown rate of 2.4 feet per day. This is based on the hydraulic height measured from the maximum storage pool at elevation 1965.0 to the outlet pipe elevation divided by the time to dewater the reservoir.

5.8 Evaluation: Based on the size (intermediate) and hazard classification (significant), the recommended Spillway Design Flood is 1/2 PMF to the PMF. Based on the risk involved in this project, the 1/2 PMF has been selected as the SDF. The principal spillways will pass 27 percent of the PMF without overtopping the dam. The SDF will overtop the dam by a maximum of 1.5 feet with a critical velocity of 5.5 and remain above the top of the dam about 2 hours.

Conclusions pertain to present day conditions. The effect of future development on the hydrology has not been considered.

DAM STABILITY

6.1 Foundation and Abutment: There is no information available on the foundation conditions, except what can be inferred from plans for the various stages of construction and from geologic studies of the area. The dam is located in the Ridge and Valley geologic region of Virginia. The vicinity of the dam site is underlain by Lower Devonian - Upper Silurian rocks which may include coarse grained calcareous and ferruginous sandstone with a few conglomerate beds, limestone of the Tonoloway Formation, and Keefer Sandstone, which is white and fine to medium grained, with some reddish iron oxide stain. The rock exposed in the area of the right abutment is predominately reddish brown sandstone; light colored boulders exposed by erosion in the emergency spillway channel appears to be the Keefer Sandstone.

The plans prepared in 1926 for the extension of the dam call for a core trench, designated on the drawing as a "clay puddle cutoff wall to be sunk to clay foundation", to be constructed at the upstream toe of the existing dam. This trench was to have a bottom width of 6 feet, with the exact "location, length and depth to be determined in the field by the Resident Engineer." No construction records are available to confirm the actual construction of such a cutoff wall.

Although the 1926 plans call for the cutoff wall to be sunk to the "clay foundation", it appears that the dam site is underlain by sandstone and/or residual sandy soil derived from this material, rather than clay or alluvium. Plate 2 of "Geology of the Natural Bridge, Sugarioaf Mountain, Buchanan, and Arnold Valley Quadrangles, Virginia" indicates that the alluvial stream deposits of Moore Creek do not extend as far upstream as the dam site. Since the overburden at the site is apparently relatively shallow, good engineering practice would have been to excavate down to the sandstone bedrock prior to construction of the dam. If this were done, the foundation should be relatively impervious, with seepage likely only along joints and fractures. No evidence of the Tonoloway limestone, which could develop solution channels and aggravate seepage problems, was noted at the dam site, although this formation is associated with the general area. Neither should the foundation be very susceptible to settlement or sliding. There are no foundation drains indicated on the plans.

6.2 Embankment:

6.2.1 <u>Material</u>: There is little formal record of the materials used in the construction of the embankment. The right abutment area was used as a source of fill material for the 1977 work and it is likely that the area now covered by the impoundment may have served as a source of borrow also for earlier construction. The soils in the area of the dam site, which presumably were used in the construction of the embankment, are generally residual silts with some fine sand and rock fragments. These soils are of low plasticity and have a relatively high natural moisture content. Somewhat sandier material formed by recent weathering of the exposed rock was noted in the right abutment area.

The original embankment was probably constructed around 1900. Plans for an addition were prepared in 1926, with the work apparently performed shortly thereafter, and the dam was raised again in 1964. Remedial repairs to correct a seepage problem were undertaken in 1977. The material added to raise the dam in 1964 was placed in three separate zones, according to the plans. These are described only as "impervious" (type A), "filt" (type B), and "ballast" (type C). It is not known whether the pre-1964 structure, which now forms the core of the present dam, is zoned or not.

6.2.2 <u>Stability</u>: There are no stability analysis calculations available for this dam, which is 88.9 feet high and 21 feet wide. The upstream slope is 2.75H:1V with riprap at normal pool. The downstream slope is 2.5H:1V.

For this dam nor... fool exists when the reservoir level is at the elevation of the principal spillway, as it was at the time of the inspection. This is also the maximum control storage pool. The dam experiences this pool level with no apparent adverse effects. The dam is subjected to a sudden drawdown because the approximate reservoir drawdown rate of 2.4 feet per day exceeds the critical rate of 0.5 feet per day for earth dams.

There is no engineering information available for the original work. The 1926 drawings show the original dam configuration. Also, it is apparent through these drawings that the 1926 construction work was engineered and followed the standards of that time. The 1964 and 1977 post-construction work was designed by Wiley & Wilson, Consulting Engineers.

6.2.3 <u>Seismic Stability</u>: The dam is located in Seismic Zone 2. Therefore, according to the <u>Recommended Guidelines for Safety</u> <u>Inspection of Dams</u>, the dam is considered to have no hazard from earthquakes provided that static stability conditions are satisfactory and conventional safety margins exist.

6.3 Evaluation: There is insufficient information to adequately evaluate the stability of the dam. However, the structure is considered an engineered dam because the latest post-construction modifications were designed by Wiley & Wilson, a reputable engineering firm. The visual inspection revealed no apparent structural instability. There were seeps which will require monitoring. Also, portions of the embankment are sparsely vegetated and there is surface erosion on the downstream slope. There is no regular maintenance program to maintain growth and control erosion. Finally, there is overtopping. The SDF will overtop the dam by 1.5 feet at a velocity of 5.5 fps for about 2 hours.

A stability check is not required because the embankment is considered engineered. However, overtopping is considered detrimental. The general rule in determining whether overtopping is detrimental or not is to compare overtopping velocity to an accepted standard. If the velocity at SDF is equal to or greater than 6 fps, the accepted effective eroding velocity for a vegetated earth embankment, then overtopping is considered detrimental. For this dam, the velocity at SDF is 5.5 fps which is less than 6 fps. However, portions of the embankment are sparsely vegetated and already eroded. These conditions are more susceptible to erosion by overtopping flows. Therefore, overtopping is considered detrimental because water velocities will cause erosion in the areas of the sparse vegetation and erosions on the dam resulting in a potential failure of the dam. 6-3

ASSESSMENT/REMEDIAL MEASURES

7.1 Dam Assessment: The available engineering data is inadequate. The visual inspection revealed sparse vegetation and erosion on portions of the dam. There is no regular maintenance operations program or emergency operation and warning plan. Corps guidelines indicate the appropriate Spillway Design Flood (SDF) for an intermediate size and significant hazard classification is the 1/2 PMF. The spillway will pass 27 percent of the PMF without overtopping the dam. A stability check is not required. However, overtopping flows are considered detrimental because water velocities will cause erosion and potential failure of the dam. Therefore, the principal spillway is adjudged seriously inadequate and the dam is assessed as unsafe non-emergency.

The classification of "unsafe" applied to a dam because of a seriously inadequate spillway is not meant to connote the same degree of emergency as would be associated with an "unsafe" classification applied for a structural deficiency. It does mean, however, that based on an initial screening, and preliminary computations, there appears to be a serious deficiency in the spillway capacity so that if a severe storm were to occur, overtopping and failure of the dam would take place, significantly increasing the hazard to loss of life downstream from the dam. It is recommended that within 2 months from the date of notification to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the owner engage the services of a professional consultant to determine by more sophisticated methods and procedures the adequacy of the spillway. The study should include a more detailed study of the Spillway Design Flood appropriate to this dam. Remedial measures to be considered include modification to the dam, spillway, flood plain, and/or any other method of eliminating the danger imposed by the project.

Within 6 months of the notification to the Governor, the professional consultant's report of appropriate remedial mitigating measures should have been completed and the owner should have an agreement with the Commonwealth of Virginia for a reasonable time frame in which all remedial measures will be complete.

7.2 <u>Recommended Remedial Measures</u>: The spillway is rated seriously inadequate beacuse of the detrimental effect of overtopping. The problem is directly related to the sparse vegetation and erosion on portions of the dam. It is recommended that within 2 months from the date of notification to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the owner perform the following items:

a. Seed the sparsely vegetated areas and bare spots on the new portion of the embankment and left downstream abutment.

b. Regrade the irregular fill on the downstream slope and seed to stabilize the slopes.

These items are needed to maintain the integrity of the structure during overtopping and should become part of a regular maintenance program once initiated. Also a detailed emergency operation plan and warning system should be promptly developed. The plan should include around-the-clock surveillance during unusually heavy precipitation until the suggested corrective measures have been performed and sufficient vegetative cover, like the rest of the dam, has taken hold.

The inspection also revealed several other items that require attention. The following items should be scheduled as part of an annual maintenance program: ALIAN DESIGNATION OF A DESCRIPTION OF A DE

a. Seed the eroded area in the upstream slope just above the slope protection.

b. Trim the brush on the embankment and in the riprap, and cut all saplings down to the ground.

c. Clean and repair the concrete flumes.

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d. Clean out the catch basins and connecting pipe culvert system in the dam downstream embankmer...

e. Monitor the seeps during regular maintenance inspections. Should the wet spot develop flow and flow rates change for the other two seeps without explanation or become turbid, contact a geotechnical consulting firm for further evaluation.

f. Monitor the vertical crack in the principal spillway concrete weir. If turbid flow begins to pass through the crack, then seal the crack.

g. A staff gage should be installed in the reservoir to extend above the top of the dam.

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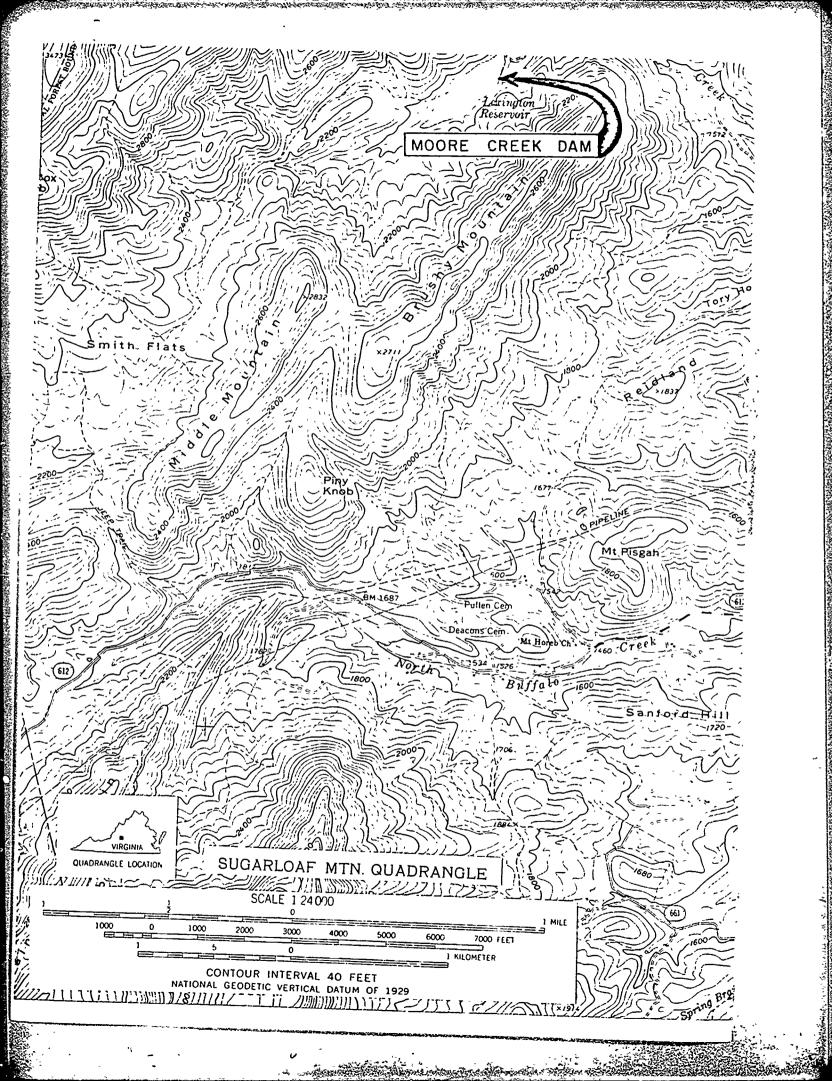
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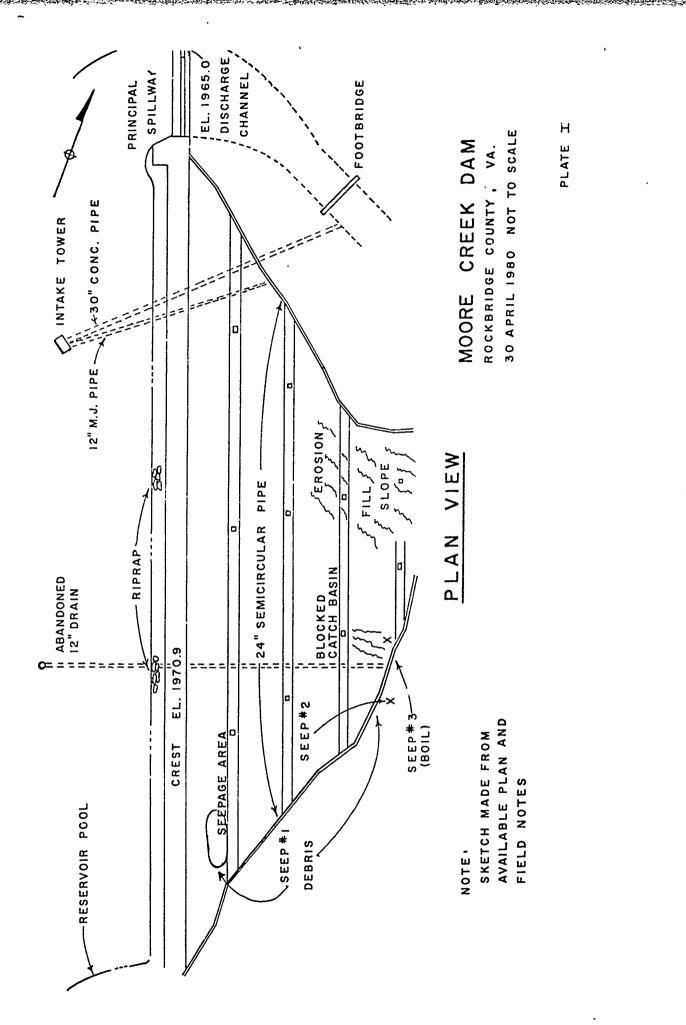
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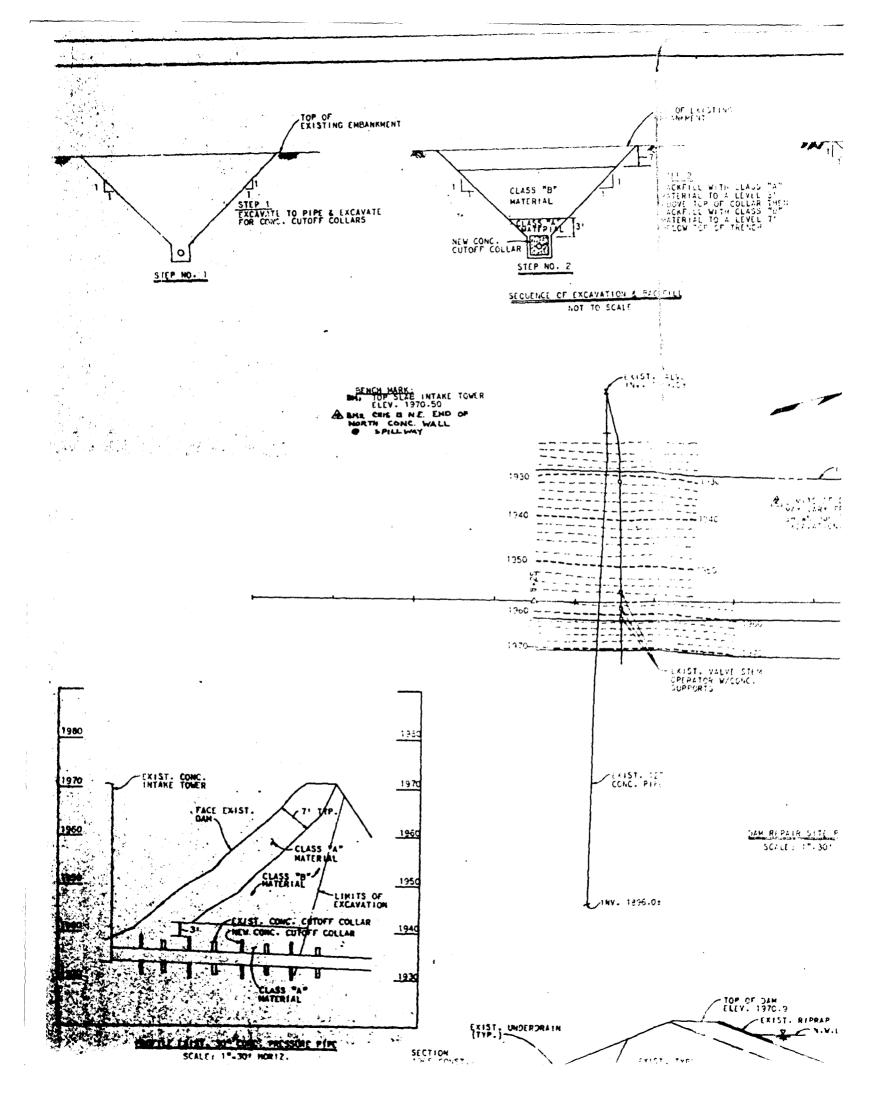
APPENDIX I

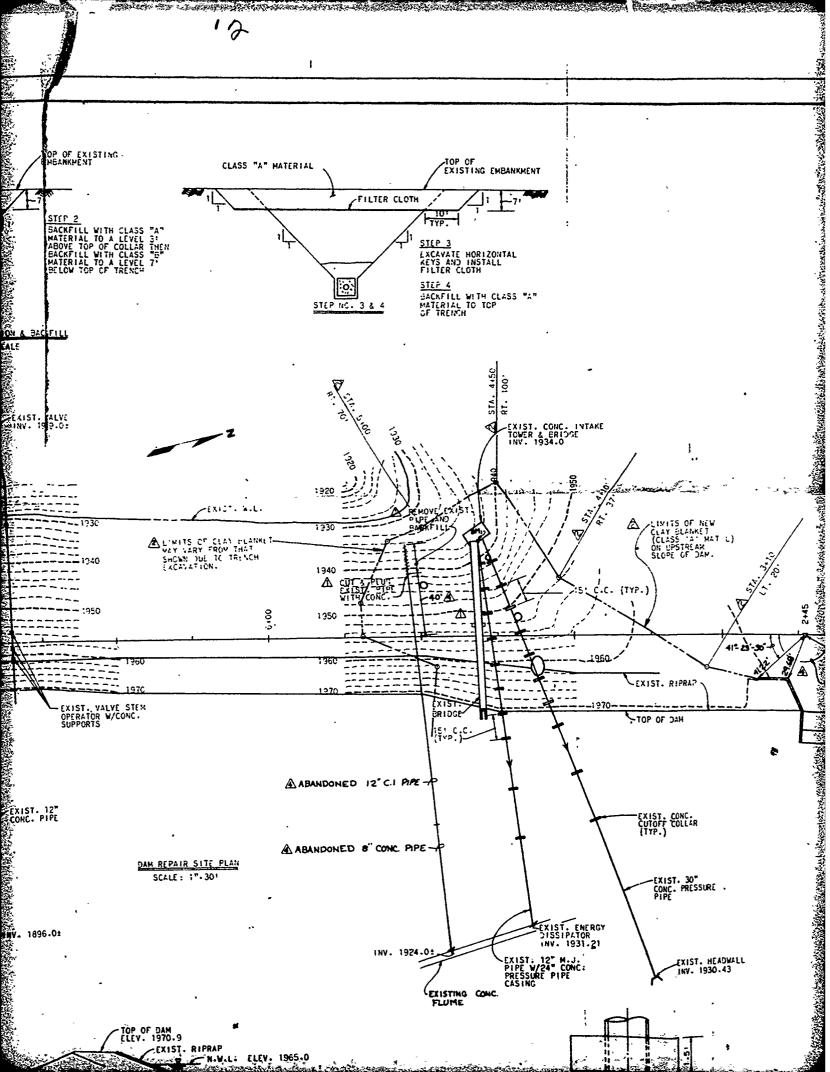


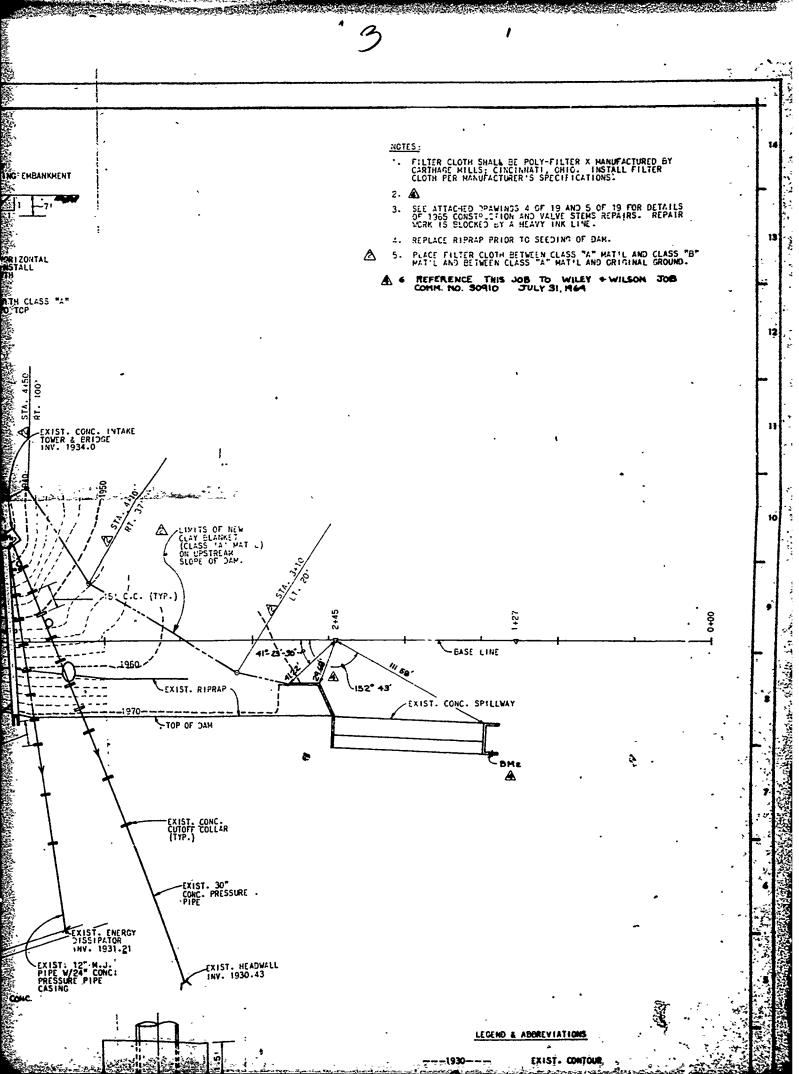


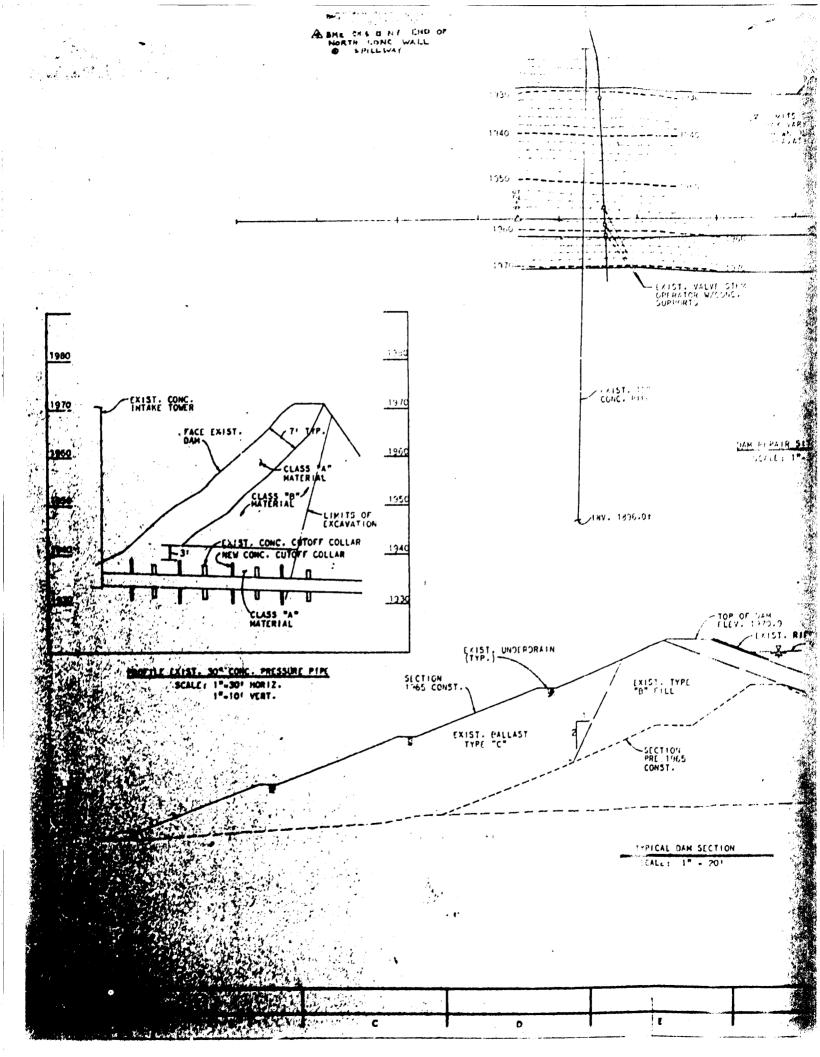
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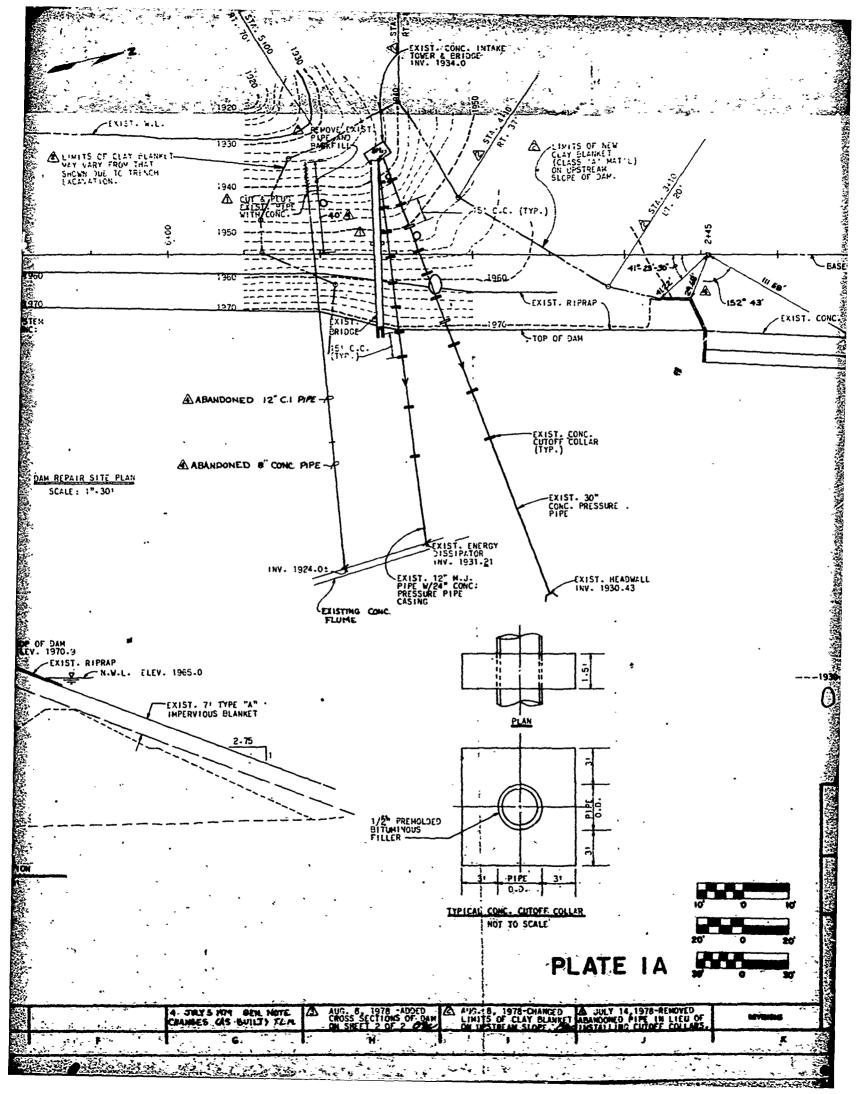
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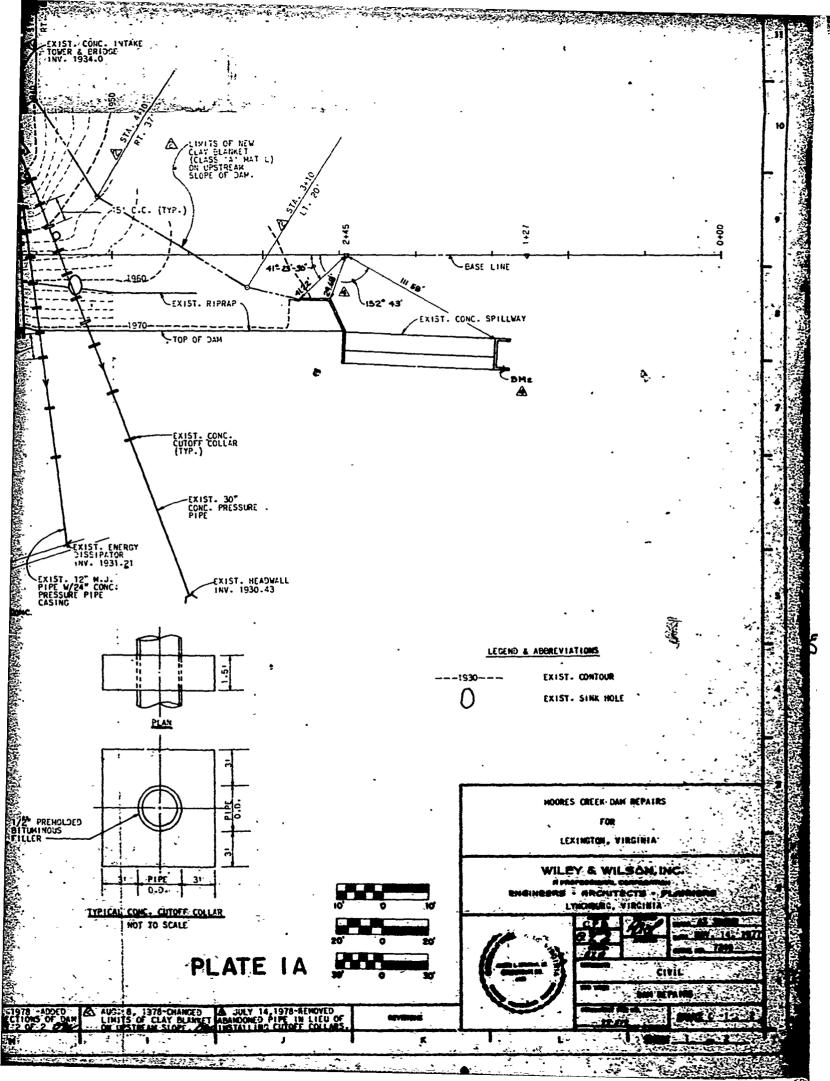


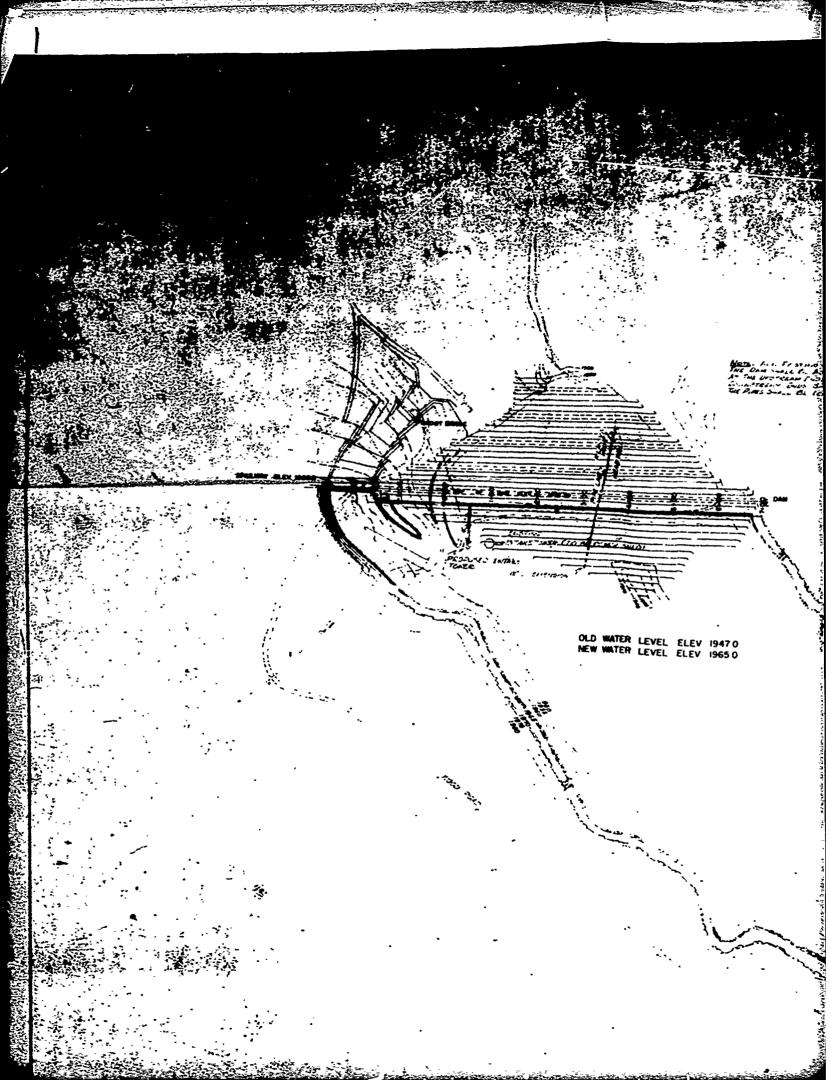


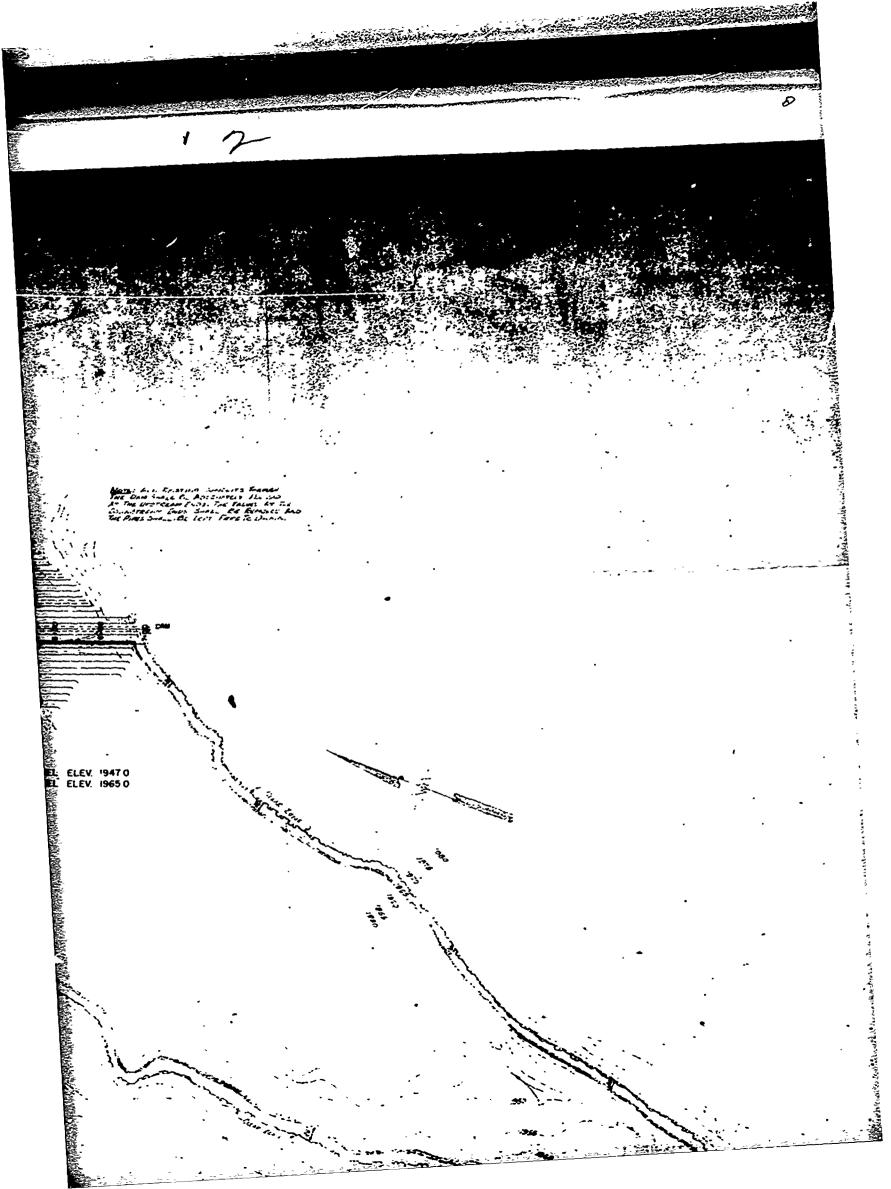


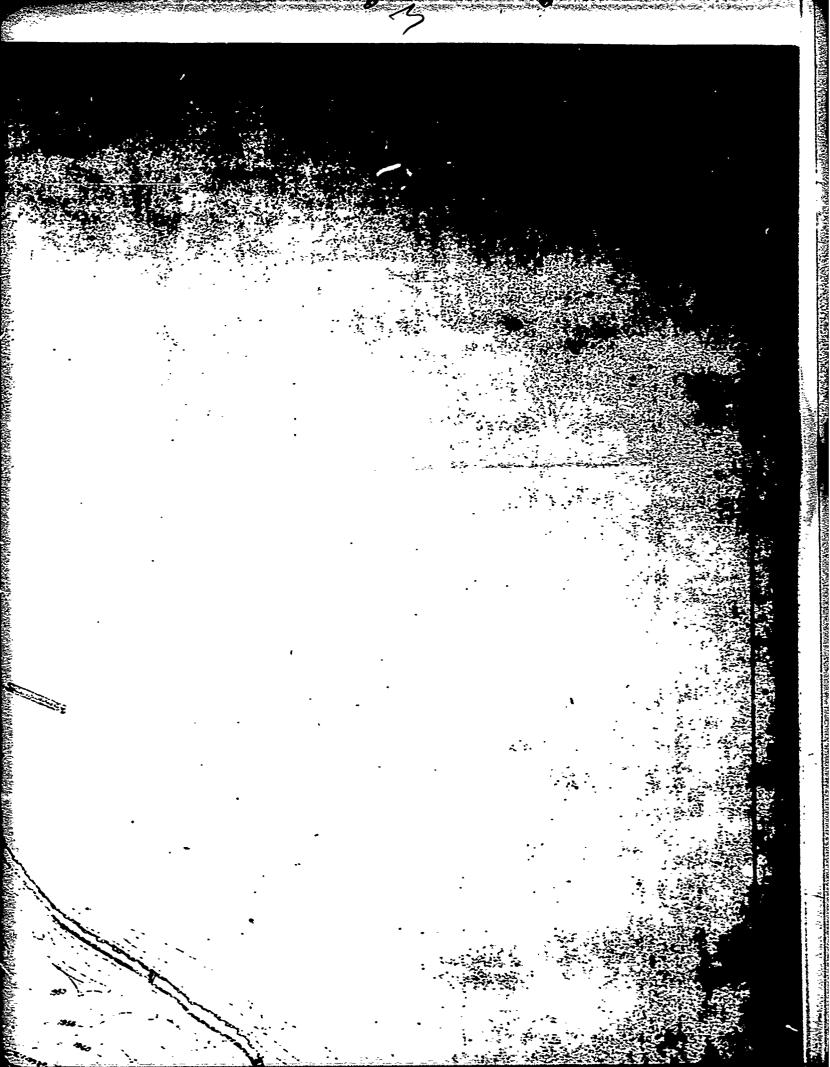


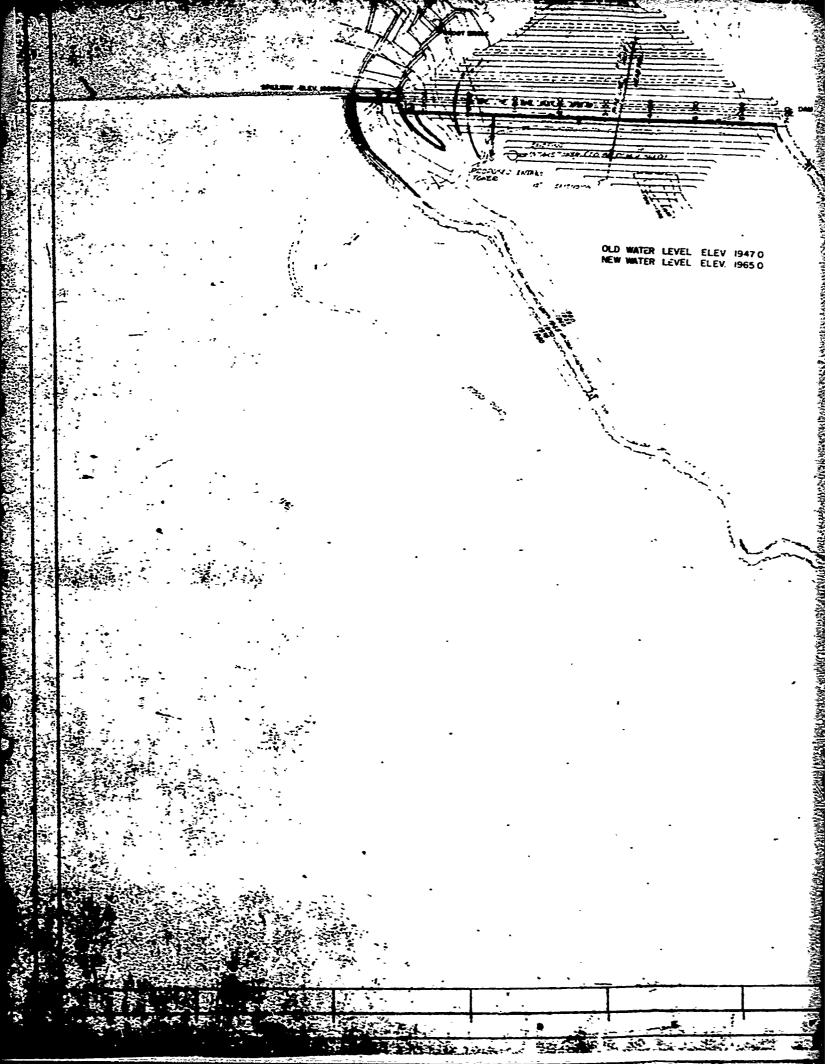


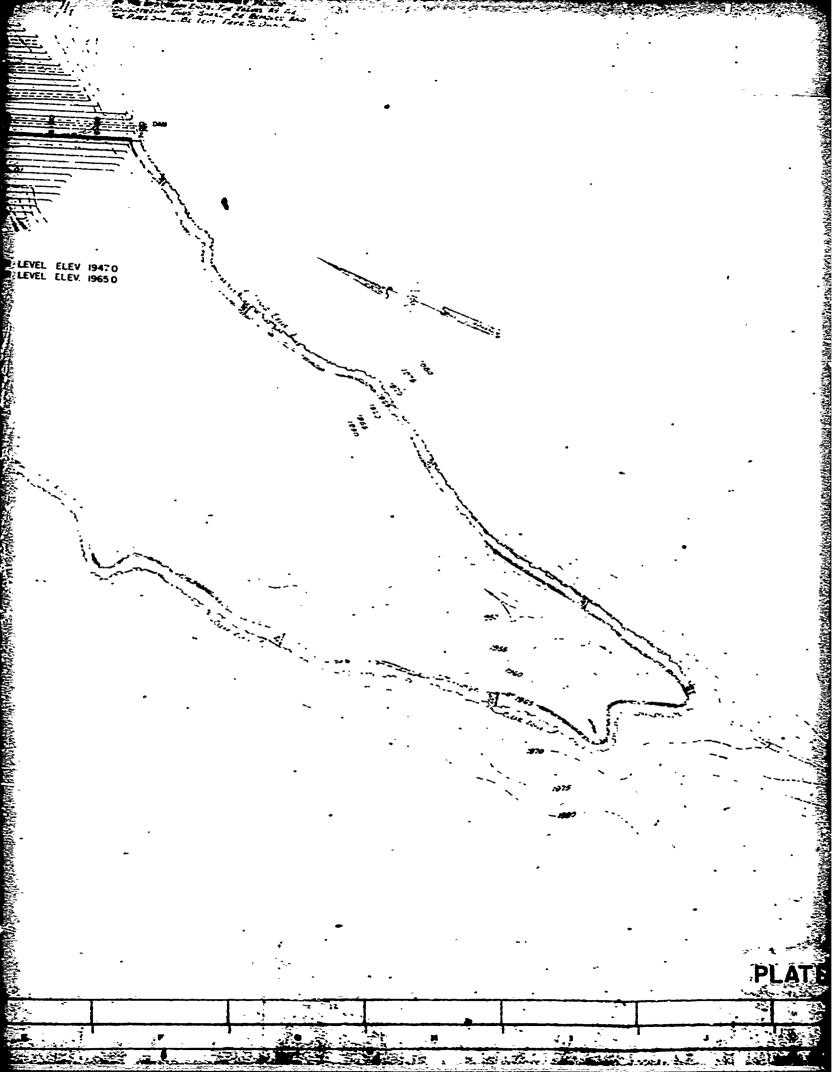


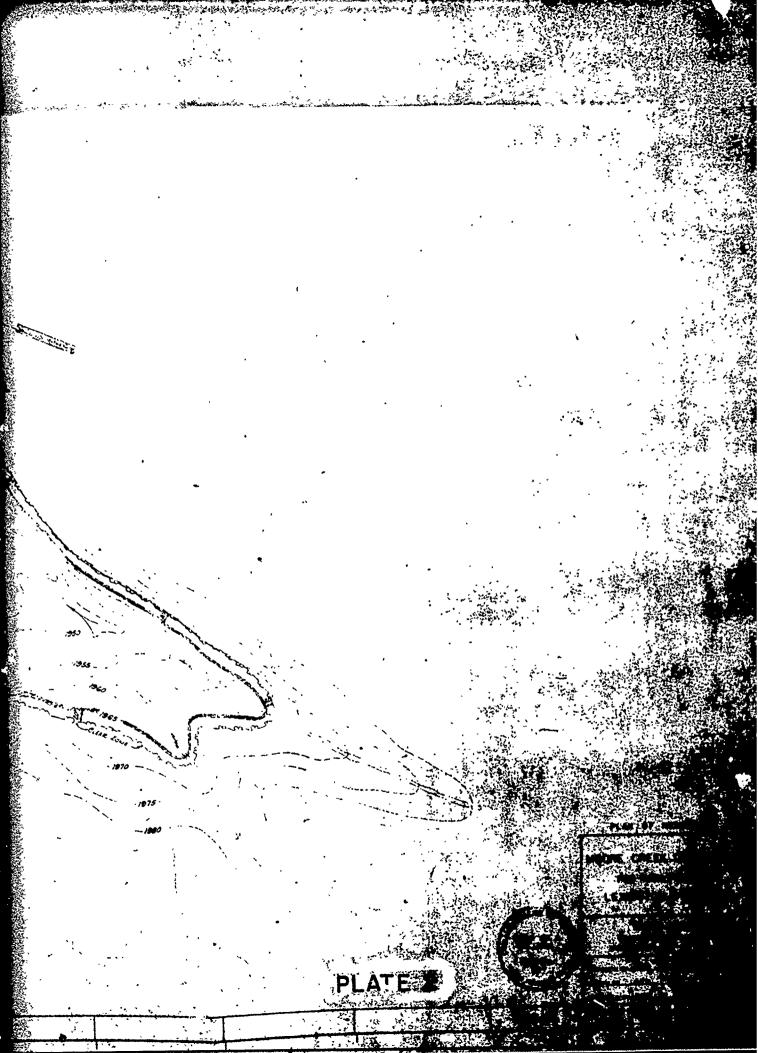


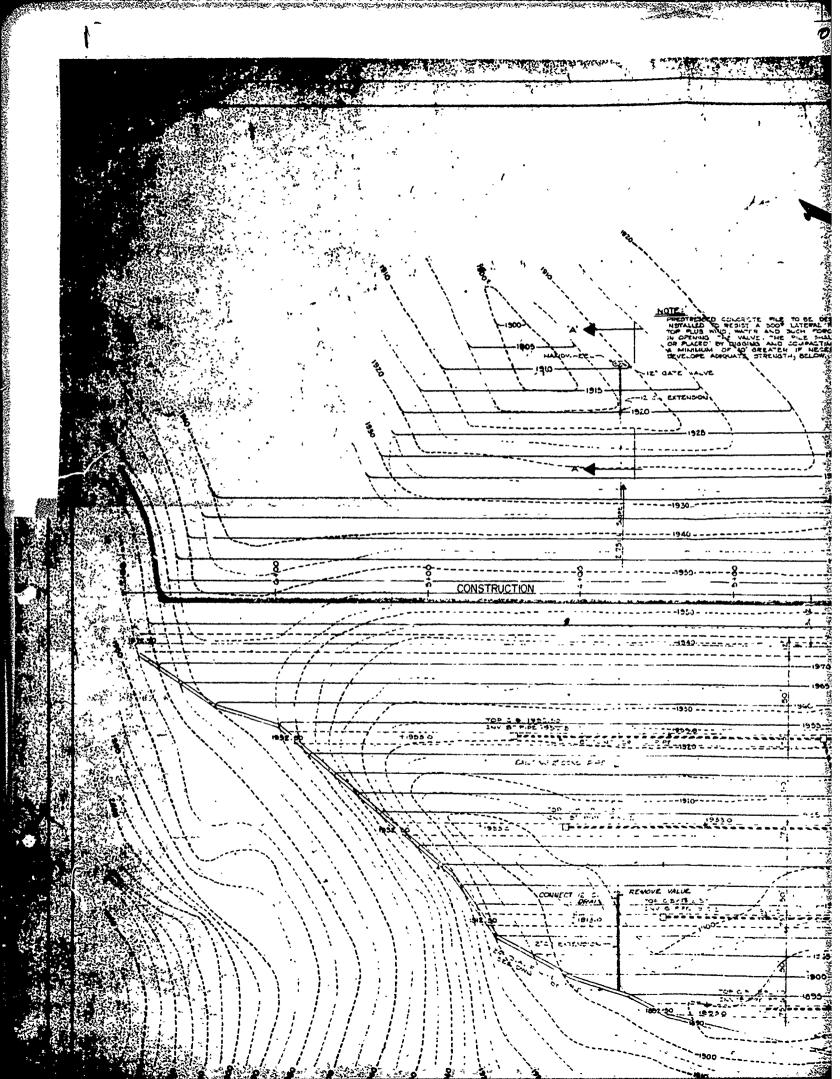


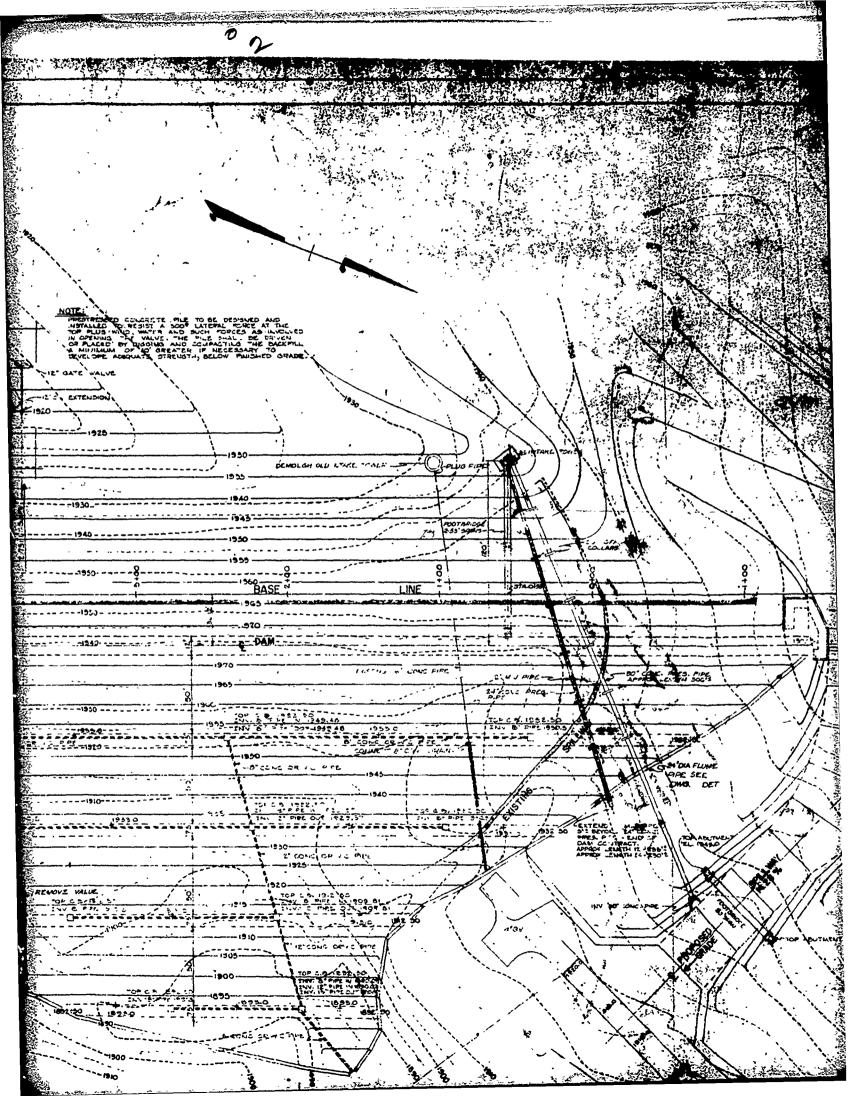


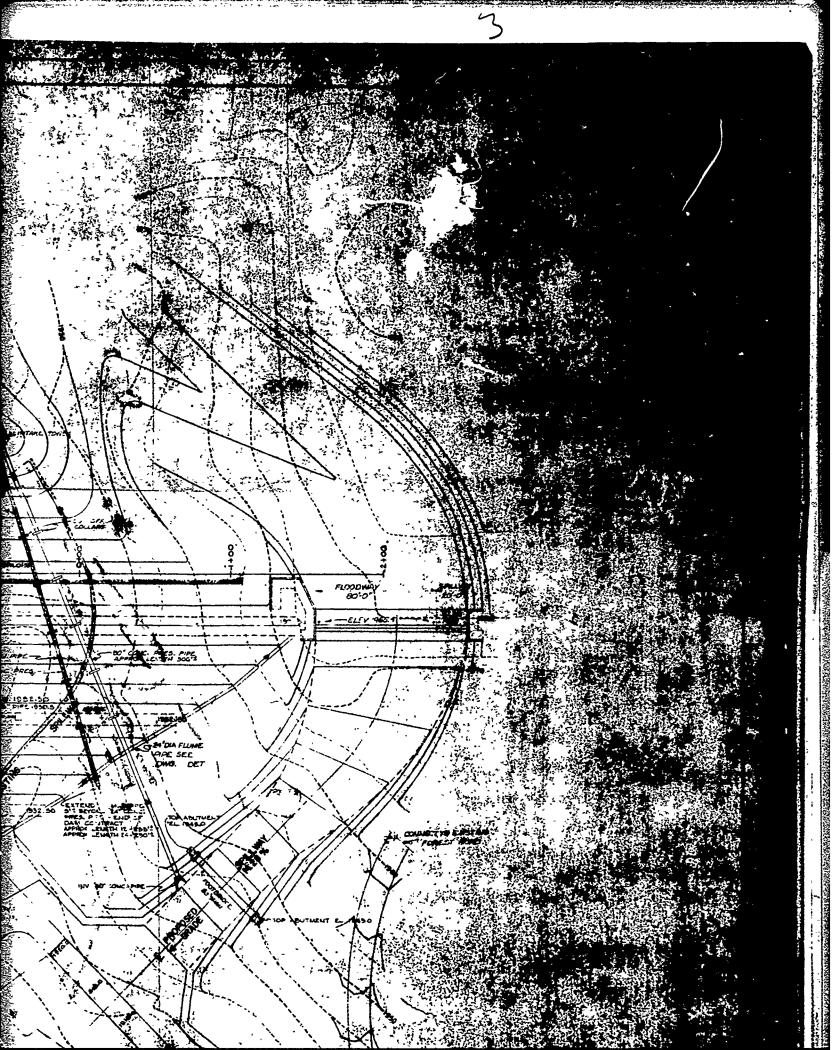


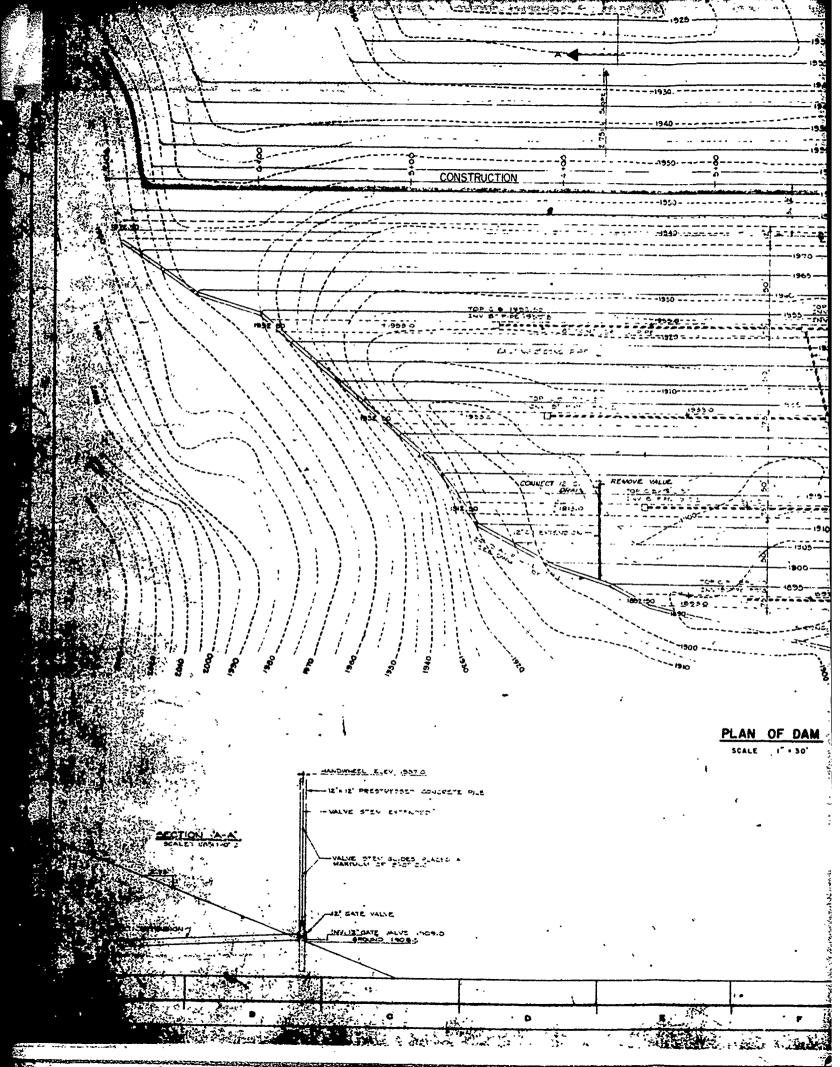


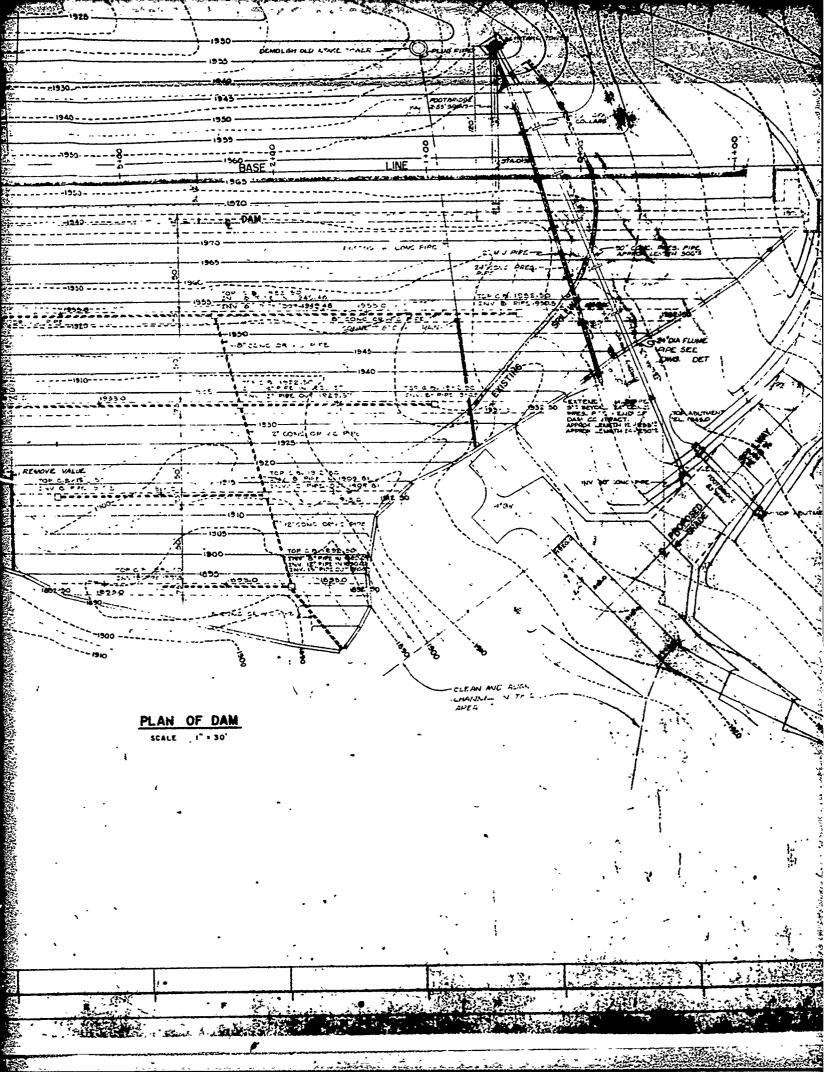


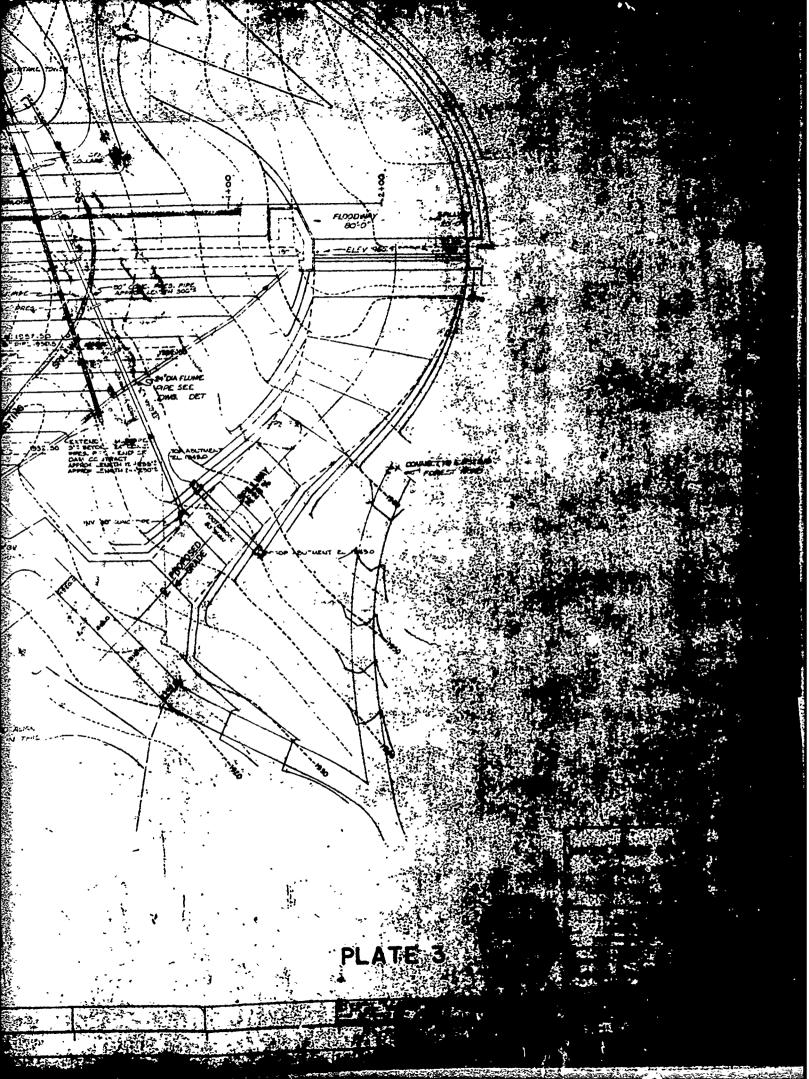


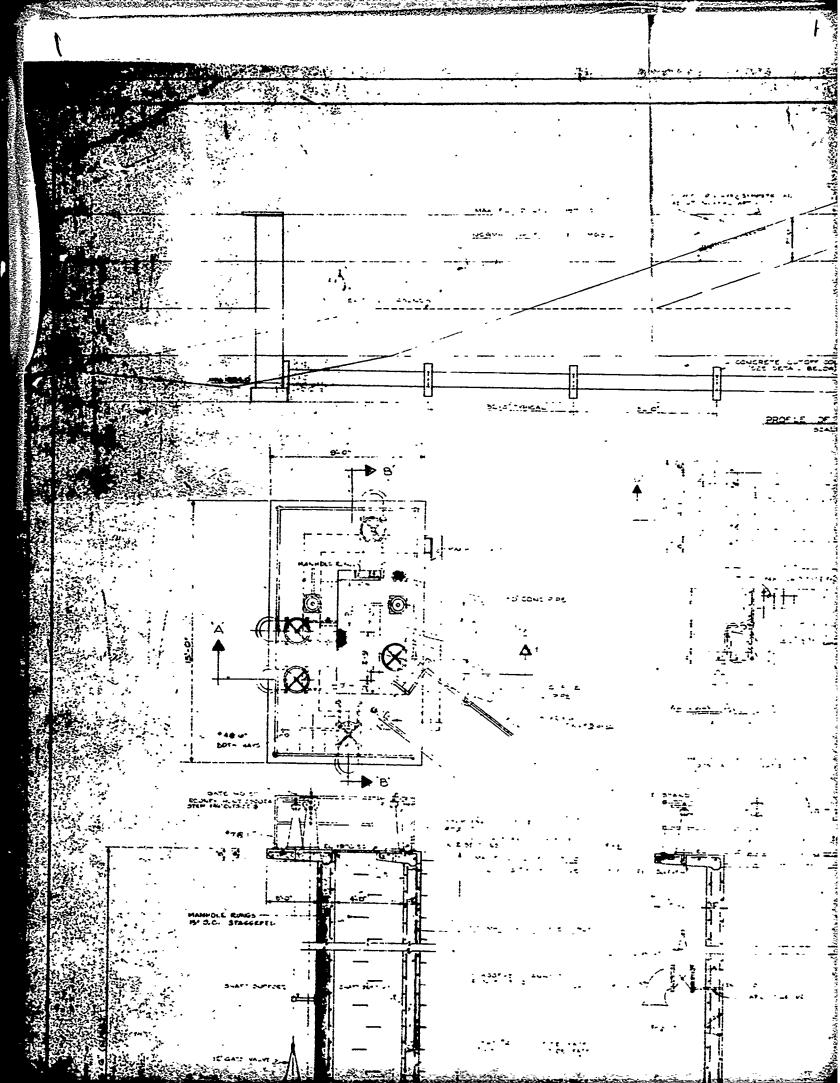


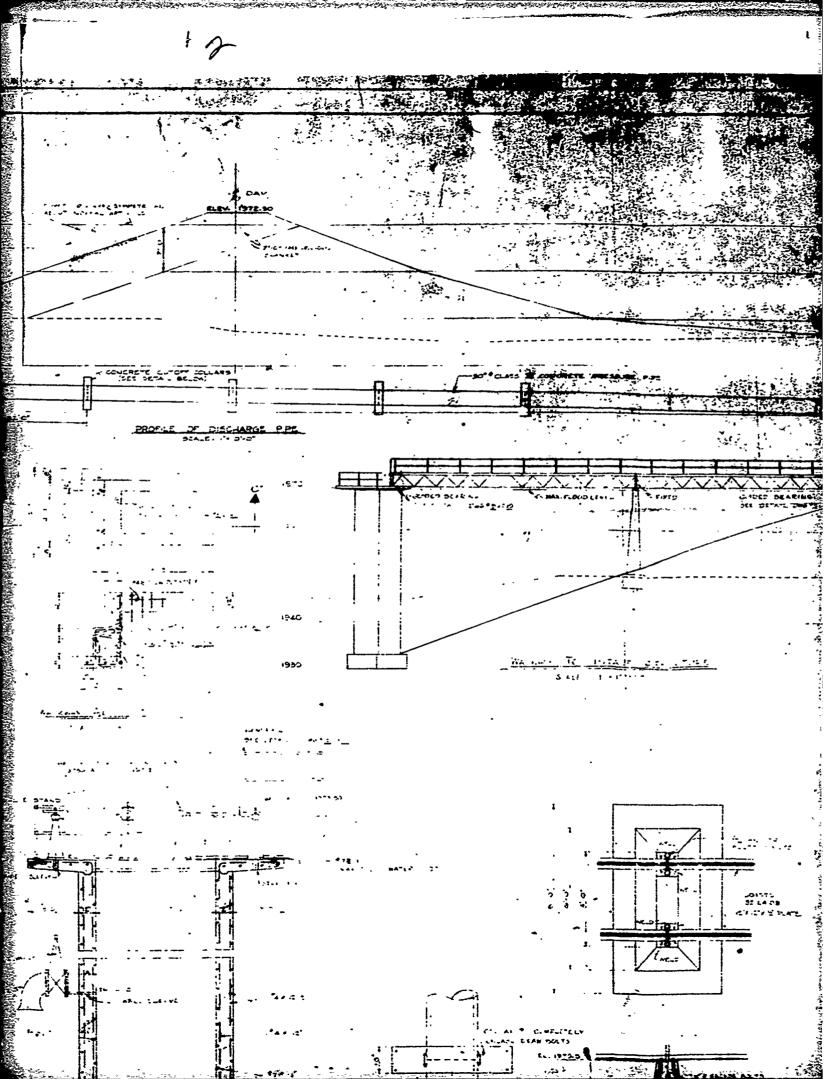




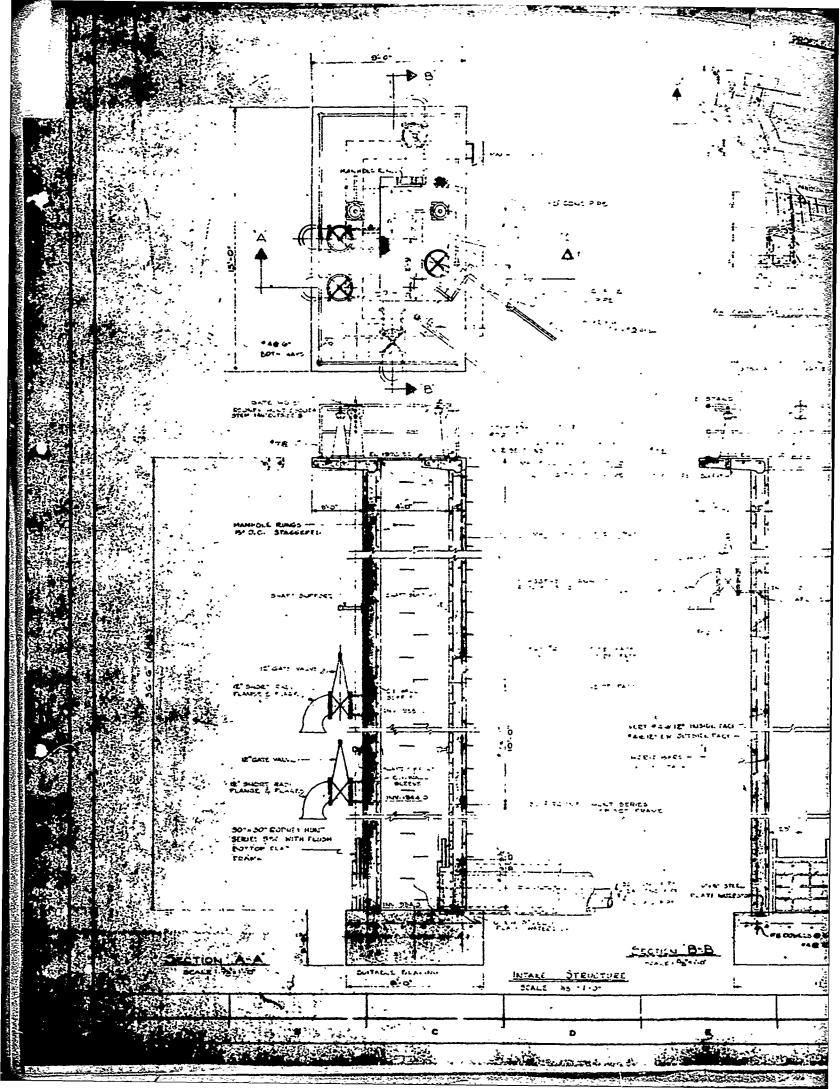


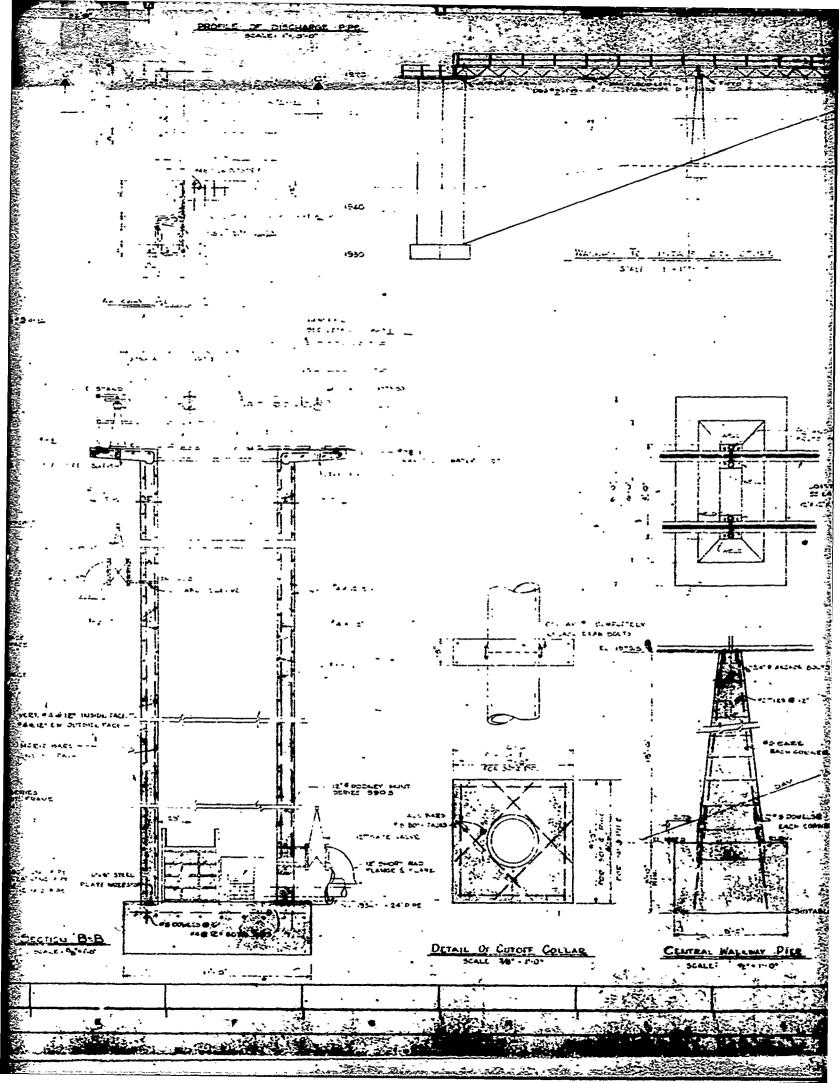


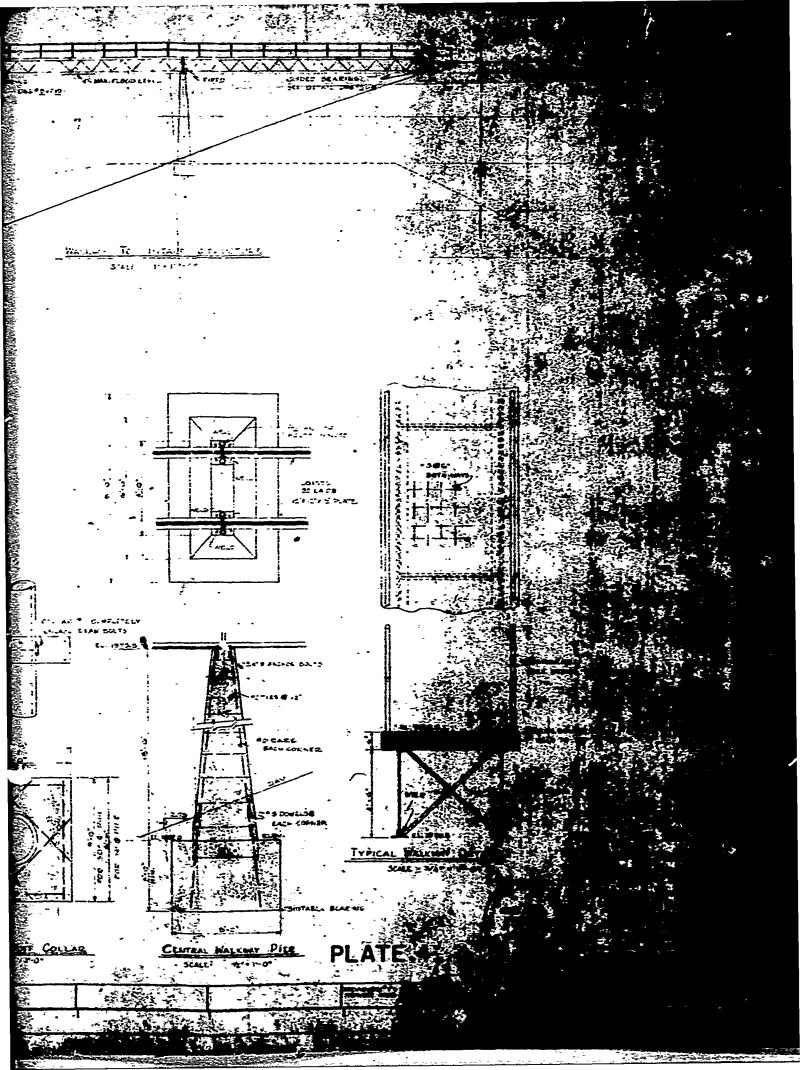


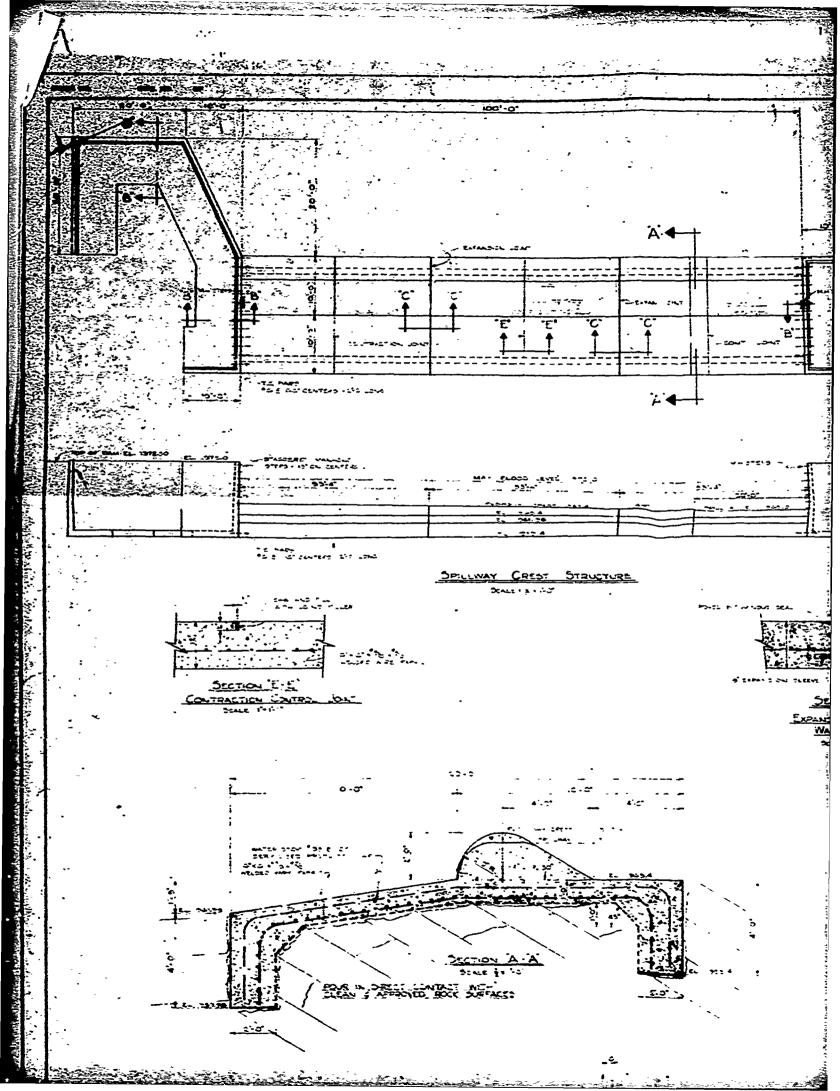


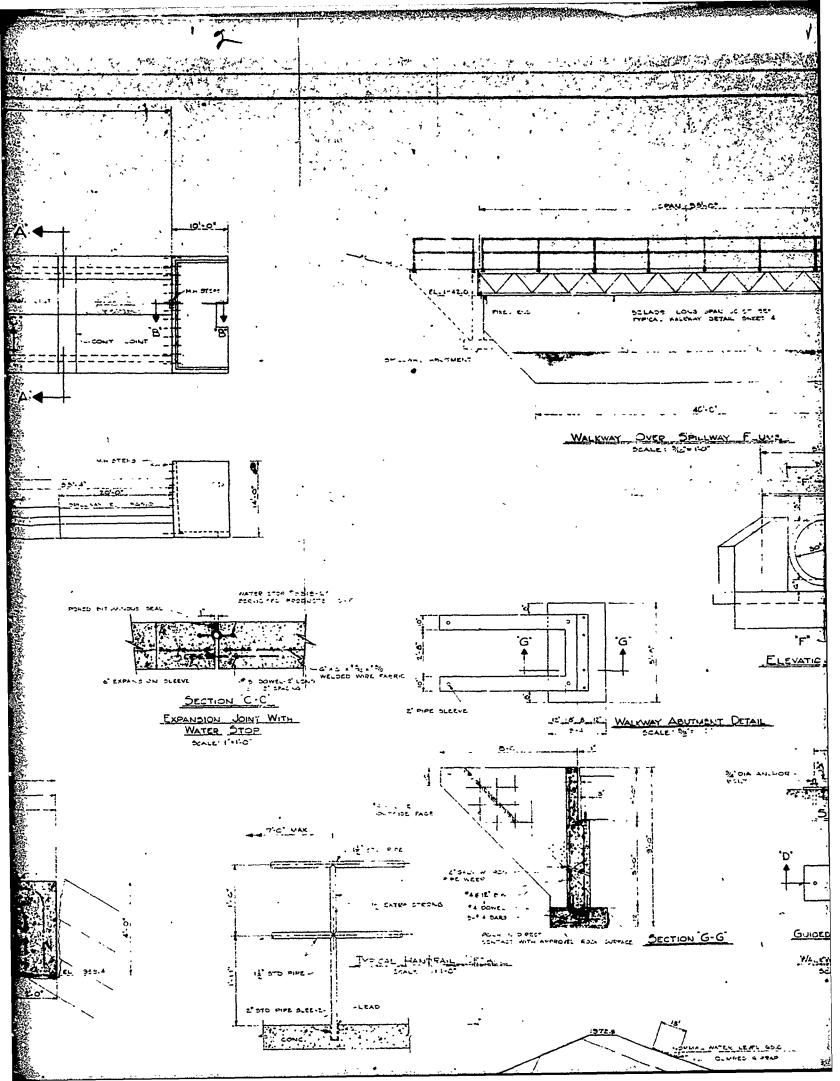
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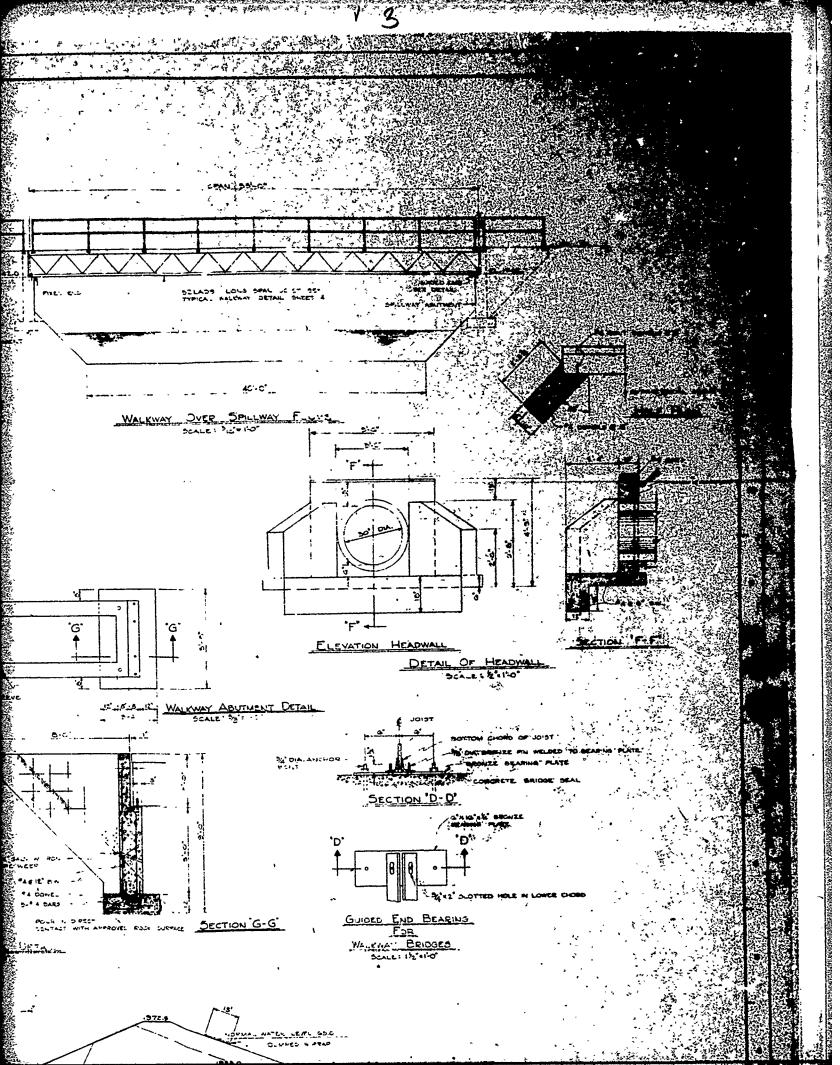


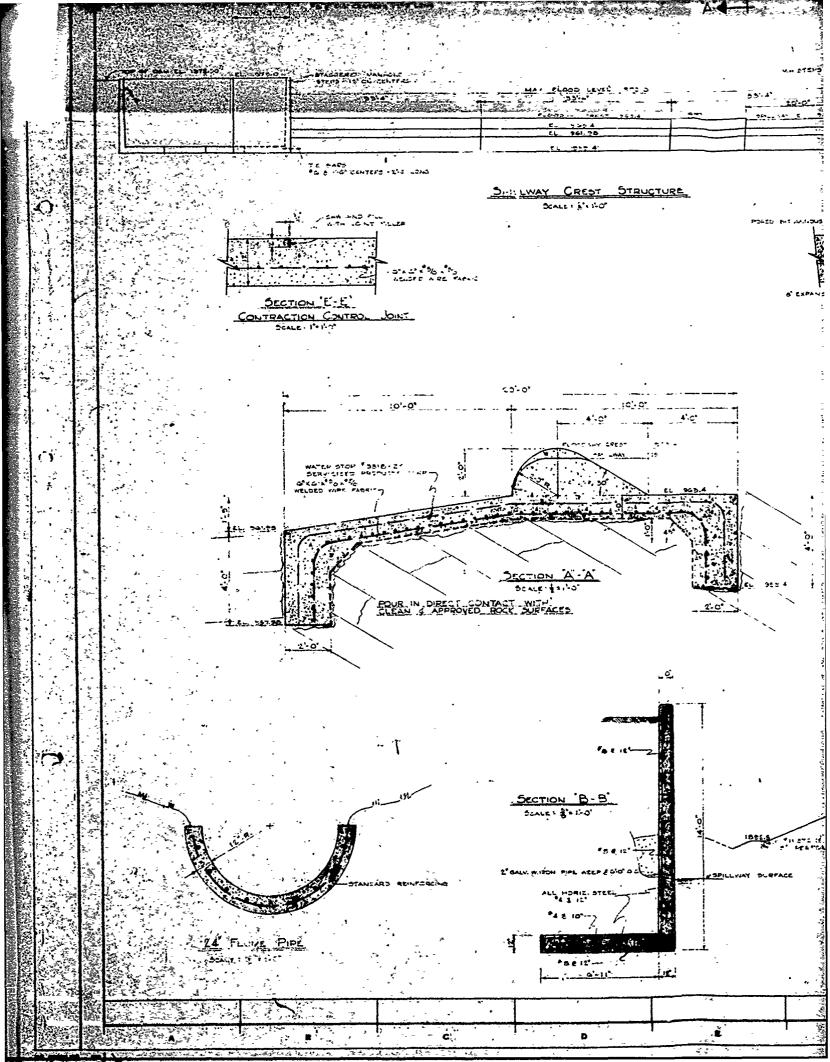


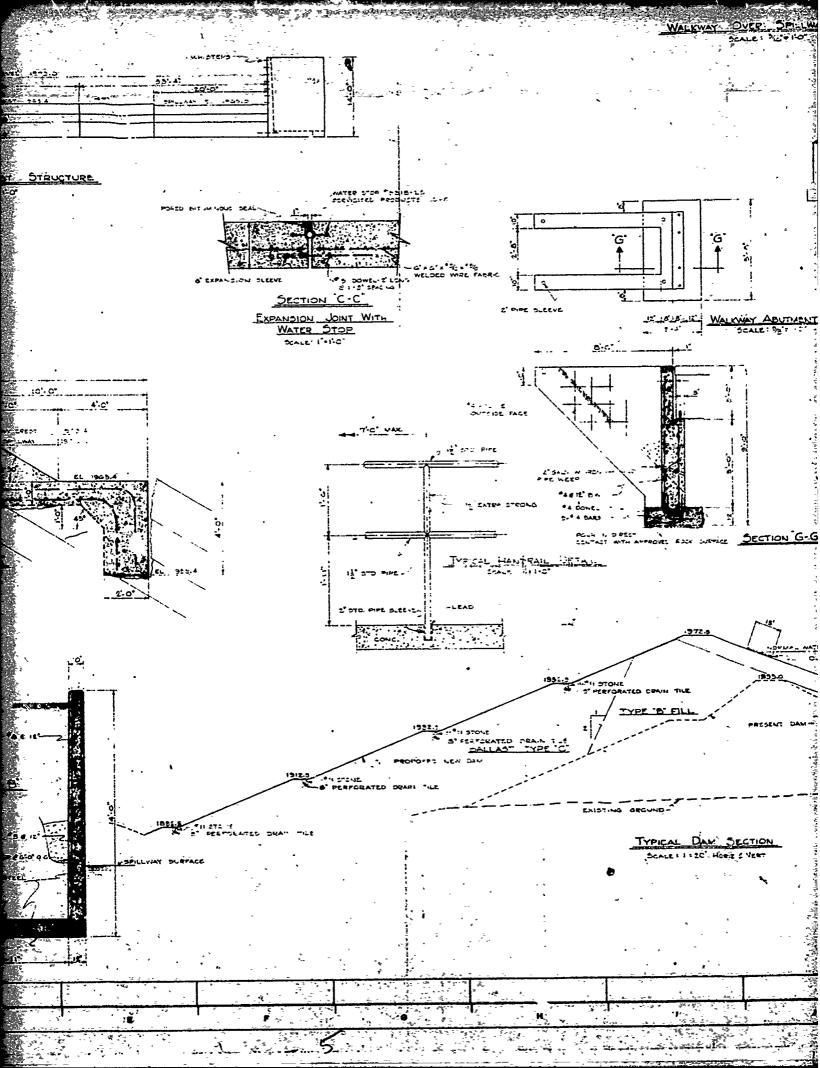


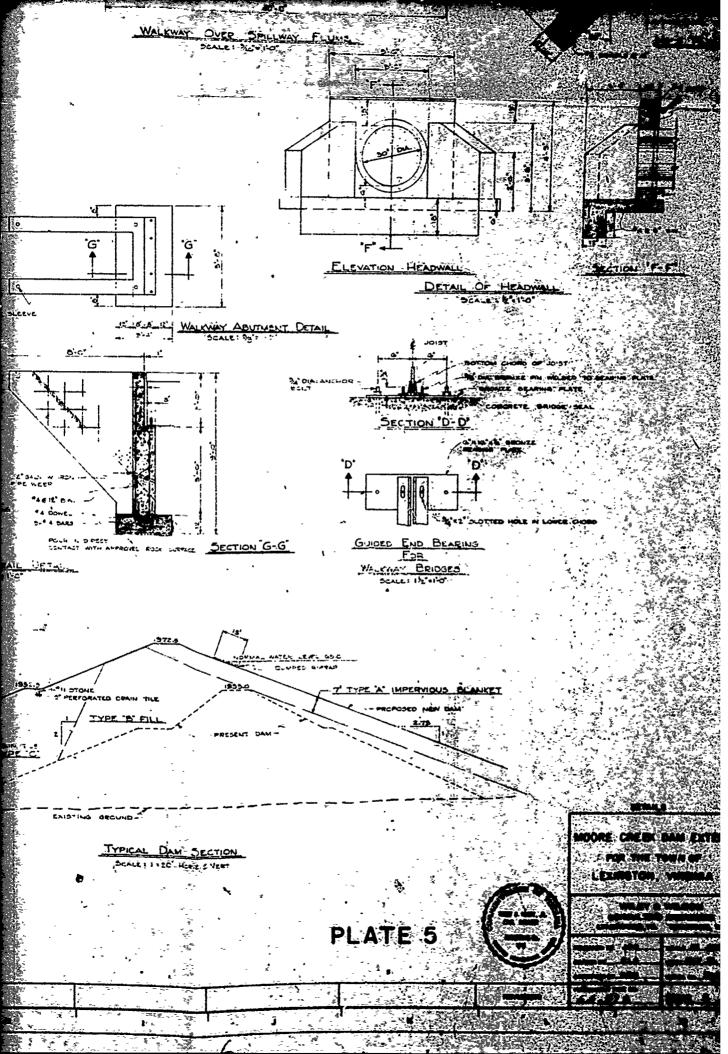


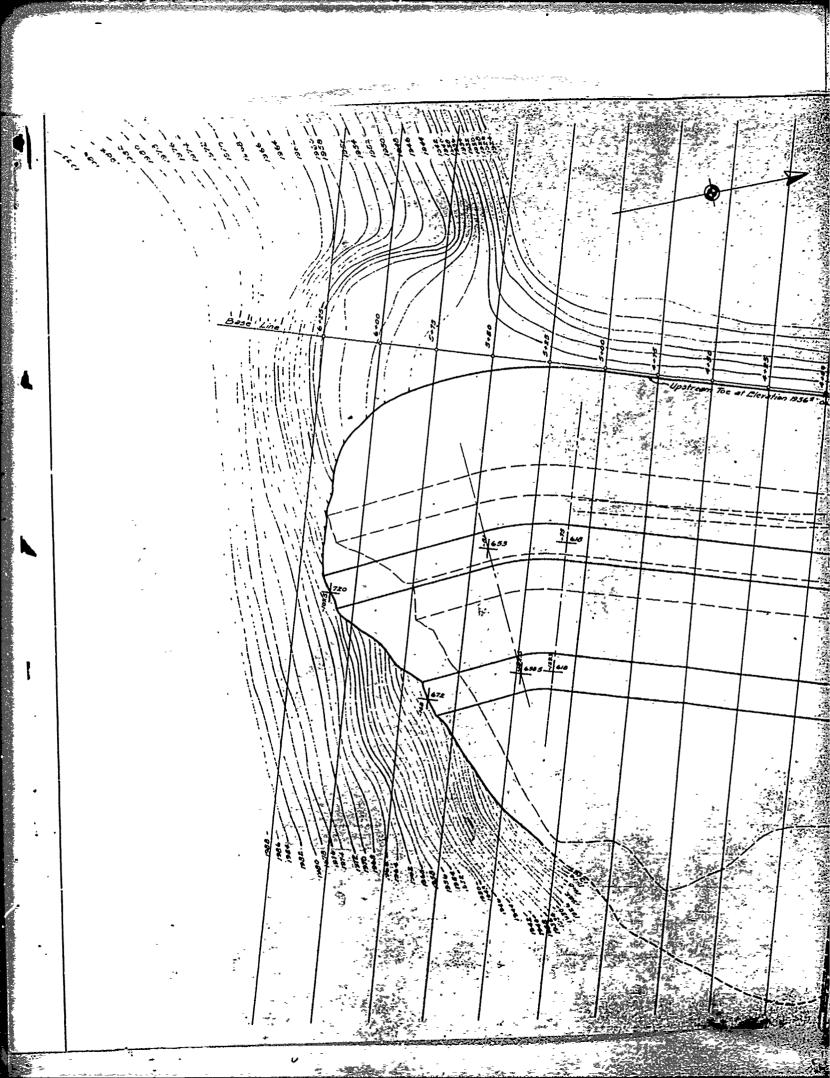


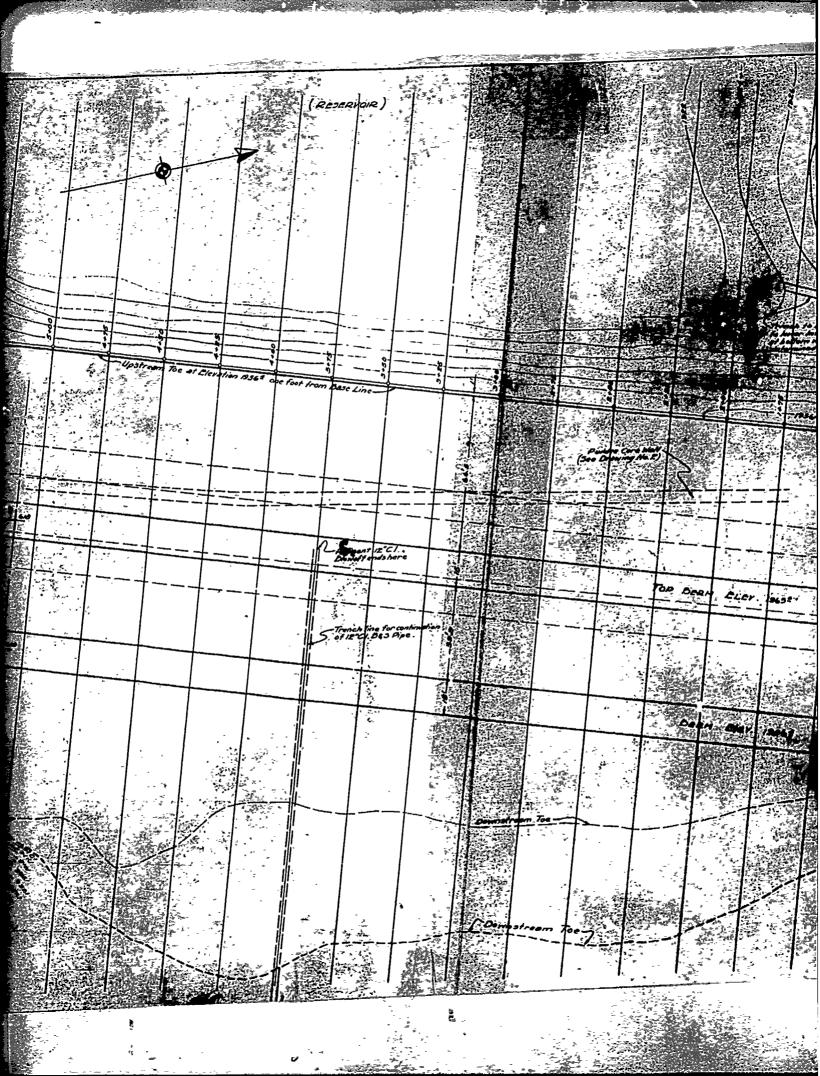


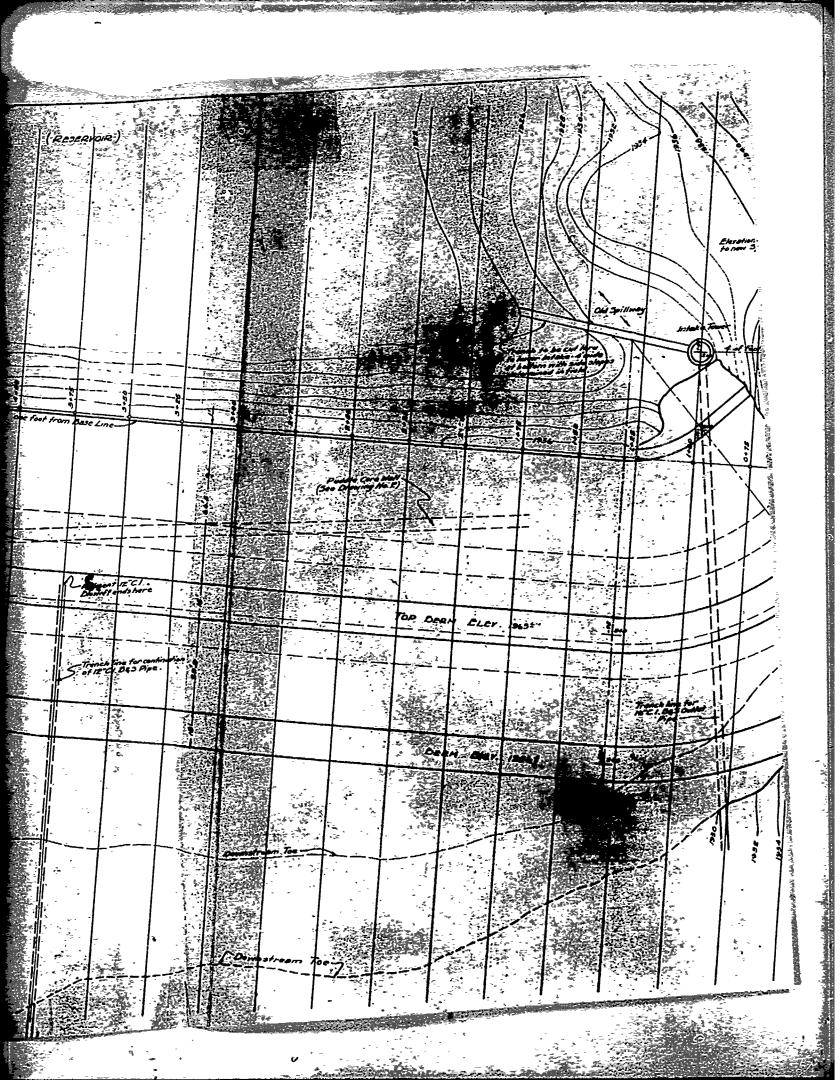


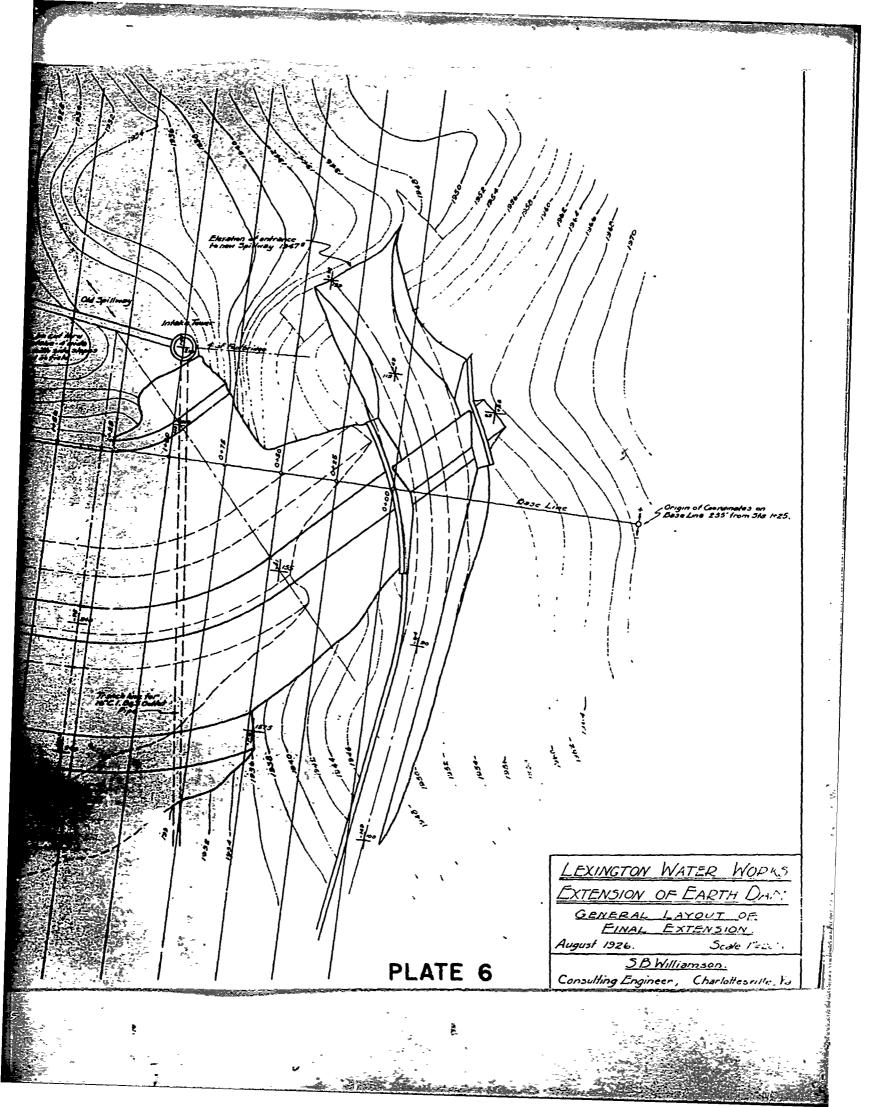


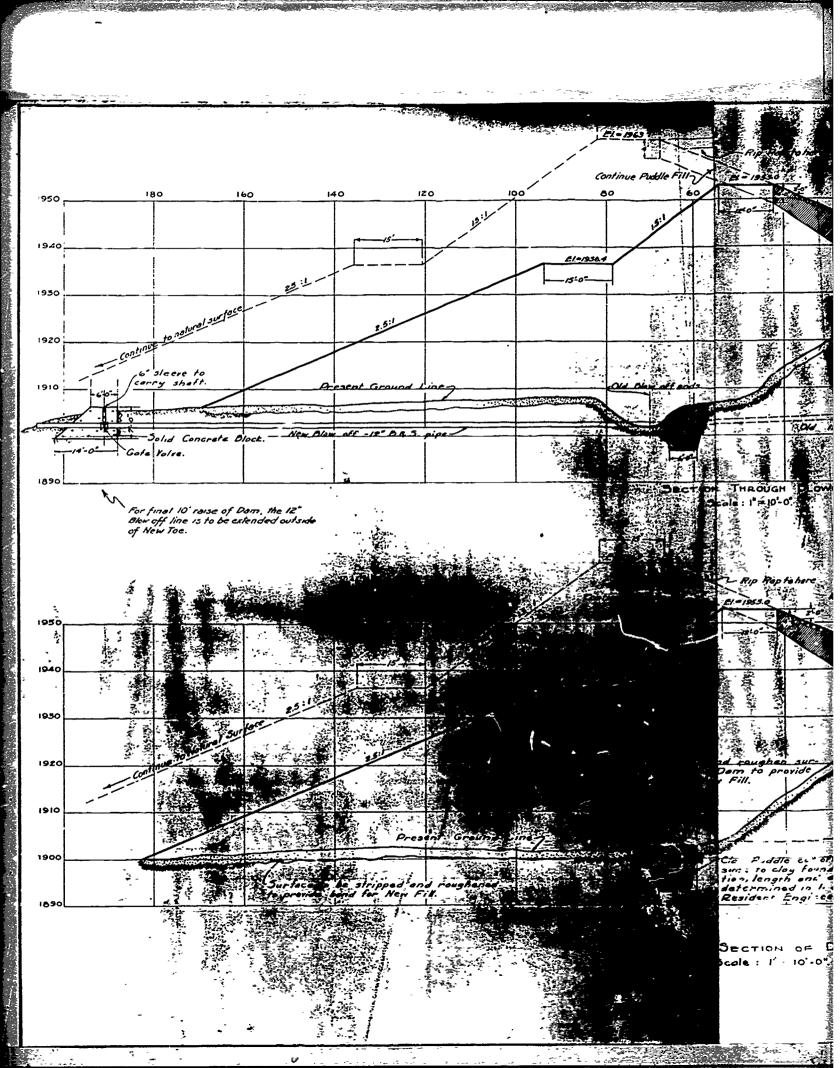


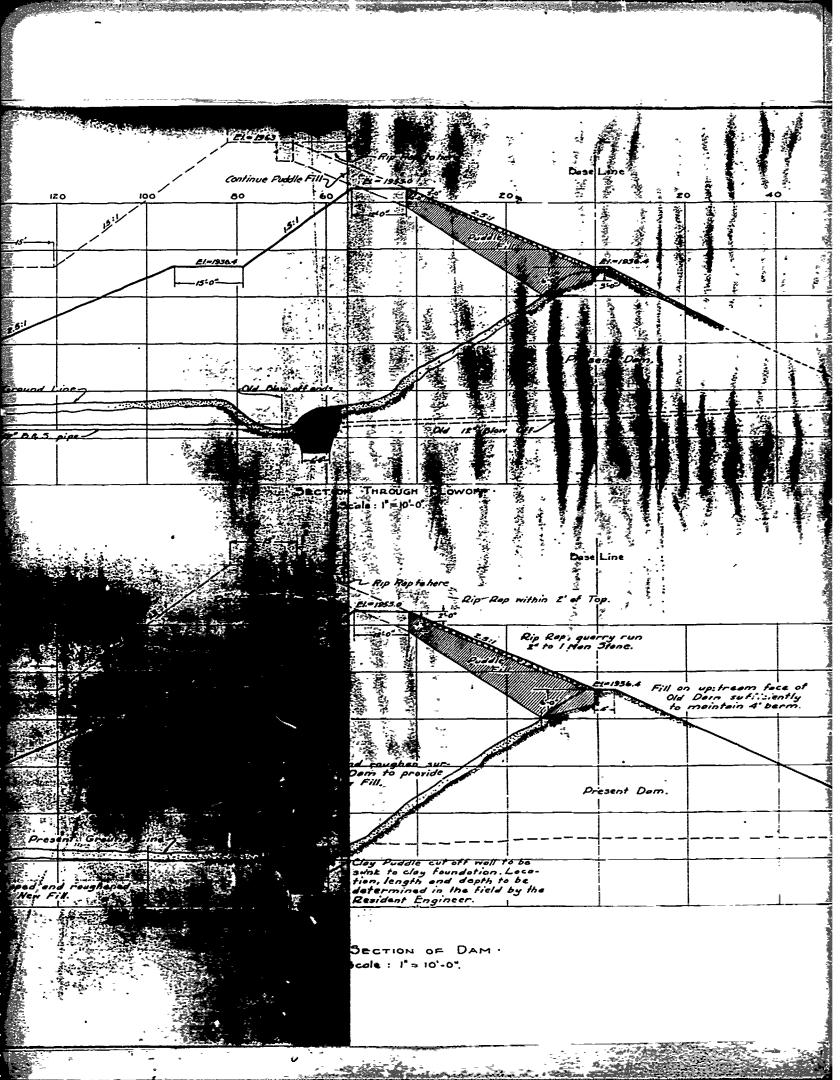


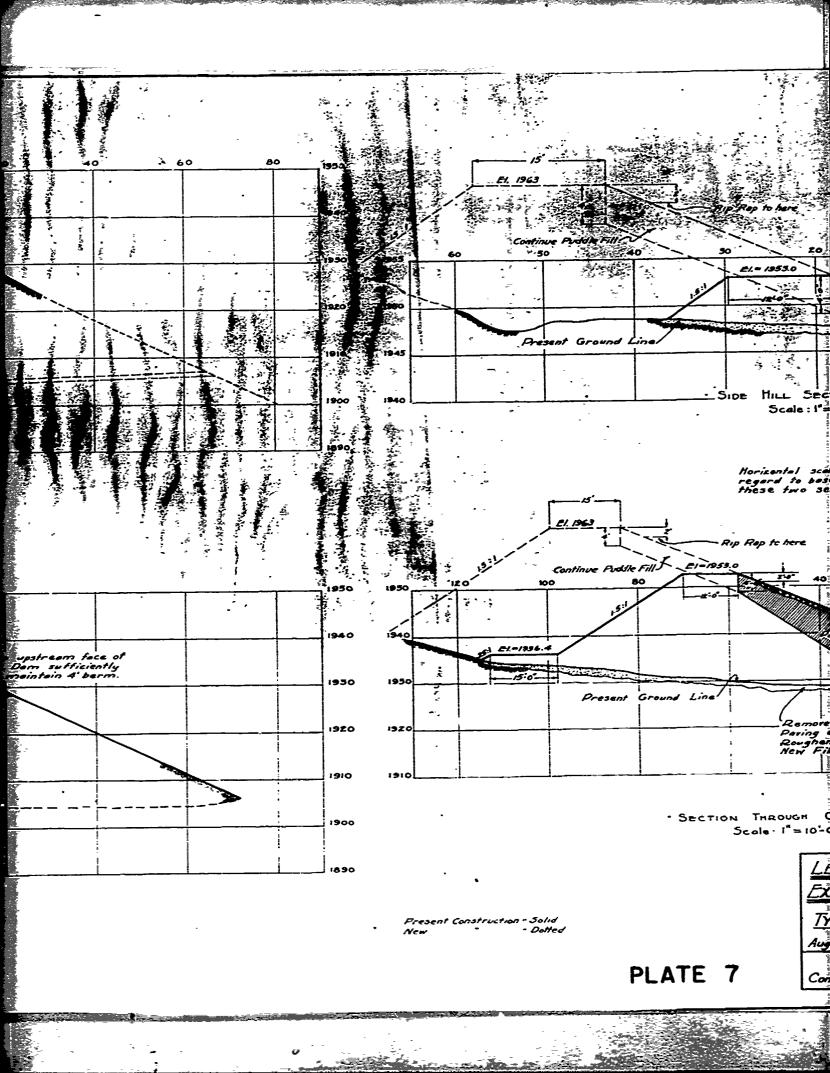


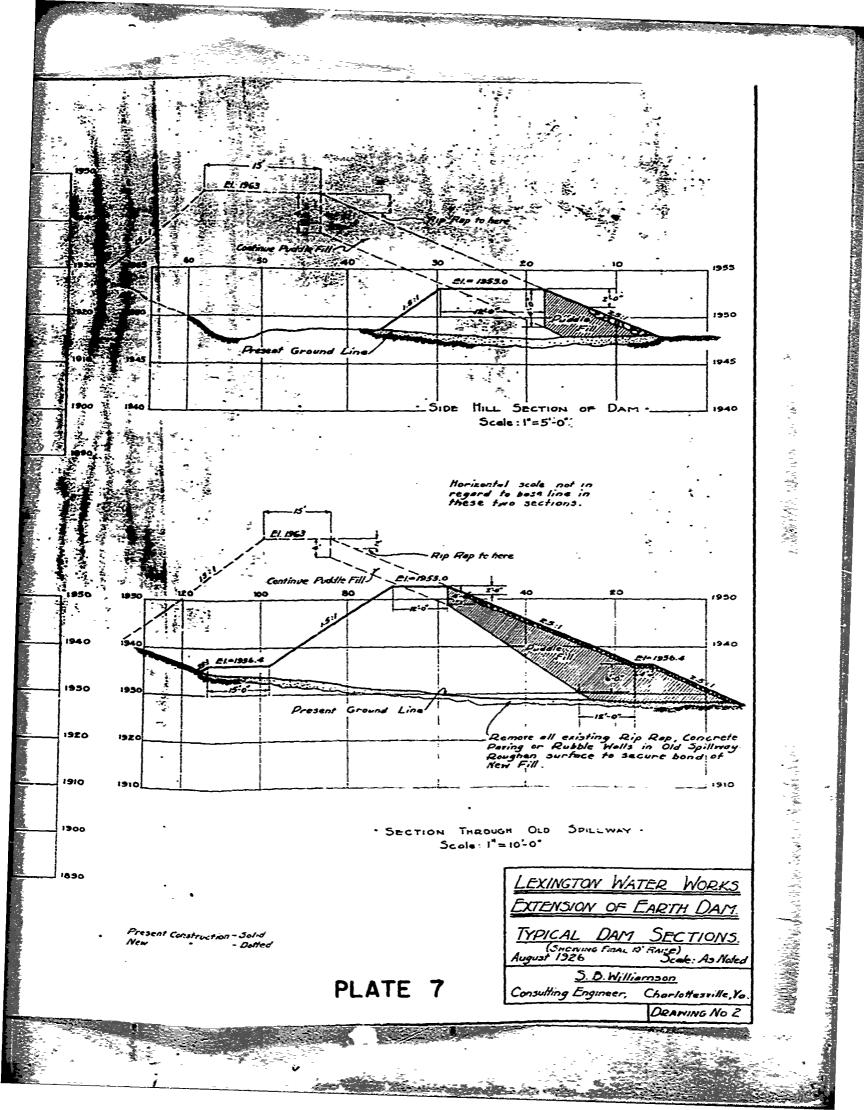


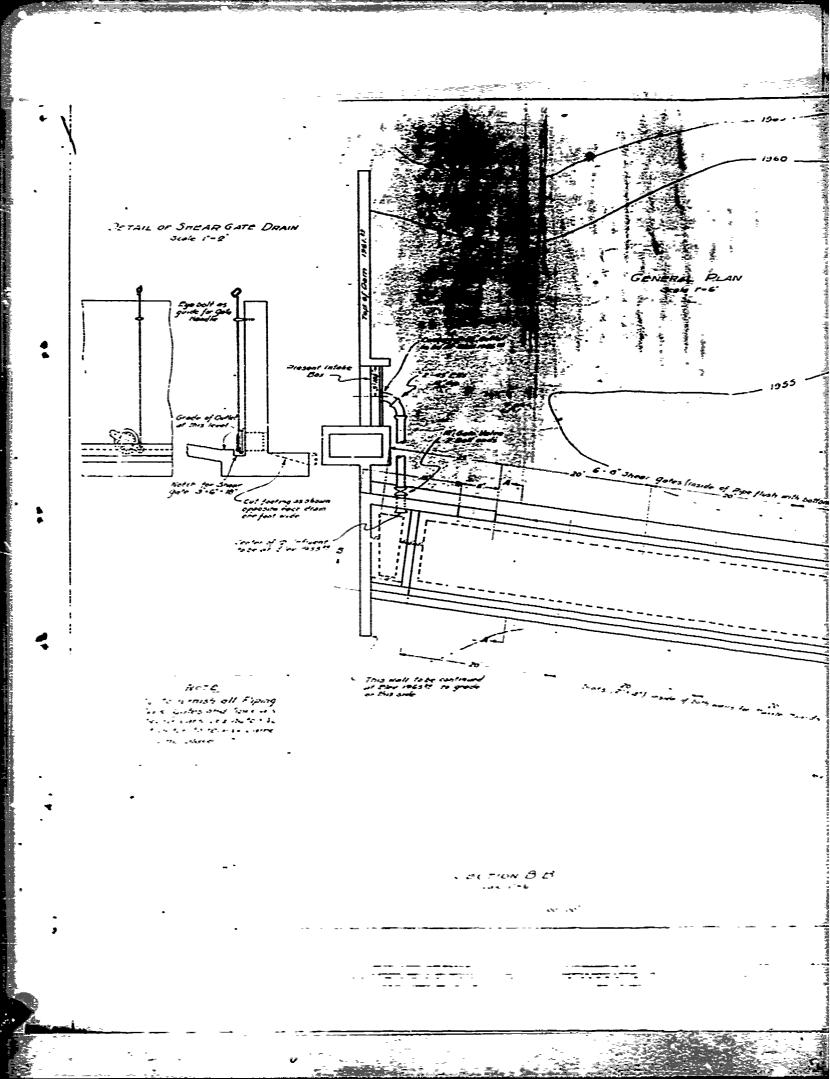


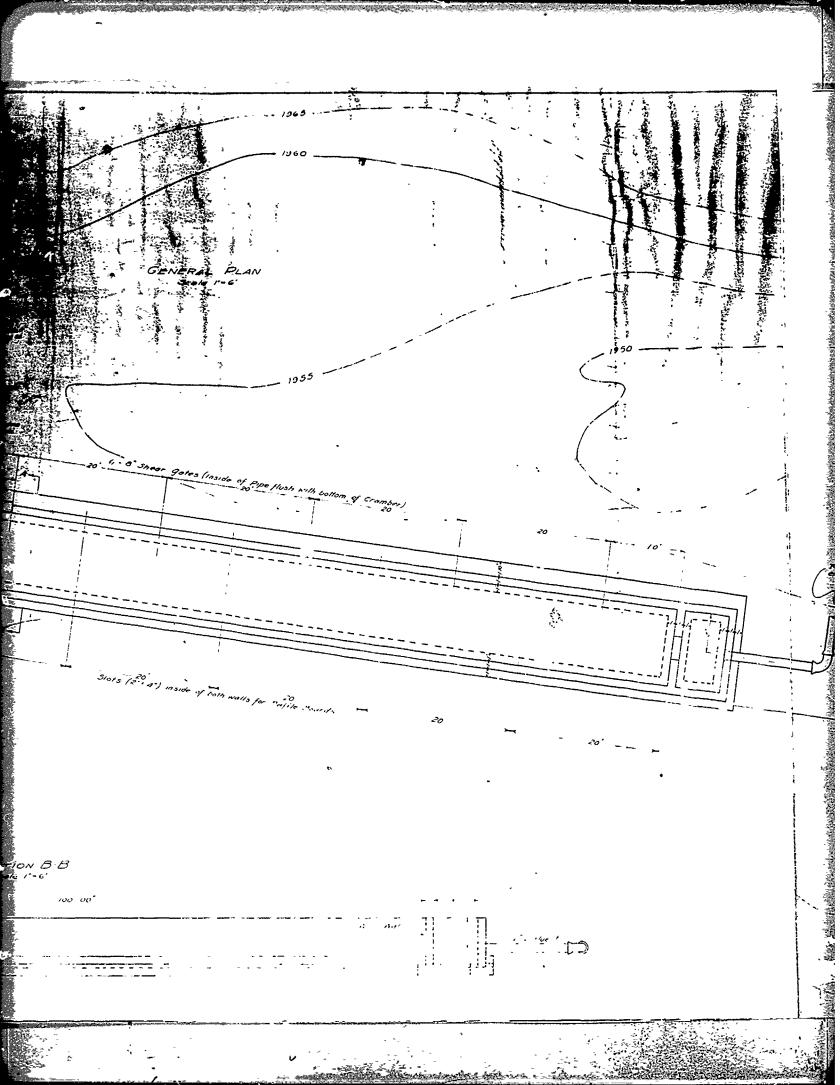


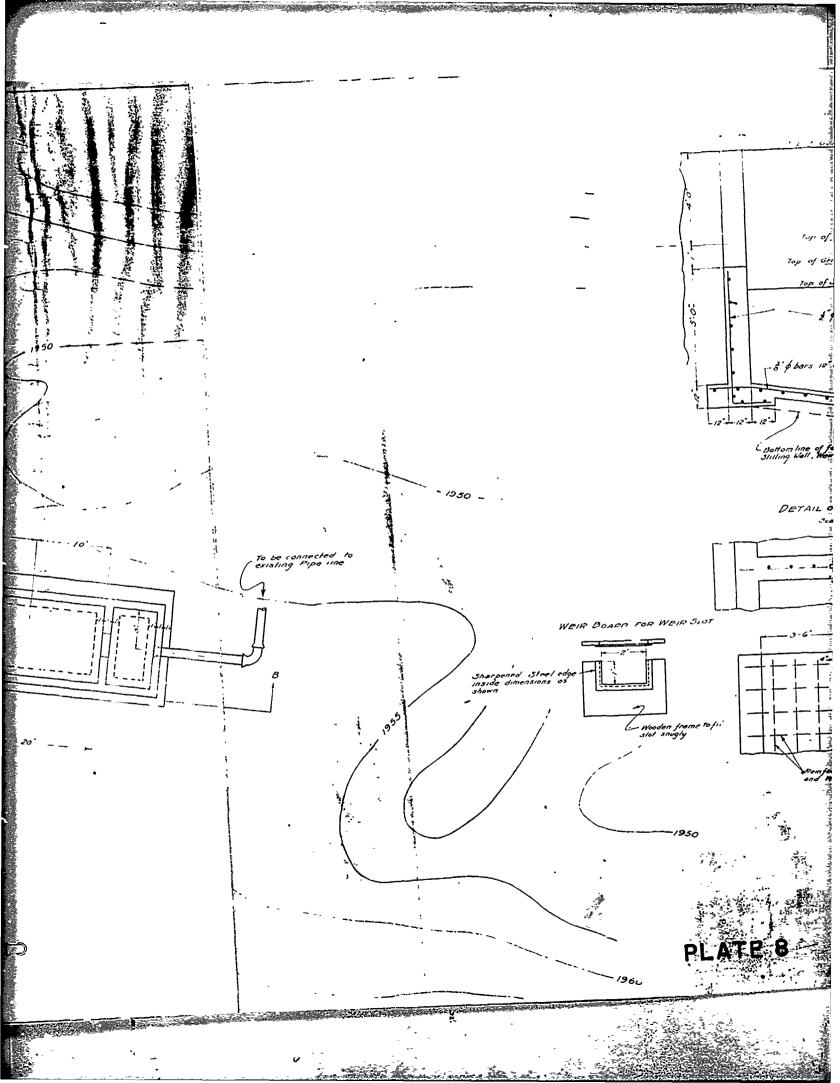


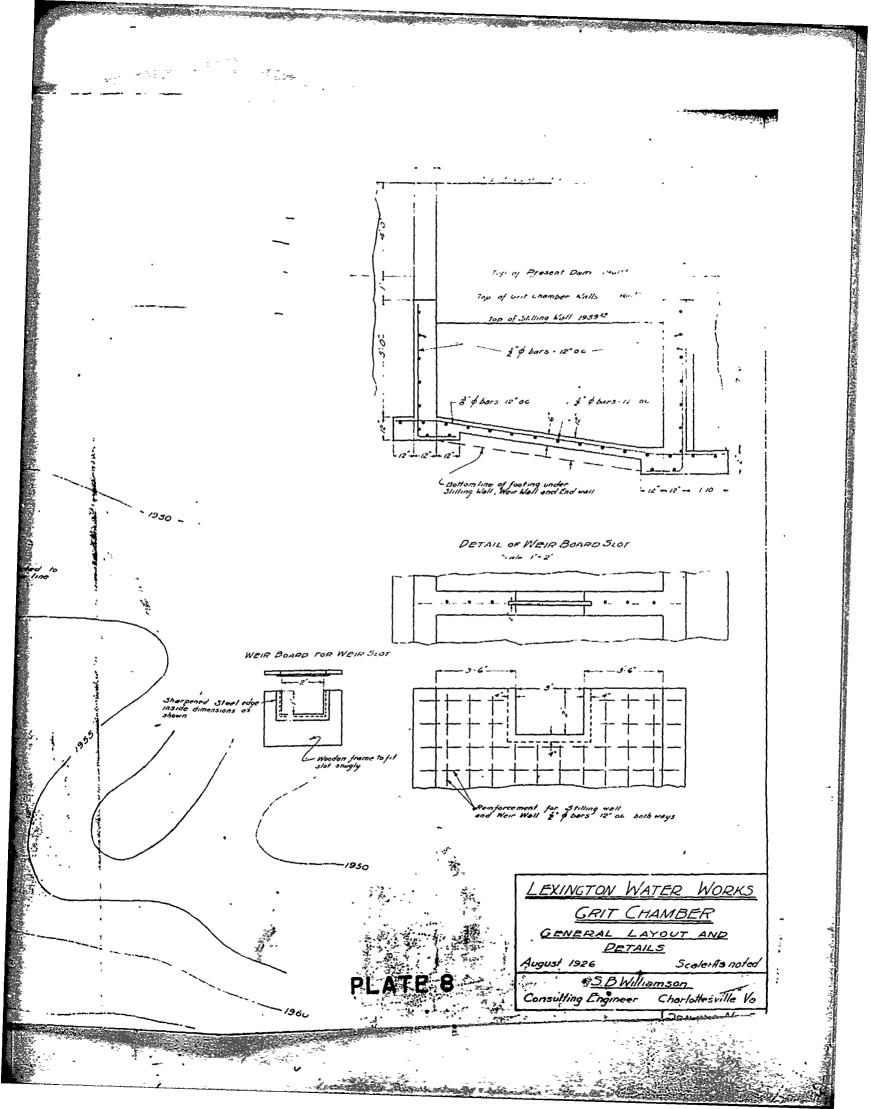


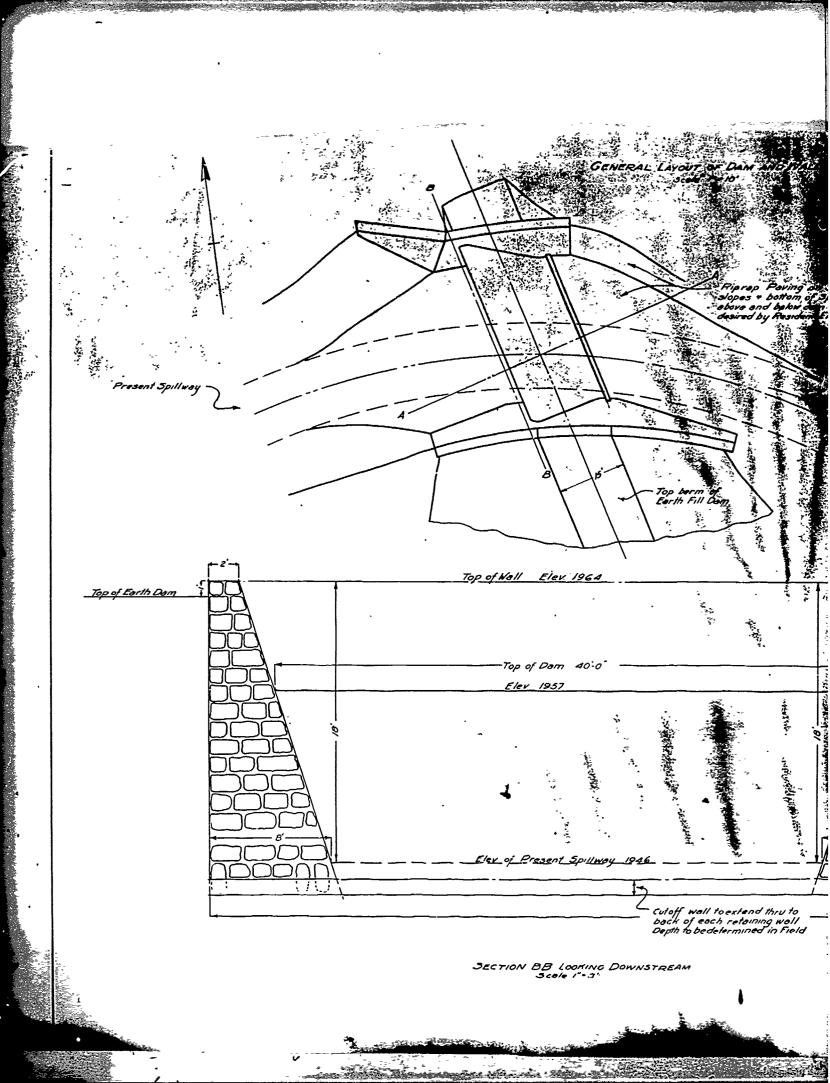


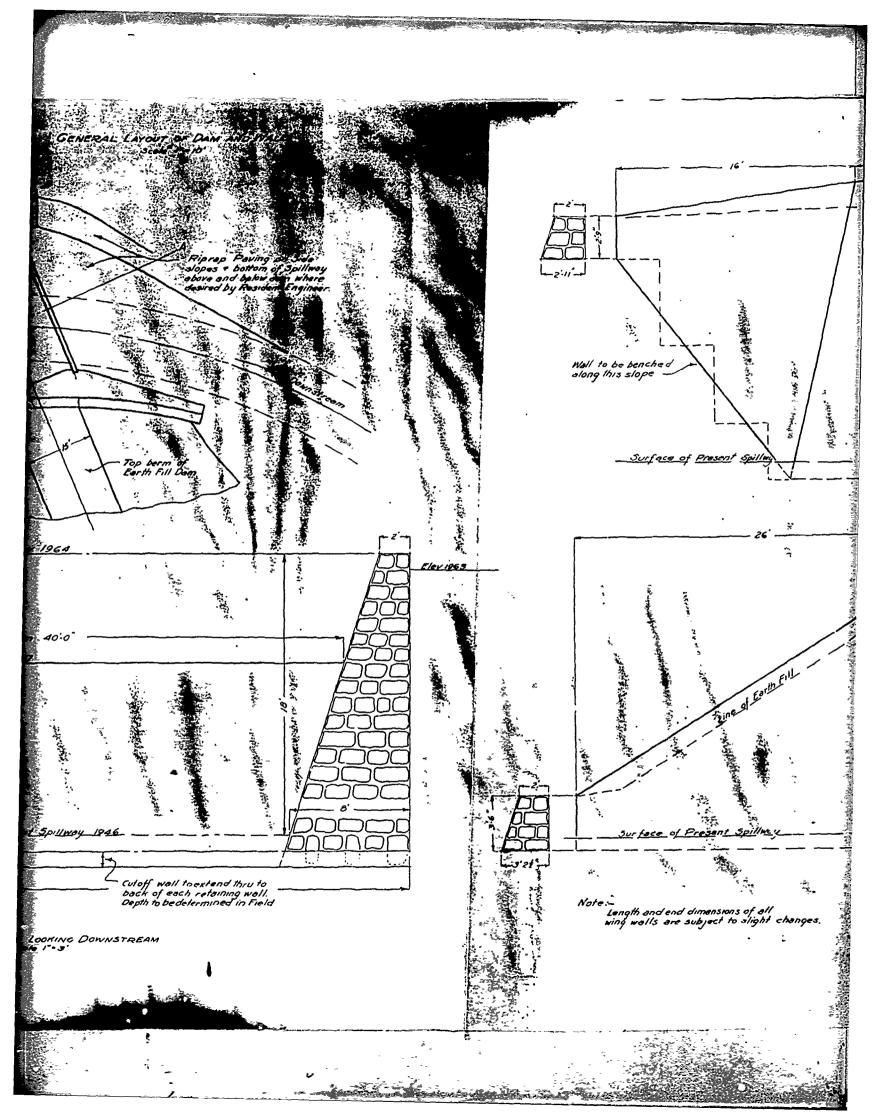


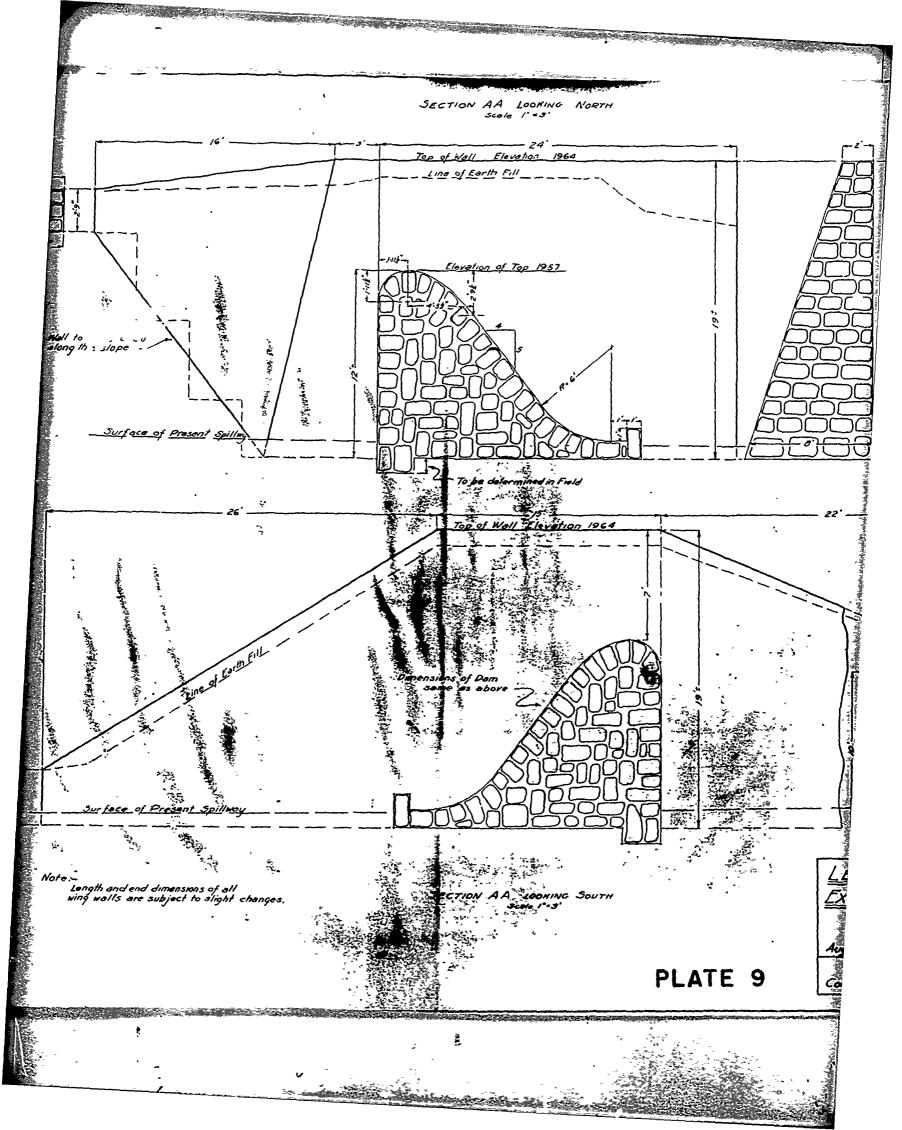


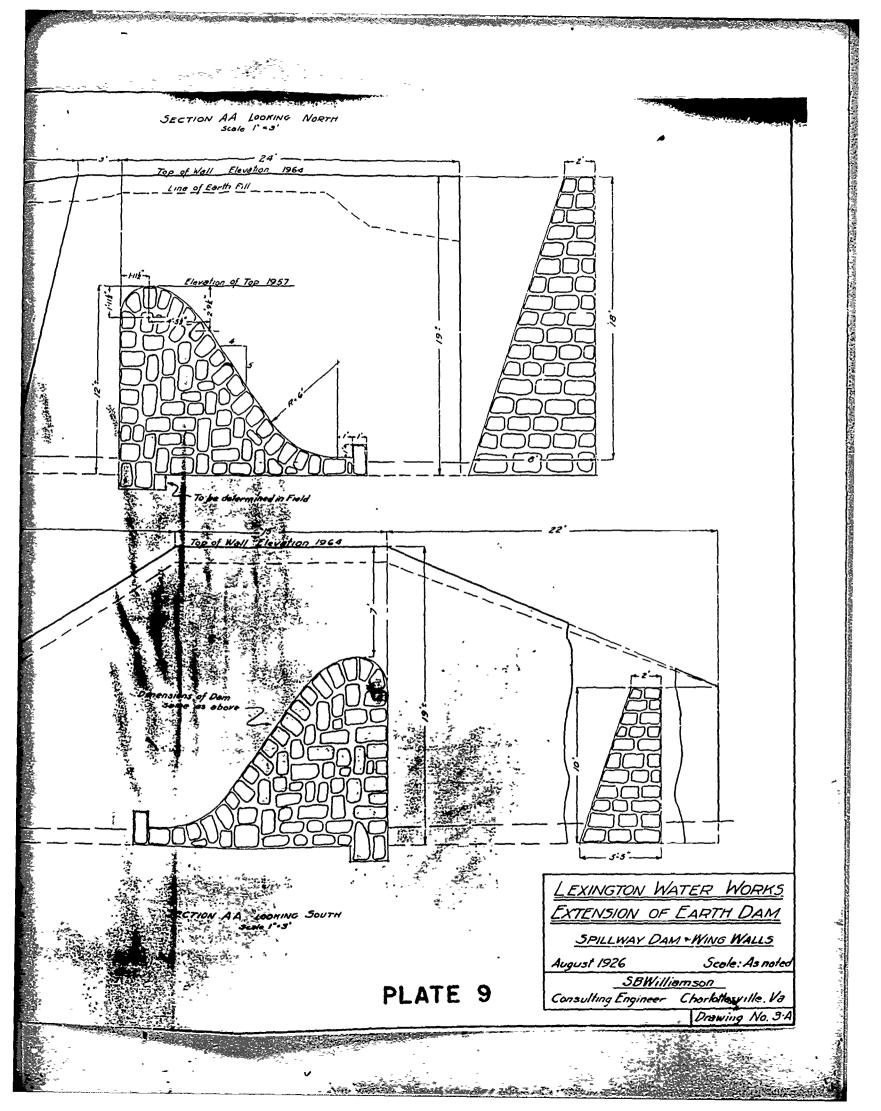


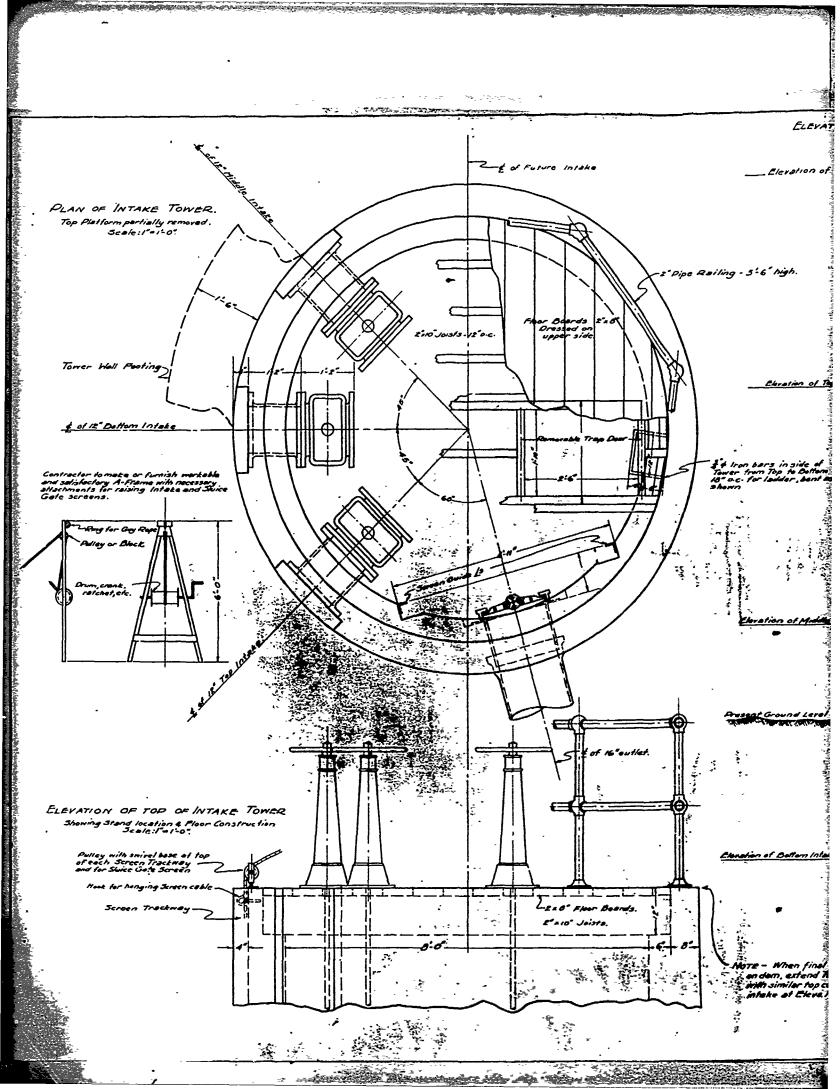


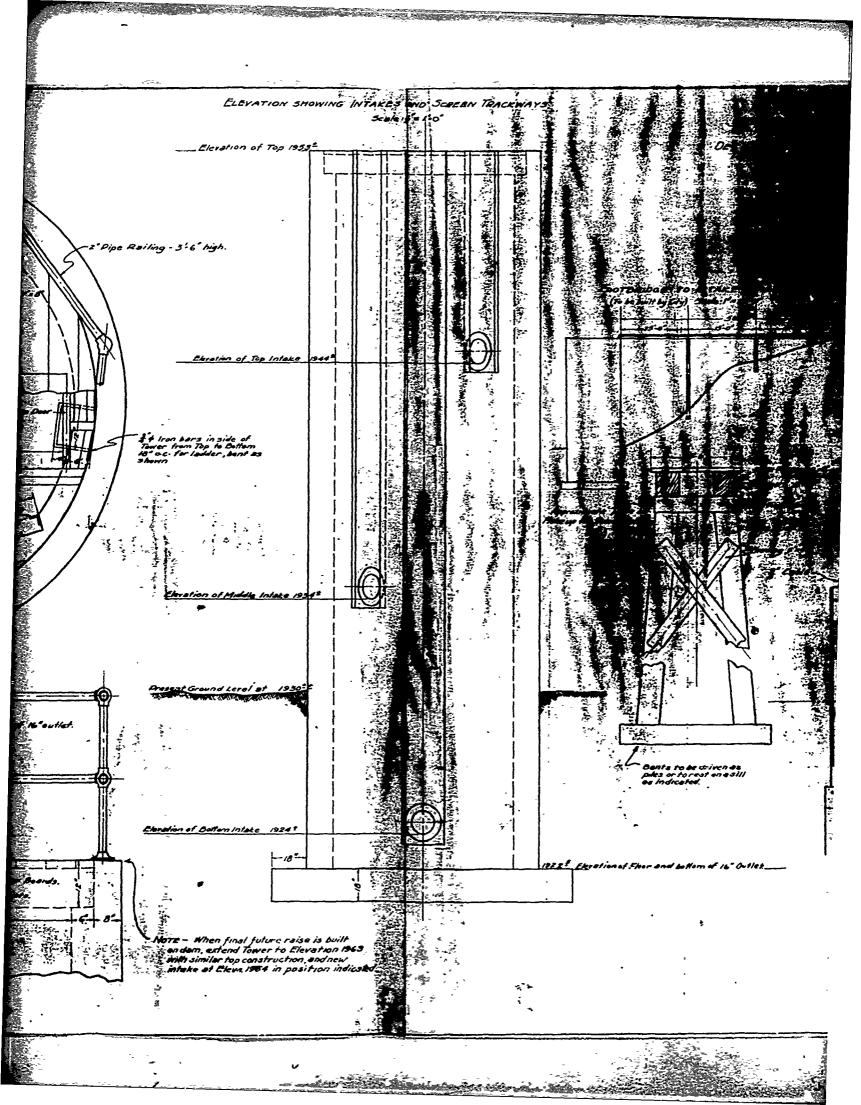


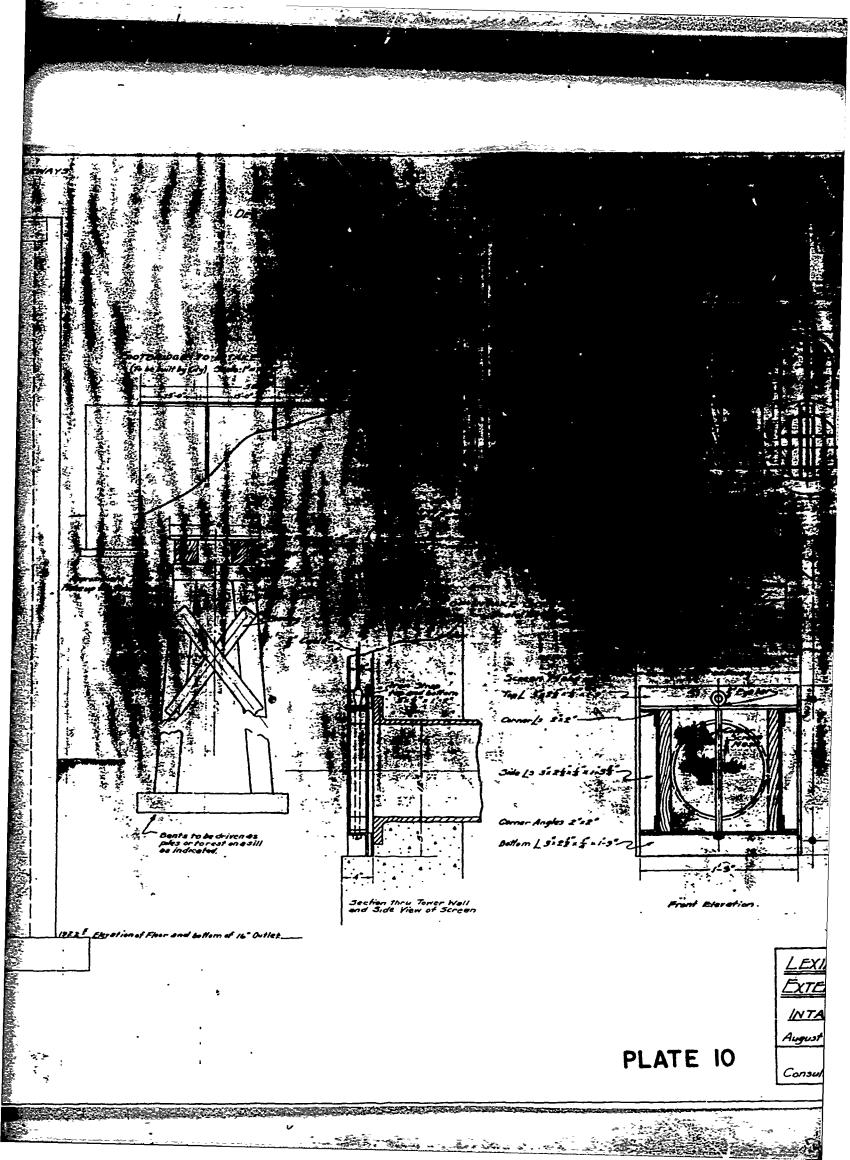


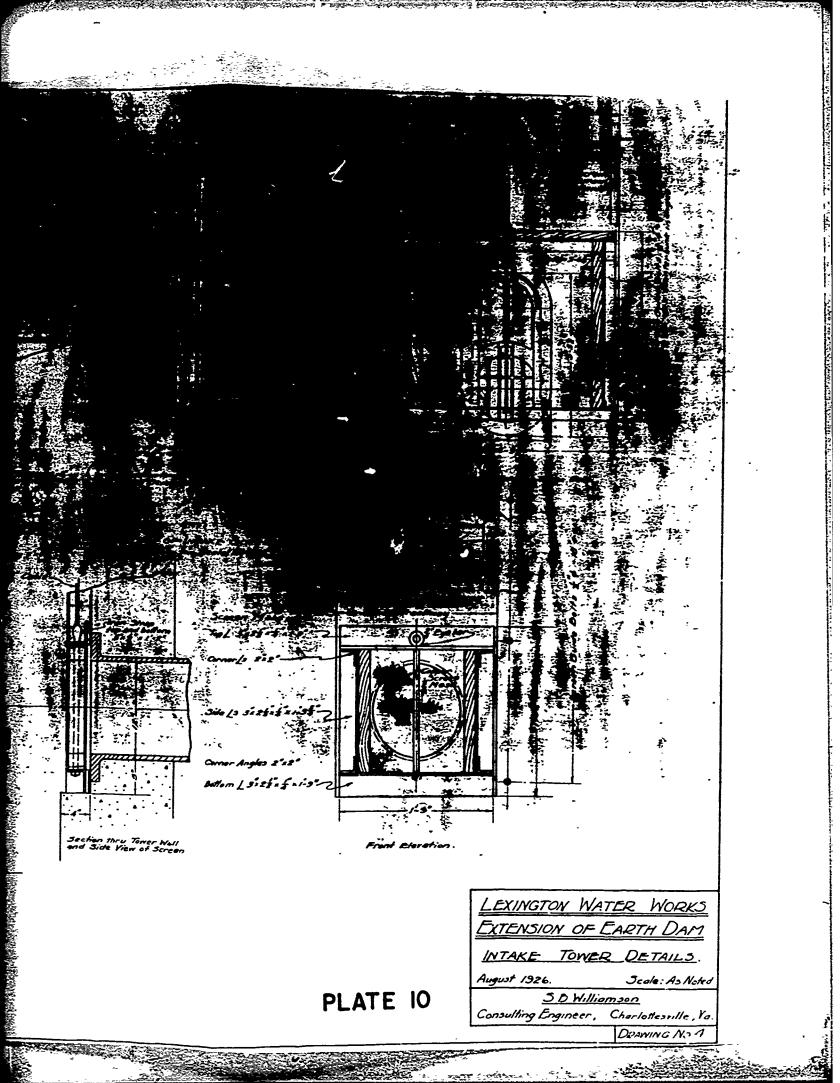












APPENDIX II

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PHOTOGRAPHS

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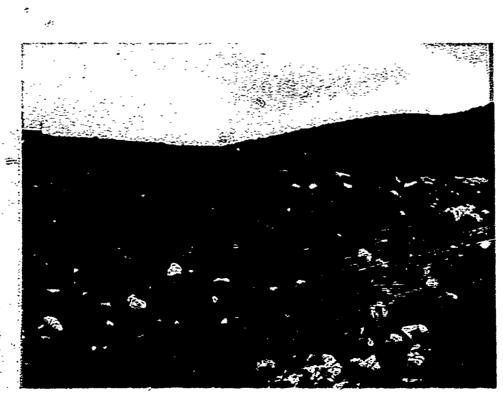
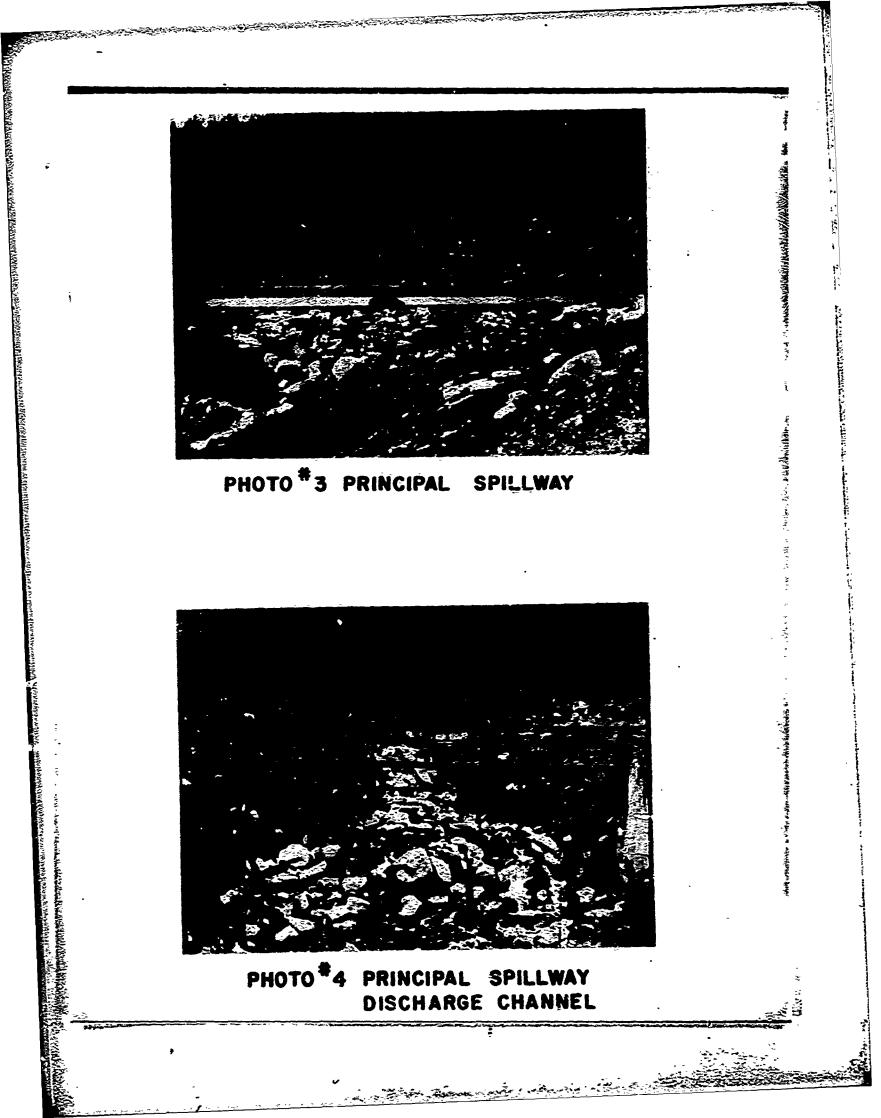


PHOTO # 2 IRREGULAR FILL D/S SLOPE

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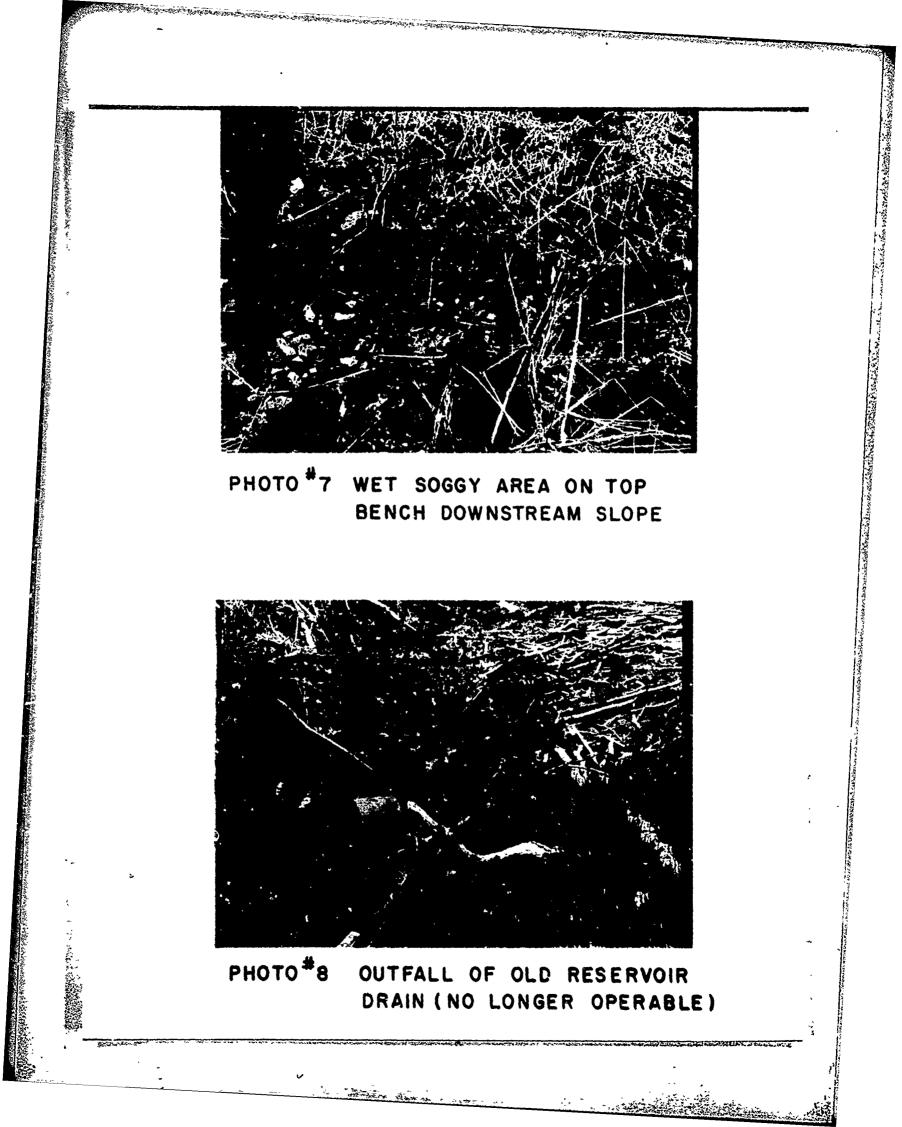
PHOTO[#]5 WATER SUPPLY INTAKE STRUCTURE



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PHOTO #9 AREA OF "BOIL" (LOCATION OF IRON ORE SPRING DISCHARGE) PER CITY OFFICIAL



APPENDIX III

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FIELD OBSERVATIONS

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Check list Visual Inspection Phase I

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Name	Name Dam: Moore Creek County: Rockbridge Dam	Creek	County:	Rockbridge	State: VA	Coordinates: Lat 3744.8 Long 7939.4	3744.8 7939.4
Date	Date Inspection: 30		April 80	Weather:	Partly Cloudy & Windy	Temperature: 640	
Pool	Pool Elevation at Time of Inspection: 1965.1	Time of	f Inspecti	on: 1965.1	Tailwater	Tailwater at Time of Inspection: None	None
Inspe	Inspection Personnel	nel:					

J. Robinson, COE D. Pezza, COE K. Hostetter, City B. Taran, COE D. Bushman, SWCB D. Cummings, COE H. Gildea, SWCB

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EMBANKMENT

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VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS	REMARKS OR RECOMMENDALLONS
FOUNDATION	The foundation appears stable. Exposed bedrock on the rock abutment consists of fine to medium grained, medium bedded sandstone.	None.
ANY NOTI CEABLE SEEPAGE	Three seeps were found and are located on Plate I. Seep 1 is a wet, soggy area. Seeps 2 & 3 are flowing freely and clearly. No attempt was made to estimate the flow. Seep 1 has created a wet spot about 7 x 25 ft. on the downstream slope at the first bench. Hostetter doesn't recall seeing seep 2 before. Beaver dams once existed in the area of seep 3. Seep 3 is a boil. Hostetter said this seep is discharge from an "iron ore" spring located during con- struction. The spring was treated and flow	Monitor the seeps during regular maintenance inspec- tions. Should flow rates change without explanation or become turbid, contact a geotechnical consulting firm for further evaluation.
DRAINS	There are no foundation drains. There are a series of catch basins on the D.S. benches. Several were filled with debris. One, as shown on Plate I is overflowing and there is local ponding surrounding the basin. Also, a gully is developing on the slope just below the basin caused by the overflow. The gully is within the irregular fill.	Clean out the catch basins Stabilize the gully as recommended under SURFACE CRACKS, SLOUGHING, OR EROSION.
MATERIALS	The area soils consist of very moist, low plas- tic, residual silts with some fine sand and rock fragments. Material identified as Class A fill for 1977 work was taken from right abutment just upstream of the dar	None.
VEGETATION	The new portion of the embankment is sparsely vegetated with grass and there are several bare spots. The original portion of the embankment is covered with brush and some locust and pine saplings.	Reseed the sparsely vege- tated new portion of the embankment. Trim the vege- tation on the origiral portion of the emban. ment and cut the saplings to the ground.

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EMBANKMENT

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APPENDIAL STREET

VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS	REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS
SURFACE CRACKS SLOUGHING, OR EROSION	No surface cracks or sloughir, was noted. There is erosion on the upstream slope along and just above the slope protection. There is inter- mittent surface erosion due to runoff on the downstream slope in the irregular fill below the third bench. There is local ponding on benches at various locations.	Seed the eroded areas on the upstream slope. Regrade the irregular fill on the downstream slope and seed to stabilize the slopes.
UNUSUAL MOVEMENT OR CRACKING AT OR BEYOND THE TOE	No movement or cracking was observed. The area at the toe is wet and soggy. There is uncon- trolled erosion due to runoff in the area beyond the toe where it drops off the the ravind below.	None.
SLOUGHING OR EROSION OF EMBANKMENT AND ABUTMENT SLOPES	The right abutment is an exposed vertical cut revealing weathered and blocky, thin to medium bedded, fine to medium grain quartz sandstone with little iron stain. The left abutment is sparsely vegetated with grass. Abutment contacts are protected with concrete flumes. Portions of each flume are dimaged and filled with debris.	Clean and repair the con- crete flumes.
VERTICAL AND HORIZON- TAL ALIGNMENT OF THE CREST	The alignments do not deviate from the drawings.	None.
RIPRAP FAILURES	The upstream slope is riprapped with dumped gravel to boulder size sandstone. Light vegetation consisting of brush and saplings is growing through the riprap. The reservoir is not subjected to fluctuating pool levels or wave action.	Cut the saplings in the rip- rap down to the ground and trim the brush.

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A letter from Wiley & Wilson (1977) told of severe leaks There are no plans to repair embankment. Remedial work was completed last year to REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATION along the pipes in the the operating stem. repair the leaks. None. None. 12-inch MJ pipe that discharges into the concrete A trickle of water was flowing through the pipe Also, the l6-inch concrete pipe is abanflume along the left abutment had a trickle of The 30-inch pressure pipe discharges into the The WATER SUPPLY INTAKE STRUCTURE discharge channel of the principal spillway. open the outlet. The pipe stem is only about the reservoir bottom can drain the reservoir. Three pipes (12-inch, 16-inch, and 30-inch) the dam. The 16-inch pipe has been plugged exit the intake structure and pass through located at the toe of the dam near the lower A diver had to use a pipe wrench in 1978 to The intake tower is located about 100 feet not been replaced since the recent remedial A 12-inch pipe running through the dam from upstream of the center of the embankment. 12 feet long. The inlet is located in the work. The bridge is resting on the crest center of the reservoir and the outlet is embankment wit the intake structure has and some through a crack in the cradle. Steel support bridge that connects the OBSERVATIONS of the embankment. and abandoned. right abutment. flow. doned. NA NA VISUAL EXAMINATION OF GATES AND OPERATION DISCHARGE CHANNEL CONTROL SECTIONS APPROACH CHANNEL BRIDGE AND PIERS EMERGLNCY GATE EQUIPMENT

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PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY

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REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATION	Check the crack during maintenance and inspection program. If turbid flow begins to pass thru the crack, then seal the crack.	None.	None.	None.	None.
OBSERVATIONS	The concrete weir is 100 feet long. A 20-foot control section is 4 inches lower in elevation than the rest of the spillway crest. Normal flows pass over this 20-foot section. Excess flows pass over the entire spillway. A vertical crack in the spillway is located about 20 foot from the right wingwall.	The approach channel is relatively flat and shallow. The concrete ledge of the spillway is 2 feet lower than the spillway crest. The reservoir narrows near the spillway location.	Flows discharge over a concrete slab into a channel lined with large rock and boulders. The channel was scoured during Camille in 1969 exposing the large locks and chunks of concrete.	A footbridge crosses the channel approximately 250 feet downstream of the spillway. The bridge does not obstruct flows.	Large chunks of concrete were noted in the discharge channel. It is not known if they were placed or a result of the flow from Camille in 1969.
VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	CONTROL SECTION	APPROACH CHANNEL	DISCHARGE CHANNEL	BRIDGE AND PIERS	MISCELLANEOUS

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elevations are conspicuously REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATION Tower should be marked in such a way that water visible. None. None. None. None. There are no weirs other than the principal INSTRUMENTATION The water intake tower has a single elevation mark on it. This marking There are no nomuments on the dam. OBSERVATIONS spillway control section. There are no piezometers. elevation mark on it. Is barely legible. There are no wells. MONUMENTATION/SURVEYS VISUAL EXAMINATION OF **OBSERVATION WELLS** PIEZOMETERS STAFF CAGES WEIRS

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REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS	None.	None.	
RESERVOIR OBSERVATIONS	The reservoir is surr unded by heavily wooded mountainous terrain. There are no signs of erosion or slope failures. A portion of the reservoir slope just u; stream of right abutment is an exposed vertical cut as previously described for the embankment abutment contact.	A diver that opened the emergency gate in 1978 had to work through a thin layer of sedimentation.	
VISUAL EXAMINATION	SLOPES	SEDIMENTATION	ALBERTAN KANAN

REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS None. None. None. Several homes are located near the stream banks about 1 to 1-1/2 miles downstream of the dam. The area slopes are steep and wooded. There the channel slope drops constantly for over a mile. The channel side slopes are mild to The area slopes are steep and wooded, while Large rocks and boulders line the spillwey channel. Very little debris was observed. is some minimal erosion, on the discharge channel side slope, probably as a result of damages done during Camille in 1969. DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL OBSERVATIONS stcep. VISUAL EXAMINATION OF (OBSTRUCTIONS, DEBRIS, ETC.) APPROXIMATE NO. OF HOMES AND CONDITION POPULATION SLOPES

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APPENDIX IV

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WILEY & WILSON REPORT '77

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Cit	y Engineer		U L THOMPSON, PE	P A LEWEN PE

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City Engineer 300 East Washington Street P. O. Box 922 Lexington, Virginia 24450 Re: Moores Creek Dam.Inspection Report W&W Comm. No. 7189

Dear IIr. Hostetter:

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त्र महेत्र अनेमार्ग्या भिरत्य तथा तथी है दि तथा प्राप्त हो हिंग हाल हो होता. भाषित प्राप्त के तर्जनात्र का जनम सामग्रे के मिला के प्राप्त के प्राप We submit for your action our report on the Moores Creek Dam as requested on July 12, 1977.

We would strongly suggest that immediate action be taken by the City to correct the apparent leaks that have developed along the 16, 24, and 30-inch pipes that run through the dam. Although steps have been taken to lower the reservoir level to five feet below these pipes to allow for flood storage, it is our opinion that the dam has been partially breached along these conduits and should be kept out of service until repairs are made.

SENERAL:

Moores Creek Dam is situated in the Jefferson National Forest approximately 12 miles west of Lexington just off State Route 667. The 23 acre recervoir and 1380 acre drainage area is owned by the City of Lexington.

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In 1965, the raising of the old dam was completed, topping out at elevation 1972.5, 82 feet above the old streambed. The new dam provided 200 million gallons of fresh mountain water stored for City consumption up until just a few years ago when the City joined the Water Authority and now receives their water from the filtration plant on the Maury River. THE DAM:

The old Moores Creek Dam was built - no one knows when - and was raised 19.5 feet in 1965. This raised the dam crest from elevation 1953.0 to 1972.5. The dam is built as a diaphragm earthen dam with a top width of 12 feet, upstream slope of 2.75:1 and a downstream slope of 2.50:1 with four 7.5 feet wide terraces. A seven font impervious soil blanket (Class A fill) is installed on the upstream face. The dam is 82 feet high, impounding 610 acre-feet (200 million gallons) of water at normal water level at elevation 1965. The dam has a 100 foot overflow spillway at the north abutment with its crest elevation at 1965.

CONDUITS THROUGH THE DAM:

The 12-inch cast iron drain installed in the old original dam was extended to the upstream face of the new dam and a new 12-inch gate valve was installed. It was extended to grade on the downstream end.

The 16-inch concrete pipe from the original intake tower was plugged on the upstream end and extended to grade on the downstream end when the dam was raised.

The 24-inch encasement pipe for the 12-inch waterline, and 30-inch concrete drain was laid in a trench cut through rock and backfilled with Class "A" backfill material. These two (2) pipes run from the intake tower to the

downstream face of the dam.

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THE INSPECTION:

On July 13, 1977, we made a visual inspection of the dam to determine the locations and extent of leakage as a result of a 10 foot drop in water level in the reservoir over the weekend of July 8 - 11.

On the upstream face of the dam, we found one sunken area approximately 35 feet north of the foot bridge and between elevation 1955 and 1965. The sunken area was 12 to 15 feet in diameter and four to six feet deep. This placed the sunken area directly over the 30-inch drain.

We inspected the downstream face and found leakage around the outside of the 30-inch drain, around the outside of the 24-inch encasement pipe, and at a point approximately 100 feet down from the 24-inch pipe along the concrete flume. Based on our observations, we concluded that the dam had failed along these outlet pipes and requested that the reservoir be drained to an elevation below these pipes. This would reduce the chance of further damage and would also confirm if the failure was along these pipes.

On August 1, 1977, we made a visual inspection of the dam with the water level at elevation 1934. We noted three (3) additional sunken areas along the path of the 30-inch drain. We also noted a sunken area 33 feet south of the foot bridge which indicated that perhaps the old 16-inch abandoned outlet pipe was leaking. We checked the areas that were leaking on our July 13 visit and found them all to be dry. We noted that all the valve stems and valve supports were inoperable or in need of repair.

CONCLUSION:

It is our opinion that the Moores Creek Dam underwent serious piping

August 10, 1977

along the 30-inch drain with minor piping along the 24-inch encasement pipe and the abandoned 16-inch outlet pipe during the weekend of July 8 - 11, 1977, dropping the reservoir level approximately 10 feet. The piping was most likely caused by erosion of the upstream impervious soil blanket (Class A fill) at the base of the intake tower. The visual inspection indicated that piping along the outside of 24 and 30-inch pipes has been going on for some time. With time, the piping caused enough erosion of material along the pipes to cause settlement and final rupture of the impervious blanket up the face of the dam along the path of the pipes. The Towering of the reservoir level below the intake elevation of these pipes topped all visual leaks thus substantiating our opinion.

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We feel that the dam can be repaired by removing the impervious blanket along the path of the pipes from the intake tower to the top of the dam and a minimum of 20 feet to each side of the centerline. Remove and replace with compacted Class A material the first 64 feet along and around the pipes from the upstream face including two (2) additional seepage cutoff collars. Replace the impervious blanket with compacted Class A material. Precaution must be taken to insure that a good bond is made between the existing embankment and the newly placed material.

All the valve stems and supports should be repaired or replaced such that all will be operable.

RECONTENDATIONS:

It is our opinion that the City should keep the reservoir level at least five feet below the bottom of the intake tower until such time that the repairs to the dam have been made. We strongly urge the City to proceed with the repairs immediately because of the high liability of the structure and the probability that a major storm is not imminent that could cause flood flows in excess of the available storage.

The reservoir provides an emergency backup water supply for the City of Lexington and also provides a potential for an ideal outdoor recreational facility for the area. If the City should desire to pursue this as an outdoor recreational facility, then there may be financial assistance available through the Commission of Outdoor Recreation of the <u>Commonwealth of Virginia not only</u> to make the repairs of the dam but to include a visitor center, picnic grounds, beach area, boat ramps, etc. We understand that these funds are to be shared on a 50 - 50 federal - local arrangement.

We trust that this report will be of assistance to the City. If we can be of further service, please factorize to call us.

Very truly yours,

WILEY & WILSON, INC.

OEC/bc

APPENDIX V

REFERENCES

1. <u>Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams</u>, Office of the Chief of Engineers, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C.

2. HEC-1DB Flood Hydrograph Package, (Hydrologic Engineering Center, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Scylamber 1978.)

3. "Probable Maximum Precipitation Estimates, United States East of the 105th Meridian," <u>Hydrometeorological Report No. 51</u>, (U. S. Weather Bureau, June 1978).

4. "Rainfall Frequency Atlas of 1' " Unites States", Technical Paper No. 40, (U.S. Weather Bureau, May 1961).