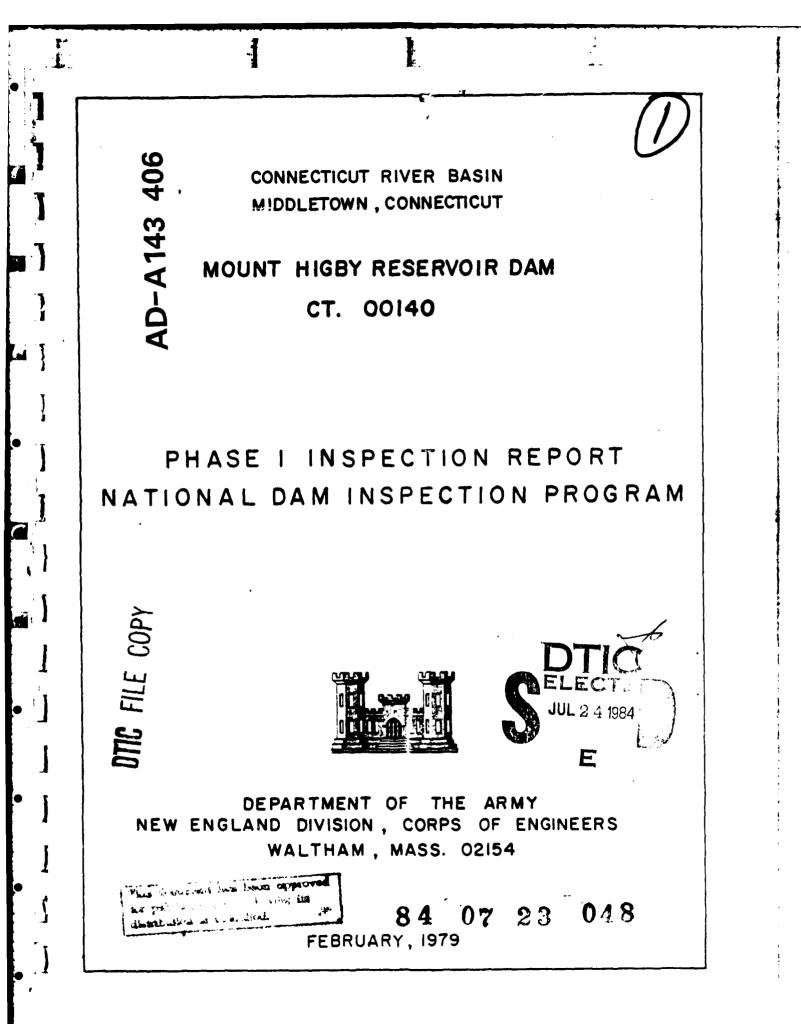


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# MOUNT HIGBY RESERVOIR DAM

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PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGR

#### NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT

Identification No:CT 00140Name of Dam:Mount Higby Reservoir DamTown:MiddletownCounty and State:Middlesex County, ConnecticutStream:Fall BrookDate of Inspection:8 November 1978

#### BRIEF ASSESSMENT

Mount Higby Reservoir Dam is an earthfill embankment about 865 ft. long, with a maximum height of about 30 ft. The spillway channel is located at the left abutment and appears to be excavated in bedrock. The dam access road crosses the spillway channel via a twin arch masonry bridge between the reservoir and the control sill, and then continues along a berm at the toe of the downstream slope. A wet well outlet structure is connected to a water treatment plant below the dam by means of a buried 20 in. dia. service main. There is also a 36 in. dia. blowoff pipe with an outlet into a natural channel below the dam.

Mount Higby Reservoir is utilized as a water storage facility for the City of Middletown. It is about 6,000 ft. long and has a surface at normal storage of 134 acres. The drainage area is 1.44 sq. mi. and the maximum storage to the top of the dam is 1,750 acre-ft.; the size classification is thus intermediate. Because a breach of the dam could affect the water treatment plant, several homes, a local road and Interstate Highway 91, with the possibility of some loss of life and the probability of serious economic losses, it has been classified as having a significant hazard potential. Based on intermediate size and significant hazard, the test flood is  $\frac{1}{2}$  PMF.

The test flood inflow is 3,500 cfs., while the outflow is 1,160 cfs. at a surcharge elevation of 366.5, about 0.3 ft. below the top of the dam. The spillway is therefore adequate to pass the test flood outflow without overtopping the dam.

The dam is judged to be in generally good condition. Flows of undetermined origin, which may be seepage from the reservoir, appear in the downstream channel and cause two marshy areas below the dam. The dam and appurtenant structures appear to be well maintained, but there is some brush growth and several mature trees on the downstream side of the access road berm.

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Within two years of receipt of the Phase I Inspection Report, the owner, the City of Middletown, should retain the services of a competent registered professional engineer, and implement the results of his evaluation of the flows observed in the downstream channel and the two marshy areas below the dam.

The owner should also carry out the following operational and maintenance procedures: (1) Monitor all flows below the dam on a monthly basis for changes in turbidity or volume; (2) Remove scrub from the access road berm and implement a program for gradual removal of all mature trees; (3) Check the 12 in. dia. supplementary inlet control valve for operability; (4) Repair the unserviceable steel slide gate which controls inflows from Adder Reservoir; (5) Develop a formal surveillance and flood warning plan; and (6) Institute procedures for a biennial periodic technical inspection.

Peter B. Dyson Project Manager

i



rick Esper Frederick Esper

Frederick Esper Vice President



This Phase I Inspection Report on Mount Higby Reservoir Dam has been reviewed by the undersigned Review Board members. In our opinion, the reported findings, conclusions, and recommendations are consistent with the <u>Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams</u>, and with good engineering judgment and practice, and is hereby submitted for approval.

CHARLES G. TIERSCH, Chairman Chief, Foundation and Materials Branch Engineering Division

FRED J. RAVENS, JR., Member Chief, Design Branch Engineering Division

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SAUL COOPER, Member Chief, Water Control Branch Engineering Division

APPROVAL RECOMMENDED:

JOE B. FRYAR Chief, Engineering Division

iv

#### PREFACE

This report is prepared under guidance contained in the <u>Recommended</u> <u>Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams</u>, for Phase I Investigations. Copies of these guidelines may be obtained from 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 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 Test Flood is based on the estimated "Probable Maximum Flood" for the region (greatest reasonably possible storm runoff), or fractions thereof. Because of the magnitude and rarity of such a storm event, a finding that a spillway will not pass the test flood should not be interpreted as necessarily posing a highly inadequate condition. The test flood provides a measure of relative spillway capacity and serves as an aid 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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APPENDIX E - INFORMATION AS CONTAINED IN THE NATIONAL INVENTORY OF DAMS

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# MOUNT HIGBY RESERVOIR DAM

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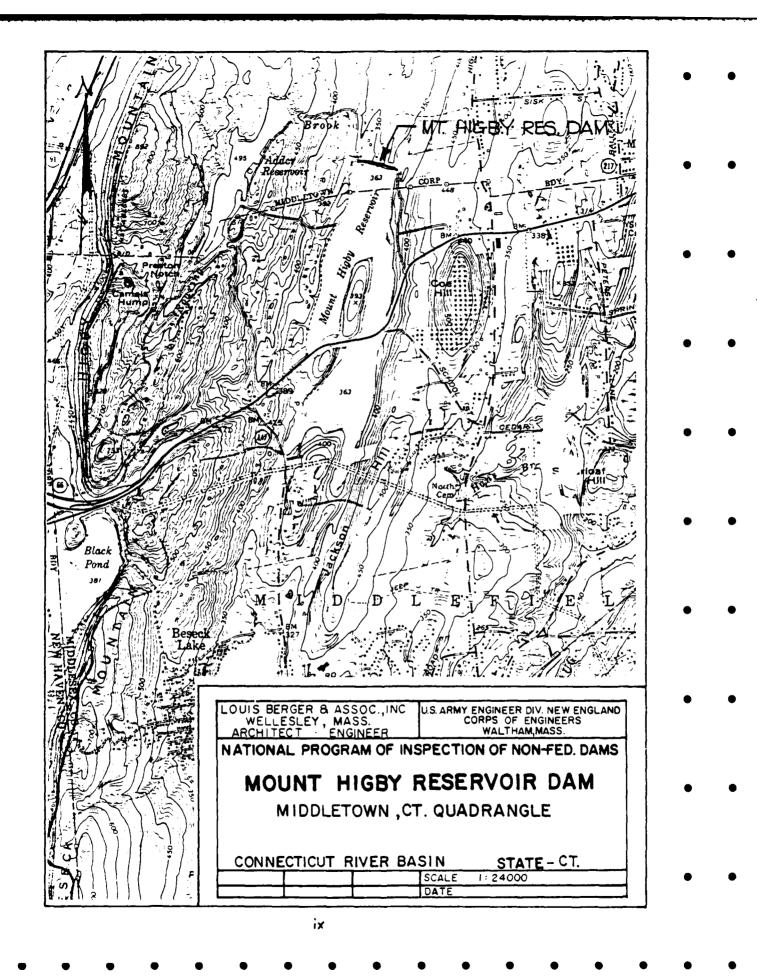
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## Overview from left abutment

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#### PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT

MOUNT HIGBY RESERVOIR DAM CT 00140

SECTION I - PROJECT INFORMATION

#### 1.1 General

a. Authority

Public Law 92-367, August 8, 1972, authorized the Secretary of the Army, through the Corps of Engineers, to initiate a national program of dam inspection throughout the United States. The New England Division of the Corps of Engineers has been assigned the responsibility of supervising the inspection of dams within the New England Region. Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. has been retained by the New England Division to inspect and report on selected dams in the State of Connecticut. Authorization and notice to proceed was issued to Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. under a letter of 27 October 1978 from Max B. Scheider, Colonel, Corps of Engineers. Contract No. DACW33-78-C-0371, Job Change No. 1, has been assigned by the Corps of Engineers for this work.

- b. Purpose
  - Perform technical inspection and evaluation of non-Federal dams to identify conditions which threaten the public safety and thus permit correction in a timely manner by non-Federal interests.
  - Encourage and assist the States to initiate quickly effective dam safety programs for non-Federal dams.
  - 3. Update, verify and complete the National Inventory of Dams.

#### 1.2 Description of Project

a. Location

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Mount Higby Reservoir Dam is located in the western outskirts of Middletown, Connecticut, at the headwaters of Fall Brook, which is a tributary of Sawmill Brook, the Mattabesset River and the Connecticut River. The dam is reached via State Highway 66, 4.8 miles east from

Meriden, and then ½ mile north on an access road. Normal reservoir water level is 363 MSL, while the confluence of Fall Brook and Sawmill Brook about 2 miles downstream from the dam is 70 MSL. Westfield Falls, located just upstream of the confluence, accounts for approximately 50 ft. of the elevation difference.

The reservoir is operated as a water storage facility to supply water for the City of Middletown. Storages released from Mount Higby Reservoir are drawn into the treatment plant situated about 200 ft. downstream of the dam.

b. Description of Dam and Appurtenances

1. Description of Dam

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Mount Higby Reservoir Dam is an earthfill embankment about 30 ft. high at its maximum section and about 865 ft. long. It appears to have been built around the turn of the century. The dam has a concrete core wall, and it is believed that this wall is founded on hardpan and gravel. Both the upstream and downstream slopes are at 2 horizontal to 1 vertical. There is a 22 ft. wide berm at the toe of the downstream slope which carries the access road. The upstream slope is riprapped while downstream the slope is a well maintained, grass furrow slope.

The left abutment appears to be founded on bedrock, as evidenced from rock outcrops along the spillway channel. The right abutment foundation material is not known. Sketch plans and profiles of the dam and appurtenant structures are shown on Figure 1, Sheet D-1, Appendix D.

2. Spillway

The spillway for Mount Higby Reservoir is located at the left abutment and appears to be excavated in bedrock. The approach channel floor is riprapped for approximately 100 ft. and is unlined to the spillway sill some 350 ft. downstream of the reservoir. The left channel wall is steep with exposed rock, while the right channel wall slope is less severe and has random riprap.

The spillway channel entrance is about 100 ft. upstream from the dam centerline. The channel is carried roughly paral'el with the dam axis for about 150 ft. into the abutment, where it turns gently about 90 degrees downstream. The channel continues under a twin arch masonry bridge and then to the spillway sill about 100 ft. downstream from the access road bridge. A 2 ft. high and 49 ft. long concrete control sill, placed with its crest 3.6 ft. below the level of the top of the dam, acts to regulate outflows from the reservoir.

A diversion structure, located approximately 1,000 ft. downstream from the spillway sill, releases outflows from Adder Reservoir (located northwest of Mt. Higby Reservoir) either directly into Mt. Higby Reservoir or into Fall Brook. Outflow control is regulated by means of a 6 ft. by 4 ft. 9 in. slide gate at the diversion structure.

3. Outlet

The reservoir outlet is located at about the center of the dam near the low point of the valley. The outlet is a 36 in. dia. pipe, presumably of cast iron, placed through the dam. The control structure, reached by a 50 ft. catwalk extending from the dam crest, houses the inlet to the outlet pipe and the control gate. The 36 in. dia. pipe outlets into a natural channel at an endwall at the downstream toe of the dam. A pipe culvert is located under the trail embankment which leads from the treatment plant parking lot. A 20 in. dia. pipe is the main supply line from the reservoir to the treatment plant located at the toe of the dam. An auxiliary 12 in. dia. line supplies water from the upper reaches of the reservoir beyond the Rte. 66 Causeway to the treatment plant. This 12 in. dia, pipe has not been used for several years. The 20 in. dia. pipe and the 12 in. dia. pipe meet in a concrete chamber box about 30 ft. beyond the toe of the dam, from which a 20 in. dia. pipe supplies water to the plant.

c. Size Classification

Mount Higby Reservoir Dam is about 30 ft. high, impounding a maximum storage of about 1,200 acre-ft. to spillway crest level and about 1,750 acre-ft. to the top of the dam. In accordance with the size and

capacity criteria given in <u>Recommended Guidelines</u> for <u>Safety Inspection of Dams</u>, storage governs and therefore the project is classified as <u>intermediate</u> in size.

d. Hazard Classification

A breach failure of Mt. Higby Reservoir Dam would release water down to Fall Brook, over the Westfield waterfalls, into Sawmill Brook and then into the Mattabesset River, a tributary of the Connecticut River. Four homes, the water treatment plant, part of Country Club Road and part of I-91 could be affected by a flood depth of the order of 10 ft.

It therefore appears that a sudden breach of the dam would probably cause some loss of life and some economic loss. Consequently, Mt. Higby Reservoir Dam has been classified as having <u>significant</u> hazard potential in accordance with the <u>Recommended Guidelines for Safety</u> Inspection of Dams.

e. Ownership

Mount Higby Reservoir Dam is owned by the City of Middletown.

f. Operator

Mr. Frank J. Opolacz, Director Middletown Water & Sewer Department Municipal Building Middletown, Connecticut 06457

Telephone: (203) 347-4671

g. Purpose of Dam

Mount Higby Reservoir Dam is operated in conjunction with other water storage facilities, for providing municipal water supplies to the City of Middletown.

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h. Design and Construction History

Very little data has been found on the design or construction of the Mount Higby Reservoir Dam. Discussions with City of Middletown personnel indicate that the dam was probably built on hardpan and gravel and that it has either a concrete or masonry core wall. No documentation on design or construction has been recovered. i. Normal Operating Procedure

There are no written operating procedures. Operators are on duty around the clock at the treatment plant below Mount Higby Reservoir Dam, and are available to periodically regulate the withdrawals from reservoir storage and to check the reservoir conditions. Outlet gate operation at the reservoir is not a day-to-day procedure.

#### 1.3 Pertinent Data

a. Drainage Area

The drainage area contributing to the Mount Higby Reservoir consists of the east side of Higby Mountain, the west sides of Coe Hill and Jackson Hill, the north side of Beseck Mountain and the reservoir area proper, a total of 1.44 sq. mi. (922 acres). The surface area of the reservoir at normal storage elevation 363.2 MSL is 143 acres.

The drainage area measures about 1.5 miles long and 1.0 mile wide and rises to elevation 733 MSL on Higby Mountain. The area is generally forested.

b. Discharge at Damsite

1. Outlet Works Conduit

Discharge from Mount Higby Reservoir is provided by a single 36 in. dia. outlet pipe leading from the gatehouse to a headwall at the toe of the dam. 12 in. and 20 in. dia. pipes supply water from the reservoir to the treatment plant. The release capacity of the 36 in. dia. outlet, with reservoir at normal storage, is estimated at about 150 cfs.

2. Maximum Known Flood at Damsite

No records are available of flood inflows into Mount Higby Reservoir, nor of spillway releases and surcharge heads during such inflows.

3. Ungated Spillway Capacity at Top of Dam

The spillway at Mount Higby Reservoir is an ungated channel with concrete sill control at elevation 363.2 measuring 49 ft. in length. About 100 ft. upstream from the control sill, a twin 18 ft. masonry arch culvert bridge crosses the spillway outlet channel, such that a constriction is formed in the spillway. The capacity at top of dam is about 1,400 cfs at elevation 366.82.

4. Ungated Spillway Capacity at Test Flood Elevation

The spillway capacity at test flood elevation is computed to be about 1,160 cfs at reservoir surcharge elevation 366.5, leaving a freeboard of about 0.32 ft. to top of dam.

5. Total Project Discharge at Test Flood Elevation

The total project discharge at test flood elevation 366.5 is 1,160 cfs.

c. Elevation (ft. above MSL)

le

1. Streambed at centerline of dam -  $336^+$ 2. Maximum tailwater - Unknown 3. Upstream portal invert diversion tunnel - Not applicable 4. Recreation pool - Not applicable 5. Full flood control pool - Not applicable 6. Spillway crest - 363.20 7. Design surcharge - Unknown 8. Top of dam - 366.82 9. Test flood design surcharge - 366.50 d. Reservoir 1. Length at maximum pool - 6,000 ft. $\pm$ 2. Length of recreation pool - Not applicable 3. Length of flood control pool - Not applicable e. Storage (acre-feet) 1. Recreation pool - Not applicable 2. Flood control pool - Not applicable

- 3. Spillway crest pool 1,177
- 4. Top of dam 1,734
- 5. Test flood pool 1,680
  - 6

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f. Reservoir Surface (acres)
    1. Recreation pool - Not applicable
    2. Flood control pool - Not applicable
    3. Spillway crest - 134
    4. Test flood pool - 165
    5. Top of dam - 174
g. Dam
    1. Type - Earthfill embankment
    2. Length - 865 ft.
    3. Height - 30 ft.
    4. Top width - 40 ft.
    5. Side slopes - 2 horizontal to 1 vertical
                     upstream and downstream
    6. Zoning - Presumed concrete or masonry core wall,
                 earthfill upstream and downstream
    7. Impervious core - Presumed concrete or masonry core wall
    8. Cutoff - Unknown
    9. Grout curtain - None indicated
   10. Other - Nil
   Diversion and Regulating Tunnel - None
h.
i. Spillway
    1. Type - 350 ft. long channel in rock, 100 ft. riprapped
    2. Length of weir - 49 ft.
    3. Crest elevation - 363.2 MSL
    4. Ungated
    5. Upstream channel - Unlined in rock
    6. Downstream channel - Unlined, wide grass swale
    7. General - 2 ft. high control sill at elevation 363.2 MSL.
                 Twin 18 ft. arch culvert bridge 100 ft.
                 upstream of control sill.
j. Regulating Outlets
    1. Invert - Unknown
    2. Size - 36 in. dia.
    3. Description - Concrete pipe
    4. Control mechanism - 36 in. gate at control tower
    5. Other - 12 in. dia. and 20 in. dia. lines supply water
                tc treatment plant
```

## SECTION 2 - ENGINEERING DATA

## 2.1 Design

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No data on the design of the dam or appurtenances has been recovered and probably none exist. In the course of the inspection, measurements were taken and a sketch plan and profile layout of Mount Higby Reservoir Dam and appurtenances has been prepared. These sketches are shown on Figure 1 in Appendix D.

## 2.2 Construction

No records or correspondence regarding construction have been found.

## 2.3 Operation

The dam is operated by the City of Middletown, Water and Sewer Department. There appear to be no formal records other than reservoir levels.

## 2.4 Evaluation

a. Availability

Since no engineering data is available, it is not possible to make an assessment of the safety of the embankment. The basis of the information presented in this report is principally the visual observations of the inspection team.

b. Adequacy

The lack of in-depth engineering data did not allow for a definitive review. Therefore, the adequacy of this dam could not be assessed from the standpoint of reviewing design and construction data, but is based primarily on visual inspection, past performance history and sound engineering judgment.

c. Validity

Not applicable.

## 3.1 Findings

a. General

The visual inspection of Mount Higby Reservoir Dam took place on 8 November 1978. The dam appears to be in generally good condition. There was no evidence of any major maintenance problems.

#### b. Dam

Mount Higby Reservoir Dam has an embankment about 865 ft. long with a maximum height of 30 ft. and a crest width of 40 ft. The horizontal and vertical alignment of the embankment is good. The upstream slope protection is riprapped, which is in generally good condition, except that locally young growth has intruded (Overview Photo). The crest and downstream slope of the dam are grass covered, well maintained and frequently mowed. The berm at the downstream toe of the dam, which carries the access road, is somewhat overgrown; and a few mature trees are established near the right center (Overview Photo). Surface drainage structures are provided for the roadway, but no formal toe drains were evident.

There are two marshy areas, each about 100 ft. downstream of the dam. One of these areas, however, to the right of center of the dam, is about 300 ft. by 400 ft. and appears to be entirely bounded by rock outcrops without a natural drainage outlet. Seepage, therefore, is not considered likely to be a source in this case. The second area is low-lying, to the right of the outlet channel opposite the center of the dam, and upstream of the culvert beneath the embankment of the trail which proceeds eastward from the parking lot by the treatment plant (Appendix C, Photo No. 1). No flow was visible at the time of the inspection. Even if seepage was contributing to this condition, the area is a considerable distance from the dam.

In the channel immediately downstream from the outlet pipe headwall, some standing water was evident, but, the gates being closed, there was no flow (Appendix C, Photo No. 3). It is probable that this water represented the normal ground water table. However, the Supt. of Water Sources advised that, when the reservoir is at normal elevation, there is a distinct trickle of water in this

area. The high velocities of the periodic flushing have scoured the channel near the headwall, exposing a stony bottom. At the culvert under the trail embankment the flow was noticeable, and was said to be of significantly higher velocity and volume at normal reservoir level (Appendix C, Photo No. 2).

c. Appurtenant Structures

The spillway channel is unlined. The first 150 ft. is riprapped and the remainder is in rock cut, which appears to be stable. Some brush growth has established itself in the channel, which might best be grubbed out (Appendix C, Photo Nos. 5 & 6). The riprap at the beginning of the spillway channel appears to be in good condition. The twin masonry arch bridge across the channel requires some grouting but otherwise is in good condition (Appendix C, Photo No. 7). The concrete spillway sill is 2 ft. high, in good condition, and the discharge channel is paved with asphalt for about 50 ft.

There is a 36 in. dia. steel outlet pipe emanating from a headwall located about 30 ft. from the downstream toe of the dam (Appendix C, Photo No. 3). This pipe is used twice a year to flush the outlet structure. It also serves as a means for drawing down the reservoir in emergencies.

At the center of the dam, about 20 ft. from the downstream toe, there is an underground concrete chamber. Here the 12 in. dia. steel supply line from the upper reaches of the reservoir joins the 20 in. dia. steel pipe from the outlet structure. From this point water is routed into the treatment plant via the 20 in. dia. pipe.

The outlet gates at the dam were not operated during the inspection, but according to Middletown Water and Sewer Department personnel, the gates and valves for the 36 in. dia. flushing pipe and 20 in. dia. supply line function properly and have been recently operated. The gate valve for the 12 in. dia. supply line has not been operated for several years but it is believed to be operational.

The gatehouse is a brick structure approximately 10 ft. square surmounting a masonry outlet tower 36 ft. high, and is in good condition. Access to the gatehouse is provided via a steel catwalk from the crest of the dam (Overview Photo).

There is a channel which conveys water from Adder Reservoir into Mount Higby Reservoir, being connected into the spillway channel, upstream of the control sill (Sheet D-1). Flows into Mount Higby Reservoir are controlled by a steel slide gate across the concrete walled channel, which is unserviceable and jammed in the open position (Appendix C, Photo No. 4). When this gate is closed, flows in the channel are diverted over a trapezoidal notch in the concrete wall (Appendix C, Photo No. 8) and reach Fall Brook via a natural channel.

d. Reservoir Area

The shores of the reservoir are gently sloping and, at the immediate water's edge, are riprapped for the greater part of the perimeter. The slopes are stable, as are those of the upstream Adder Reservoir at the base of Higby Mountain.

e. Downstream Channel

Flows from Mount Higby Reservoir discharge into Fall Brook, which runs in a wide valley section. Fall Brook, after passing over the Westfield Falls, empties into Sawmill Brook about 2 miles below the dam. Sawmill Brook continues in a wide valley to its confluence with the Mattabesset River. Valley storage along Fall Brook and Sawmill Brook would not be large, so that large outflows from Mount Higby Reservoir spills could be expected to persist in the downstream valley sections until the Mattabesset River is reached. However, except for the waterway crossing under Interstate 91, damage from large flows along the stream courses would be limited to a local road, about four isolated homes and the water treatment plant.

#### 3.2 Evaluation

The visual inspection has adequately revealed key characteristics of the dam as they may relate to its stability and integrity. The dam and appurtenant works are judged to be in good condition.

#### SECTION 4 - OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

#### 4.1 Procedures

The Mount Higby Reservoir facility is operated by personnel of the Middletown Water and Sewer Department, who are stationed at the treatment plant about 100 ft. below the dam. Reservoir operation entails mainly the release of stored water from the reservoir as water supply needs warrant. No minimum releases are required downstream. The outlet from the reservoir to the treatment plant is a pressure pipe, with valves at the outlet of the pipe such that day-today regulation of the outlet valve is not required. No documented operating procedures have been prepared.

## 4.2 Maintenance of Dam

Little maintenance is required except for periodic cutting of the sodded crest and downstream slope. These are well maintained and present an attractive appearance. No documented maintenance instructions have been prepared.

### 4.3 Maintenance of Operating Facilities

Except for the housekeeping maintenance noted above, no specific maintenance program is in effect. It is presumed that some maintenance to the gates and valves has been performed in the past to keep the mechanisms operative. The gate for the 12 in. dia. supply line, presently in disuse, should be checked and, if necessary, made operative.

## 4.4 Warning System

No warning system is in effect at Mount Higby Reservoir Dam.

## 4.5 Evaluation

Although little is known about the construction of the facility, it has simple operating devices and, as such, requires no detailed operating procedures. Maintenance involves periodic growth removal from the embankment and surveillance regarding seeps, slope damage, animal burrows, etc. Outlet operating valves require checking for serviceability. A formal warning and emergency evacuation system should be developed.

#### 5.1 Evaluation of Features

a. General

Mount Higby Reservoir Dam is an earth embankment structure with a concrete core wall impounding a normal storage of about 1,177 acre-ft. with provision for an additional 557 acre-ft. of capacity in its surcharge space to the top of the dam. It is basically a high surcharge-low spillage facility used to supply water to the City of Middletown. The spillway is capable of discharging about 1,400 cfs. with surcharge to the top of the dam.

The general topographic characteristic of the 1.44 sq. mi. (922 acres) drainage basin is best described as rolling terrain. The drainage area measures about 1.5 miles long and 1.0 mile wide and rises from elevation 363.2 at the spillway crest to elevation 733 MSL on Higby Mountain. The area is generally forested.

b. Design Data

There is no design data available for this dam.

c. Experience Data

No records are available in regard to past operation of the reservoir, nor of surcharge encroachments and spills through the spillway. The maximum past inflows are unknown.

d. Visual Observations

There are no present evidences either along the reservoir or in the downstream channel to indicate high water levels or signs of major spillway outflows. No one contacted could recollect any such occurrences.

e. Test Flood Analysis

Reservoir area and capacity curves and tables, for use in flood routings, are shown on Fig. 3, Sheet D-5 and Sheet D-6, Appendix D. For determining surface areas and surcharge capacities, planimetered areas were taken from contours delineated on USGS 2,000 ft. per in. quadrangle sheets.

The test flood chosen to evaluate the hydrologic and hydraulic capacity of Mount Higby Reservoir Dam was selected in accordance with the criteria presented in the <u>Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of</u> <u>Dams</u>. Since this dam is classified as intermediate in size with a significant hazard potential, a test flood of magnitude corresponding to half the Probable Maximum Flood (½ PMF) was selected for the evaluation.

Precipitation data were obtained from Hydrometeorological Report No. 33, which for the Connecticut area approximates 24.3 in. of 6 hour point rainfall over a 10 square mile area. This value was then reduced by 20 percent to allow for basin size, shape and fit factors. The 6 hour rainfall-duration curve of a total of 19.2 in. was then distributed and rearranged as suggested in <u>Design of</u> <u>Small Dams</u>. A constant loss factor of 0.1 in. per hour was deducted from the precipitation values to give the excess rainfall used to prepare an inflow hydrograph.

A triangular incremental unitgraph was assumed for the inflow hydrographs, using a computed lag time value of 0.7 hours to derive a time-to-peak for the triangular hydrograph of 1 hour (see computations on Sheets D-7 and D-8, Appendix D). A PMF inflow hydrograph is shown on Fig. 4, Sheet D-9, Appendix D, indicating a peak inflow of about 6,950 cfs or a CSM of about 4,800.

Spillway discharges are affected by the upstream bridge openings. This was taken into account in computing spillway discharges (see Appendix D, Sheet D-4).

Flood routings were performed for both  $\frac{1}{2}$  and full PMF. Results of these routings are shown on Figures 5 & 6, Sheets D-10 and D-11, and are summarized as follows:

			Max. Head	Max. Disch.	Max. Q/ft.	Total Outflow	Duration of
Flood	Max.	Max.	Over Der	Over	Over Der	Over	Overtopping
Flood Magnitude	Disch. cfs	Res.El. ft.MSL	Dam ft.	Dam cfs.	Dam cfs	Dam Ac-Ft	of Dam hrs.
<sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> PMF	1,160	366.5	0	0	0	0	0
PMF	4,800	367.8	1.0	2,400	280	288	3.50

From the above table, it can be seen that the project will pass the test flood of  ${}^{1}\!_{2}$  PMF with about 0.32 ft. of freeboard remaining. The project, however, cannot handle a full PMP flood as the dam would be overtopped by about 1 ft.

Drawdown of the reservoir is possible through the 36 in. dia. flushing pipe. If it were deemed necessary to evacuate the reservoir through this outlet, it is estimated that about 5 days would be required to empty the 1,200 acre-ft. of storage, assuming no inflow in the interim (see computations on Sheet D-12, Appendix D).

f. Dam Failure Analysis

As discussed in Para. d above, the dam would not be overtopped by a 0.5 PMF test flood, but a breach owing to structural failure of the dam by piping or sloughing is a possibility. In that event, a breach similar to that from an overtopping could be assumed and the "rule of thumb" criteria suggested in the NED March 1978 Guidance Report would be applicable. The reservoir level in this instance could be assumed to be lower than at the top of the dam. If the reservoir is assumed to be at normal storage level at the time of the breach, with no flow through the spillway, and a gap eroded to a 20 ft. bottom width with slopes on a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 angle of repose, an outflow of up to about 13,000 cfs could be released (see computations on Sheet D-13, Appendix D).

Fall Brook from Mount Higby Reservoir Dam to Westfield Falls traverses a length of about 11,000 ft. at a slope of about 86 ft. per mile. Based on an average valley cross section, the stream stage for 13,000 cfs will be about 12.5 ft. On this basis, the estimated valley storage for this reach will be about 340 acre-ft., indicating that the flood surge from the gap would be diminished to about 10,000 cfs when it reached the falls area and the waterway under Interstate 91 (see stage-discharge computations on Sheet D-13).

Four isolated homes along local roads crossing and adjacent to Fall Brook and the water treatment plant are within the area of potential flooding (Appendix D, Sheet D-14). Country Club Road would probably be washed out and Interstate 91 and Smith Street might also sustain damage as a result of a breach failure of Mount Higby Reservoir Dam.

### SECTION 6 - STRUCTURAL STABILITY

## 6.1 Evaluation of Structural Stability

a. Visual Observation

The field investigations of the embankment revealed no significant displacement or distress which would warrant the preparation of slope stability computations based on assumed soil properties and engineering factors. While the dam proper appeared to be in good condition, it should be reinspected when the reservoir is at its normal elevation, some 7 ft. above the water level at the time of the inspection. Attention should be given to several deficiencies listed in Section 7.

b. Design and Construction Data

No plans, specifications, or construction records are known to exist. Earlier inspection reports by the State indicate only that the dam is, questionably, of "earth and rock fill".

c. Operating Records

There are no operating records of any significance to structural stability.

d. Post Construction Changes

The results of the field inspection and discussions with City of Middletown Water and Sewer Department personnel produced no evidence of changes which might impair stability of the dam.

e. Seismic Stability

The dam is located in Seismic Zone No. 1, and in accordance with recommended Phase I guidelines, does not warrant seismic analyses.

## SECTION 7 - ASSESSMENT, RECOMMENDATIONS & REMEDIAL MEASURES

## 7.1 Dam Assessment

a. Condition

On the basis of the Phase I visual examination, the Mount Higby Reservoir Dam appears to be in good condition and functioning adequately. The deficiencies revealed are not of major concern, but indicate that further investigations are required. The spillway capacity is adequate to pass the test flood without overtopping the dam.

The serviceability of the valve for the 12 in. dia. inlet pipe is unknown. There are two marshy areas downstream of the dam, one or both of which may be possibly due to seepage derived from the reservoir. There are several mature trees on the downstream slope of the access road berm along the toe of the dam.

b. Adequacy of Information

The lack of in-depth engineering data did not allow for a definitive review. Therefore the adequacy of this dam could not be assessed from the standpoint of reviewing design and construction data, but is based primarily on visual inspection, past performance history and sound engineering judgment.

c. Urgency

The recommendations and remedial measures enumerated below should be implemented by the owner within two years after receipt of the Phase I Inspection Report.

d. Need for Additional Investigations

Additional investigations are required as recommended in Para. 7.2.

#### 7.2 Recommendations

It is recommended that the owner should retain the services of a competent registered professional engineer to make further investigations of the flows in the outlet channel and the causes of the two marshy areas below the dam. These investigations should be carried out during a period of high reservoir level. If proved necessary, suitable remedial works should then be designed and implemented to correct any deficiencies revealed by the investigations.

#### 7.3 Remedial Measures

- a. Operation and Maintenance Procedures
  - Monitoring of flows for changes in turbidity or volume should be carried out monthly at the inlet and outlet of the culvert beneath the trail, and at the two marshy areas 100 ft. north of the dam.
  - 2. Scrub should be removed from the downstream slope of the access road berm, and a program for gradual removal of the mature trees in this area should be implemented.
  - 3. The 12 in. dia. supplementary inlet pipe control valve should be checked for operability.
  - 4. The unserviceable steel slide gate which controls inflows from Adder Reservoir should be repaired.
  - 5. A formal surveillance and flood warning plan should be developed. An operational procedure to follow in the event of an emergency should also be adopted.
  - Procedures for a biennial periodic technical inspection of the dam and appurtenant works should be instituted. If possible, these inspections should be conducted during periods of high reservoir level.

#### 7.4 Alternatives

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There appear to be no practical alternatives to the above recommendations.



# APPENDIX A

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# VISUAL INSPECTION CHECKLIST

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## VISUAL INSPECTION PHASE I

Identification No. CT 00140Name of Dam: Mount Higby Reservoir<br/>DamDate of Inspection:8 November 1978Weather:Cloudy, coldTemperature:40°F ±Pool Elevation at Time of Inspection:356.82Tailwater Elevation at Time of Inspection:336.82

## INSPECTION PERSONNEL

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Pasquale E. Corsetti	Louis Berger & Assoc., Inc.	Acting Project Manager	• (
Carl J. Hoffman	Louis Berger & Assoc., Inc.	Hydraulics, Structures	
Thomas C. Chapter	Louis Berger & Assoc., Inc.	Hydrology, Soils	•
James H. Reynolds	Goldberg Zoino Dunnicliff & Assoc., Inc.	Soils	

## OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVES

Robert Poole	City of Middletown	Superintendent of Water Sources
William Baron	City of Middletown	Water & Sewer Engineer

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VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS AND REMARKS
EMBANKMENT Vertical alignment and movement	No movement observed.
Horizontal alignment and movement	No movement observed.
Unusual movement or cracking at or near the toe	None observed.
Surface cracks	None observed.
Animal burrows and tree growth	No burrows noted. D/s slope is well kept grass with 3" furrows.
Sloughing or erosion of slopes	None evident.
Riprap slope protection	Upstream face in good condition.
Seepage	Marshy area to right of outlet channel below dam and trail possibly caused by seepage.

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VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSEKVATIONS AND REMARKS
Piping or boils	None evident.
Junction of embankment and abutment, spillway and dam	Good condition.
Foundation drainage	Unknown.
<u>OUTLET WORKS</u> Approach channel	None.
Outlet conduit concrete surfaces	None.
Intake structure	Catehouse with wet well.
Outlet structure	Concrete headwall on 36 in. dia. steel pipe.
Outlet channel	Natural unlined channel.

Identification No: CT 00140	Name of Dam: Mount Higby Reservoir Dam Sheet
VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS AND REMARKS
Drawdown facilities	36 in. dia. pipe.
SPILLWAY STRUCTURES Concrete weir	24 in. high concrete sill - asphalt approach channel for approx. 50 ft.
Approach channel	Riprapped for approx. 150 ft. at entrance, beyond that random rock excavated in bedrock.
Discharge channel	Natural, meandering grassed valley.
Stilling basin	None.
Bridge and piers	Upstream of crest, 2-18 ft. arch openings.
Control gates and operating machinery	y None.

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Sheet 4 Mount Higby Reservoir Dam **OBSERVATIONS AND REMARKS** Gentle slopes - wooded. Rt. 66 Causeway VISUAL INSPECTION CHECKLIST None observed. None noted. None. None. None. None. Name of Dam: Upstream hazard areas in event of backflooding Alterations to watershed affecting runoff Constraints on operation of dam Headwater and tailwater gages Identification No: CT 00140 Embankment instrumentation VISUAL EXAMINATION OF Other instrumentation DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL **INSTRUMENTATION** Sedimentation RESERVOIR Shoreline

5)

VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	Name of Dam:		Sheet
		OBSERVATIONS AND REMARKS	
Valley section		Wide valley, meadowlands and swamps.	
Slopes		Gentle.	
Approx. No. of homes/population		4 residential homes.	
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FEATURES Reservoir regulation plan, normal co	conditions	None.	
Reservoir regulation plan, emergency conditions	y conditions	Divert Roaring Brook (from Adder Reservoir) Mount Higby Reservoir at downstream control structure.	ir) from rol
Maintenance features		Slide gate at downstream control structure inoperable.	re

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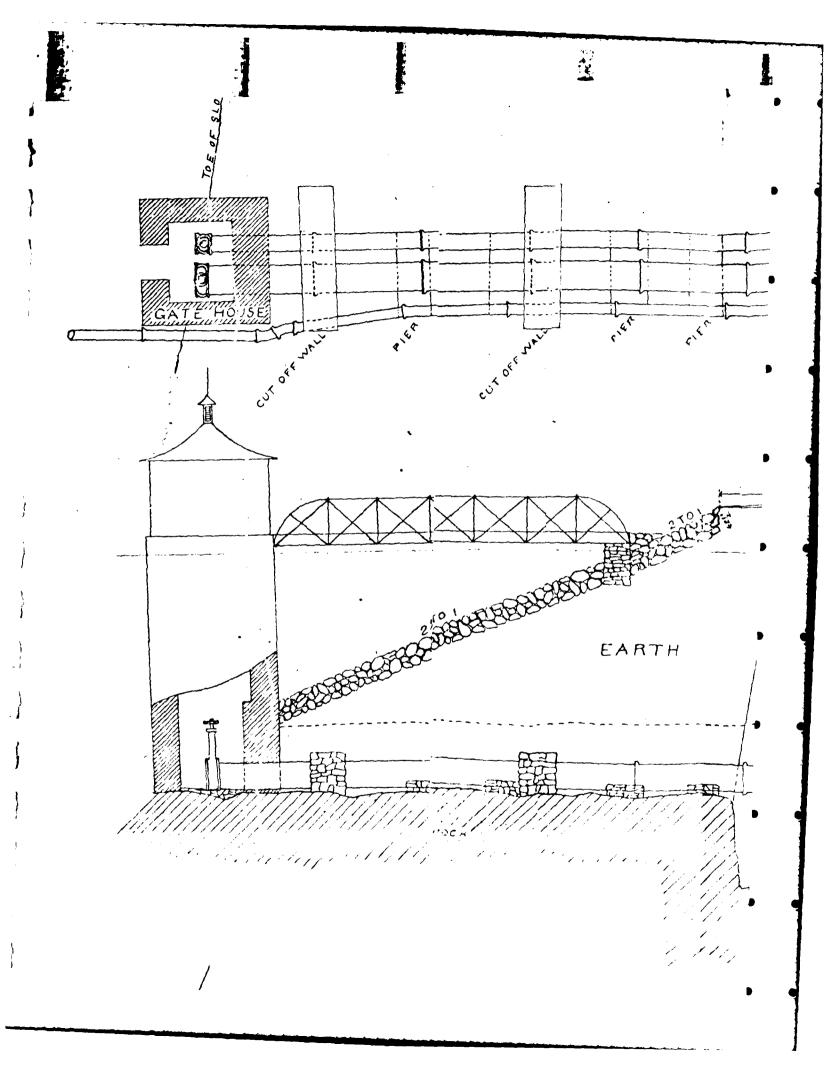


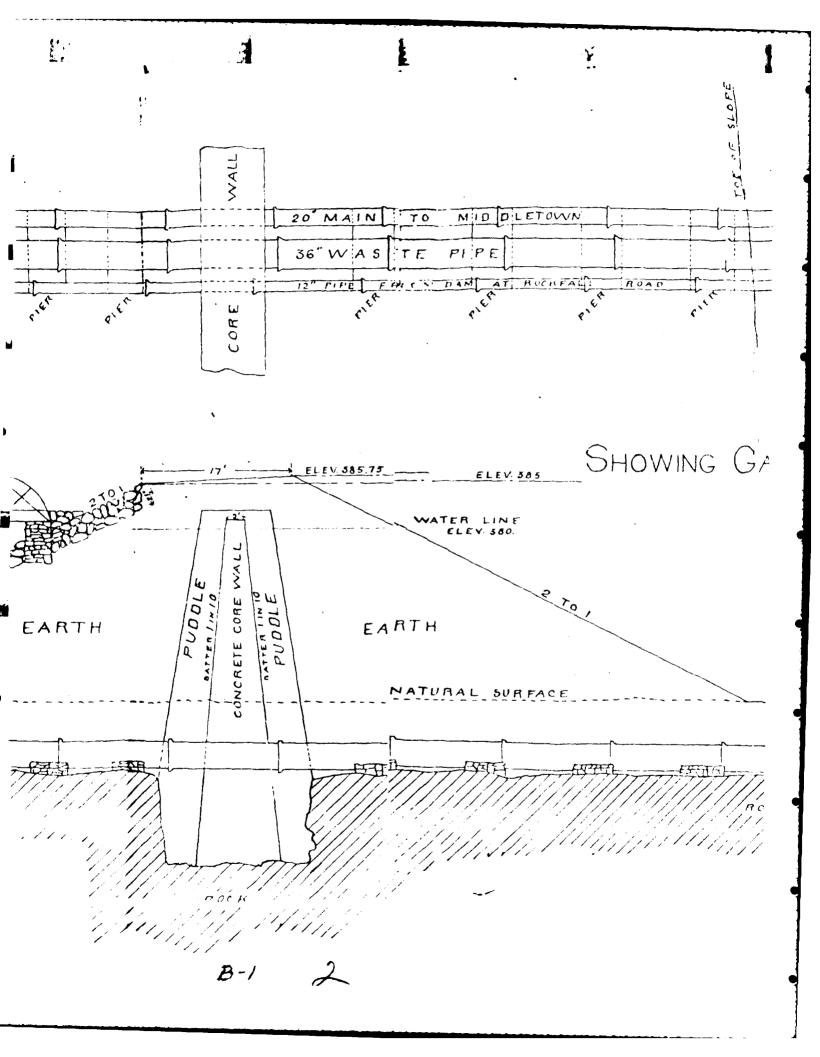
APPENDIX B

# PLAN OF DAM

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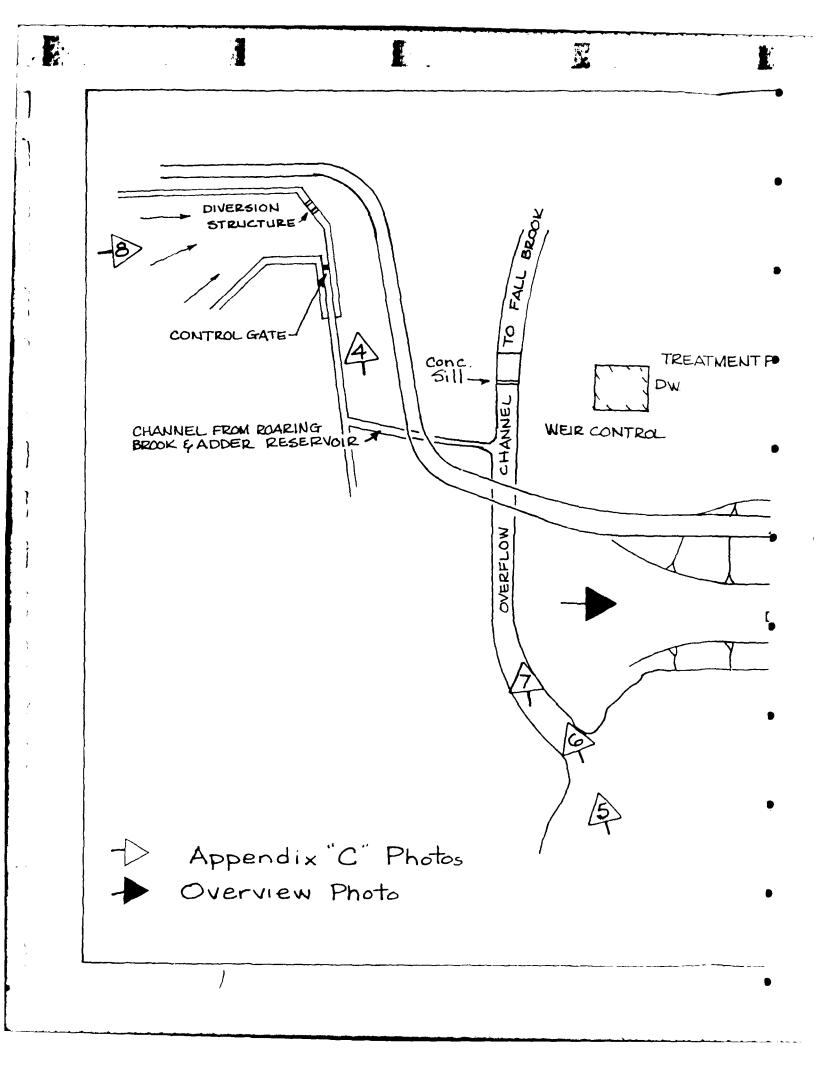


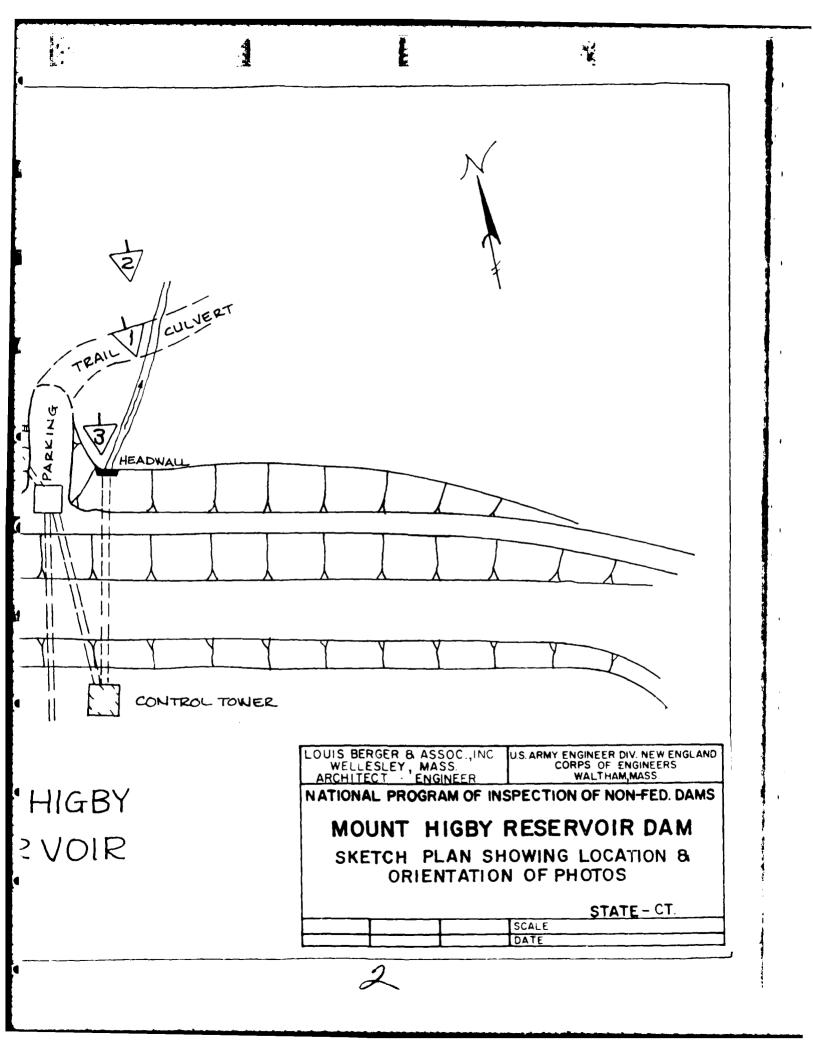
E. `<u>`</u> Jd 0 75 ABU 7.A.C.A PIER CANAL XOBRIDO ·PLAN 'G GATE HOUSE AND PIPES THROUGH DAM and SECTION ON LINE OF 36 INCH PIPE. Scale, 1 inch = 10 feet. B-1 2

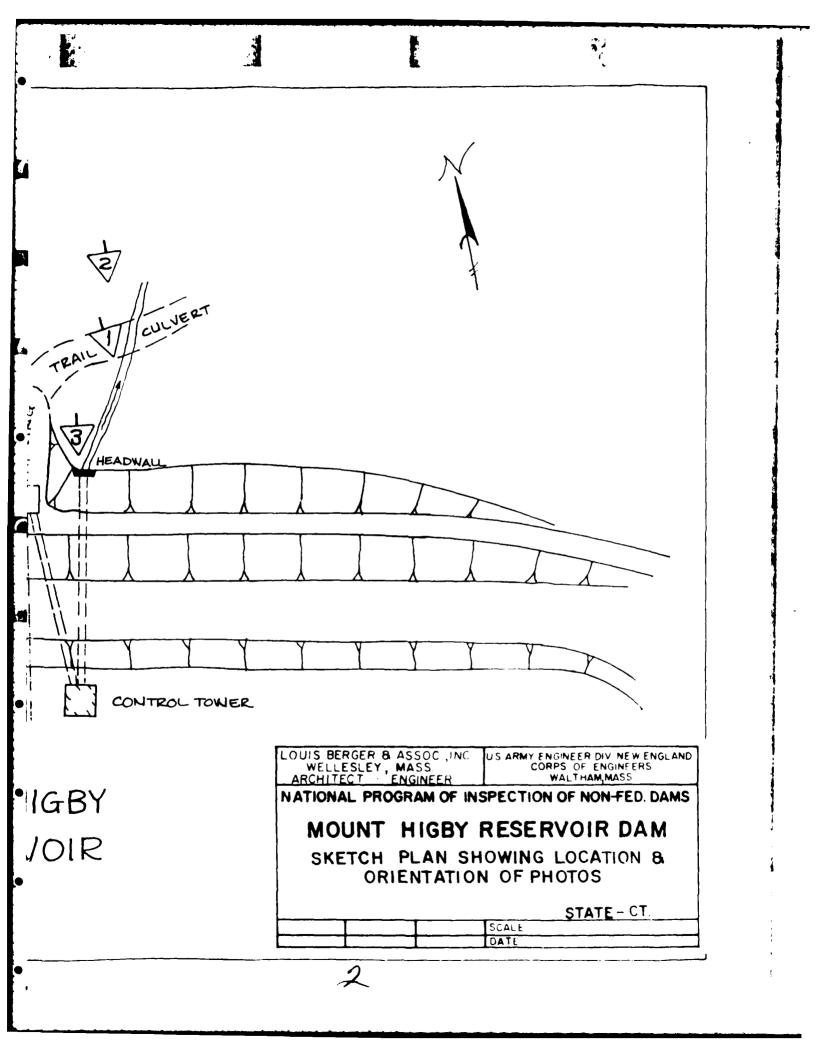
APPENDIX C

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### SELECTED PHOTOGRAPHS







#### MOUNT HIGBY RESERVOIR DAM



1. Marsh opposite right center of dam, looking upstream.



2. Outlet channel culvert under trail below dam.



3. Headwall on 36 in. dia. outlet pipe.

4. Steel slide gate on channel from Adder Reservoir.

MOUNT HIGBY RESERVOIR DAM

## MOUNT HIGBY RESERVOIR DAM



5. Spillway approach channel



6. Spillway approach channel

### MOUNT HIGBY RESERVOIR DAM

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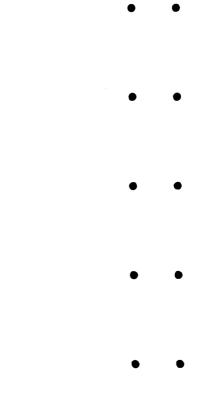
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7. Twin arch culvert carrying access road across spillway approach channel



8. Trapezoidal notch for diverting inflows from Adder Reservoir

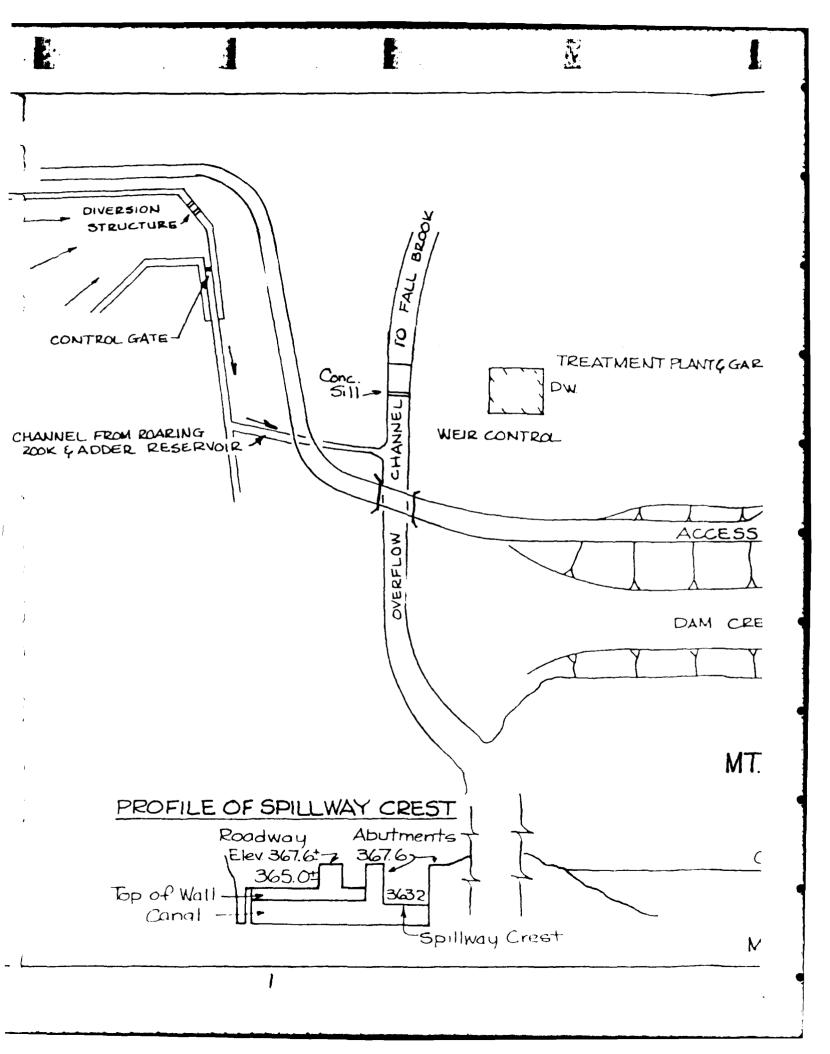


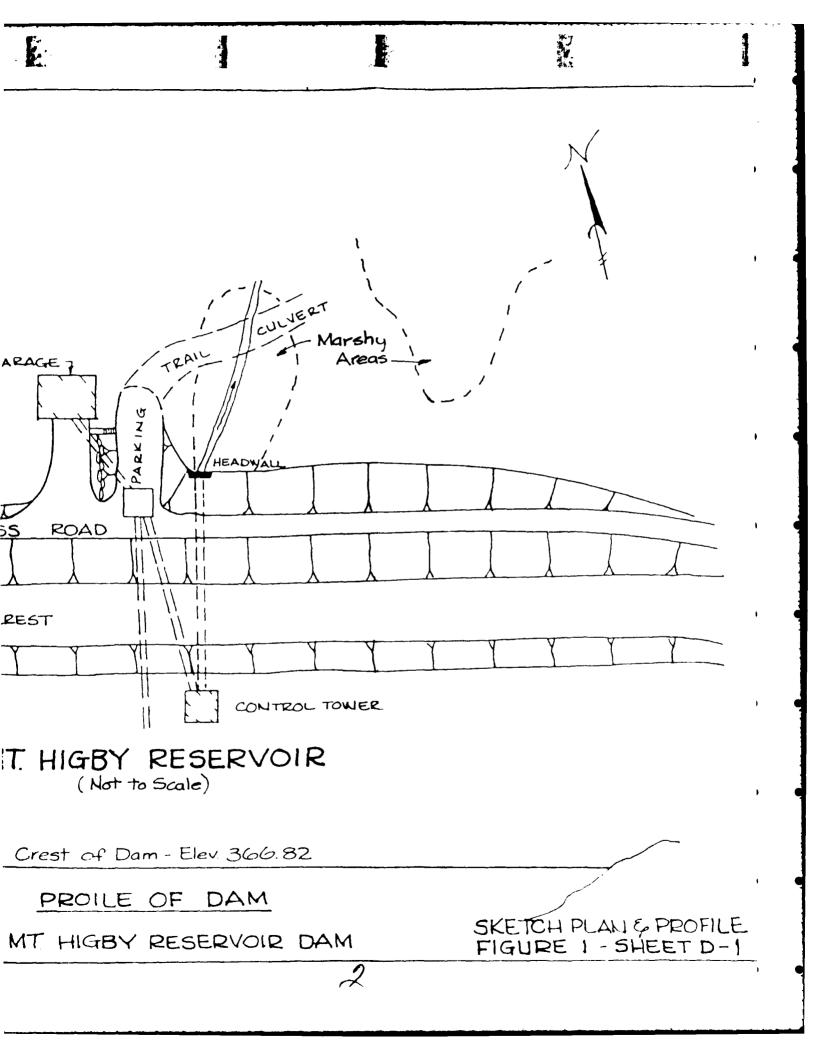
### APPENDIX D

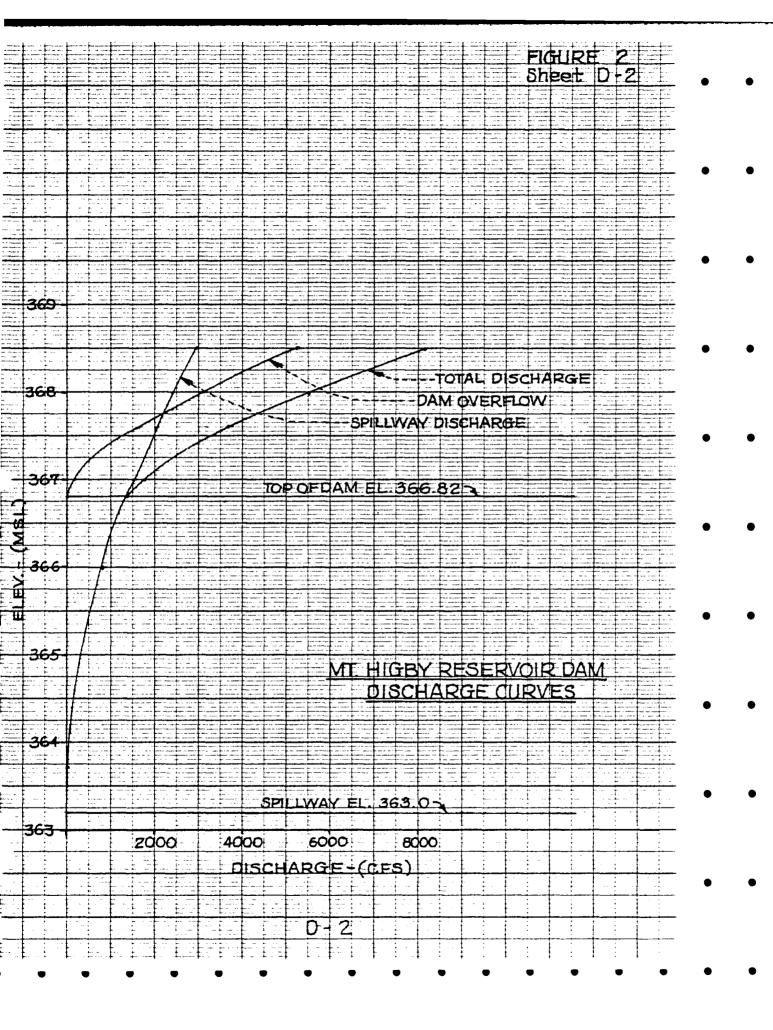
# HYDROLOGIC & HYDRAULIC COMPUTATIONS

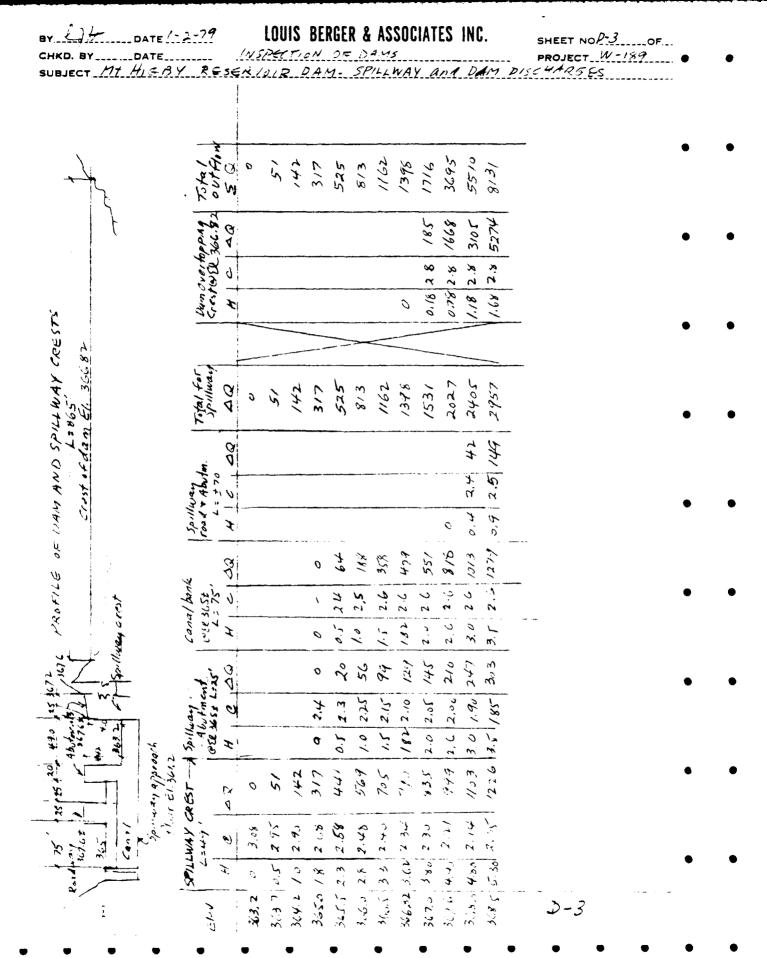
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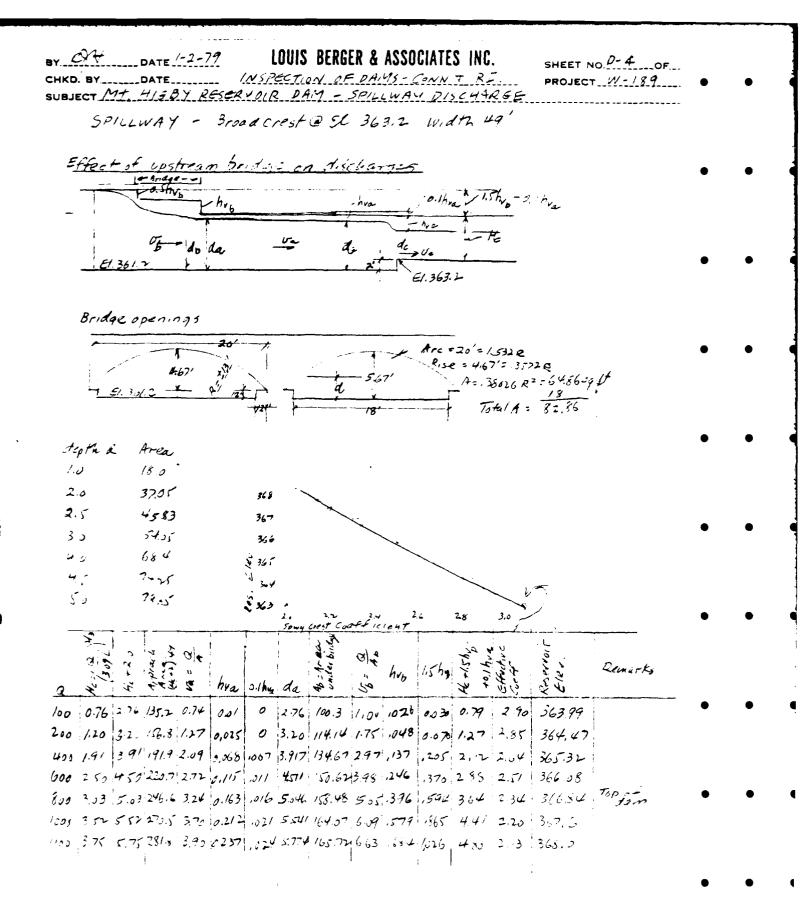
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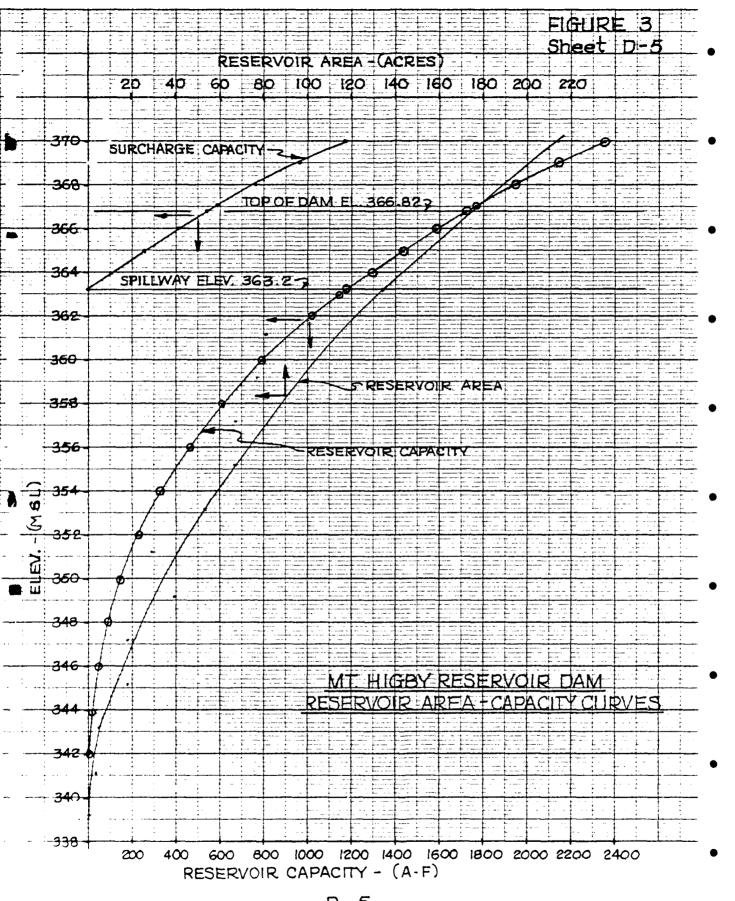






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342	5	3.5	2	7.0	9		
344	10	7.5	Z	15.0	24		
346	16	13.0	Z	26.0	50		
348	29.5	20.25	2	40.5	90.5		
350	35	29.75	2	59.5	150.0		
352	46	40.5	2	81.0	231.0		
354	58	52.0	2	104.0	335		
356	72	65.0	2	130.0	465		
358	86	72.0	5	144.0	609		
360	103	94.5	2	189.0	798	)	
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368	189	182.0		182.0	1947.8	2.16	
369	201	195.0	1	195.0	2142-8		
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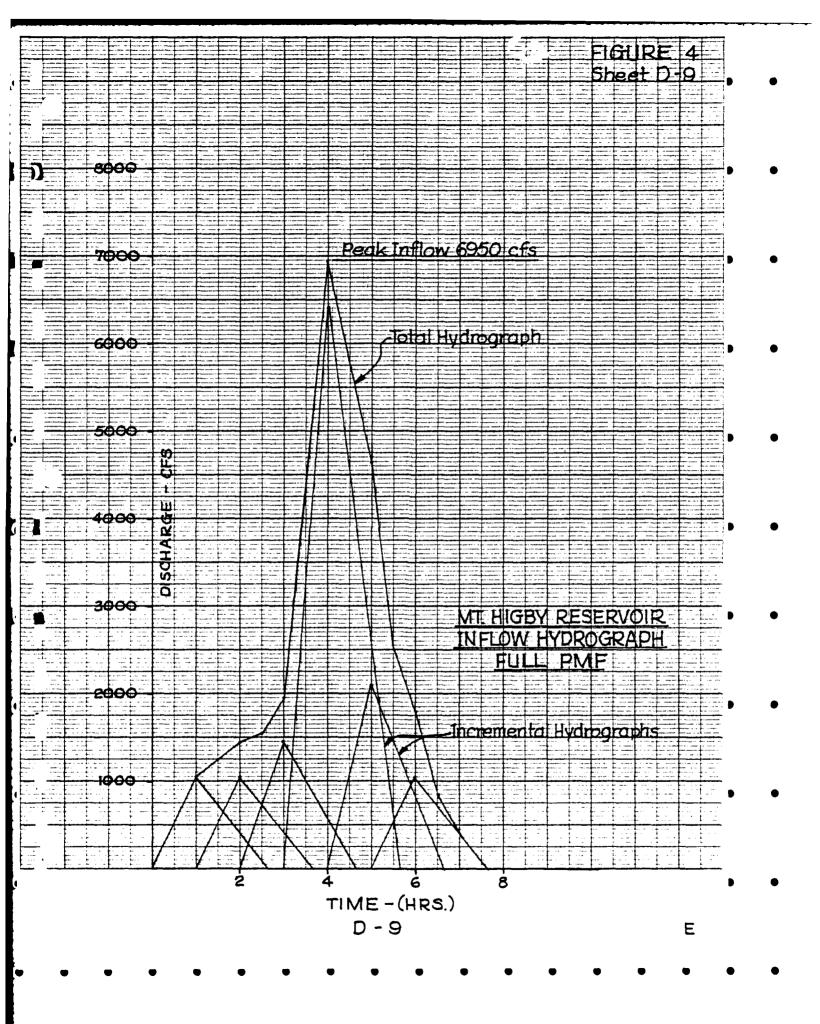
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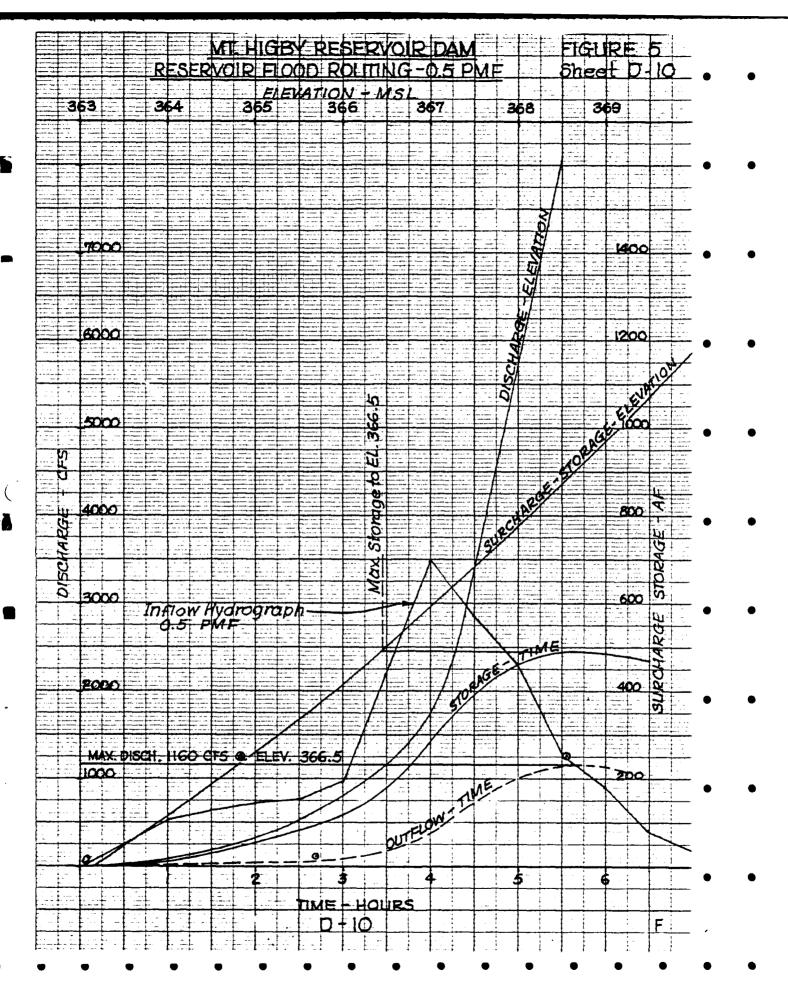
BY CIH, 5+5 DATE 12/15/18 LOUIS BERGER & ASSOCIATES INC. SHEET NO. P-7 OF INSPECTION OF DAMS - CONN + RI. PROJECT .\_\_DATE ..... BJECT Mt HIGAY RESERVOIR DAM- HYDROLOGY #11 DRANAJE AREA - 14409 mi = 922 anis Reservoir anere 134 acres @ 22 363 Res are = 15% of Total Perervoir capacity at Normal storage = 1148 AF Spillway crest El. 363.2 Res. Langta 6000' Res width 1000' Drainage area Longth - 1. 4 me, width - I mile Tributary Flow. H = 540-363 = 177' Longest course 5400' = 1.02 miles 5=.033 or 174'/mile Say CUNVE A USE K = 2.0 " Lag = K ( LLc ) 33 = 0.34 K Lag = 2 ×0.34 = 0,68 hrs D=0.5 hour. Te= 0.82 hag +. 4D = 0.55 + 0.2 = 0.75 hrs Checkon velocity Are. Lengt's 5'400' U= Lengt's = 5400 = 2.2'/sec For 5= . 033. USNERY T.P. Navdach TD - PH-2 ave V = 3.0 7 2. 2/50 above Texus Hur Dept Set 45 an. v= 1 +03 '520 for D=1.0 m. Tp = 0.82 Lag + ,40 = 0.82(.68) + .4=0.96 Say 1.0

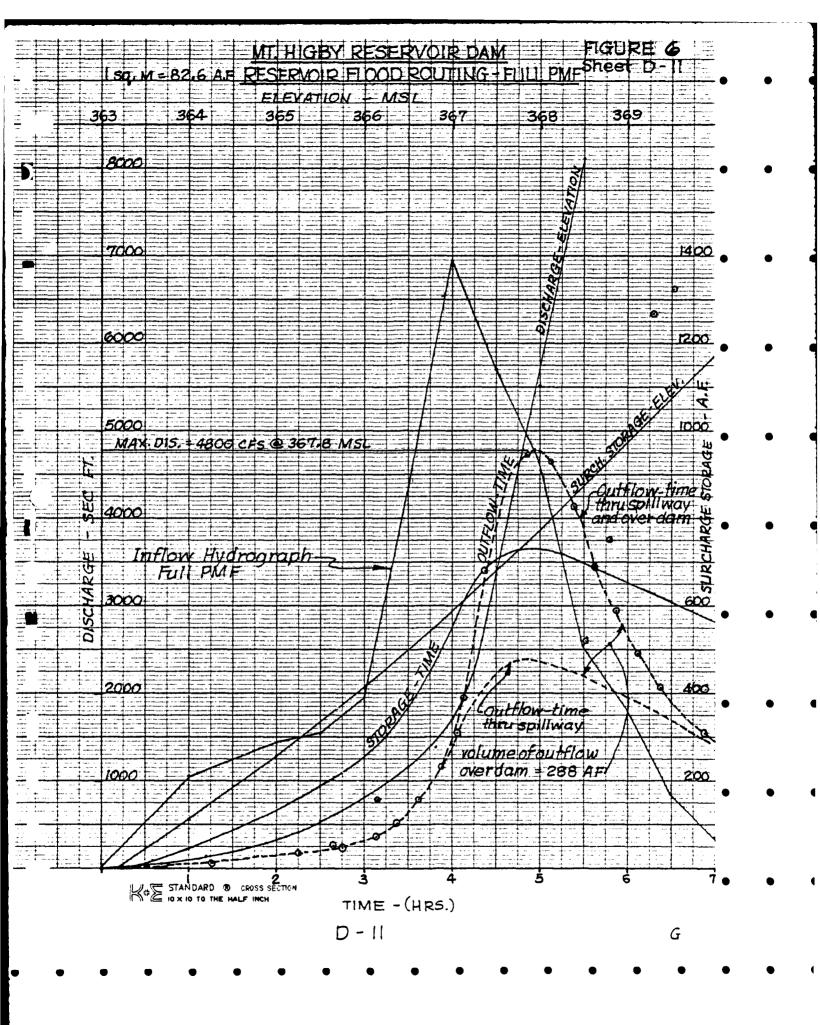
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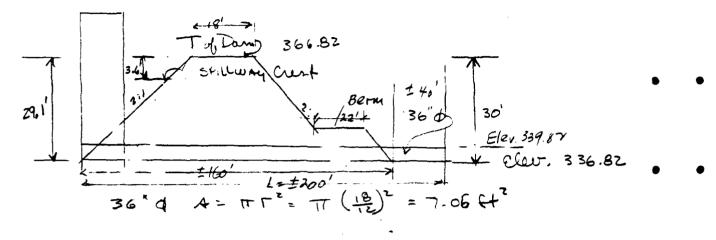


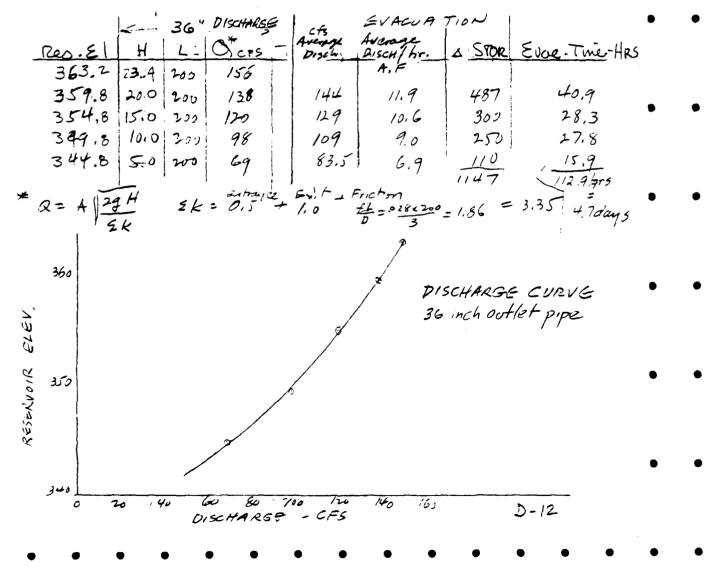


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EVACUATION TIME OF RESERVOIR THEU OUTLETS



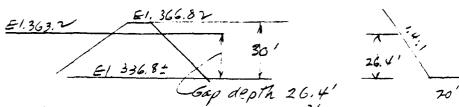


LOUIS BERGER & ASSOCIATES INC. INSPECTION OF PAMS GNNT PF.

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PROJECT\_\_\_\_\_

BREACHT FAILURE OF DAM OWING TO STRUCTURAL INADEQUACY



Flood surge Q = 5 W Vag Ho 3/2

SUBJECT MT, HIGBY RESERVOIR - HYPRAULICS

BY CAR DATE 2-7-79

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360	23	185	3700	32.2	5957	9660	11330	15,6	380	24	
355	18	128	2560	25.2	3226	5790	7725	10.6	400	38	
350	13	79	1580	19.2	1438	3020	4405	6.1	250	41	
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STAGE-DISCHARGE IN FALL BROOK

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on	Channel	Africe	2 Area	w.p	<b>_</b>	r <sup>2</sup> /3	2	•
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5	90	350	STE	91.2	3.84	2.45	2/70	
10	150	600	950	152.0	6.25	3,39	8150	
15	175	838	1788	178.9	9.99	4.64	20990	)
26	200	937	2725	2055	13.74	5.60	38590	

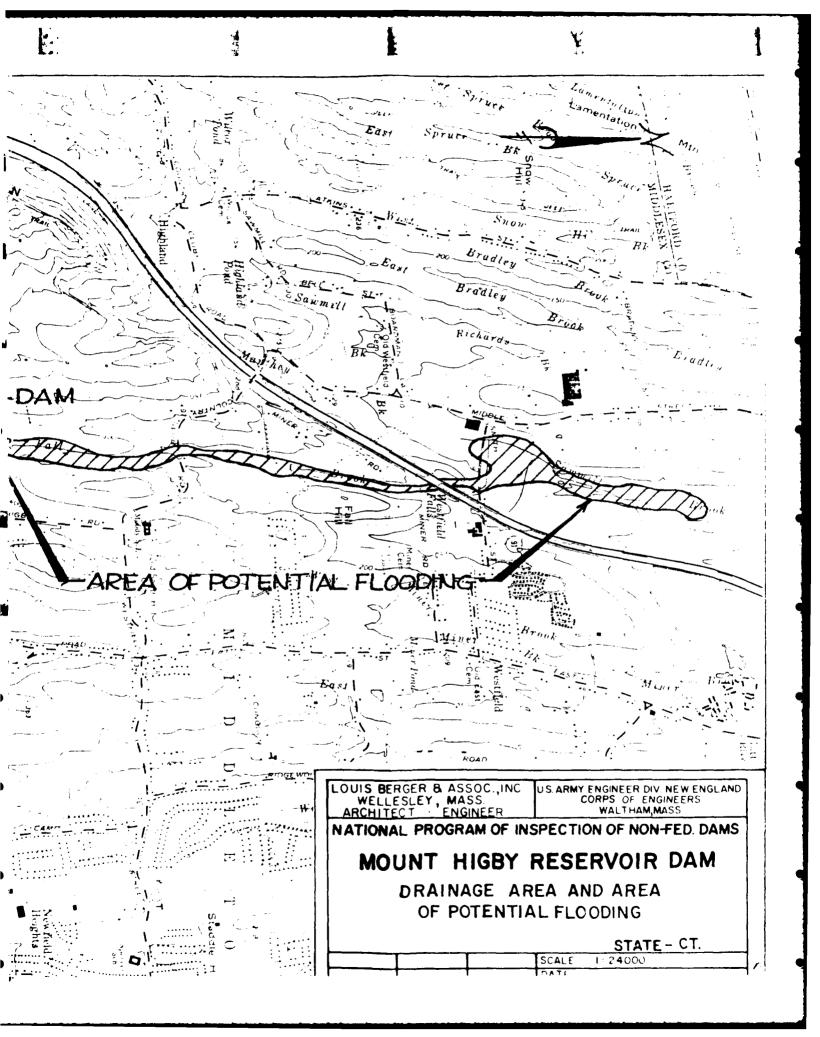
DISCHARGE - THOUS. CIES

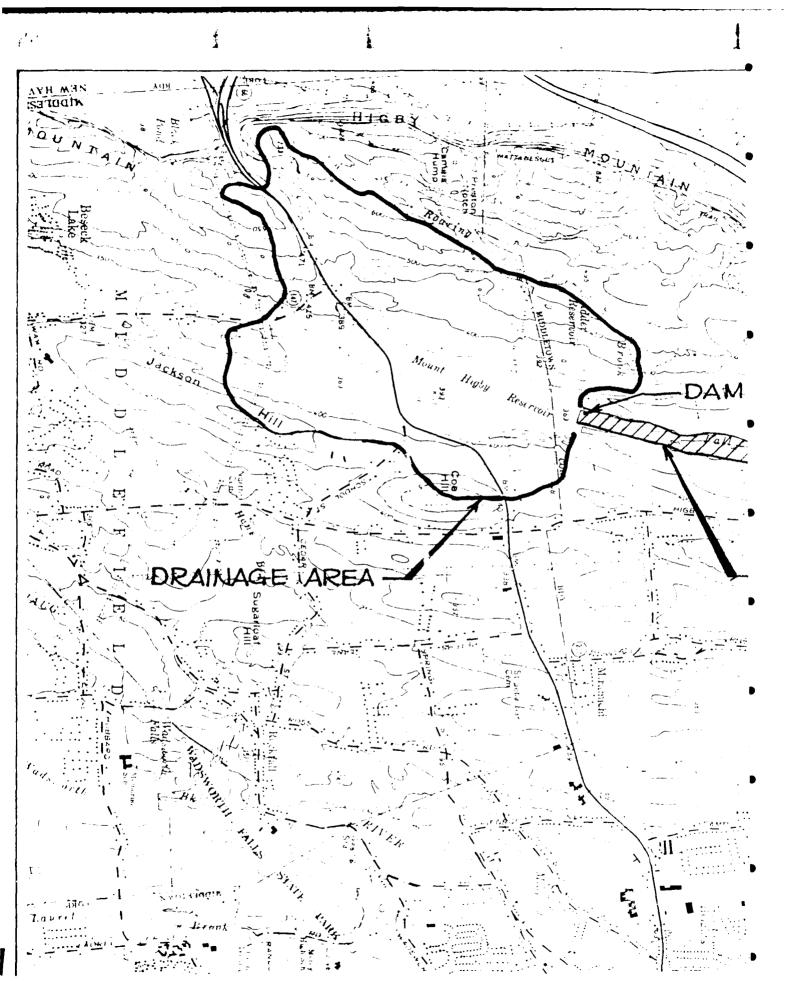
For Q = 13000 Stage = 12.5' A = ±1350 15 River length Mt High, + Westfield Falls = 11070' Valley storage = 340 A.F

> STASE DISCHARGE IN FALL BROOK BELOW MT. HIGBY DAM

> > 20

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#### APPENDIX E

#### INFORMATION AS CONTAINED IN THE NATIONAL INVENTORY OF DAMS

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