



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

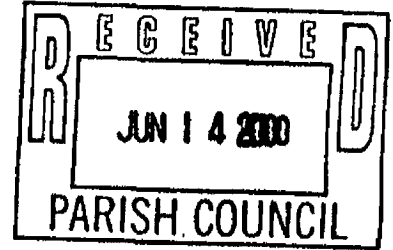
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS

P.O. BOX 60267

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

June 13, 2000



Operations Division
Eastern Evaluation Section
Project Manager
Roger Swindler
(504) 862-2278

SUBJECT: EM-19-990-2126-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received by the District Engineer for a Department of the Army permit to authorize the following pursuant to: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403).

MIDSTREAM TRANSFER FACILITY IN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER ST. CHARLES PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Mississippi River Ventures, LLC, c/o Richards Wright & Associates, Inc., 1013 Colony Road, Metairie, Louisiana 70003.

LOCATION OF WORK: In the Mississippi River, left descending bank, at a point about 115.5 miles above the Head of Passes, at Almedia, Louisiana, in ST. CHARLES PARISH.

CHARACTER OF WORK: Install and maintain five anchor piles, buoys and chains to moor a midstream dry bulk cargo transfer operation. The proposed work is to be located within an area about 1,500 feet long and 290 feet wide, extending lengthwise approximately parallel to the mean low water shoreline, the outer edge to be about 480 feet channelward therefrom, as shown on the attached drawings.

The proposed work is to be located at the site of a barge fleet that was advertised by public notice on April 27, 1999, and was permitted on October 22, 1999.

The comment period for the Department of the Army will close 20 days from the date of this public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit and must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH.**

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and

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fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

No properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places are near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Interior nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of N/A acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing

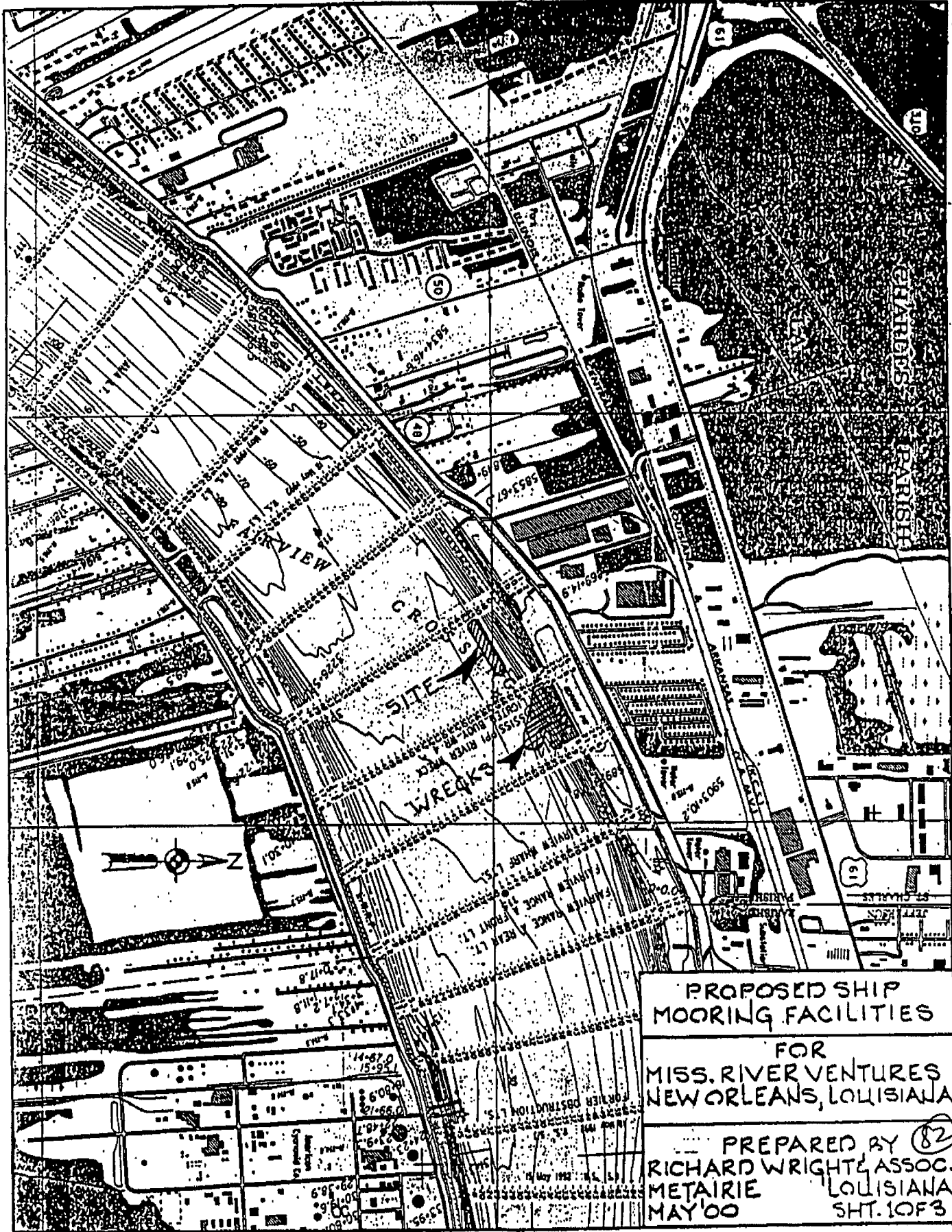
The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Corps of Engineers permit will not be issued unless the applicant has received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.


Ronnie W. Duke
Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section

Attachments

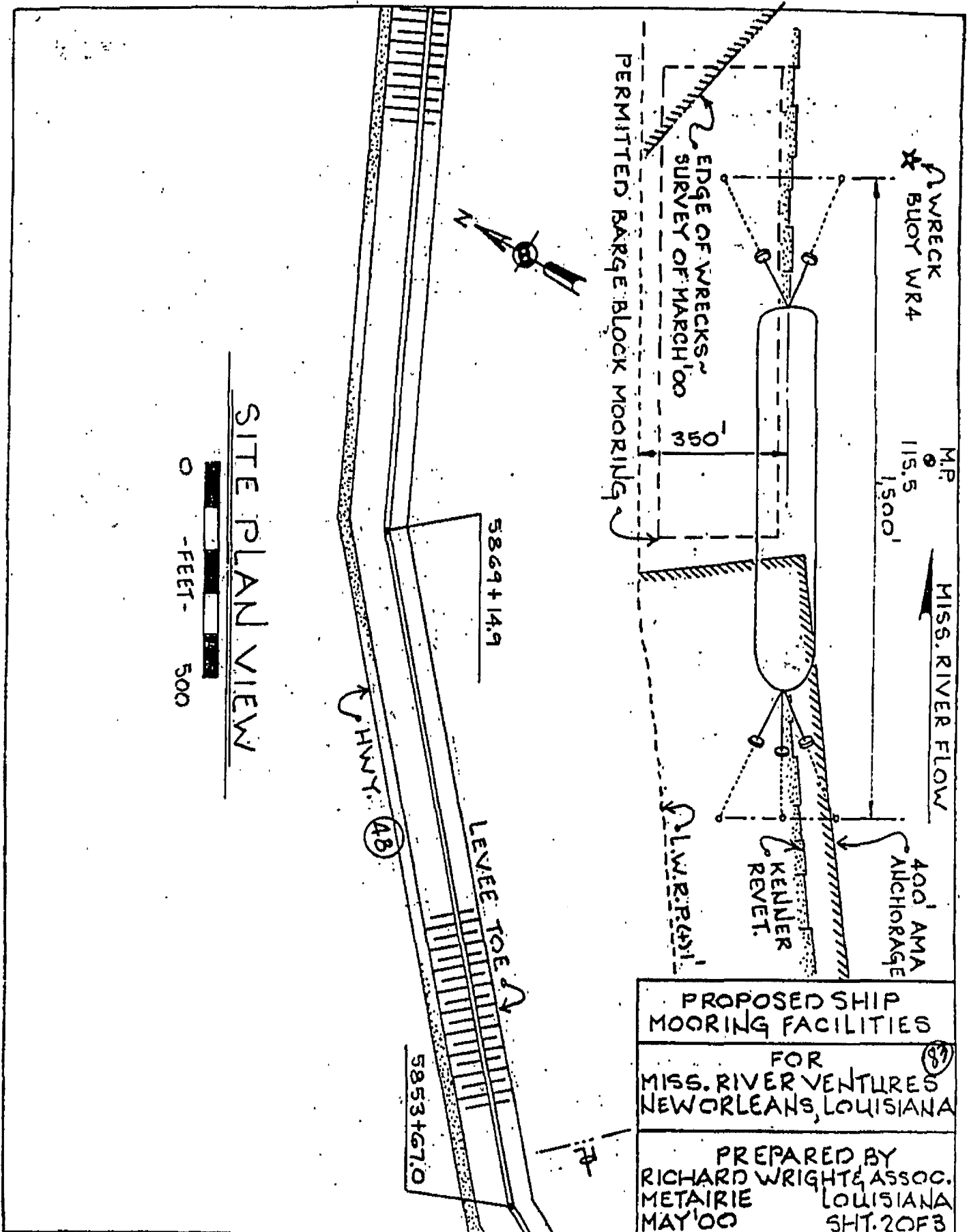
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PROPOSED SHIP MOORING FACILITIES

**FOR MISS. RIVER VENTURES
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

PREPARED BY **82**
RICHARD WRIGHT & ASSOC.
METAIRIE LOUISIANA
MAY '00
SHT. 10 OF 3



WRECK BUOY WR4

M.P. 115.5
1500'

MISS. RIVER FLOW

400' AMA ANCHORAGE

TENDER REVET.

PERMITTED BARGE BLOCK MOORING

EDGE OF WRECKS SURVEY OF MARCH '00

LOWER PASS



5869+14.9

HWY. (AB)

LEVEE TOE

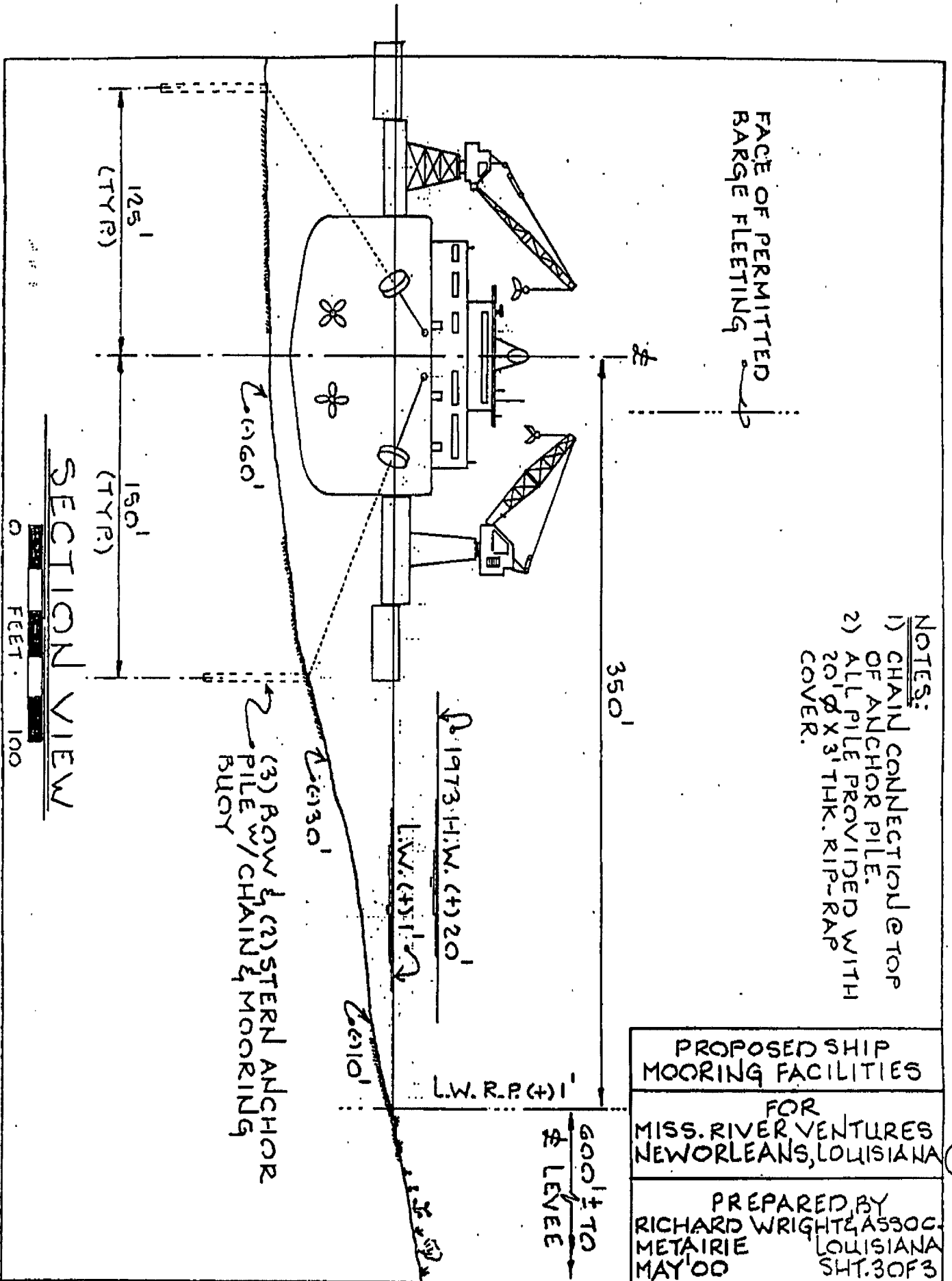
5853+67.0

SITE PLAN VIEW

0 - FEET - 500

PROPOSED SHIP MOORING FACILITIES FOR MISS. RIVER VENTURES NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

PREPARED BY RICHARD WRIGHT & ASSOC. METAIRIE LOUISIANA MAY '00 SH. 2 OF 3



FACE OF PERMITTED
BARGE FLEETING

- NOTES:
- 1) CHAIN CONNECTION @ TOP OF ANCHOR PILE.
 - 2) ALL PILE PROVIDED WITH 20" Ø X 3' THK. RIP-RAP COVER.

PROPOSED SHIP
MOORING FACILITIES
FOR
MISS. RIVER VENTURES
NEWORLEANS, LOUISIANA

PREPARED BY
RICHARD WRIGHT & ASSOC.
METAIRIE LOUISIANA
MAY '00 SHT. 3 OF 3

SECTION VIEW

0 FEET 100

125' (TYR)

190' (TYR)

350'

1973 H.W. (+) 20'

L.W. R.P. (+) 1'

600' ± TO
LEVEL

(3) ROW & (2) STERN ANCHOR
PILE W/ CHAIN & MOORING
BUOY

60'

190'

125'