

## STILLWATER SOUTH OVERLOOK

SHPO INV. # WA-OHC-005

**Location:** Stillwater Overlook - South is located on the east side of Lookout Trail, near 63<sup>rd</sup> St. N., just within the northern city limits of Oak Park Heights and just south of the city limits of Stillwater. The triangular, 0.6 acre parcel of land contains a limestone overlook wall and an asphalt parking area lined with stone curbing.

**Introduction:** Built in 1936-1937 by the National Youth Administration, the site's most prominent feature is an overlook wall which measures roughly 140'-0" square built around a circular center island. It's built of tan, random ashlar, roughly-cut limestone laid on a stone footing. The wall has a curved bay that faces east overlooking the St. Croix River Valley. At the midpoint of this major curve is a rectangular lookout bay filled with flagstone. A historic lectern-style marker is mounted on the center of this rectangular lookout. (The marker's metal plaque is missing.) Originally there were three stone and concrete benches located within the overlook walls. They are missing, but evidence of stone pedestals remains.

Limestone curbing lines the entrance drive, the circular drive, and flagstone walk. The curbing along the island and flagstone walk are square-cut, whereas the curbing along the entrance drive is larger and more irregular in shape.

The portion of the St. Croix in view from the overlook has been designated the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway.

**Architect's Survey Date:** October 30, 2002

**Plans/Sketches:**

1. NYA & MHD Details for Roadside Concourse (1937)
2. NYA & MHD 1937 partial plan with MJBA Gridlines and Notes, dated 6/03
3. Mn/DOT Overlook Reconstruction(6/24/97)with MJBA field notes
4. MJBA Site Plan with Existing Conditions Notes, dated 10/30/02
5. MJBA Bench Sketch (location) with Field Notes, dated 10/30/02
6. Site Picture (photocopy) (ca. 1940)
7. MJBA Photo Sheets, 10/30/02

**Critical Needs:**

1. The northeast section of the Overlook Wall and adjacent flagstone walk appears to be leaning to the north and requires regular monitoring until construction (Phase 2) is implemented. Construction is recommended within 5 years
2. Reset flagstone at walk surface around overlook wall
3. Remove all graffiti from stone surfaces
4. Collect all stone lying around the site and store in safe location

**MNDOT HISTORIC ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT  
STRUCTURES INVENTORY**

WA-OHC-005  
CS 8214  
Stillwater Overlook - South

|   |   |                                       |   |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Historic Name<br/>Other Name</b>                                   | Stillwater Overlook - South   | <b>CS #<br/>SHPO Inv #</b>            | 8214<br>WA-OHC-005  |
| <b>Location</b>   | E side of Lookout Trail near<br>63rd St N   | <b>Hwy<br/>District<br/>Reference</b> | TH 36/95<br>Met E<br>105.4  |
| <b>City/Township<br/>County<br/>Twp Rng Sec<br/>USGS Quad<br/>UTM</b> | Oak Park Heights, City of<br>Washington<br>30N 20W Sec 34<br>Stillwater<br>Z15 E516100 N4987250       | <b>Acres<br/>Rest Area Class</b>      | .6<br>4   |
| <b>Designer</b>   | Nichols, A R, Consult Land Arch   | <b>SP #</b>                           | 212-45-22<br>8214-01  |
| <b>Builder</b>  | National Youth Administration (NYA)   | <b>SHPO Review #</b>                  | 94-1390<br>90-0040  |
| <b>Historic Use</b>   | Roadside Parking Area   | <b>MHS Photo #</b>                    | 013515.02-17  |
| <b>Present Use</b>  | Roadside Parking Area   |                                       |   |
| <b>Yr of Landscape Design</b>   | 1938-39   | <b>MnDOT Historic<br/>Photo Album</b> | Nic 1.14    Nic 1.30<br>Nic 5.19    Ols 3.188   |
| <b>Overall Site Integrity</b>   | Intact/Slightly Altered   |                                       |   |
| <b>Review Required</b>  | Yes   |                                       |   |
| <b>National Register Status</b>                                       | Eligible, see Statement of Significance   |                                       |   |
| <b>Historic Context</b>   | Roadside Development on Minnesota Trunk Highways, 1920-1960<br>Federal Relief Construction, 1933-1943 |                                       |   |
| <b>List of Standing Structures</b>                                    |   |                                       |   |
| <b>Feat#</b>  | <b>Feature Type</b>   | <b>Year Built</b>                     | <b>Fieldwork Date</b>   |
| 01  | Overlook Wall   | 1936-37                               | 05-10-97  |
| 02  | Curb, Stone   | 1936-37                               |   |
| 03  | Flagpole(s), Other  | Ca. 1970                              |   |
| NOTE: Landscape features are not listed in this table                 |   |                                       | <b>Prep by</b><br>Gemini Research<br>Dec. 98    G1. 74  |
|   |   |                                       | <b>Prep for</b><br>Site Development Unit<br>Cultural Resources Unit<br>Environmental Studies Unit |
| <b>Final Report</b>   | Historic Roadside Development Structures on Minnesota Trunk Highways (1998)                           |                                       |   |

## Stabilization/Preservation/Restoration

### 1. Spatial Organization and Land Patterns

#### a. Functional Relationships:

- **Assessment:** Stillwater Overlook - South is located on the eastern side of Lookout Trail (formerly T.H. 212) near 63rd St. N., just within the northern city limits of the city of Oak Park Heights and just south of Stillwater. It is a triangular parcel of land.

The rest area was designed to provide a public site from which travelers could enjoy a dramatic view of the St. Croix River Valley. It is essentially a single-use area. It was designed to provide a scenic overlook, limited area for parking, and passive green space. It is likely that one or two picnic tables were originally placed at the site. One 55-gallon drum refuse container currently stands near the overlook wall. (Simple 55-gallon drums were used originally on most of Mn/DOT's historic wayside rests.)

- **Recommendations:**

**Stabilization:** None.

**Preservation:** Retain all Mn/DOT right-of-way in the vicinity to buffer the site from nearby development and protect adjacent green spaces. **Work Period:** Immediately

**Restoration:** Follow the recommendations listed under **Preservation** above. In addition, place one or two portable wooden picnic tables on the site. Base their design on the Roadside Development Division's standard portable wooden picnic table of the 1930s-40s. Continue to use 55-gallon drums, which are simple and historically appropriate, as refuse containers. Install an interpretive panel that describes the history of the site and its designers and builders. Make the panel simple and unobtrusive in design. Place the panel immediately west of the northwestern corner near the proposed curb cut to the walkway. Situate the panel so that the flagstone walk can serve as the handicapped-accessible hard surface. **Work Period:** 1 - 3 years

#### b. Visual Relationships:

- **Assessment:** The rest area was designed to take advantage of a panoramic view of the St. Croix River Valley to the north and east. The view encompasses the St. Croix, the wooded bluffs on the Wisconsin side of the river, and parts of the Minnesota side of the river. Vegetation has been kept low so that views remain adequately unobstructed. (See Item 3, Vegetation below)

Views to the west and south encompass residential neighborhoods. Many of the houses across Lookout Trail to the west date from the 1920s-1940s. Most have well-developed landscaping with large grassy lawns, trees, and shrubs. Houses located south of the overlook wall are newer and are fairly well screened by trees.

- **Recommendations:**

**Stabilization/Preservation/Restoration:** Retain all Mn/DOT right-of-way in the vicinity to buffer the site from nearby development and protect adjacent green spaces. **Work Period:** 1 - 10 years

### 2. Topography

- **Assessment:** The site is located on top of a bluff over the St. Croix River. The land slopes down in all directions from the overlook -- sharply to the north and east and more gently to the west and south. Visually there doesn't appear to be any sloughing of the bluff causing the wall to collapse. The stability of the bluff should be checked using measuring devices prior to construction work.

- **Recommendations:**

**Stabilization/Preservation/Restoration:** Periodically check the stability of the bluff using measuring devices. **Work Period:** Annually or as required.

### 3. Vegetation

- **Assessment:** Historic photos show that the site was treeless at the time that the overlook was constructed (Biennial Report of the Commissioner, March 1, 1939). An original planting plan for the site has not been located. However, a highway department report indicates that in 1939 the site was planted with 25 evergreen shrubs, 28 evergreen trees, 513 deciduous shrubs, and 135 deciduous trees (Annual Report 1939:26). Judging by similar Nichols-designed wayside rests plantings would have been used to frame the view, to provide comfortable shade, to define and screen the edges of the site, and to provide erosion control.

**Framed view:** A group of picturesque mature cedar trees stands close to the northwestern corner of the overlook wall. Nichols used red cedars on many of his sites and they undoubtedly date from the original planting. They provide an edge or frame to the view. Southeast of the cedars, the vegetation is kept low so that the view remains open.

**Shade:** There are 5 mature flowering trees (possibly crab apple) in the circular island, 8 located southwest of the overlook wall, and one located at the northwestern corner of the overlook wall. These trees are not consistent with most Nichols-designed wayside rests which instead have large shade trees. The flowering trees may have been planted to replace American Elms, which may have been planted originally and then removed because of disease. Verify by either locating an original plan or historic photos.

**Screening:** A dense screen of evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs, including many mature cedar trees, is located between the overlook wall and the former highway (Lookout Trail). This effectively screens the rest area from the adjacent road and houses, and makes the site feel secluded and sheltered. This line of trees and shrubs undoubtedly dates from the original planting plan.

**Erosion control:** Deciduous shrubs such as dogwood and sumac, young cedars, other small trees and shrubs are growing on the hillside below the curve of the overlook wall (east). It is not known how many date from the original planting. A thick forest of trees such as oak, maple, ash, and poplar, as well as shrubs such as buckthorn, is growing north and southeast of the overlook wall. Many of these trees appear to be volunteers, and are thick and randomly overgrown. These wooded areas give the site a welcome, secluded character.

Much of the site is covered with grass turf. Turf adjacent to the wall and the stone curb requires trimming and regular maintenance.

The site's vegetation is fairly well maintained.

- **Recommendations:**
  - Stabilization:** Clear turf from the overlook wall and curbing and keep them clear to prevent further damage. Maintain regularly. **Work Period:** Immediately
  - Preservation:** Follow the recommendations listed under Stabilization above. In addition, control buckthorn through selective removal using historic documentation for guidance. Periodically trim trees and shrubs to keep the viewshed open but framed. Continue to clear shrubs out about 4'-0" from the base of the overlook wall so that visitors can walk around the wall and view it from below. Allow the screen of trees along the western edge of the site to remain dense, rehabilitating it as needed. Establish and follow a regular schedule of fertilizing, mowing, pruning, and trimming. **Work Period:** 1 - 3 years
  - Restoration:** Follow the recommendations listed under Preservation above. In addition, and if possible, locate the original planting plan or historic photos and restore it. If plants specified in the original plans are not available, use substitute plants of similar size, shape, color, and texture. **Work Period:** 3 - 10 years

#### 4. Circulation

##### a. Roads

- **Assessment:** The circulation design specified on the original plan is basically intact.

The site has a bituminous-paved entrance drive that curves into the site from Lookout Trail, rising in elevation as it moves toward the overlook wall. The drive encircles the central island, forming a parking concourse. The concourse has two original catch basins. This surface was likely gravel as was the driving surface in the concourse. The condition of the asphalt drive is good.

Both sides of the entrance drive are lined with stone curbing. Most curbing is intact, although some stones are missing or tipped out of place. Much of the curb is obscured by overgrown turf. (See Section 6b).

There is an original culvert with mortared limestone headwalls at the western end of the drive, close to Lookout Trail. The headwalls of the culvert mark the beginning of the stone curbing and are continuous with it. A shrub and turf are growing very close to the southern headwall, potentially damaging it. (See Section 6f).

Throughout the site, resurfacing has raised the elevation of the drive so that the paving material obscures too much of the curb face. In addition, about 20 percent of the stone curbing that surrounds the circular island is buried beneath turf and/or asphalt.

Lookout Trail (formerly T.H. 212) travels along the western side of the site and is now a fairly quiet local street. T.H. 95 travels north and south in the valley below the site. Because the overlook is so far above T.H. 95, traffic noise and motion are not intrusive. Because of the area's topography and road layout, the rest area is somewhat difficult to find.

- **Recommendations:**

**Stabilization:** Remove shrub and turf from the culvert's headwalls and keep them clear to prevent damage. Clear weeds from the stone curbing and keep them clear to prevent damage. **Work Period:** Immediately

**Preservation/Restoration:** Follow the recommendations listed under **Stabilization** above. In addition, regrade the drive to restore the original curb depth (see section 6.b) and repave with bituminous. When resurfacing the drive and parking area in the future, insure that face of the 6" stone curb is preserved. Add advance highway signs to allow for adequate decision-making and time to slow down before entering the site (or reevaluate the positioning of such signs if they exist). Continue to maintain an urban street speed limit along Lookout Trail. **Work Period:** 1 - 3 years

b. **Parking Areas:** The site's drive serves as its parking area. (See Roads above.)

c. **Sidewalk**

- **Assessment:** A 5'-0" wide flagstone walk parallels and abuts the overlook wall and extends into the lookouts. The walk is very uneven and has settled in numerous areas. 35% to 50% of the flagstones are either loose or missing. Asphalt overlays cover up to the first 18" of both the curb and flagstone along the north wall. The joints have deteriorated and need repair.

- **Recommendations:**

**Stabilization:** MnDOT shall monitor the state of all loose stones to insure that they remain in place until construction begins. **Work Period:** Immediately

**Preservation/Restoration:** Remove all asphalt from surfaces and then remove all flagstone. Catalog locations of each piece. Install compacted sand base as required and reset stones to provide positive drainage and provide a safe walking surface. Add grout joints to match the color, texture and size of the original joints. MnDOT to periodically inspect the stonework joints and to properly make repairs before problems become severe. **Work Period:** 1 - 5 years (This work must occur simultaneously with the Overlook construction.)

5. **Water Features:** Not applicable

6. **Structures, Furnishings and Objects**

a. Benches, stone and concrete

- **Assessment:** Original design plans indicate three stone and concrete benches were placed at the inner side of the wall. Two at the north and one at the east lookout bay. The benches consisted of an 8'-0" x 18" x 4" deep concrete seat resting atop two 1'-0" square stone piers. All three benches have been removed with evidence of the stone pedestals remaining.
- **Recommendations:**  
Stabilization: None  
Preservation/Restoration: Reconstruct two benches and place them in their original locations along the north wall, carefully matching original stonework. Do not replace remaining third bench at east lookout as it would require removal of stone lectern marker. **Work Period:** 1 - 5 years.

b. Curb, stone

- **Assessment:** The site is approached from the south by a curbed lined drive. The limestone curbing also lines the circular island and flagstone walk bordering the wall. The curbing along the island and flagstone walk appears square-cut, while along the entrance drive the curbing is larger and more irregularly shaped. Repaving efforts have obscured the view of about 20% of the curb. The curbing which aligns the entrance drive is severely overgrown with vegetation.
- **Recommendations:**  
Stabilization: Remove excess turf and regularly maintain. **Work Period:** Immediately  
Preservation/Restoration: Remove excess turf. Remove existing asphalt and re-grade. Replace/reset any loose and/or missing limestone curb sections, carefully matching new stones to originals. Provide a stone accessible curb cut at the north-west edge of the drive near the pedestrian opening--remove curb and lay flagstone to meet the required accessible slope. All new mortar joints shall match original depth, style, color and texture. MnDOT shall periodically inspect the stonework joints and properly repair any problem areas as they appear. **Work Period:** 3 - 5 years

c. Marker (steel)

- **Assessment:** A free-standing, steel marker framed with rustic timbers measuring 3' by 5' was installed on site by the NYA in 1939. It has since been removed and replaced by a lectern-style historical marker (see Stone Marker 6e below) which remains in place today.
- **Recommendations:**  
Stabilization/Preservation/Restoration: None

d. Flagpole, other

- **Assessment:** In circa 1970 a concrete base measuring 5'-0" long by 1'-6" wide and flagpole was added to the site. The base contains a hole measuring 6" in diameter. It is located a few feet from the west wall and is in poor condition. No flagpole exists.
- **Recommendations:**  
Stabilization: None.  
Preservation/Restoration: Remove concrete base and fill with topsoil and plant with grass seed to match existing turf. **Work Period:** 1 - 5 years

e. Overlook Wall

- **Assessment:** The overlook wall consists of tan, random ashlar, roughly-cut limestone laid on a stone footing. The 18" wide wall is segmented by 2'-2" square piers placed throughout. The inside of the wall measures 30" from the flagstone walk (see below), whereas the height on the exterior side varies from even with

the grade on the west and southwestern sides to approximately 9'-0" on the east side. A 6'-10" pedestrian opening exists at the northwest corner and is one step above the adjacent turf. No evidence exists that this connected to a trail. The limestone is in fair condition but areas have graffiti on them and are soiled from environmental conditions. Stones are missing in various locations as indicated on the Field Note drawings. Mortar joints are in poor condition and several areas show recent repairs, which do not match the original size, texture and color of the original grout. The northeast section of the wall appears to be leaning toward the road below.

**Lectern-style Stone Marker:** A lectern-style historic stone marker was added to the wall in 1954 by the Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota Department of Highways. It replaced the timber-framed steel marker (see 6c above) in the rectangular lookout bay. A bronze plaque (see below) is mounted atop the stone lectern. The text of this marker is identical to that of the site's original steel sign. The limestone is in fair to poor condition; some stones are missing; graffiti is present. Most joints are failing.

**Bronze Plaque:** A bronze plaque was added to the site at the same time as the lectern-style marker (see above). The plaque was stolen for quite some time, but has recently been located (10/30/02). MnDOT reinstalled the plaque in 2004.

- **Recommendations:**

**Stabilization:** Remove graffiti. Collect all loose stone and store in a safe and secure location until construction begins. Mn/DOT shall observe the east lookout and the adjacent sections of the wall to monitor any further settlement.

**Work Period:** Immediately and on-going

**Preservation/Restoration:** Catalog locations of each stone piece and dismantle the northeast overlook and adjacent sections of wall that have settled and are overturning. Reinstall as part of **Stabilization**. Repoint all other stone joints on remaining wall sections. Match original color, texture and style to existing joints. MnDOT shall periodically inspect to ascertain condition and take action if deterioration has advanced. Clean stone surfaces of all graffiti and dirt. Replace missing units with stored units or matching pieces cut to the same shape of the original pieces. Repoint entire marker area. Do not remove patina from plaque.

**Work Period:** 1 - 5 years (Coordinate this work with the Flagstone Walk.)

f. **Stone Culvert Headwalls**

- **Assessment:** A culvert with mortared limestone headwalls runs under the entrance road, aligned with the roadside ditch along the Lookout Drive. The stone headwalls mark the beginning of the stone curbing along the entrance drive and are continuous with it. Mortar joints are in poor condition and vegetation is damaging the stonework.

- **Recommendations:**

**Stabilization:** Remove encroaching vegetation. Inspect culvert and insure that water is flowing through it. **Work Period:** Immediately

**Preservation/Restoration:** Reset loose stones, repoint joints, and replace missing stones. Mortar type, color and joint treatment shall match original work elsewhere on the site. **Work Period:** 1 - 5 years

**7. Accessibility Considerations:** Provide a curb cut along the northwestern edge of the drive, adjacent to the pedestrian opening. Remove any limestone curbing and salvage for reuse elsewhere on the site. Slope flagstone to meet accessibility standards. Install unobtrusive accessible signage.

**8. Health and Safety Considerations:** Not applicable.

**9. Environmental Considerations:** Not applicable.

**10. Other Considerations/Recommendations:** Provide two additional refuse containers to keep site clean and to discourage dumping and vandalism. Use 55-gallon drums similar to

those originally used at most historic MnDOT rest areas. Keep receptacles emptied on a regular basis.

Provide highway signage notifying motorists of the overlook's location and historic significance. Provide one interpretive sign describing the wall, its construction, the designers and the history of the State's program. Locate this sign at the north-western corner of the overlook so that it can be easily seen as one enters the overlook drive and yet does not interfere with the primary views.

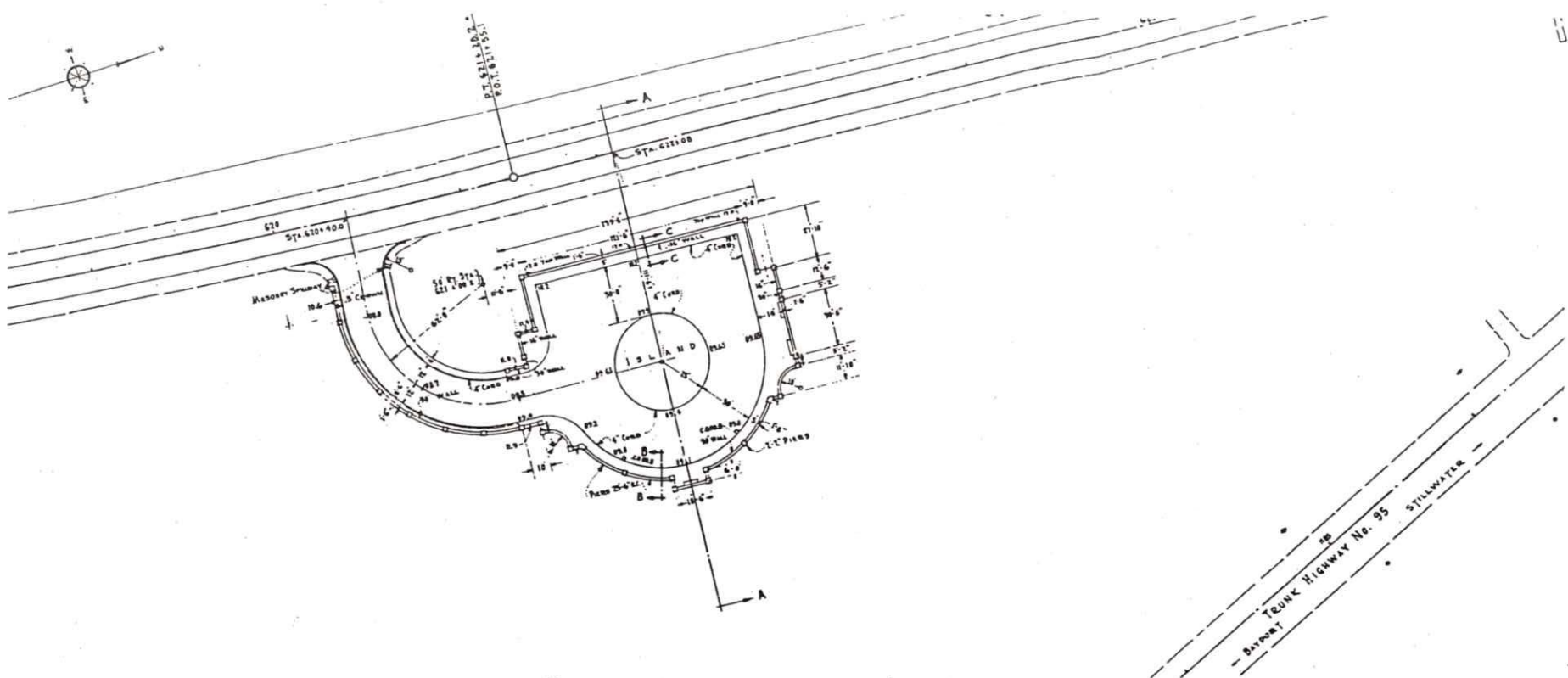
- 11. Conclusion:** Early photographs indicate that the site was built in accordance with the 1938 plans. A retaining wall extending from the overlook wall to the site's entrance drive was not built as shown. A modern flagpole was added to the site in circa 1970 and only the concrete base remains today. The stone used to build the site was salvaged from the Minnesota Territorial Prison in Stillwater that the NYA demolished.

The portion of the St. Croix in view from the overlook has been designated the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway.



|   | Stabilization  | Preservation     | Restoration      |
|---|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Spatial Organization and Land Patterns</b>               | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Off-site impacts  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Functional relationships                                    | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Visual relationships  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Cultural landscape limits (land acquisition)                | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Topography</b>   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Character-defining feature                                  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Non-contributing corrective work                            | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Vegetation</b>   | 4,386          | 5,981            | 56,623           |
| <b>Circulation</b>  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Access road and internal roadways                           | 0              | 58,856           | 58,856           |
| Parking areas   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Pedestrian walks  | 0              | 197,381          | 197,381          |
| Paths and trails  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Water Features</b>                                       | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Structures, Furnishings and Objects</b>                  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Bath house  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Bench(es), other  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Bench(es), stone— <i>2 each</i>                             | 0              | 4,785            | 4,785            |
| Bridge/culvert ( <i>headwalls</i> )                         | 0              | 2,161            | 2,161            |
| Cave  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Council ring  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Curb, stone   | 0              | 70,659           | 70,659           |
| Curb, concrete  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Dam   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Dock  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Drinking fountain(s)  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Entrance Wall   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Fireplace(s), other   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Fireplace(s), stone   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Flagpole(s), other  | 0              | 479              | 479              |
| Flagpole(s), stone  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Flagstone pad   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Footbridge  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Foundation of building                                      | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Gravestone (Millstones)                                     | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Guardrail, stone  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Info board  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Info booth  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Overlook wall, plaque, marker                               | 351            | 258,789          | 258,789          |
| Picnic shelter(s)   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Picnic table(s), other (wood)                               | 0              | 2,871            | 2,871            |
| Picnic table(s), stone                                      | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Privies   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Refuse container(s), stone                                  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Restroom building   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Retaining wall  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Rock garden   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Sea wall  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Sidewalk  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Signpost, other   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Signpost, stone   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Spring water outlet   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Statue  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Storage building  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Trail steps   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Wall  | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| Well/pump   | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Accessibility Considerations</b>                         | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Health and Safety Considerations</b>                     | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Environmental Considerations</b>                         | 0              | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Other Considerations (signage and waste receptacles)</b> | 0              | 2,632            | 2,632            |
| <b>* ESTIMATED COSTS</b>                                    | <b>\$4,737</b> | <b>\$604,594</b> | <b>\$655,236</b> |

\* Estimated costs are based on 2004 prices.

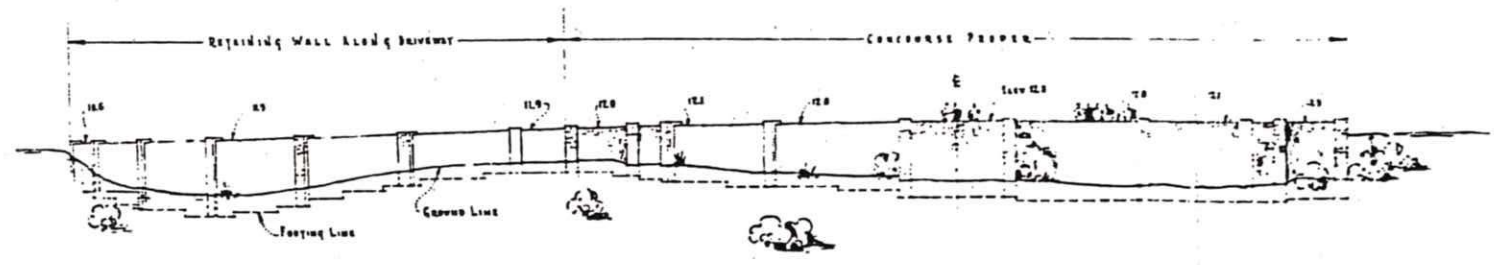


• P L A N •  
SCALE 1" = 40'

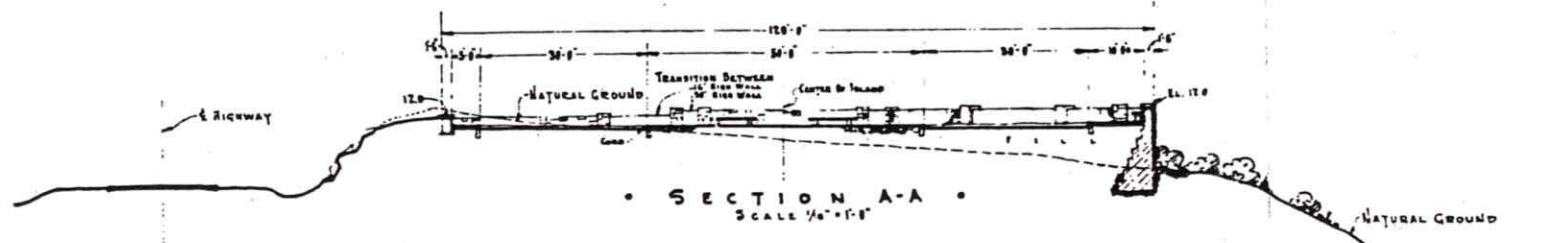
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION  
AND  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS  
ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT  
DETAILS FOR  
**ROADSIDE CONCOURSE**  
IN PROPOSED PARK DEVELOPMENT  
ON  
TRUNK HIGHWAY No. 212  
NEAR  
**STILLWATER**

SCALES AS SHOWN

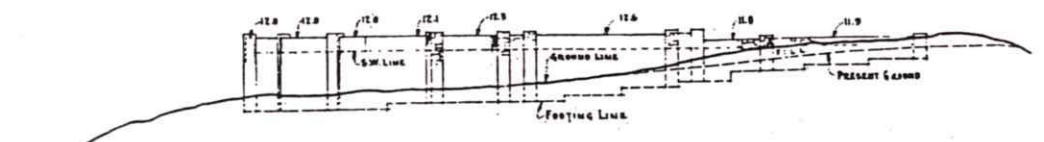
DECEMBER, 1937



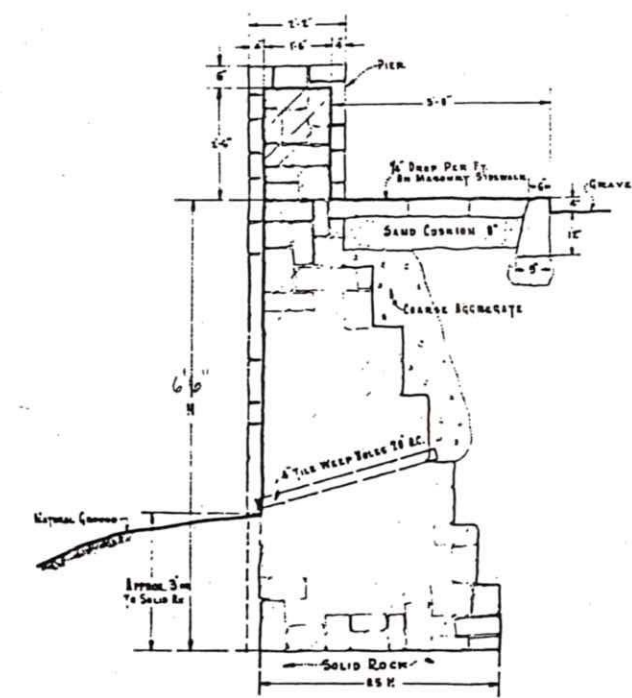
• ELEVATION FROM HILL (EAST)  
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



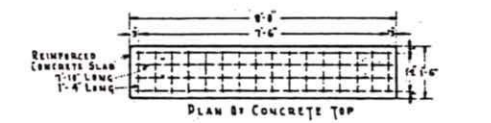
• SECTION A-A •  
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



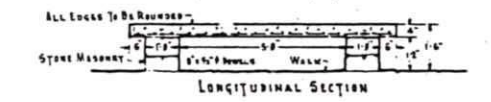
• ELEVATION FROM NORTH •  
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



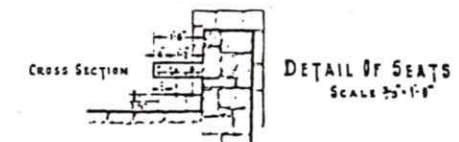
SECTION B-B  
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"



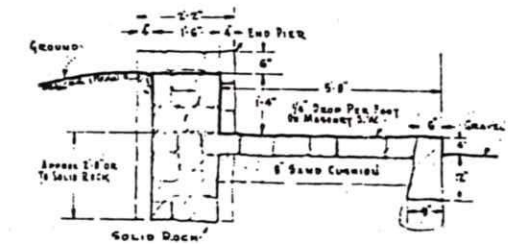
PLAN BY CONCRETE TOP



LONGITUDINAL SECTION



DETAIL OF SEATS  
SCALE 3/8" = 1'-0"



SECTION C-C  
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

• NOTES •

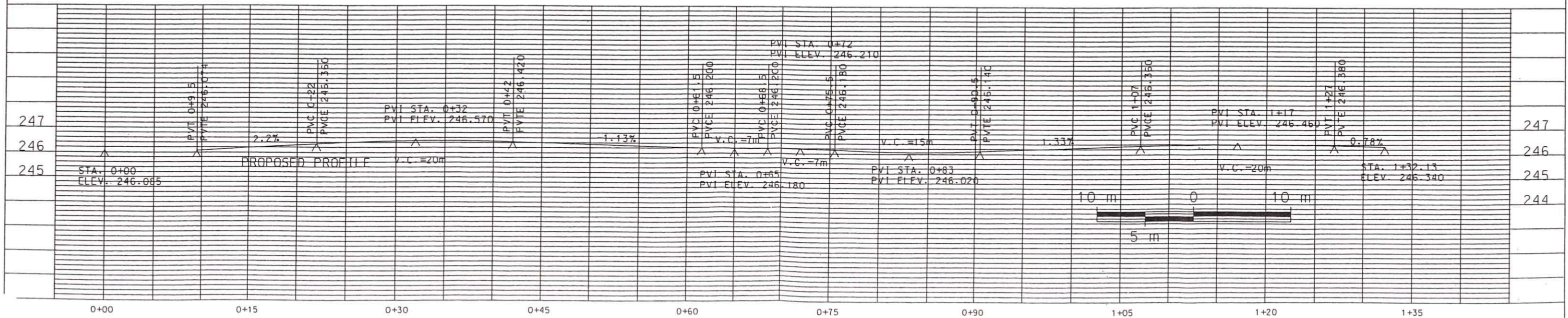
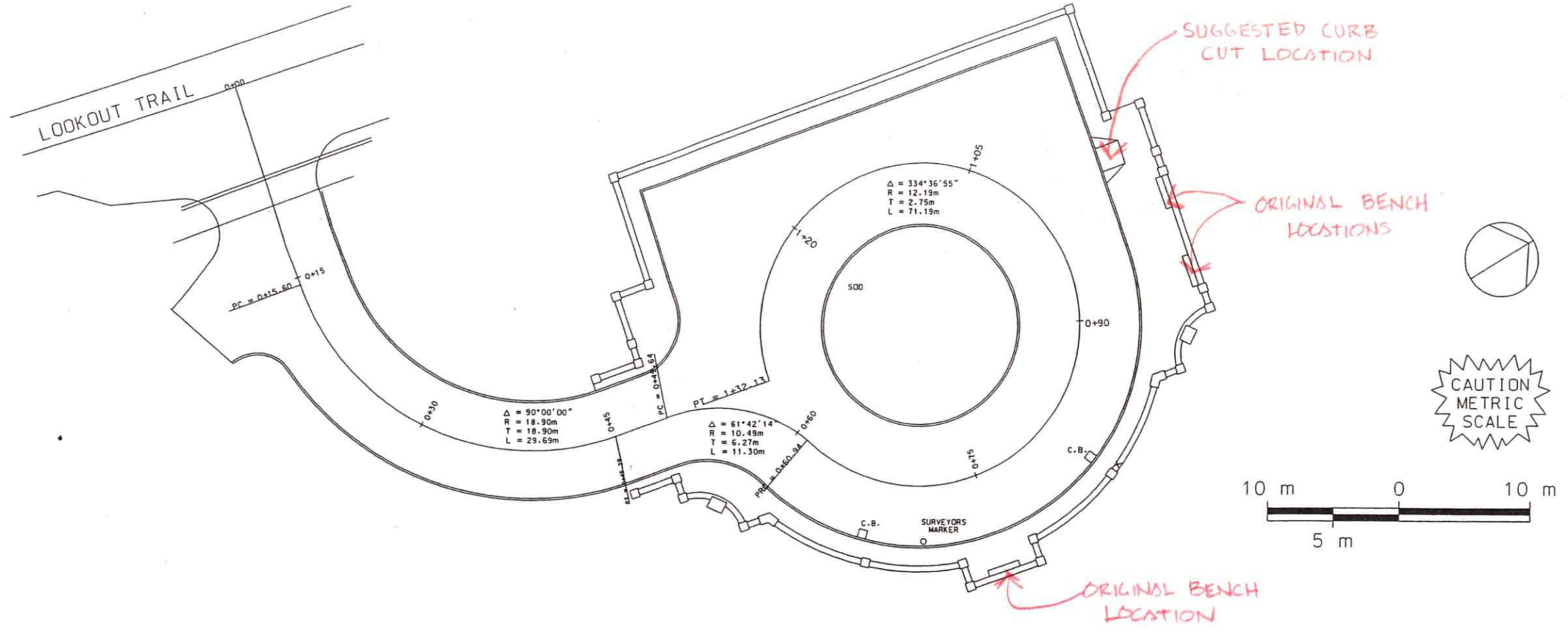
MORTAR TO CONSIST OF 3 PARTS OF CEMENT TO (5) PARTS OF PLASTER SAND --- ALL EXPOSED JOINTS ON VERTICAL FACE OF WALL TO BE RAKED 1" TO 1 1/2" IN DEPTH --- ALL EXPOSED SURFACES ON TOP OF WALL TO BE RAKED 1/2" IN DEPTH --- ALL EXPOSED SURFACES TO BE KEPT CLEAN OF MORTAR --- GRAVEL "B" CONCRETE TO BE USED IN SEATS --- FOOTINGS TO EXTEND TO SOLID ROCK WHERE SOLID ROCK IS ENCOUNTERED IN LESS THAN FOUR FEET. --- OTHERWISE GO FOUR FEET INTO GROUND WITH FOOTINGS.

FINAL PLANS  
CONSTRUCTION DIVISION  
N.Y.A.  
June 1-1938

| BILL OF MATERIALS |       |          |  |
|-------------------|-------|----------|--|
| MATERIAL          | QUAN. | UNIT     | REMARKS                                |
| STONE             | 551   | C.Y.     |  |
| CEMENT            | 1631  | SAR      |  |
| PLAS. SAND        | 171   | C.Y.     |  |
| GRAVEL            | 1     | C.Y.     | FOR REINF. CONC.                       |
| TILE              | 106   | LIN. FT. | 16 LIN. FT. OF 4" TO 20 LIN. FT. OF 6" |
| STEEL             | 115   | LBS      | 1/2" # BARS                            |
| SAND CUSHION      | 71    | C.Y.     |  |
| CATCH BASINS      | 2     | BASINS   | STANDARD                               |

|                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT             |                                |
| RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL         |                                |
| <i>Harold C. Kille</i>           | <i>A. M. Nichols</i>           |
| ENGINEER OF ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT | CONSULTING LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT |
| APPROVED                         |                                |
| <i>W. P. Kille</i>               | 12-8-37                        |
| CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER            | DATED                          |





PLAN AND PROFILE

| NO. | BY | DATE | REVISIONS | ITEM | DESIGN | CHECKED |
|-----|----|------|-----------|------|--------|---------|
|     |    |      |           |      |        |         |

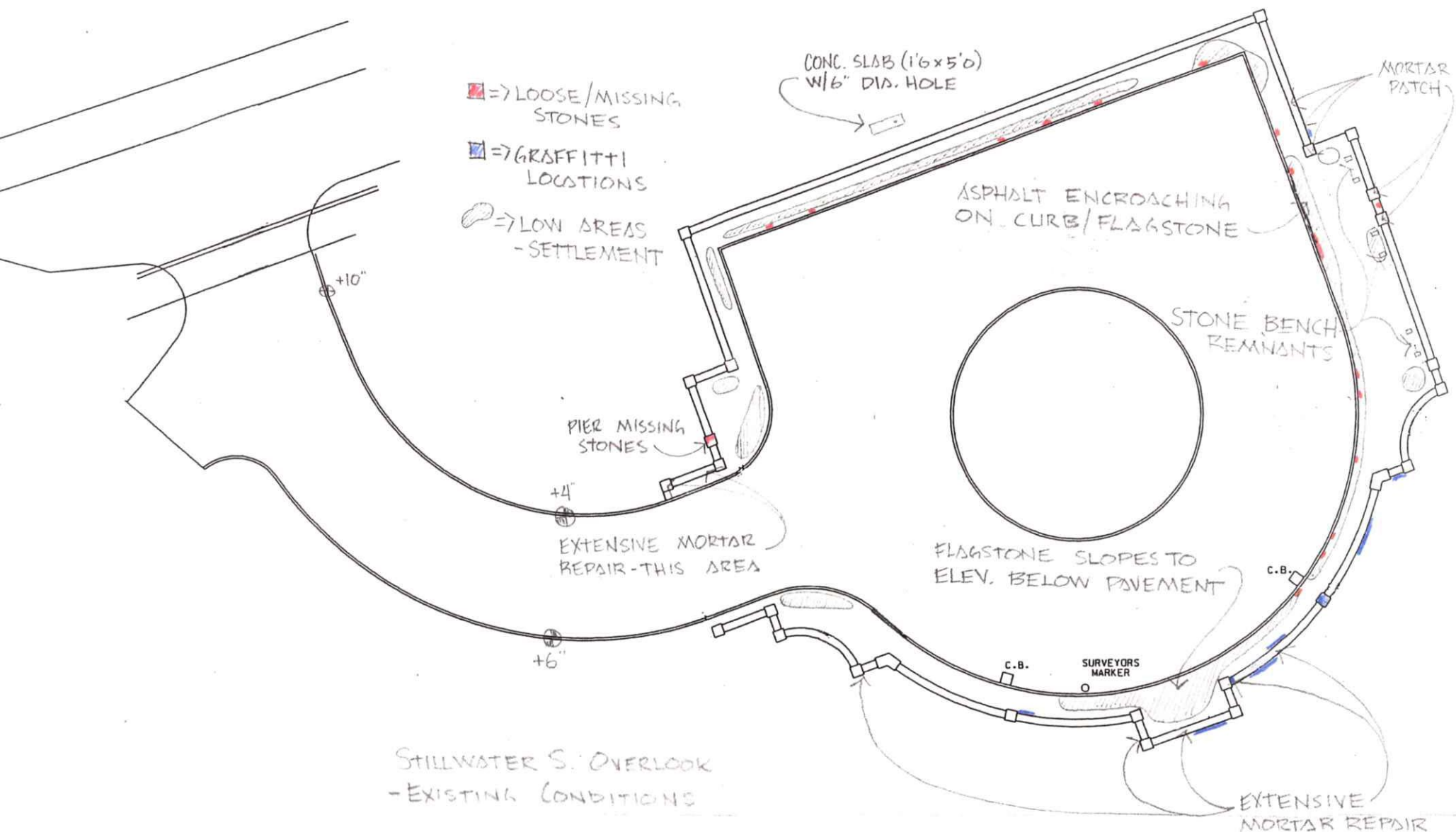
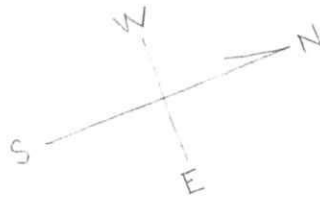
I hereby certify that this plan was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Registered Landscape Architect under the laws of the state of Minnesota.  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. No. \_\_\_\_\_

OAK PARK HEIGHTS,  
MINNESOTA

OAK PARK HEIGHTS OVERLOOK  
RECONSTRUCTION

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| FILE NO.     | LS-06 |
| 6profile.dwg | 6     |
| DATE         | 10    |
| 06/24/97     |       |

MJBS SITE SURVEY  
10/30/02



STILLWATER S. OVERLOOK  
- EXISTING CONDITIONS



M J B A

- ARCHITECTURE
- INTERIOR DESIGN
- HISTORIC PRESERVATION

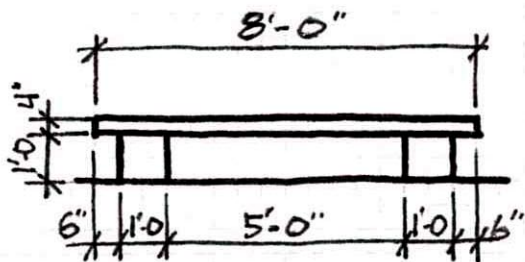
# MICHAEL J. BURNS ARCHITECTS, LTD.

824 CENTER AVENUE, MOORHEAD, MN 56560 ■ 2878 LILAC LANE NE, FARGO, ND 58102  
■ (218) 233-6620 ■ (701) 298-0140 ■ FAX: (218) 233-6621

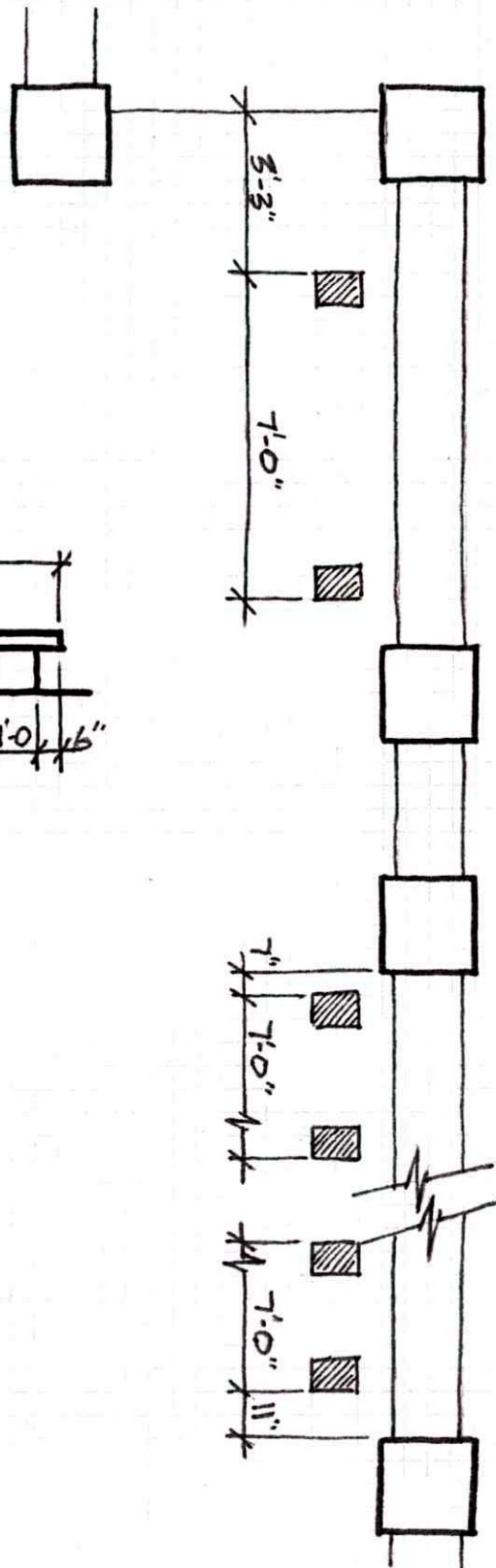
Project STILLWATER S. OVERLOOK Project No. 0216

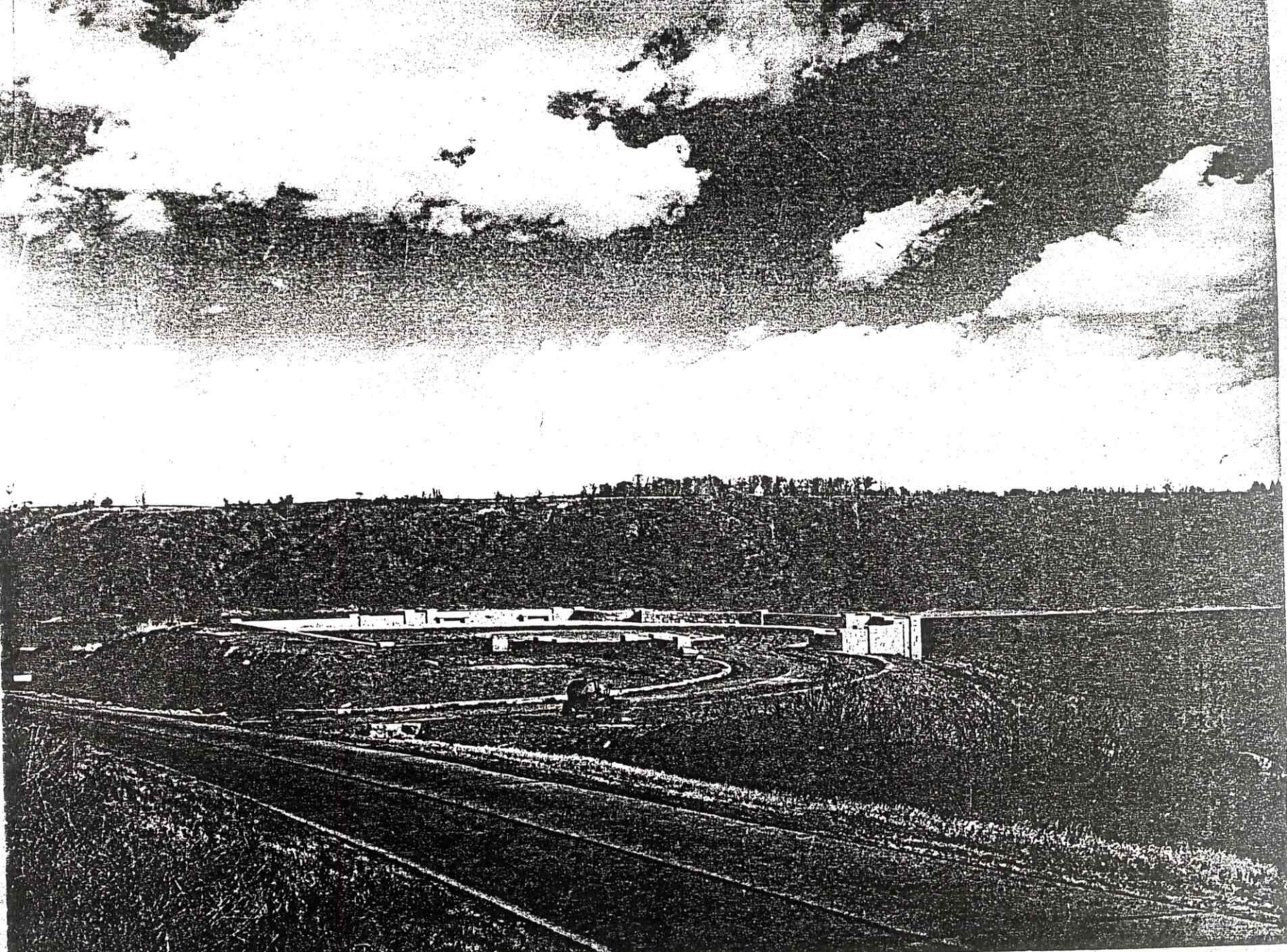
Subject NORTH WALL - BENCH LOCATIONS Date 10/30/02

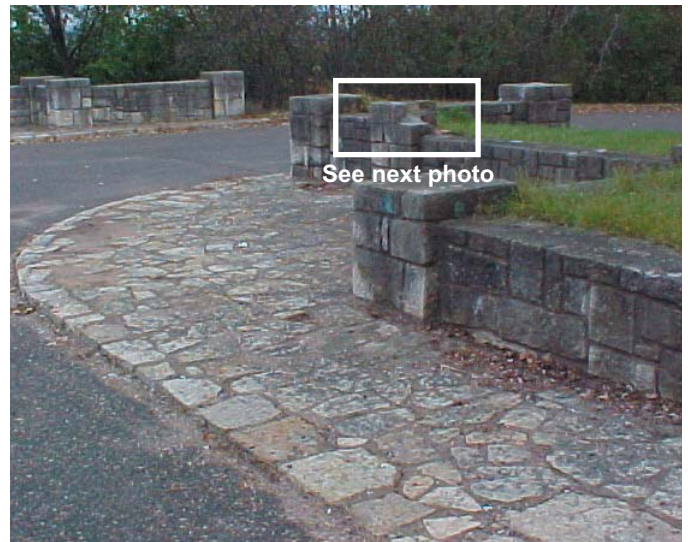
MJBA SITE SURVEY



BENCH DESIGN







Missing stone(s) at wall pier



Pedestrian entrance at northwest corner

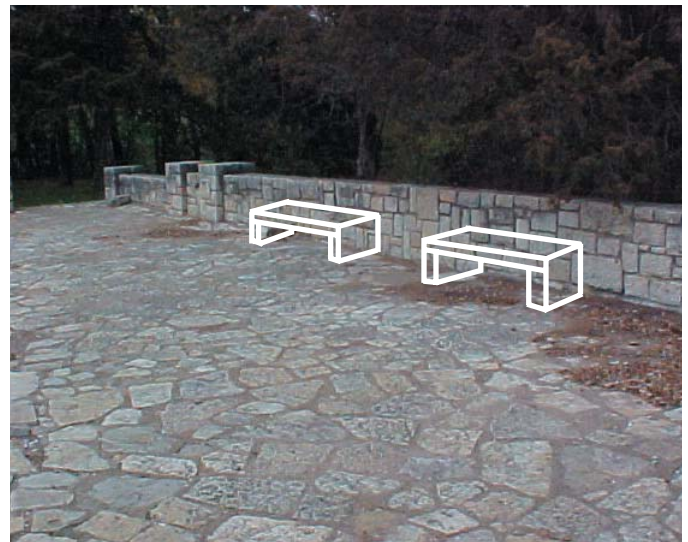


Original bench locations - taken from Olson photo album (1942)





Original bench pedestal



Original stone bench location



Bench pedestal  
(not original location)



Pedestrian entrance



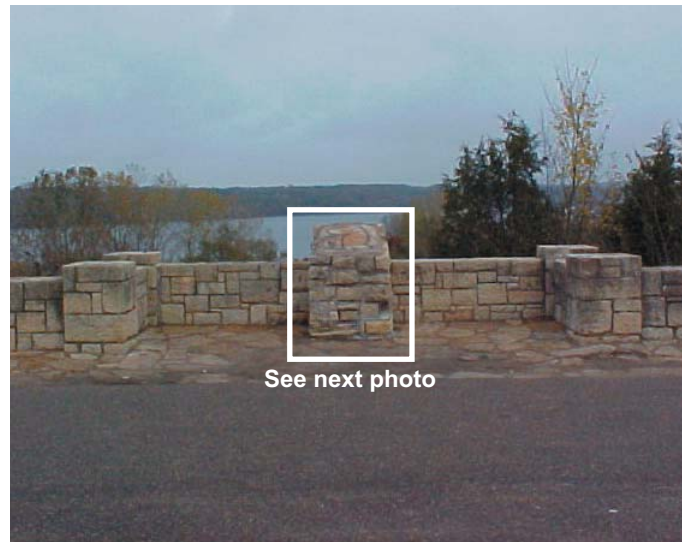
See first photo on next page

Catch basin at southeast lookout

Northwest wall

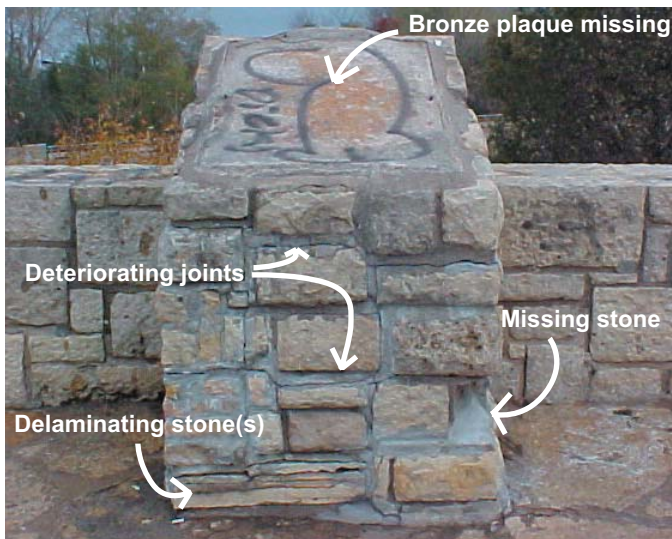


Benchmark located near south catch basin



See next photo

Rectangular east lookout



Stone marker - added 1954



West wall condition



Typical wall pier



**Flagstone condition at northwest  
(near pedestrian entrance)**



**Flagstone walk condition at west end - looking north**



**Loose flagstones**



**Typical flagstone condition**



Wall / Walk termination at southwest



Wall / Walk termination at southeast



Overgrown limestone



Original clay tile weep at base of wall



Center island - looking south



Entrance drive looking north





Rectangular overlook - east elevation



Concrete flagpole base



Flagpole base west of parking area

## SITE BOUNDARIES

### ■ RECOMMENDED BOUNDARY OF NATIONAL REGISTER-ELIGIBLE PROPERTY

The recommended boundary of the National Register-eligible property is shown by the dashed line on the accompanying sheets entitled "Stillwater Overlook - South Site Boundaries." The base maps for these sheets are a Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) Right-of-way Map and a Mn/DOT aerial photo.

The eastern boundary of the National Register-eligible property follows the western edge of the highway shoulder located immediately east of the overlook. The western boundary of the National Register-eligible property follows the eastern curblineline of Lookout Trail (the former T.H. 212 alignment). The southern boundary is drawn 250' south of the southern end of stone overlook wall and 150' north of a Mn/DOT right-of-way line, as shown. The northern boundary is drawn 280' north of the northern end of the stone overlook wall, as shown.

#### **Boundary Justification**

The recommended boundary of the National Register-eligible property encompasses the parcel historically associated with the roadside park.

### ■ RECOMMENDED BOUNDARY OF MN/DOT HISTORIC SITE CONSERVATION ZONE

The recommended boundary of the Mn/DOT Historic Site Conservation Zone is also shown on the accompanying sheets. The Conservation Zone encompasses both the National Register-eligible property, marked by the dashed line, and adjacent areas marked by the solid line.

#### **Boundary Justification**

The Mn/DOT Historic Site Conservation Zone is recommended to provide a special management zone that includes both the National Register-eligible site and a larger area that encompasses part of the historic property's early physical and visual "context" or setting.

Preserving the property's physical and visual setting will help protect its historic integrity and enhance the public's understanding of, and appreciation for, the historic site design. The Conservation Zone will help buffer the site from elements that may detract from its historic character.

It is recommended that the Conservation Zone boundaries include the National Register-eligible property and additional land described as follows:

North of the National Register-eligible property, it is recommended that the Conservation Zone extend 350' north of the National Register-eligible property. This portion of the Conservation Zone is bounded by the Mn/DOT right-of-way line on the west and the western edge of the highway shoulder on the east. South of the National Register-eligible property, it is recommended that the Conservation Zone extend 150' south of the National Register-eligible property to a Mn/DOT right-of-way line, as shown. West of the National Register-eligible property, it is recommended that the Conservation Zone extend across Lookout Trail to the western Mn/DOT right-of-way line.

It is recommended that Mn/DOT retain all current right-of-way within the Conservation Zone and preserve maximum green space in this area of high residential development pressure. It is recommended that Mn/DOT preserve the Conservation Zone by taking such actions as special right-of-way planting and maintenance, acquiring additional property or scenic easements, and/or creating partnership agreements with individuals or groups interested in preserving the historic property and its setting. Mn/DOT should work closely with the City of Oak Park Heights to build preservation advocacy and ensure sensitive treatment of the historic property and its setting. The Mn/DOT Cultural Resources Unit should be consulted regarding treatment activities.

■ **MORE INFORMATION**

For detailed information on the Stillwater Overlook - South's structures, landscape, and significance, refer to:

Mn/DOT Historic Roadside Development Structures Inventory form for Stillwater Overlook - South (Gemini Research, Dec. 1998).

Mn/DOT Historic Roadside Development Structures Preservation and Restoration Report for Stillwater Overlook South (Michael J. Burns Architects and Gemini Research, 2003).

Prepared by Gemini Research May 1, 2004.

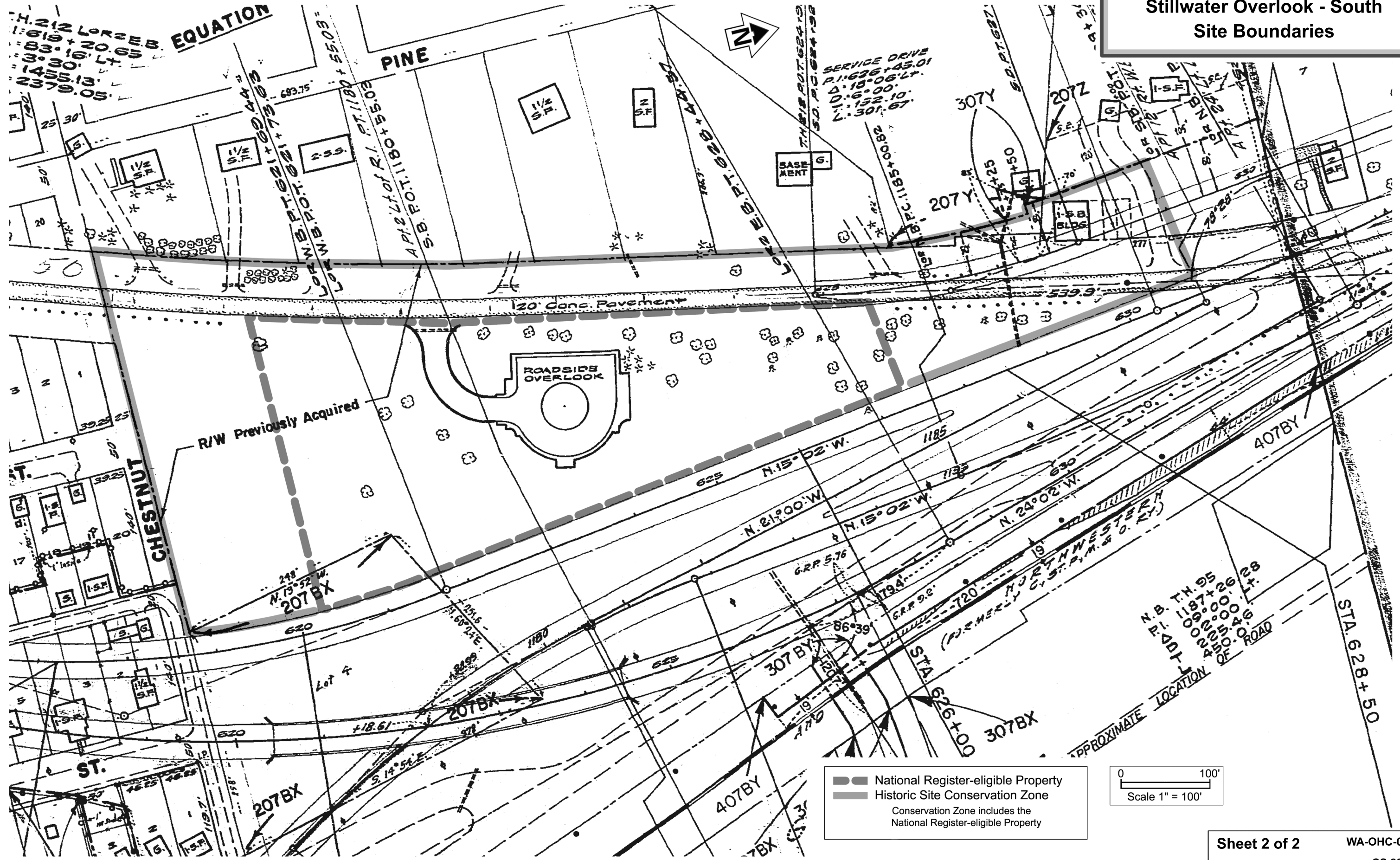


**Stillwater Overlook - South  
Site Boundaries**



Photo taken Spring 2002

Stillwater Overlook - South  
Site Boundaries



National Register-eligible Property  
 Historic Site Conservation Zone  
 Conservation Zone includes the National Register-eligible Property

