



**US Army Corps
of Engineers.**
Philadelphia District

Wanamaker Building
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390
ATTN: CENAP-OP-R

Public Notice

Public Notice No. CENAP-OP-R-2006-6012-57	Date OCT 19 2006
Application No.	File No.

In Reply Refer to:
REGULATORY BRANCH

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments and recommendations from the public concerning issuance of a Department of the Army permit for the work described below.

APPLICANT: City of Bethlehem
Department of Parks and Public Property
10 East Church Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018-6025

AGENT: Urban Research and Development Corporation
28 West Broad Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018
POC: Phillip D. Hunsberger

WATERWAY: Lehigh River

LOCATION: West Sand Island Park, along the northern shore of the Lehigh River approximately 500 feet west of the Hill to Hill Bridge; City of Bethlehem, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania..

ACTIVITY: Construct a 100 by 16 foot pre-cast concrete slab boat launch including a 72 by 5 foot wide rip-rap apron permanently impacting not more than 1500 square feet (SF) of the Lehigh River below the plane of Ordinary High Water (OHW). The work will include the temporary placement of approximately 120 linear feet (LF) of sandbag and plastic sheet cofferdam required for dewatering of the work area. All work will be done in accordance with drawings E-1 through E-6.

PURPOSE: Construction of a publicly owned boat launch for general recreational use and to provide access to the river for emergency service personnel.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work would not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the activity's probable impact including its cumulative impacts on the public interest. The decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the work must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the work will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs and welfare of the people. A Department of the Army permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

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 an 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.

Comments on the proposed work should be submitted, in writing, within 15 days to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3390.

Review of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties or properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein are located within the permit area of the work. However, based upon an initial review by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission dated December 4, 2003 (ER 03-0244-077-B), a previously unknown archaeological site that may be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register may be present within the permit area.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely effect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). A preliminary assessment of the species listed in the "Guide to Essential Fish Habitat Designations in the Northeastern United States" indicates that there are no species present in the permit area subject to this act, therefore there will be no effect upon the EFH of any protected species.

In accordance with Section 307(c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, applicants for Federal Licenses or Permits to conduct an activity affecting land or water uses in a State's coastal zone must provide certification that the activity complies with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program. The proposed work is not located within a designated Coastal Zone Management Area in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, a Water Quality Certificate is necessary from the State government in which the work is located. Any comments concerning the work described above which relate to Water Quality considerations should be sent to this office with a copy to the State. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Northeast Regional Office authorized the proposed work through the issuance of a Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit (E39-417) dated August 21, 2003. This authorization included Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the proposed boat launch.

The evaluation of the impact of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

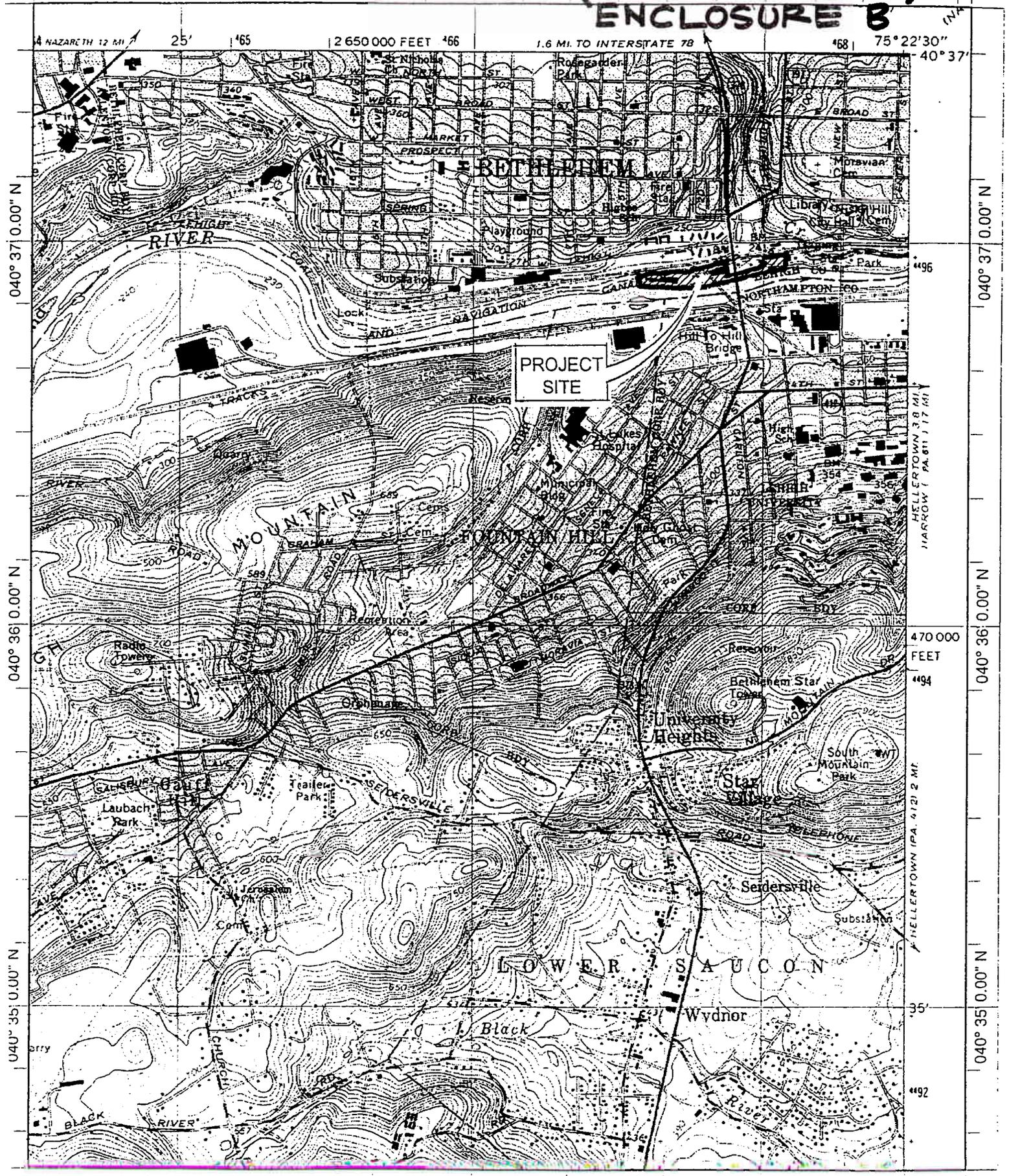
Any person may request, in writing, to the District Engineer, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state in writing, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Additional information concerning this permit application may be obtained by calling Kevin Dougherty at (215) 656-5733 or by writing this office at the above address.



Frank J. Cianfrani
Chief, Regulatory Branch

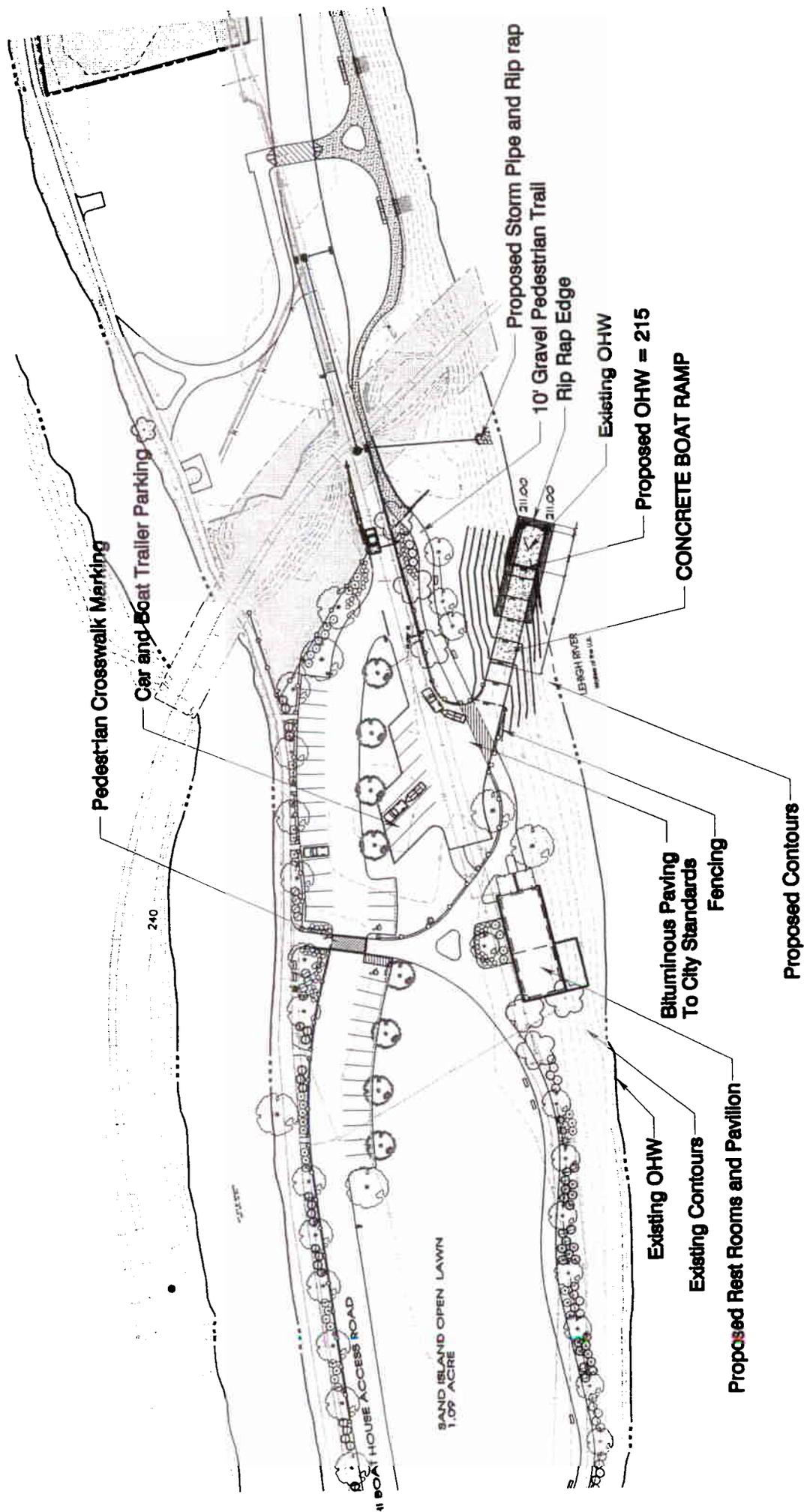
ENCLOSURE B



Name: ALLENTOWN EAST
Date: 10/1/102
Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

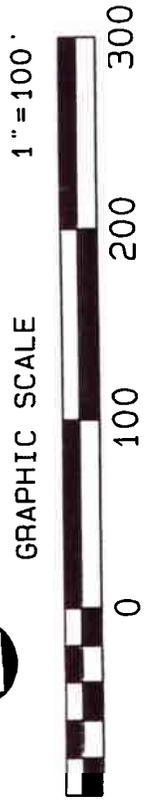
Location: 040° 36' 05.8" N 075° 23' 53.7" W
Caption: West Sand Island Park
Bethlehem, PA 18101

E-1



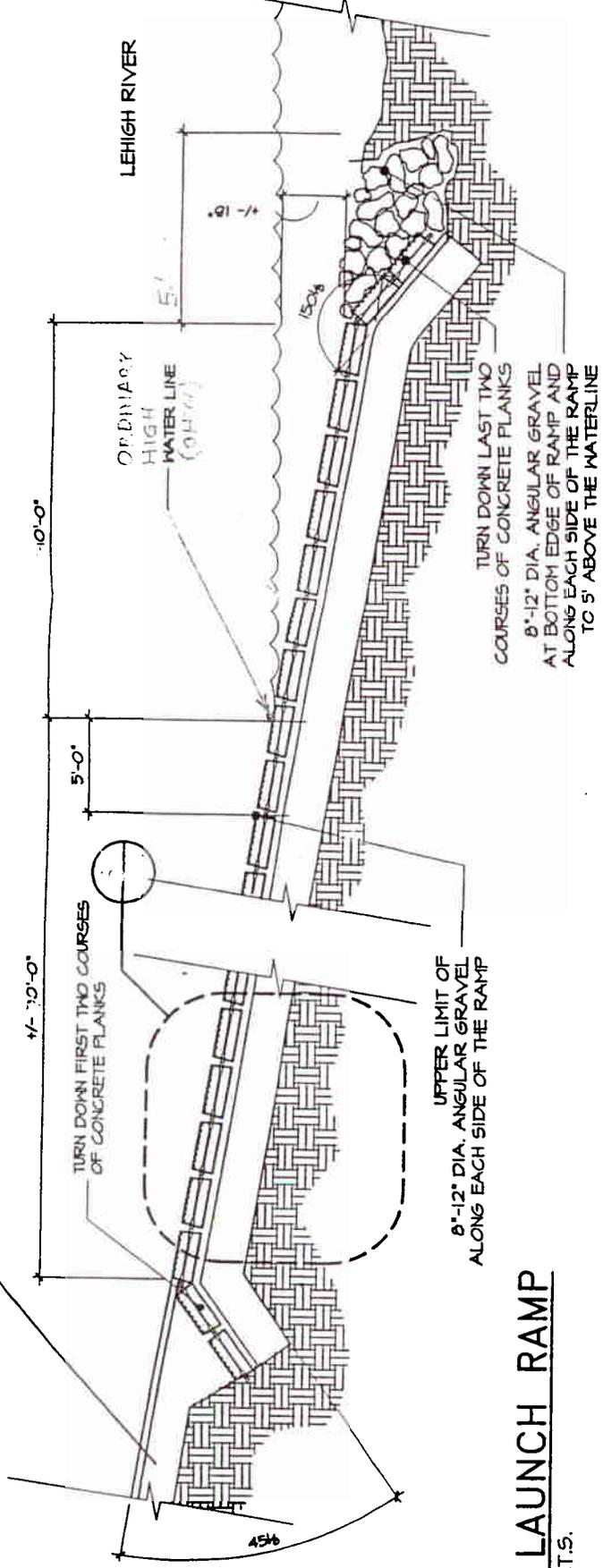
F-2

BOAT RAMP PLAN
SAND ISLAND PARK
 Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 8/17/08



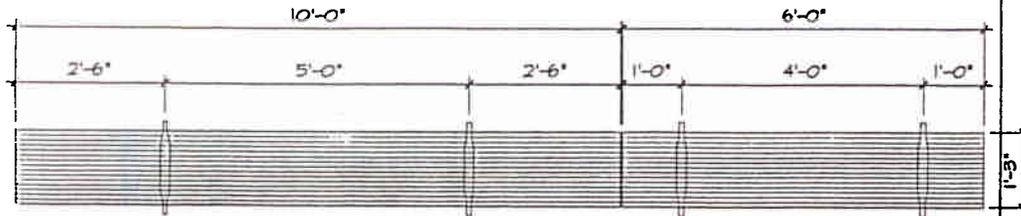
- NOTES:
1. ALL FASTENERS TO BE GALVANIZED.
 2. DELETE STEP AND ADD HANDRAIL FOR FISHING PIER.

HEAVY DUTY TRAIL
 X
 A-X



4 BOAT LAUNCH RAMP
 SCALE: N.T.S.

11-4



PLAN

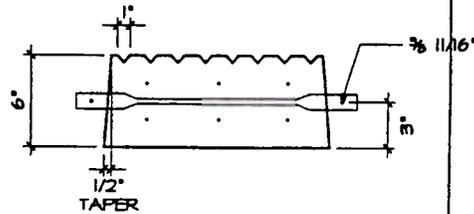


SECTION

NOTES:

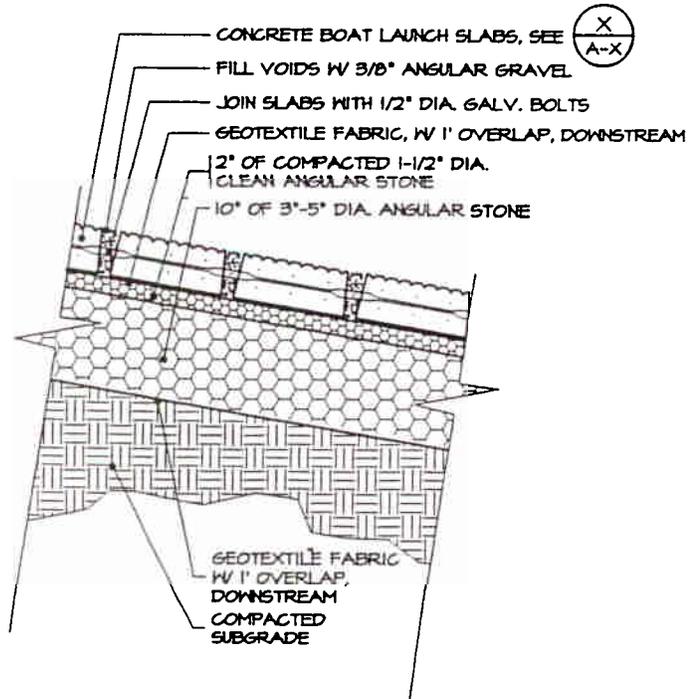
1. CONCRETE 5000 psi AT 28 DAYS.
2. REINFORCING WITH #3 REBAR.
3. 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 20" TWISTED STEEL BARS (CAST IN TO TIE SECTIONS TOGETHER).

LENGTH	WEIGHT	ITEM #
1'	550 lbs	E-301
15'	910 lbs	E-302



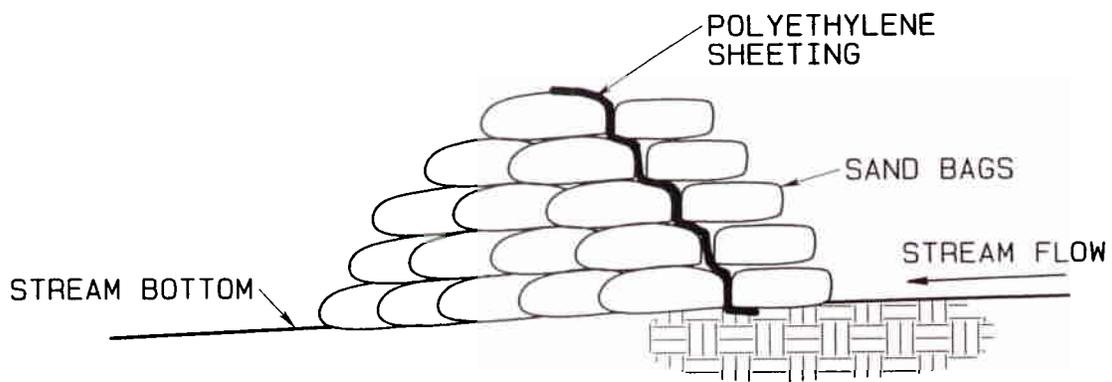
5 BOAT LAUNCH SLABS
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE

END SECTION
NOT TO SCALE



6 SECTION OF BOAT LAUNCH SLABS
SCALE: 3/4" = 1'-0"

E-5



COFFERDAM DETAIL

NOT TO SCALE

"COF-DAM"

E-6