



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Vicksburg District
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435
www.mvk.usace.army.mil



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	MVK-2021-00986
EVALUATOR:	Molly Connerton
PHONE NO.:	(601) 937-2373
E-MAIL:	molly.a.connerton@usace.army.mil
DATE:	December 13, 2024
EXPIRATION DATE:	January 3, 2025

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District is considering an application for a Department of the Army permit for the work described herein. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-OD-F, 4155 Clay Street, Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3435.

The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Water Quality Certification Improvement Rule (Certification Improvement Rule, 40 CFR 121), effective November 27, 2023, requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that has the potential to result in a discharge. The scope of a CWA Section 401 certification is limited to assuring that a potential discharge from a Federally licensed or permitted activity will comply with water quality requirements. The Individual Water Quality Certification for this project was issued on 02 Oct 2024 by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LADEQ).

Law Requiring a Permit: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged and / or fill material into waters of the United States.

Name of Applicant:
Mr. Shane Smiley
Ouachita Parish Police Jury
300 St. John Street
Monroe, Louisiana 71210

Name of Agent:
Mr. Matt Mixon
Wetlands Unlimited, LLC
Post Office Box 1892
West Monroe, Louisiana 71294

Location of Work: The project site is located within the Town of Richwood, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana, and is generally east of U.S. Highway 165 and Burg Jones Lane, south of State Highway 15, and west of State Highway 841 (Prairie Road), in Sections 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, and 29 of Township 17N, Range 4E, Latitude 32.437777° N, Longitude -92.058930° W (8-digit HUC 08050001).

Description of Work: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged and/or fill material into jurisdictional wetlands and waters to implement improvements to Raccoon Bayou. The proposed improvements include maintenance activities (shaping and sloping) within the existing channel of Raccoon Bayou to remove accumulated sediment, foreign debris/litter, and vegetation and restore hydraulic function to the drainageway. In addition to the main channel maintenance, the project will also include a realignment of the existing channel in select areas, the replacement of an old box car drain structure with a reinforced concrete box culvert, restoring the shape and concreting an approximately 1,350 feet section of an existing drainage ditch that drains into Raccoon Bayou, replacing a single-span timber bridge over Raccoon Bayou with a reinforced concrete box culvert, construction of a flood protection earthen berm, construction of a new outlet control structure near Brandin Road, the extension of Brandin Road to the new outlet control structure, and construction of a stone access pad for emergency pumps.

As a result of project activities, the applicant is proposing permanent impacts to approximately 2.44 acres of Palustrine Forested (PFO) wetlands and 0.46 acres of Palustrine Emergent (PEM) wetlands. Additional project impacts proposed include approximately 3,319 linear feet of permanent impacts to perennial streams, 2,840 linear feet of permanent impacts to intermittent streams, 102 linear feet of permanent impacts to ephemeral streams, and 9,940 linear feet of temporary impacts to a combination of perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams.

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of jurisdictional impacts through the purchase of credits from an approved Mitigation Bank that services the project area.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

State Water Quality Permit: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

Cultural Resources: The Regulatory Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, state lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. The following is the current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the proposed undertaking upon these properties: An historic properties investigation has been conducted within the permit area. No sites determined eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places are within the permit area or affected area. Copies of this public notice have been sent to Federally Recognized Tribes, and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to historic properties that could result from the proposed activity.

Endangered Species: The Information for Planning and Consultation (IPAC) tool in Louisiana for Threatened and Endangered Species list for the project area includes, the Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Dryobates borealis*) (endangered), the Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) (proposed for listing as endangered), and the Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*) (proposed for listing as threatened). Utilizing the IPAC tool the Corps of Engineers has determined that due to the lack of suitable habitat, the proposed activity would have no effect on the Red-cockaded Woodpecker and would not jeopardize the continued existence of the Alligator Snapping turtle. In addition, the Corps of Engineers is consulting with the USFWS to evaluate any potential impacts to the Tricolored bat to ensure that the proposed activity is not likely to jeopardize their continued existence or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat.

Floodplain: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Floodplain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a floodplain development permit is required. Floodplain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements. Portions of the proposed project site are within the 100-year Floodplain.

Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Public Involvement: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

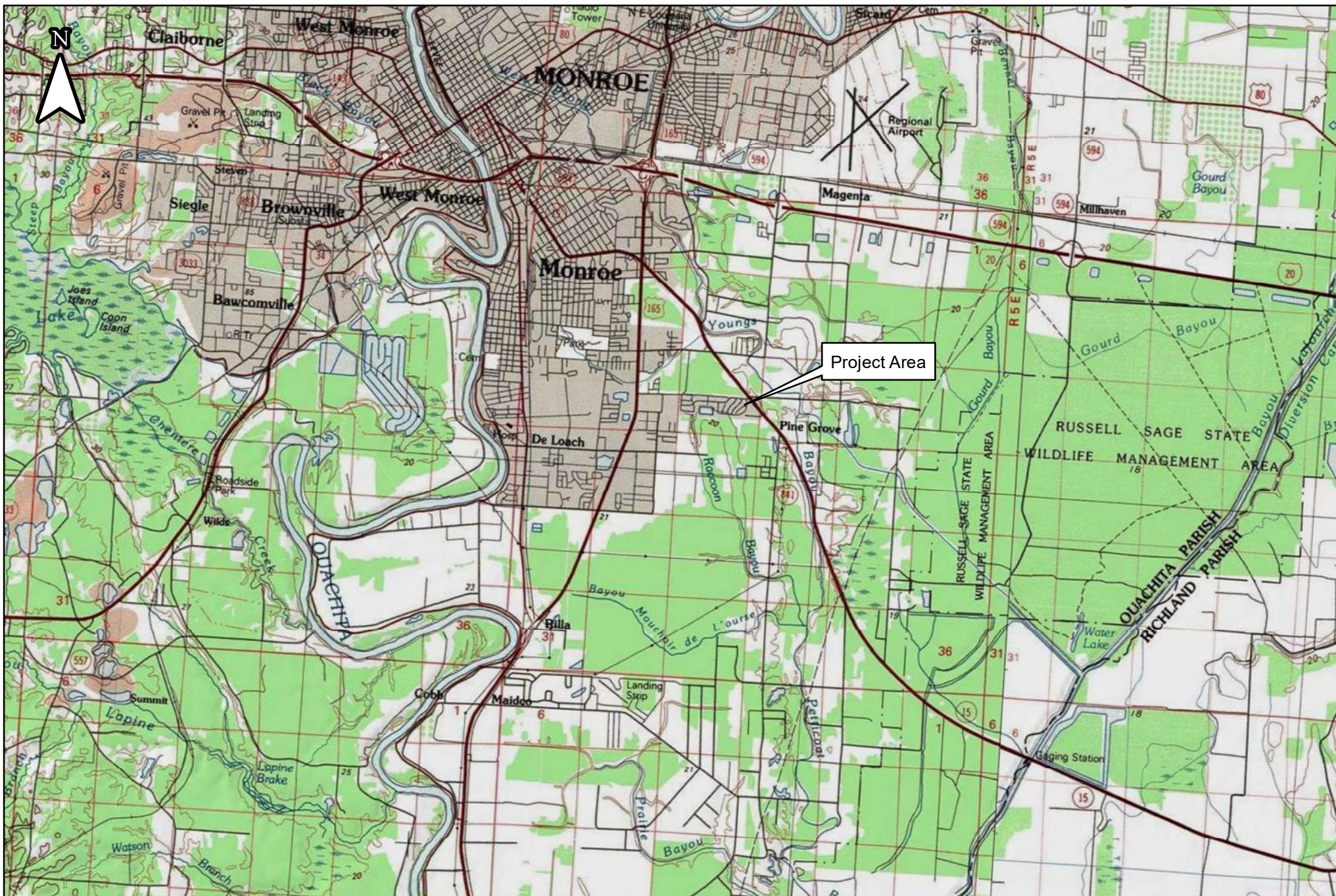
Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

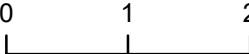
Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>.

Andy
Sanderson

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Andy Sanderson
Chief, Arkansas/Louisiana Branches



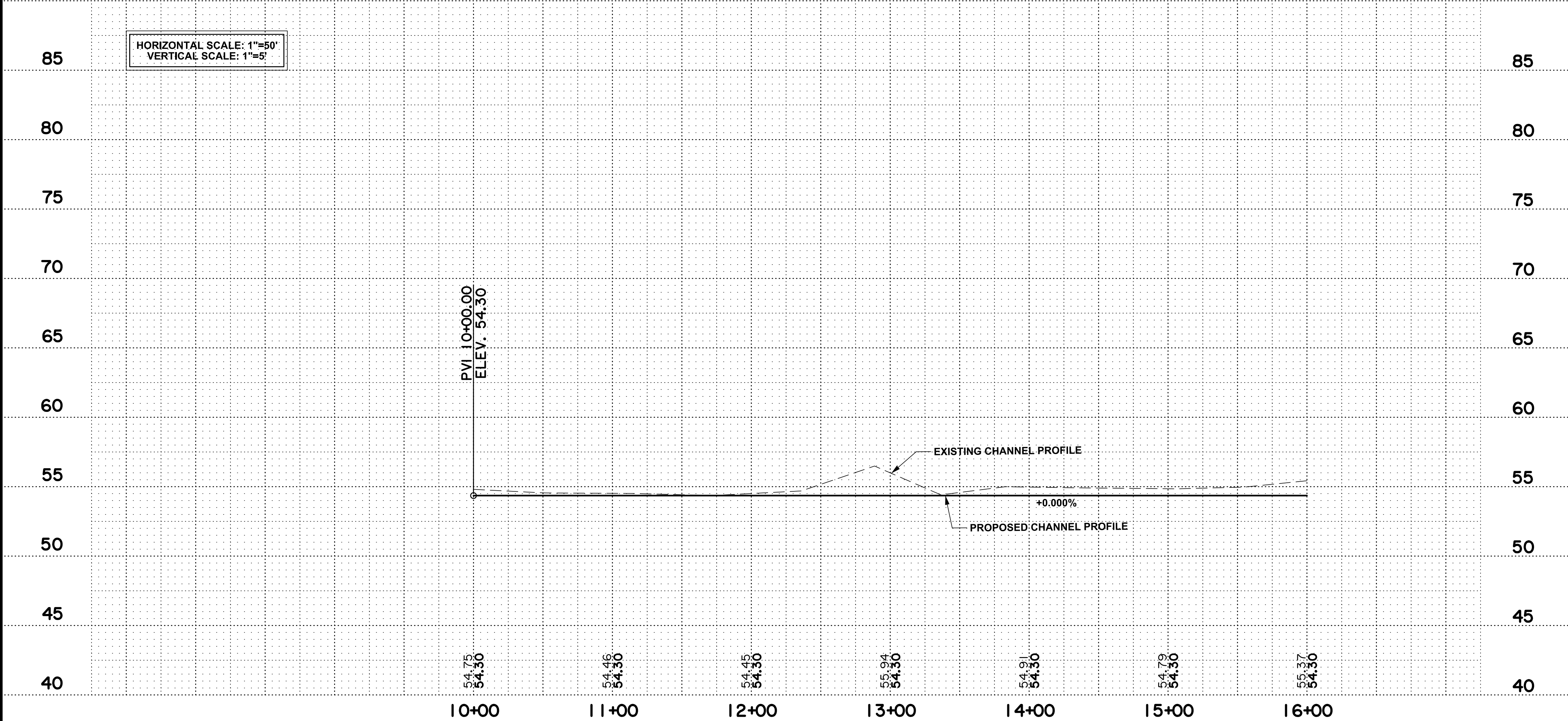
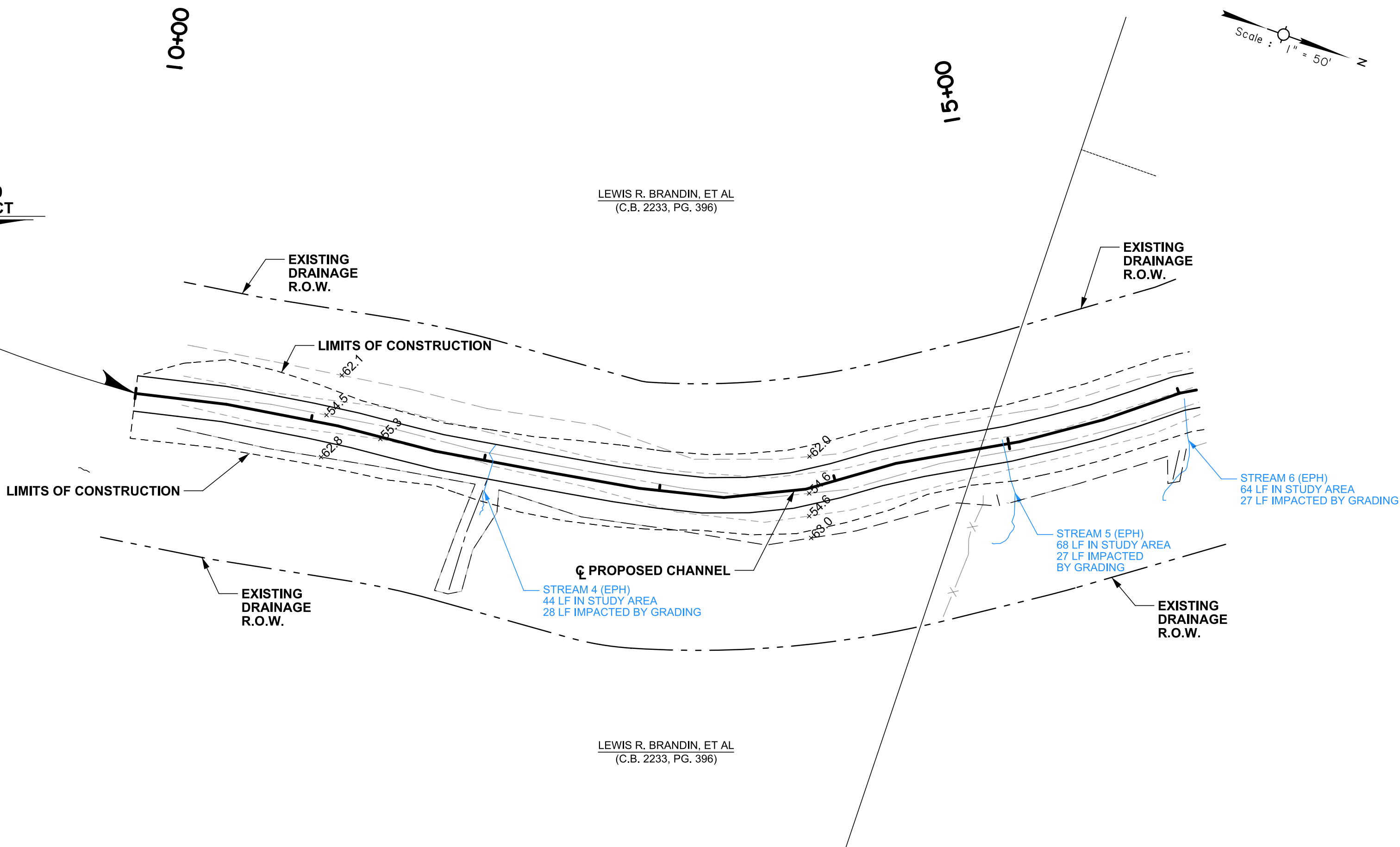
	SITE LOCATION MAP Raccoon Bayou Channel Improvements Monroe, Louisiana		Lat: 32.444816° Long: -92.067834°	0 1 2 Miles 
	ESRI Topographic Map GIS INFORMATION		Exhibit A	



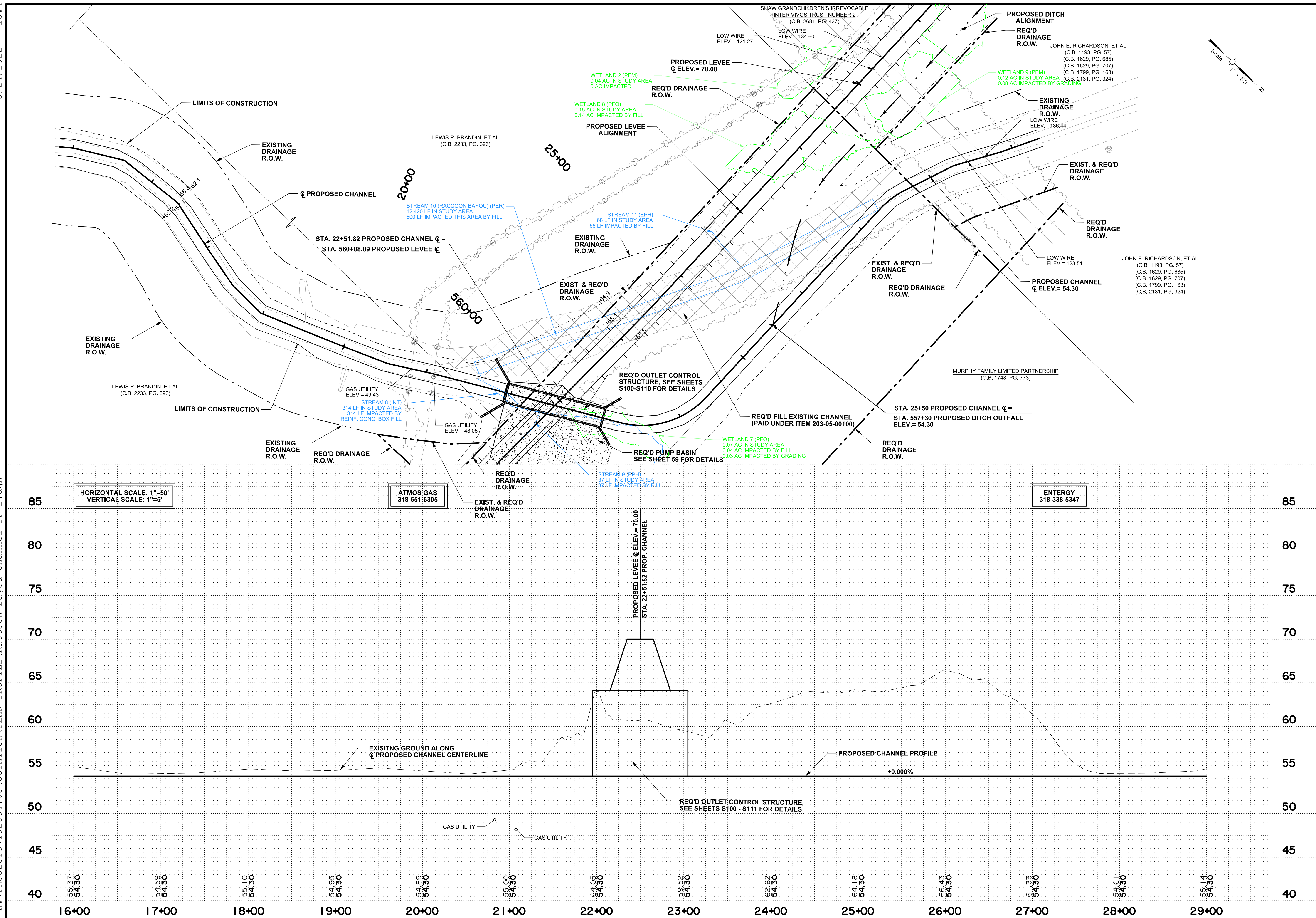
- NOTES:
1. THE ELEVATIONS SHOWN HEREON ARE BASED ON CONTROL POINT LAZ2 HAVING AN ELEVATION OF 79.71' (NAVD-88) AND WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE SITE USING GPS.
 2. THE BEARINGS SHOWN HEREON ARE GRID BEARINGS AND ARE BASED ON GPS OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT THE SITE. THE GRID BEARINGS ARE BASED ON THE LOUISIANA COORDINATE SYSTEM OF 1983 NORTH ZONE.
 3. FIELD VERIFY ALL EXISTING UTILITIES. UTILITIES IN CONFLICT WITH THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT TO BE RELOCATED BY OTHERS UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.

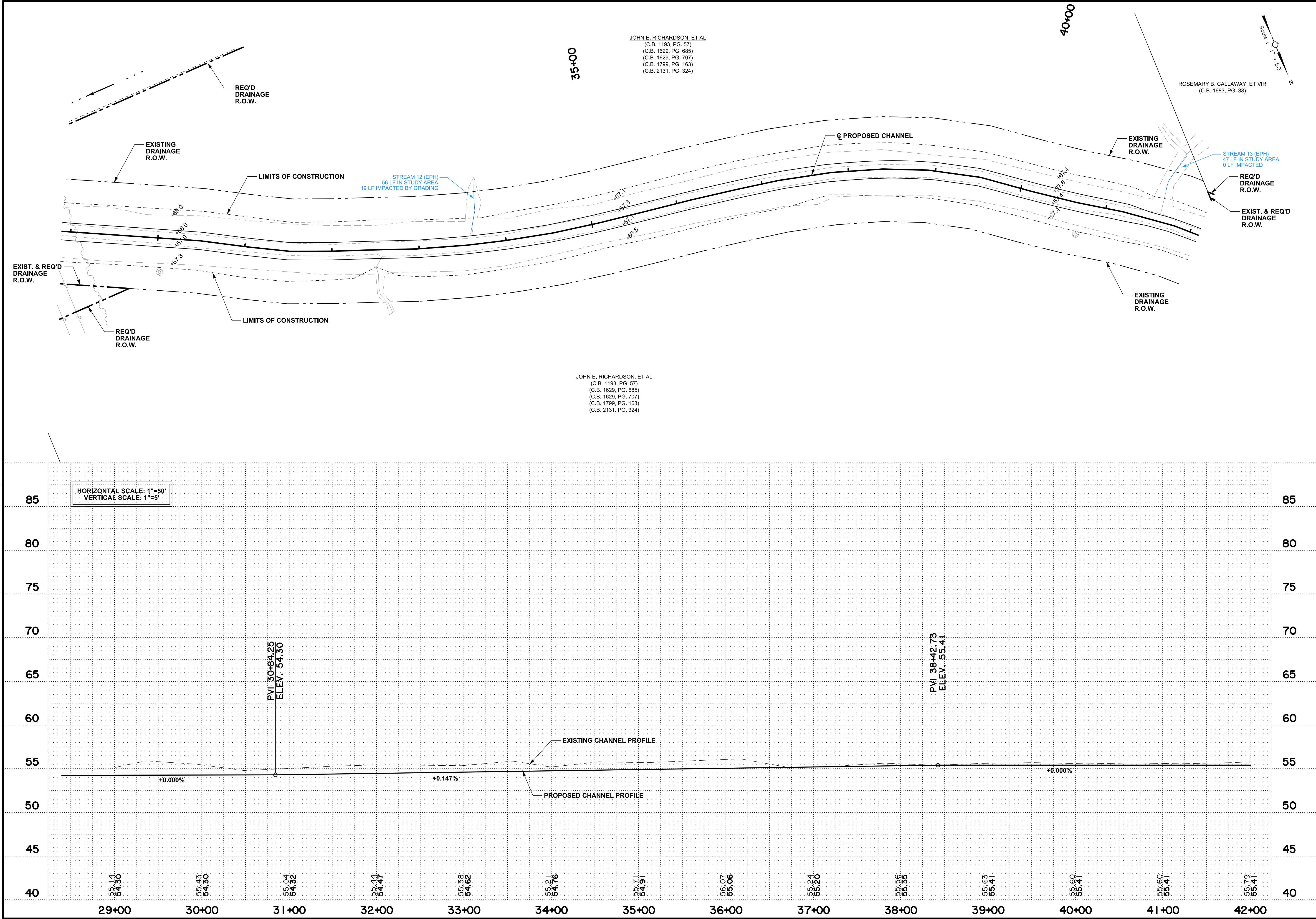
LEGEND - EXISTING TOPOGRAPHY		
CONTROL POINT		GAS LINE
PHOTO TARGET		GAS METER
PAVEMENT EDGE		GAS SERVICE (NO METER)
SHOULDER EDGE		GAS REGULATOR
SLOPE TOE		GAS RISER
GUARDRAIL TOP		GAS TEST BOX
HIGH BANK		GAS VALVE
WATER'S EDGE		GAS LINE/CASING
HIGH WATER MARK		GAS VENT
BOX CULVERT		RAILROAD MILEPOST
PIPE CULVERT		RAILROAD SIGNAL
CATCH BASIN TOP (ROUND)		RAILROAD SWITCH
DROP INLET TOP (ROUND)		RAILROAD TRACK
DRAINAGE MANHOLE TOP		RR TRAFFIC SIGNAL BOX
LEVEE TOP		SEWER LINE
DITCH CENTERLINE		SEWER MANHOLE TOP
TREE		SEWER BLOWOUT VALVE
WOODS EDGE		SEWER CLEANOUT
MARSH LINE		SEPTIC TANK
SWAMP LINE		SEWER PUMP (PRIVATE)
TREE CLUSTER		SEWER TREATMENT (INDIVIDUAL)
HEDGE		FEDERAL AID MARKER
BUSH		TRAFFIC CONTROLLER BOX
TREE LINE		TRAFFIC COUNTER
FENCE LINE		TRAFFIC SIGNAL
GATE		TRAFFIC SIGNAL SUPPORT POLE
CATTLE GUARD		LIGHT POLE
PROPERTY CORNER		LIGHT PEDESTAL
RIGHT OF WAY MONUMENT		LIGHT POWER VAULT
SECTION CORNER		TRAFFIC SIGN
FENCE CORNER		PARKING METER
TELEVISION CABLE		TELEPHONE POLE
TELEVISION PEDESTAL		TELEPHONE LINE
POWER POLE		TELEPHONE BOOTH
DEADMAN		TELE CROSS CONNECT BOX
POWER LINE		TELEPHONE PEDESTAL
POWER JUNCTION BOX		TELEPHONE PRESSURE BOX
POWER VAULT		WATER LINE
TRANSFORMER		WATER LINE/CASING
COMBINATION POLE		WATER CLEANOUT
POWER DROP		WATER METER
PIPELINE		WATER VALVE
PIPELINE VENT		WATER VALVE VAULT
PIPELINE REGULATOR		WATER WELL
GAS WELL		FIRE HYDRANT
OIL WELL		BILLBOARD
EXISTING NATURAL		FUEL PUMP
GROUND SPOT GRADE		POST
		SIGN POST
		STORAGE TANK (ROUND)
		GRAVE
		MAILBOX
		ORNAMENTAL LIGHT
		FLAG POLE

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BEGIN PROJECT



SHEET NUMBER		4	
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CONTROL SECTION			
LBA, INC. PROJECT		19E034.03	
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BY		REVISION OR CHANGE ORDER DESCRIPTION	
NO.		DATE	
RACCOON BAYOU CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS SITUATED IN SECTIONS 16, 17, 20, 21, 28 & 29, T-17-N, R-4-E OUACHITA PARISH, LOUISIANA			
CHANNEL PLAN & PROFILE SHEET			



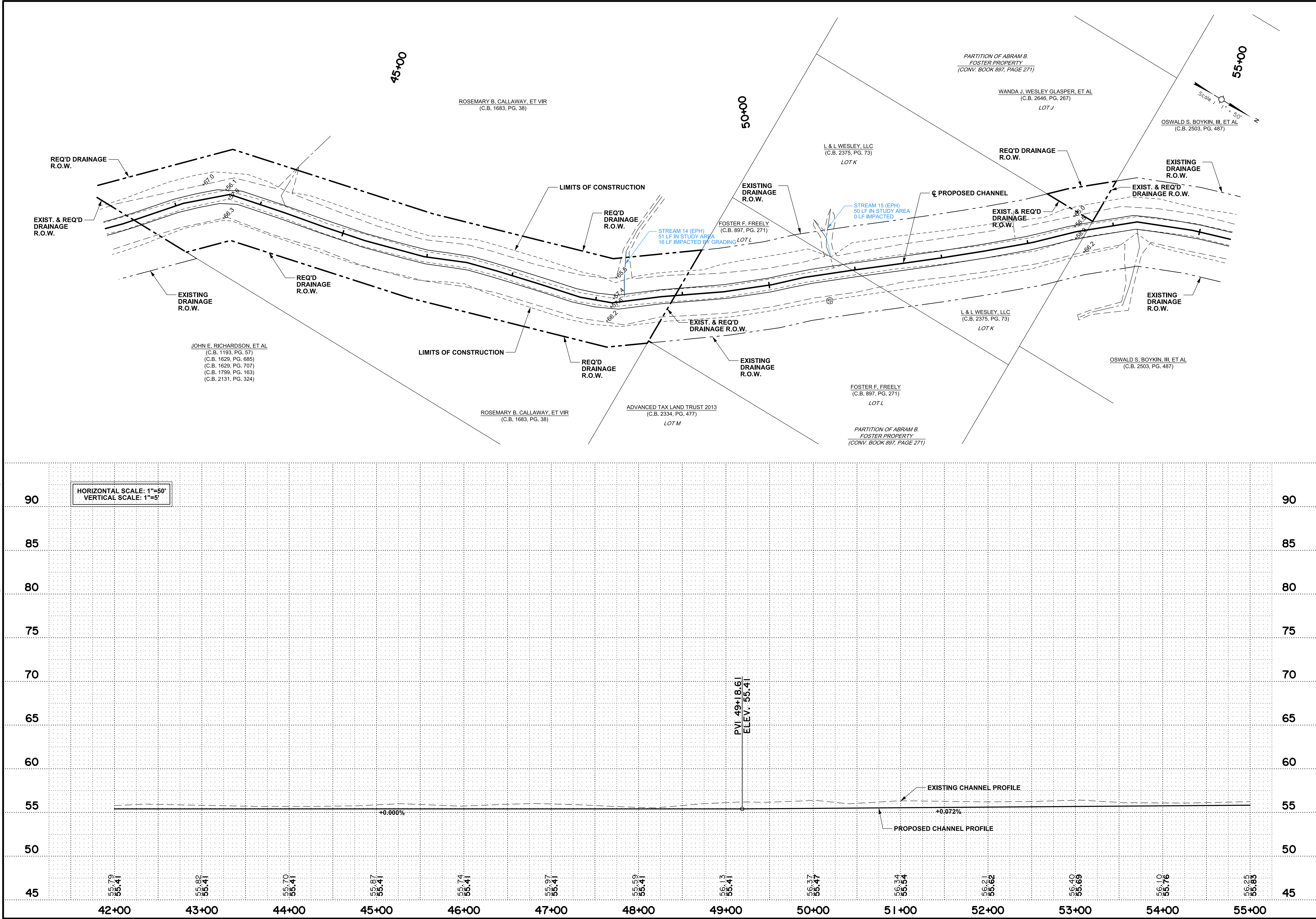


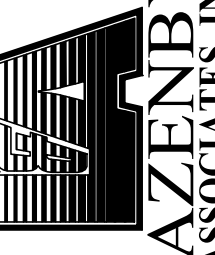
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(C.B. 2131, PG. 324)

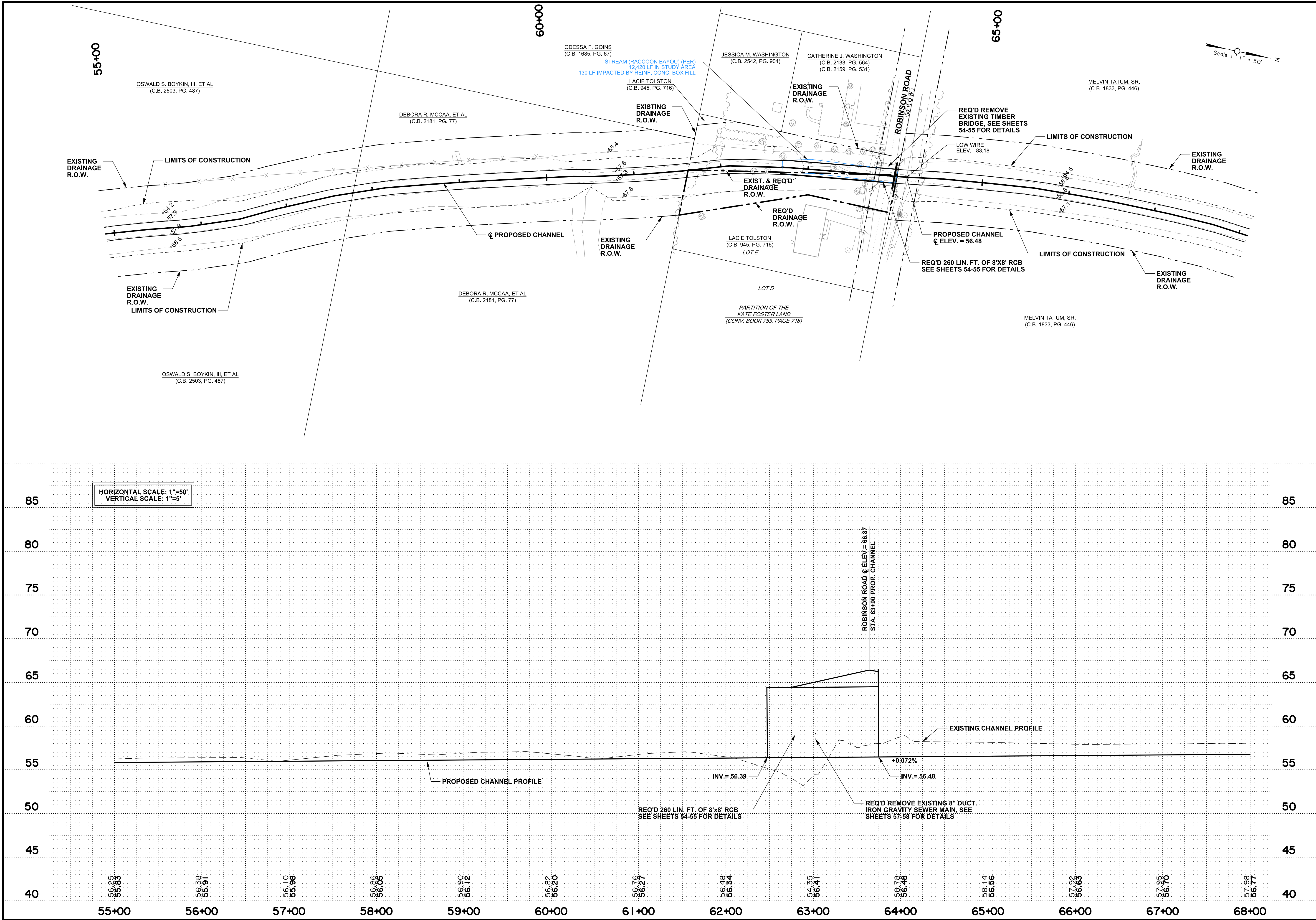
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ROSEMARY B. CALLAWAY, ET VIR
(C.B. 1683, PG. 38)

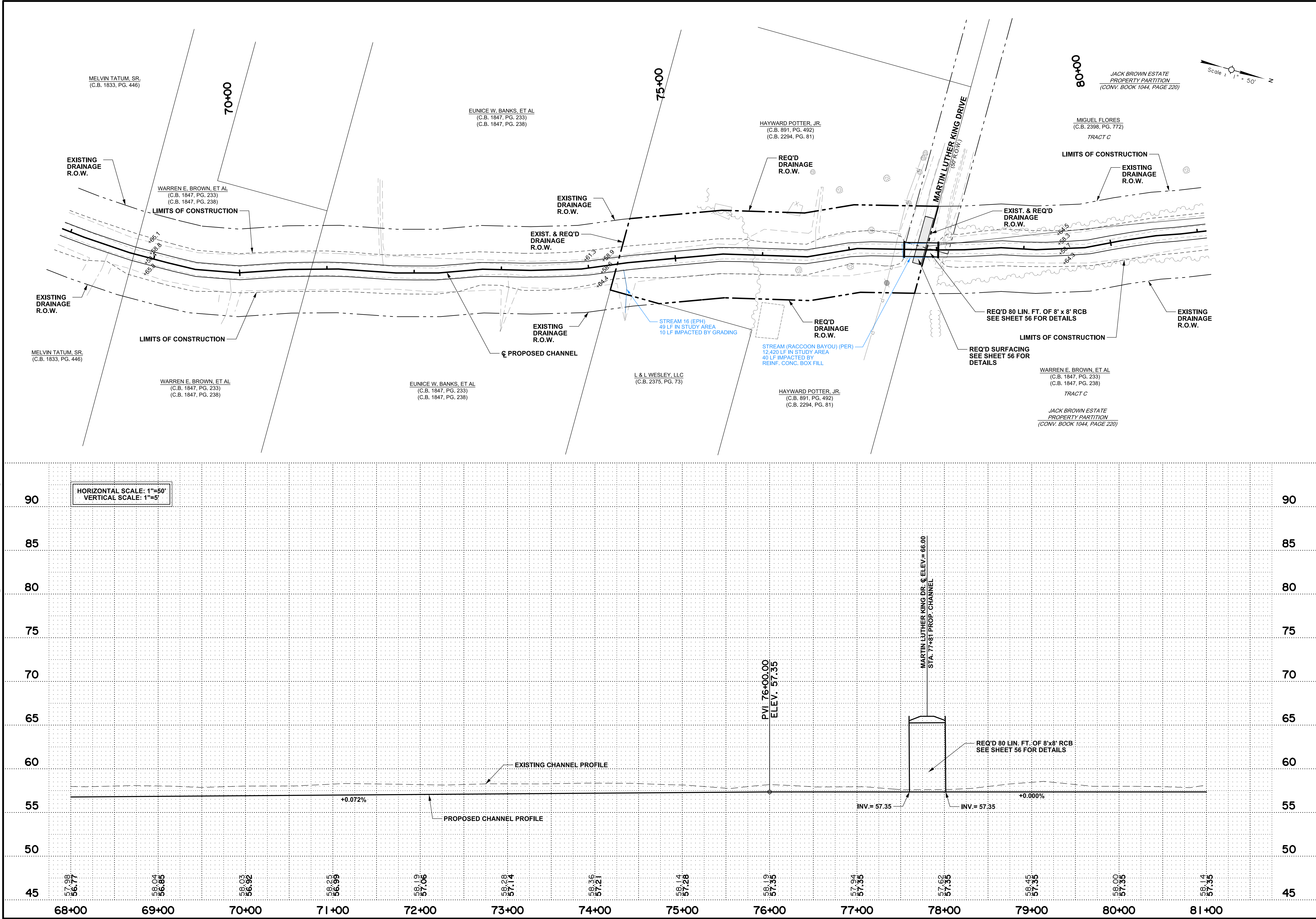
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LAZENBY & ASSOCIATES, INC.			
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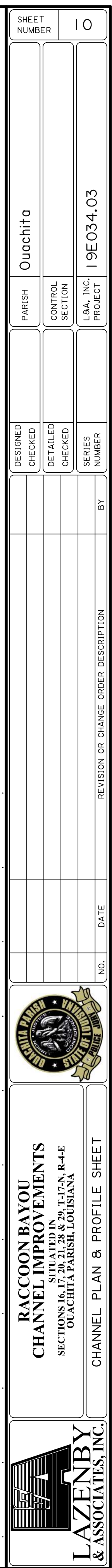
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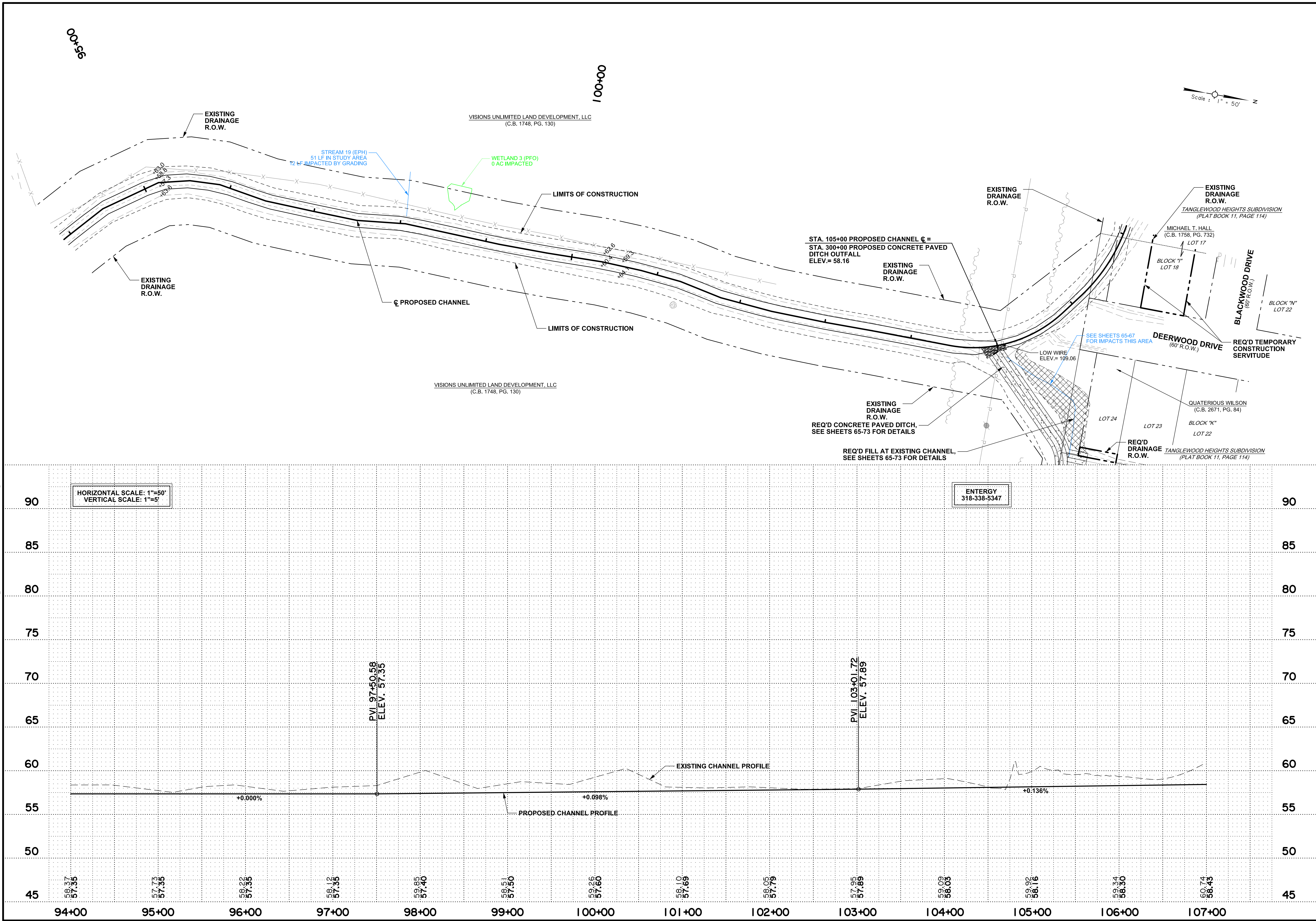


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LAZENBY & ASSOCIATES, INC.			

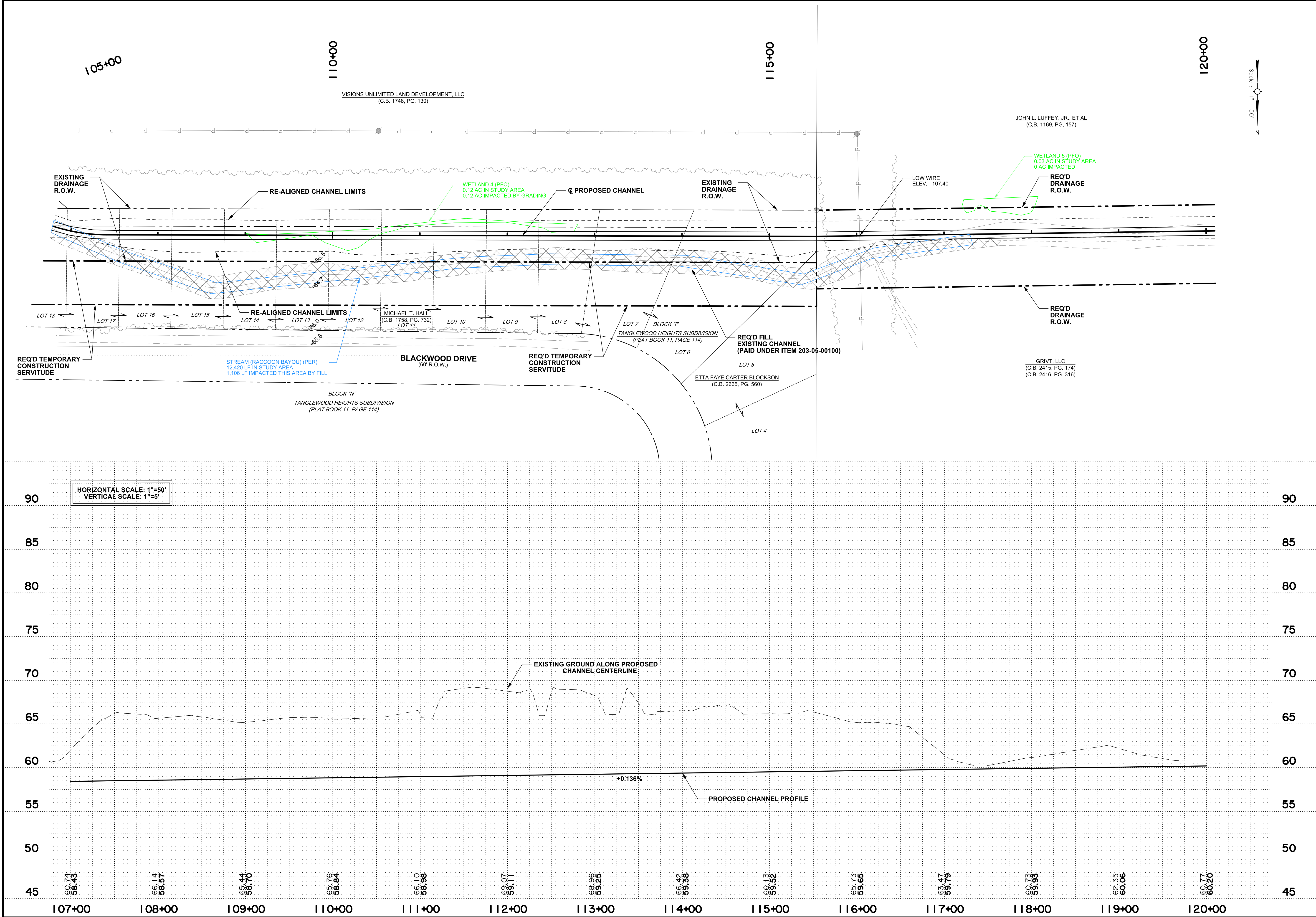


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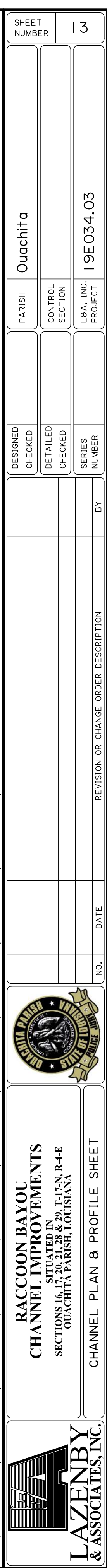


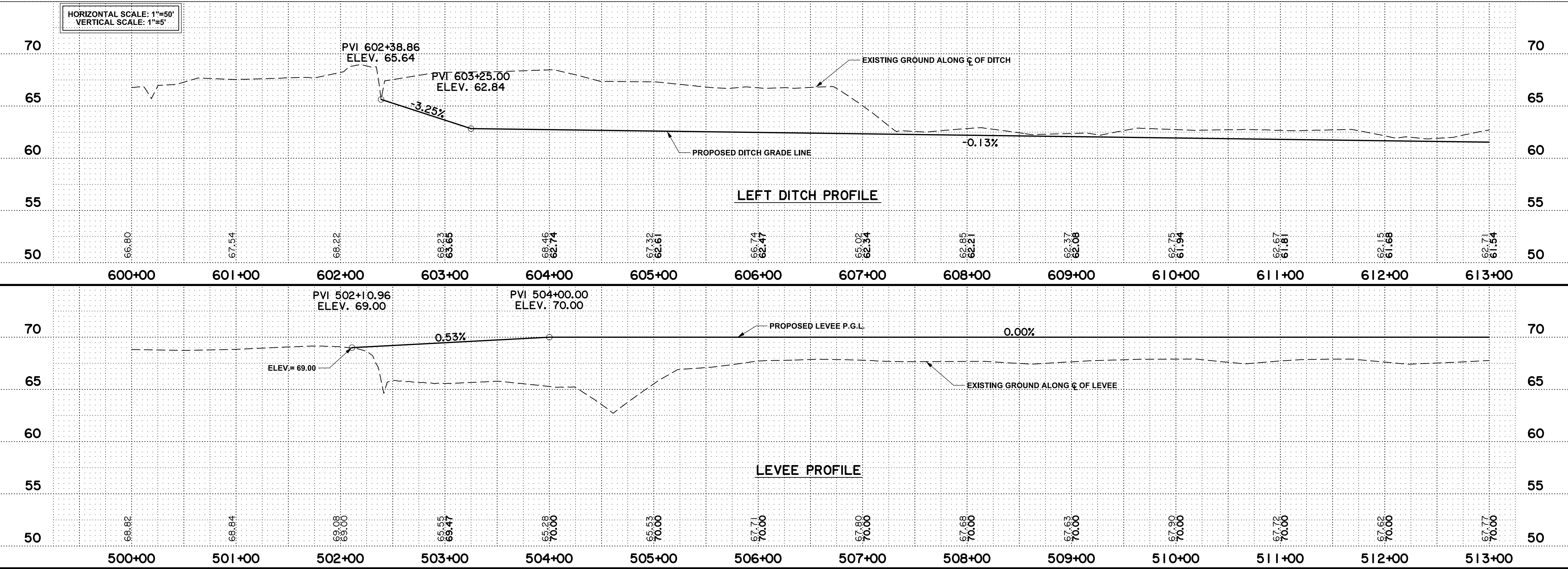
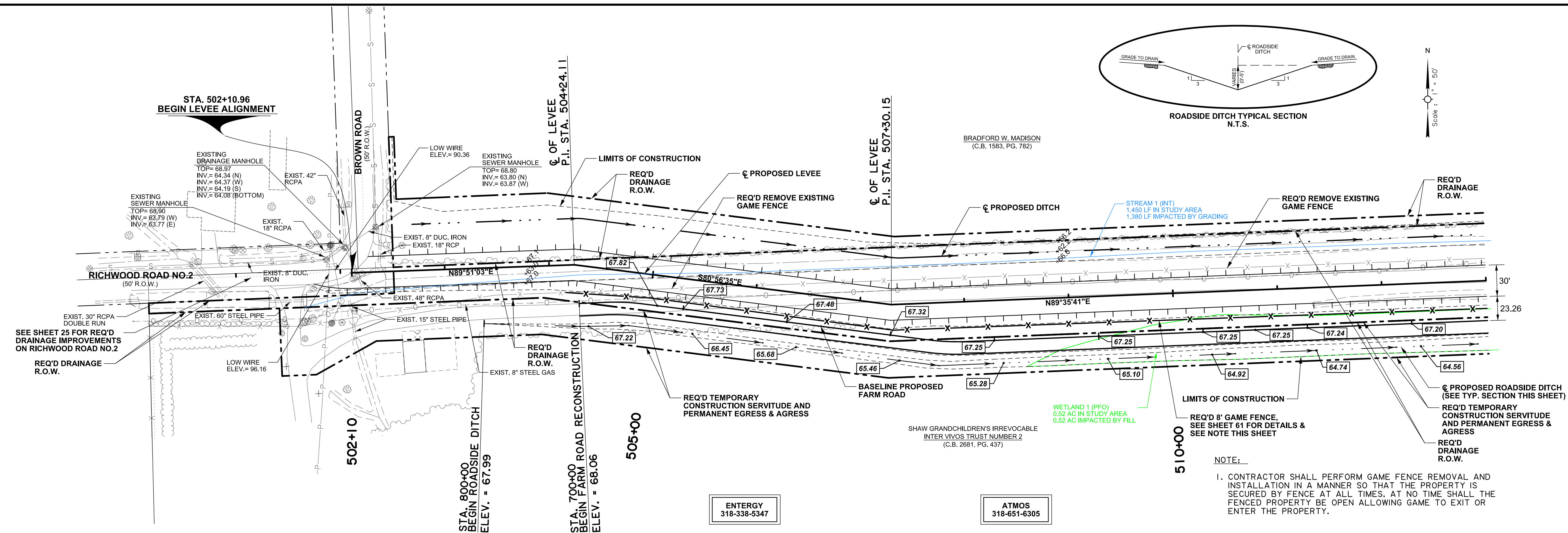


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CHANNEL PLAN & PROFILE SHEET			
LAZENBY & ASSOCIATES, INC.			



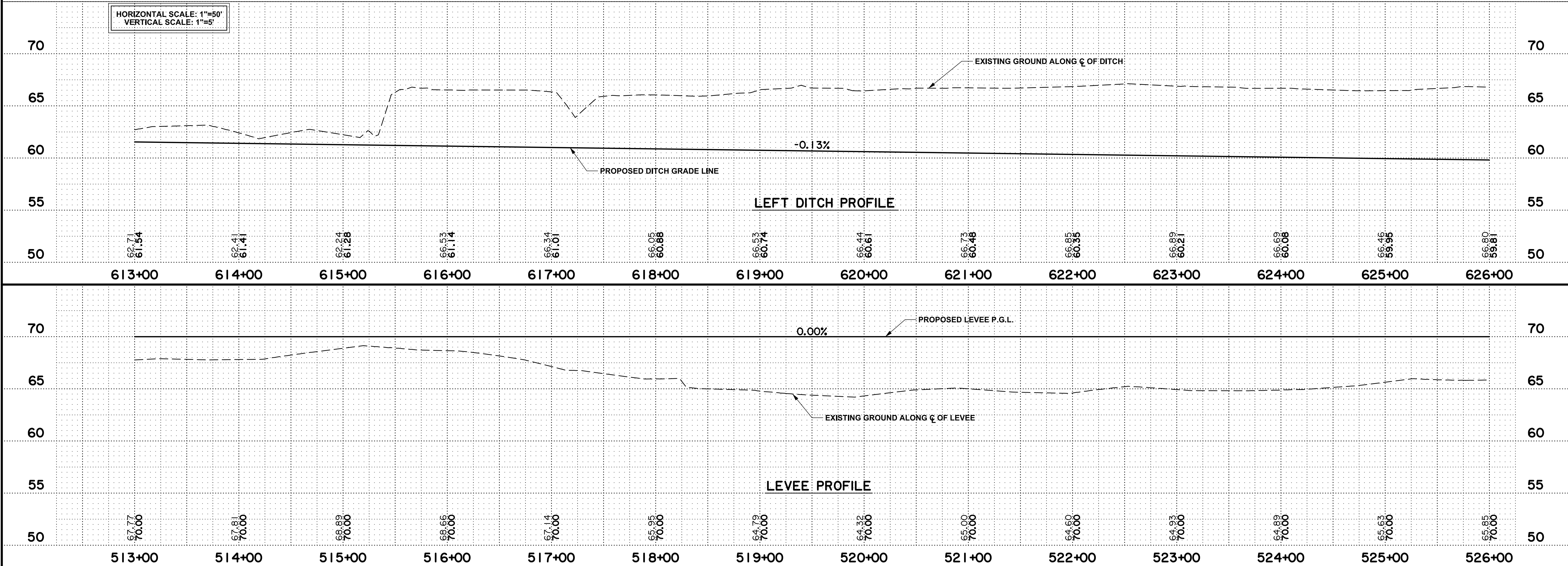
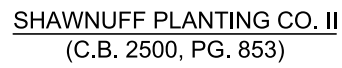
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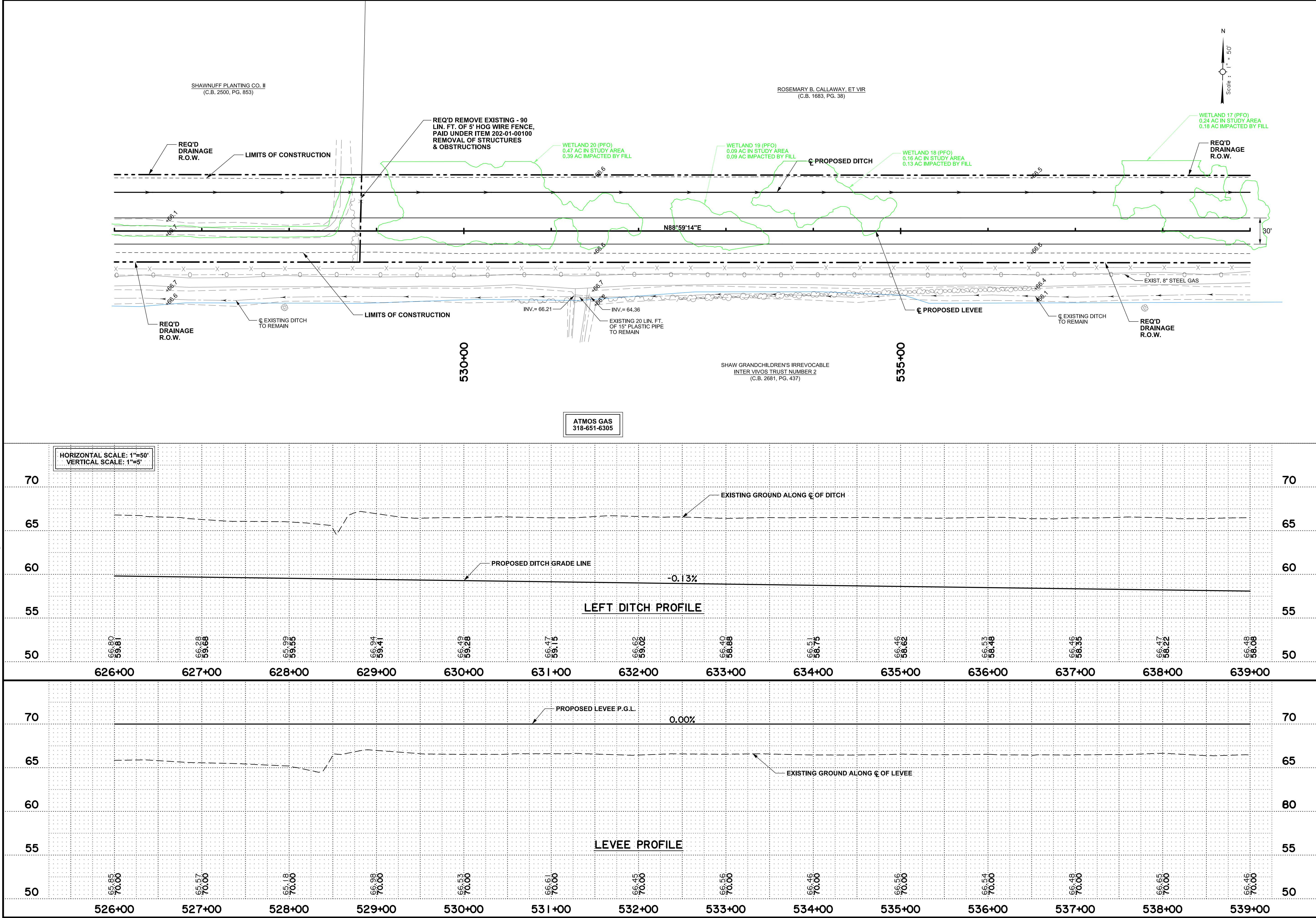




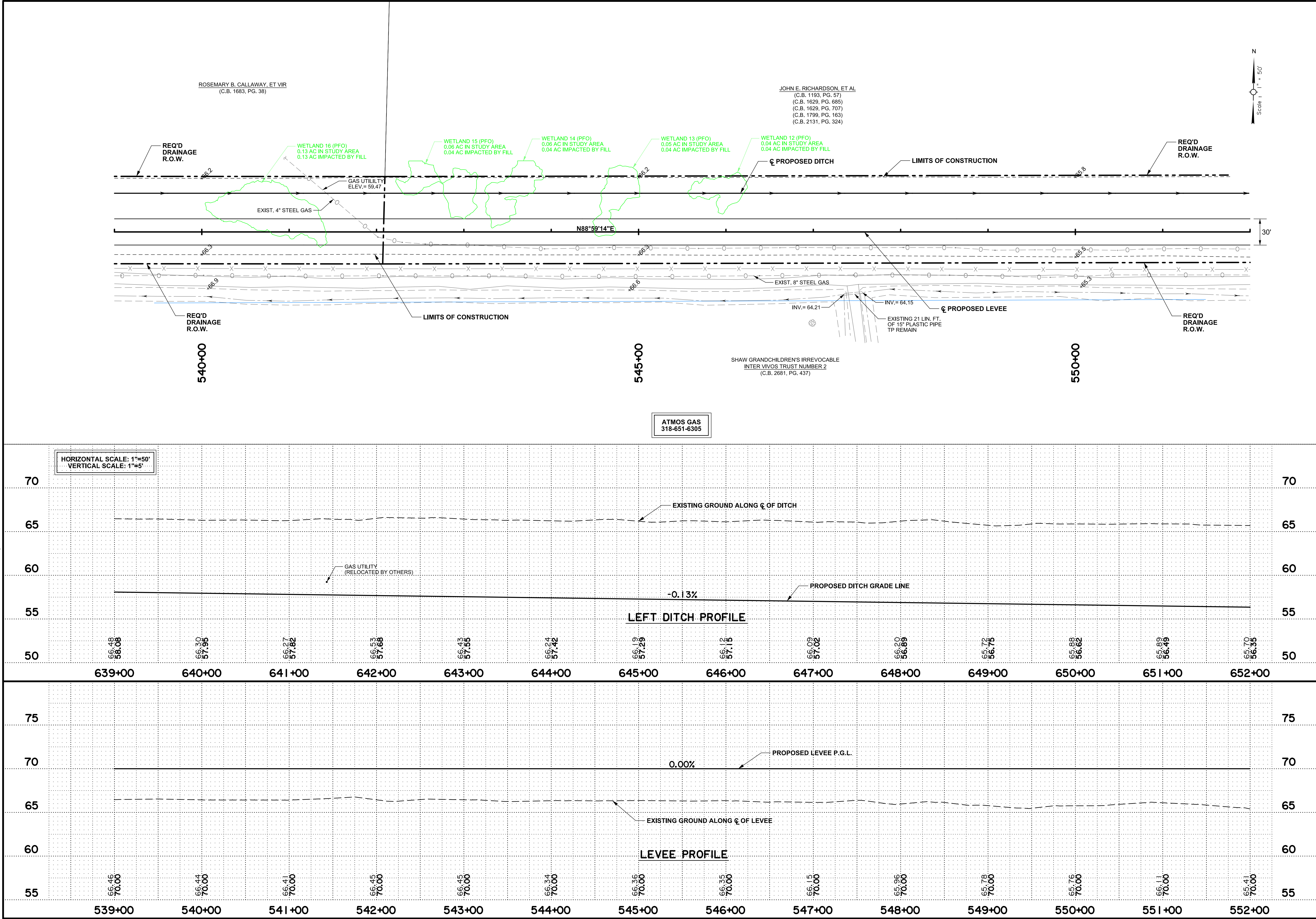
1. CONTRACTOR SHALL PERFORM GAME FENCE REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION IN A MANNER SO THAT THE PROPERTY IS SECURED BY FENCE AT ALL TIMES. AT NO TIME SHALL THE FENCED PROPERTY BE OPEN ALLOWING GAME TO EXIT OR ENTER THE PROPERTY.
2. CONTRACTOR SHALL GRADE AREA NEAR PIPE INVERTS TO DRAIN INTO THE NORTH INVERT OF THE REQ'D 2'-60" (EQUIV.) x 32' R.C.P.A.
3. CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE DOUBLE PEDESTRIAN CHAIN LINK GATE AT CONTROL STRUCTURE. PAID UNDER GAME FENCE ITEM. SEE SHEET 61 FOR DETAILS.

BRADFORD W. MADISON
(C.B. 1583, PG. 782)

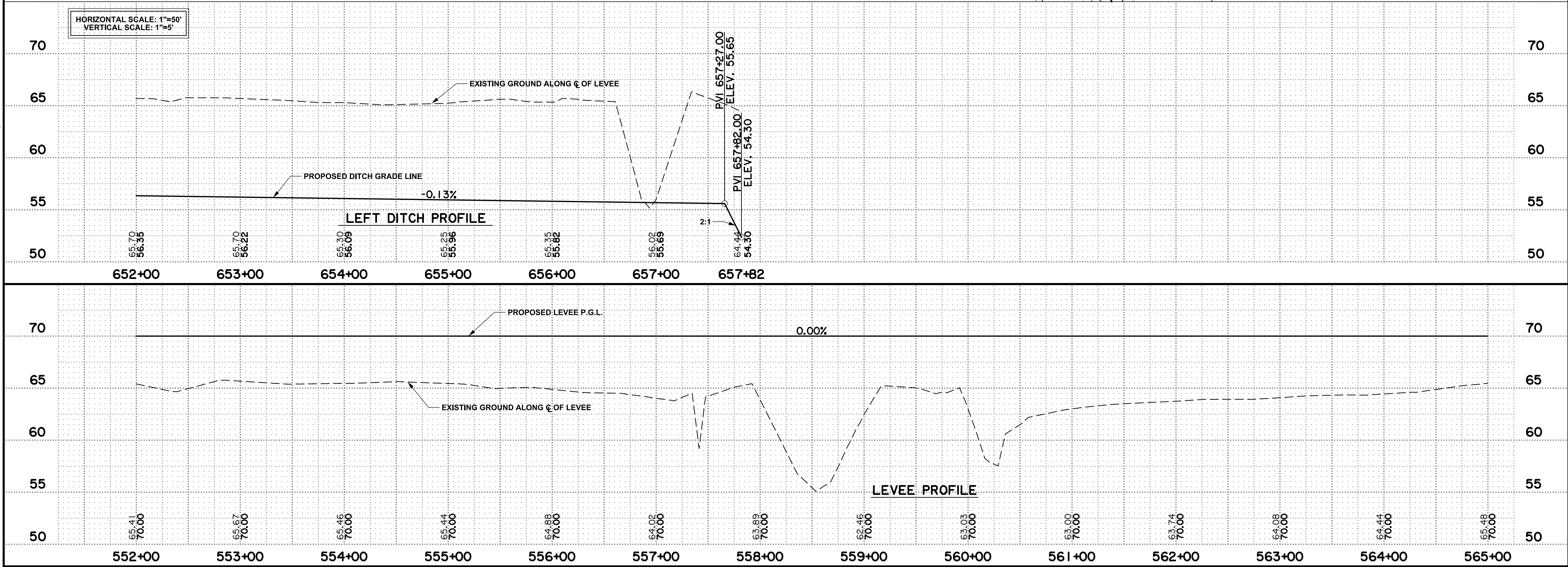
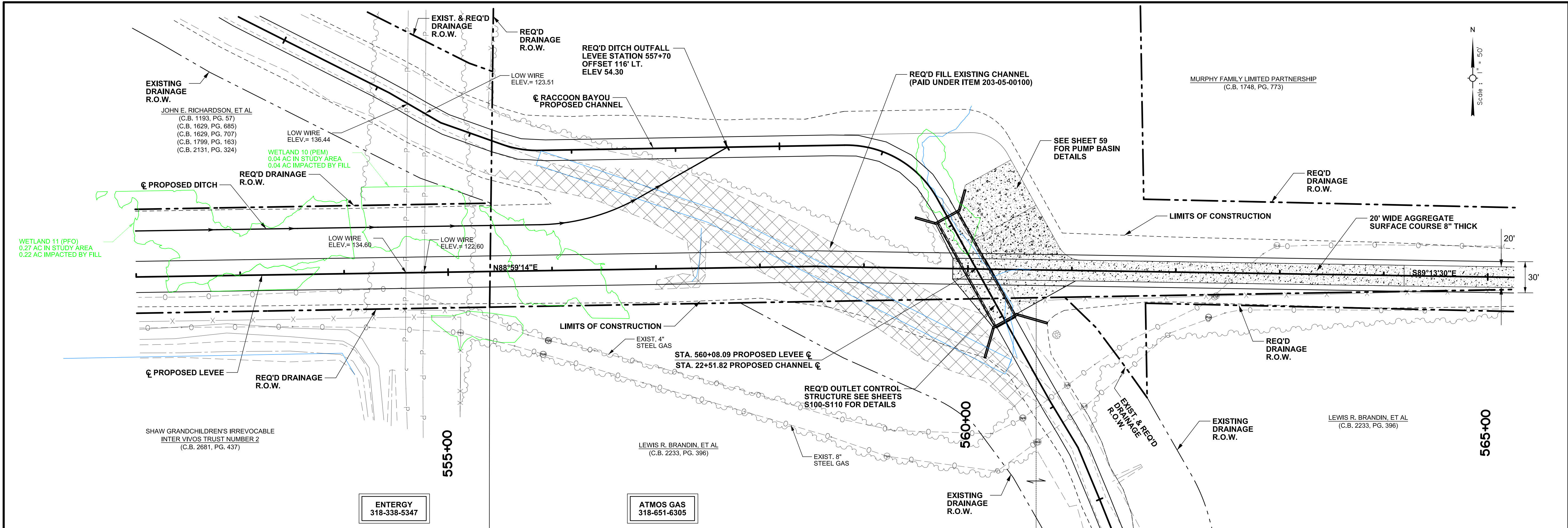




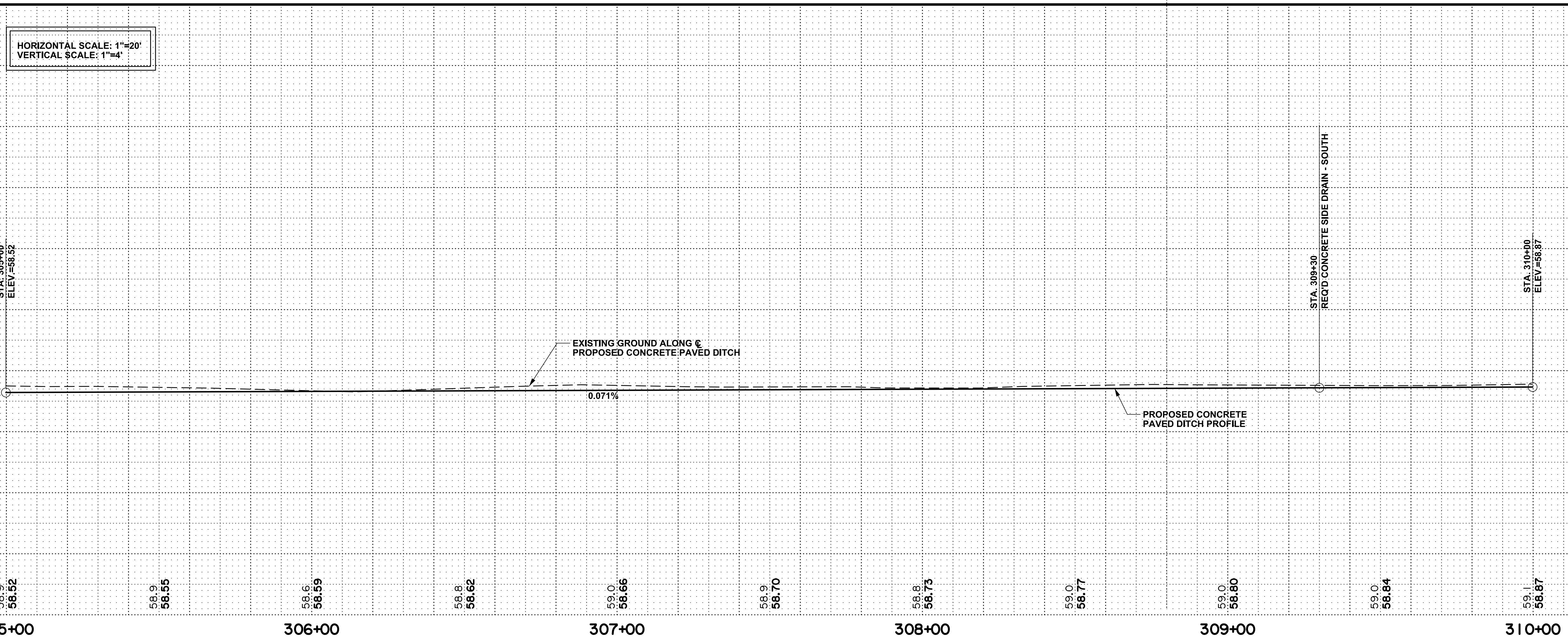
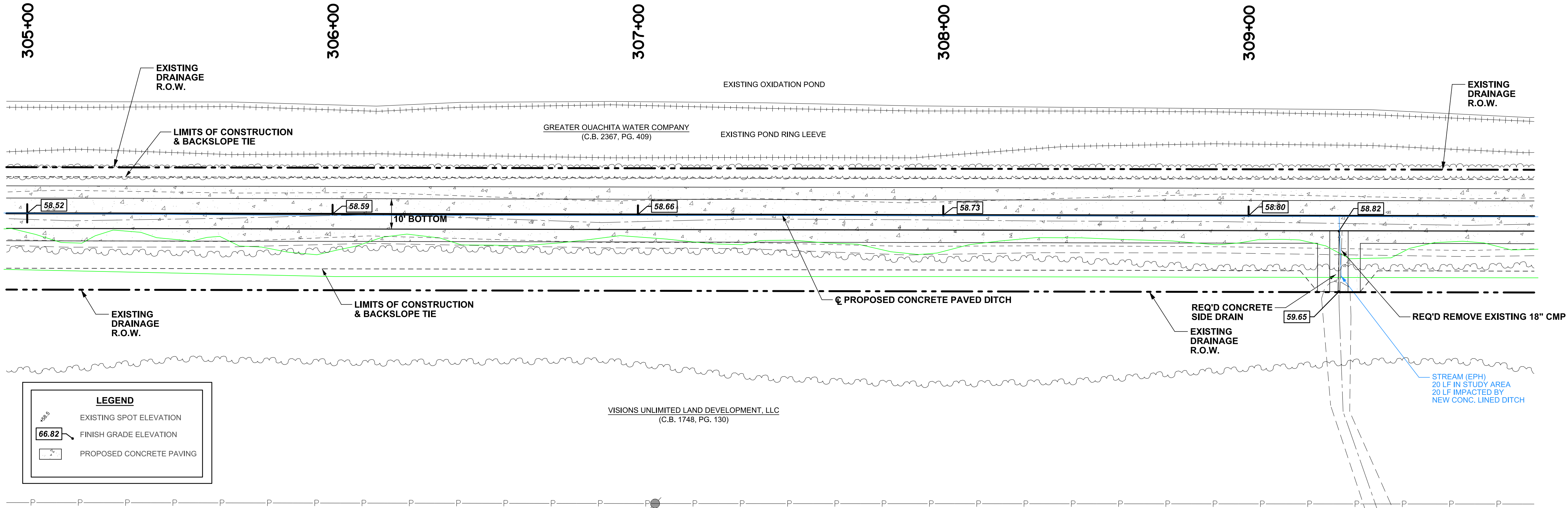
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LAZENBY & ASSOCIATES, INC.			



SHEET NUMBER		22	
PARISH		Ouachita	
CONTROL SECTION			
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LAZENBY & ASSOCIATES, INC.			
LEVEE PLAN & PROFILE SHEET			

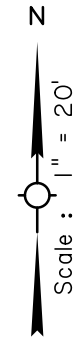
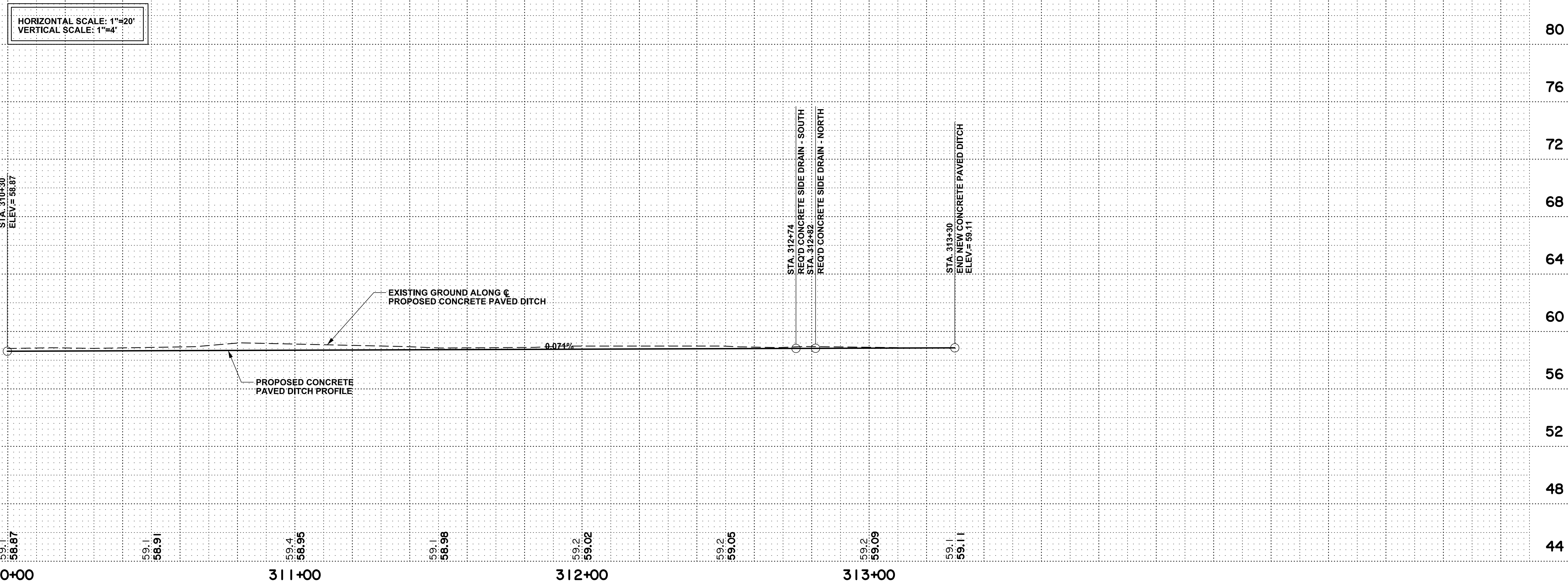
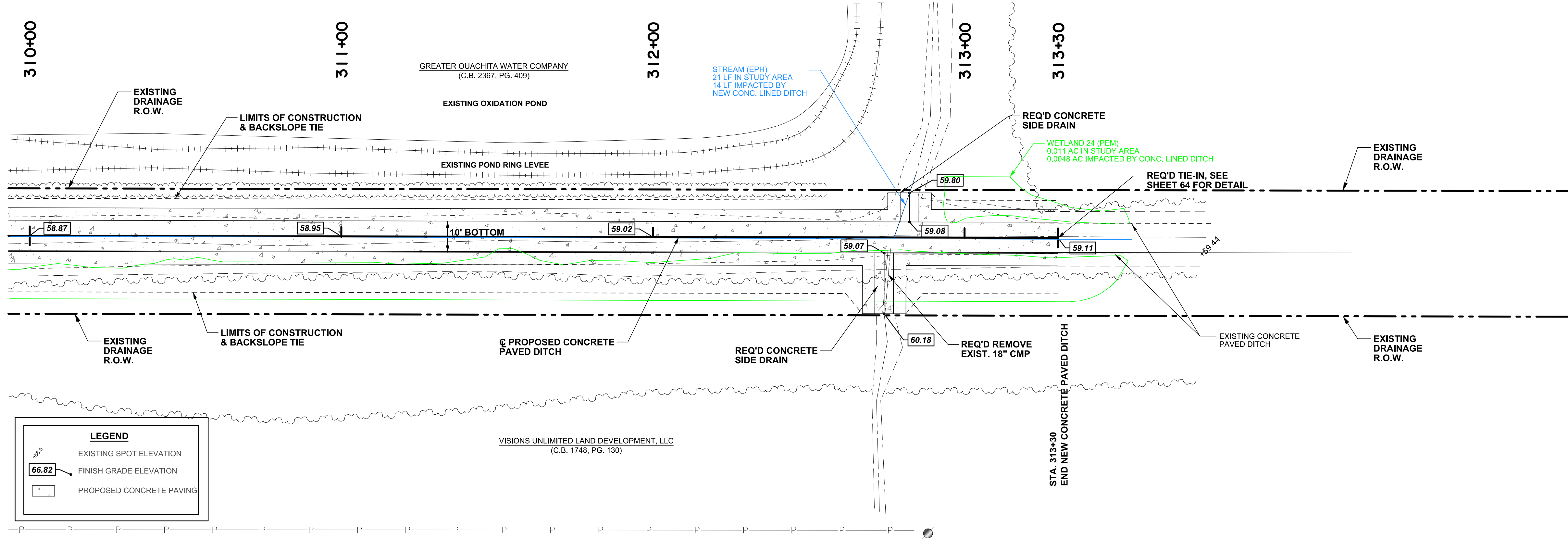


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CONTROL SECTION	
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RACCOON BAYOU CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS SITUATED IN SECTIONS 16, 17, 20, 21, 28 & 29, T-17-N, R-4-E QUACHITA PARISH, LOUISIANA	
CONCRETE PAVED DITCH PLAN & PROFILE SHEET	
LAZENBY & ASSOCIATES, INC.	

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PARISH	Quachita	
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CONCRETE PAVED DITCH PLAN & PROFILE SHEET		
 LAZENBY & ASSOCIATES, INC.		