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PENNSYLVANIA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

EAST AVENUE BOAT LAUNCH RAMP PARKING AREA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FINAL REPORT

CITY OF ERIE
ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

PREPARED BY:

THE ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
SEPTEMBER 30, 1989

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1989

Coastal Zone

Funded and Coordinated through Department of Environmental Resources, Office of Resources Management, Bureau of Resources Management, Division of Coastal Zone Management and the Erie County Department of Planning.

This project was financed in part through a Federal Coastal Zone Management Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources with funds provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

GC 1021.P4 E27 1989

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1. PROJECT LOCATION

The East Avenue Boat Launch Ramp Facility is located on the lakefront at the foot of East Avenue in the northeast section of the City of Erie (see Project Location Map). The site on which the facility is located is approximately one (1) acre in size and is presently under the ownership of the Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority. The site itself is part of a larger 52+ acre parcel which is primarily a water lot extending out into Lake Erie. It is bounded by Lake Erie on the north; the Dunn Boulevard right-of-way on the east; the Frank Jarecki property on the south; and the Erie Coke Corporation property on the west (see Site Map). The site is essentially level and open with wooded areas to the west and south and a small stream to the east. The areas surrounding the site are primarily made up of residential and heavy industrial uses. The Erie Coke Corporation is located on lands just west of the site and one of the City of Erie's largest industrial employers, International Paper Company, is located about a half mile east of the boat ramp facility. It should be noted that this site has been identified as a Geographic Area of Particular Concern within the Lake Erie Coastal Zone as included in the State's adopted Coastal Zone Management Program.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

The East Avenue Boat Ramp is a popular and well-positioned launching area which provides boaters with access to various recreational activities on Lake Erie and Presque Isle Bay. The facility is open to the general public and no fees are charged for use of the ramp. The Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority originally constructed the facility in 1975. Specific activities included:

1. Construction of an access road from the foot of East Avenue to the lakefront.

2. Construction of a gravel parking area.

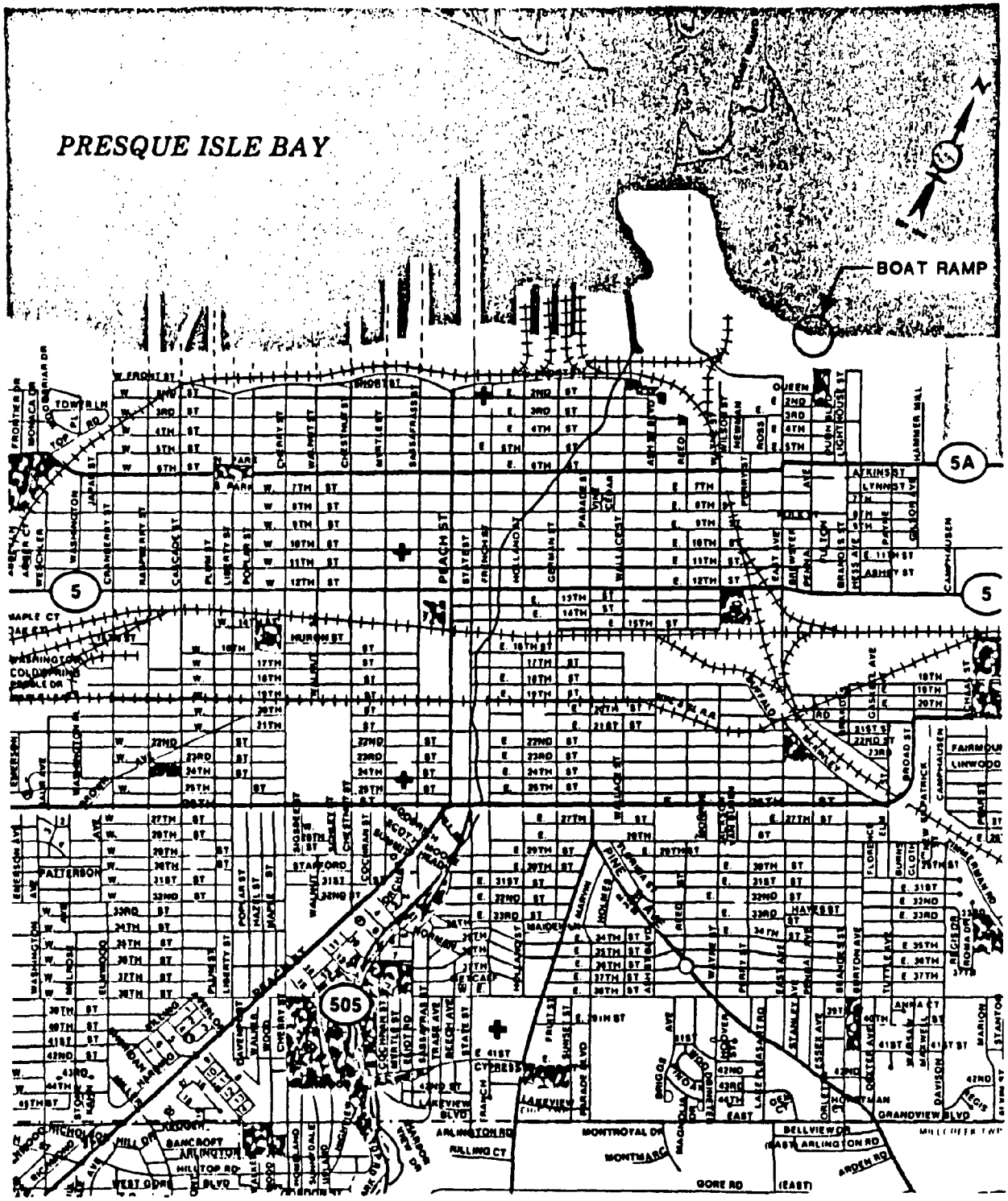
3. Construction of a rubble mound groin to protect the boats being launched from wind-induced wave action. The groin was constructed over a three (3) to four (4) year period as concrete became available from demolition projects throughout the City.

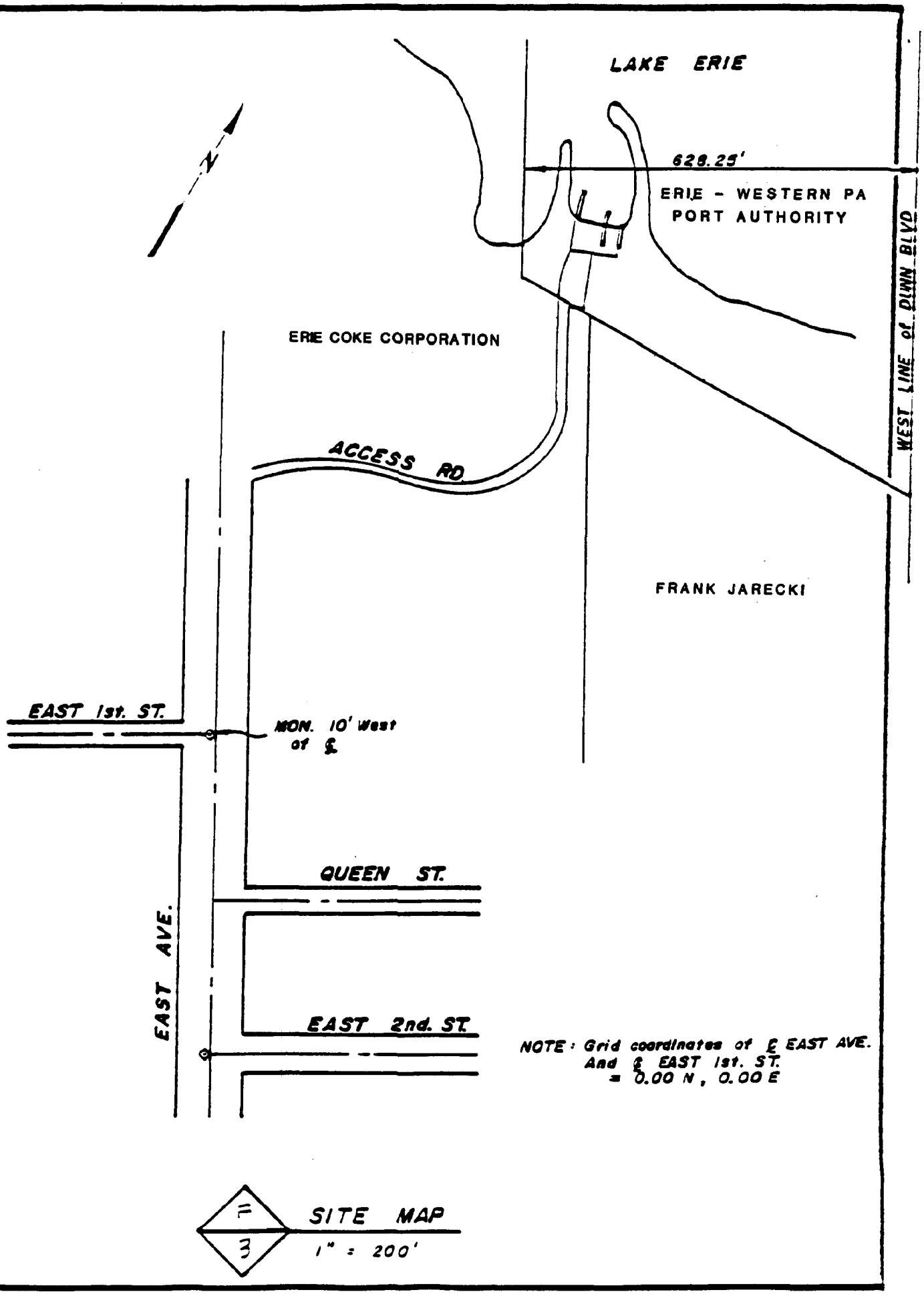
4. Construction of a boat ramp.

5. Installation of courtesy docks.

During the first few years after construction, the boat ramp facility appeared to be holding up pretty well against the wind-induced wave action of Lake Erie. However, it was only a matter of time before the facility began to deteriorate because of the inadequate protection provided by the groin structure.

EAST AVENUE BOAT LAUNCH RAMP PARKING AREA IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT LOCATION MAP




LAKE ERIE
628.25'
ERIE - WESTERN PA
PORT AUTHORITY
WEST LINE of DUNN BLVD
ERIE COKE CORPORATION
ACCESS RD
FRANK JARECKI
EAST 1st. ST.
MON. 10' West
of ℄
QUEEN ST.
EAST AVE.
EAST 2nd. ST.
NOTE: Grid coordinates of ℄ EAST AVE.
And ℄ EAST 1st. ST.
= 0.00 N, 0.00 E
F
3
SITE MAP
1" = 200'

When CZM announced that grant funds were available for construction projects in FY 1985, the City of Erie and the Port Authority developed plans for undertaking extensive renovations at the boat launch facility. The first phase, known as the East Avenue Boat Launch Ramp Rehabilitation Project, was completed during 1986 and 1987 with funds provided by CZM, the Port Authority and the PA Department of Community Affairs. The following is a list of activities which were completed as part of this project effort:

1. Construction of a new boat launch ramp.

2. Repaving the approach to the ramp.

3. Replacement of the floating courtesy docks.

4. Extension of the rubble mound groin to provide better protection.

When FY 1988 funds became available, the City of Erie and the Port Authority decided to submit an application in order to undertake a number of additional improvements at the East Avenue Boat Launch Ramp Facility.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

The construction activities associated with the East Avenue Boat Launch Ramp Parking Area Improvements Project were started in August 1989 and completed in September 1989 with funds provided by the PA Department of Environmental Resources (CZM) and the Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority. The total project cost was $36,002 with the CZM share being $21,600. Specific activities which took place during the completion of this project effort included:

1. Final Contract Documents and Engineering Drawings - Completed by the City of Erie's Engineering Office in June 1988.

2. Bid Opening - The City of Erie delayed the bid opening for this project in the hopes that they could complete additional rehabilitation work on the boat ramp facility (i.e. dredging, ramp improvements, etc.) prior to paving the parking areas. However, the City of Erie experienced difficulties in obtaining the necessary permits for dredging and disposing the silt which had accumulated in the boat launch area. With the CZM contract deadline approaching, the City of Erie decided that the parking area improvements could not be delayed any longer. An official bid opening was held at the City of Erie Municipal Building on August 2, 1989. The low bidder was Foster Grading Company.

3. Project Administration - During the next few weeks, the City of Erie, DCZM and the Erie County Department of Planning executed the contracts and finalized all paperwork in conjunction with the project. DCZM issued a notice to proceed with the construction activities in mid-August 1989.

4. Initial Construction - Foster Grading Company started construction activities in late August 1989.

5. Change Order - Since Foster Grading's bid was approximately $8,600 less that the total funds available in the project budget, the City of Erie submitted a proposal to DCZM requesting approval of additional parking area improvements. The proposal includes some additional paving work and the expansion of the parking area on the west side of the access road, just south of the Port Authority property. (It should be noted that the expanded parking area was to be constructed within the City of Erie's access easement on the Erie Coke Corporation property.) DCZM subsequently approved a change order for the additional work items.

6. Completion of Construction Activities - Foster Grading Company completed the project (including the change order items) in September of 1989. The following is a list of specific improvements:

   - Construction of asphalt parking areas (approximately 19,150 square feet).

   - Construction of a gravel parking area (approximately 5,200 square feet).

   - Repaving the northern end of the access road and approach to the ramp (approximately 5,875 square feet.).

   - Site grading and seeding the area immediately west of the boat launch ramp (approximately 3,500 square feet).

4. PRE-CONSTRUCTION PHOTOGRAPHS

EAST AVENUE BOAT LAUNCH RAMP
PARKING AREA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
APRIL 1989

1. Northward view along the existing access road.

2. Northward view of the access road as it enters the boat ramp approach area.

3. Southeast view of the access road as it enters the boat ramp approach area.

4. Southward view of the access road and existing parking area from the boat launch ramp.

5. Northward view of the boat launch facility.

6. Westward view of the boat launch ramp.

7. Southward view of the boat launch facility from the end of the groin structure.

8. Northward view along the groin structure.

9. Eastward view along the beach at the foot of East Avenue.

10. Southward view of the existing parking area on the east side of the access road.

11. Southward view of the existing parking area on the west side of the access road.

12. Northward view of the existing parking area on the west side of the access road.

13. Eastward view of the existing parking area on the east side of the access road.

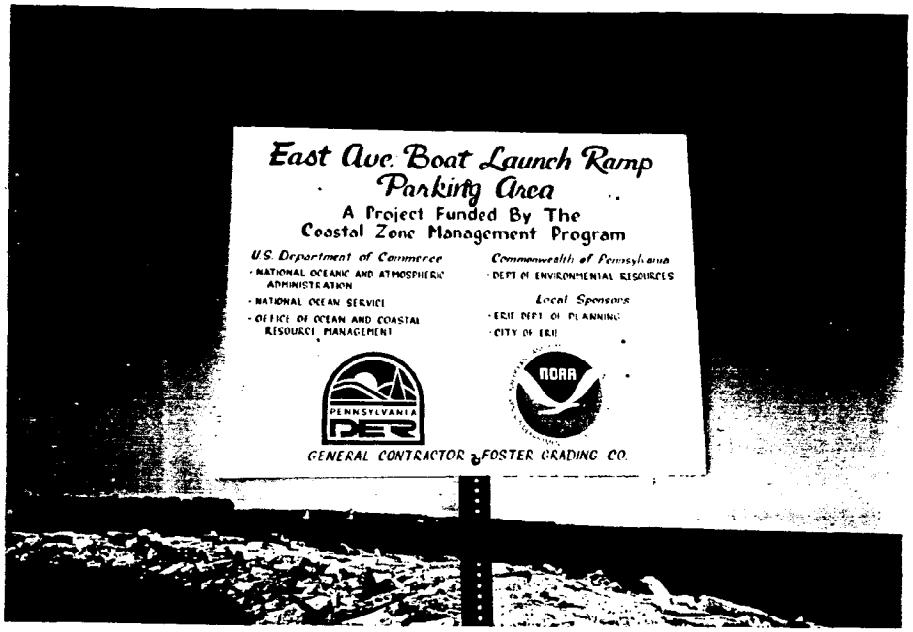
14. Westward view of the existing parking area on the east side of the access road.

15. Southwest view of the existing parking area.

16. Westward view along the south side of the existing parking area, adjacent to the Jarecki property.

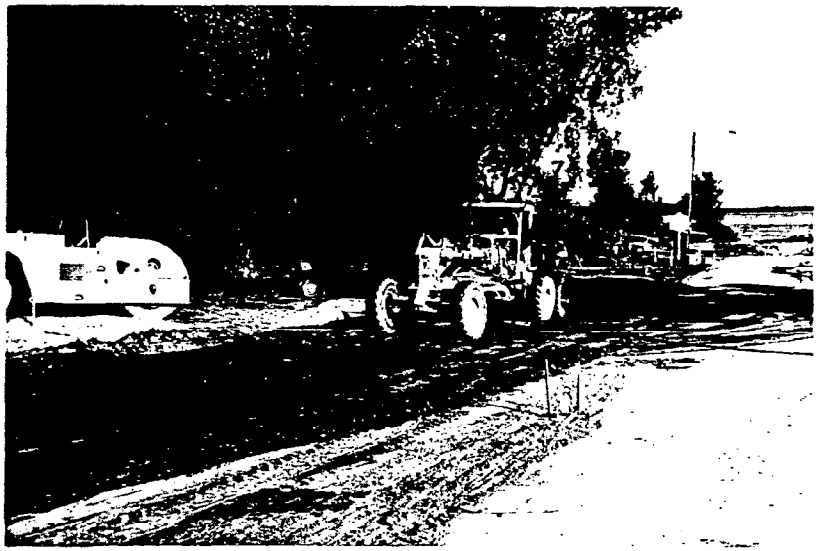
5. CONSTRUCTION PHOTOGRAPHS

EAST AVENUE BOAT LAUNCH RAMP
PARKING AREA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
AUGUST 1989



17. Construction sign which was erected at the project site.

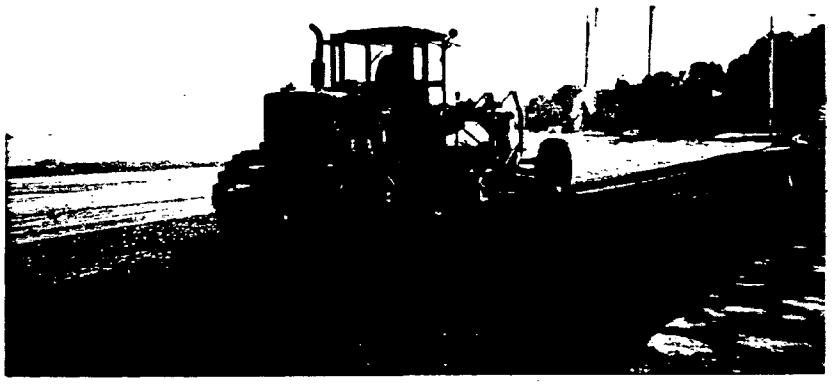
18. The area on the west side of the access road is cleared for additional parking.



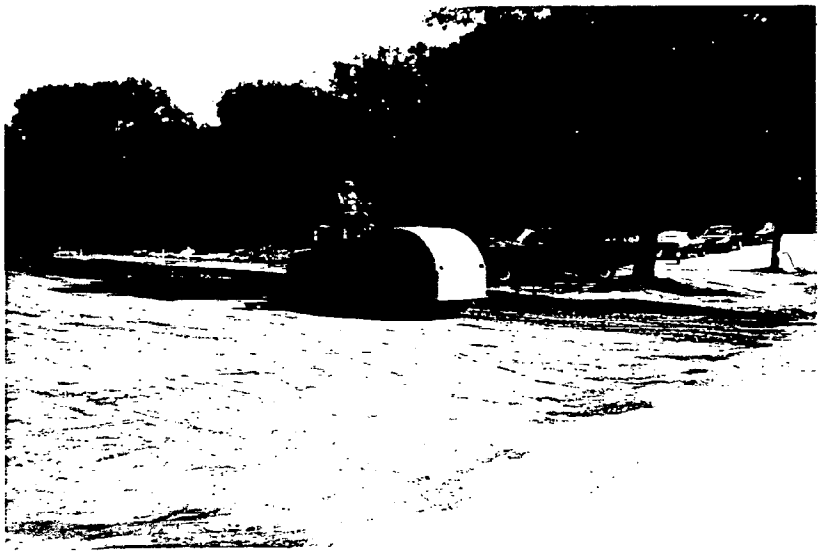
19. Foster Grading begins preliminary grading of the parking area on the west side of the access road.

20. Expansion of the parking area on the west side of the access road.

21. Stakes are placed along the south side of the parking area, adjacent to the Jarecki property.

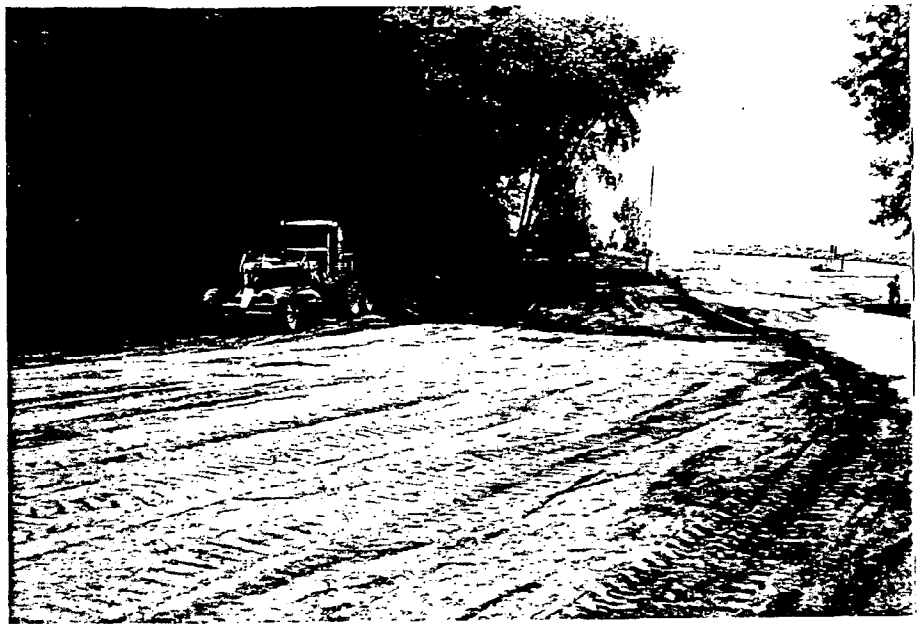


22. Workers grading the parking area on the east side of the access road.



23. Steam rollers compact the subbase for the parking area.

24. Westward view of the parking area during construction.



25. Northward view of the graded parking area on the west side of the access road.

Aug. 1989

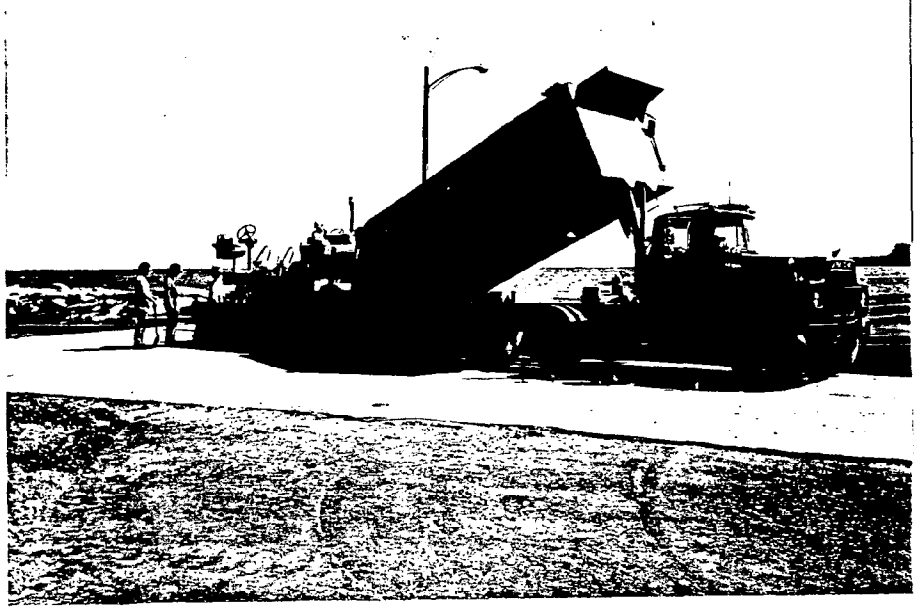
26. Southward view of the graded parking area on the west side of the access road.

27. Workers truck in fill material to stabilize the west side of the parking area.

28. Workers use steam rollers to compact the fill material.

29. The area just to the west of the boat launch ramp is graded and seeded.

30. Eastward view of the parking area on the east side of the access road upon completion of final grading.



31. Asphalt is trucked in during paving activities.

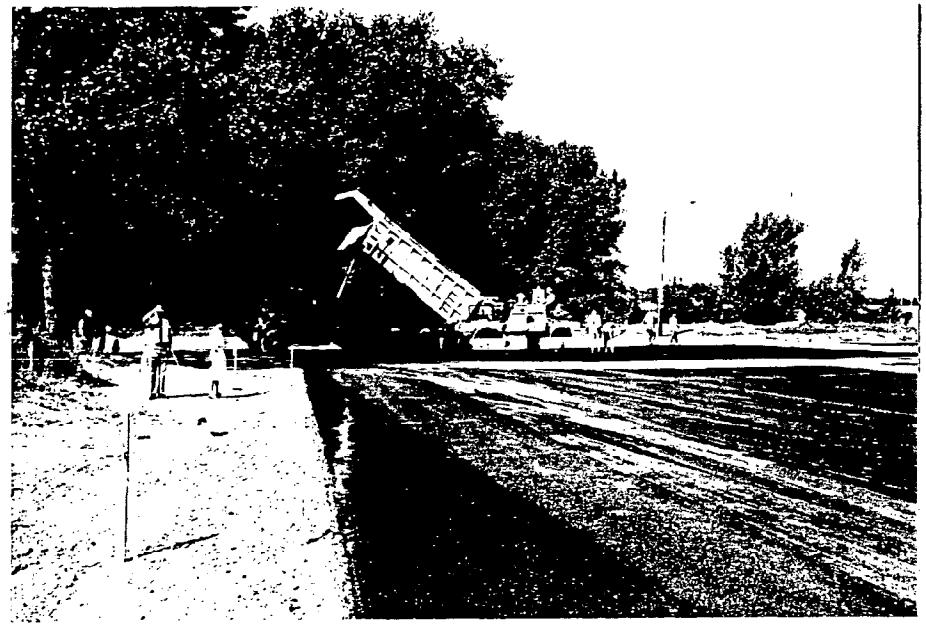
32. Workers paving the approach to the boat launch ramp.

Aug. 1989

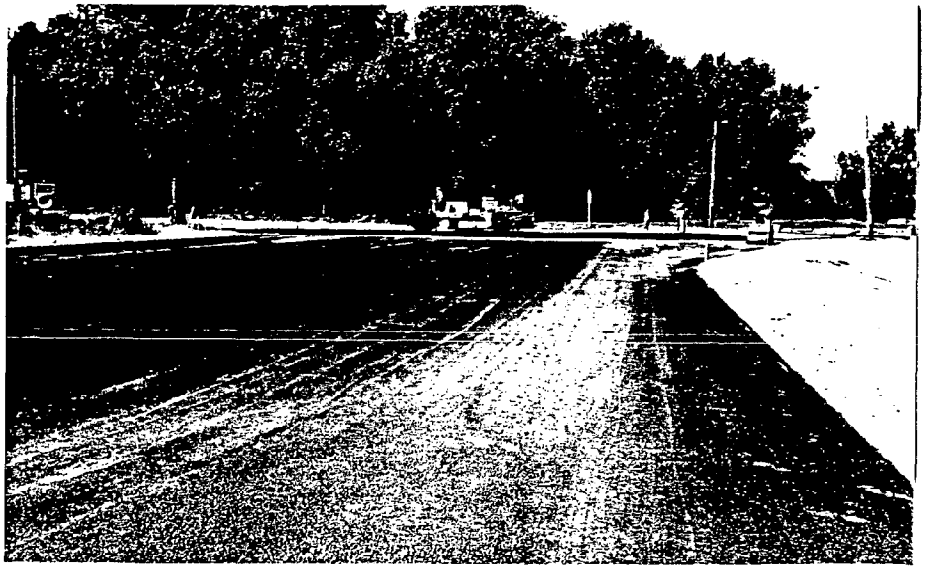
33. Workers paving the lower section of the access road.

34. Steam rollers are used to compact the asphalt adjacent to the boat launch ramp.

Aug. 1989



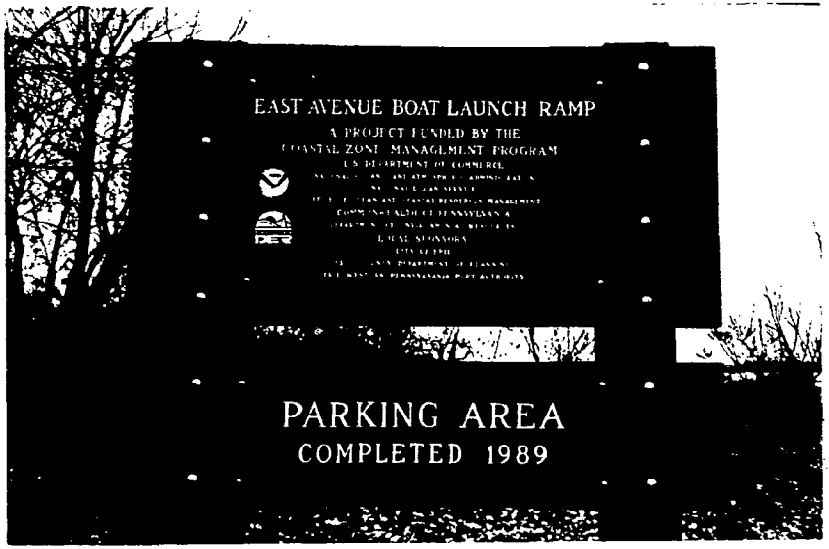
35. Federal and State CZM officials inspect the paving activities.



36. Westward view of the parking area during paving activities.

6. FINAL PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS

EAST AVENUE BOAT LAUNCH RAMP
PARKING AREA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
SEPTEMBER 1989



37. Final project sign which was erected at the project site.

Sept. 1989

38. Northward view of the access road as it enters the newly paved boat ramp approach area.

39. Southward view of the access road as it enters the boat ramp approach area.

40. Southward view of the access road and newly paved parking area from the boat launch ramp.

41. Southwest view of the boat ramp approach area. Sept. 1989

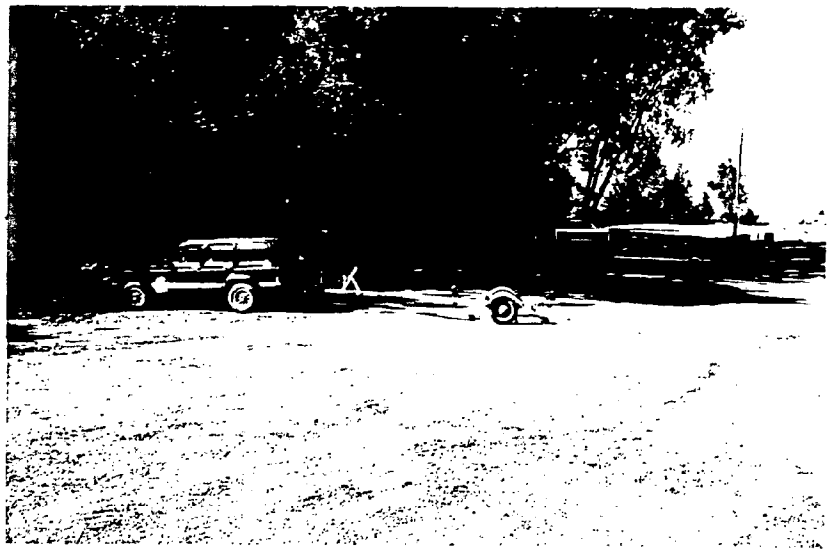
42. Northward view of the boat ramp approach area.

43. View of the drainage facilities constructed on the east side of the boat ramp.

44. Southward view of the landscaped area on the west side of the boat ramp.

45. Southward view of the paved parking area on the west side of the access road.

Sept. 1989



46. Northward view of the parking area on the west side of the access road.

47. Transition area: the northern section of the parking area is paved while the southern section is gravel.

48. Southward view of the gravel parking area on the west side of the access road.

49. Northward view of the parking area and access road.

Sept. 1989

50. View of the southernmost end of the parking area on the west side of the access road.

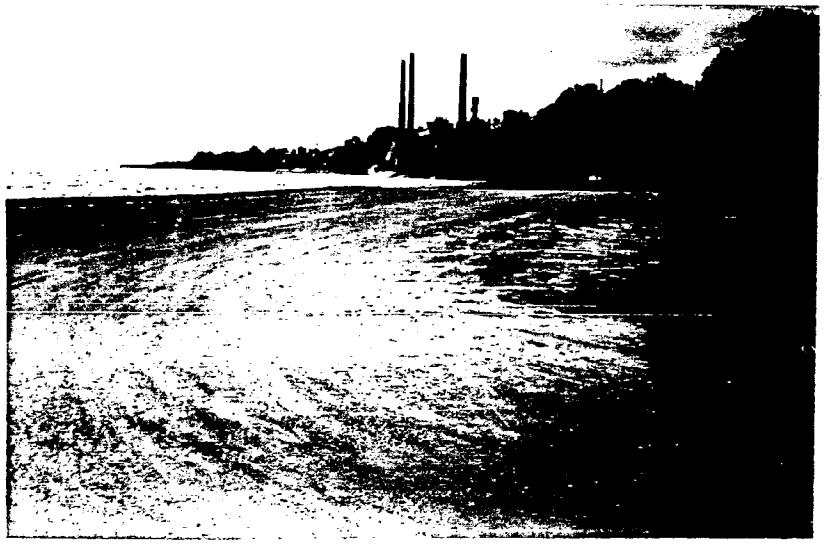
51. Eastward view of the paved parking area on the east side of the access road.

52. Westward view of the paved parking area on the east side of the access road.

53. Westward view along the south side of the parking area, adjacent to the Jarecki property. Sept. 1989

54. Westward view along the north side of the parking area, adjacent to the beach.

55. Eastward view along the north side of the parking area.



56. Eastward view along the south side of the parking area.

7. PERMITS

The City of Erie did not have to obtain permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Pennsylvania Bureau of Dams and Waterways Management for the East Avenue Boat Launch Ramp Parking Area Improvements Project.

8. AS-BUILT DRAWINGS

(PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT A)

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