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Before the
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

SEMINOLE GULF RAILWAY, L.P.

PETITION FOR EXEMPTION OF ABANDONMENT
FROM REGULATION
PURSUANT TO
49 C.F.R. §1152.60

SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Docket No. AB-400 (3X)

ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORIC REPORT

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Public Record

ERIC M. HOCKY
GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.
Four Penn Center
Suite 200
1600 JFK Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 563-9400
Attorney for
Seminole Gulf Railway, L.P.

Dated: November 19, 2003

Before the
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD



SEMINOLE GULF RAILWAY, L.P.

PETITION FOR EXEMPTION OF ABANDONMENT
FROM REGULATION
PURSUANT TO
49 C.F.R. §1152.60

SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Docket No. AB-400 (3X)

ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORIC REPORT

Seminole Gulf Railway, L.P. ("Applicant" or "SGLR") will be filing a verified petition of exemption for abandonment on or about December 11, 2003. This report is being filed in connection therewith in accordance with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§1105.7 and 1105.8. To prepare this report Applicant consulted with various local, state and federal agencies. See the letters attached as Exhibit A and the written responses attached as Exhibit B. There have been no oral responses to date. Based on these attachments, Applicant states as follows:

A. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT
(49 C.F.R. §1105.7)

1. **Proposed action and alternatives**

Applicant proposes to abandon its line of railroad which runs 12.43 miles between milepost SW 892 outside the city limits of the City of Sarasota and milepost SW 904.4 near the City of Venice, Florida.¹ The rail line is all located in Sarasota County, Florida. See Exhibit C (topographical map of the line to be abandoned). No service has been provided on this line by Applicant since March 2002. SGLR, together with the underlying landowner CSX Transportation, Inc., has granted The Trust for Public Land an option to acquire the rail line for conversion to a trail. The Trust for Public Land will be working with Sarasota County to convert the rail line into a trail. As such, SGLR does not have any current plans to salvage the rail or materials. SGLR believes this is a reasonable alternative use of the rail line.

2. **Effects on transportation system**

Since no traffic has been handled on the line since March 2002, no traffic will be diverted. The proposed abandonment will have no effect on regional or local transportation systems or patterns.

¹The proposed abandonment includes a "wye" track and stub (at approximately milepost 904.2), as well as side tracks.

3. Land use

(i) Applicant is unaware of any regional or local land use patterns with which the proposed abandonment would be inconsistent. Applicant served notices of the proposed abandonment on: Florida State Clearinghouse, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Sarasota County Board of Commissioners, US Fish and Wildlife Service (Southeast Region 4), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, US Army Engineer Division (South Atlantic), National Park Service (Southeast Region), National Park Service/National Center For Recreation and Conservation, National Park Services/Land Resources Division, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Natural Resource Management Division/South Florida Water Management District, United States Dept. of Commerce/National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration, West Coast Inland Navigation District and Florida Coastal Management Program/Florida Department of Community Affairs. See Exhibit A. Only one response has been received.

Applicant received a copy of a letter, dated October 22, 2003, from Mr. Richard A. Snay, Chief of the National Geodetic Survey (National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration) addressed to Victoria J. Rutson, Chief of the Section of Environmental Analysis (Surface Transportation Board), that provides a listing of 17 geodetic markers that may be affected by the proposed abandonment.

Mr. Snay notes that if the markers are to be disturbed or destroyed, at least 90 days notice is required. The proposed abandonment will not affect these markers.

(ii) The proposed action is believed to have no affect on any prime agricultural land. Notice of the abandonment has been served on the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, a copy of which is attached as part of Exhibit A. No response has been received.

(iii) The rail line to be abandoned is within a coastal zone, and accordingly, notice of the abandonment has been served on the Florida Coastal Management Program/Florida Department of Community Affairs, a copy of which is attached as part of Exhibit A. No response has been received.

(iv) The right of way begins south of the City of Sarasota, Florida. The first approximately two miles are bordered by residential developments, including related road systems. South thereof, the right of way runs through inhabited and uninhabited areas, including swampy areas and Oscar Scherer State Park. Several small creeks and drainage canals parallel and/or cross the right of way. The line ends in Venice, Florida. See Exhibit C (topographic map). As noted above, SGLR, together with the underlying landowner CSX Transportation, Inc., has granted The Trust for Public Land an option to acquire the rail line for conversion to a trail. The Trust for Public Land will be working

with Sarasota County to convert the rail line into a trail. SGLR believes that this is a suitable alternative public use for this right of way.

4. **Energy**

(i) The proposed abandonment will have no effect on the transportation of energy resources.

(ii) The proposed abandonment will have no effect on recyclable commodities.

(iii) Since the line has not been used since March 2002, there will be no effect on overall energy efficiency.

(iv) Previously existing rail traffic was moved, before March 2002, to an alternative rail transfer point for more efficient truck transportation to final destinations.

5. **Air**

The proposed abandonment will not result in any increases in rail or truck traffic or activity.

6. **Noise**

The proposed abandonment will not result in any increase in noise levels.

7. **Safety**

The proposed abandonment will not have any effect on public health or safety.

8. **Biological Resources**

(i) Applicant has given notice of the proposed

abandonment to the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Regional Office, see Exhibit A. No response has been received. Applicant does not believe the action will adversely affect endangered or threatened species or critical habitats, wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, or National or State parks or forests.

(ii) Applicant does not believe wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment.

9. Water

(i) The proposed abandonment will be handled in a manner that is consistent with the applicable local, State and Federal water quality standards. No effect is expected on water quality.

(ii) To the best of Applicant's knowledge, the proposed abandonment does not contain 100-year flood plains, and will not adversely affect any designated wetlands. Due to the pending sale of the proposed abandonment to The Trust for Public Land, SGLR is planning to leave the right of way and structures in place, and is not planning any salvage of the line.

(iii) Applicant has sent notice of the intended abandonment to the US Environmental Protection Agency (Region 4) and to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, see Exhibit A. Applicant has not received a response from the US Environmental Protection Agency (Region 3) nor from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The proposed abandonment

will be handled in a manner that is consistent with the applicable local, State and Federal water quality standards.

10. Proposed Mitigation

Since no adverse environmental impacts are expected, no mitigation is proposed.

11. Additional Information for Rail Constructions

Not applicable.

12. Consultation

As shown by the copies of letters attached hereto as Exhibit A, Applicant has consulted with Florida State Clearinghouse, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Sarasota County Board of Commissioners, US Fish and Wildlife Service (Southeast Region 4), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, US Army Engineer Division (South Atlantic), National Park Service (Southeast Region), National Park Service/National Center For Recreation and Conservation, National Park Services/Land Resources Division, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Natural Resource Management Division/South Florida Water Management District, United States Dept. of Commerce/National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration, West Coast Inland Navigation District, and Florida Coastal Management Program/Florida Department of Community Affairs. The only written response received was from the National Geodetic Survey (National Ocean and Atmospheric

Administration). A copy of the written response is attached hereto as Exhibit B. There have been no oral responses to date.

13. Certifications

Applicant certifies that it:

(a) Consulted with the agencies listed in 49 C.F.R. §1105.7(b), as described in paragraph No. 12 above;

(b) Sent on this date copies of this report to each of the agencies consulted;

(c) Published on October 31, 2003, a notice in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune, a paper with general circulation in Sarasota County, Florida, in the form specified in 49 C.F.R. §1105.12, that alerted the public to the proposed abandonment, to available reuse alternatives, and to how it may participate in this proceeding. A copy of the proof of publication is attached as Exhibit E; and

(d) Applicant will not file its verified notice of abandonment until at least twenty (20) days after the agencies have been served with a copy of this report.

B. HISTORIC REPORT
(49 C.F.R. §1105.8)

The information required by 49 C.F.R. §1105.7(e)(1) is set forth in Section A.1 above.

1. **U.S.G.S. Topographic Map**

U.S.G.S. topographic map showing the location of the proposed abandonment is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

2. **Description Of Right Of Way**

Applicant proposes to abandon a portion of its line of railroad which runs 12.4 miles between milepost SW 892 outside the city limits of the City of Sarasota and milepost SW 904.4 near the City of Venice, Florida. The rail line is all located in Sarasota County, Florida. This line traverses through United States Postal ZIP Codes 34233, 34238, 34272, 34275 and 34285. The right of way begins south of the City of Sarasota, Florida. The first approximately two miles are bordered by residential developments, including related road systems. South thereof, the right of way runs through inhabited and uninhabited areas, including swampy areas and Oscar Scherer State Park. Several small creeks and drainage canals parallel and/or cross the right of way. The line ends in Venice, Florida. See Exhibit C (topographic map). The width of the right of way is predominately 100 feet wide, with minor areas of narrower width, and a wider portion at the most southerly end of the rail line.

3. Photographs of Structures 50 Years Or Older

The proposed abandonment includes open deck timber trestles, a steel girder span that connects two timber trestles (MP SW 900.80), and concrete and cast iron culverts. These structures were built over 50 years ago, but are no longer fully constructed with their original materials. Photographs of the bridges and their surrounding terrain are attached as Exhibit D. The locations and the dimensions of these structures are included in Exhibit F. Applicant does not currently intend to alter or remove these structures.

4. Dates Of Construction

Although these structures were built over 50 years ago, they have been routinely maintained and rehabilitated. Each structure has had components repaired, replaced and/or been entirely replaced over time. There have been no major repairs since 1987 when SGLR became the owner of the rail line. See Exhibit F for more specific information concerning these bridges and the culverts.

5. History Of Carrier Operations In The Area

A history of the line proposed to be abandoned and its carrier operations is attached as Exhibit F. Because of the lack of customers, SGLR proposes to abandon the line. Further, SGLR,

together with the underlying landowner CSX Transportation, Inc., has granted The Trust for Public Land an option to acquire the rail line for conversion to a trail. The Trust for Public Land will be working with Sarasota County to convert the rail line into a trail. As such, SGLR does not have any current plans to salvage the rail or materials.

6. Documentation of Historic Structures

See Exhibit F concerning the documentation of the construction and the repair to the structures on this line.

7. National Register of Historic Places/ Archaeological Resources

The proposed abandonment includes tracks, track bed, open deck timber trestles, two with small steel girder spans, and concrete and cast iron culverts. All of these structures were originally over 50 years old, however they are no longer fully constructed from their original materials, if at all. There are no plans to disturb these structures in the proposed abandonment as there is an existing option to acquire the rail line for conversion to a trail and all existing structures are expected to remain in place. Notice of the planned abandonment was served upon the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources and State History ("Division of Historic Resources"). See Exhibit A. The Division of Historic Resources concludes in its letter, dated

October 29, 2003, that "no historic properties will be affected by this undertaking." See a copy of the letter attached as part of Exhibit B.

8. Environmental Conditions

Applicant is unaware of any prior subsurface ground disturbance or fill, or environmental conditions which might affect the archaeological recovery of resources or the surrounding terrain.

Respectfully submitted,



ERIC M. HOCKY
GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.
Four Penn Center
Suite 200
1600 JFK Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 563-9400
Attorney for
Seminole Gulf Railway, L.P.

Dated: November 19, 2003

EXHIBIT A

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
FACSIMILE 610.692.9177
WWW.GGELAW.COM

GC&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
& EWING
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

Florida State Clearinghouse
The Department of Community Affairs
Executive Office of the Governor - OPB
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is to advise you that Seminole Gulf Railway, L.P. ("SGLR") proposes to abandon its line of railroad which runs 12.4 miles between milepost SW892 outside the city limits of the City of Sarasota and milepost SW 904.4 near the City of Venice, Florida. The rail line is all located in Sarasota County, Florida. This line traverses through United States Postal ZIP Codes 34233, 34238, 34272, 34275 and 34285. A map showing the location of the line is attached.

No service has been provided on the line since March 2002. SGLR plans to seek Surface Transportation Board authorization for its abandonment by filing a petition for exemption pursuant to the provisions of 49 C.F.R. §1152.60 on or about December 11, 2003 in Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X).

Based upon information in our possession, the line does not contain federally granted rights of way.

SGLR, together with the underlying landowner CSX Transportation, Inc., has granted The Trust for Public Land an option to acquire the rail line for conversion to a trail. As such, SGLR does not have any current plans to salvage the rail or materials. SGLR believes this is a reasonable alternate use of the rail line. SGLR further believes that the abandonment authorization will not have a significant effect upon the environment.

In advance of preparing an environmental report as required by applicable regulations, we are consulting with appropriate agencies such as yours as to any concerns which they may have as to environmental or historic preservation effects of the proposed abandonment.

We would appreciate an expression from you by November 14, 2003 that, within the area of your authority, you do not perceive that the abandonment of the line will have a

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Florida State Clearinghouse, page 2

significant effect upon the environment or historic preservation. If you have any questions about the abandonment proposal or if you need assistance in this matter, please call me at (610) 692-9116 (ext. 4322).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,



Leanore D. Bellis
Legal Assistant

Enclosure (Map)

cc: Eric M. Hocky, Esquire

bc: Gordon H. Fay, SGLR
John Garrison, The Trust for Public Land
William P. Coffing, Jr., CSXT

GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.

WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
FACSIMILE 610.692.9177
WWW.GGELAW.COM

GC&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
& EWING
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Federal Consistency Coordinator
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

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Florida Department of Environmental Protection, page 2

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Thank you for your cooperation.

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Leanore D. Bellis
Legal Assistant

Enclosure (Map)

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
FACSIMILE 610.692.9177
WWW.GGELAW.COM

GC&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
& EWING
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

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In advance of preparing an environmental report as required by applicable regulations, we are consulting with appropriate agencies such as yours as to any concerns which they may have as to environmental or historic preservation effects of the proposed abandonment.

We would appreciate an expression from you by November 14, 2003 that, within the area of your authority, you do not perceive that the abandonment of the line will have a

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United States Environmental Protection Agency, page 2

significant effect upon the environment or historic preservation. If you have any questions about the abandonment proposal or if you need assistance in this matter, please call me at (610) 692-9116 (ext. 4322).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Leanore D. Bellis
Legal Assistant

Enclosure (Map)

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

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PO Box 796
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October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

Florida Coastal Management Program
Florida Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

RE: Notice of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

Dear Sir or Madam:

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Please advise us whether the proposed abandonment is within Florida's coastal zone. If it is within the coastal zone, please advise further (1) if the proposed abandonment is an action listed for review in Florida's coastal zone management plan, and (2) if the action is so listed, whether the proposed action is consistent with the coastal zone management plan.

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Florida Coastal Management Program, p. 2

We would appreciate a response prior to November 14, 2003. If you have any questions about the abandonment proposal or if you need assistance in this matter, please call me at (610) 692-9116 (ext. 4322)

Very truly yours,



Leanore D. Bellis
Legal Assistant

Enclosure (Map)

cc: Eric M. Hocky, Esquire

bc: Gordon H. Fay, SGLR
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William P. Coffing, Jr., CSXT

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
FACSIMILE 610.692.9177
WWW.GGELAW.COM

G&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
& EWING
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

Sarasota County Board of Commissioners
Administration Center
1660 Ringling Boulevard
Sarasota, Florida 34236

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
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Based upon information in our possession, the line does not contain federally granted rights of way.

SGLR, together with the underlying landowner CSX Transportation, Inc., has granted The Trust for Public Land an option to acquire the rail line for conversion to a trail. As such, SGLR does not have any current plans to salvage the rail or materials. SGLR believes this is a reasonable alternate use of the rail line. SGLR further believes that the abandonment authorization will not have a significant effect upon the environment.

In advance of preparing an environmental report as required by applicable regulations, we are consulting with appropriate agencies such as yours as to any concerns which they may have as to environmental or historic preservation effects of the proposed abandonment.

We would appreciate an expression from you by November 14, 2003 that, within the area of your authority, you do not perceive that the abandonment of the line will have a significant effect upon the environment or historic preservation. If you have any questions

GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.

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Sarasota County Board of Commissioners, page 2

about the abandonment proposal or if you need assistance in this matter, please call me at (610) 692-9116 (ext. 4322).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,



Leanore D. Bellis
Legal Assistant

Enclosure (Map)

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
FACSIMILE 610.692.9177
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GC&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
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ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

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October 14, 2003
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US Fish and Wildlife Service
Southeast Region 4
1875 Century Blvd
Suite 400
Atlanta, Georgia 30345

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US Fish and Wildlife Service, page 2

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Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,



Leanne D. Bellis
Legal Assistant

Enclosure (Map)

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WILMINGTON

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WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
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GC&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
& EWING
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
3900 Drane Field Road
Lakeland, FL 33811-1299

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is to advise you that Seminole Gulf Railway, L.P. ("SGLR") proposes to abandon its line of railroad which runs 12.4 miles between milepost SW892 outside the city limits of the City of Sarasota and milepost SW 904.4 near the City of Venice, Florida. The rail line is all located in Sarasota County, Florida. This line traverses through United States Postal ZIP Codes 34233, 34238, 34272, 34275 and 34285. A map showing the location of the line is attached.

No service has been provided on the line since March 2002. SGLR plans to seek Surface Transportation Board authorization for its abandonment by filing a petition for exemption pursuant to the provisions of 49 C.F.R. §1152.60 on or about December 11, 2003 in Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X).

Based upon information in our possession, the line does not contain federally granted rights of way.

SGLR, together with the underlying landowner CSX Transportation, Inc., has granted The Trust for Public Land an option to acquire the rail line for conversion to a trail. As such, SGLR does not have any current plans to salvage the rail or materials. SGLR believes this is a reasonable alternate use of the rail line. SGLR further believes that the abandonment authorization will not have a significant effect upon the environment.

In advance of preparing an environmental report as required by applicable regulations, we are consulting with appropriate agencies such as yours as to any concerns which they may have as to environmental or historic preservation effects of the proposed abandonment.

We would appreciate an expression from you by November 14, 2003 that, within the area of your authority, you do not perceive that the abandonment of the line will have a significant effect upon the environment or historic preservation. If you have any questions

GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.

WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, page 2

about the abandonment proposal or if you need assistance in this matter, please call me at (610) 692-9116 (ext. 4322).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,



Leanoire D. Bellis
Legal Assistant

Enclosure (Map)

cc: Eric M. Hocky, Esquire

bc: Gordon H. Fay, SGLR
John Garrison, The Trust for Public Land
William P. Coffing, Jr., CSXT

GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.

WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
FACSIMILE 610.692.9177
WWW.GGELAW.COM

GG&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
& EWING
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

US Army Engineer Division, South Atlantic
60 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8801

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

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US Army Engineer Division, South Atlantic, page 2

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
FACSIMILE 610.692.9177
WWW.GGELAW.COM

GC&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
& EWING
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

Southeast Region
Regional Director
National Park Service
100 Alabama St., SW
1924 Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

Dear Sir or Madam:

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GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.

WEST CHESTER

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National Park Service, Southeast Region, page 2

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
FACSIMILE 610.692.9177
WWW.GGELAW.COM

GC&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
& EWING
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

National Park Service
National Center For Recreation
and Conservation
M.S. 3622
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

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National Park Service, National Center For Recreation and Conservation, page 2

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Legal Assistant

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
FACSIMILE 610.692.9177
WWW.GGELAW.COM

GC&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
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ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

National Park Services
Land Resources Division
M.S. 3622
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

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GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.

WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

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National Park Service, Land Resources Division, page 2

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Leanore D. Bellis
Legal Assistant

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

213 WEST MINER STREET
PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
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GC&E GOLLATZ
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October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O. Box 14510
Gainesville, Florida 32614

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

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USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, page 2

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

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PO Box 796
WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
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GG&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
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ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

Natural Resource Management Division
South Florida Water Management District
2301 McGregor Boulevard
Fort Myers, FL 33901

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

Dear Sir or Madam:

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WEST CHESTER

PHILADELPHIA

WILMINGTON

Natural Resource Management Division, South Florida Water Management District, page 2

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Leanne D. Bellis
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WEST CHESTER

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WILMINGTON

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GC&E GOLLATZ
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LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
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October 14, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mr. Richard A. Snay
Chief, Spatial Reference System Div.
United States Dept. of Commerce
NOAA, N/NGS2
Station 8813
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

Dear Mr. Snay:

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GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.

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WILMINGTON

Mr. Richard A. Snay, United States Dept. of Commerce, page 2

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WILMINGTON

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WEST CHESTER, PA 19381
TELEPHONE 610.692.9116
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GC&E GOLLATZ
GRIFFIN
& EWING
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

LEANORE D. BELLIS
DIRECT DIAL 610.350.4132
lbellis@ggelaw.com

October 16, 2003
VIA: FIRST CLASS MAIL

Division of Historical Resources
and State History: Preservation Officer
Florida Department of State
The R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronaugh Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

RE: Petition for Exemption of Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)

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The remaining structures on this line which were originally constructed over 50 years ago, are no longer comprised of their original components and the SGLR does not believe that the preservation of these structures is warranted. See the attached sheet identifying the structures and outlining their history. Further, due to The Trust for Public Land's option to acquire this line, the SGLR does not intend on disturbing the existing structures.

GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C

WEST CHESTER

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WILMINGTON

Division of Historical Resources and State History: Preservation Officer, page 2

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WEST CHESTER

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WILMINGTON

Venice Branch Historic Structure Analysis

The land upon which the Venice Branch is constructed was acquired by the Seaboard Air Line Railway Company principally during the latter half of 1910. The railroad was built soon thereafter. The only remaining structures on the line are several wooden timber bridges and a number of drainage pipe style culverts that convey water between ditch lines. The only other railroad related structure that existed when Seminole Gulf acquired the line in 1987 was the former passenger station at Venice, FL. This building and the surrounding land were sold to Sarasota County in 1998. The County has rehabilitated the station for other public use with a scheduled opening October 24, 2003.

There are no original construction records known to exist for any of the bridges. Over the years, most, if not all, of the components of each bridge have been replaced several times. As a result most of the components of each bridge are likely to be less than fifty years old.

The culverts are principally concrete pipes of unknown manufacture dates. They have been repaired or replaced over the years as part of routine maintenance. No culvert construction records exist.

Bridges

MP SW 892.24 "Meeting House Gully" Fifty foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 893.41 "White Slough" Seventy-five foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 895.27 "North Creek" Thirty-seven foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 895.69 "no name" Twenty-five foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 897.37 "South Creek" One Hundred seventy-five foot open deck timber trestle

MP SW 897.93 State Route 681 Overhead four lane public highway bridge

MP SW 900.80 "Shaket Creek" Two open deck timber trestles (170 feet and 163 feet long respectively) connected by a twenty-six foot long steel girder span

MP SW 901.65 "Curry Creek" Two open deck timber trestles (163 feet and 137 feet long respectively) connected by a twenty-six foot long steel girder span

MP SW 902.41 "Hatchet Creek" Eighty-eight foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 902.73 "Venice Avenue" Overhead two lane public highway bridge

RECEIVED TIME OCT. 15. 4:46PM

PRINT TIME OCT. 15. 4:47PM

10/15/2003 WED 16:41 [TX/RX NO 6114] 003

Culverts

MP SW 892.94 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 893.16 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 894.01 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 895.91 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 895.99 31' x 36" Cast Iron Pipe
MP SW 896.84 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 897.54 48' x 48" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 899.36 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 899.88 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 900.22 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 901.12 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 903.06 32' x 36" Two Cast Iron Pipes
MP SW 903.55 36' x 36" Three Concrete Pipes

RECEIVED TIME OCT. 15. 4:46PM

PRINT TIME OCT. 15. 4:47PM

10/15/2003 WED 16:41 [TX/RX NO 6114] 004

EXHIBIT B



Rec'd 11/6/03

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Glenda E. Hood
Secretary of State
DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Ms. Leanore D. Bellis
Gollatz Griffian & Ewing
P.O. Box 796
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19381

October 29, 2003

RE: DHR Project File Number: 2003-9157
Received by DHR October 20, 2003 *REC 10/21/03*
Surface Transportation Board – Seminole Gulf Railway Line Abandonment
Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X)
Venice, Sarasota County

Dear Ms. Bellis:

Our office received and reviewed the above referenced project in accordance with Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, as amended and *36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties*. The State Historic Preservation Officer is to advise Federal agencies as they identify historic properties (listed or eligible for listing, in the *National Register of Historic Places*), assess effects upon them, and consider alternatives to avoid or minimize adverse effects.

Based on the information provided, it is the opinion of this office that no historic properties will be affected by this undertaking.

This office would like to compliment you and your office on the thoroughness of the information presented in the Venice Branch historic structure analysis. If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Scott Edwards, Historic Preservationist, by electronic mail sedwards@dos.state.fl.us, or at 850-245-6333 or 800-847-7278.

Sincerely,

Frederick P. Cashe, Deputy SHPO
Janet Snyder Matthews, Ph.D., Director, and
State Historic Preservation Officer

500 S. Bronough Street • Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 • <http://www.flheritage.com>

Director's Office
(850) 245-6300 • FAX: 245-6435

Archaeological Research
(850) 245-6444 • FAX: 245-6436

Historic Preservation
(850) 245-6333 • FAX: 245-6437

Historical Museums
(850) 245-6400 • FAX: 245-6433

Palm Beach Regional Office
(561) 279-1475 • FAX: 279-1476

St. Augustine Regional Office
(904) 825-5045 • FAX: 825-5044

Tampa Regional Office
(813) 272-3843 • FAX: 272-2340



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
National Geodetic Survey
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282

Rec'd 10/27

OCT 22 2003

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Rutson:

The area in question on the map with the Environmental and Historic Reports for the proposed rail line abandonment of Seminole Gulf Railway, L.P., for 12.4 miles of rail line between Milepost SW 892 outside the city limits of Sarasota, Florida, and Milepost SW 904.4 near the City of Venice, Florida, all located in Sarasota County, Florida, STB Docket No. AB-400 (Sub-No. 3X), has been reviewed within the areas of National Geodetic Survey (NGS) responsibility and expertise and in terms of the impact of the proposed actions on NGS activities and projects.

As a result of this review, 17 geodetic station markers have been identified that may be affected by the proposed abandonment; a listing of these markers is enclosed. Additional information about these station markers can be obtained via the Internet or NGS CD-ROM. A fact sheet for these two data retrieval methods is enclosed. If there are any planned activities which will disturb or destroy these markers, NGS requires not less than 90 days notification in advance of such activities in order to plan for their relocation.

If further information is needed for this geodetic marker, contact Mr. Frank C. Maida. His address is NOAA, N/NGS2, Room 8736, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282, telephone: 301-713-3198, fax: 301-713-4324, e-mail: Frank.Maida@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Snay
Chief, Spatial Reference System Division

Enclosures

cc: N/NGS1 - G. Mitchell
N/NGS1x1 - R. Taylor
Leanore D. Bellis, Gollatz, Griffin & Ewing



Printed on Recycled Paper



SEMINOLE GULF RAILWAY, L.P.

IN SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

STB DOCKET NO. AB-400 (SUB-NO. 3X)

17 GEODETIC CONTROL MARKS IN THE PROPOSED ABANDONMENT AREA

PIDS	DESIGNATION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
AG1947	B 39	N271602	W0822847
AG1948	J 253	N271509	W0822835
AG1831	F 253	N271423	W0822823
AG1832	R 252	N271331	W0822810
AG1833	A 39	N271309	W0822805
AG1834	S 252	N271244	W0822800
AG1835	C 255	N271225	W0822756
AG1836	A 253	N271138	W0822744
AG1837	Z 38	N271042	W0822731
AG1838	B 253	N271004	W0822722
AG1839	H 253	N270916	W0822711
AG1840	Y 38	N270819	W0822656
AG1841	B 255	N270819	W0822656
AG1842	Q 252	N270802	W0822653
AG1877	P 252	N270708	W0822639
AG1878	N 252	N270632	W0822630
AG1880	X 38	N270601	W0822623



National Geodetic Survey - News Flash!



GEODETTIC DATA AVAILABLE FREE ON THE INTERNET

Are you interested in getting the most current position, height, and descriptive information for all the geodetic control points in the National Spatial Reference System? Are you interested in getting this information immediately, free of cost, and whenever you want it? With an Internet connection, this information is yours to download.

The National Geodetic Survey's (NGS) data sheet contains position, height, and descriptive information for approximately 750,000 control points throughout the United States. The data sheet provides:

- ▶ The geodetic coordinates and the orthometric height for each point
- ▶ The horizontal and vertical datums on which the information is based
- ▶ State plane coordinates and Universal Transverse Mercator coordinates
- ▶ Modeled geoid height, ellipsoidal height, modeled gravity, and Laplace correction
- ▶ A description of the station's location and how to reach it

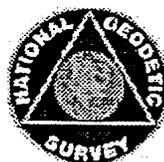
To obtain this information, set your Web browser to
http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/products_services.html

For more information contact:

NOAA, National Geodetic Survey, N/NGS12
1315 East-West Highway, Station 09202
Silver Spring, MD 20910

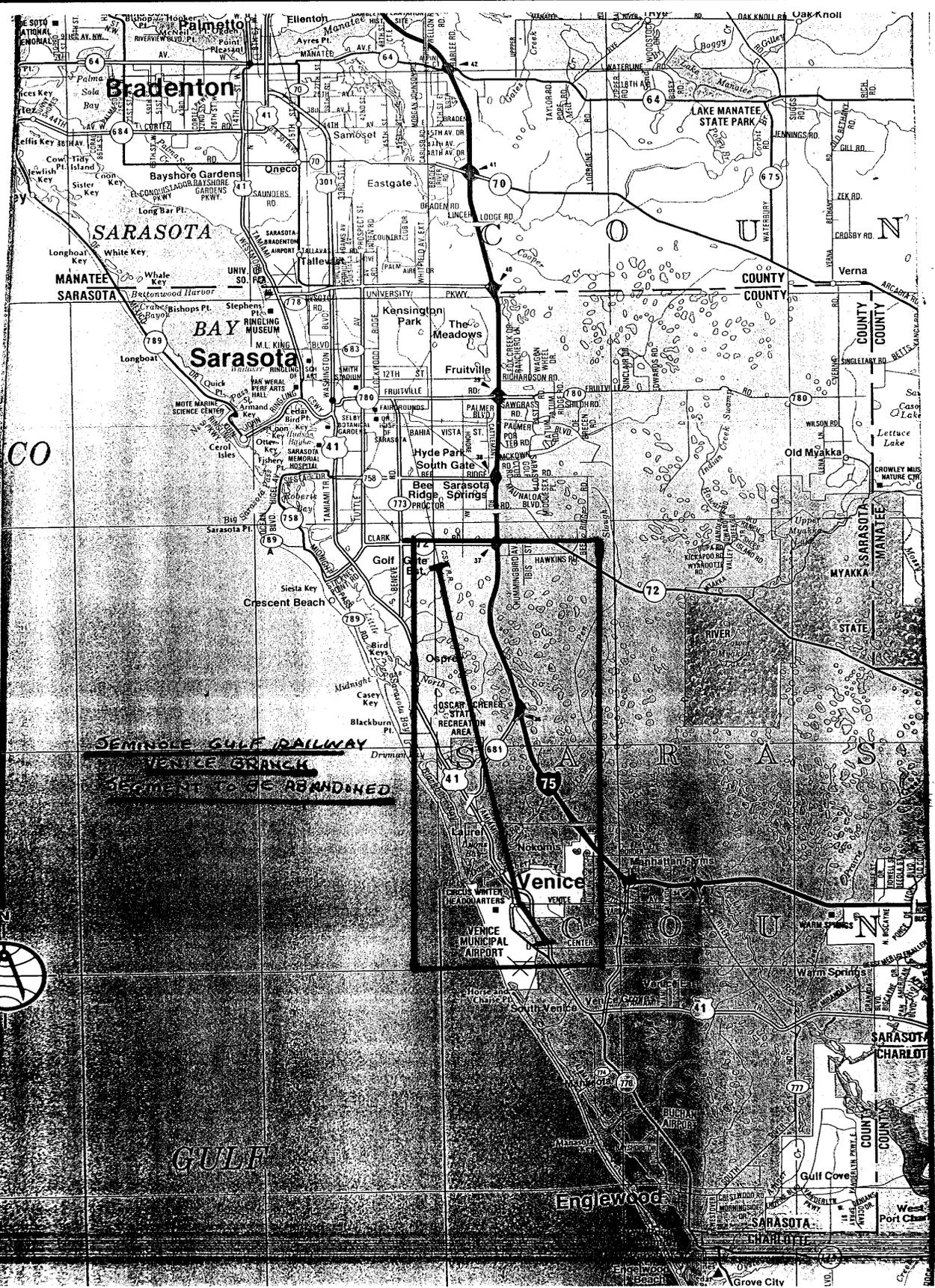
Telephone: (301) 713-3242; Fax: (301) 713-4172
Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time

<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov>



NGS: Tying America Together

EXHIBIT C



SEMINOLE GULF RAILWAY
VENICE BRANCH
SEGMENT TO BE ABANDONED



GULF

Englewood

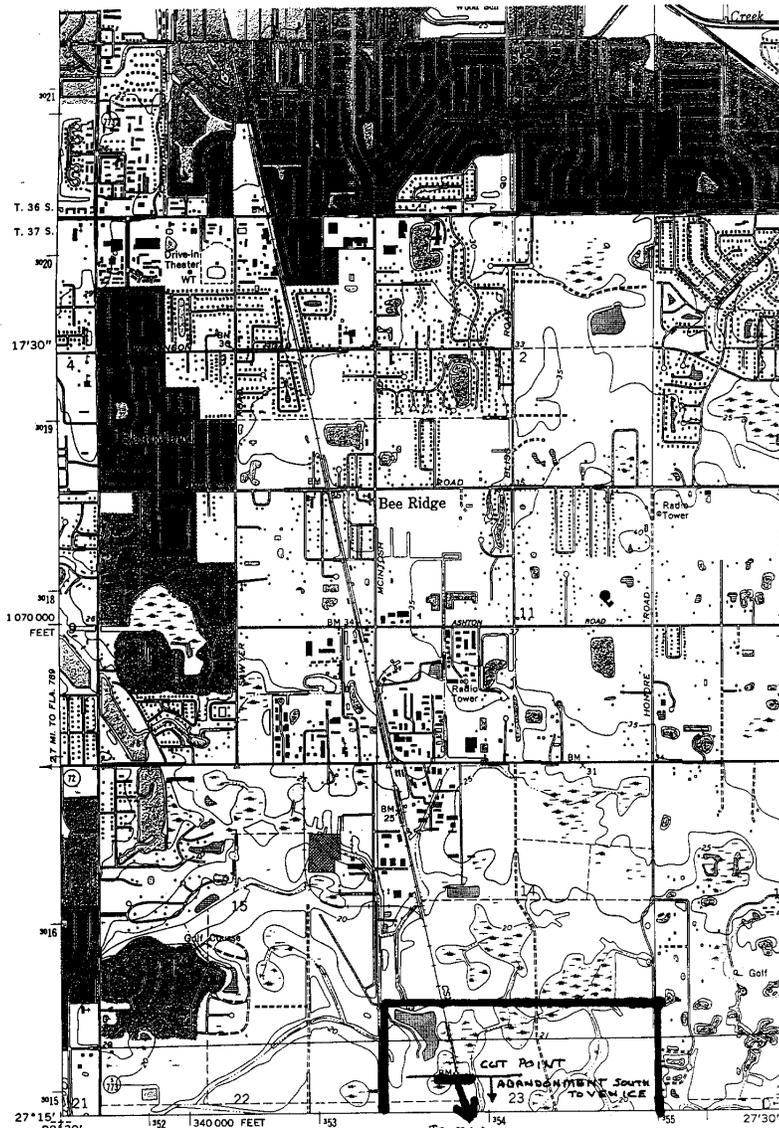
SARASOTA

Grove City

SARASOTA
CHARLOTTE

Gulf Cove

West
Port Clear



IBIRD KEYED
MAP II I.E.

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Florida Geodetic Survey
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
 photographs taken December 1971. Field checked 1973
 Supersedes Army Map Service map dated 1944
 Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Florida coordinate
 system, west zone (transverse Mercator)
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 17, shown in blue, 1927 North American Datum
 To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
 move the projection lines 32 meters south and
 16 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
 Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
 generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

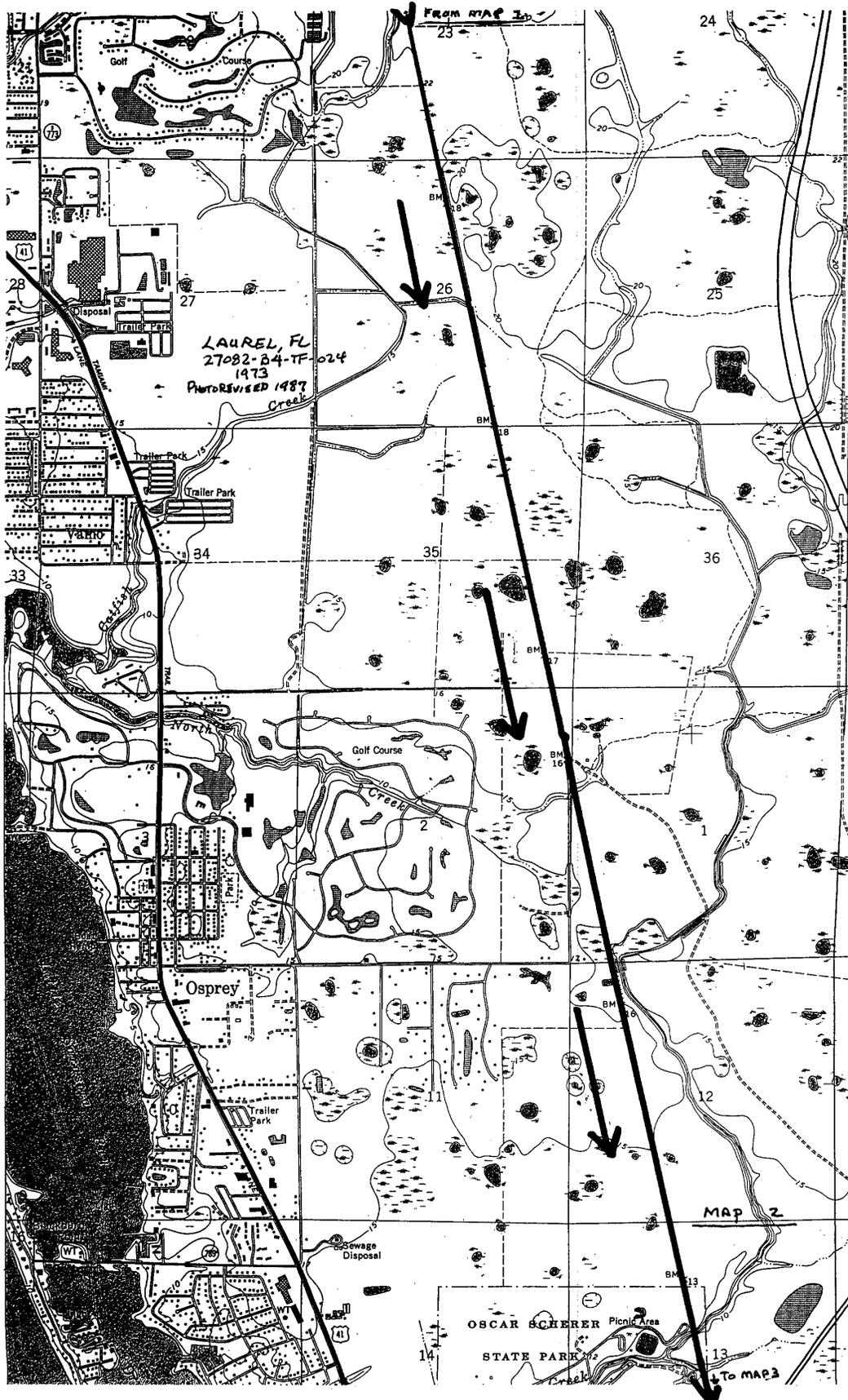
BEE RIDGE, FL
27082-CA-024
 1973
 PHOTO REVISED
 1987



MAP 1

UTM GRID AND 1987 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

Revision shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperative
 with State of Florida agencies from aerial photographs taken
 1984 and other sources. This information not field checked
 Map edited 1987
 Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



LAUREL, FL
27082-84-TF-024
1973
PHOTO REVISED 1987

MAP 2

OSCAR SCHERER Picnic Area
STATE PARK

14

13

To MAP 3



340 000 FEET | 133 | 134 | 135 | 27°30' R.18 E. | VENICE 1.9 MI. | R.19 E. 137 | PUNTA GORDA 31 MI.

Published by the Geological Survey
 IOAA, and Florida Geodetic Survey
 metric methods from aerial photographs
 field checked 1973
 vice map dated 1943
 compiled from USC&GS Chart 857 SC (1973)
 intended for navigational purposes
 grid ticks: Florida coordinate
 (inverse Mercator)
 inverse Mercator grid ticks,
 7 North American Datum
 North American Datum 1983
 meters south and
 dashed corner ticks
 to selected fences and field lines where
 photographs. This information is unchecked

LAUREL, FL
 27082-84-024
 1973
 PROTOREVISED 1987

UTM GRID AND 1987 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

Red tint indicates area in which only
 landmark buildings are shown

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
 the National or State reservations shown on this map

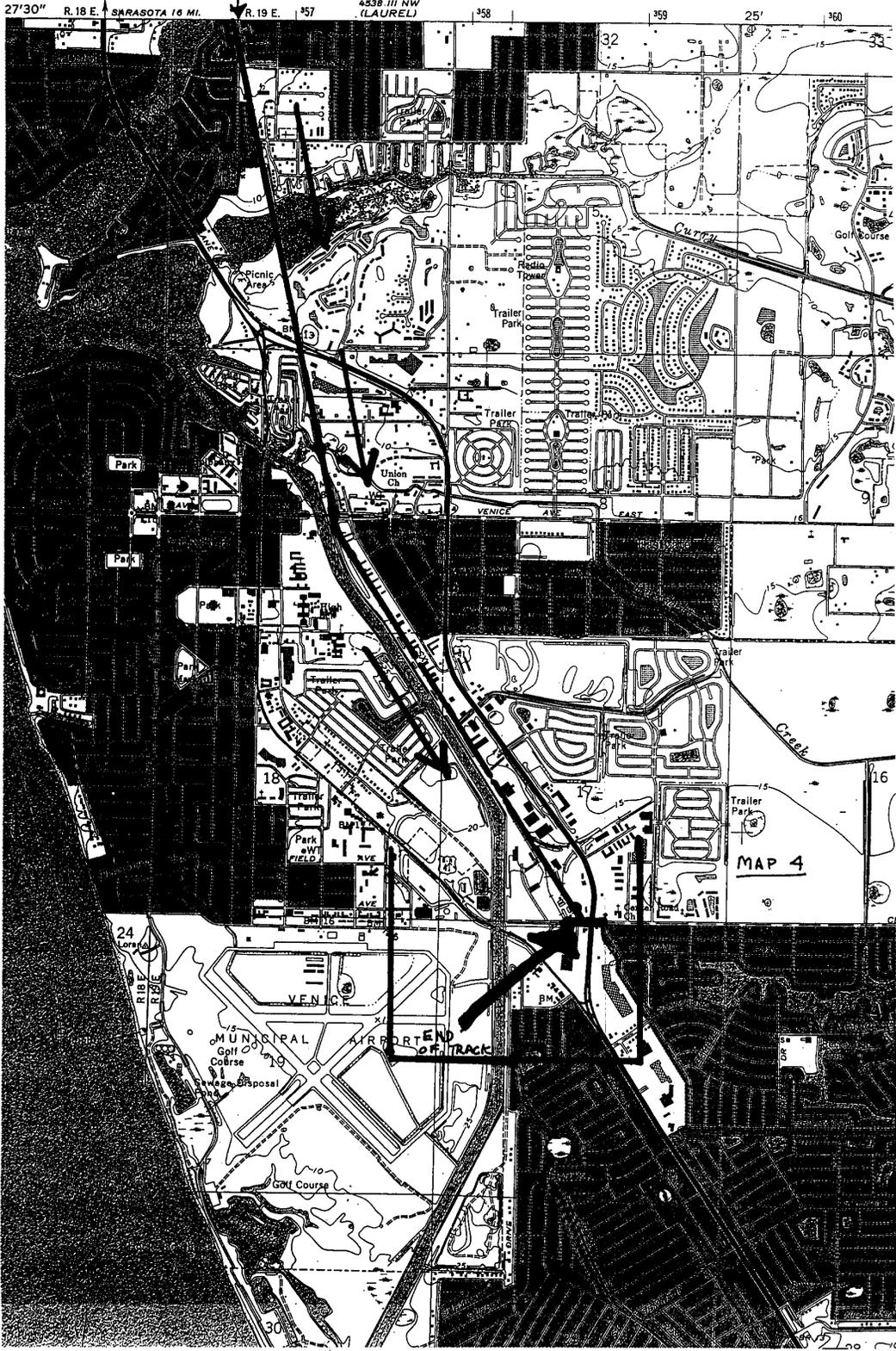


CONTO
 NATIONAL GEOG
 DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDING
 THE RELATIONSHIP
 SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS
 THE MEAN RANGE
 THIS MAP COMPLIES WI
 FOR SALE BY
 DENVER, COLORADO
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPH

VENICE, FL
27082-A 4-TF-024
1973
PHOTO REVISED 1987

From
MAP 3

STATE OF FLORIDA



27'30" R. 18 E. SARASOTA 16 MI.

R. 19 E. 357 4538 III NW (LAUREL) 358 359 25' 360

MAP 4

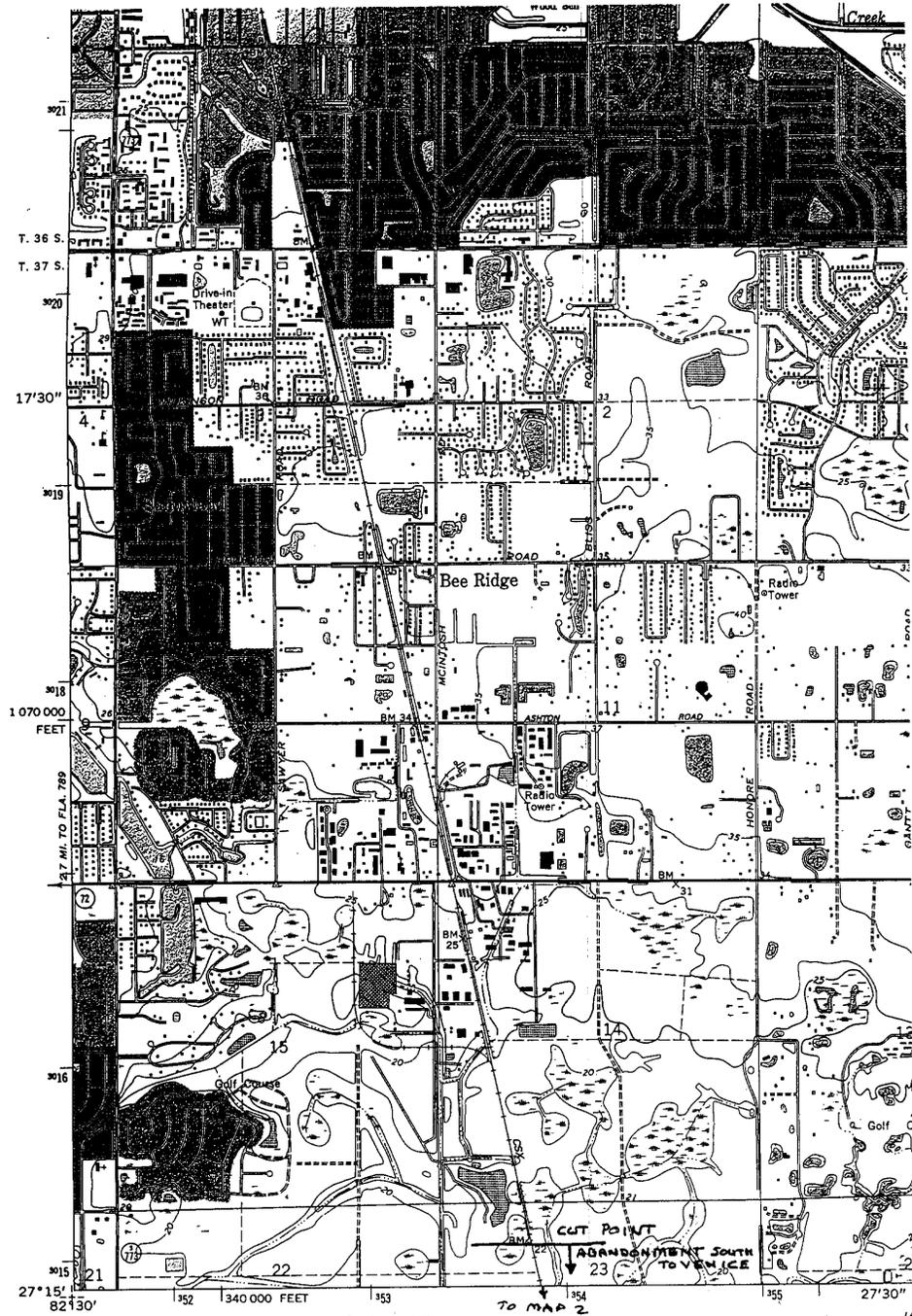
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT END OF TRACK

VENICE

GOLF COURSE

WASTE DISPOSAL

GOLF COURSE



(1:25000 KEYS)
A-38 (1) NE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Florida Geodetic Survey

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken December 1971. Field checked 1973
Supersedes Army Map Service map dated 1944

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Florida coordinate system, west zone (transverse Mercator)

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 32 meters south and 16 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

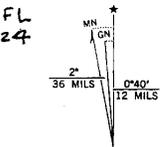
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

BEE RIDGE, FL
27082-CA-024

1973

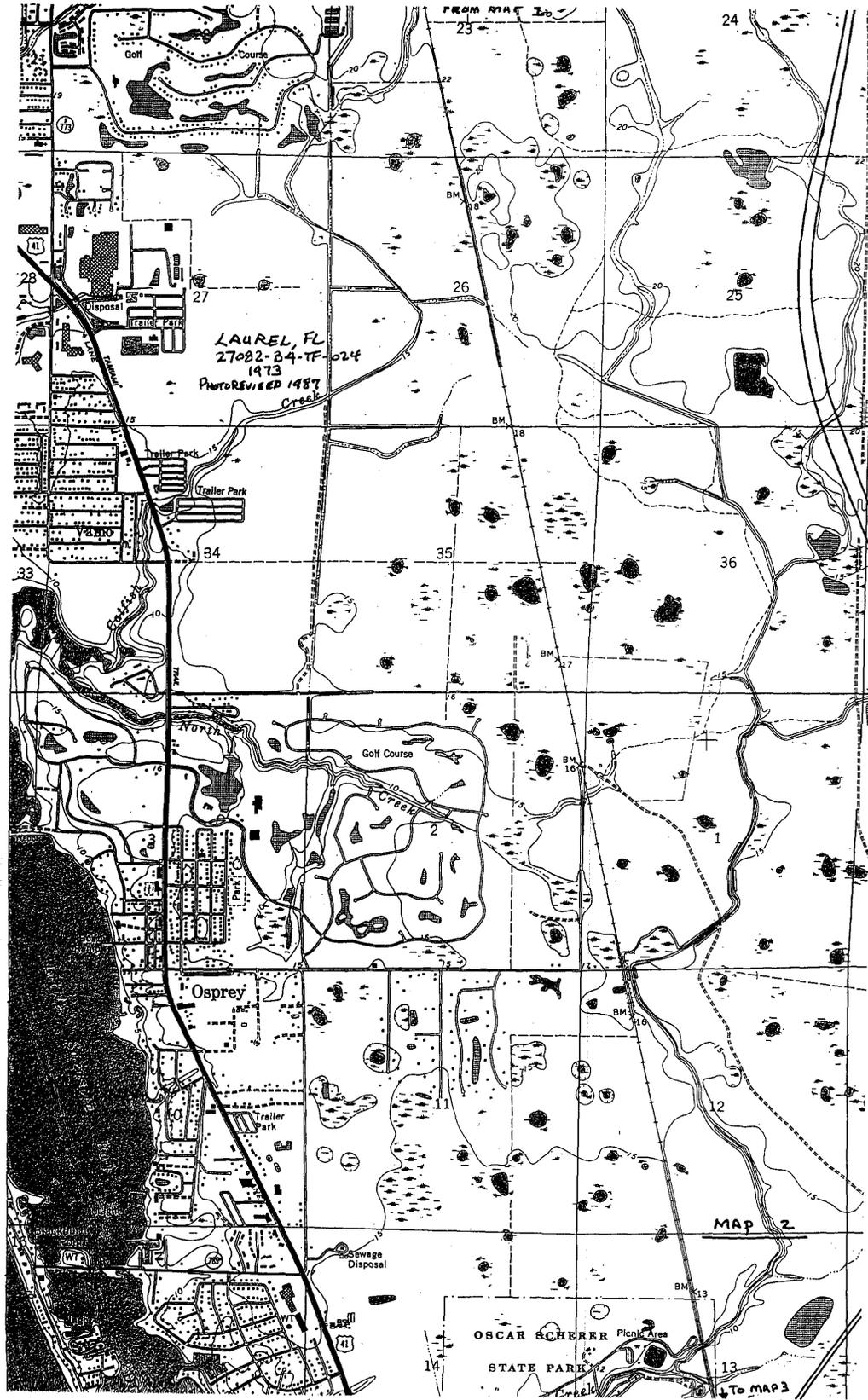
PHOTO REVISED
1987



MAP 1

Revision shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperative with State of Florida agencies from aerial photographs taken 1984 and other sources. This information not field checked
Map edited 1987

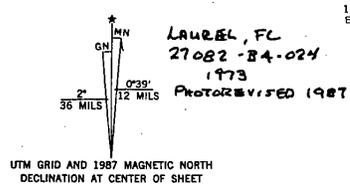
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



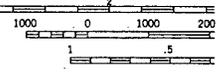


340 000 FEET | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 27°30" N. R. 18 E. VENICE 1.9 MI. PUNTA GORDA 31 MI. R. 19 E. 1957

Published by the Geological Survey
 IOAA, and Florida Geodetic Survey
 metric methods from aerial photographs
 field checked 1973
 base map dated 1943
 compiled from USC&GS Chart 857 SC (1973)
 intended for navigational purposes
 grid ticks: Florida coordinate
 use Mercator
 inverse Mercator grid ticks,
 7 North American Datum
 1983 North American Datum 1983
 meters south and
 dashed corner ticks
 selected fence and field lines where
 photographs. This information is unchecked



LAUREL, FL
 27082-24-024
 1973
 PROTRACTED 1987



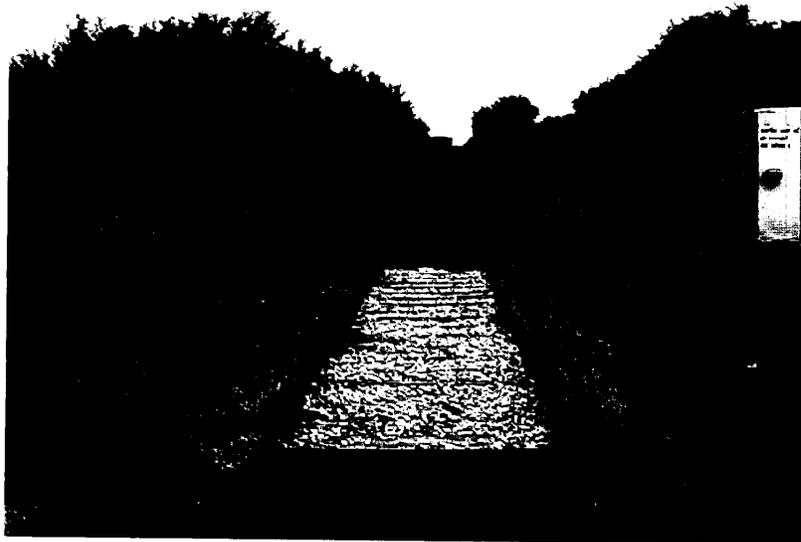
CONTO
 NATIONAL GEO
 DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDING
 THE RELATIONSHIP
 SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS
 THE MEAN RANGE
 THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH
 FOR SALE BY
 DENVER, COLORADO
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPH

Red tint indicates area in which only
 landmark buildings are shown
 There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
 the National or State reservations shown on this map

EXHIBIT D



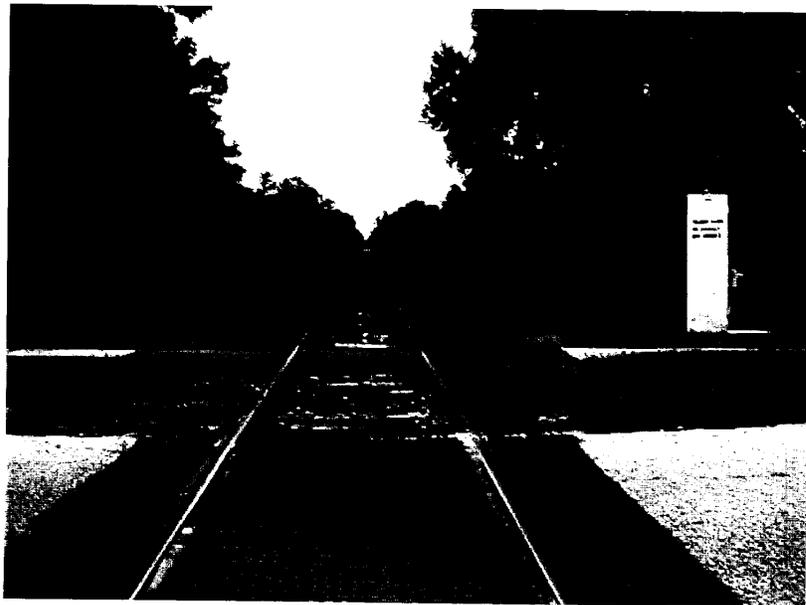
SW 891.52 LOOKING NORTH



SW 891.52 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 892.56 LOOKING NORTH



SW 892.56 LOOKING SOUTH



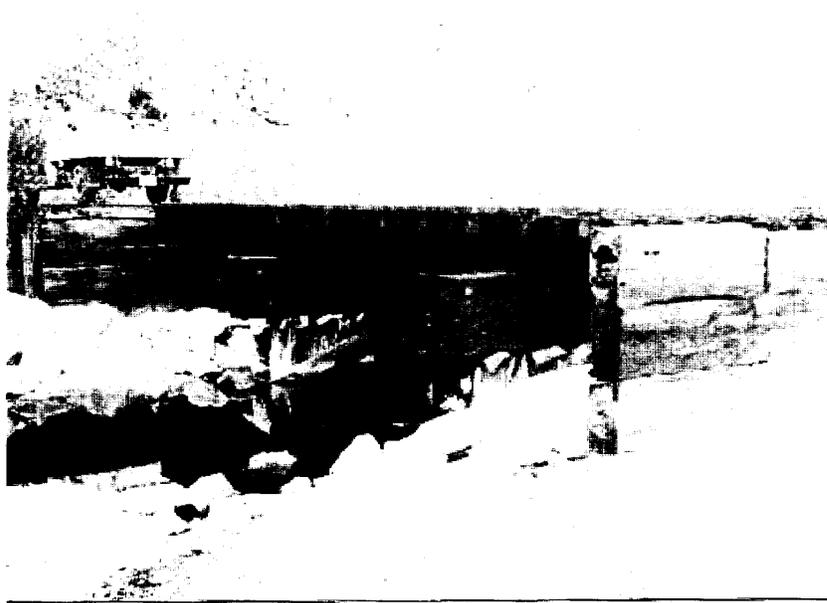
SW 893.24 TRESTLE



SW 893.41 TRESTLE



SW 893.91 LOOKING NORTH



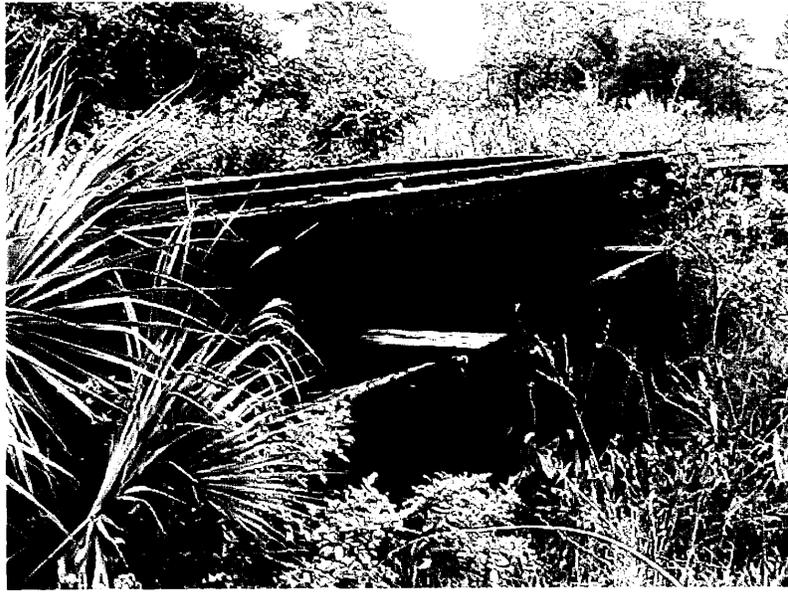
SW 895.27 TRESTLE



SW 895.69 B LOOKING NORTH



SW 895.69 B LOOKING NORTH



SW 895.69 LOOKING NORTH
SIDE VIEW



SW 895.69 TRESTLE



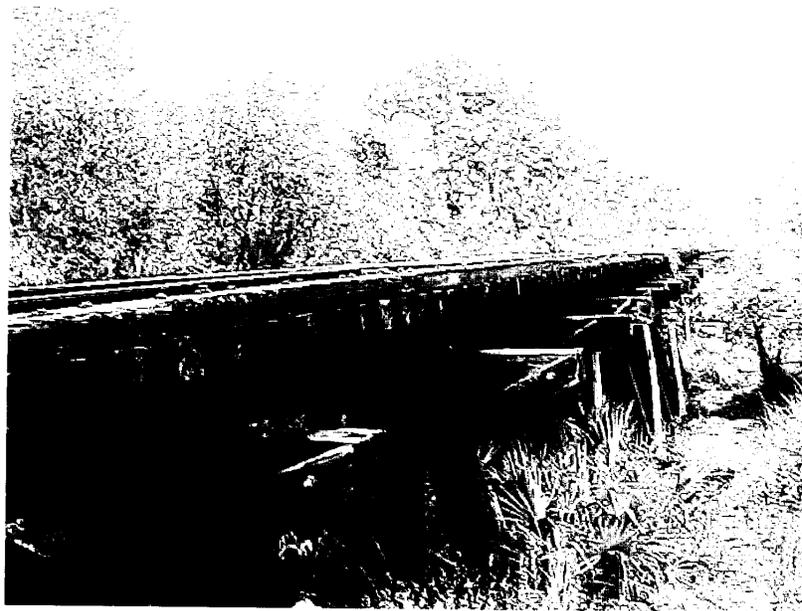
SW 895.69 LOOKING NORTH



SW 895.69 LOOKING NORTH



SW 897.37 LOOKING NORTH
RAILROAD



SW 897.37 LOOKING NORTH



SW 897.37 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 897.91 LOOKING NORTH



SW 897.91 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 899.50 LOOKING NORTH



SW 899.50 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 899.60 LOOKING NORTH



SW 900.01 LOOKING NORTH



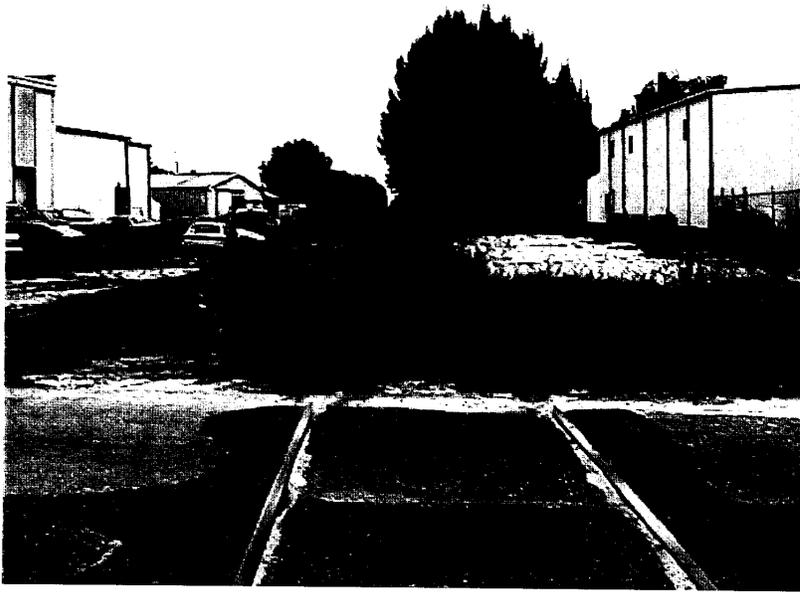
SW 900.01
LOOKING SOUTH



SW 900.80 LOOKING NORTH
SACKRET CREEK



SW 900.80 TRESTLE



SW 901.36 LOOKING NORTH



SW 901.36 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 901.65 LOOKING NORTH
CURRY CREEK



SW 901.65 TRESTLE



SW 902.11 LOOKING NORTH



SW 902.11 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 902.20 LOOKING NORTH



SW 902.20 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 902.41 LOOKING NORTH
HATCHET CREEK



SW 902.41 LOOKING EAST VIEW



SW 902.48 TRESTLE



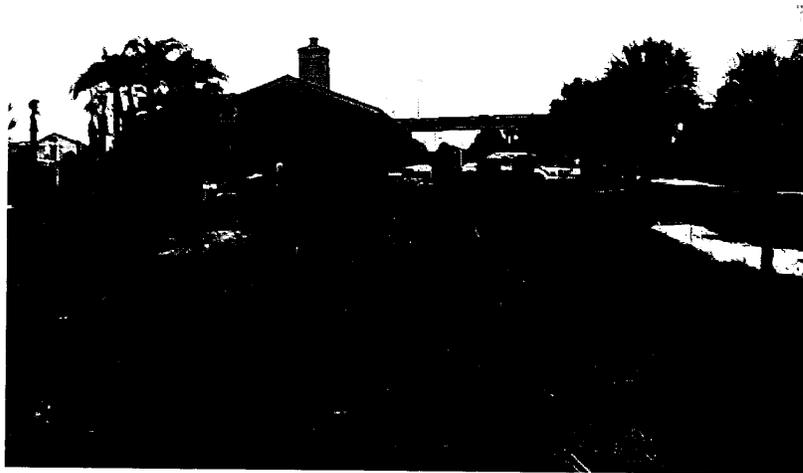
SW 902.50 LOOKING NORTH



SW 902.50 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 902.51 LOOKING NORTH



SW 902.51 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 902.80 LOOKING NORTH



SW 903.1 LOOKING NORTH



SW 903.1 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 903.19 LOOKING NORTH



SW 903.20 LOOKING NORTH



SW 903.30 LOOKING NORTH



SW 903.30 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 903.38 LOOKING NORTH



SW 903.44 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 903.4 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 903.66 LOOKING NORTH



SW 903.78 LOOKING SOUTH



SW 903.8 LOOKING NORTH

EXHIBIT E

SARASOTA HERALD-TRIBUNE
PUBLISHED DAILY
SARASOTA, SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

SEMINOLE GULF RAILWAY
MR. GORDON H. FAY
4110 CENTER POINTE DR., #207
FORT MYERS, FL 33916

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF SARASOTA

BEFORE THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY PERSONALLY APPEARED
MOYA NEVILLE, WHO ON OATH SAYS SHE IS ADVERTISING
DIRECTOR OF THE SARASOTA HERALD-TRIBUNE, A DAILY
NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED AT SARASOTA, IN SARASOTA COUNTY FLORIDA;
AND CIRCULATED IN SARASOTA DAILY; THAT THE ATTACHED COPY OF
ADVERTISEMENT, BEING A NOTICE IN THE MATTER OF:

NOTICE

IN THE COURT WAS PUBLISHED IN SARASOTA EDITION
OF SAID NEWSPAPER IN THE ISSUES OF:

OCTOBER 31, 2003

AFFIANT FURTHER SAYS THAT THE SAID SARASOTA HERALD-TRIBUNE
IS A NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED AT SARASOTA, IN SAID SARASOTA COUNTY,
FLORIDA, AND THAT THE SAID NEWSPAPER HAS THERETOFORE BEEN
CONTINUOUSLY PUBLISHED IN SAID SARASOTA COUNTY FLORIDA, EACH
DAY, AND HAS BEEN ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MAIL MATTER AT THE
POST OFFICE IN SARASOTA IN SAID SARASOTA, COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR
A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR NEXT PRECEDING THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF
THE ATTACHED COPY OF ADVERTISEMENT; AND AFFIANT FURTHER
SAYS THAT SHE HAS NEITHER PAID NOR PROMISED ANY PERSON, FIRM
OR CORPORATION ANY DISCOUNT, REBATE, COMMISSION OR REFUND
FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING THIS ADVERTISEMENT FOR
PUBLICATION IN THE SAID NEWSPAPER.

SIGNED _____

Moya Neville

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 31ST DAY OF
OCTOBER A.D., 2003 BY MOYA NEVILLE WHO IS PERSONALLY
KNOWN TO ME.

(SEAL)

Bobbie J. Clark
OFFICIAL NOTARY SEAL
BOBBIE J. CLARK
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION NO. CC968394
MY COMMISSION EXP. OCT. 11, 200

NOTARY PUBLIC

NOTICE
Seminole Gulf Railway, L.P. ("SGLR") gives notice that on or about November 14, 2003 it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 a petition for exemption pursuant to the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10502 from the prior approval under 49 U.S.C. 10903, et seq., permitting the abandonment of service on a 12.43 mile line of railroad between railroad milepost SW 892 outside the city limits of the City of Sarasota and milepost SW 904.4 near the City of Venice, Florida which traverses through United States Postal Service Zip Codes 34233, 34238, 34272, 34275 and 34285. The proceeding has been docketed as No. AB 400 (Sub-No. 3).

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 60 days after the filing of the petition for abandonment, exemption, comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 30 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to SEA, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling SEA at (202) 565-1545.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Request for environmental conditions, public use conditions on rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raised matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use) and offers of financial assistance must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423 (see 49 CFR 1104.104 and 1104.3(a)), and one (1) copy must be served on applicant's representative (see 49 CFR 1104.12(a)). Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Board's Office of Congressional and Public Services, at (202) 565-1539. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative, Eric Hocky, Gollatz, Griffin & Ewing, P.C., Four Penn. Center, Suite 200, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA 19103, (215) 563-9400.
Pub: October 31, 2003

Sarasota Herald-Tribune
 PO Drawer 1719
 Sarasota, FL 34230-1719



11/10/2003
 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING INVOICE
 For Billing Info Call: (941)957-5302

Amount Due	Account Number	Customer Phone	Billing Date
\$183.60	60069915	(239)275-6060	11/3/2003

SEMINOLE GULF RAILWAY
 MR. GORDON H. FAY
 4110 CENTER POINTE DR., #207
 FORT MYERS, FL 33916

Terms: **Payment is due upon receipt of statement.**



Summary of Charges

Ad Description	Purchase Order Data	Run Dates		Placement	Times		Amount
		Start	Stop		Run	Lines	
NOTICSEMINOLE GULF		10/31/03	10/31/03	0001	1	90	183.60

Total Charges: 183.60

NewsWorthy Memo

179

Please return this portion with your payment.

Amount Due	Account Number	Billing Date	Amount Paid	Account Name
\$183.60	60069915	11/3/2003		SEMINOLE GULF RAILWAY MR. GORDON H. FAY 4110 CENTER POINTE DR., #207 FORT MYERS, FL 33916

CHARGE IT! It is the easy way to pay.
 () Please Charge this Billing ONLY to my Credit Card.
 Visa () Master Card () Amex () Discover ()
 CARD NUMBER _____
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 SIGNATURE _____

Change of Address

Sarasota Herald-Tribune
 PO Box 31564
 Tampa, FL 33631-3564



421035686600000183607

EXHIBIT F

Venice Branch Historic Structure Analysis

The land upon which the Venice Branch is constructed was acquired by the Seaboard Air Line Railway Company principally during the latter half of 1910. The railroad was built soon thereafter. The only remaining structures on the line are several wooden timber bridges and a number of drainage pipe style culverts that convey water between ditch lines. The only other railroad related structure that existed when Seminole Gulf acquired the line in 1987 was the former passenger station at Venice, FL. This building and the surrounding land were sold to Sarasota County in 1998. The County has rehabilitated the station for other public use with a scheduled opening October 24, 2003.

There are no original construction records known to exist for any of the bridges. Over the years, most, if not all, of the components of each bridge have been replaced several times. As a result most of the components of each bridge are likely to be less than fifty years old.

The culverts are principally concrete pipes of unknown manufacture dates. They have been repaired or replaced over the years as part of routine maintenance. No culvert construction records exist.

Bridges

MP SW 892.24 "Meeting House Gully" Fifty foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 893.41 "White Slough" Seventy-five foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 895.27 "North Creek" Thirty-seven foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 895.69 "no name" Twenty-five foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 897.37 "South Creek" One Hundred seventy-five foot open deck timber trestle

MP SW 897.93 State Route 681 Overhead four lane public highway bridge

MP SW 900.80 "Shaket Creek" Two open deck timber trestles (170 feet and 163 feet long respectively) connected by a twenty-six foot long steel girder span

MP SW 901.65 "Curry Creek" Two open deck timber trestles (163 feet and 137 feet long respectively) connected by a twenty-six foot long steel girder span

MP SW 902.41 "Hatchet Creek" Eighty-eight foot long open deck timber trestle

MP SW 902.73 "Venice Avenue" Overhead two lane public highway bridge

RECEIVED TIME OCT. 15. 4:46PM

PRINT TIME OCT. 15. 4:47PM

10/15/2003 WED 16:41 [TX/RX NO 6114] 003

Culverts

MP SW 892.94 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 893.16 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 894.01 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 895.91 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 895.99 31' x 36" Cast Iron Pipe
MP SW 896.84 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 897.54 48' x 48" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 899.36 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 899.88 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 900.22 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 901.12 32' x 36" Concrete Pipe
MP SW 903.06 32' x 36" Two Cast Iron Pipes
MP SW 903.55 36' x 36" Three Concrete Pipes

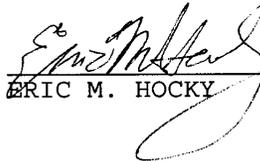
RECEIVED TIME OCT. 15. 4:46PM

PRINT TIME OCT. 15. 4:47PM

10/15/2003 WED 16:41 [TX/RX NO 6114] 004

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this date a copy of the foregoing Environmental/Historic Report was served on the persons shown on the attached list by first class mail, postage prepaid.


ERIC M. HOCKY

Dated: November 19, 2003

SERVICE/ADDRESS LIST

Florida State Clearinghouse
The Department of Community Affairs
Executive Office of the Governor - OPB
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Federal Consistency Coordinator
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104

Florida Coastal Management Program
Florida Department of Community Affairs
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

Sarasota County Board of Commissioners
Administration Center
1660 Ringling Boulevard
Sarasota, Florida 34236

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Southeast Region 4
1875 Century Blvd
Suite 400
Atlanta, Georgia 30345

Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
3900 Drane Field Road
Lakeland, FL 33811-1299

US Army Engineer Division, South Atlantic
60 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8801

Southeast Region
Regional Director
National Park Service
100 Alabama St., SW
1924 Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

National Park Service
National Center For Recreation
and Conservation
M.S. 3622
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

National Park Services
Land Resources Division
M.S. 3622
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O. Box 14510
Gainesville, Florida 32614

Natural Resource Management Division
South Florida Water Management District
2301 McGregor Boulevard
Fort Myers, FL 33901

Mr. Richard A. Snay
Chief, Spatial Reference System Div.
United States Dept. of Commerce
NOAA, N/NGS2
Station 8813
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

West Coast Inland Navigation District
P.O. Box 1845
Venice, FL 34284

Division of Historical Resources
and State History: Preservation Officer
Florida Department of State
The R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399