



1945-1970

**POWESHIEK COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION
DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT**

1970

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Montezuma, Iowa

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Groups Who Assist The District

1. *Soil Conservation Service*
2. *State Soil Conservation Committee*
3. *County A S C S (ACP Program)*
4. *County Extension Service*
5. *State Conservation Commission*
6. *Federal Fish & Wildlife Service*
7. *State & National Assn. of District Commissioners*
8. *Grinnell Kiwanis Club*
9. *Newspapers*
10. *Radio & TV Stations*
11. *County Board of Supervisors*
12. *Earth Contractors*
13. *Vocational Agriculture*
14. *4-H Clubs*
15. *Boy Scouts*
16. *Public Schools*
17. *County Farm Bureau*
18. *County Grange*
19. *County Conservation Board*
20. *F H A*
21. *Professional & businessmen*
22. *Izaak Walton League*
23. *N. F. O.*



Seated L to R: Virgil B. Edwards, District Conservationist; LaVonne Byers, State Clerk; Clarence D. Livermore, Conservation Technician; Standing: Don K. Schuldt, Chairman District Commissioners; Miles Clayton, Commissioner; Carroll Elscott, Commissioner.

Area Staff who assist the District include:

A. Keith Glandon, Area Conservationist; Deane S. Glen, Civil Engineer; Francis W. Vos, Civil Engineer Technician; Wilma D. Kimball, Area Clerk.

AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE

Office located on first floor of the Masonic building, corner of Third and Main, Montezuma, Iowa.

The Poweshiek County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service administers the action farm program in the county. Any farmer, owner or operator may participate in the various programs and has a vote in selecting the township and county officers, and an election for such officers is held annually. All provisions of the program are carried out by the local officers and includes the processing of price support loans, approval for cost-sharing in connection with REAP practices, Conservation Reserve and Cropland Adjustment agreement, and the Feed Grain program diversion of acres, wool program and the processing of facility and mobile dryer loans.

The County Committee officers are as follows: Melvin J. Kasal, Chairman, Evan J. Johnston, Vice Chairman, and Lloyd L. McBride, Regular Member.



OFFICE PERSONNEL:

Frances M. Schlesselman, Mary F. Van Gorp, Roger Johannes, Phyllis I. Garner, Katherine E. Yount, (Program Assistants); Gordon E. Braley (County Executive Director).

We invite you to

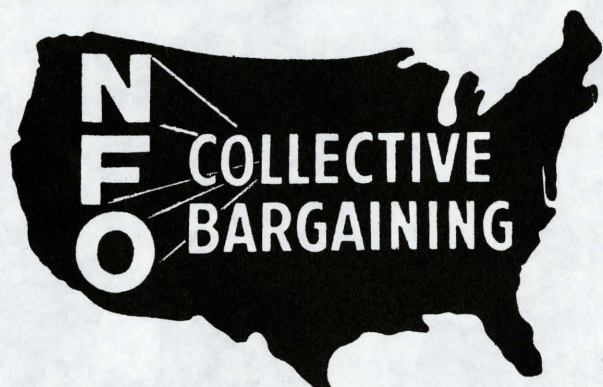
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POWESHIK COUNTY
NATIONAL FARMERS ORGANIZATION



Charles Wengert, County Extension Director; Kathryn Wemer, Extension Home Economist; Dave Waggoner, 4-H & Youth Leader; Judy Rama, 4-H & Youth Leader.

The Extension Service is the educational arm of Iowa State University. Its purpose is to bring the results of studies and research conducted at Iowa State to the people. The assistance of the Extension Service is available to all of the people of the county, both rural and urban.

The cooperative Extension Service is set up so that Iowa State University at Ames and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperate in the educational endeavor.

The educational program has been modernized to include work with low income groups. Dave Waggoner is the present representative in the Expanded Nutrition Program. His work will be in Jasper and Poweshiek counties. He will work in the area of better diets and counseling.



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The County Extension Council, made up of one representative elected from each township and the city of Grinnell together with committees on agricultural production, home economics, 4-H, community development, and public affairs, plan a yearly program to suit the educational needs of the people of the county.



Virginia Mills,
Office Assistant

The Extension Director, Home Economist, and 4-H and Youth Leader have had training at Iowa State University and are approved and recommended for positions in the counties by the state Extension Staff. With the help of specialists and supervisors from this staff, they are responsible for the planning and execution of the county program. Part of their salaries is paid from county taxes with the remainder being shared by the State Extension Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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The Poweshiek County Soil and Water Conservation District will have been in existence 25 years.

Each year has added many new cooperators and a great number of conservation practices applied to the farmland of the County. As we all know unfavorable weather in 1970 had some bearing on the accomplishments, but there was a decided desire on the part of farmers to carry out many conservation practices. All that was planned fortunately could not be completed.

We feel that 1971 will find those who did not accomplish their goals in 1970, will do so in 1971.

We were very pleased to have a Sweepstakes Winner in our County and also had the runner-up. It is always a pleasure to recognize those people who are striving to preserve their resources.

With the new change in our system in electing new commissioners we are happy to add two more commissioners to our staff which will make five. 1971 is election year with Don Schuldt leaving our staff. We will be electing three new people.

The new rule allows us to incorporate the city, we can now elect persons from the city as well as persons from rural. We are excited to know that we can help solve city problems as well as rural. We feel now we have the chance to help everyone in our County to solve erosion problems.

We are very pleased to supply conservation workbooks to our schools.

Our technicians had the pleasure to visit most of our Voc. Agriculture and most of the 6th grade science classes to lecture our children on ecology and the natural environment and our duties here in the county.

During the past year we had personnel change that involved Clement McBride, Conservation Technician, who went to Williamsburg, and Clarence Livermore, Conservation Technician, who assumed the duties in Poweshiek County. Livermore came from Storm Lake, (Buena Vista) County.

Even though the District has been in operation for 25 years many people are not aware of the assistance that can be received in planning their farm, plus the technical and cost share assistance to apply practices. Knowing this we must continuously inform people of the District and conservation program in all its aspects.

During the year thirty news articles were released to news medias.

Other education programs involved seven tours to show conservation practices in their natural environment. The schools and classes were Malcom 6th grade science class, Brooklyn 6th grade science class, Montezuma 6th grade science class and Montezuma 10th grade Voc. Agri. class, Hartwick 6th grade science class, and Grinnell Fairview 6th grade science class.

NEW DISTRICT COOPERATORS FOR 1970

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Don Mayo | 36. George Brown |
| 2. Eugene Dayton (2) | 37. William Vogt |
| 3. Jack Chedester | 38. Lee DeHoedt |
| 4. Jack Patton | 39. Charles Carnahan |
| 5. W.C. Molison est. | 40. Lauren Keller |
| 6. Lauren Henry | 41. Bernie Hanson |
| 7. Horace Davidson | 42. Richard Widmer |
| 8. Paul Good | 43. Leo Altemeier |
| 9. Fred Momyer | 44. Harry Duffus |
| 10. Gary Thompson | 45. Archie Johnston |
| 11. Harold Thompson | 46. John Haggerty |
| 12. Kenneth Keller | 47. Conservation Board (2) |
| 13. Alfred Steen | 48. Lois Jorris |
| 14. Norman Hall | 49. Kenneth Haynes |
| 15. Gene Morgan | 50. Walter Waterbeck |
| 16. Freeman Hall | 51. Robert Dimit |
| 17. Donald Hasselbrink | 52. Dale Rubenbauer |
| 18. Milo Leimberer | 53. Richard Thomas |
| 19. Mrs. Milo Leimberer | 54. Everett Williamson |
| 20. Harry Kilmer | 55. Paul Morrison |
| 21. John L. Henry | 56. Gordon Braley |
| 22. Melvin Smith (2) | 57. Arthur Iverson |
| 23. Forrest Doty | 58. Lyle & Thomas Baker |
| 24. Josephine Swindle (2) | 59. Kenneth Cheney |
| 25. George Morrison | 60. Selma Dickerson |
| 26. Stuart Porter (9) | 61. John DeCoster |
| 27. Glen Van Dyke | 62. Mrs. Dave Lincoln |
| 28. E.C. Hammond | 63. Sam Graham |
| 29. H. & C. Calderwood | 64. Rober L. Peterson |
| 30. M.B. Davis | 65. Leo Deveroux |
| 31. Richard Trucks | 66. Keith Howell |
| 32. Lavacia Kahler | 67. Charles Routier |
| 33. Raymond Van Wyk | 68. E.L. Bleadsoe |
| 34. John Wallis | 69. Cargill Research Inc. |
| 35. H. Stafford | 70. C.W. Austin |

ACCOMPLISHMENT SUMMARY 1970

Soil Conservation Surveys.....	2330 Acres
New District Cooperators.....	82 No.
Basic Conservation Plans.....	29 No.
Group Plans Prepared.....	10 No.
Contour Farming (Newly staked).....	857 Acres
Strip Cropping (Newly staked).....	528 Acres
Grassed Waterways.....	49 Acres
Wildlife Habitat Development.....	23 Acres
Ponds built.....	6 No.
Terraces & Diversion.....	34,818 L. Ft.
Gully Control Structures.....	10 No.
Pasture Renovation.....	863 Acres
Water Control Structures (Tile Outlet).....	80 No.
Tile Installed.....	504,304 L. Ft.
Mulch Tillage.....	44,725 Acres
Tree Planting.....	7 Acres
Windbreaks.....	2.5 Acres
Farms Serviced.....	414 No.

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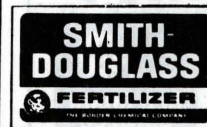
Montezuma, Iowa

Home
623-5185

BASIC CONSERVATION PLANS FOR 1970

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. L. & L. Sanders | 16. J.H. Clements |
| 2. Raymond Watson | 17. John Bates |
| 3. Robert Dimit | 18. George Morrison |
| 4. Earl Hicks | 19. Ronald Adams |
| 5. Howard Johnston | 20. Paul Thomson |
| 6. Gary Thompson | 21. F.H.S. Timms |
| 7. Harold Thompson | 22. Roy McClenathan |
| 8. Glen Van Dyke | 23. Merle Harris |
| 9. Allen Plesek | 24. Robert Maxwell |
| 10. Raymond Osborn | 25. Glen Holderness |
| 11. Johnson & Johnson | 26. L.R. Schwertferger |
| 12. Glen Doty | 27. William Jack |
| 13. Eva Lundeen | 28. Robert Haworth |
| 14. Melvin Elliott | 29. Edward Hall |
| 15. Sauter Brothers | |

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Friends of the Soil Honor Roll

The following Poweshiek County Farmers have been recognized for outstanding achievement in Soil Conservation.

- 1949 - Lauren W. Wright
 - 1950 - Albert Pleisek
 - 1952 - Myron and Richard Sears
 - 1953 - George Norden, A. L. Leydens, Elmer Dunnick, Kenneth L. Dieterich
 - 1954 - Wayne Reams, Harry Edelen, Arnold Bastian
 - 1955 - Lewis Schultz, Earl Fowler, Robert McWilliams, Dean McWilliams
 - 1956 - Gerrit Septer, Jean Cavell, Miles Clayton, Raymond Vogt
 - 1957 - Arthur Blome, Janet Wilkins, Calvin Korn, Paul DeJong
 - 1958 - Lawrence Wallis, Forrest Read, Keith Davis, Gilbert Phipps
 - 1959 - Alvin and Don Schuldt, Louis Newkirk, Paul Hudnutt
 - 1960 - Waldo and Harold McLennan, Benedict Peterson, Milfor Neuhaus, Elmer Urfer
 - 1961 - James Van Arkle, Mrs. Harold Evans, Vern Brooke, George Morrison
 - 1962 - *David Anthony, Louis Newkirk, Edward Henry, Philip C. Eichhorn
 - 1963 - *Ed Lowe, *Roger Sampson, Byron Goldwaite, Marvin Montgomery, George Houser
 - 1964 - *Melvin Price, Julia Vogt, Wesley Meyers, Lauren Wright
 - 1965 - Arlo Taylor, Henry Rolffs, Elizabeth Revyuk Estate, Frank and Madeleine Herbrandt
 - 1966 - Eugene Merck, *Phillip Lamb, *Charles DePauw, Arnout Dunnick
 - 1967 - Marion Palmer, E. L. York Estate, Earl Heishman, Charles Fenner
 - 1968 - Ralph Phillips, *Richard Seeland, *Claire Fenner, Donald Brau
 - 1969 - Patricia Waterbury, Leonard Thys, Sylvan VeVerka, Raymond Cadden
 - 1970 - *Clarence Van Wyk, C. R. McLain, Howard Johnston, Raymond Gregory, John Thompson.
- *Region VII Sweepstakes Winners also.

Ver Steegt Construction

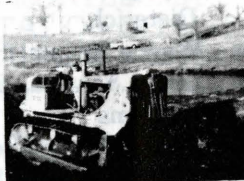
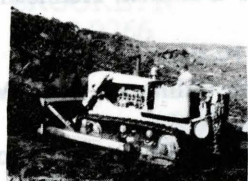
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EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE STATE OF IOWA 1969-1970 FISCAL YEAR

I-M BUDGET		\$500.00
Commissioners mileage, meals, hotel	\$261.16	
Office Supplies	230.04	
Office Expense	8.49	
Total	499.69	499.69

plus .31

I-M BUDGET		\$100.00
Commissioners mileage, meals, hotel	93.31	
Total	93.31	93.31
	93.31	6.69

II-M BUDGET		\$5700.00
Gross earnings (Clerk & Tech)	\$5082.66	
State Retirement	177.93	
Federal (SS tax)	243.94	
Health Insurance	72.00	
Tech. Travel	76.27	
Equipment	45.00	

ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION		2.20
Total	5697.80	5697.80
	5697.80	0

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Outstanding Conservation Teacher Award Program



The outstanding Conservation Teacher Award Program is sponsored by the Des Moines Register & Tribune and the Iowa Farm and Home Register co-operating with the Iowa Conservation Education Council as a division of the Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Awards Program. The objective of the program is to recognize public or parochial school teachers of kindergarden through twelfth grade who are performing outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard our national heritage of national and human resources.

The Poweshiek County Soil Conservation District commissioners are happy to make this award to Mrs. Barbara Susens. Mrs. Susens teaches 5th grade at Grinnell-Newburg Elementary school.

Poweshiek County Forestry Program

In 1970 twelve rural landowners in Poweshiek County planted over 11,000 trees and shrubs, purchased from the Iowa Conservation Nursery at Ames. These plants were planted for erosion control, wildlife cover and reforestation. A variety of trees were planted including several kinds of evergreens and hardwoods. Several wildlife shrubs including honeysuckle, ninebark and many others. Many people bought the wildlife packet that includes 250 plants that are suitable for wildlife cover. This packet also includes 50 pine trees along with the shrubs.

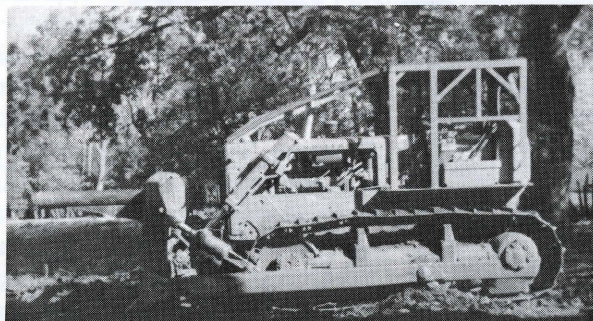


Each year the State Conservation Nursery sells over 1 million plants for the above mentioned purposes. The nursery stock is restricted in that it can not be planted for ornamental or windbreak purposes or planted within city limits unless it is on a farm. The nursery stock is

(Continued on page 21)

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sold at a non-profit price from 2 to 2 1/2 cents apiece, with a minimum order of 500 plants. The plants may be ordered from the local offices of the Soil Conservation District, ASCS or County Extension Office. They may also be ordered from the local Conservation Officer or District Forester of the Conservation Commission.

Free technical advice is available to rural landowners on the planting of trees and shrubs by contacting the District Forester for their county. The forester for Poweshiek County is Roy Hatcher, Marshalltown. The Forester also has a tree planting machine available for anyone who can use it in their planting. Technical advice is also available on timber management and marketing assistance on timber products. You can contact the forester direct by writing to Box 681, Marshalltown, Iowa, or through the local Soil Conservation District Office, Montezuma.

More people are becoming aware of the importance in planting trees and wildlife shrubs. Trees not only help beautify an area, such as a farm pond, but can also utilize sub-marginal land by growing a timber product on it. There are a variety to timber products raised in Iowa. The fastest product is Christmas trees. Christmas trees can be harvested from 6 to 7 years after planting. Today, thousands of Iowa grown Christmas trees are harvested each year. It is a growing timber industry in Iowa. Lumber is the main product from Iowa trees today. Naturally, the harvest cycle on lumber is considerably longer, 60 to 100 years, depending upon the specie of tree being grown. Most people that plant for timber crops of this length plant with the idea of establishing a future income for their children or grandchildren. Today, there has been a lot of interest in the planting of Black walnut because of its high value. Even though a landowner may not harvest his own planting the value of the land on which the walnut is planted increases in value as the trees continue to grow. Trees are a good investment on the right kind of land. There are certain tax benefits in planting of trees and also for existing stands of timber if certain requirements are met. For more information on the Forestry Program contact the local district forester.

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F.H.A.

Concern, action, and accomplishment in the war against decline of rural community life are objectives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. To achieve these goals, the Farmers Home Administration provides loans and professional agricultural and general management assistance to rural people.

Through loans and technical assistance in farm and money management, FHA helps farmers obtain the resources they need for successful farming. FHA makes loans to help nonfarm families in rural areas and small towns secure better housing, adequate water supplies,

waste disposal systems, senior citizen housing, and other improvements.

The County Supervisory staffs extend credit and supervision to assist rural families to develop profitable farming operations, improve rural housing and provide rural community facilities, particularly among the low income rural people.

Applications for loans in Poweshiek and Mahaska County are handled through the FHA office in Oskaloosa, Iowa. In each county a committee of three farmers from the county certifies eligibility of applicants and maximum amount of loan, and reviews borrower's progress. All loan applicants are processed without regard to race, color, creed or national origin of applicant.

For more information contact John A. Crumly, County Supervisor, Farmers Home Administration, Box 518, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

As we near the end of January the bulk of Iowa's hunting seasons will come to a close. Rabbits, fox, raccoon and woodchuck remain open until February 28th.

Deer are quite common in Poweshiek county, but because of the limited number of licenses issued in this area not too many deer were killed. However those who had licenses and hunted had good success.

The pheasant is Iowa's number one game bird, and Poweshiek County has one of the highest pheasant populations in the state. Along with high bird populations come large numbers of hunters, many from other states. This season there were hunters from twenty-

(Continued on page 24)

MONTEZUMA STATE BANK MONTEZUMA

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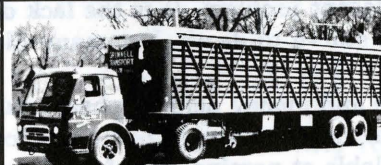
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six states hunting in Poweshiek County.

Some people are apprehensive about non-resident hunters and complain that they take too many birds away from the local hunter. Non-resident hunters take less than seventeen percent of the total pheasant kill. The non-resident hunter contributes quite a bit to the local economy. First he pays twenty dollars for a license usually stays a night or two in a motel, eats several meals in the local restaurants, and makes one or two purchase's in a service station.

During the hunting season there are usually some unpleasant encounters between hunters and farmers, but this year I had very few complaints of this nature.

Since the recent blizzard many people wanted to know where they could put out feed for the pheasants. Feeding the pheasants does no harm, but lack of feed is not the pheasant problem. It is the lack of good heavy cover. Pheasants do not starve to death, but many die because of exposure.

For those who want to spend time and money helping pheasants, more benefit would be derived from the purchase of plantings for wildlife cover. These plants are available at nominal cost from your S. C. S. or write to me, Ralph Leigh, Conservation Officer, Marengo, Iowa.

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Division I Award Winner



Clarence Van Wyk, Division I, Conservation Award Winner for 1970.

Pictured L to R: Verlan, Dale, Clarence, Mrs. Van Wyk (Reva), Deloris & Marlow. Two Children not pictured, Kenneth who is studying ministry, and Judy who is now Mrs. Clarence Van See of Sully.

Clarence Van Wyk, Sweepstake Winner, Division I, which is for Owner-Operator who has maintained a complete conservation program for a period of years.

Van Wyk has been conservation farming for the past fourteen years as a cooperator with the Poweshiek Soil District, but was a conservation farmer long before then. Presently he owns and operates 360 acres, Washington township, section 29.

Some of the conservation practices on the Van Wyk farm include 130 acres contour, 81 acres strip cropping, 8 acres waterways, 4396 feet terraces, 17,925 feet tile, plus 80 acres of improved pasture. Good pasture management has enabled Van Wyk to increase his beef cow herd from 24 to 80 head. Also feeds out 400 head of steers each year.

Van Wyk is busy with community organizations, being a member of school board, Sunday school teacher and served as baseball manager for Little League and Babe Ruth teams.

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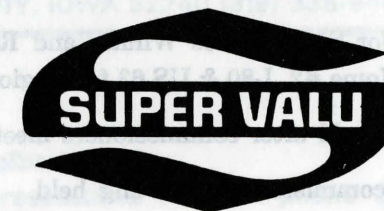
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DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1970

1. District Commissioners attend Short Course at Ames.
2. Contractors meeting held in February.
3. Commissioners attend Regional meeting Colony Village.
4. 500 Comic books purchased from SCSA for distribution to youngsters taken on conservation tours.
5. Office personnel attendance at Pasture Improvement meeting held in Jasper County.
6. 2500 Annual Reports mailed.
7. Soil Stewardship Booklets mailed to ministers of County.
8. Arlene Ford, teacher attended Springbrook Conservation Camp.
9. Conservation placemats distributed to restaurants of the County during Conservation Week.
10. Seven conservation tours and nine classroom lectures presented.
11. Attendance at Regional meeting Amana, by commissioners.
12. County Conservation Achievement Award Winners chosen, Clarence Van Wyk, Division I; C. R. McLain (ow), Howard Johnston (op), Division II.
13. Commissioners Conference at Waterloo attended by State Clerk and Commissioners.
14. Grinnell Kiwanis luncheon for County Conservation Award Winners attended by commissioners, SCS personnel along with winners and their wives.
15. Awards dinner for Sweepstakes Winner and Regional Winners held at Prairie Home #2, I-80 & US 63 for Region VII.
16. Christmas Party held after commissioners meeting
17. Twelve regular commissioners meeting held.



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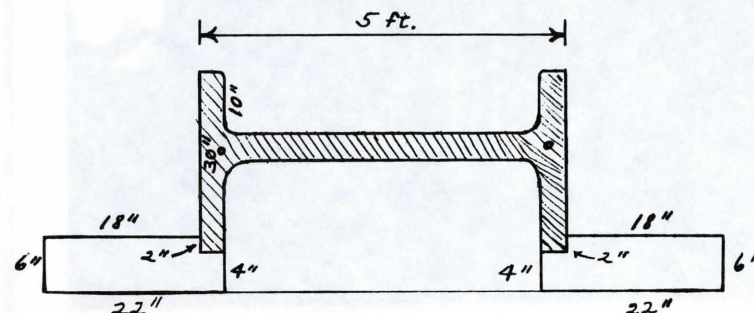
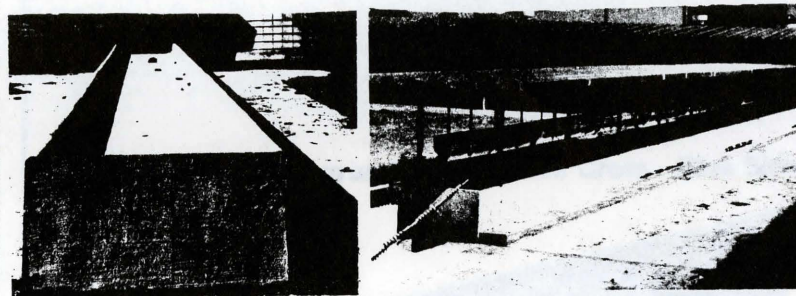
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