OP-S

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 2288
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CESAM-OP-S
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MS01-02924-H-AF

17 September 2001

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

FILLING OF WETLANDS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING CHURCH FACILITY, GULFPORT, HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: Michael Memorial Baptist Church
c/o EnviroSouth
Attention: Mr. Gary Cuevas
6017 Vista Circle
Gulfport, Mississippi 39507

WATERWAY: Biloxi Bay Basin, Section 25, Township 6 South, Range 12 West, Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi.

WORK: The applicant proposes to retain the unauthorized impacts to 1.7 acres of low to moderate forested bayhead type wetlands in conjunction with plans to expand an existing church facility. The project site would be cleared and graded. The project area contains 2.9 acres of wetlands. The applicant has filled about 1.2 acres and land cleared 0.5 acre of wetlands. The remaining wetlands (1.2 acres) located at the southwest corner of the property is undisturbed. Approximately 4,100 cubic yards of suitable fill material (sand/clay) would be used at the site to bring it to the desired elevation. To compensate for the loss of wetlands, the applicant proposes to purchase credits at a wetland mitigation bank at a 2:1 ratio. All work will be in accordance with the enclosed plans provided by the applicant.

The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Mississippi in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, and upon completion of the required advertising, a determination relative to certification will be made.

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the State Coastal Zone Management Program. A determination relative to consistency will be made by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) can be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

11 September 2001

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

Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and no properties listed in or eligible for the National Register are known to exist which would be affected by the proposed work. This review constitutes the full extent of cultural resources investigations unless comment to this notice is received documenting that significant sites or properties exist which may be affected by this work, or that adequately documents that a potential exists for the location of significant sites or properties within the permit area. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer and the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Division of Archeological Services.

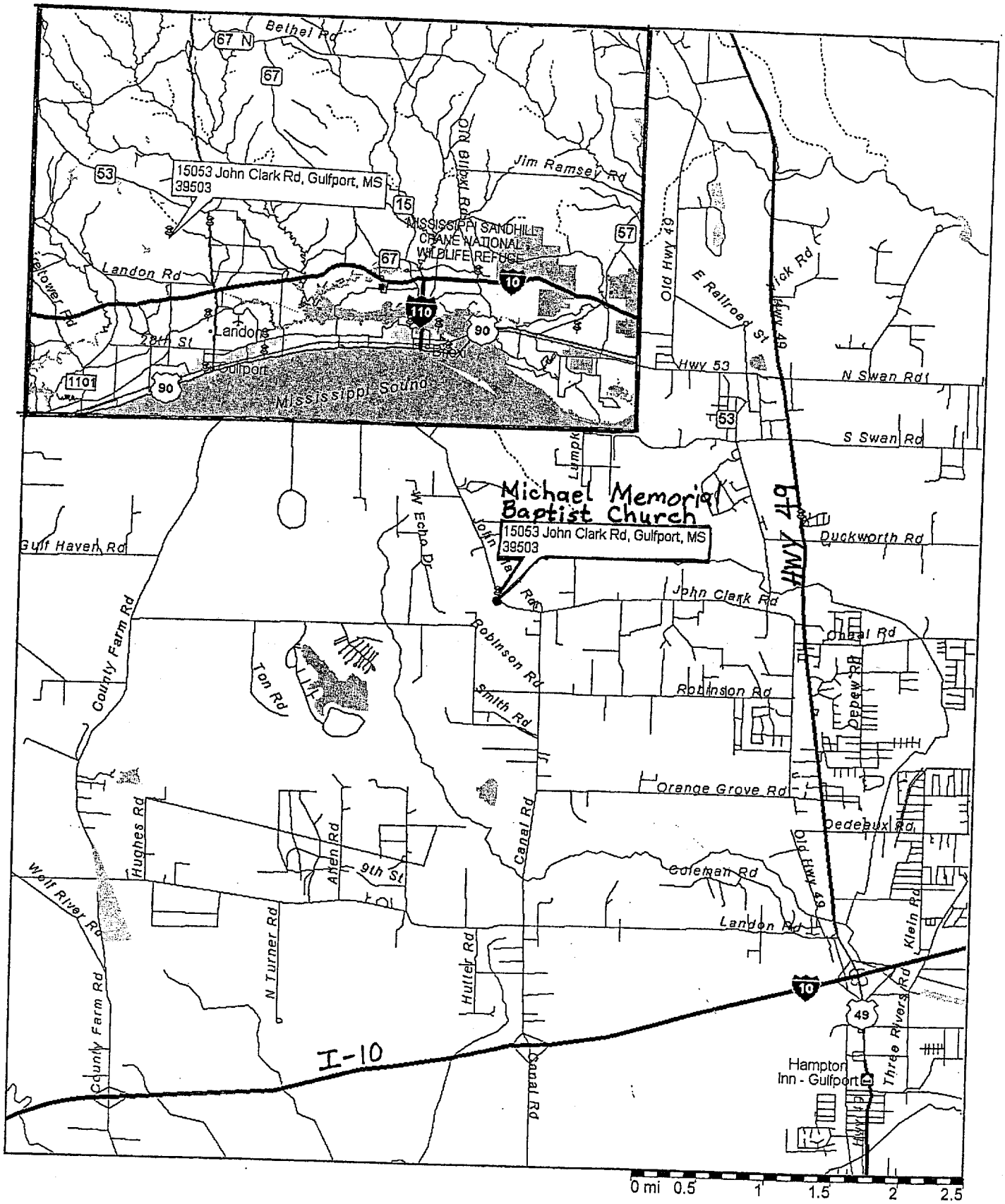
Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicates that the proposed activity will not affect listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **MS01-02924-H-AF** and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: Regulatory Branch, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 10385, Jackson, Mississippi 39109, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, in time to be received prior to **17 October 2001**.

If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact this office, **Mr. Munther N. Sahawneh**, telephone number **(251) 694-3786**. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures


Michael Memorial Baptist Church
15053 John Clark Rd, Gulfport, MS 39503
15053 John Clark Rd, Gulfport, MS 39503
Bethel Rd
67 N
67
53
15
57
Jim Ramsey Rd
Old Biloxi Rd
MISSISSIPPI SANDHILL CRANE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
Landon Rd
10
110
90
1101
Landon
28th St
Gulfport
Biloxi
Mississippi Sound
Old Hwy 49
E Railroad St
Hwy 49
Hwy 53
N Swan Rd
S Swan Rd
Lumpkin Rd
W Echo Dr
John Clark Rd
Duckworth Rd
Gulf Haven Rd
County Farm Rd
Tan Rd
Robinson Rd
Smith Rd
Ohaal Rd
Depew Rd
Orange Grove Rd
Dedeaux Rd
Hughes Rd
Allen Rd
9th St
Canal Rd
Coleman Rd
Wolf River Rd
N Turner Rd
Hutter Rd
Klein Rd
Three Rivers Rd
I-10
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Hampton Inn - Gulfport
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STATES
OF COMMERCE
ODETIC SURVEY
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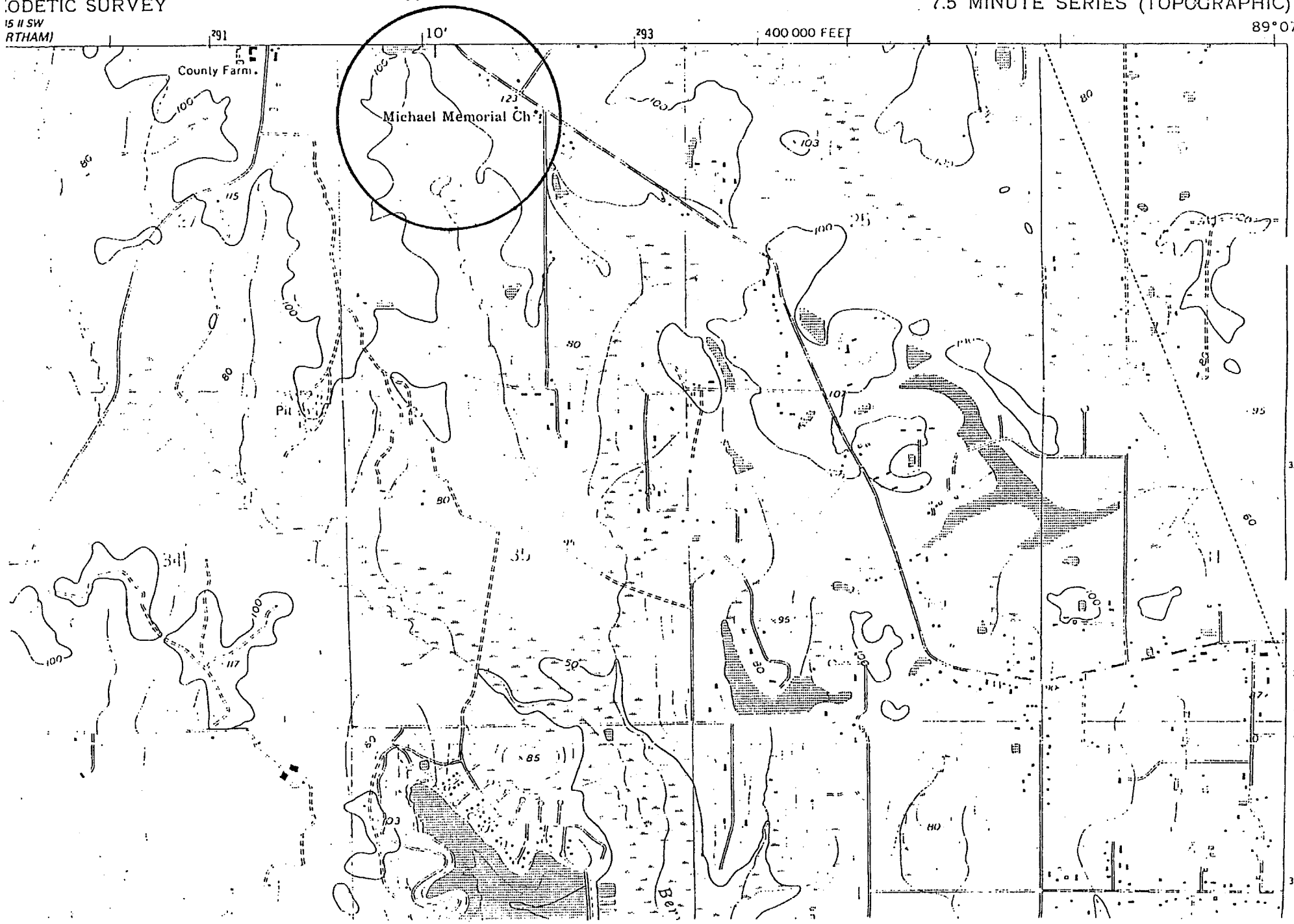
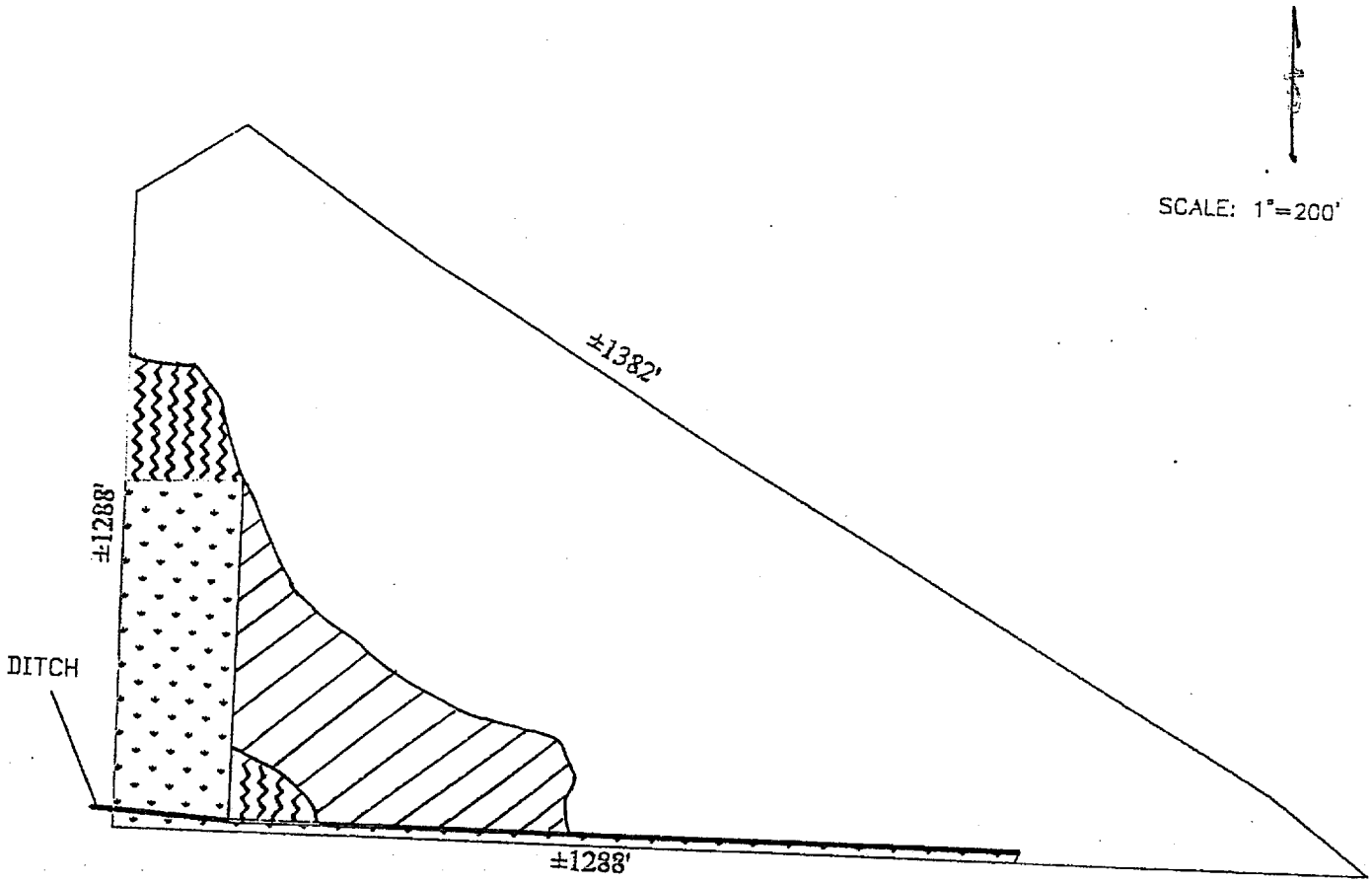
RTHAM)

GULFPORT NW QUADRANGLE
MISSISSIPPI–HARRISON CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



WETLANDS DELINEATION



Unauthorized FILL Location ± 1.2 ACRES

Unauthorized Landclearing: ± 0.5 Acres

FILL DISCHARGE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST – 1.7 ACRES ±

Undisturbed Wetlands: ± 1.2 Acres

	MICHAEL MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH / JOHN CLARK RD.	Section 25, T6S, R12W Harrison County, MS

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE
P.O. BOX 2288
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MOBILE, AL
PERMIT NO. 283

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
PROTECT & ENHANCE
THE ENVIRONMENT
DOES THE JOB

MISSILE LAUNCHING FACILITIES
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
MAINTENANCE OF NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS
POWER GENERATION
WATER QUALITY
FLOOD CONTROL