

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

CESAM-RD-M PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2021-00418-MGS June 29, 2021

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES BUREAU OF WETLANDSS PERMITTING

CONSTRUCT A DUAL BOAT RAMP WITH FINGER PIERS AND A KAYAK LAUNCH WITH ACCESS PIER AT SOUTH EDGE OF WALKER YARD AND NORTH EDGE OF COMYNIE BAYOU, PASCAGOULA, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) 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: Ingalls Shipbuilding

Attn: Mr. Tim Hardy 501 Ingalls Avenue Pascagoula, MS 39567

AGENT: Machado Patano, PLLC

Attention: Mr. Nick Moody 918 Howard Avenue, Suite F

Biloxi. MS 39530

WATERWAY: COMYNIE BAYOU NEAR DISCHARGE TO PASCAGOULA RIVER, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

LOCATION: The proposed dual boat ramp (with finger piers), temporary coffer dams, and kayak launch (with access pier) would be located at 2607 Front Street within Walker Yard Park. These structures would be located at the south edge of the Park and north edge of Comynie Bayou between approximate Latitude 30.359350° North, Longitude -88.563040° West, Section 5, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi 36957.

PROJECT PURPOSE: The purpose of the project is for the development of recreational structures at south edge of Walker Yard Park and north edge of Comynie Bayou, which discharges to the Pascagoula River.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to construct a dual ramp with finger piers (6 feet by 55 feet) on each side and within the middle of the two 20-feet wide boat ramps. The coffer dams would be set in-place to allow for 610 cubic yards of limestone, 350 cubic yards of which would be placed below mean high tide to form the base of the ramp and piers. The work would also include the construction of a kayak launch (20 feet by 34 feet) at the end of an access pier (5 feet by 24 feet) on the west side of the boat ramp within unvegetated water bottoms. The USACE has determined the permit area to include all the waters which encompass the proposed structures along the south edge of Walker Yard Park and north edge of Comynie Bayou, which discharges to the Pascagoula River.

Mitigation: The applicant did not propose mitigation for the placement of fill material within open waters of Comynie Bayou.

Water Quality and Coastal Zone Management: The applicant has been advised to coordinate with the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) by submitting a pre-filing meeting request. The applicant has received a Coastal Zone Management (CZM) consistency determination from the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDEQ).

Historic Properties: In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the undertaking defined in this Notice is being considered for the potential to effect cultural and historic properties within the Permit Area. The National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) database and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) Historic Resources Inventory Map (HRIM) have been reviewed by the USACE. The NRHP identifies two sites, one on the south side of Comynie Bayou and one at the north end of Walker Yard, both of which are outside the Permit Area. The HRIM database identifies the presence of a National Register District at the north end of Walker Yard outside the Permit Area. The USACE has not yet determined the proposed project's effect on cultural resources or historic properties within the Permit Area. The USACE is seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer, federally recognized American Indian tribes, local historical societies, museums, universities, the National Park Service, and the general public regarding the existence, or the potential for existence, of significant cultural and historic properties which may be affected by the work.

Endangered Species: Upon the USACE's preliminary review and evaluation of the 2021 Federal List of Threatened and Endangered Species for the Jackson County HUC Zone (Lower West Pascagoula River – Pascagoula Rivers; 031700060303) and utilization of the Standard Local Operating Procedures for Endangered Species (SLOPES) agreement for Mississippi, the USACE's preliminary determination is that the proposed project may affect, but not likely to adversely affect the West Indian Manatee (with Appendix D Conditions) or its critical habitat. For the remaining species, the project should have no effect on the Piping Plover, Red Knot, Black Rail, Green Sea Turtle, Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle, Loggerhead Sea Turtle, Gulf Sturgeon, or their critical habitat. The USACE is seeking comment from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for information on whether any listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat may be present in the area, which would be affected by the proposed activity.

Essential Fish Habitat: This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The proposed project and Permit Area would affect the water bottoms of the Comynie Bayou, which discharges to the Pascagoula River. Our initial determination is the proposed action will **not adversely impact** EFH or federally managed fisheries. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Environmental Protection Agency: 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.

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 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,

historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

Comments: The USACE 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 of Engineers 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.

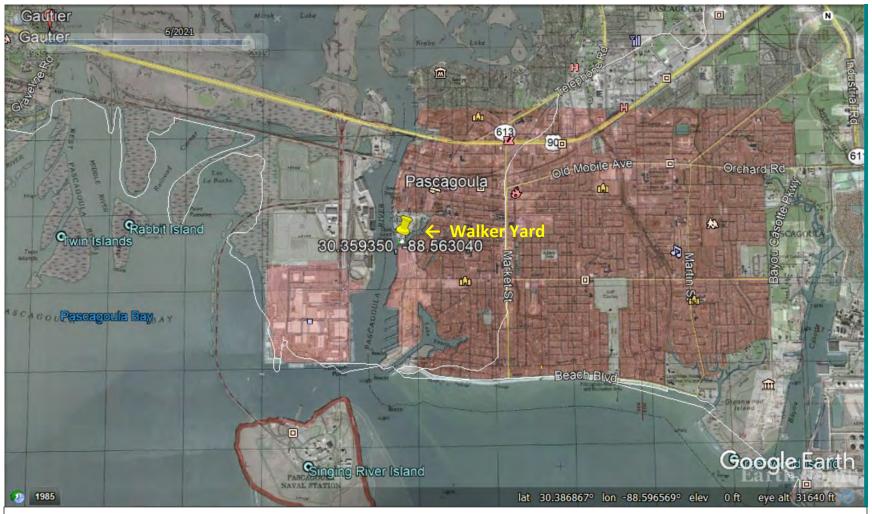
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this Notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Correspondence concerning this publication should refer to Public Notice Number SAM-2021-00418-MGS. Please direct any written comments to the Project Manager at USACE, RD-M, Attention: Mr. Michael G. Stevens, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, AL 36628-0001 or via email (Michael.G.Stevens2@usace.army.mil). You may also send a copy of your correspondence to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Environmental Permitting Division, Attention: Ms. Florance Bass, P.E. via email FBass@MDEQ.MS.GOV or postal mail at Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, MS 39225 and to the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Bureau of Wetlands Permitting, Attention: Ms. Jennifer Wilder via email at Jennifer.Wilder@dmr.ms.gov or postal mail at 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530.

All Comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this Public Notice. If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the Project Manager at (251) 694-3702 or email at Michael.G.Stevens2@usace.army.mil. Please refer to the above Public Notice number. For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at: www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Attachment



Vicinity Map of Walker Yard at 2607 Front Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi; Kayak Launch and Dual Boat Ramp proposed at south edge of Walker Yard Park; File No: SAM-2021-00418-MGS; Map created by MGS 28 Jun 21.



Aerial Site Vicinity Map of Walker Yard at 2607 Front Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi; Kayak Launch in-green and Dual Boat Ramp in-white; File No: SAM-2021-00418-MGS; Map created by MGS 28 Jun 21.



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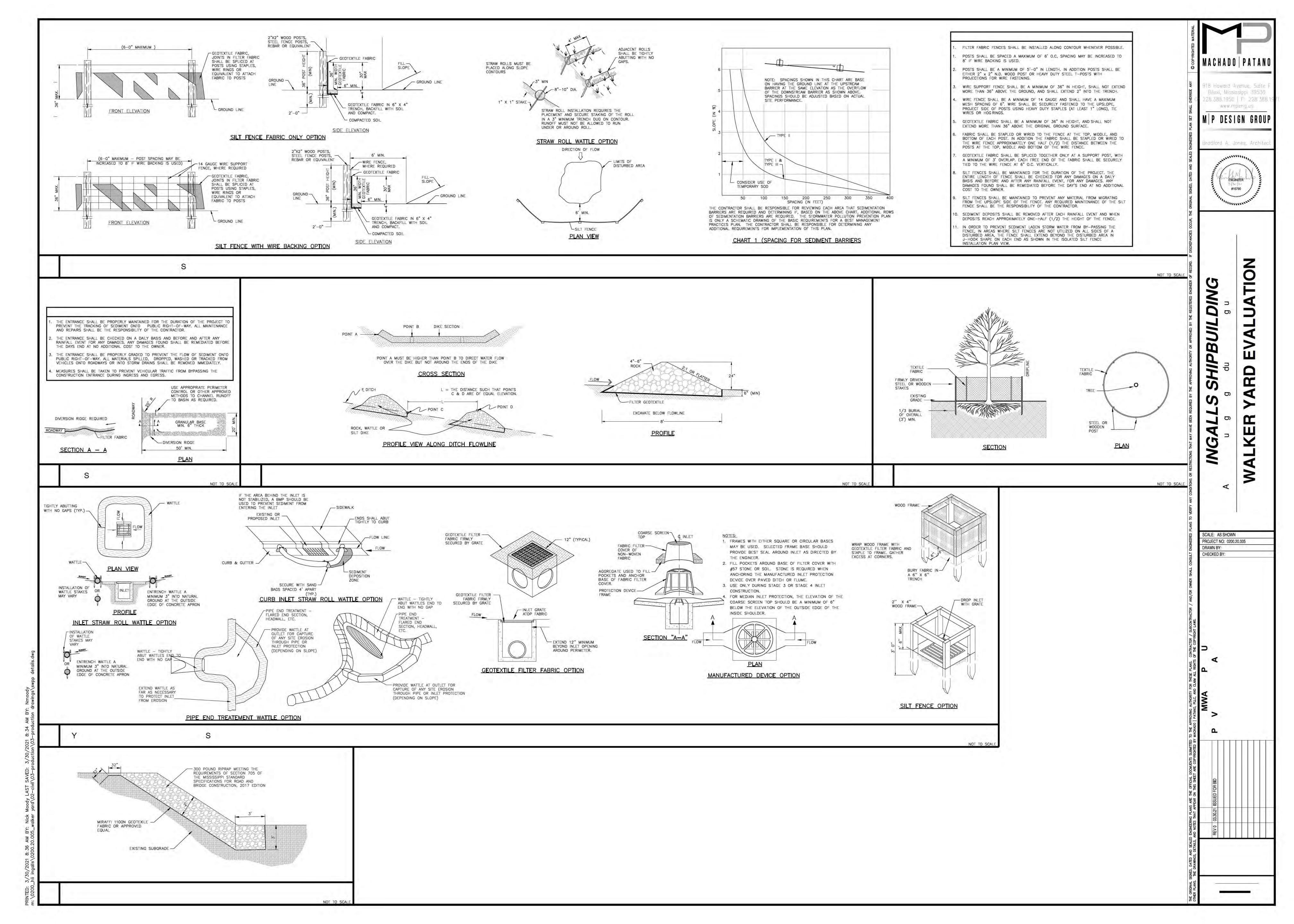
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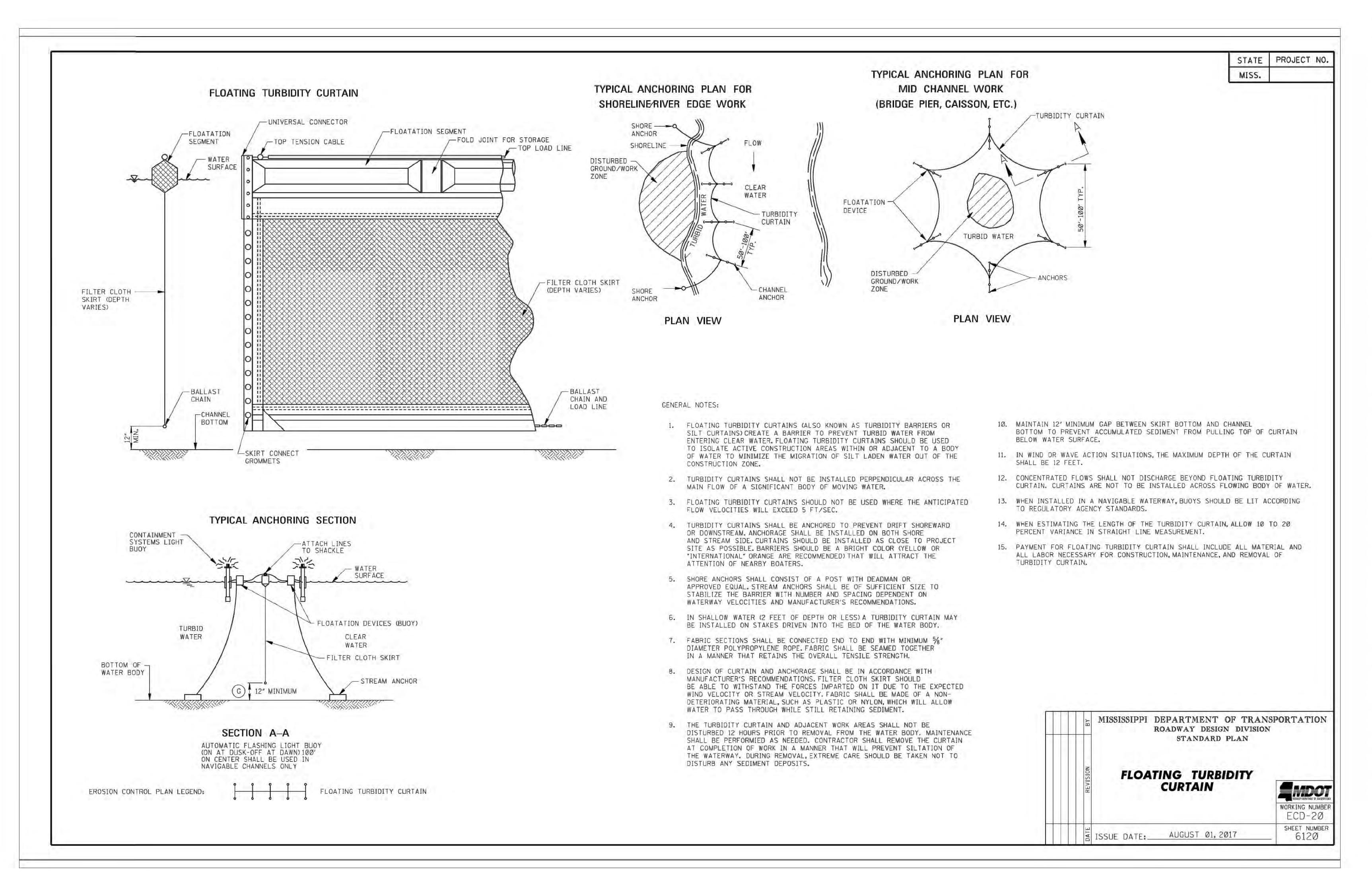
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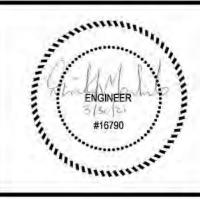
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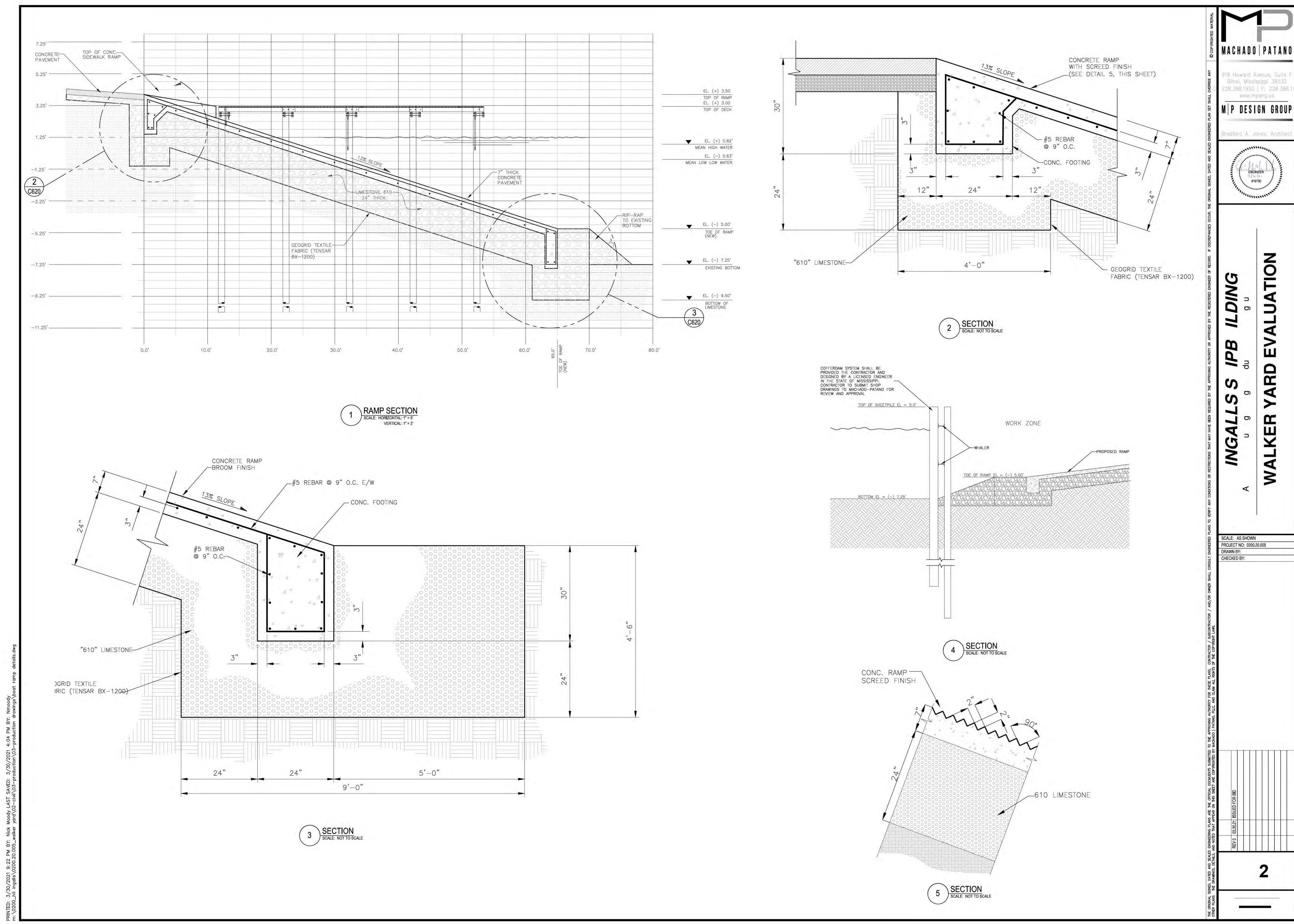
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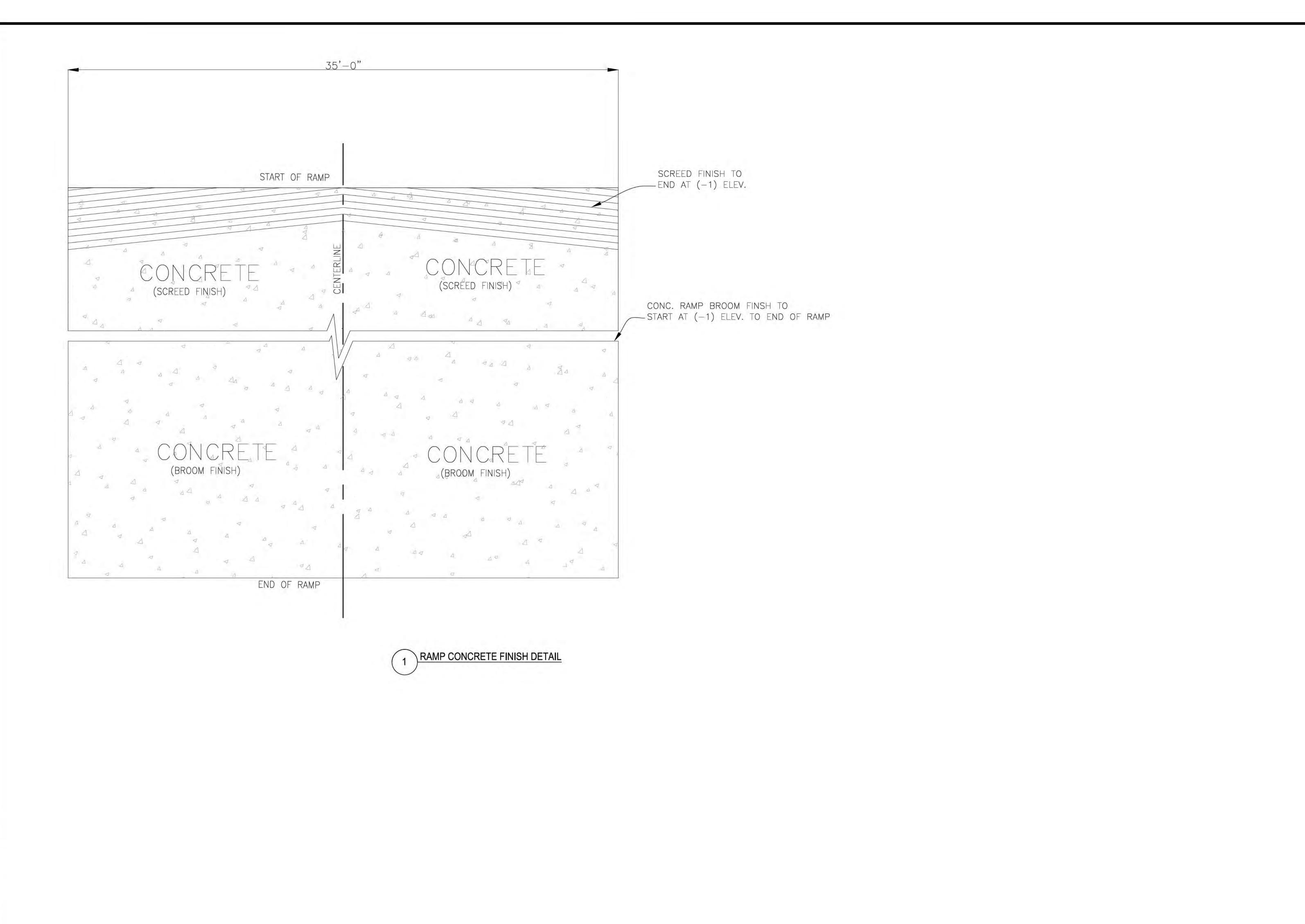


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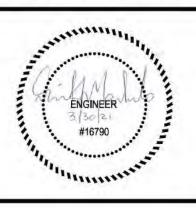


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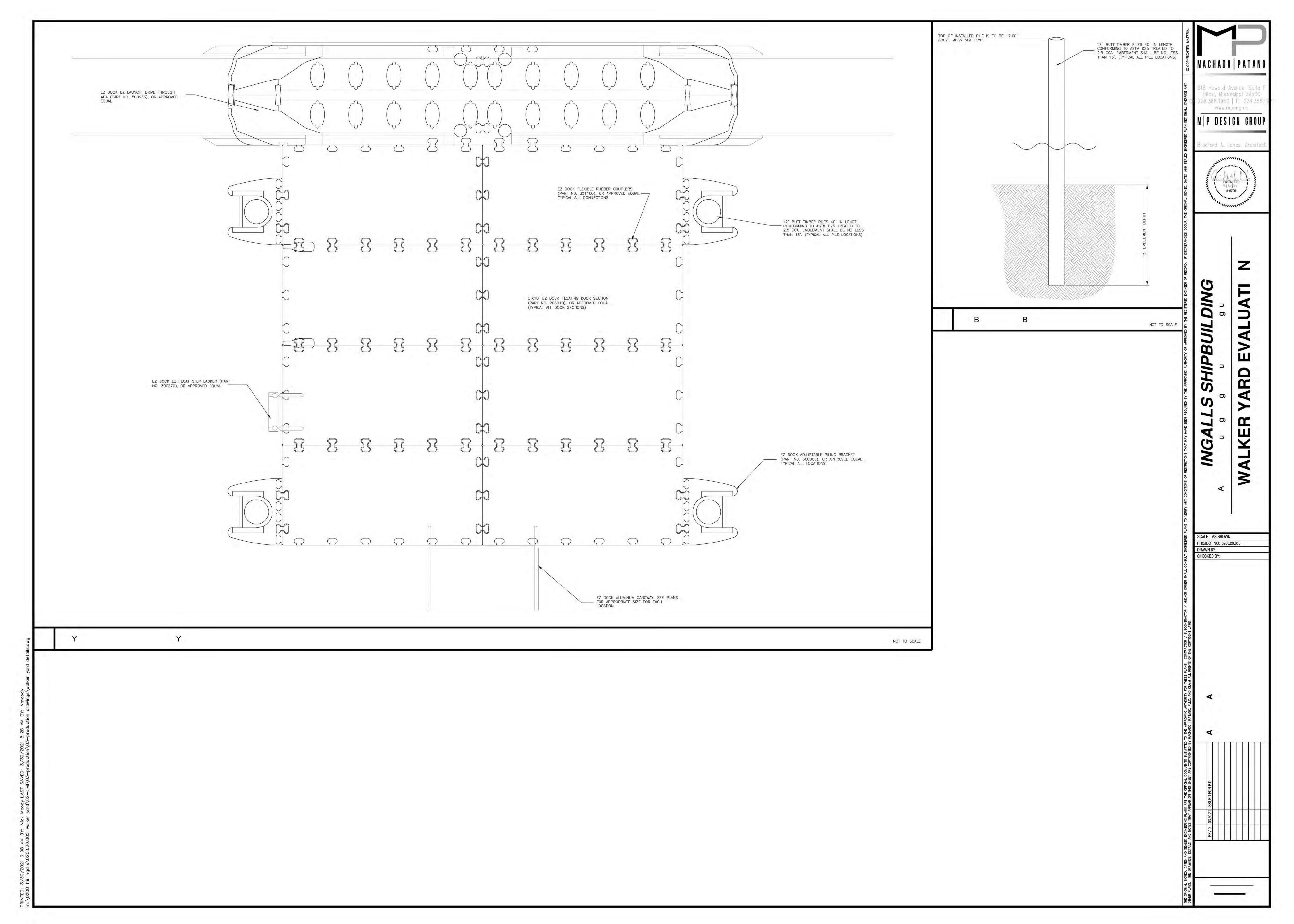
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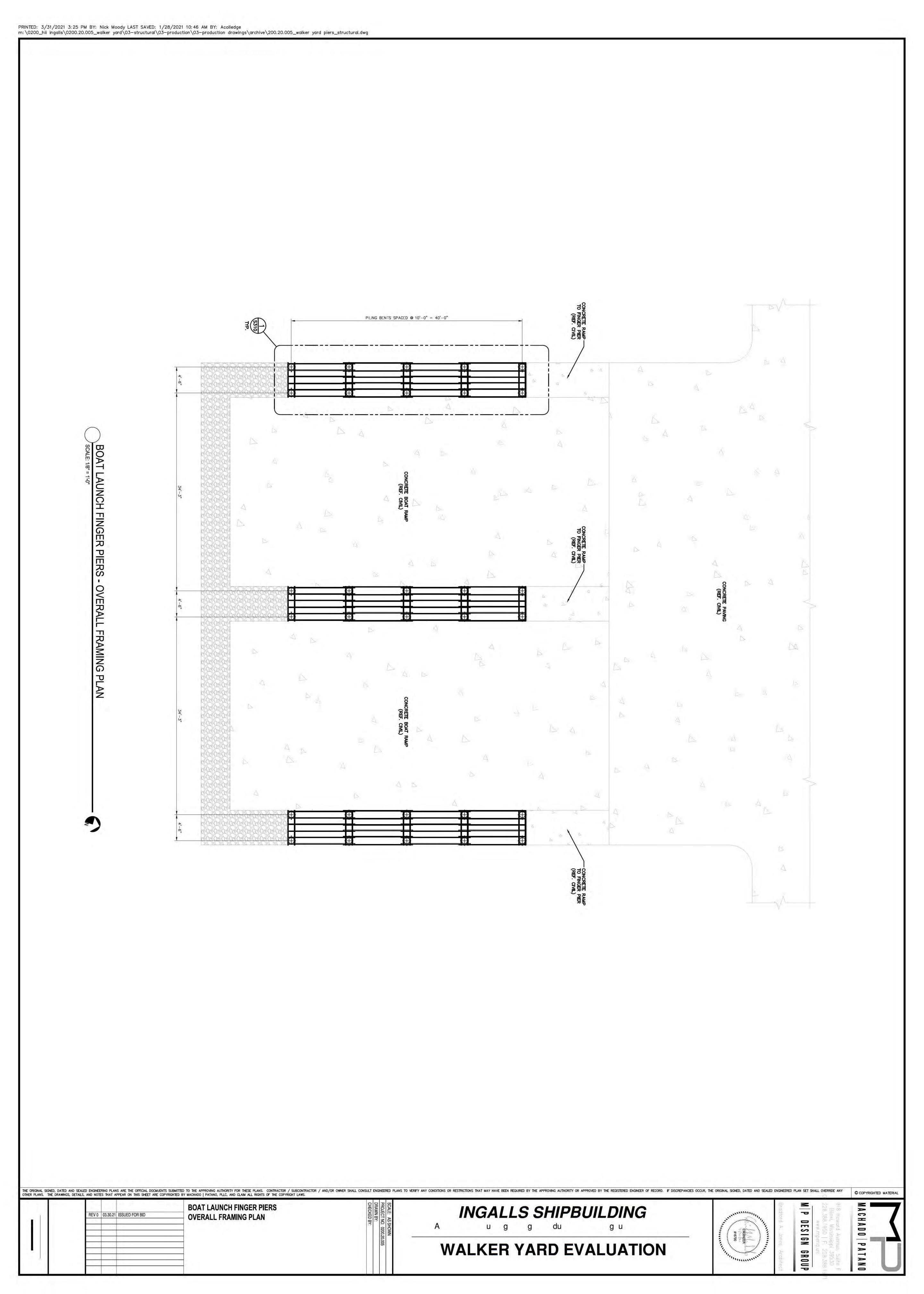
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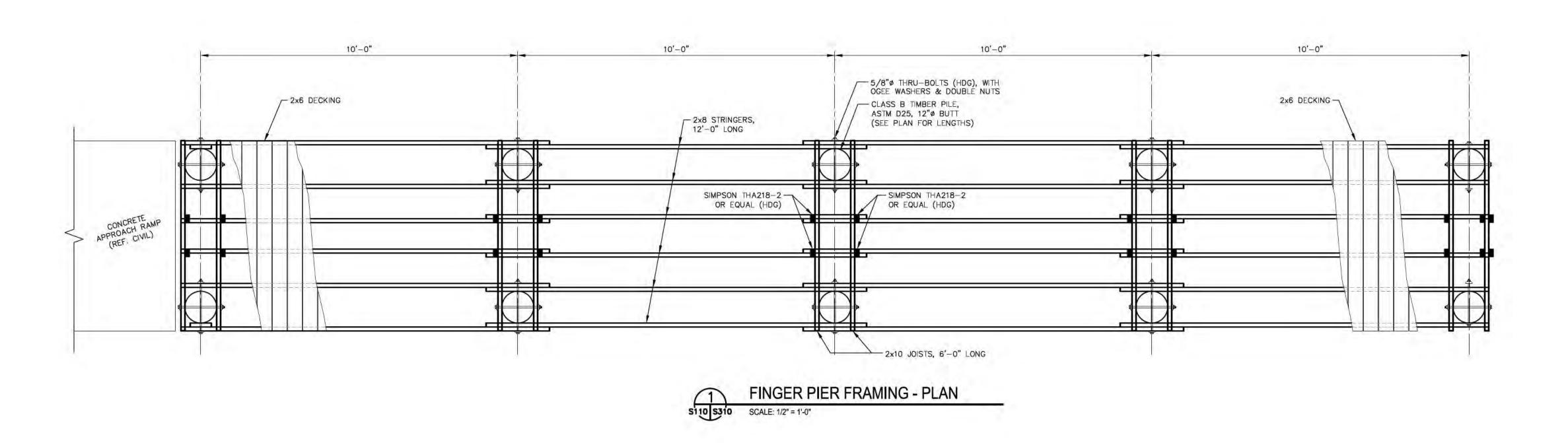


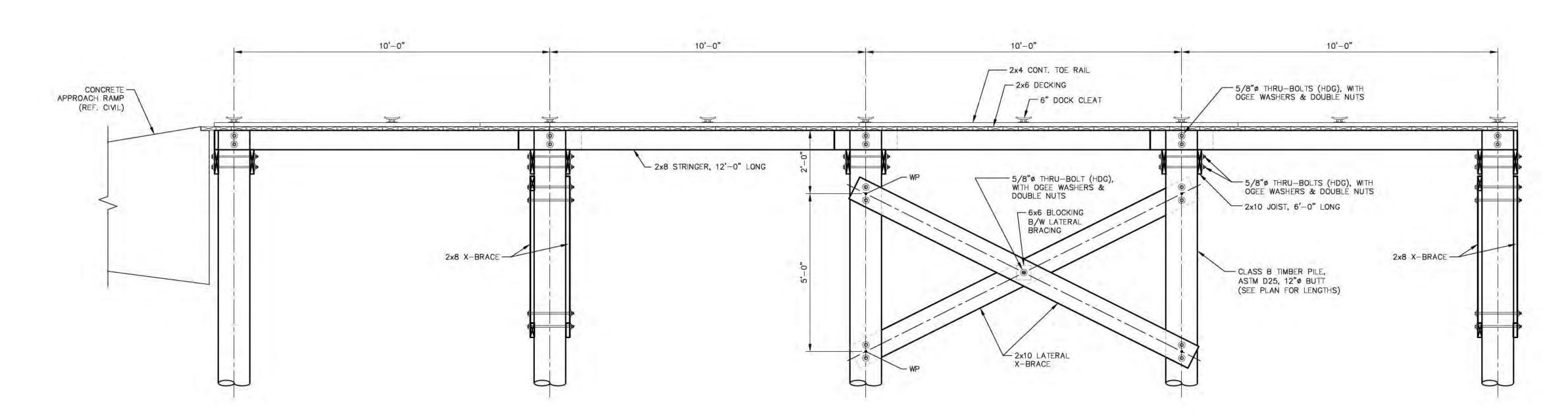
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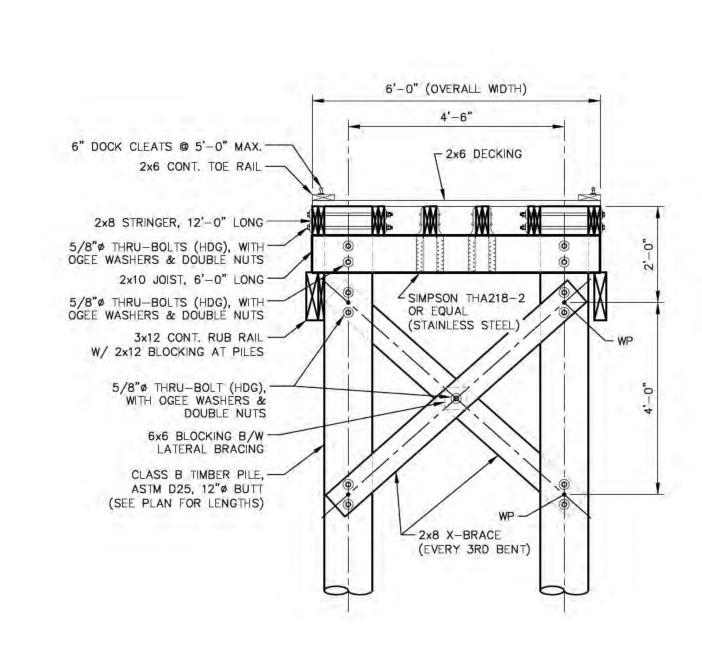












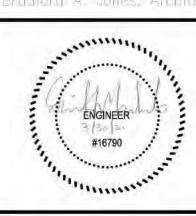


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