



Public Notice

US Army Corps
of Engineers
Memphis District

REPLY TO ATTN: Tom Skelton
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
167 North Main Street, Room B-202
Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894
Telephone: (901) 544-3468
Fax (901) 544-3266
EMail: James.T.Skelton@usace.army.mil
POSTMASTER PLEASE POST UNTIL:

PUBLIC NOTICE NO:
MVM-2004-481(TS)
PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:
September 24, 2004
EXPIRATION DATE:
October 25, 2004

Joint Public Notice
Corps of Engineers
and
State of Mississippi

AUTHORITY: Pursuant to 33 CFR 325, as published in the Federal Register dated November 13, 1986, this notice announces an application submitted for a Department of the Army permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors act of 1899.

APPLICANT: Robert L. Carpenter
Solid Gold Casino
P.O. Box 2491
Tunica, Mississippi 38676
(901) 690-0072

AGENT: J. Mack Sorrell
JH & H Architects
3760 I55 Hwy. Suite 200
Jackson, Mississippi 39211
(601) 948-4601

LOCATION: The project is located at Mhoon Landing approximate River Mile 687.8L in Tunica County, Mississippi at approximate latitude 34.7410 and longitude 90.4435 on the Tunica 7.5 minute quadrangle map.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the project is to provide access for casino gaming barges.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to excavate an access channel to the old Splash Casino site at Mhoon Landing. The channel will be approximately 800 feet long with a bottom width of 180 feet and a top width of 280 feet. The bottom elevation of the channel will be 170 N.G.V.D., 12 feet below the ordinary high water elevation of 182 N.G.V.D. After the barges (see attached drawing) are floated into the site, sheet piling will be driven and the channel backfill. No wetlands will be impacted by the project. The applicant also plans to construct a hotel and event center on previously filled areas on the site.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: By copy of this public notice, the applicant is requesting water quality certification from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, that the activity will comply with applicable requirements set forth in 33 U.S.C. and 1341(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act and all State laws and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. This certification or evidence of this water quality certification or waiver of the right to certify must be submitted prior to the issuance of a Corps of Engineers permit. Commentors are requested to also furnish a copy of their comments to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, P.O. Box 10385, Jackson, Mississippi, 39289-0385. The Department will consider all relative comments in the decision to grant or deny water quality certification for the proposed activity. The Corps of Engineers' evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat, are known to exist in the project area. This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments they may have regarding endangered or threatened wildlife or plants, or their critical habitat, will be considered in our evaluation of the described work.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The Memphis District will evaluate information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice and we may conduct, or require a reconnaissance survey of the project area.

FLOOD PLAIN: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW: The purpose of this public notice is to advise all interested parties of the activities for which a permit is sought and to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the probable impact on the public interest.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project 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, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers 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.

PUBLIC HEARING: 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 a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reason for holding a public hearing. The District Engineer will determine if the issues raised are substantial and whether a hearing is needed for making a decision.

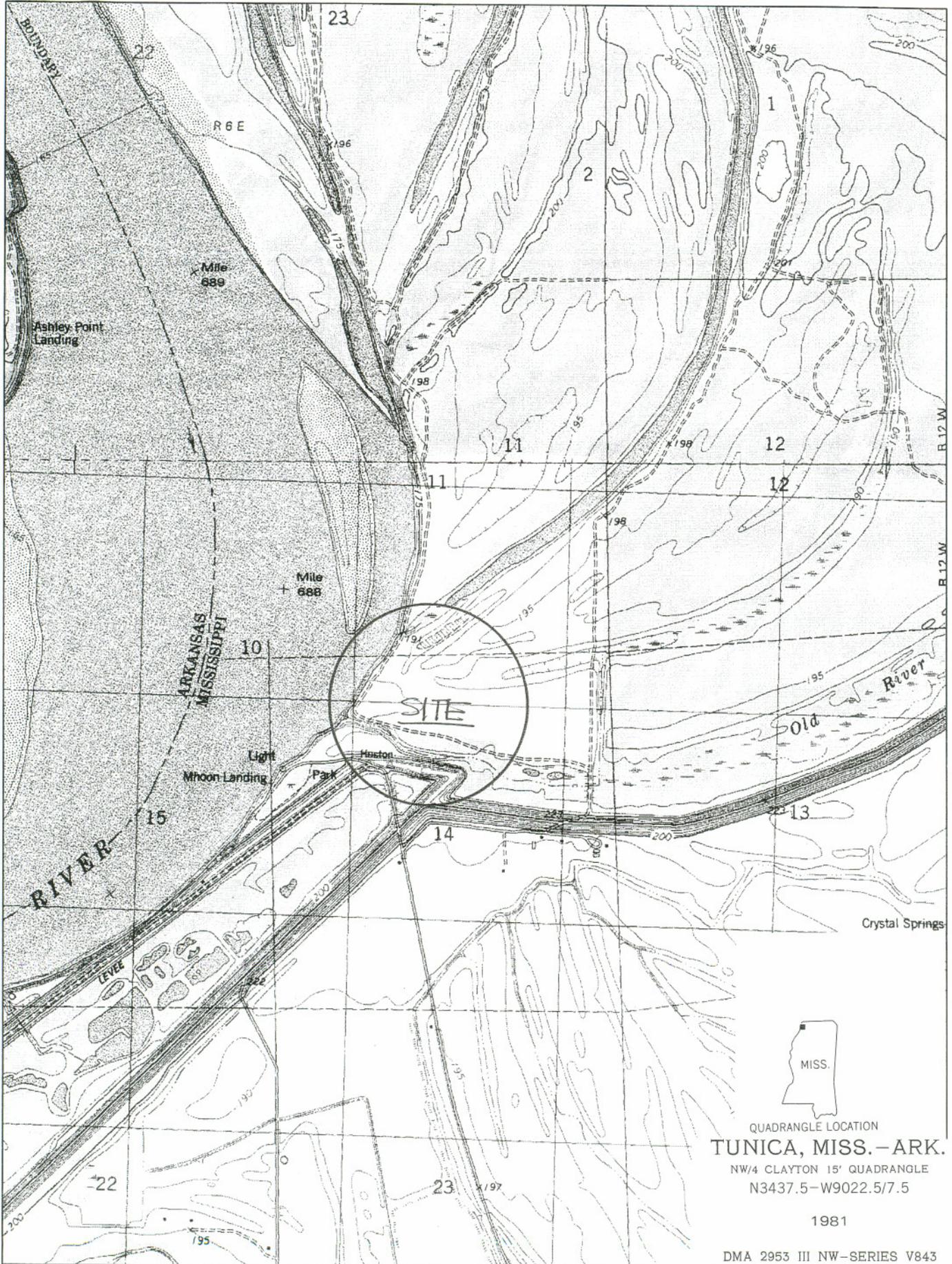
COMMENTS OR REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: If you wish to obtain additional information or to submit comments on the application, please contact Tom Skelton at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 167 North Main Street, Room B-202, Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894, telephone (901) 544-3468. Copies of all comments, including the names and address of commenters, may be provided to the applicant for consideration and response prior to a decision by the Corps.

Comments should be received by October 25, 2004.



Larry D. Watson
Chief
Regulatory Branch

Attachments

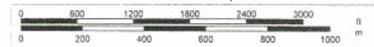


QUADRANGLE LOCATION
TUNICA, MISS.-ARK.
 NW/4 CLAYTON 15' QUADRANGLE
 N3437.5-W9022.5/7.5

1981

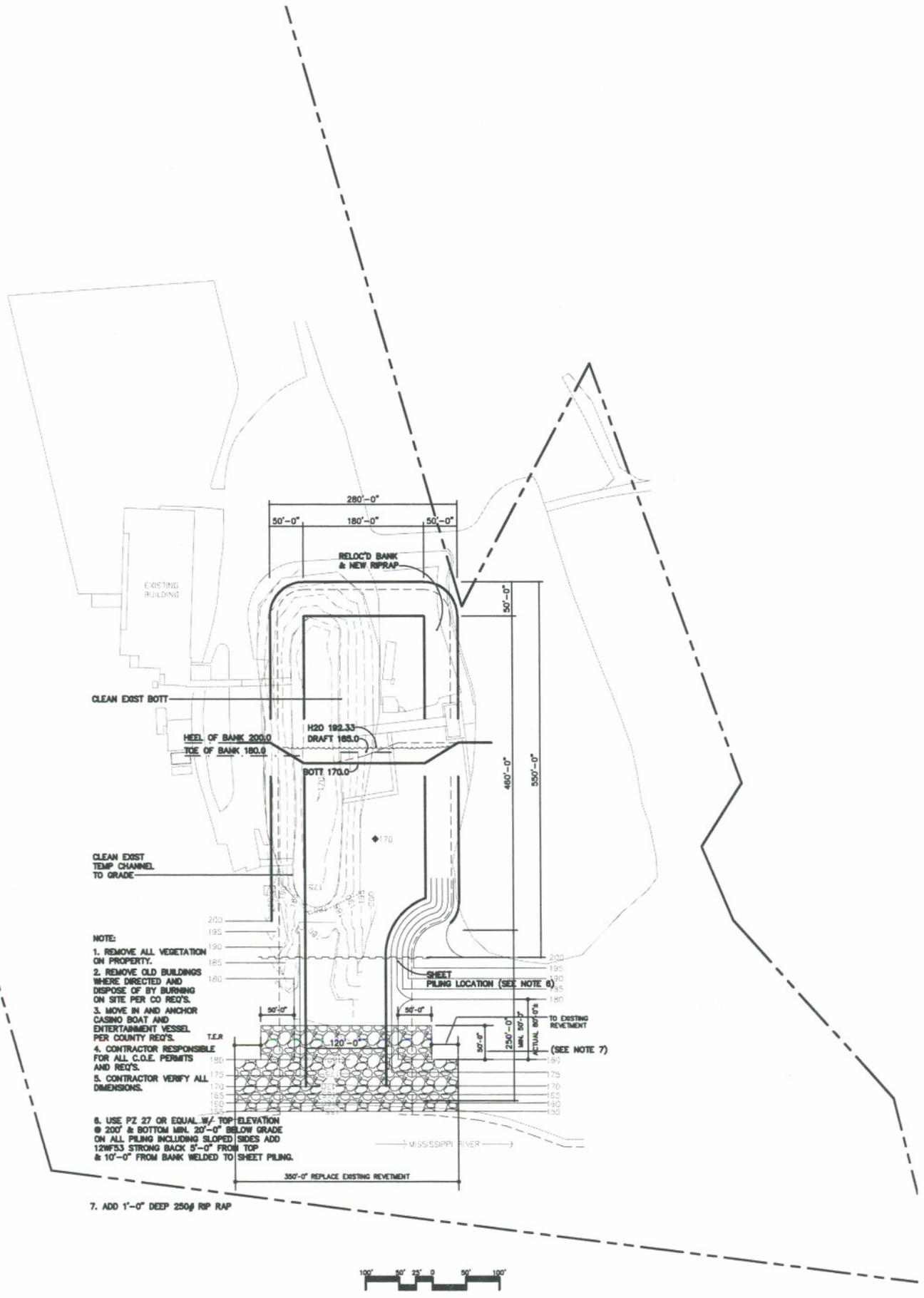
DMA 2953 III NW-SERIES V843

Scale 1 : 24,000



Data Zoom 13-0





SITE PREP PLAN FOR BOAT MOORING
 SCALE: 1" = 200'
 03SEP04

MISSISSIPPI
RIVER

MAINTENANCE
LAUNDRY

STORAGE/
UTILITIES

SERVICE COURT

FIRE PUMPHOUSE

HOTEL

ENTERTAINMENT
VESSEL

FIRE LANE

SHEET
PILES

CASINO
BOAT

BUSES

FIRE LANE

EVENT
CENTER

RETAIL

FIRE LANE

VIP
PARKING

PORTE
COCHRERE

EXHIBIT "B"

EXISTING
WATER

EXISTING DRAINAGE WAY

