

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

80

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jefferson Avenue/Huron River and Harbin Drive/Silver Creek Canal Bridges
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Jefferson Ave. over Huron River; Harbin Dr. over Silver Creek Canal
not for publication N/A
city or town Brownstone Township and Berlin Township vicinity N/A
state Michigan code MI county Wayne and Monroe code 163
zip code 48173

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Marian Conway Signature of certifying official
Michigan State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau
Date 9/29/99

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: TRANSPORTATION Sub: road-related (vehicular)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: TRANSPORTATION Sub: road-related (vehicular)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: steel I-beam stringer bridge
OTHER: concrete arch bridge

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation (Substructure) CONCRETE
roof _____
walls _____
other (Superstructure) METAL: Steel,
Concrete

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1 Jefferson Avenue and
Harbin Drive Bridges
name of property
Wayne County, Michigan
county and state

Description

The Harbin Drive Bridge is located immediately adjacent to the Jefferson Avenue Bridge, which carries a major thoroughfare. The bridges are physically linked by a continuous wing wall curving from the northwest corner of the Jefferson Avenue Bridge to the Harbin Drive Bridge, which is oriented on a perpendicular axis. The appearance of the structures is also related: the earlier Harbin Drive Bridge was redesigned to complement the Jefferson Avenue Bridge when the latter structure was built in 1930.

The Huron River serves as the boundary between Wayne County to the north and Monroe County to the south. Jefferson Avenue is about one mile inland from the Lake Erie shore. Harbin Drive is a dead-end unpaved road extending northwest from Jefferson Avenue, on the north side of the Huron River, to an area known as Fielders Island. The Silver Creek Canal flows into the Huron River immediately northwest of Jefferson Avenue.

The three-span bridge carrying Jefferson Avenue over the Huron River measures 165 feet in length. Each 55-foot-long span is comprised of eleven I-beam stringers braced by square concrete units. Cavetto-molded concrete trims the outside stringers and supports the projecting edge of the 46-foot-wide concrete deck. Concrete railings have square-section spindles with two incised vertical lines ornamenting the sides facing the road and the exterior. Sidewalks flank the 36-foot-wide roadway. The bridge rests on concrete abutments and solid concrete piers with pointed cutwaters.

The northwest wing wall of the Jefferson Avenue Bridge curves at a 90-degree angle to connect with the substructure of the Harbin Drive Bridge over the Silver Creek Canal. The closed-spandrel concrete-arch bridge consists of a single 45-foot span. The barrel vault forms an elliptical arch outlined by a recessed course. Like the Jefferson Avenue Bridge, the Harbin Drive

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structure has a concrete balustrade railing with square-section
spindles trimmed with two incised vertical lines. The deck
measures 27 feet wide.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ENGINEERING; SOCIAL HISTORY;
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance 1930

Significant Dates 1930

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Designer: Michigan State Highway Department

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: Michigan Department of Transportation

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	316710	4656640	3	_____	_____
2	17	316720	4656700	4	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 1 Jefferson Avenue and
Harbin Drive Bridges
name of property
Wayne County, Michigan
county and state

Summary of Significance

The Jefferson Avenue and Harbin Drive Bridges are eligible for the National Register under Criterion A as an example of an assessment district project. In addition, the Jefferson Avenue Bridge is eligible under Criterion C as an early long-span stringer bridge.

The Covert Act, passed in 1915, authorized the state highway department to serve as the legal agent for road projects involving two or more counties. The state held hearings, let contacts, sold bonds, and took care of other administrative matters for a given project, while the affected communities established an assessment district to help fund the improvements. Assessment District No. 463, which spanned Wayne and Monroe Counties, was created to improve a section of Jefferson Avenue, an important route connecting Detroit and Toledo.

In 1930, the district and the state highway department jointly built a state reward bridge to carry Jefferson (also known as River Road) over the Huron River, the dividing line between the two counties. The new structure was designed by the state highway department. Although its design follows one of the department's standard plans, the bridge's three 55-foot spans are relatively long for that era. In the early twentieth century, the strongest I-beams manufactured by steel mills could span only 45 feet. In the late 1920s, new technology allowed mills to roll beams with deeper webs that could carry spans of up to 60 feet.

The Jefferson Avenue Bridge replaced a 102-foot swing span, a Warren truss, as well as a 45-foot Pratt pony truss approach span, both of which were in very poor condition. The swing span may have been moved to serve as a detour during the construction of the new structure.

The road grade by the new bridge was raised to eliminate the need for a movable span. The change in grade apparently necessitated

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a significant renovation of the adjacent Harbin Drive Bridge, which might have provided access to silica mines in the vicinity. The original construction date of the bridge is not known. In 1930, the spandrel walls and fill were removed and replaced. A new deck was built, and railings complementing the Jefferson Avenue Bridge were installed.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

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name of property
 Wayne County, Michigan
county and state

Bibliography

Published Sources

Marvin Harrison Organization. *West Fort Street: The World's
Greatest Industrial Thoroughfare*. N.p., 1924. Brochure in
the Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library.

Michigan State Highway Department. *Thirteenth Biennial Report*.
N.p., 1930.

Wayne County Road Commission. *Twenty-fourth Annual Report*. N.p.,
1930.

Archival Sources

Bridge Database. Michigan Department of Transportation, Lansing.

Michigan State Highway Department. Bridge File (plans for
Jefferson Avenue Bridge over the Huron River, 1929-1930).
Wayne County Department of Public Works, Detroit.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 Page 1 Jefferson Avenue and
 Harbin Drive Bridges
name of property
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Verbal Boundary Description

The general area of the Jefferson Avenue Bridge is a rectangle 46 feet wide, whose long center axis parallels the centerline of the bridge. The general area of the Harbin Avenue Bridge is a rectangle 27 feet wide, whose long center axis parallels the centerline of the bridge. Both structures are bounded at each end by the outer edges of the abutments.

Boundary Justification

Based on measurements provided by the Michigan Department of Transportation, the boundaries enclose the entire historic resource.

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name of property
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county and state

Index to Photographs

Photographer: Charlene K. Roise, Hess Roise and Company
Date: 29 September 1995
Negatives: Michigan Department of Transportation, Lansing

- No. 1 Southeast elevation of Jefferson Avenue Bridge. View to southwest.
- No. 2 West railing of Jefferson Avenue Bridge in foreground with southwest elevation of Harbin Avenue Bridge. View to north.
- No. 3 North elevation of Harbin Avenue Bridge. View to southeast.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charlene K. Roise, Historian
organization Hess, Roise and Company
street & number The Foster House, 100 North First Street
city or town Minneapolis state MN zip code 55401
telephone (612) 338-1987
date January 1998

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Ricardo A. Solomon, Chair, Wayne County Road Commission
street & number 415 Clifford Street
telephone (313) 224-7600
city or town Detroit state MI zip code 48226-1518

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Jefferson Avenue--Huron River and Harbin Drive--Silver Creek
Canal Bridges

MULTIPLE NAME: Highway Bridges of Michigan MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MICHIGAN, Wayne

DATE RECEIVED: 1/14/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/24/00
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/09/00 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/28/00
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00000080

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/10/00 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



Jefferson Avenue Bridge, Rackwood, Wayne County, Michigan

Charlene K. Roise Photographer

September 1995

BOMH

SE Elevation, Facing SW

8572-36



Harbin Drive Bridge, Rockwood, Wayne County, Michigan

Charlene K. Roise Photographer

September 1995

BOMH

SW Elevation, Facing N

8565-4A



STOP

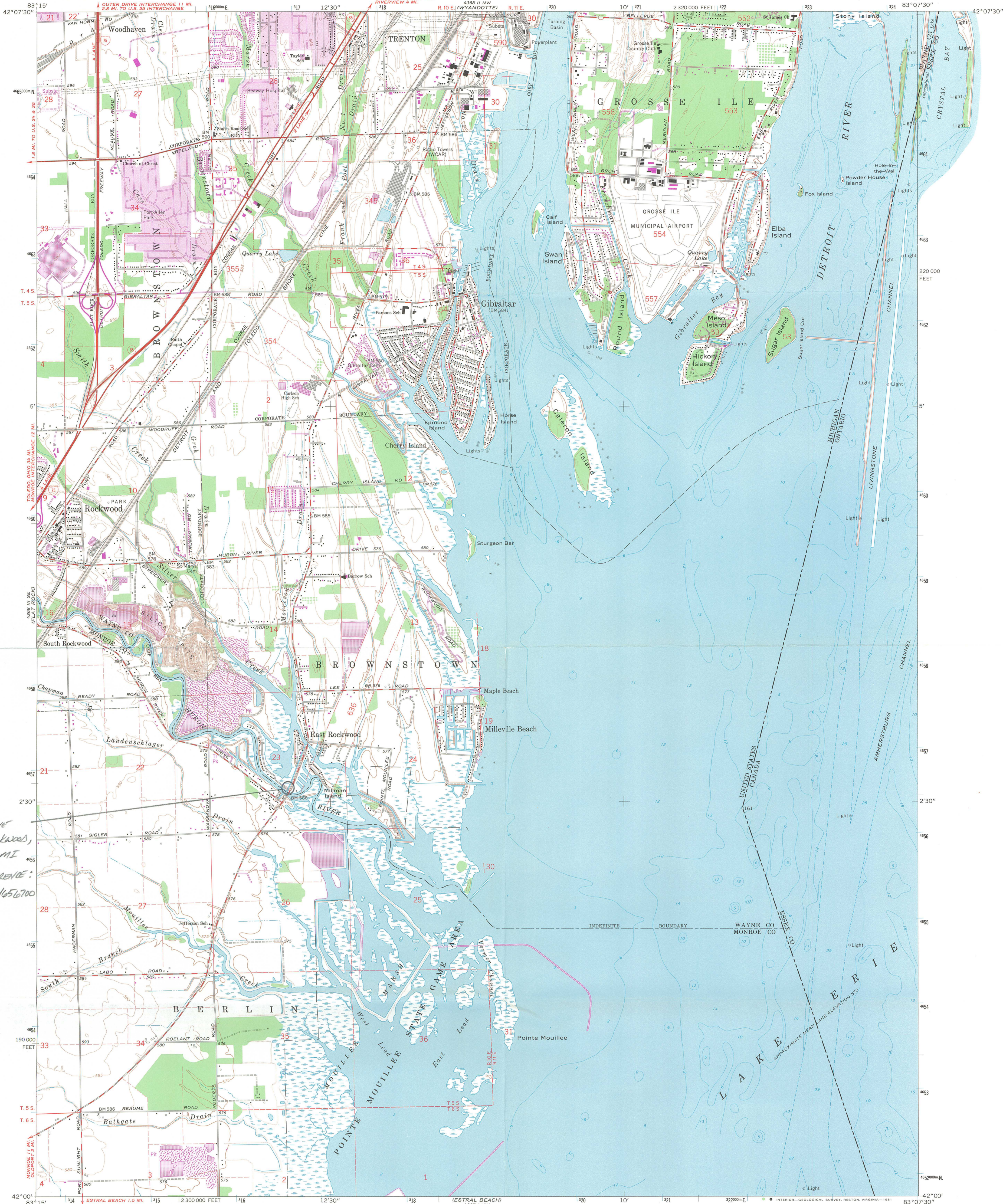
Harbin Drive Bridge, Rockwood, Wayne County, Michigan

Charlene K. Poise Photographer
September 1995

BOMH

NE Elevation, Facing SE

8565-6A



HARBIN DRIVE
BRIDGE, ROCKWOOD,
WAYNE CO., MI
UTM REFERENCE:
17/316720/4656700

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey in cooperation with State of Michigan agencies
Control by USGS, USC&GS, U. S. Lake Survey, and Wayne County Highway Commission
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
Topography by planetable surveys 1940. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1967
Selected hydrographic data compiled from U. S. Lake Survey Chart 41 (1966). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grid based on Michigan coordinate system, south zone 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 7 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

UTM GRID AND 1981 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET
89 MILLS
128 MILLS
26 MILLS

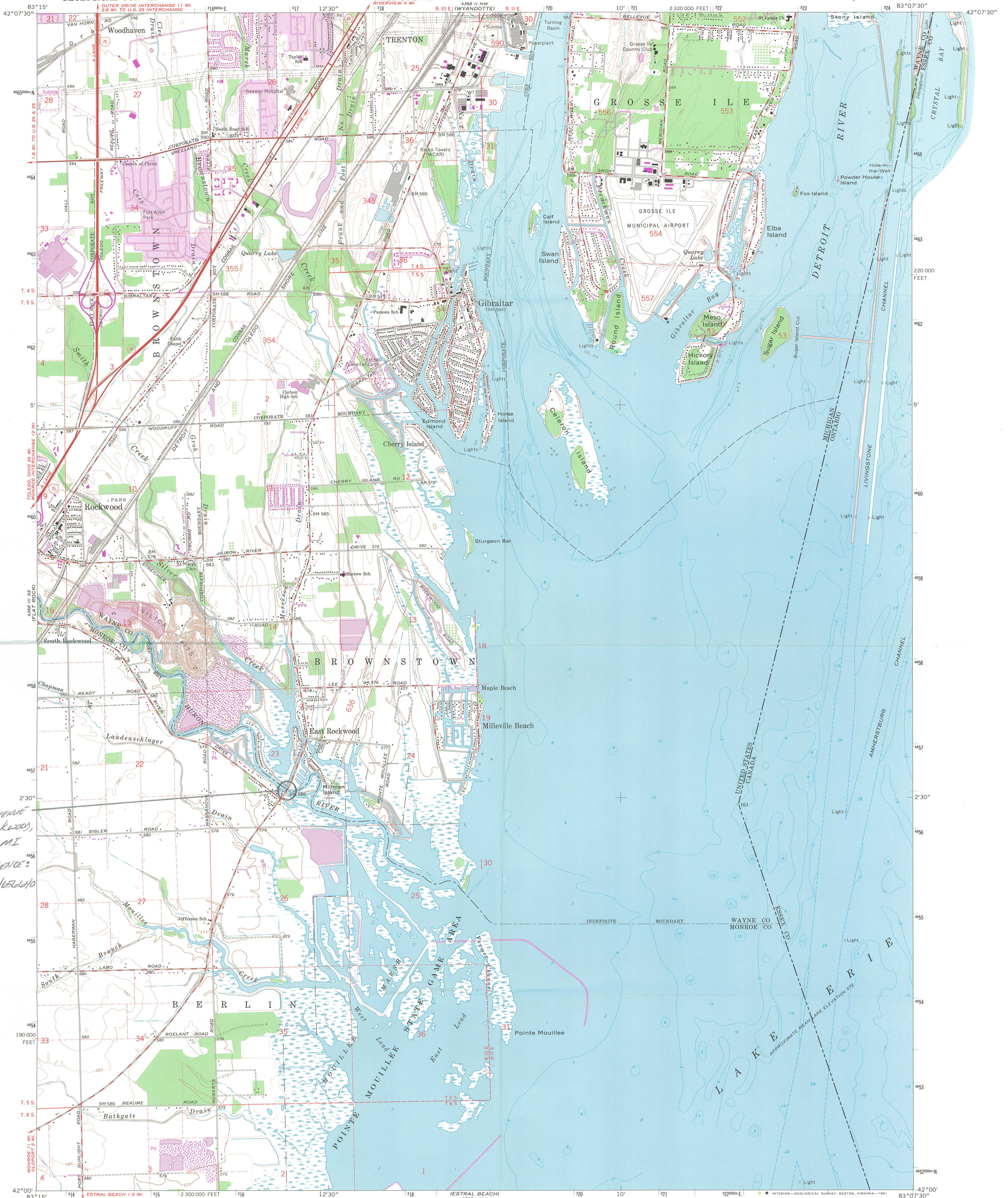
SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS RIVER SURFACE AT FOLLOWING STAGES: LAKE ST. CLAIR—571.7 AND LAKE ERIE—568.6
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092 AND BY THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DIVISION MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
Interstate Route (red circle with 'I') State Route (red circle with 'S')

ROCKWOOD, MICH.—ONT.
N4200—W8307.5/7.5
1967
PHOTOREVISED 1981
DMA 4368 II SW—SERIES V862

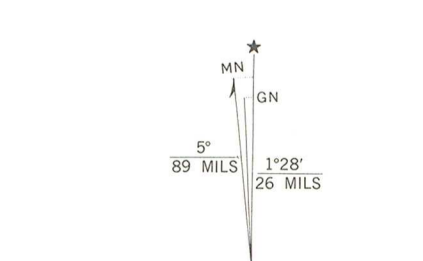
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1973 and 1981. Map edited 1981. This information not field checked. Purple tint indicates extension of urban area.



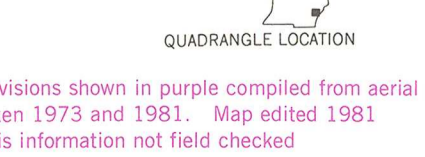
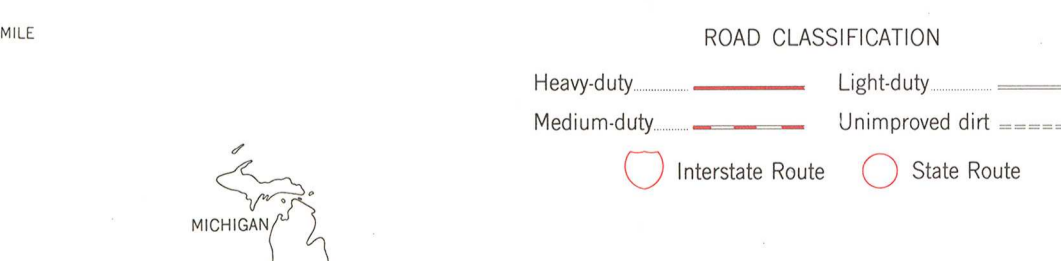


JEFFERSON AVENUE
BRIDGE, ROCKWOOD,
WAYNE CO., MI
UTM REFERENCE:
17/310710/4656040

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