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NEVADA STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

FOUNDATION REPORT

GOWAN ROAD  
GRADE SEPARATION  
(H-1217)

Document 7  
CLARK  
2

RAINBOW EXPRESSWAY  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

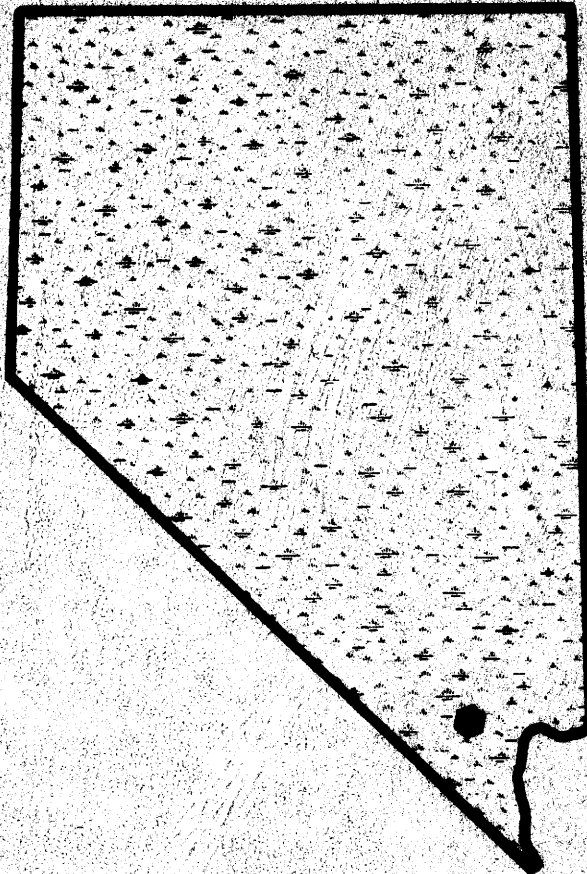
OCTOBER 1975

E.A. NO.

PROJECT NO.

10804  
F-FE-RE-006-2(5)  
OF-006-2 (10)

Contract 1638



ENGINEERING GEOLOGY & FOUNDATION SECTION  
MATERIALS & TESTING DIVISION

## GOWAN ROAD GRADE SEPARATION FOUNDATION REPORT

### SCOPE

This report deals with the foundation considerations involving the design and construction of a grade separation structure at the Gowan Road crossing of the proposed US 95 Expressway in Las Vegas. This structure is to be of a a three span continuous, reinforced concrete design with 17 foot approach fills.

### FOUNDATION INVESTIGATION

A foundation investigation was conducted during the latter part of September and the early part of October of 1975 for this structure. A total of two wet rotary and five auger borings were completed. Standard Penetration Test samples were taken at regular intervals in each of these seven borings for field classification and soil strength parameters.

### SOILS DESCRIPTION

The soils underlying this site to a depth of at least 90 feet consist primarily of layers of compact silt or clayey silt. Field tests performed on this material tend to classify this material as primarily silt; however this soil reacts more as a clay under laboratory Atterberg limit tests. Small caliche fragments and fine gravel are scattered throughout much of the above material. Randomly distributed, small lenses of caliche are also extant. A well-cemented, four foot thick layer of caliche was encountered at depths of 37.5 and 39.5 feet in borings B3 and B2 respectively.

Ground water was not encountered in any of the seven borings; the deepest of which was 90 feet. According to the drillers log of a nearby

municipal water well located near the intersection of Gowan Road and Torrey Pines Drive, the depth of the highest aquifer is 177 feet. At a depth of 167 feet, a 107 foot thick layer of gravel was encountered in that boring.

#### FOUNDATION RECOMMENDATIONS

##### APPROACH FILLS

The construction of these two 17 foot high approach fills should pose no problems. Due to the absence of ground water in the upper foundation material, settlement from the imposed load will occur at a rapid rate, without causing any stability problems. The magnitude of this settlement is estimated to be about 6 inches under the center line of these fills.

##### PIERS

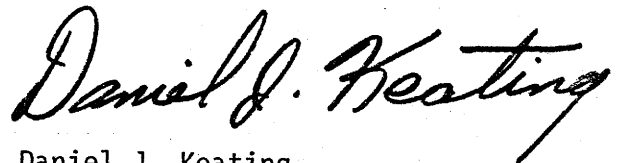
The piers of this structure may be supported on spread footings at 4000 psf when founded at elevation 2298<sup>+</sup>. If this allowable pressure is inadequate, then the use of piles is recommended. HP 10 x 57 piles driven into the caliche layer at elevation 2269 should safely support a 60 ton load. Some predrilling may be necessary to drive these piles to the above elevation. Any standard cast-in-place pile would also be suitable, but the use of an H-pile would probably present fewer driving problems in this material.

##### ABUTMENTS

The abutments may be placed in compacted granular fill as shown in the preliminary drawing at 3000 psf.

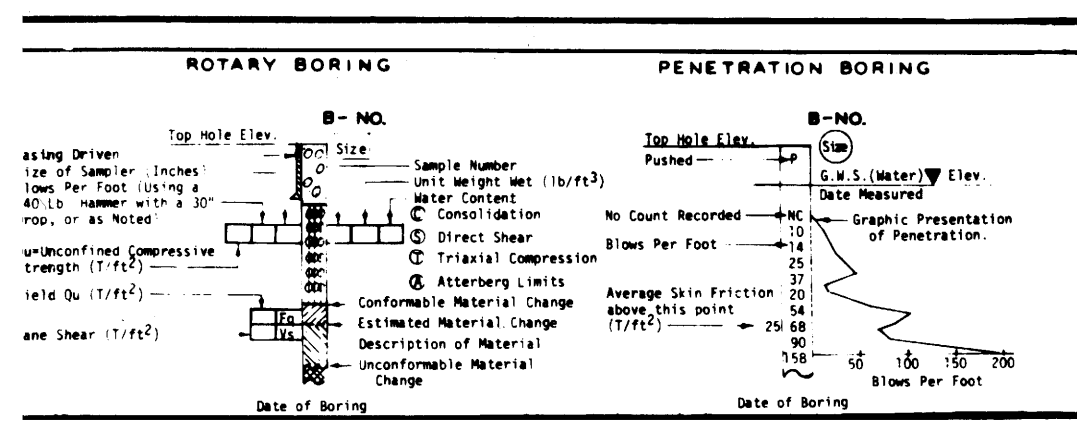
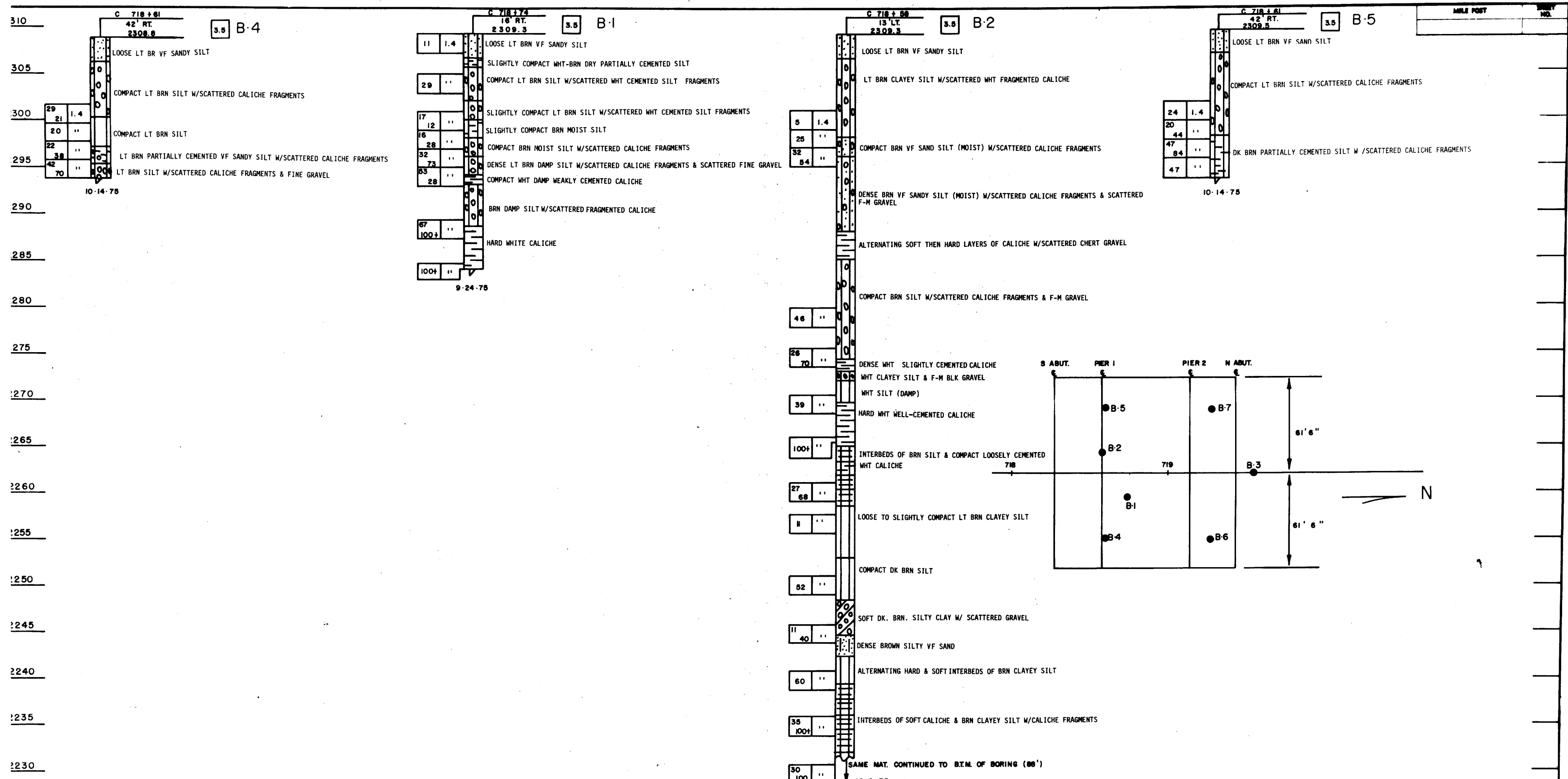
It is proposed to construct a retaining wall for a pedestrian-equestrian path between the south abutment and pier No. 1 at a later date following

completion of this structure. This will necessitate some removal of material on the side slope protecting the south abutment, and this could present foundation problems for the south abutment. For this reason it is stongly recommended that this retaining wall be constructed concurrently with the grade separation structure.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. Keating". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'K'.

Daniel J. Keating  
Civil Engineer II





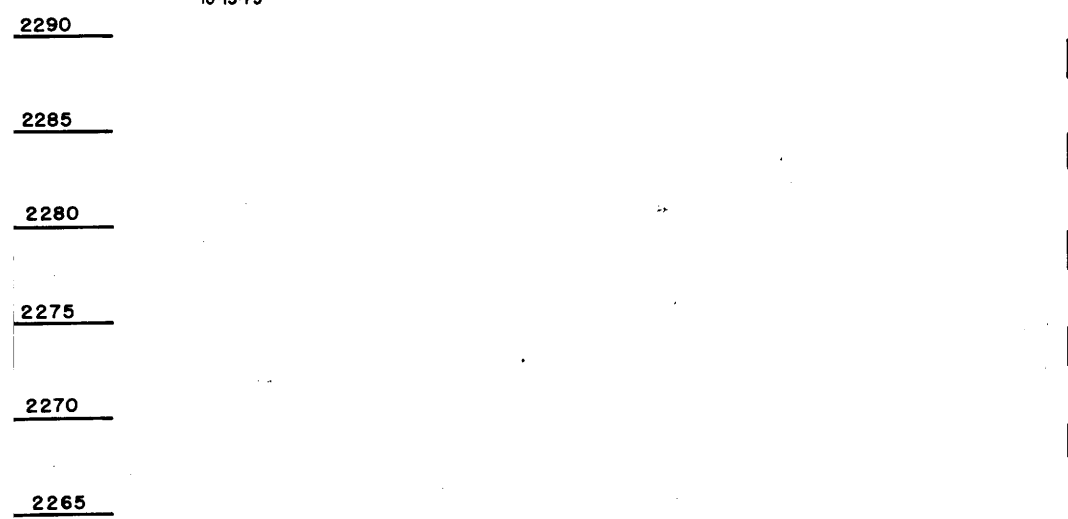
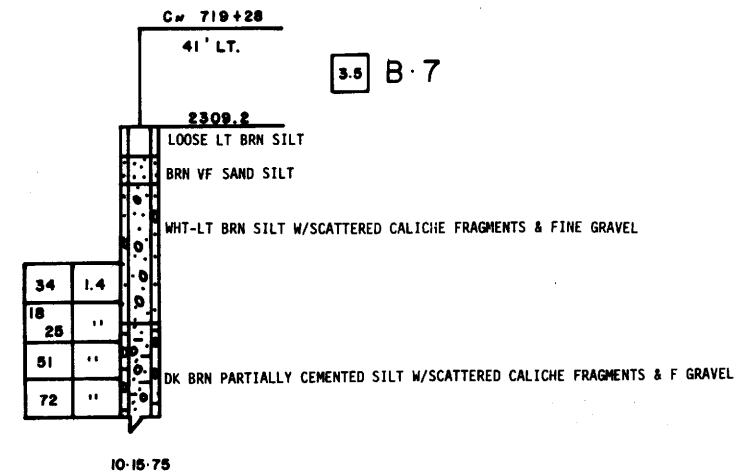
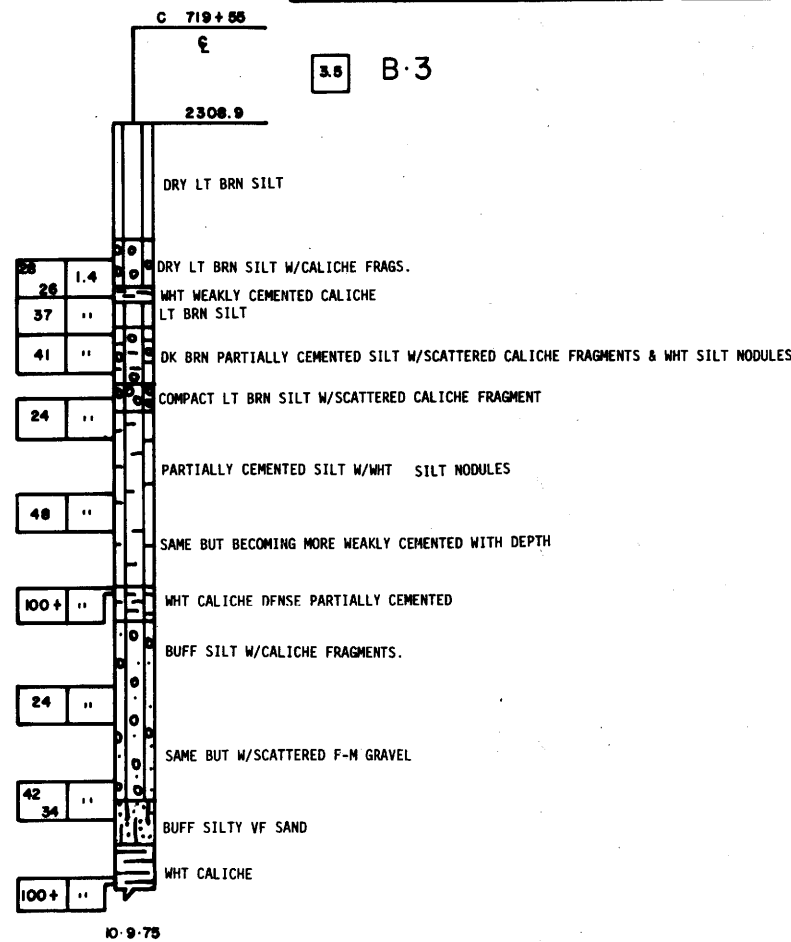
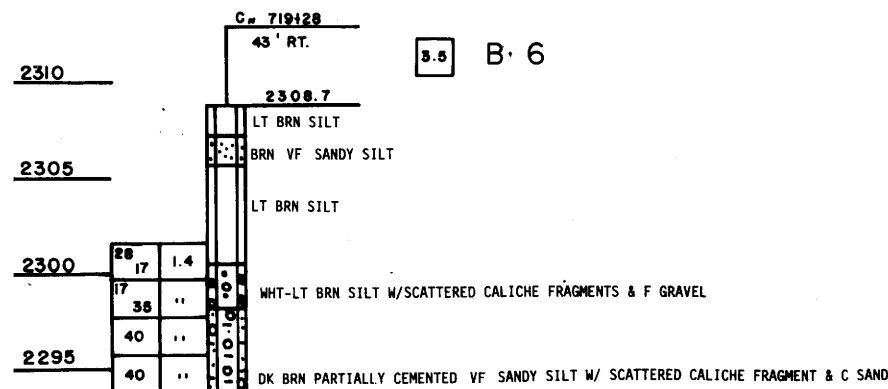
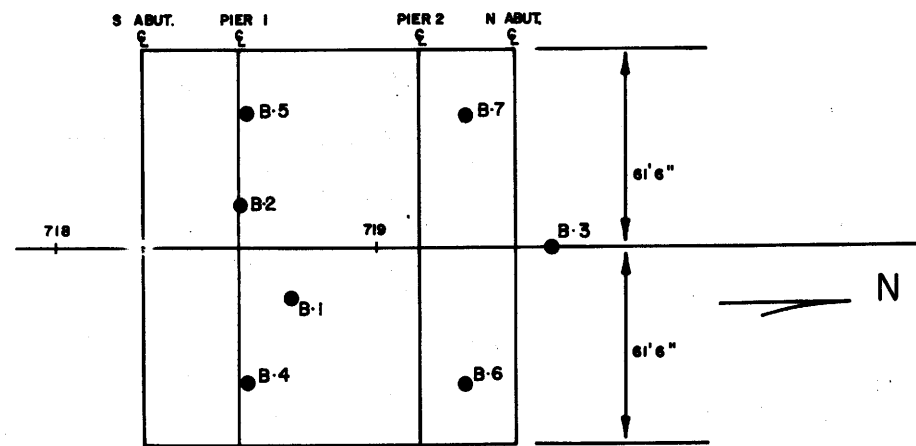
| THE UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM            |               |   |   | ROCK CLASSIFICATION                                      |   | SOIL CONSISTENCY CLASSIFICATION |            |               |
|---|---------------|---|---|--|---|---------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| MAJ. DIV.   | LETTER SYMBOL | NAME  | MAJ. DIV.                                 | LETTER SYMBOL  | NAME  | CONSISTENCY                     |            | BLOWS PER FT. |
| Coarse Grained Material<br>Sand and Gravelly Soil | GW            | Well-graded gravel or gravel-sand mixtures, little or no fines.   | Fine Grained Soil<br>Silt and Clayey Silt | ML   | Inorganic silt and very fine sand, rock flour, silty or clayey fine sand or clayey silt with slight plasticity.   | Very Loose                      | Very Soft  | 0 to 5        |
|   | GP            | Poorly-graded gravel or gravel-sand mixtures, little or no fines. |   | CL   | Inorganic clay or low to medium plasticity, gravelly clay, sandy clay, silty clay, lean clay.                     | Loose                           | Soft       | 5 to 10       |
|   | GC            | Silty gravel, gravel-sand-silt mixtures.                          |   | OL   | Organic silt and organic silt-clay of low plasticity.   | Slightly Compact                | Stiff      | 10 to 20      |
|   | SW            | Well-graded sand or gravelly sand, little or no fines.            |   | MH   | Inorganic silt, micaceous or diatomaceous fine sandy or silty soils, elastic silt.                                | Compact                         | Very Stiff | 20 to 35      |
| Sand and Silty Sand                               | SP            | Poorly-graded sand or gravelly sand, little or no fines.          | CH  | Inorganic clay or high plasticity, fat clay.             | Dense   | Hard                            | 35 to 70   |               |
|   | SM            | Silty sand, sand-silt mixtures.                                   | OH  | Organic clay of medium to high plasticity, organic silt. | Very Dense  | Very Hard                       | 70         |               |
|   | SC            | Clayey sand, sand-clay mixtures.                                  | PT  | Peat and other highly organic soils.                     | NOTE: Classification of earth material shown on this sheet is based upon field inspection unless noted otherwise. |                                 |            |               |

**ROCK CLASSIFICATION:** IGBIOUS ROCK, SEDIMENTARY ROCK, METAMORPHIC ROCK.

**SOIL CONSISTENCY CLASSIFICATION:** GRANULAR, COHESIVE, Very Loose, Very Soft, Loose, Soft, Slightly Compact, Stiff, Compact, Very Stiff, Dense, Hard, Very Dense, Very Hard.

**PROJECT INFORMATION:** NEVADA HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, MATERIALS AND TESTING DIVISION, FOUNDATIONS AND ENGINEERING GEOLOGY SECTION, E.A. NO. 70840, PROJECT NO., COUNTY CLARK, GOWAN ROAD GRADE SEPERATION (H-1217), DATE 10-24-75.

NOTE:  
Foundation Report Available For Contractors  
Study in District Office & Materials & Testing Div.



| THE UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM |               |   |                   | ROCK CLASSIFICATION                                      |   | SOIL CONSISTENCY CLASSIFICATION |           |
|--|---------------|---|-------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|-----------|
| MAJ. DIV.                              | LETTER SYMBOL | NAME  | MAJ. DIV.         | LETTER SYMBOL  | NAME  | CONSISTENCY                     |           |
| Coarse Grained Material                | GW            | Well-graded gravel or gravel-sand mixtures, little or no fines.   | Fine Grained Soil | ML   | Inorganic silt and very fine sand, rock flour, silty or clayey fine sand or clayey silt with slight plasticity. | GRANULAR                        | COHESIVE  |
|  | GP            | Poorly-graded gravel or gravel-sand mixtures, little or no fines. |                   | CL   | Inorganic clay or low to medium plasticity, gravelly clay, sandy clay, silty clay, lean clay.                   | Very Loose                      | Very Soft |
|  | GM            | Silty gravel, gravel-sand-silt mixtures.                          |                   | OL   | Organic silt and organic silt-clay of low plasticity.   | Loose                           | Soft      |
|  | GC            | Clayey gravel, gravel-sand-clay mixtures.                         |                   | MH   | Organic silt and organic silt-clay of medium to high plasticity.  | Slightly Compact                | Stiff     |
| Sand and Silty Sand                    | SW            | Well-graded sand or gravelly sand, little or no fines.            | CH                | Inorganic clay or high plasticity, fat clay.             | Compact   | Very Stiff                      |           |
|  | SP            | Poorly-graded sand or gravelly sand, little or no fines.          | OH                | Organic clay of medium to high plasticity, organic silt. | Dense   | Hard                            |           |
|  | SM            | Silty sand, sand-silt mixtures.                                   | PT                | Peat and other highly organic soils.                     | Very Dense  | Very Hard                       |           |
|  | SC            | Clayey sand, sand-clay mixtures.                                  |                   |  |   |                                 |           |

|                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| PLAN OF ANY BORING           | AUGER BORING (DRY)  |
| PENETROMETER (FLUSH-COUPLED) | JET BORING          |
| 2" CONE PENETROMETER         | DIAMOND CORE BORING |
| SAMPLER BORING (DRY)         | TEST PIT            |
| ROTARY BORING (WET)          |                     |

BIT SIZES: (O.D.) "AX"-1-13/16", "BX"-2-9/32", "NX"-2-29/32"  
CASING SIZES: (O.D.) "BX"-2-7/8", "NX"-3-1/2"

NEVADA HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT MATERIALS AND TESTING DIVISION  
FOUNDATIONS AND ENGINEERING GEOLOGY SECTION

EA NO 70640 PROJECT NO COUNTY CLARK DMC NO  
GOWAN ROAD GRADE SEPERATION (H-1217) 2

| ROTARY BORING   | PENETRATION BORING   |
|---|--|
| <p>Top Hole Elev. B-NO.</p> <p>Casing Driven</p> <p>Size of Sampler (Inches)</p> <p>Blows Per Foot (Using a 140 Lb. Hammer with a 30" Drop, or as Noted)</p> <p>Qu=Unconfined Compressive Strength (T/ft<sup>2</sup>)</p> <p>Field Qu (T/ft<sup>2</sup>)</p> <p>Vane Shear (T/ft<sup>2</sup>)</p> | <p>Top Hole Elev. B-NO.</p> <p>Penetration Pushed</p> <p>No Count Recorded</p> <p>Blows Per Foot</p> <p>Average Skin Friction (T/ft<sup>2</sup>)</p> |
| <p>Sample Number</p> <p>Unit Weight Wet (lb/ft<sup>3</sup>)</p> <p>Water Content</p> <p>Consolidation</p> <p>Direct Shear</p> <p>Triaxial Compression</p> <p>Atterberg Limits</p> <p>Estimated Material Change</p> <p>Description of Material Change</p> <p>Unconformable Material Change</p>     | <p>G.W.S. (Water) Elev.</p> <p>Date Measured</p> <p>Graphic Presentation of Penetration</p>  |

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

## MEMORANDUM

To...Rod McGinnis, Principal Bridge Design Engineer .....November 17....., 19 75.

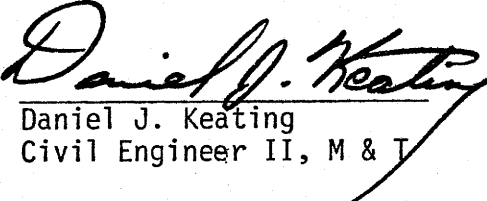
From Dan Keating, Civil Engr. II, M. & T. ....

**Subject:** Gowan Road Grade Separation, Pile Supports  
US 95 Expressway

As per your request to go entirely to pile supports for each support of this structure, the following is recommended. Any of the three standard cast-in-place concrete piles, as listed in the standard plans or an HP 10 x 57 may be used to support a 60 ton design load when driven to elevation 2268 at all support locations. At this elevation the tips of the piles should be embedded in a well-cemented layer of caliche. Because it is highly desirable for tip embedment in this layer, minimum tip elevation should be set at elevation 2269. Predrilling or spudding will probably be necessary to penetrate a smaller caliche layer at approximately elevation 2285.

At least one load test should be run at a pier location to verify the adequacy of these piles.

If further information is needed for your foundation design please do not hesitate to contact us.

  
Daniel J. Keating  
Civil Engineer II, M & T

DJK:mlf