

BACKWATER AT BRIDGES AND DENSELY WOODED
FLOOD PLAINS, YOCKANOOKANY RIVER
NEAR THOMASTOWN, MISSISSIPPI

By B. E. Colson, C. O. Ming,
and George J. Arcement

Prepared in cooperation with the
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
and the
MISSISSIPPI STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

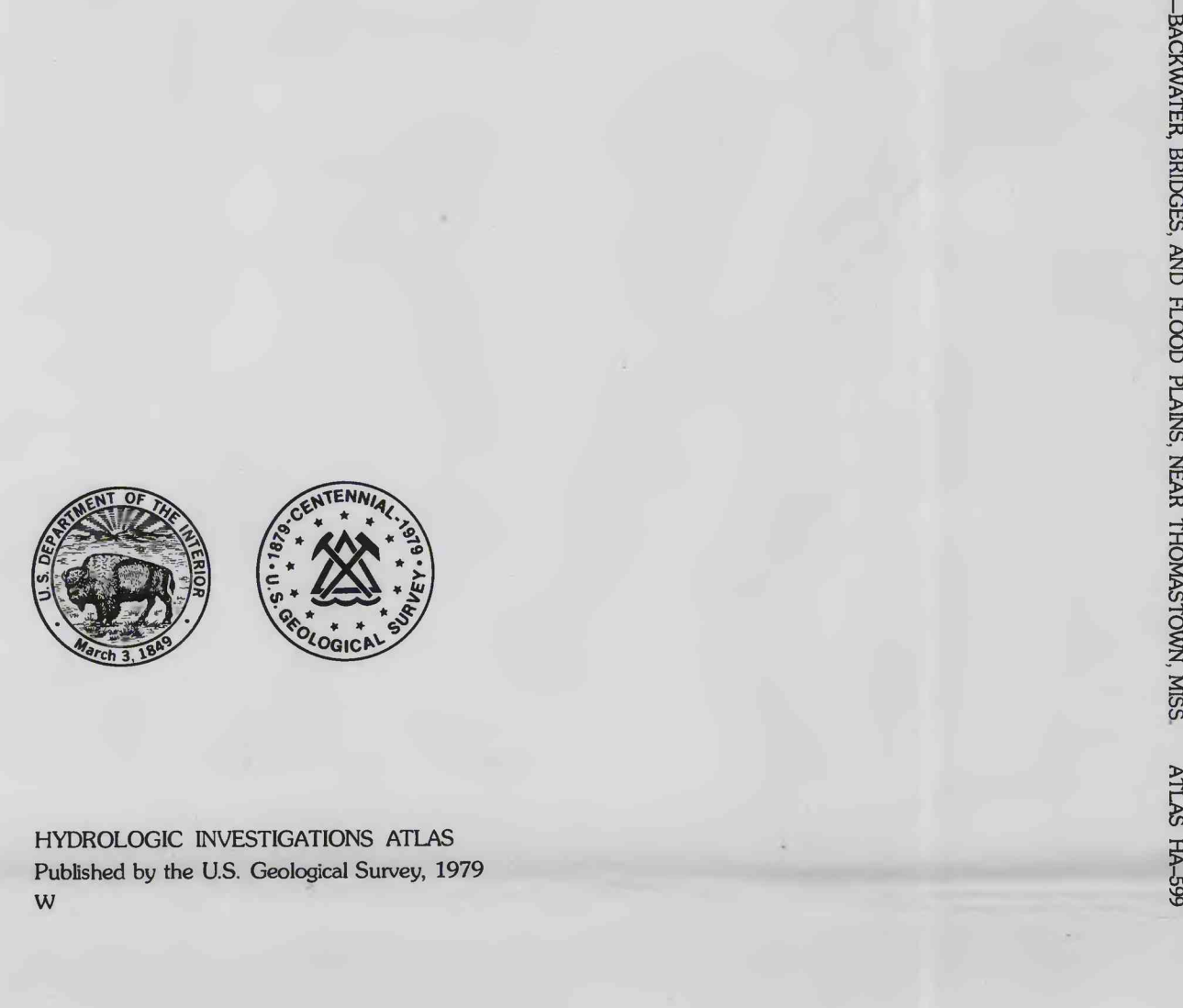


FIGURE 1.—INDEX MAP OF STUDY SITES IN THE BRIDGE BACKWATER INVESTIGATION PROJECT, ALABAMA, LOUISIANA, AND MISSISSIPPI.

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INTRODUCTION

New techniques for predicting water-surface profiles, needed in the design of economical, structurally sound, and environmentally compatible stream crossings, are under investigation. The investigation has accelerated with the advent of digital data processing techniques for analyzing river channel data. Among the techniques are the use of two-dimensional (2-D) digital models. Field data are essential for development and evaluation of these techniques for predicting water-surface profiles. This atlas is one of a series that provide a wide range of field data. The atlas contains data for 100 cross sections of a stream collecting backwater data where wide, densely vegetated flood plains are crossed by highway embankments and single-opening bridges. This work was done in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration Department of Transportation, the Alabama State Highway Department, the Louisiana State Department of Transportation, the Mississippi State Department of Transportation, and the Mississippi State Highway Department. The objective of this cooperative project is to present the data in a format conducive

HYDROLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS ATLAS NUMBER
ALABAMA

Buckhorn Creek near Shiloh	HA-607
Pas Peak near Louisville	608
Pole Creek near Sanford	609
Yellow River near Sanford	610
Whitewater Creek near Tarentum	611
LOUISIANA	
Alexander Creek near St. Francisville	HA-600
Beaver Creek near Kentwood	601
Big Bayou near Olive Branch	602
Cypress Creek near Downsville	603
Prairie Bayou near Lumbé	604
Red Bayou de Laoutre near Lumbé	605
Tennille Creek near Elizabeth	606
MISSISSIPPI	
Big Bayou Chitto near Johnston Station	HA-591
Bobette Chitto near Sumner	592
Calumet River near Lake Charles	593
Logans Creek at Zama	594
Oakmont Creek east of Magee	595
Old Creek near Magee	596
Tallahatchee Creek at Waldrup	597
Thompson Creek near Clara	598
Ward and Amite River near Liberty	599
Yockanockany River near Thibodaux	599

DESCRIPTION OF DATA

TYPE OF DATA

Data collected at all study sites consist of (1) depths, velocities, and discharges measured through the bridge openings, and (2) peak water-surface elevations along the highway embankment and along cross sections. A minimum of seven valley cross sections were surveyed at approximately one valley-width intervals in the vicinity of the bridge at each site. Location of cross sections was aligned perpendicularly to the assumed direction of flow. Cross sections were extended to intersect the edge of the valley at equal water-surface elevations. Surveying procedures described in the U.S. Geological Survey Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations series (Matthai, 1967; Benson and Dalrymple, 1967) were followed.

HIGH-WATER MARKS

Water-surface elevations were determined from high-water marks identified along the cross sections and the edges of the valley after each flood. During peak discharge measurements, water-surface elevations were marked with standard surveying stakes along the upstream and downstream sides of the highway embankment. For some floods additional high-water marks were identified in the valley adjacent to the bridge to define in detail the water surface in the approach and exit reaches.

BRIDGE GEOMETRY

Detailed bridge geometry was obtained at each site. The bridge cross section was surveyed at the most contracted section. Piers, spur dikes, wingwalls, abutment slopes, and other pertinent geometry were measured.

MANNING'S ROUGHNESS COEFFICIENT

Schneider and others (1976) used composite Manning's roughness coefficient values n where frequent changes in roughness occurred. In their study, composite values of n were verified by matching step backwater computations of the water surface with actual water-surface profiles for measured discharges. The range of n values used in this report is based on values used by Schneider and others (1976). Roughness varies from open fields to dense forests.

Roughness values or ranges of roughness values in

parts of the flood plain are shown on the maps. The values shown are based on water depth. The high value is the value where water depth is less than 0.6 meter and the low value applies where water depth is greater than 1.0 meter. A linear relation of roughness to water depth is assumed for water depths between 0.6 and 1.0 meter.

The data are presented on topographic maps enla

standard 1:24,000 or 1:62,500 scale U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps which comply with National Map Accuracy Standards. Accuracy limitations of the base maps are retained in the enlargements. Although positions may be scaled closely

on the enlargements, they are not defined with accuracy than positions on the base maps.

Ground elevations are placed adjacent to solid squares. Elevations of floodmarks are indicated by numerical values adjacent to solid triangles. Floodmark elevations for separate floods are shown on separate sheets. Bridge geometry and road-embankment dimensions are shown with brief notations of pier spacing and configuration.

In addition to the data points shown on the maps,

measurements of selected floods, plots of cross sections, and velocity distribution diagrams are shown. Cross-section elevations are tabulated to define stream channels and flood-plain features in greater detail. Each cross section is referred to a zero station established at the extreme left edge (facing downstream) of the valley.

DATUM

All elevations presented in this report are referred to National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD).

FLOOD FREQUENCY

Flood-frequency relations are presented gr

Techniques for deriving flood-frequency relations are those described by the U.S. Water Resources Council (1977), and by Colson and Hudson (1976).

The International System of Units (SI) is used to

The International System of Units (SI) is used throughout this report. All data were measured in the U.S. customary units and converted to SI units. Ground elevations which were originally determined to the nearest tenth of a foot are rounded to the nearest 0.01 meter. Water-surface elevations which



FIGURE 2—INDEX MAP SHOWING STUDY REACH, YOCKANOOKANY RIVER NEAR THOMASTOWN, MISSISSIPPI

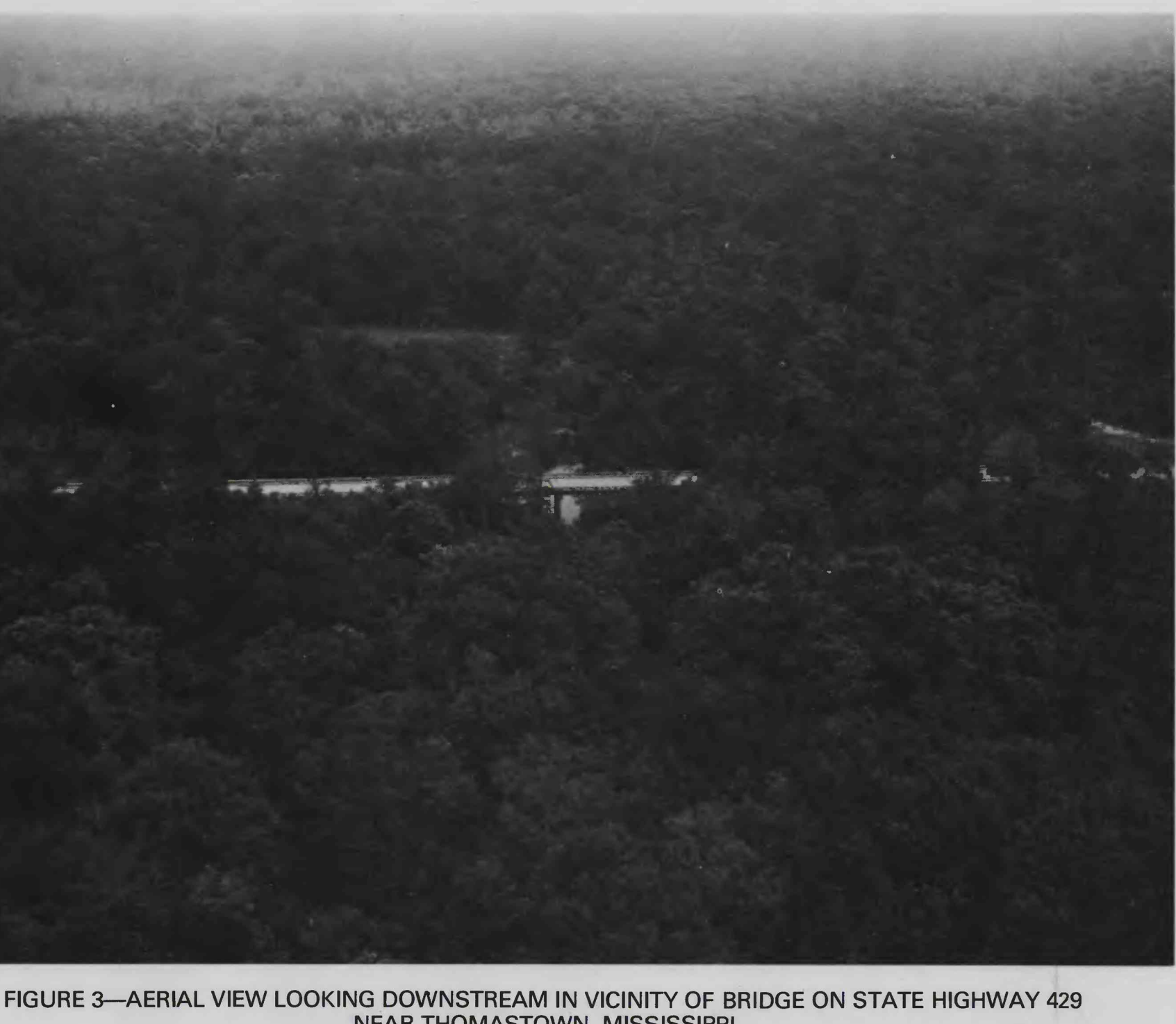


FIGURE 3—AERIAL VIEW LOOKING DOWNS REAM IN VICINITY OF BRIDGE ON STATE HIGHWAY 429
NEAR THOMASTOWN, MISSISSIPPI

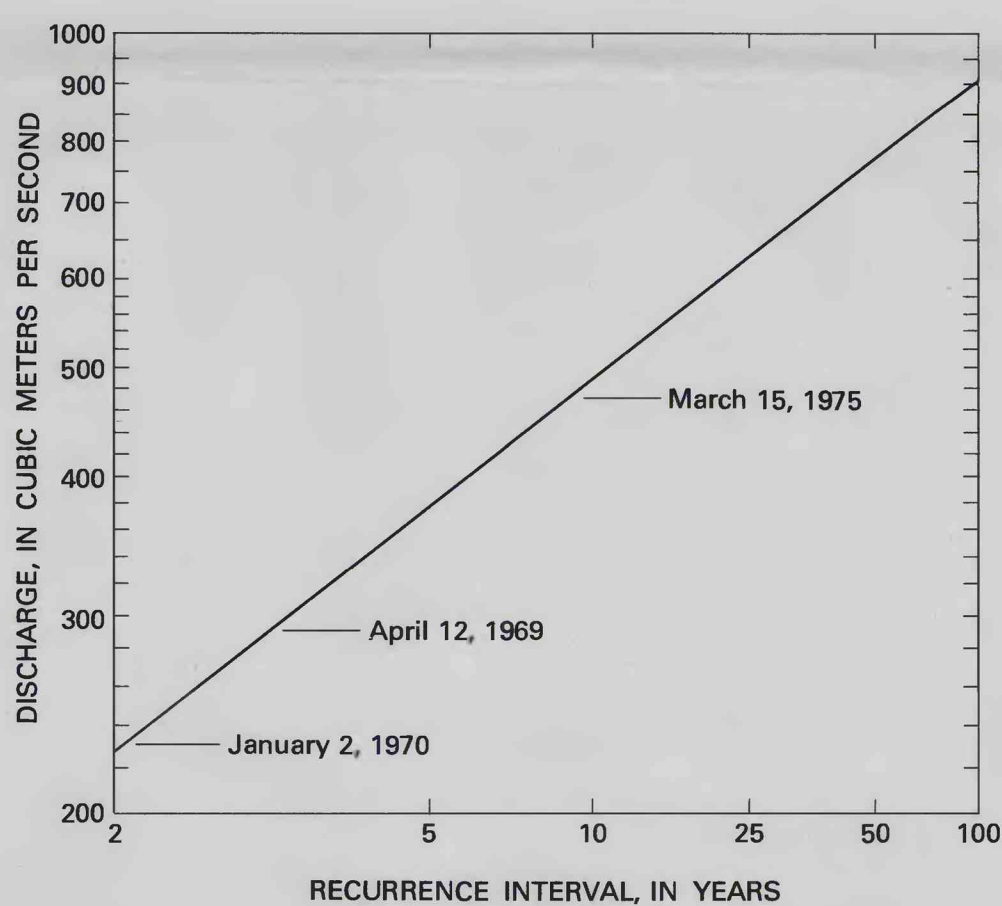


FIGURE 4—FREQUENCY OF FLOODS, YOCKANOOKANY RIVE
NEAR THOMASTOWN, MISSISSIPPI

TABLE 1.—VALLEY CROSS-SECTION DATA FOR YOCKANOOKANY RIVER NEAR THOMASTOWN, MISSISSIPPI. ZERO STATION IS AT THE LEFT EDGE OF THE VALLEY (FACING DOWNSTREAM).

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