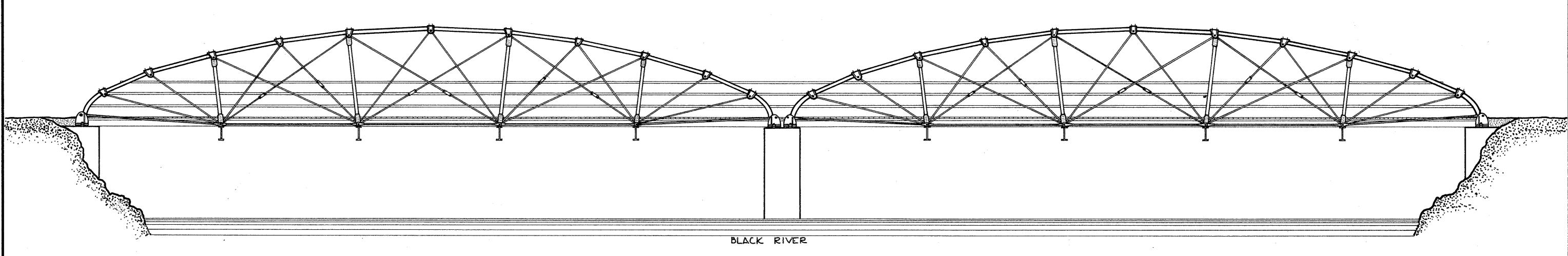
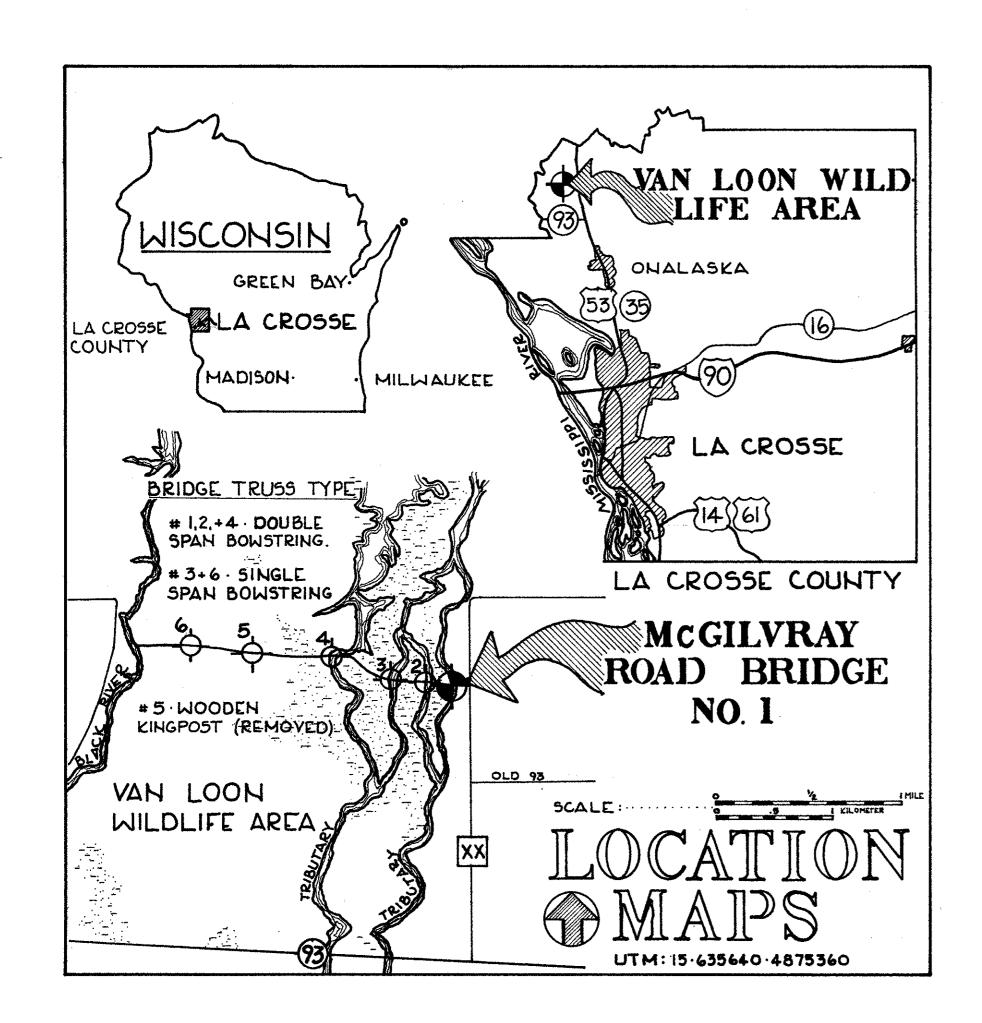
McGILVRAY ROAD BRIDGE No.1 · 1906

WAN LOON WILDLIFE AREA, WISCONSIN



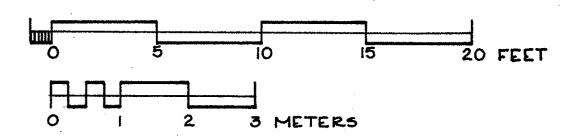
NORTH ELEVATION



IN 1897, CHARLES M. HORTON, OF MINNESOTA, RECEIVED A PATENT FOR AN IMPROVEMENT ON TRUSSES AND BRIDGES. ACCORDING TO HORTON, RIVETED AND BOLTED CONNECTIONS PERFORATED THE METAL, NEEDLESSLY WEAKENING THE JOINTS. INSTEAD, HE CLAIMED, ONE COULD STRENGTHEN A BRIDGE BY SUBSTITUTING ALTERNATIVE DEVICES, SUCH AS HOOK-CLIPS, FOR THE RIVETS AND BOLTS.

THE LA CROSSE BRIDGE AND STEEL COMPANY, LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN, OBTAINED THE RIGHTS TO MANUFACTURE HORTON'S DESIGN WHEN THE FIRM INCORPORATED IN 1900. BETWEEN 1905 AND 1908, THE COMPANY ERECTED FIVE, POSSIBLY SIX, PATENTED BOWSTRING BRIDGES ALONG THE McGILVRAY ROAD. THIS FREQUENTLY TRAVELED HIGHWAY SERVED AS A NATURAL TRANSPORTATION ROUTE FROM THE CITY OF LA CROSSE TO THE NORTHWEST-ERN PART OF WISCONSIN.

THE MCGILVRAY ROAD BRIDGES ARE FIVE OF ONLY SEVEN REMAINING BOWSTRINGS IN THE STATE. THEY ARE ONE OF THE FEW SURVIVING



EXAMPLES OF A LA CROSSE BRIDGE AND STEEL COMPANY BRIDGE AND POSSIBLY THE ONLY EXAMPLE OF CHARLES M. HORTON'S BRIDGE PATENT.

THE McGILVRAY ROAD BRIDGE WAS DOCUMENTED IN THE SUMMER OF 1987 AS PART OF THE WISCONSIN HISTORIC BRIDGE RECORDING PROJECT BY THE HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD (HAER), NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. THE PROJECT WAS CO-SPONSORED BY THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MARVIN SCHAEFFER, ADMINISTRATOR, DIVISION OF LIGHWAYS + TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

FIELD WORK AND DOCUMENTATION, MEASURED DRAWINGS, HISTORICAL REPORTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS WERE PREPARED UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF DR. ROBERT KAPSCH, CHIEF, HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY/HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD. THE FIELD TEAM, UNDER DIRECTION OF ERIC DELONY, CHIEF AND PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT, HAER, CONSISTED OF JOSEPH BILELLO (UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO), PROJECT SUPERVISOR, DIANE KROMM (HAGLEY FOUNDATION) PROJECT HISTORIAN, ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIANS: DAVID JAMISON (OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY) AND SCOTT BARBER (UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE); ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS: LOLA BENNETT (UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT) AND ED CORDES (CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY) AND PHOTOGRAPHER MARTY STUPICH (MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART). ROBERT NEWBERY, HISTORIAN (WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION) WAS PROJECT ADVISOR.

SCONSIN BRIDGE RECORDING TEAM
HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

TRIM LINE

TRIM LINE

