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Design of a Counterfort Retaining Wall
along Red Cedar River, East
Lansing, Michigan.

A Thesis Submitted to

The Faculty of
Michigan State College
of
Agriculture and Applied Science

By

Philip H. Anderson

Candidate for the Degree of
Bachelor of Science

June 1930.

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The writer wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to Mr. C. A. Miller, professor of Civil Engineering at Michigan State College, for his able assistance and advice thruout this work, and to Michigan State Highway Department for material and valuable information.

Philip H. Anderson.

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American Highway Engineers Handbook

Arthur Blanchard author

Reinforced Concrete Construction

George A. Hoel author

Cyclopedia of Civil Engineering

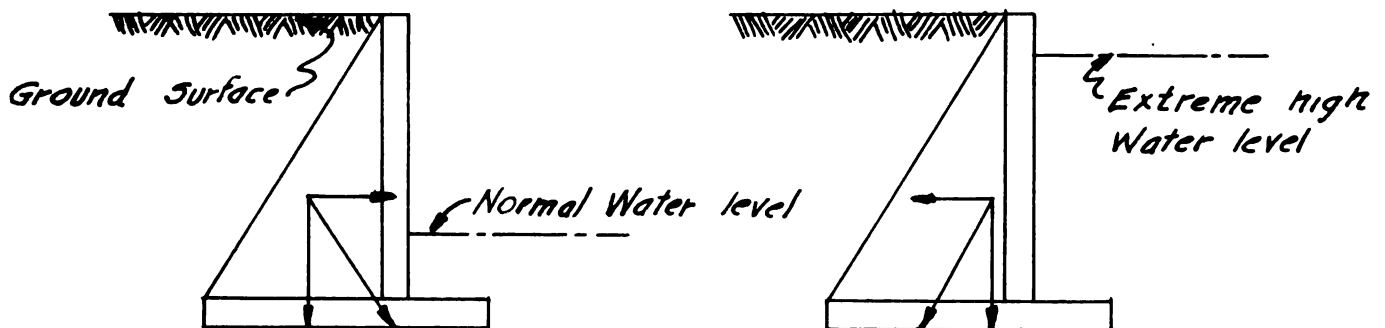
Vol. VI American Technical Society

The protection of property from damage by floods has always been one of primary importance.

The site chosen for this design is located on the outskirts of East Lansing at the intersection of the Red Cedar River and Harrison Road.

In the mid summer this land is comparatively dry, but in the early spring the Red Cedar rises above its banks and floods the area. The difference in the extreme High Water level and the normal water level is approximately 10 feet. This difference provides an excellent opportunity for study of the variations of the resultant pressures and the subsequent reversal of stresses.

In this particular case the following sketch shows the variation in pressures.



This design was made adequate to provide safety in both cases and is found necessary to deviate from the minimum allowable dimensions in several cases to produce a satisfactory design.

The site was surveyed and countours run. A log of Borings was obtained from the State Highway Department and are shown together with a Topographical map on Sheet No. 1

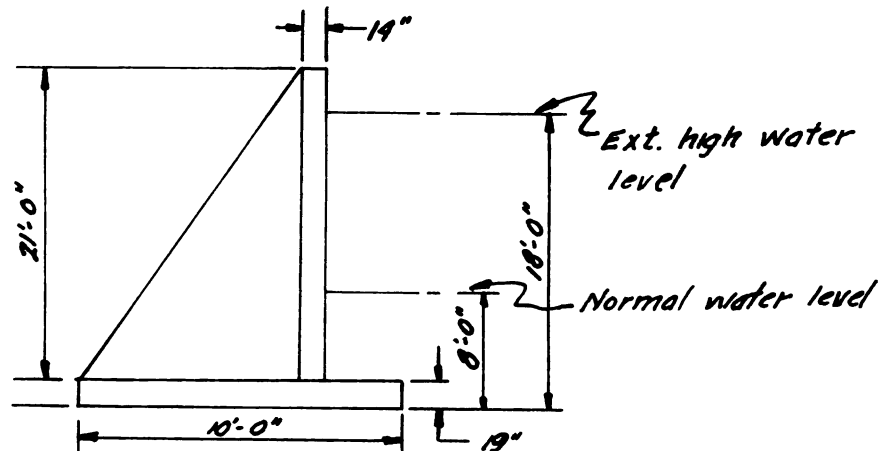
in the back folder of this book.

Profiles were taken at intervals of important changes in contour. From this data a height of 21 feet was considered necessary as determined on the profile map marked Sheet No. 2.

The counterforted type of wall was chosen, since the height exceeded 20 feet and results show that this type is more economical when the height is greater than 20 feet.

A value of $\frac{t}{h}$ equals .42 was selected with an assumed weight of 25 and a design was worked out. The Resultant pressure failed to pass within the middle third and these values were discarded. After several trials value of t equals 10' h equals 21' were found to satisfy the condition and were used.

A value of 30" was assumed for the thickness of the footing, which was later found to be high and a correction was made in the next trial.



Verticle Wall

W due to earth equals 25#

W due to earth & water equals (62.4 - 25) equals 37.4#

Verticle Wall

The pressure at a depth of 18.5' is wh. equals 37.4 X 18.5

wh equals 730#

The counterforts are spread 8' apart c - c with a

thickness of 16". Clear Span equals $8 - 1.33$ equals $6.67'$

$$M \text{ equals } 1/10 \quad w l^2 \text{ equals } 730/10 \times (6.67)^2 \text{ equals}$$

3242# per ft. of width

$$d \text{ equals } \sqrt{M/0k} \text{ equals } \sqrt{3242/107.7} \text{ equals } 5.71$$

For Shear----

$$V \text{ equals } 730 (4 - .67) \text{ equals } 2430$$

$$d \text{ equals } V/vbj \text{ equals } 2430/(40)(.874)(.12) \text{ equals } 5.78 \text{ or } 6"$$

The minimum allowable d to allow for placing of the steel is 12". It was found advisable to use 14" here.

Assume 1/2" round bars spaced 4" on centers.

$$A \text{ equals } p d b$$

$$A, \text{ equals } (.0077) (12) (5.78) \text{ equals } .535$$

$$u \text{ equals } V/eojd \text{ equals } 2430/12 \times 4 \times (1.571) \times (.874) (5.78) \text{ equals } 102\#$$

Since a bond stress of 102# is too high the spacing was decreased to 3"

$$u \text{ equals } \frac{2430}{(12/3) (1.57) \times (.874) (5.78)} \text{ equals } 76\#$$

$$v \text{ equals } \frac{V}{bjd} \text{ equals } \frac{2430}{12(.874)(5.78)} \text{ equals } 40\#$$

For Outer Steel:

$$wh \text{ equals } 25 \times 18.5 \text{ equals } 487\#$$

$$M \text{ equals } \frac{1 \times 487 \times (6.07)^2}{10} \text{ equals } 2132\#$$

$$d \text{ equals } \sqrt{\frac{2132}{107.7}} \text{ equals } 4.45$$

$$A, \text{ equals } p d b \text{ equals } (.0077) 12 (4.45) \text{ equals } .41$$

Use 1/2" round bars spaced 5 1/2" c - c

Spacing of Steel:

Inner Wall,

at Quarter Point equals $4 \times \frac{4}{3}$ equals 5.33"

at one-half point equals $4 \times \frac{4}{2}$ equals 8."

Outer Wall

at Quarter Pt. equals $5 \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{4}{3}$ equals 7.33"

at One-half Pt. equals $5 \frac{1}{2} \times 2$ equals 11"

Design of Footing: (High Water)

To determine total pressure on Base.

wt. of Earth equals $(18.5 \times 5.09 \times 100)$ equals 9425

" " Stem " $(1.165 \times 18.5 \times 150)$ " 3230

" " Footing " $(10 \times 2.50 \times 150)$ " 3750

" " Water " $(62.4 \times 15.5 \times 2.75)$ " $\frac{2660}{18075}$

r equals (9425×2.54) plus (3230×6.67) plus (3750×5)
plus (2660×8.63)

18075

r equals $\frac{85250}{18075}$ equals 4.72

To Find where Resultant Pressure Acts:

P (earth) equals $\frac{1}{2} w n^2$ equals $\frac{1}{2} \cdot 25 \cdot (21)^2$ equals 5520

P (water) equals $\frac{1}{2} w h^2$ equals $\frac{1}{2} 62.4 \times 58^2$ equals 10100#

P_r equals 10100 equals 5520 equals 4580#

X_r equals $\frac{5520 \times 7 - 10100 \times 6}{4580}$ equals 5.00

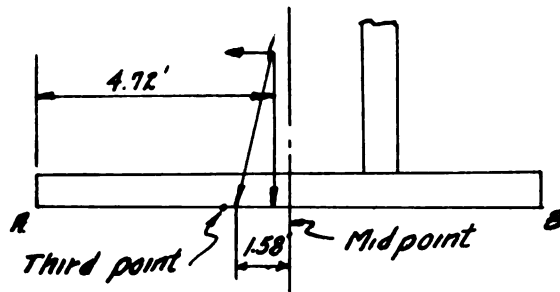
$\frac{x}{5.22}$ equals $\frac{4580}{18075}$ equals 1.3

X_o equals $(5.00 - 4.72)$ plus 1.3 equals 1.58

P_a equals $\frac{18075}{10} (1 \text{ plus } \frac{(6)(1.58)}{10})$

equals 1807 plus 1720 equals 3527#

P_b equals 1807 - 1720 equals 87#



Safety Factors:

$$\text{Sliding equals } \frac{18075 \times .5}{4580} \text{ equals } 1.9$$

$$\text{Overturning equals } \frac{4.72}{4.72 - 3.42} \text{ equals } 2.5$$

Pressures for Normal Water level:

$$\text{Wt. of Earth equals } (18.5 \times 5.09 \times 100) \text{ equals } 9425$$

$$\text{" " Stem " } (1.165 \times 18.5 \times 150) \text{ " } 3230$$

$$\text{" " Footing " } (10 \times 2.50 \times 150) \text{ " } 3750$$

$$\text{" " Water " } (2.75 \times 62.4 \times 5.5) \text{ " } \frac{945}{17350}$$

$$r \text{ equals } \frac{(9425 \times 2.54) + (3230 \times 6.67) + (3750 \times 5) + (945 \times 8.63)}{17350}$$

$$r \text{ equals } \frac{70500}{17350} \text{ equals } 4.05$$

To Find where Resultant Pressure Acts:

$$P \text{ (earth) equals } \frac{1}{2} \times .25 \times (21)^2 \text{ equals } 5520$$

$$P \text{ (water) equals } \frac{1}{2} \times 62.4 \times 8^2 \text{ equals } 2000$$

$$R \text{ equals } 5520 - 2000 \text{ equals } 3520$$

$$X_r \text{ equals } \frac{5520 \times 7 - 2000 \times 2.66}{3520} \text{ equals } 9.45$$

$$\frac{x}{9.45} \text{ equals } \frac{3520}{17350}$$

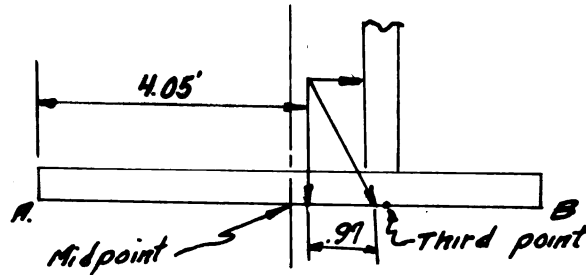
$$x \text{ equals } 1.92$$

$$X_o \text{ equals } (4.05 \text{ plus } 1.92) - 5.00 \text{ equals } .97$$

$$P_a \text{ equals } \frac{17350}{10} \left(1 \text{ plus } \frac{.97 \times 6}{10} \right)$$

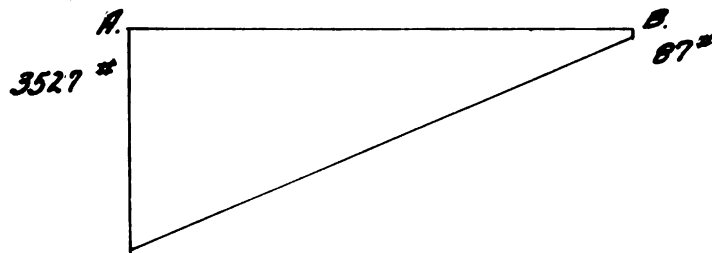
$$\text{equals } 1735 - 1010 \text{ equals } 725\#$$

P_b equals 1735 plus 1010 equals 2745#

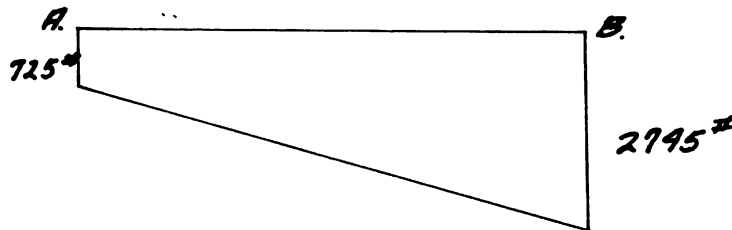


Pressures on Base in both Cases.

High Water.



Normal Water.



Inner Floor Slab.

The decrease in load per foot is

$$\frac{725 \text{ plus } 931}{2} \text{ equals } 828\#$$

Uniform load on end Step equals 1850 plus 375 - 828#

equals 1397#

Max. Bending Moment equals $\frac{(1397) \times (6.67)^2}{10}$ equals 6220#

$$d \text{ equals } \sqrt{\frac{6220}{107.7}} \text{ equals } 5.8"$$

For Shear.

V equals 1397 (4.00 - 67) equals 4700#

$$d \text{ equals } \frac{4700}{(12) \cdot (87) \cdot (30)} \text{ equals } 15" \text{ plus or } 16"$$

Total depth equals 16 plus 3 equals 19"

$$K \text{ equals } \frac{17}{bd^2} \text{ equals } \frac{6220}{15} \text{ equals } 27.6$$

$$P \text{ equals } \frac{27.6}{(16000)X(.87)} \text{ equals } .00194$$

$$A_s \text{ equals } (.00194)(12)(15) \text{ equals } .342 \text{ sq. in.}$$

Use $\frac{3}{4}$ in. round bars spaced 12" center to center

$$\text{Spacing over Supports equals } \frac{(80)(12)(2.36)(.87)(15)}{4700}$$

$$s \text{ equals } 6.3 \text{ or } 6.5$$

$$\text{decrease in load per foot equals } \frac{2745 - 725}{10} \text{ equals } 202\#$$

At 2 feet from End:

$$\text{Top Spacing equals } \frac{6 \times 1397}{1349} \text{ equals } 6.3 \text{ or } 6.5"$$

$$\text{Bottom Spacing equals } 2 \times 6.5 \text{ equals } 13"$$

At 4 feet from end:

$$\text{Top Spacing equals } \frac{6 \times 1397}{698} \text{ equals } 12.2 \text{ or } 12.5"$$

$$\text{Bottom Spacing equals } 12.5 \times 2 \text{ equals } 25" - 18" \text{ equal Max.}$$

$$P \text{ equals } \frac{.44}{6 \times 15} \text{ equals } .0049, \quad j \text{ equals } .894$$

$$f_s \text{ equals } \frac{(6220)(12)}{(.0049)(.894)(12)(225)} \text{ equals } \underline{74600}$$

$$\frac{74600}{1182} \text{ equals } 6320\#$$

$$\frac{f_i}{4u} \text{ equals } \frac{6320 \times .75}{4 \times 80} \text{ equals } 14.8 \text{ or } 15"$$

$$\text{length of Embedment equals } 15"$$

$$v \text{ equals } \frac{4700}{(12)(.894)(15)} \text{ equals } \frac{4700}{161} \text{ equals}$$

$$29.2\#$$

Outer Cantilever:

$$\text{Wt. of Wall equals } 2.75 \times 150 \times 2.5 \text{ equals } 1030\#$$

$$\text{" " Water " equals } 945\#$$

$$\text{Total } 1975\#$$

$$\text{distance to c. g. equals } \frac{2.75}{3} \left(\frac{2.(2189)}{4934} \text{ plus } 2745 \right) \text{ equals } 1.43$$

$$M \text{ equals } (2.467)(2.75)(1.43) \left[(2.75)(2.5)(150) \text{ plus } 945 \right] 1.375$$

$$d \text{ equals } \sqrt{\frac{7100}{107.7}} \text{ equals } 8" \text{ plus}$$

$$\text{Shear equals } (2075)(2.75) - (2.75 \times 2.5) \times 150$$

$$5700 - 568 \text{ equals } 5132$$

$$d \text{ equals } \frac{5132}{(12)(30)(.87)} \text{ equals } 16"$$

$$\text{Total equals } 16 \text{ plus } 3 \text{ equals } 19"$$

Use $\frac{3}{4}"$ round bars spaced 12" center to center.

$$P \text{ equals } \frac{.44}{6 \times 15} \text{ equals } .0040 \quad j \text{ equals } .899$$

$$u \text{ equals } \frac{5132}{\frac{12}{6} (2.36)(.899)(16)} \text{ equals } 76\#$$

$$F_s \text{ equals } \frac{7100 \times 12}{(1004)(.899)(.256)12} \text{ equals } 7700\#$$

Length of embedment of Steel:

$$\frac{F_i}{4u} \text{ equals } \frac{7700 \times .75}{4.80} \text{ equals } 18"$$

Design of Counterfort.

$$\text{Horizontal force transmitted equals } \frac{1}{2}(25)(18.5)^{.8} \text{ equals } 34200\#$$

$$M \text{ equals } 34,200 \left(\frac{18.5}{3} \right) 12 \text{ equals } 2,540,000\#$$

$$K \text{ equals } \frac{2,540,000}{16(5.65)^{.2} (12)^{.2}} \text{ equals } 34.6$$

$$P \text{ equals } .00247$$

$$A_s \text{ equals } (5.65)(12)(16)(.00247) \text{ equals } 2.68$$

Use 4- 1 inch buss spaced $3\frac{1}{2}$ c - c

Moment at 14' below top

$$\frac{1}{2}(25)(14)^{.8} \times 8 \text{ equals } 19600$$

$$M \text{ equals } 19600 \left(\frac{14}{3} \right) \times 8 \text{ equals } 1,090,000 \text{ in lbs.}$$

Moment at 7' below top

$$\frac{1}{2}(25)(49)(3) \text{ equals } 4900$$

$$M \text{ equals } 4900 \left(\frac{8}{3} \right) 12 \text{ equals } 15700 \text{ in lbs.}$$

At 14' below top

1. The first part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

2. The second part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

3. The third part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

4. The fourth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

5. The fifth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

6. The sixth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

7. The seventh part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

8. The eighth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

9. The ninth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

10. The tenth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

11. The eleventh part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

12. The twelfth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

13. The thirteenth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

14. The fourteenth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

15. The fifteenth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

16. The sixteenth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

17. The seventeenth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

18. The eighteenth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

19. The nineteenth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

20. The twentieth part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

21. The twenty-first part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

22. The twenty-second part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

23. The twenty-third part of the document is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various offices of the city.

$$K \text{ equals } \frac{1,090,000}{16(4.18)^2(12)} \text{ equals } 25.8$$

$$\text{Rigid P equals } .0018$$

At 7' below top

$$K \text{ equals } \frac{15700}{16(3.13)^2(12)} \text{ equals } 6.90$$

$$\text{Rigid P equals } .0005$$

2 rods carried above 14' point

2 rods carried above 7' point

$$P_1 \text{ equals } \frac{(.785) .2}{16(4.28)(12)} \text{ equals } .0020$$

$$P_2 \text{ equals } \frac{(.785) .2}{16(3.13)(12)} \text{ equals } .0026$$

These rods may be stopped as planned.

Horizontal Steel:

Shear on 1 ft. in height.

$$V \text{ equals } 25 \times (18.5)(6.67) \text{ equals } 3080$$

assume 1/2" round bars.

$$\text{No. per one ft. ht. equals } \frac{3080}{16000 \times .196} \text{ equals } .97 \text{ or } 1$$

$$\text{Spacing at Footing equals } \frac{(12)(2)}{1} \text{ equals } 24"$$

Spacing at 10' point

$$V \text{ equals } (25)(10)(6.67) \text{ equals } 1670$$

$$\text{No. per one ft. ht. equals } \frac{1670}{16000 \times .196} \text{ equals } .55$$

$$\text{Spacing equals } \frac{12 \times 2}{.55} \text{ equals } 43"$$

Max. spacing is 24"

Verticle Steel:

$$V \text{ equals } (1397)(6.67) \text{ equals } 9320\#$$

Use 5/8" round bars

$$\text{No. per ft. ht. equals } \frac{9320}{16000 \times .306} \text{ equals } 1.9 \text{ or } 2$$

$$\text{Spacing equals } \frac{12 \times 2}{2} \text{ equals } 12"$$

3rd Strip

V equals $9320 - (3 \times 828)$ equals 6836

No. per ft. ht. equals $\frac{6836}{16000 \times 306}$ equals 1.3

Spacing equals $\frac{12.2}{1.3}$ equals 18"

4th Strip

V equals $9320 - (4 \times 828)$ equals 6000

No. equals $\frac{6008}{16000 \times 306}$ equals 1.2

Spacing equals $\frac{24}{1.2}$ equals 20"

5th Strip

V equals $9320 - (5 \times 828)$ equals 5180

No. equals $\frac{5180}{16000 \times 306}$ equals 1.05

spacing - $\frac{24}{1.05} = 22.4"$

Amount of steel for one Bay & Counterfort.

Footings.

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 16 - \frac{3}{4}" \text{ round bars} & - 8' & = 128 \text{ lin. ft.} \\
 16 - \frac{3}{4}" \text{ " " " } & - 3'10" & = \frac{62 \text{ lin. ft.}}{190 \times 1.5} = 285\#
 \end{array}$$

Wall - Horizontal

$$74 - \frac{1}{2}" \text{ round bars} - 8'0" = 592 \text{ lin. ft.} \times .67 = 396\#$$

Verticle

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 3 - \frac{1}{2}" \text{ round bars} & - 20' \frac{1}{2}" & = 62 \text{ lin. ft.} \times .67 = 42\# \\
 2 - \frac{3}{4}" \text{ " " " } & - " " " & = 41 " " \times 1.5 = 62\#
 \end{array}$$

Counterfort

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 2 - 1" \text{ round bars} & - 25' & = 50 \text{ lin. ft.} \\
 2 - 1" \text{ " " " } & - 20' & = \frac{40 " "}{90 \times 2.67} = 240\#
 \end{array}$$

Verticle

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 2 - \frac{5}{8}" \text{ round bars} & - 5' & = 10 \text{ lin. ft.} \\
 2 - \frac{3}{4}" \text{ " " " } & - 3'6" & = 17 " " \\
 2 - \frac{3}{4}" \text{ " " " } & - 13'6" & = 27 " " \\
 2 - \frac{3}{4}" \text{ " " " } & - 18' & = \frac{36 " "}{90 \times 1.04} = 94\#
 \end{array}$$

Horizontal

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 2 - \frac{1}{2}" \text{ round bars} & - 6'2" & \text{lin. ft.} = 13 \\
 2 - \frac{3}{4}" \text{ " " " } & - 5'3" & " " = 11 \\
 2 - \frac{3}{4}" \text{ " " " } & - 5'0" & " " = 10
 \end{array}$$

Horizontal con't.

2	-	$\frac{1}{2}$ "	round bars	-4'8"	lin. ft.	-	9
2	-	"	"	"	"	"	- 9
2	-	"	"	"	"	"	- 7
2	-	"	"	"	"	"	- 5
2	-	"	"	"	"	"	- 5
2	-	"	"	"	"	"	- 3
2	-	"	"	"	"	"	- <u>2</u>

$$\underline{74 \times .67 = 50\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{Total} = 1169\frac{1}{2}$$

Sheet No.III shows a detailed drawing of one bay and counterfort. This drawing shows the spacing and arrangement of the steel reinforcement.

The specifications used in design were 2000# concrete, $n = 15$, $f_c = 16000$, $f_s = 650$, $k = 107.7$, $j = .874$, and $p = .0077$.

In assuming $\frac{t}{h} = .42$ a reference was made to Trantwine's tables which was the basis of this assumption, however several trials showed that this ratio would not hold in this case due to the effect of the water pressure on the outside of the wall. The method of finding the correct ratio that would make the resultant pressures pass thru the third point was therefore one of trial and error and considerable time was spent in this manner.



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