

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

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 an 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 Ruleville Depot

other names/site number Illinois Central Depot

2. Location

street & number On the east side of the RR tracks at the  Not for publication  
junction of E. Floyce Street and N. Front Street

city or town Ruleville  vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Sunflower code 133 zip code 38771

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  
 meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  
 nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. Paul  
Signature of certifying official/Title

JUNE 3, 1999  
Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/ rail related

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

vacant/Not in use

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: railroad vernacular

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Timber pilings

walls wood

asbestos

roof Asphalt

other N/A

**Narrative Description**

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

Please see continuation sheets

**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.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or 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)

Transportation

**Period of Significance**

1930-1949

**Significant Dates**

1930

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(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:

\_\_\_\_\_

Ruleville Depot  
Name of Property

Sunflower County, Mississippi  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

15	7	2	6	7	8	0	3	7	3	4	4	0	0
Zone	Easting			Northing									

3 

Zone	Easting			Northing									

2 

Zone	Easting			Northing									

4 

Zone	Easting			Northing									

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.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Shirley B. Neal / Director of Ruleville Chamber of Commerce

organization Ruleville Chamber of Commerce date November 4, 1998

street & number Two Juniper Lane telephone (601) 756-4760

city or town Ruleville state MS zip code 38771

### 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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Ruleville Chamber of Commerce

street & number 110 E. Floyce St. telephone (601) 756-4836

city or town Ruleville state MS zip code 38771

**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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section: 7

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Ruleville Depot  
Sunflower County, Mississippi

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The former Passenger Depot, now known as the Ruleville Depot, is located at the intersection of East Floyce and North Front Street in downtown Ruleville. Situated directly west of the Ruleville City Park, the depot is positioned on the east side of the former Illinois Central Railroad.

Built in 1930, the depot is a one-story, rectangle shapes frame building, the longer axis lies parallel to the railroad line, with the south side of the building facing East Floyce Street. The typical railroad station is surmounted by an asphalt shingle, hip roof, featuring wide overhanging eaves encased with beadboard that extend around the entire building. The exterior walls are clad in grey asbestos shingled, below which a three foot cream colored skirt of beadboard wraps the entire building along the northern elevation and wraps around the eastern elevation for about nineteen feet.

The fenestration of the building is irregular. The windows and doors are unevenly spaced on all elevations, and the windows are of unequal sizes, but are all still in place.

The primary facade or southern elevation consists of three windows of unequal sizes and one single-leaf door. The eastern elevation has a double-leaf loading door and one small window. Beginning at the loading door, a wooden platform of timbers extends for nineteen feet to the northeast corner of the building with wooden steps to access the platform. The only opening on the northern elevation is the large double-leaf loading door that opens onto the loading dock or wooden platform, which extends the entire length of the northern elevation. The western elevation faces the tracks and features five windows that are unequal in size along with a double-leaf loading door. On the western side of the building stands the original wooden signal control pole, which has the manual controls on the inside of the building.

The windows have one-over-one, double hung, wooden sash and wooden sills. The wooden double-leaf loafing doors are wood without any glass visibility. The single exterior door on the southern elevation originally had a large pane glass over two wood panels, but was replaced with a new door without any light. Each door is surmounted by a wooden transom.

The interior plan of the building consist of three major rooms with two rooms on the southern elevation that have a restroom between them. The larger room further to the north was the baggage and freight room. The interior rooms feature beadboard walls and ceiling with flush board floors. In the west room of the southern elevation, the iron control switches are above the windows on the west wall. In the east room, the east wall features a row of wooden cabinets. The restroom between the two rooms is a two

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## **NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Ruleville Depot  
Sunflower County, Mississippi

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fixture bath, with one door and window. The three original wooden doors on the interior still remain.

The depot was vacant for nine years from 1978 to 1987. A local manufacturing company purchased the building in 1987 and used it for storage, then donated the building in 1996 to the Ruleville Chamber of Commerce. We have the original Ruleville sign for the outside of the building, but it has not been put on the building. During the years the building was vacant, it suffered from neglect. It now has a new roof, paint on the interior and exterior, and has a new central air conditioning unit. The tracks that ran along the depots western elevation have been removed.

The building has a few plants along the southern elevation, which is the only landscaping around the depot. The building looks today much as it did while it was in active use as a railroad depot.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Ruleville Depot  
Sunflower County, Mississippi

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The former Illinois Central Railroad Depot in Ruleville is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of transportation, representing the development of growth of Ruleville as a mode of freight transportation and passenger service. The period of significance extends from 1930, when the depot was built, to 1949, fifty years prior to this nomination.

The railroad was built in 1897 from Inverness north to Ruleville by Major C.H. Pond and was known as the Yazoo Delta Railroad. The Ruleville Railroad terminal was built in 1897 and was rebuilt in 1913 after a tornado destroyed the building. The Yazoo Delta Railroad of the "Y" "D" received a nickname of "Yellow Dog", because the train would jump the track almost each trip and was always muddy with yellow delta mud. The Ruleville Depot remained the northern terminal until the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Systems bought out the branch and extended the rails to Tutwiler. The Curious came to see the powerful "iron master". In 1930, the Illinois Central Railroad purchased the railroad from the Yazoo and built the Ruleville railroad depot that is currently standing.

Ruleville began to flourish with the delivery of freight by rail and when passenger service was provided. This service continued with two passenger trains per day and several freight trains per day, until the 1950's when passenger service was discontinued. The freight service remained until 1978. A notice of intent to abandon or to discontinue service was published in the Enterprise-Tocsin newspaper on August 31, 1978. After opposition from local citizens, the depot closed in 1978. The building remained vacant until 1987, when it was purchased by a local manufacturing company and in 1996, the building was donated to the Ruleville Chamber of Commerce.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Ruleville Depot  
Sunflower County, Mississippi

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Robertson, John A. Early History of the Town of Ruleville Conger, Tom W., Jr. p. 27,  
December 7, 1965.

Public Notice. The Enterprise-Tocsin, 31 August 1978. (Indianola, MS)

McCarley, R.W., son of R.W. McCarley, Sr. who worked for the railroad from 1920 until  
he retired. August, 1998.

Reynolds, H.R. "Shorty", worked for local elevator that used railroad for hauling freight.  
October 5, 1998.

USGS Topographic map AMS-2851 11 NE-Series V843  
Sunflower County Aerial Map No. 69-N  
Sunflower County Deed Book No. 17, p.189



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## **NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Ruleville Depot  
Sunflower County, Mississippi

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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the nominated property consists of a rectangle, the center of which is located at the roof ridge, measuring 32.5 feet to the north and south from the center of roof ridge, and 20 feet to the east and west of roof ridge. The resulting rectangle of land has sides that are 65 feet and 40 feet wide that run parallel or perpendicular to the ridge of the roof. The property is located in the southwest quarter of Section 31, Township 22 North, Range 3 west of the Choctaw Meridian at Ruleville.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes the historic Ruleville Depot and its immediate surroundings.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

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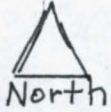
Page: 6

Ruleville Depot  
Sunflower County, Mississippi

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Ruleville Depot  
Ruleville, Sunflower County, Mississippi  
Shirley Neal  
October 21, 1998  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Photo 1 of 10	Facade (south), view to north
Photo 2 of 10	View of (south) and east elevation, view to northwest
Photo 3 of 10	View of (east) and north elevation, view to southwest
Photo 4 of 10	View of (north) and west elevation, view to southeast
Photo 5 of 10	View of one of three cargo doors, view to north
Photo 6 of 10	View of window, wall and floor, view to west
Photo 7 of 10	View of switches over windows and pole outside building, view to west and north
Photo 8 of 10	View of walls, cabinets and window, view to east
Photo 9 of 10	View of opening to east room, small cabinet, door to bath, and window to south
Photo 10 of 10	View of walls and ceiling, view to east and north

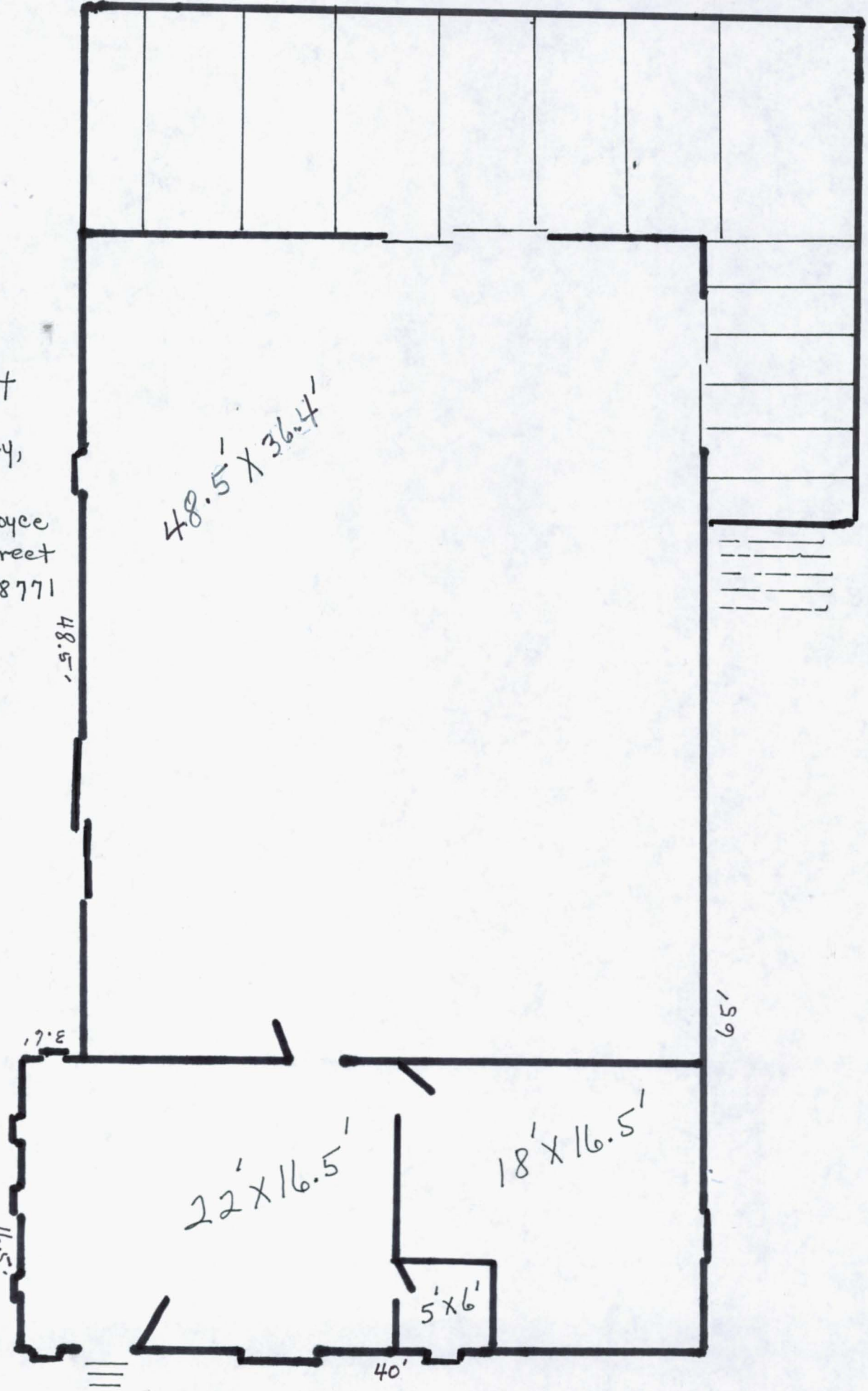


# SKETCH

Ruleville Depot

Sunflower County,  
MS.

intersection of Floyce  
Street + Front street  
Ruleville, MS 38771



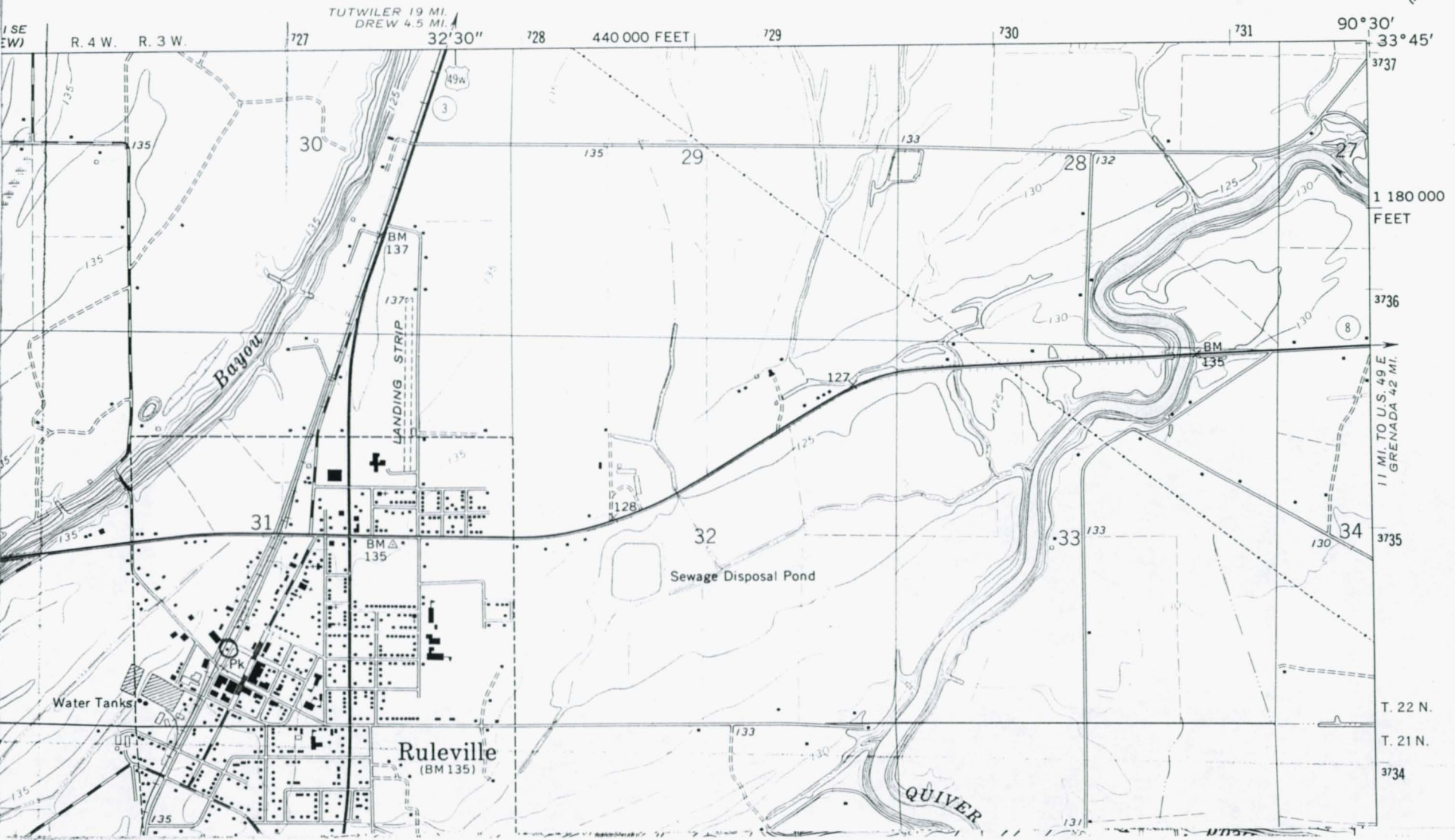
Signal Pole ○

1/8" = 1'

RULEVILLE DETOT  
SUNFLOWER COUNTY, MS  
15/726780/3734400

RULEVILLE QUADRANGLE  
MISSISSIPPI-SUNFLOWER CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

2881 IV SW  
(BROOKS)





Ruleville Depot

Ruleville, Sunflower County, MS

Facade (South), view to North

Photo 1 of 4



Ruleville Depot

Ruleville, Sunflower County, MS

View of (south) and East elevation, View to

Photo 2 of 4

North West





Ruleville Depot

Ruleville, Sunflower County, MS

View of (east) and North elevation,  
view to South west,

Photo 3 of 4



Ruleville Depot

Ruleville, Sunflower County, MS

View of (North) and west elevation,  
view to Southeast

Photo 4 of 4



94 6 20

Ruleville Depot

Ruleville, Sunflower County

Cargo Door - View to North

photo 1 of 6

029 h6.



Ruleville Depot

Ruleville, Sunflower County  
window, wall & floor

View to West

Photo 2 of 6





'94 6 20

Ruleville Depot  
Ruleville, Sunflower County  
switches over windows  
pole outside Building  
View to West and North  
photo 3 of 6



'94 6 20

Ruleville Depot  
Ruleville, Sunflower County  
Wall, cabinets & window  
View to East  
Photo 4 of 6



'84 6 20

Ruleville Depot

Ruleville, Sunflower County

opening to East Room, small cabinet,  
Door to Bath and window on south  
side,

View to East and South  
photos 7/6

029 16.



Ruleville Depot

Ruleville, Sunflower County  
Walls and Ceiling

View to East and North

Photo 6 of 6