

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

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MICHIGAN
STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

JOHN C. MACKIE, COMMISSIONER

October 15, 1962

To: W. W. McLaughlin
Testing and Research Engineer

From: E. A. Finney

Subject: Premolded Rubber and Polyvinyl Chloride Base Plates.
Research Project R-53 G-70. Report No. R-398.

The records show that the first major installation of subject material was made on US 12, Kalamazoo Bypass (IN 39-40, C7 & 8) in 1956.

Subsequent letter reports covering the condition of such base plates on the above and other projects have been submitted as follows:

Report 334 - June 3, 1960

Report 343 - September 8, 1960

Report 349 - November 1, 1960

These reports are well documented with photographic evidence that more construction deficiencies exist in the case of base plates made with subject materials than when galvanized sheet metal was used.

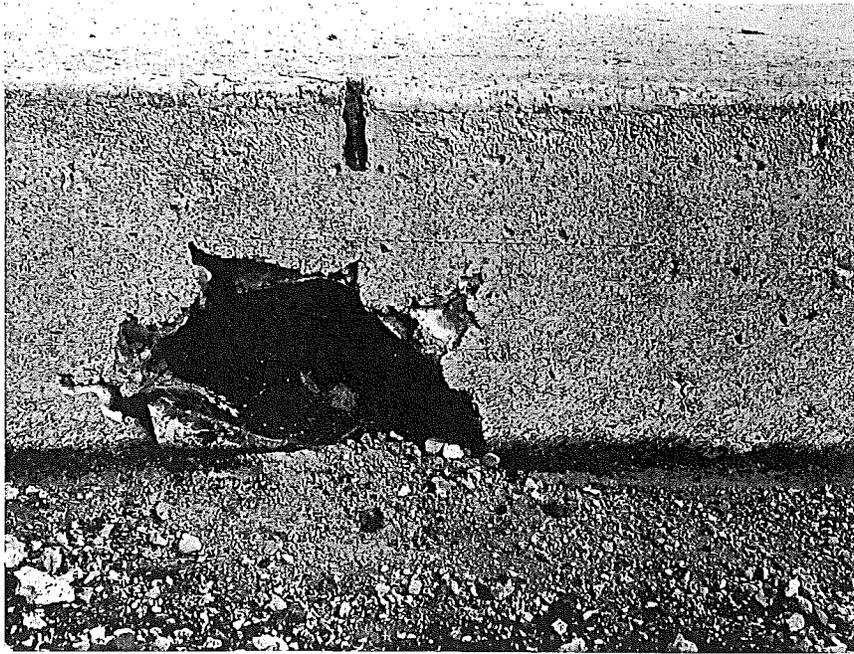
The attached photographs taken September 18, 1962, on Project EBI 33084, C5 & 6 (Fig. 1) present further evidence on the general condition of end plates made of subject material.

In view of construction experience as depicted by the above evidence, we strongly recommend that the subject materials for base and end plates fabrication be deleted from the Department specifications.

OFFICE OF TESTING AND RESEARCH

E. A. Finney, Director
Research Laboratory Division

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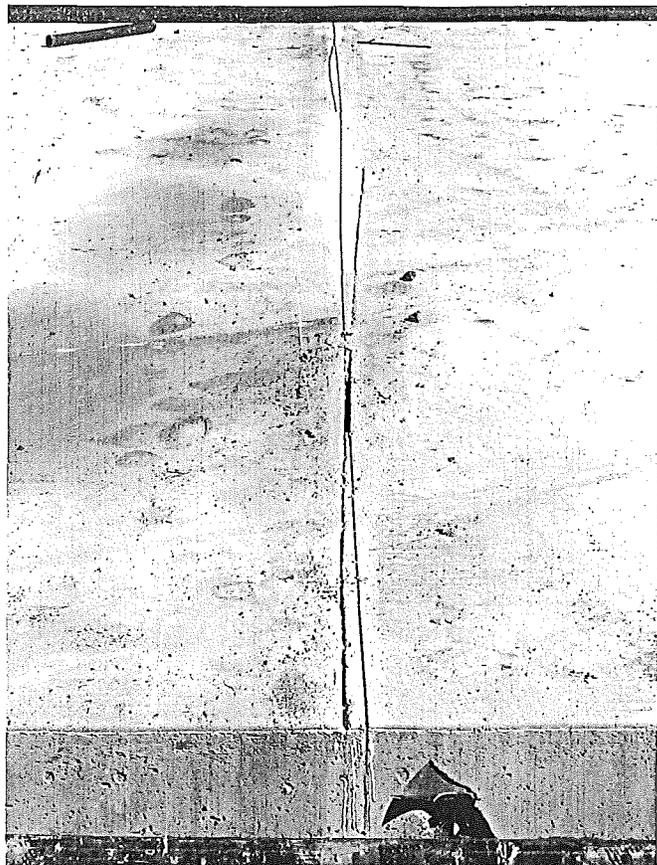


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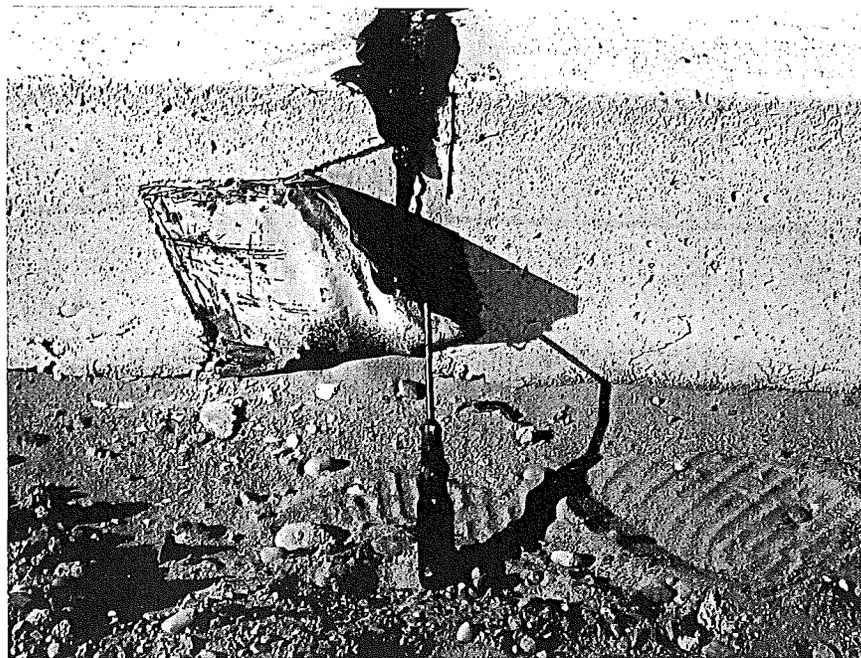


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Figure 1. Four examples of polyvinyl type
end plate installations on
Construction Project EBI 33084, C5 & 6, 9-18-62.



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Figure 1 (Continued).