

PART 3

**INNER HARBOR
NAVIGATION CANAL**

**INTERCOASTAL
WATERWAY**

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER
GULF OUTLET**

NEW ORLEANS AND VICINITY

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Scale in Miles
Scale in Kilometers
ONE INCH EQUALS APPROXIMATELY 1/4 MILE OR 3/8 KILOMETER

LEGEND

- International Airport
- Major Airport
- State Capital
- Point of Interest
- Unimproved Road
- Unimproved Access Rd
- Unimproved Street
- Main Artery Highway
- Minor Artery Highway
- State Highway
- County Road
- Local Road
- Waterway
- Canal
- Bayou
- Lake
- Park
- Golf Course
- Cemetery
- Public Building
- Religious Building
- Government Building
- University
- Hotel
- Restaurant
- Shopping Center
- Amusement Park
- Public Square
- Public Works
- Public Utility
- Public School
- Public Library
- Public Office
- Public Parking
- Public Transit
- Public Transportation
- Public Water
- Public Sewer
- Public Gas
- Public Electric
- Public Telephone
- Public Cable
- Public Radio
- Public TV
- Public Internet

The area of this map is in the Central Time Zone

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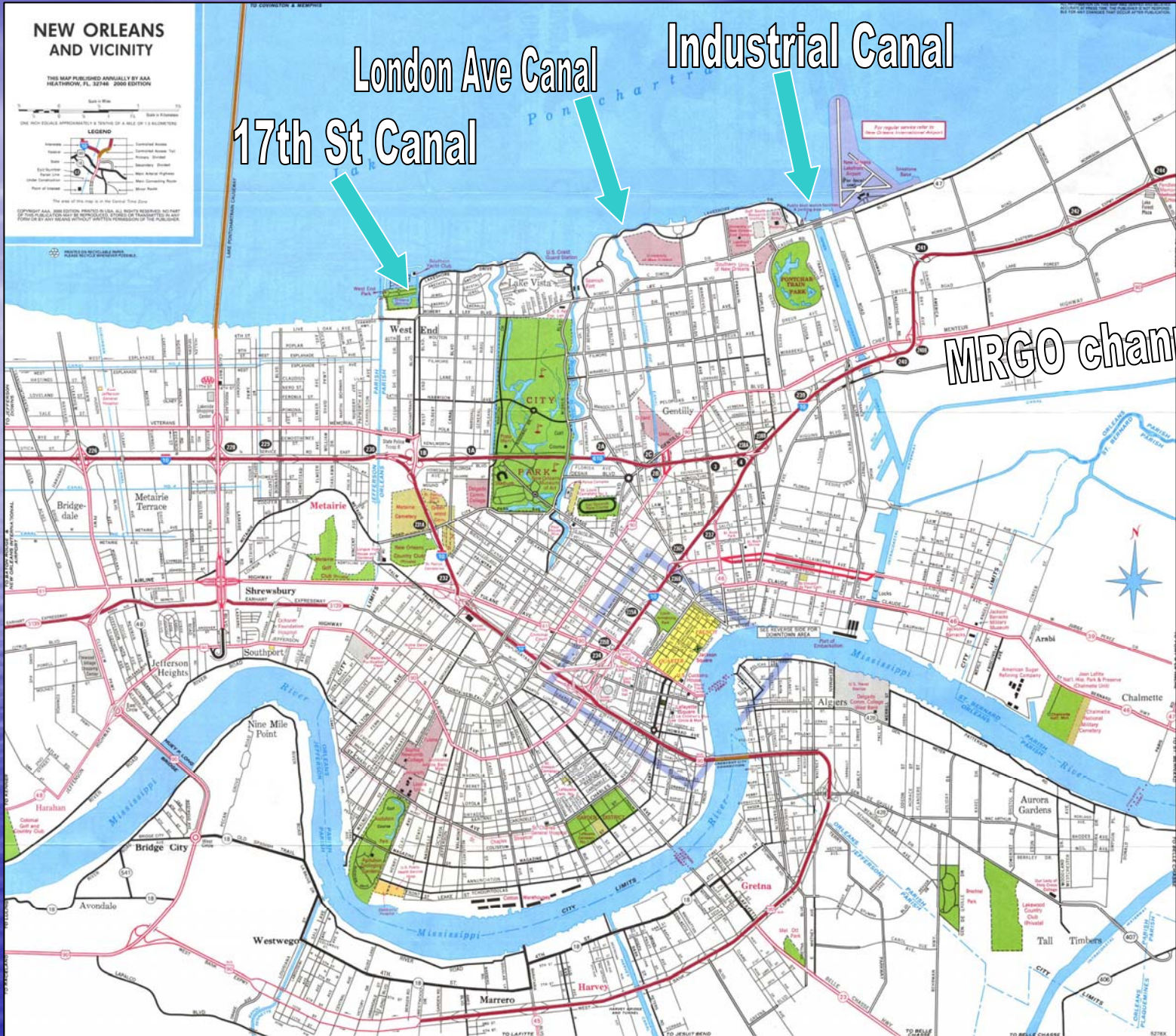
AAA MEMBER SERVICE CENTER
800-AAA-ROADS

London Ave Canal

Industrial Canal

17th St Canal

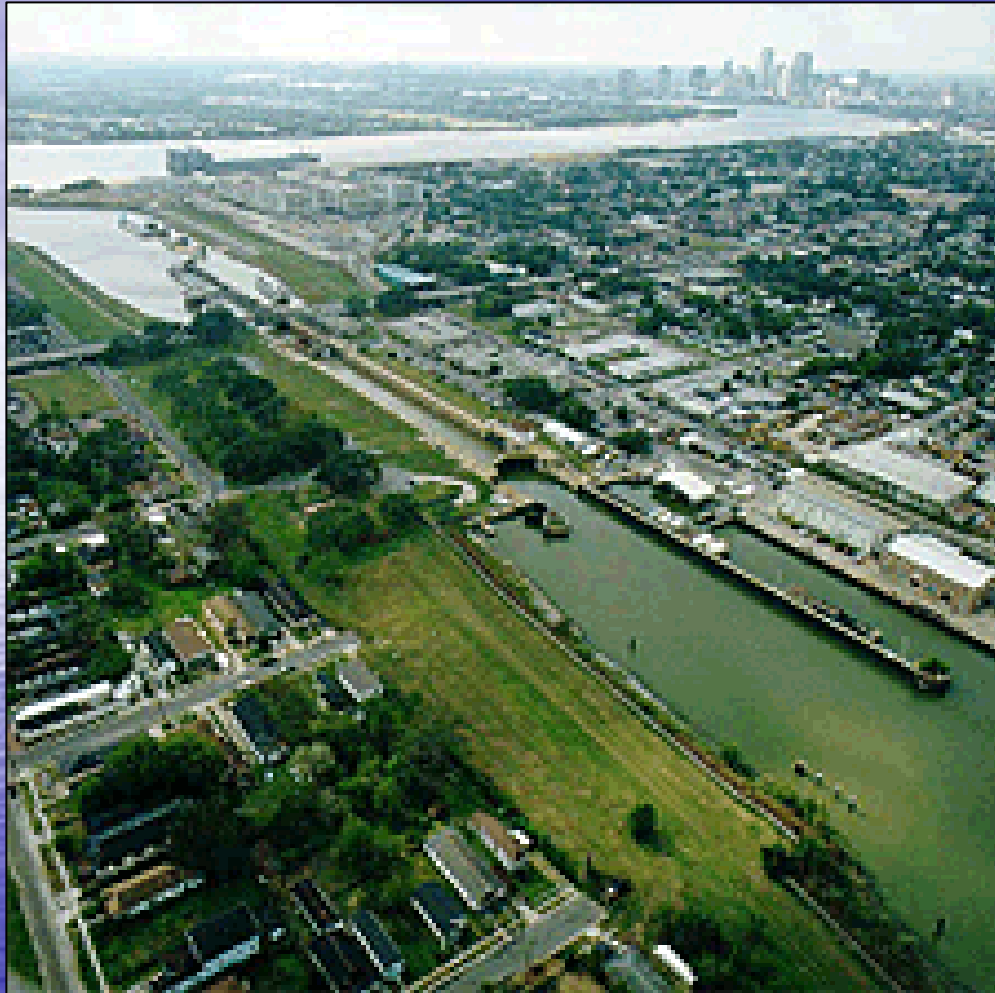
MRGO channel



Inner Harbor Navigation Canal



- The **Port Authority of New Orleans** was established in **1896**. They set about promoting the port's growth.
- The Inner Harbor Navigation Canal connecting the Mississippi River and Lake Ponchartrain was constructed between **1918-1923**, using dredges and hydraulic fill technology. The IHNC was officially opened on **May 5, 1923** (above)

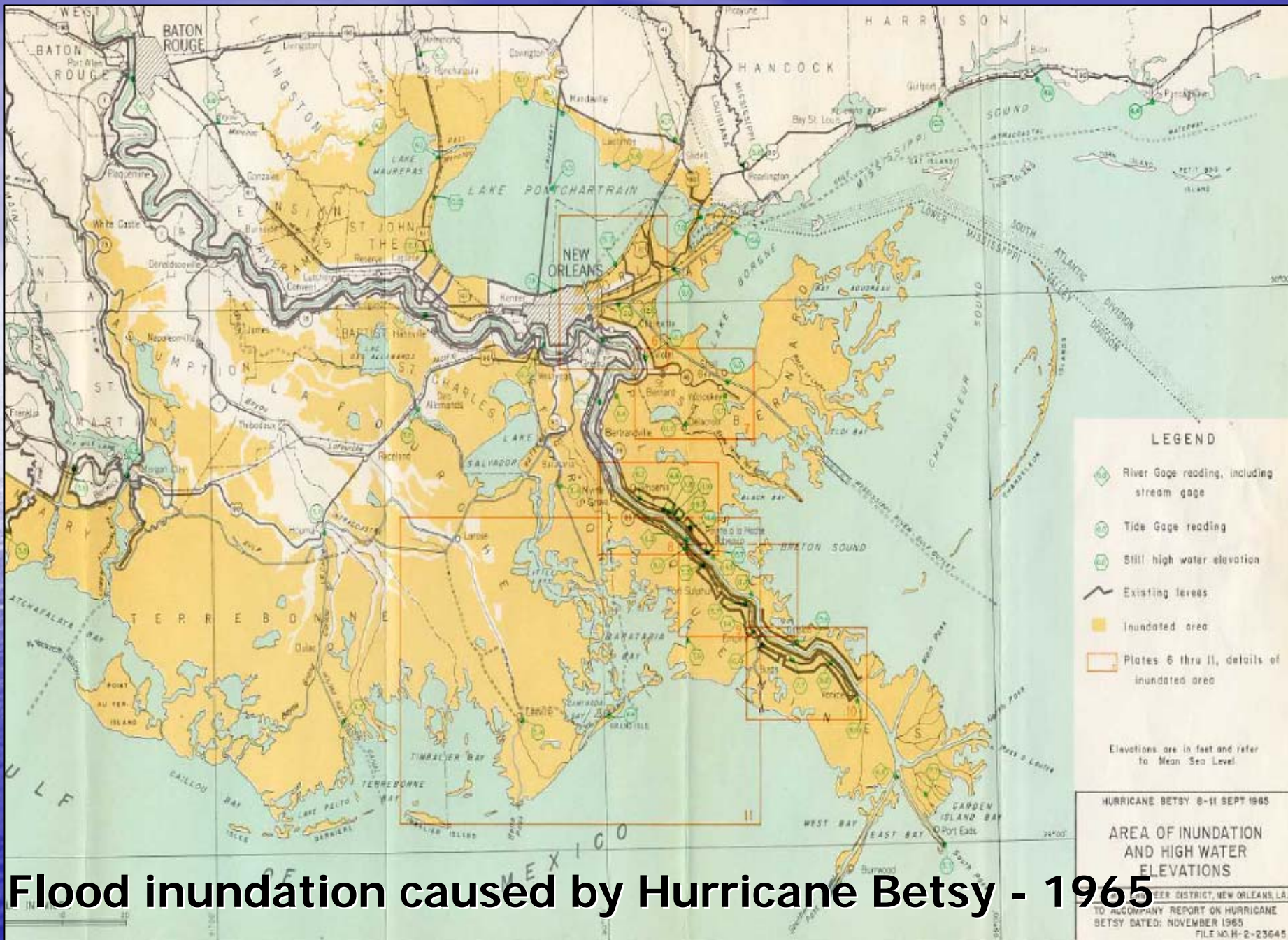


Inner Harbor Navigation Canal with
city of New Orleans in background

- The prime consultant for the IHNC was the J. F. Coleman Engineering Co.
- From outset (1923), the Port Authority's stated goal was to lobby federal government to construct a Mississippi River Gulf Outlet channel connecting to the IHNC, to increase shipping capacity.

1947 Flooding Emanating from Inner Harbor Navigation Canal

- In the **1947 flood**, a back protection levee broke at Tennessee Street, spilling 10 feet of water into the East Side
- This was quickly cleaned up
- Also, lots of flooding in Metairie and Jefferson Parish
- Flood inundation map published in the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*



Flood inundation caused by Hurricane Betsy - 1965

Flooding from Hurricane Betsy in 1965

- Both sides of the IHNC experienced breaks and overtopping during Hurricane Betsy in **Sept. 1965**.
- 6,560 homes and 40 businesses were flooded in water up to 7 ft deep on the west side of the IHNC
- The east side of the IHNC also failed, flooding the west end of St. Bernard's Parish

Flood inundation of New Orleans caused by Hurricane Betsy in September 1965.

Both internal levee failures and overtopping occurred along the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal, and both sides.

The triangles note depth of water above ground surface.



Intracoastal Waterway (ICW)



- The **Intracoastal Waterway (ICW)** was originally conceived in **1808**, but not authorized by Congress until **1919**.

• The **ICW** was excavated by dredge in the **late 1930s** to 9' x 100' size, and completed between New Orleans and Corpus Christi by **mid 1942**. This was enlarged to 12' x 125' channel and officially completed in **June 1949**, all the way to Florida.



MRGO channel in 1960



MRGO channel in 1990

The **Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO)** project was authorized in **1956**

C.R. Kolb of USACOE prepared a geology report on the **MRGO** alignment in **1958**

The channel was excavated by dredging with side-cast spoil levees between **1960-65**.