

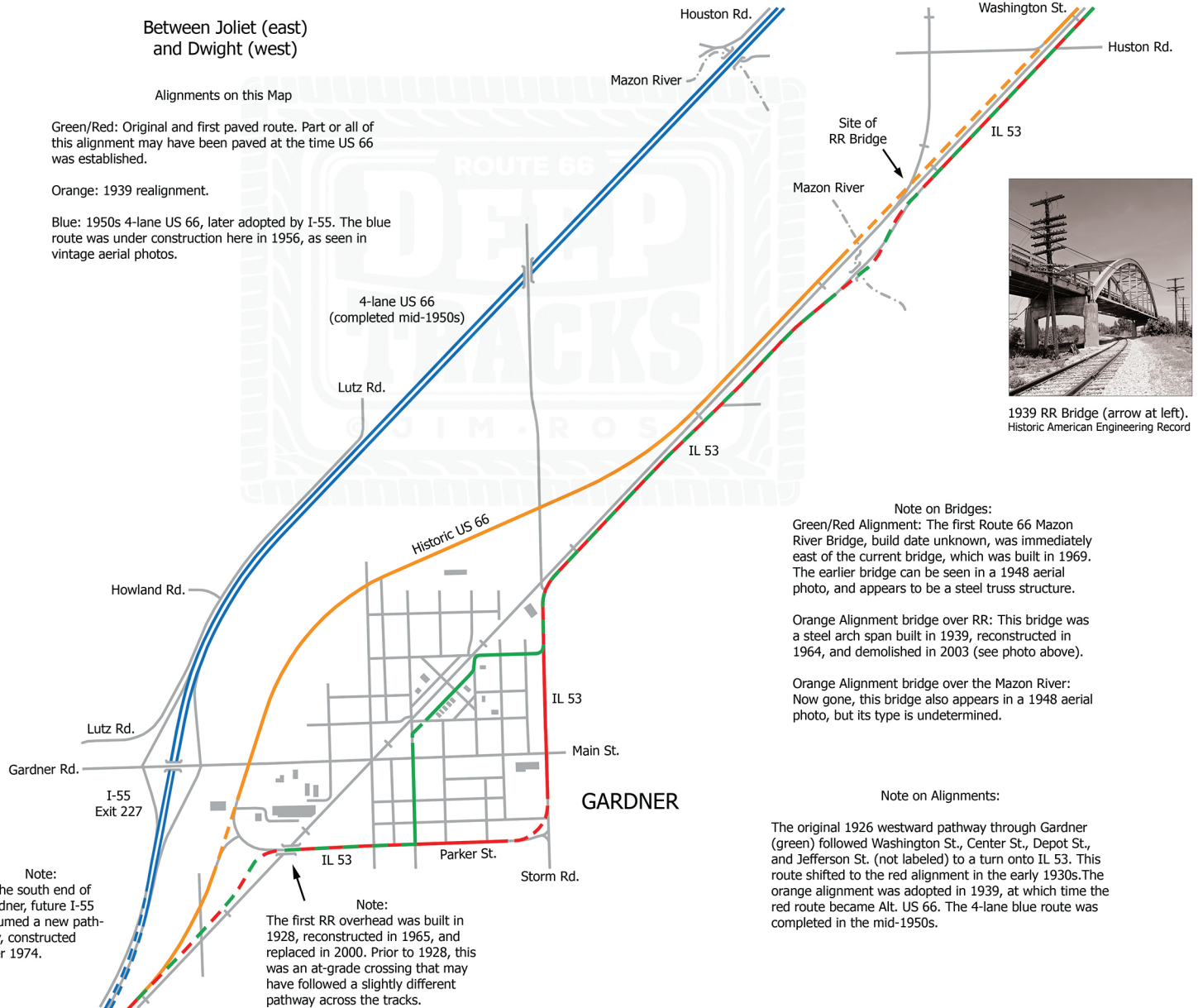
Between Joliet (east)
and Dwight (west)

Alignments on this Map

Green/Red: Original and first paved route. Part or all of this alignment may have been paved at the time US 66 was established.

Orange: 1939 realignment.

Blue: 1950s 4-lane US 66, later adopted by I-55. The blue route was under construction here in 1956, as seen in vintage aerial photos.



1939 RR Bridge (arrow at left).
Historic American Engineering Record

Note on Bridges:

Green/Red Alignment: The first Route 66 Mazon River Bridge, build date unknown, was immediately east of the current bridge, which was built in 1969. The earlier bridge can be seen in a 1948 aerial photo, and appears to be a steel truss structure.

Orange Alignment bridge over RR: This bridge was a steel arch span built in 1939, reconstructed in 1964, and demolished in 2003 (see photo above).

Orange Alignment bridge over the Mazon River: Now gone, this bridge also appears in a 1948 aerial photo, but its type is undetermined.

Note on Alignments:

The original 1926 westward pathway through Gardner (green) followed Washington St., Center St., Depot St., and Jefferson St. (not labeled) to a turn onto IL 53. This route shifted to the red alignment in the early 1930s. The orange alignment was adopted in 1939, at which time the red route became Alt. US 66. The 4-lane blue route was completed in the mid-1950s.

Note:
At the south end of Gardner, future I-55 assumed a new pathway, constructed after 1974.

Note:
The first RR overhead was built in 1928, reconstructed in 1965, and replaced in 2000. Prior to 1928, this was an at-grade crossing that may have followed a slightly different pathway across the tracks.

GARDNER