

**BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES**  
**Outside Plant Construction**  
**and Maintenance**

**SECTION G56.603.3**  
**Issue 1, August, 1954**  
**AT&T Co Standard**

# **CABLE SPLICING — BURIED**

## **ABOVE GROUND SPLICING**

### **PREPARING ENDS**

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#### **1. GENERAL**

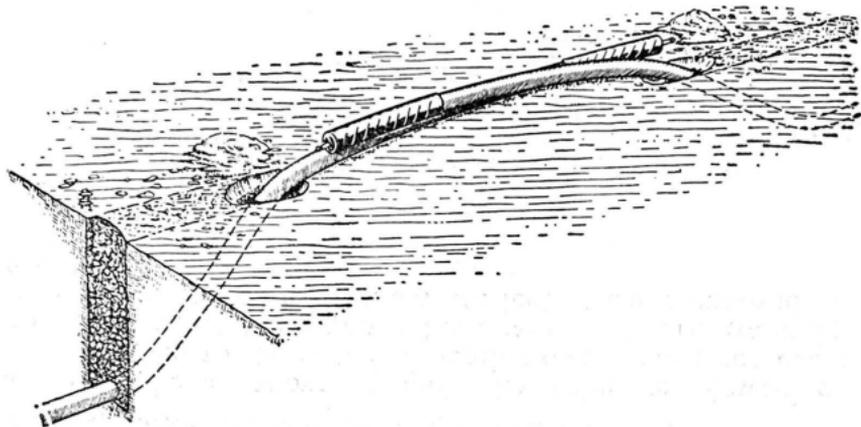
1.01 This section covers methods of preparing the ends of buried cable to be spliced above ground and protecting the exposed cable and completed splice until buried.

1.02 In splicing above ground, the cable is plowed or trenched to the specified depth except where the cable is to be spliced. At these points both cable ends are gradually brought above ground leaving several feet of cable exposed on the ground.

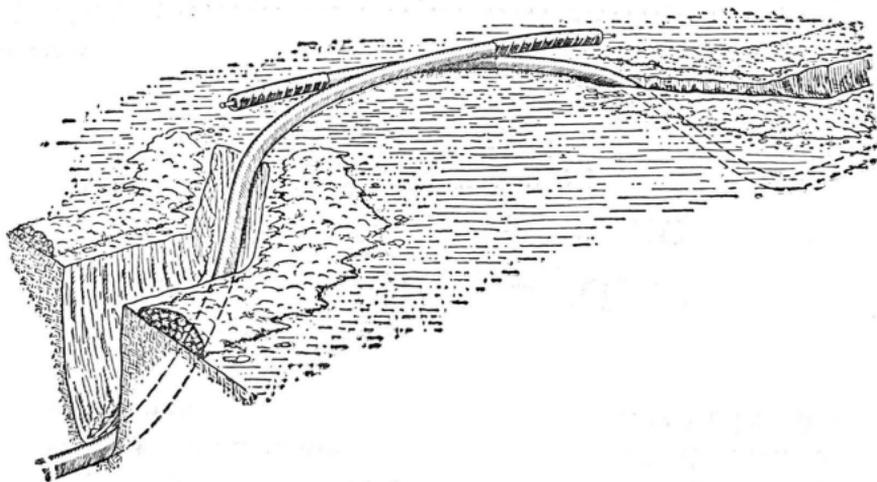
## 2. PREPARING THE ENDS OF THE CABLE

2.01 The method of setting up the ends of the cable for splicing will generally depend on whether the trench for the splice is dug by hand or machine.

2.02 In machine dug trenches the cable ends will leave the trench in line with the cable run as illustrated below.

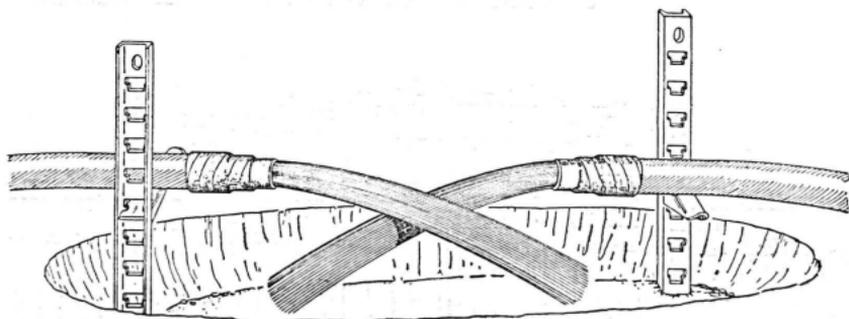
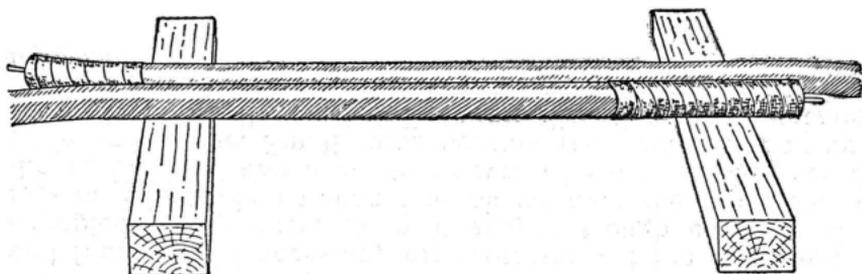


2.03 If the trench has been dug by hand the ends of the cable will leave the trench at an angle of about  $45^\circ$  from the cable run and in the direction of the final location of the completed splice as illustrated below.



## Machine-Dug Trench

2.04 Place a board under each end of the cable, as shown in the following sketch. Remove sufficient earth under the cable to provide working space. Set up the cable where it leaves the ground with a long sweeping bend, removing earth if necessary. Drive two cable racks, as shown, several inches into the ground to support the cable for splicing and remove the boards. Slide a lead sleeve over one end and prepare the cable for splicing as prescribed for splicing cable in a pit.

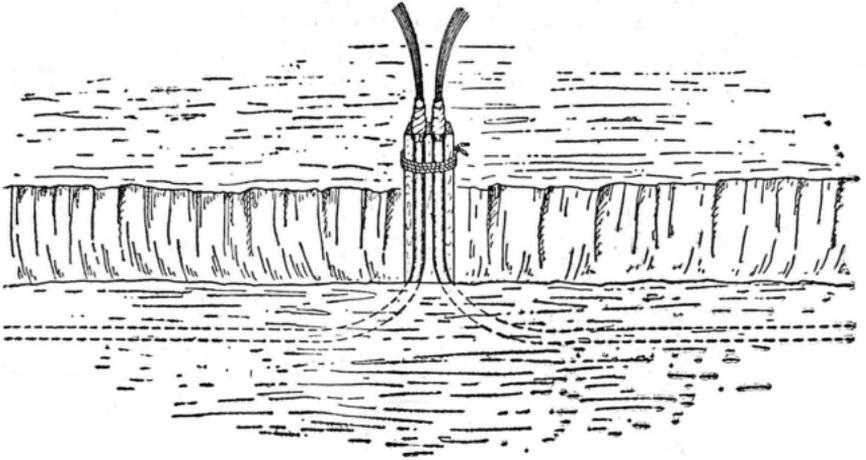


## Hand-Dug Trench

2.05 Remove earth where the cable leaves the ground and bend the cable toward the trench that will be dug later. Remove earth at the point where the cable is to be spliced. Drive cable racks several inches into the ground and set up the cable on the racks for splicing. Slip a lead sleeve over one end and prepare the cable for splicing in the usual manner.

### Butt Splicing

2.06 Where butt splicing may prove practicable support the ends of the cable as illustrated below and splice the conductors.



### 3. PROTECTING COMPLETED SPLICE

3.01 Unless the cable is to be buried at full depth immediately, the exposed cable and splice should be covered and fenced in, if necessary for protection. If the cable may be trampled on by livestock, a V shaped trough constructed of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ - or 2-inch planks should be placed over the cable. The pit should be filled and a shallow cover of earth placed over the cable and sleeve. Small signs bearing the notation "Caution—Cable Temporarily Buried Between Signs" or the equivalent may be placed near the site as a warning to farmers or other workmen.