

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: HA-1876

Name: West Chapel Rd. over Swan Crk.

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligibility Recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility Not Recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	

Reviewer, OPS: <u>Anne E. Bruder</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>Peter E. Kurtze</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>

JMG

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Historic Bridge Inventory
Maryland State Highway Administration
Maryland Historical Trust

MHT Number HA-1876

Name and SHA No. H 17 over Swan Creek

Location:

Street/Road Name and Number: West Chapel Road over Swan Creek

City/Town: Aberdeen Vicinity X

County: Harford

Ownership: State X County Municipal Other

This bridge projects over: Road Railway X Water Land

Is the bridge located within a designated district: yes X no

 NR listed district NR determined eligible district

 locally designated other

Name of District _____

Bridge Type:

 Timber Bridge

 Beam Bridge Truss-Covered Trestle

 Timber-and-Concrete

 Stone Arch

 Metal Truss

 Movable Bridge

 Swing Bascule Single Leaf Bascule Multiple Leaf

 Vertical Lift Retractable Pontoon

X Metal Girder

X Rolled Girder Rolled Girder Concrete Encased

 Plate Girder Plate Girder Concrete Encased

 Metal Suspension

 Metal Arch

Metal Cantilever

Concrete

Concrete Arch Concrete Slab Concrete Beam

Rigid Frame

Other Type Name _____

Description:

Describe Setting:

Bridge No. H 17 carries West Chapel Road east-west, over Swan Creek in Harford County, Maryland. The approach roadway has a bituminous concrete traveled way which is 16' wide on both the east and the west approaches. The east approach is level and curved, while the west approach is on a slight grade and curved. There are no guardrails on the approaches, however there are w-beam guardrails on the bridge. Area is heavily wooded and a residence is visible in photographs looking west.

Describe Superstructure and Substructure:

Bridge No. H 17 is a single span steel beam bridge with a concrete slab deck and full height abutments, built in 1930. The bridge is a single span 33.0' in length with a bridge roadway width of 16.3', and a deck width of 17.3'. The steel beam ends are encased in the abutments, and bearings, if any are not visible. The deck consists of a 7 1/2" reinforced concrete deck. There is no bituminous concrete wearing surface on the top of the deck.

Discuss Major Alterations:

Most of the modifications to the bridge are minor. Traffic barrier W-beam was placed on the bridge and portions of the original wingwalls and abutments have been covered with gunite (year unknown). Concrete in the curbs, abutments and wingwalls were repaired in 1992. Scour protection (toewalls) has been installed at the face of the east and west abutments wing wall in 1972 and 1992. Patches to spalls and cracks are visible in photographs of the northeast wing wall. The only documented major modification to this bridge occurred in 1995, when sections of the concrete deck were removed and repaired. Also in 1995, traffic barrier posts were added and existing posts were strengthened.

History:

When Built: 1930

Why Built: Local transportation needs

Who Built: Unknown

Why Altered: Structural and Safety

Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign: Unknown

Surveyor Analysis:

This bridge may have NR significance for association with:

A Events Person
 C Engineering/Architectural

Was this bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history:

No, this bridge was not constructed in response to significant events Maryland or local history.

When the bridge was built and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?

The construction of this bridge has probably not had a significant impact upon the growth and development of the area. However, construction of this bridge may be unusual due to its completion during the Great Depression. This bridge may have been built as part of the post World War I reinforcement and reconstruction program designed to replace bridges which were too narrow and too weak to carry the traffic load. This program continued until well in the 1930's.

Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation and would the bridge add to or detract from historic and visual character of the possible district?

No, this bridge is not located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation.

Is the bridge a significant example of its type?

This bridge may be a significant example of its type.

Does the bridge retain integrity of the important elements described in the Context Addendum?

This bridge appears to retain integrity of the important character defining elements as described in the Context Addendum. The only documented major documentation occurred in 1995, when sections of the concrete deck were removed and repaired.

Should this bridge be given further study before significance analysis is made and Why?

This bridge should not be given further study. This bridge appears to retain the integrity of its primary character defining elements, and appears to be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

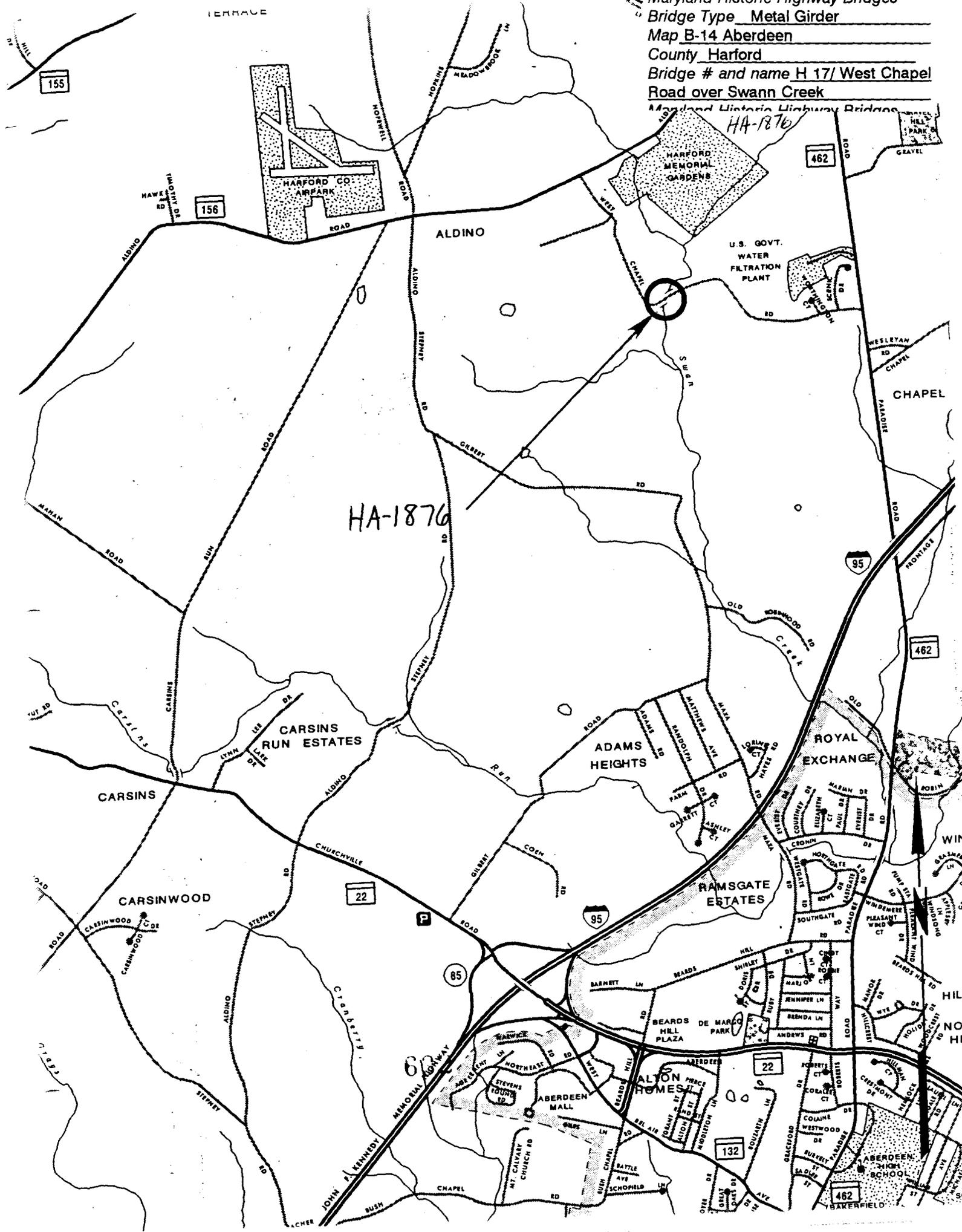
Bibliography:

- Greiner, Inc.
1995 Maryland Inventory of Historic Bridges.
Harford County
v.d. Harford County Bridge Inspection Files.
- Martinet
1878 Map of Harford County.
- Spero, P.A.C. & Company, and Louis Berger & Associates
1994 Historic Bridge Context: Historic Bridges in Maryland.
- State Roads Commission
1958 A History of Road Building in Maryland.
- United States Geological Survey
1953 7.5' Aberdeen Quadrangle, photorevised 1985.
- United States Geological Survey
1900 15' Havre De Grace Quadrangle.
- Wright, C. Milton.
1967 Our Harford Heritage: A History of Harford County, Maryland.

Surveyor:

Name: Jason D. Moser **Date:** September 1995
Organization: State Highway Admin. **Telephone:** (410) 321-2213
Address: 2323 West Joppa Road Brooklandville, MD 21022

Maryland Historic Highway Bridges
Bridge Type Metal Girder
Map B-14 Aberdeen
County Harford
Bridge # and name H 17/ West Chapel
Road over Swann Creek
Maryland Historic Highway Bridges
HA-1876



HA-1876

HA-1876

155

156

462

95

462

22

85

95

22

132

462



HA-1876

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

JOHN TARQUINO

24 JAN 1995

~~MARYLAND SHRO SHA~~

- STATE BRIDGE 417 OVER SWAN CREEK
- VIEW LOOKING EAST ON
WEST CHAPEL ROAD

1/4



HA-1876

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

JOHN TARQUINIO

24 JAN 1995

~~MARYLAND SHPO SITE~~

- STATE BRIDGE #17 OVER SWAN CREEK
- VIEW LOOKING WEST ON
WEST CHAPEL ROAD

2/4



HA-1876

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

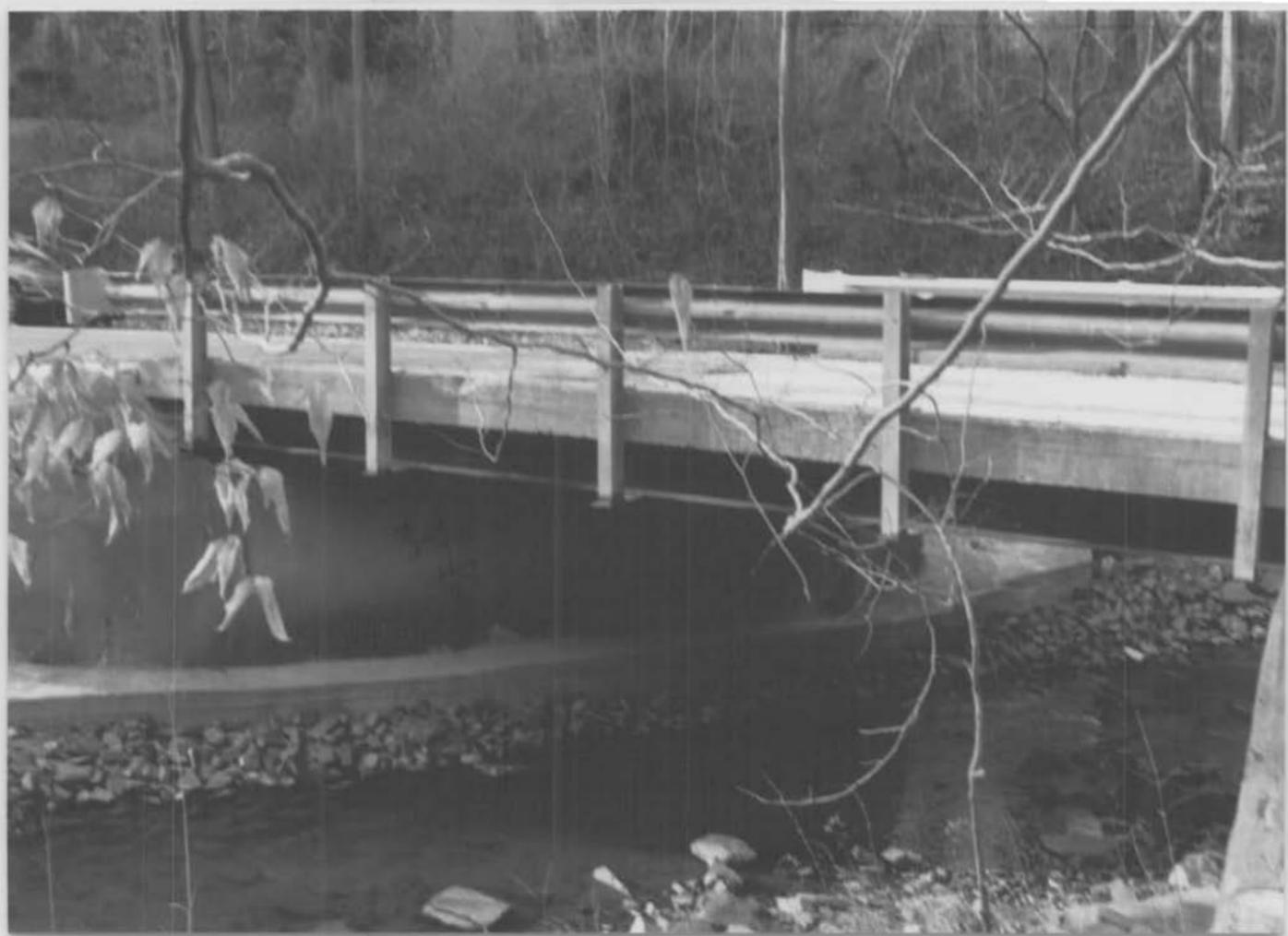
JOHN TARQUINIO

24 JAN 1995

~~MARYLAND SHPO~~ SHA

- STATE BRIDGE HI9 OVER SWAN CREEK
- VIEW LOOKING SOUTH

3/4



HA-1876

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

JOHN TARQUINIO

24 JAN 1995

~~MARYLAND SHPO~~ SHA

- STATE BRIDGE NO. HM OVER SWAN CREEK
- VIEW LOOKING NORTH

4/4