

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT NO. M:19-37

NAME AND SHA NO.: 15055

LOCATION

Road Name and Number: MD 355 over Great Seneca Creek

City/Town: Germantown vicinity

County: Montgomery

Ownership: State County Municipal Other

Bridge projects over: Road Railway Water Land

Is bridge located within designated district?: yes 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 Bridge

Metal Truss Bridge

Moveable Bridge

Swing Bascule Single Leaf Bascule Multiple Leaf

Vertical Lift Retractable Pontoon

Metal Girder

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 the Setting:

Located in Maryland's Piedmont physiographic zone, Bridge 15055 carries MD 355 over Great Seneca Creek in central Montgomery County. Predominately rural in character, MD 355, which generally runs north-south, is surrounded by woodland and scattered open fields. Great Seneca Creek flows westward.

Describe the Superstructure and Substructure: (Discuss points identified in Context Addendum, Section C)

Bridge 15055 consists of three concrete-beam spans totaling 94 feet in length. The bridge carries a clear roadway of 30 feet composed of two traffic lanes flanked by concrete balustrades and adjacent w-beam guardrails. The bridge's substructure possesses two piers, abutments and wing walls, all made of concrete.

A survey of historic concrete beam bridges undertaken by the Maryland State Highway Administration in the Fall of 1995 identified 113 bridges of that type located throughout the state. Nine percent (10) of that total were triple-span bridges; 37 bridges (33%) were multiple span.

Discuss major alterations:

Inspection records indicate that Bridge 15055 was widened from 21 feet wide to its current 31 feet circa 1955. The widening included the removal of handrails, building substructure and superstructure extensions, and installing new balustrades. The bridge has been scheduled for a total replacement in Fall 1995.

HISTORY

When Built: 1931

Why Built: Unknown

Who Built: State Roads Commission

Who Designed: Unknown

Why Altered: Increase road safety

Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign?: No, historic documents do not indicate that this bridge was erected as part of an organized building campaign.

SURVEYOR ANALYSIS

This bridge may have NR significance for association with:

A (Events) B (Person) C (Engineering/Architectural Character)

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

No. Research has not identified any associations with events significant in 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?

No, construction of Bridge 15055 did not have any impact on the development or growth of the surrounding area.

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

No, Bridge 15055 is not located within an area potentially eligible for historic designation.

Is the bridge a significant example of its type?

No, Bridge 15055 is not a significant example of its type.

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

Bridge 15055 retains fair integrity of its character defining elements. However, the bridge's overall integrity is limited by the extensive alterations undertaken in 1955.

Is the bridge a significant example of the work of the manufacturer, designer, and/or engineer, and why?

No, Bridge 15055 is not a significant example of the State Roads Commission's bridge building.

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

No. Further study is unlikely to reveal any additional information linking Bridge 15055 with any significant patterns, events or persons, or associations with significant engineering and/or methods of construction.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Maryland State Highway Administration

As-Built Drawings. On file at 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore.

Bridge Contract Files. On file at 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore.

Bridge Inspection Reports. On file at 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore.

Spero, P.A.C., & Company, and Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

1994 *Historic Bridges in Maryland: Historic Context Report*. Maryland State Highway Administration, Baltimore.

State Roads Commission of Maryland

1933 *Financial Report of the State Roads Commission of Maryland for the Years 1929 - 1930 - 1931 - 1932 and Addenda 1933*. Baltimore.

1958 *A History of Road Building in Maryland*. Baltimore.

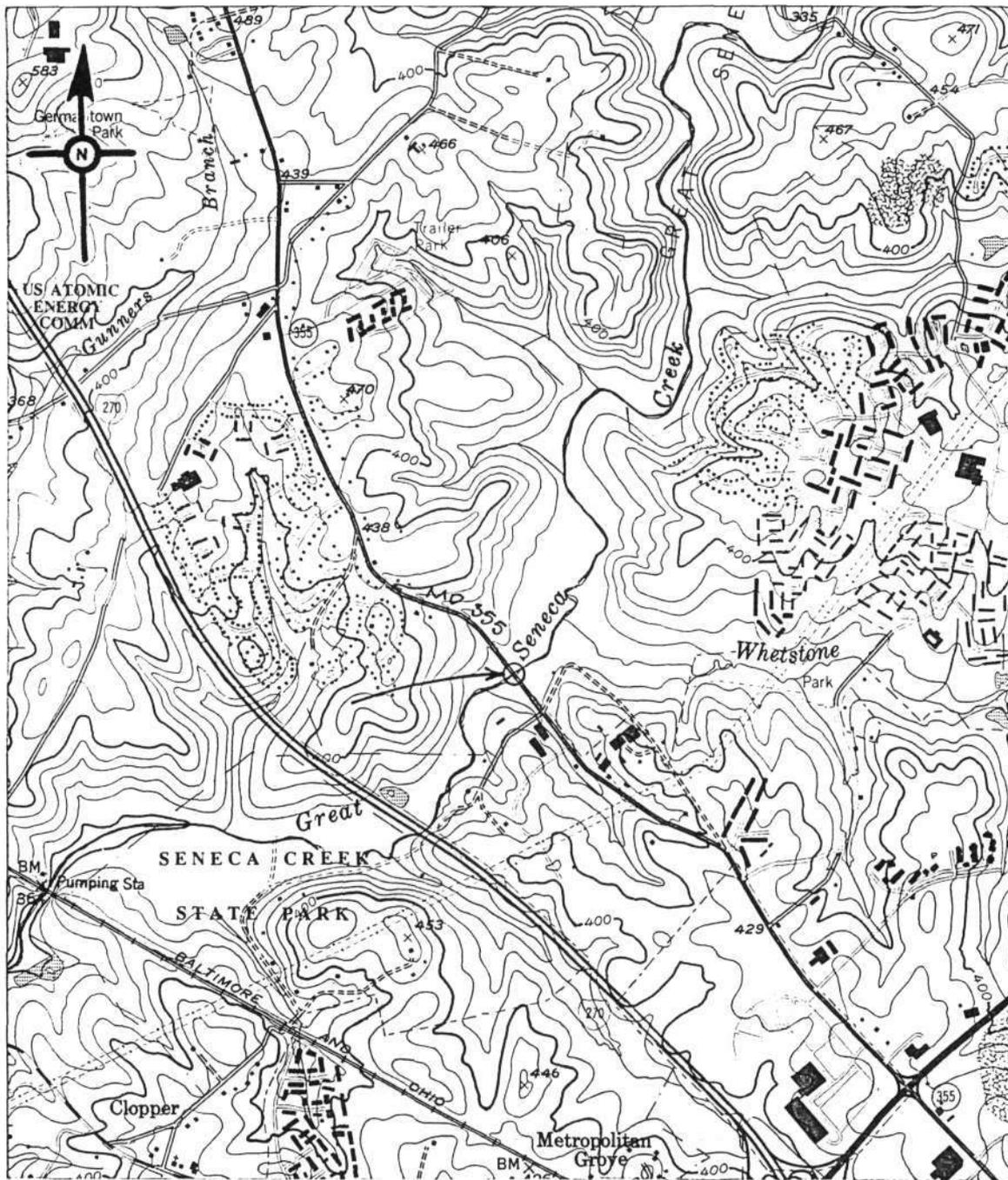
SURVEYOR INFORMATION

Name: Stuart Paul Dixon/Steven Linhart
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Date: 13 May 1996
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MHT NO. M:19-37



Bridge # 15055 (MHT # M:19-37)
MD 355 over Great Seneca Creek
Gaithersburg, MD Quadrangle (USGS 1979)



Inventory # M:19-37

Name 15035 - MD 355 OVER GREAT SENECA CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description APPROACH NORTH

Number 1 of 4
~~12 of 31~~



Inventory # M:19-37

Name 15095 - MD 355 OVER GREAT SENECA CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION EAST

2 4

Number 13 of ~~31~~



Inventory # M:19-37

Name 15055 - MD 355 OVER GREAT SETNELA CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description APPROACH SOUTH

Number 3 of 4
~~14~~ of ~~34~~

NO. 16 J163085 4511



Inventory # M:19-37

Name 15055 - MD 355 OVER GREAT SAVELA CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION WEST

Number ⁴ ~~15~~ of ⁴ ~~36~~