

Memo to file

March 16, 2016

From: Casey Pecoraro
Inventory Registrar

Re: M: 22-36
Bridge No. M-55

The following Historic Bridge Inventory form, prepared in 1995 to document the concrete slab bridge carrying Needwood Road over Rock Creek, was completed using Bridge No. M-55.

This bridge is a county-owned bridge and is not owned by Maryland SHA (Anne Bruder, personal communication, March 11, 2015).

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC BRIDGES
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION/
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT No. M:22-36

—SHA Bridge No. M-55 Bridge name Needwood Road over Rock Creek

LOCATION:

Street/Road name and number [facility carried] Needwood Road

City/town Gaithersburg Vicinity X

County Montgomery

This bridge projects over: Road _____ Railway _____ Water X Land _____

Ownership: State _____ County X Municipal _____ Other _____

HISTORIC STATUS:

Is the bridge located within a designated historic district? Yes _____ No X

National Register-listed district _____ National Register-determined-eligible district _____

Locally-designated district _____ Other _____

Name of district _____

BRIDGE TYPE:

Timber Bridge _____:

Beam Bridge _____ Truss -Covered _____ Trestle _____ Timber-And-Concrete _____

Stone Arch Bridge _____

Metal Truss Bridge _____

Movable Bridge _____:

Swing _____

Vertical Lift _____

Bascule Single Leaf _____

Retractable _____

Bascule Multiple Leaf _____

Pontoon _____

Metal Girder _____:

Rolled Girder _____

Plate Girder _____

Rolled Girder Concrete Encased _____

Plate Girder Concrete Encased _____

Metal Suspension _____

Metal Arch _____

Metal Cantilever _____

Concrete X _____:

Concrete Arch _____

Concrete Slab X _____

Concrete Beam _____

Rigid Frame _____

DESCRIPTION:

Setting: Urban _____ Small town _____ Rural X

Describe Setting: Bridge No. M-55 carries Needwood Road over Rock Creek in Montgomery County. Needwood Road runs east-west, while Rock Creek flows from the north to south. The bridge is located in Upper Rock Creek Park at the northern end of Needwood Lake.

Describe Superstructure and Substructure:

Bridge No. M-55 is a single span concrete slab bridge built in 1965. The clear span length is 30 feet with a clear roadway of 36 feet. The bridge is not currently posted. The superstructure, consisting of the roadway, the slab and the parapets, is in good condition. There are transverse cracks in the bituminous wearing surface over each abutment, in addition to a longitudinal crack along the bridge centerline. Minor longitudinal cracks with efflorescence exist on the underside of the concrete deck. The open concrete parapets use a pierced railing design with a 9 open space to 1 expansion joint ratio. They exhibit minor vertical cracks.

The substructure consists of the concrete abutments and wingwalls. The east abutment wall has four vertical cracks extending up to the center of the wall. There is a slight widening of the gap between the top of the wingwalls and the abutments at the northwest and northeast corners. Several vertical cracks with efflorescence exist on the concrete wingwalls beginning at the top and ending at the center point of the wall.

Discuss Major Alterations:

No major alterations have occurred to this bridge.

HISTORY:

WHEN was the bridge built: 1965

This date is: Actual X Estimated _____

Source of date: Plaque _____ Design plans _____ County bridge files/inspection form X

Other (specify) _____

WHY was the bridge built?

The design of this bridge replicates the standard bridge designs of the 1930s. This suggests that the present structure replaced an older bridge from that era.

WHO was the designer?

Unknown

WHO was the builder?

Unknown

WHY was the bridge altered?

This bridge has not been altered.

Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge-building campaign?

Unknown

SURVEYOR/HISTORIAN ANALYSIS:

This bridge may have National Register significance for its association with:

A - Events _____ B- Person _____
C- Engineering/architectural character _____

This bridge does not have National Register significance.

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

This bridge, built in 1965, replicates a design standard from the 1930's. It is situated in a planned park area just north of the District of Columbia boundaries. It is probable that design standards for new and replacement bridges existed and that this bridge was effected by such aesthetic and construction standards. However, no further information is available from the County Inspection Report to conclude if the bridge is new construction or a replacement. Furthermore, it is unknown whether the bridge was constructed at the time of the creation of the park or existed beforehand.

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, this structure did not increase settlement or industry.

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

No, this structure is not a significant example of its type. It was built according to State standardized bridge plans.

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

Yes, this structure retains the integrity of its major elements.

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

No, this structure is an undistinguished bridge built according to standardized bridge plans.

Should the bridge be given further study before an evaluation of its significance is made?

No, this structure should not be given further study.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

County inspection/bridge files _____ X _____ SHA inspection/bridge files _____

Other (list):

Montgomery County Bridge Inspection Reports, 1991.

SURVEYOR:

Date bridge recorded _____ 8/11/95 _____

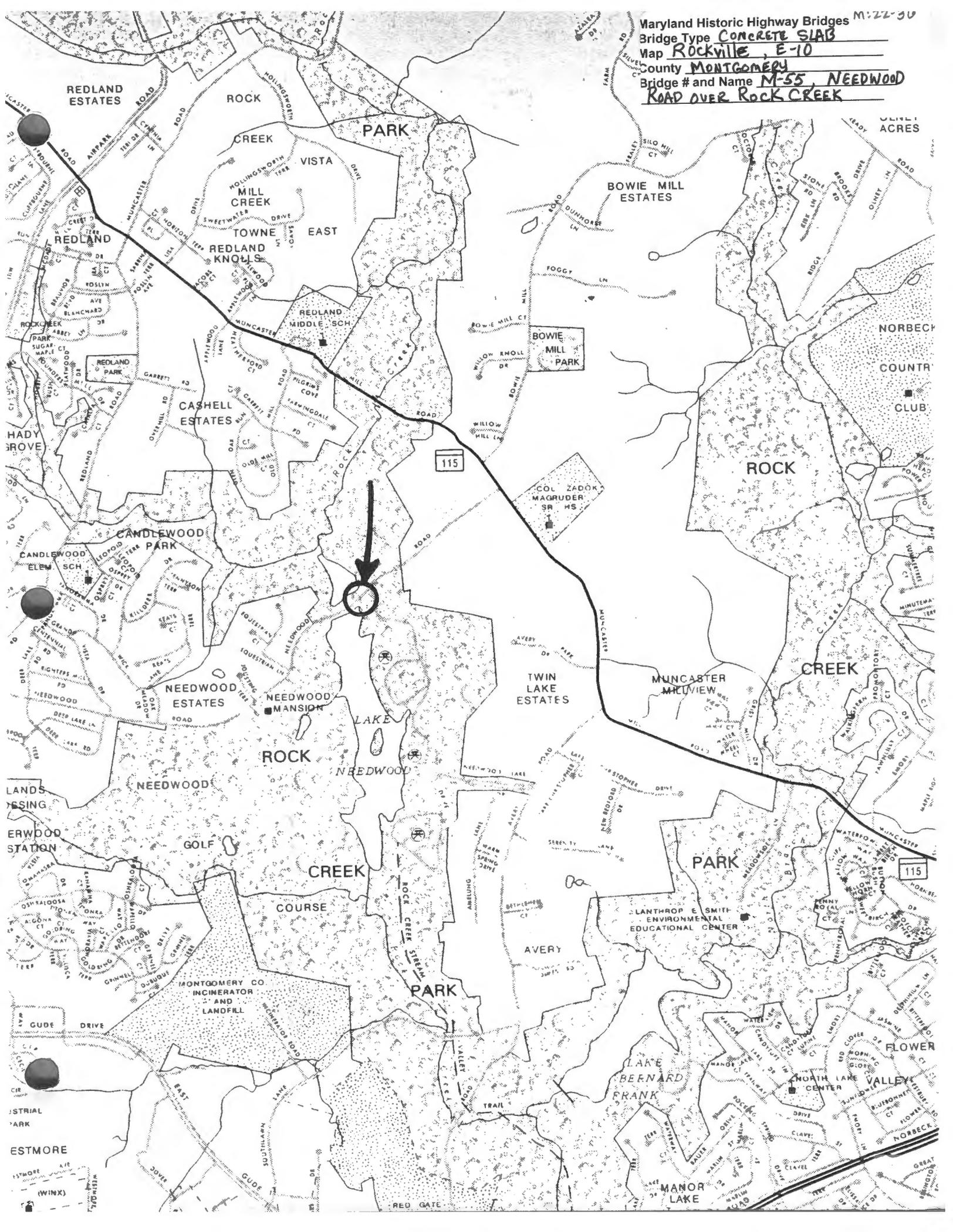
Name of surveyor _____ Timothy J. Tamburrino _____

Organization/Address _____ P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412, Baltimore, MD 21204 _____

Phone number _____ (410) 296-1635 _____

FAX number _____ (410) 296-1670 _____

M: 22-30
Maryland Historic Highway Bridges
Bridge Type Concrete Slab
Map Rockville, E-10
County MONTGOMERY
Bridge # and Name M-55, NEEDWOOD ROAD OVER ROCK CREEK



115

115

Inventory # M:22-36

Name M55 - NEEDWOOD RD OVER ROCK CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description WEST APPROACH

Number 1 of 26⁴



Inventory # M: 22-36

Name M55 - NEEDWOOD RD OVER ROCK CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION LOOKING SOUTH

Number 2 of 4



Inventory # M:22-36

Name M55 - NEEDWOOD RD OVER ROCK CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description EAST APPROACH

Number ³~~20~~ of ⁴~~36~~



Inventory # M:22-36

Name M55 - NEEDWOOD RD OVER ROCK CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION LOOKING NORTH

Number 4 of 4
~~21~~ of ~~36~~