

Maryland Historical Trust

MHP#

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: MPK 03 M:37-12

Name: Park Vausey Rd. over Sugar Creek

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 _____	Eligibility Not Recommended <u>X</u>
Criteria: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>  </u> C <u>  </u> D	Considerations: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>  </u> C <u>  </u> D <u>  </u> E <u>  </u> F <u>  </u> G <u>  </u> 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>

*Amey*

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

MHT NO. M:37-12

NAME AND SHA NO.: M-PK-03

LOCATION

Road Name and Number: Park Valley Road over Sligo Creek

City/Town: Silver Spring  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 within the Piedmont physiographic section of eastern Montgomery County, Bridge M-PK-03 carries Park Valley Road over Sligo Creek near Silver Spring. The rolling landscape possesses scattered residential buildings standing amidst mature trees.

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

Bridge M-PK-03 consists of a single, concrete-beam span ornamented with masonry veneer exhibiting a segmental keystone arch. Concrete abutments and wing walls have been similarly veneered with stone. The bridge's six concrete T-beams, obscured in photographs by the masonry veneer, cross 30 feet of waterway and support 20 feet of clear roadway topped by an asphalt wearing surface. A five foot wide concrete sidewalk occupies the downstream, or southern side of the bridge. The bridge balustrades also have been ornamented with stone veneer and feature flared approaches. County bridge files do not indicate the method of application used in attaching the masonry veneer to the concrete beam span or its abutments, wing walls and balustrades.

The condition of the bridge's superstructure has recently been described as poor. The stone-veneered parapets feature cracks and voids in the mortar. All of the bridge's girders possess major longitudinal and transverse cracking with associated efflorescence. The girders also display spalled concrete and exposed stirrup reinforcing bars. The northwest parapet has shifted approximately four inches due to an automobile collision. The sidewalk is heavily spalled with associated exposed re-steel and has settled four inches. Reports also describe the bridge substructure's condition as fair although heavy cracks and efflorescence were noted on the breast walls.

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. Slightly more than two-thirds (76) of that total were single-span bridges.

**Discuss major alterations:**

County inspection reports do not record any major alterations undertaken on Bridge M-PK-03.

**HISTORY**

**When Built:** 1931

**Why Built:** Part of Sligo Parkway.

**Who Built:** Unknown

**Who Designed:** Unknown

**Why Altered:** Not applicable.

**Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign?:** Yes.

The applied stone veneer provides the bridge with a rich ornamental finish not often seen on individual bridges. Construction of the bridge probably relates to the building of the Sligo Creek Parkway during the late 1920s and early 1930s.

**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?**

Construction of Bridge M-PK-03 probably relates to the proliferation of scenic parkways during the early twentieth century.

**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?**

Construction of Bridge M-PK-03 did not have a significant impact on local development or growth.

**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 M-PK-03 is not located in an area potentially eligible for historic designation.

**Is the bridge a significant example of its type?**

No, this bridge is not a significant example of its type.

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

MHT NO. M:37-12

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

Despite some deterioration, Bridge M-PK-03 appears to retain fair integrity of its character defining elements.

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

County records do not identify the original construction authority, and therefore evaluating the bridge as a significant example of its manufacturer is problematic.

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

Yes. Further study may identify the original construction firm as well as any relationships with completion of the Sligo Creek Parkway.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Montgomery County Department of Transportation  
Bridge Inspection Reports. On file at 101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD.

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

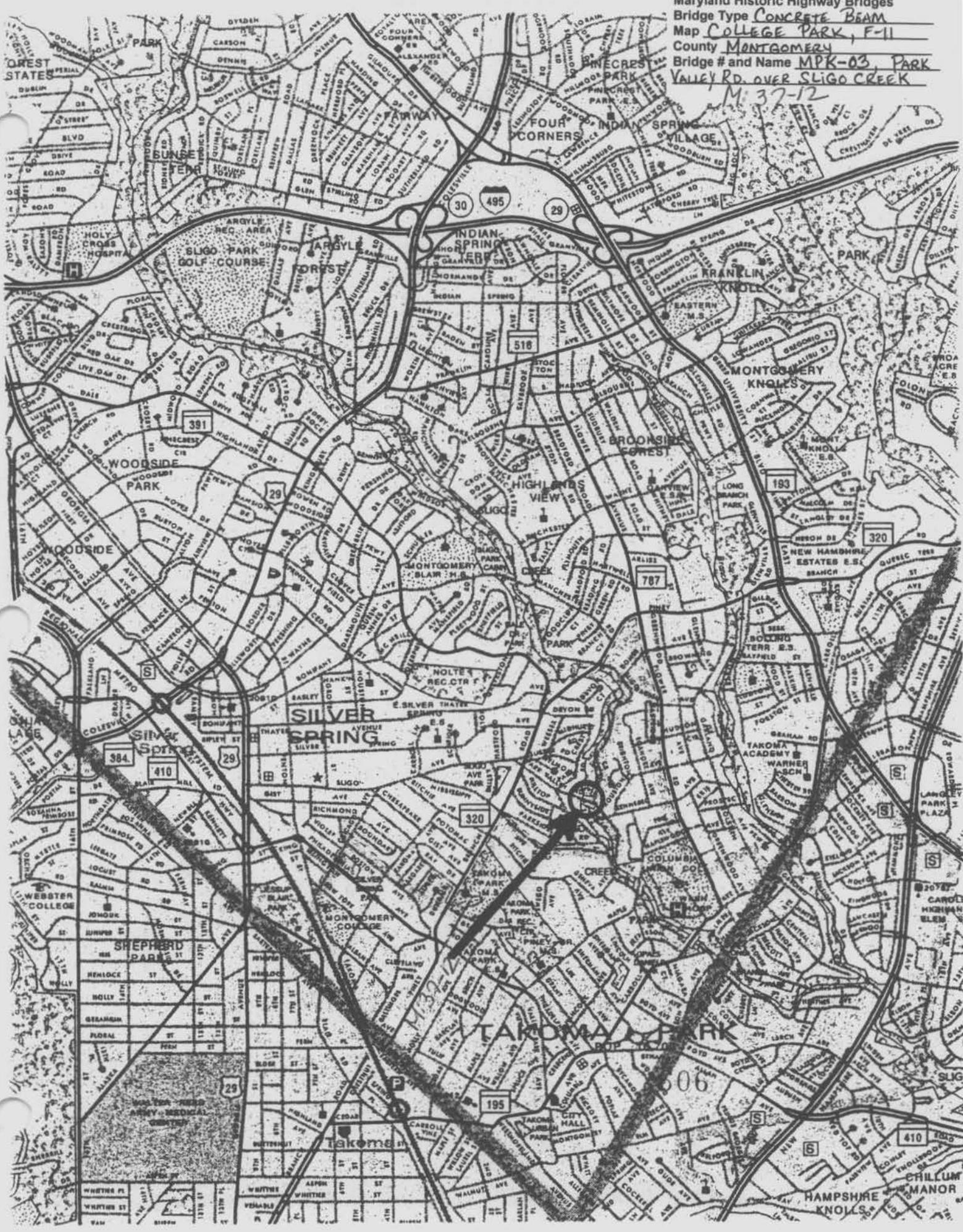
**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Stuart Paul Dixon  
Organization: KCI Technologies, Inc.  
Address: 5001 Louise Dr., Suite 201  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Date: 13 May 1996  
Telephone: (717) 691-1340

Maryland Historic Highway Bridges  
Bridge Type CONCRETE BEAM  
Map COLLEGE PARK, F-11  
County MONTGOMERY  
Bridge # and Name MPK-03, PARK  
VALLEY RD. OVER SLIGO CREEK

M 37-12





NO  
THRU  
TRUCKS  
OVER  
3/4 TON

Inventory # M: 37-12

Name MPK3 - PARK VALLEY RD OVER SHGO CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description APPROACH WEST

Number <sup>1</sup>24 of <sup>4</sup>34



Inventory # M: 37-12

Name MPK03 - PARK VALLEY RD OVER SLIGO CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION NORTH

Number 2 of ~~129~~ 4



Inventory # M:37-12

Name MPK03 - PARKVALLEY RD OVER SHIGO CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description APPROACH EAST

Number 3 of ~~4~~ 4

darkroom 10/12/95



Inventory # M:37-12

Name MPK03 - PARK VALLEY RD OVER SHILOO CREEK

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION SOUTH

Number 4 of ~~129~~ 4

Frank Julian