THE MERRITT PARKWAY FAIRFIELD COUNTY CONNECTICUT



AVENUE BRIDGE, 1938,

THE MERRITT PARKWAY WAS THE FIRST DIVIDED-LANE, LIMITED-ACCESS HIGHWAY IN CONNECTICUT. LOCATED IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY, IT EXTENDS THIRTY-EIGHT MILES FROM THE NEW YORK STATE LINE IN GREENWICH TO THE WESTERN EMBANKMENT OF THE HOUSATONIC RIVER IN STRATFORD. CONCEIVED IN THE 1920s AS AN INLAND ROUTE TO RELIEVE TRAFFIC CONGESTION ON U.S. ROUTE I IN THE SOUTHWESTERN PART OF THE STATE, CONSTRUCTION OF THE MERRITT PARKWAY BEGAN IN 1934 AND WAS COMPLETED IN 1940.

AS AN EXTENSION OF THE WELL-DEVELOPED WESTCHESTER COUNTY PARKWAY SYSTEM, THE MERRITT WAS AN IMPORTANT LINK WITH THE METROPOLITAN NEW YORK CITY AREA TO THE SOUTH. AS AN "EXPRESS THROUGH-ROUTE," THE HIGHWAY WAS CONNECTICUT'S SELF-PROCLAIMED "GATEWAY TO NEW ENGLAND," PROVIDING MOTORISTS WITH A SPEEDY, MODERN ALTERNATIVE TO THE OLD BOSTON POST

DESIGNED IN-HOUSE BY THE CONNECTICUT STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, THE MERRITT PARKWAY WAS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN STAFF ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS. THE ROAD THEY CREATED REPRESENTS A TRANSITIONAL PHASE IN AMERICAN ROAD DESIGN. BY COMBINING THE AESTHETICS OF RECREATIONAL AND SCENIC PARKWAYS WITH THE EFFICIENCY OF HIGH-SPEED MOTORWAYS, THE MERRITT'S DESIGNERS INTEGRATED THE DIVERGENT CHARACTERISTICS, THAT DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN HIGHWAYS BUILT BEFORE AND AFTER WORLD WAR II.

FOLLOWING THE TREND BEGUN ON PARKWAYS IN NEW YORK CITY AND WESTCHESTER COUNTY, THE MAJORITY OF THE 71 BRIDGES ON THE MERRITT PARKWAY WERE DESIGNED AS CONCRETE RIGID FRAMES. THIS REDUCED THE MATERIAL REQUIRED, ADAPTED WELL TO ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS, AND COULD SUPPORT A GREATER LOAD THAN A TRADITIONAL BRIDGE OF EQUAL SPAN. ALTHOUGH THE PARKWAY WAS RESTRICTED TO PASSENGER-CAR TRAFFIC ONLY, THE BRIDGES WERE DESIGNED TO CARRY TRUCKS AND FUNCTIONED WELL IN THAT CAPACITY DURING WORLD WAR II. THE STEEL RIGID FRAME WAS USED FOR SEVERAL BRIDGES, WHILE CONCRETE ARCHES, CONCRETE T-BEAMS, AND STEEL ARCHES REPLACED THE CONCRETE RIGID FRAME IN A FEW LOCATIONS.

THE MERRITT PARKWAY BRIDGE DESIGNERS EXPLORED THE DECORATIVE CAPACITIES OF CONCRETE RATHER THAN FOLLOWING THE MORE EXPENSIVE RUSTIC-STONE TREATMENT POPULAR AT THE TIME. CAST STONE WAS FORMED TO IMITATE A CUT-STONE FACADE AND THEN APPLIED IN LARGE SHEETS TO REDUCE CONSTRUCTION COSTS. PRECAST SGRAFFITO PANELS AND REVERSE PLASTER MOLDS WERE USED TO



BASED ON ORIGINAL DRAWING BY GEORGE L. DUNKELBERGER, 1944. TAKEN FROM PUBLIC DOCUMENT NO. 36, BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER, STATE OF CONNECTICUT, FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1943, AND JUNE 30, 1944.

THIS RECORDING PROJECT WAS UNDERTAKEN BY THE HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY AND THE HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD (HABS/HAER) DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, ROBERT J. KAPSCH, CHIEF. THE MERRITT PARKWAY RECORDING PROJECT WAS SPONSORED AND FUNDED BY THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CONNDOT) AND THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION.

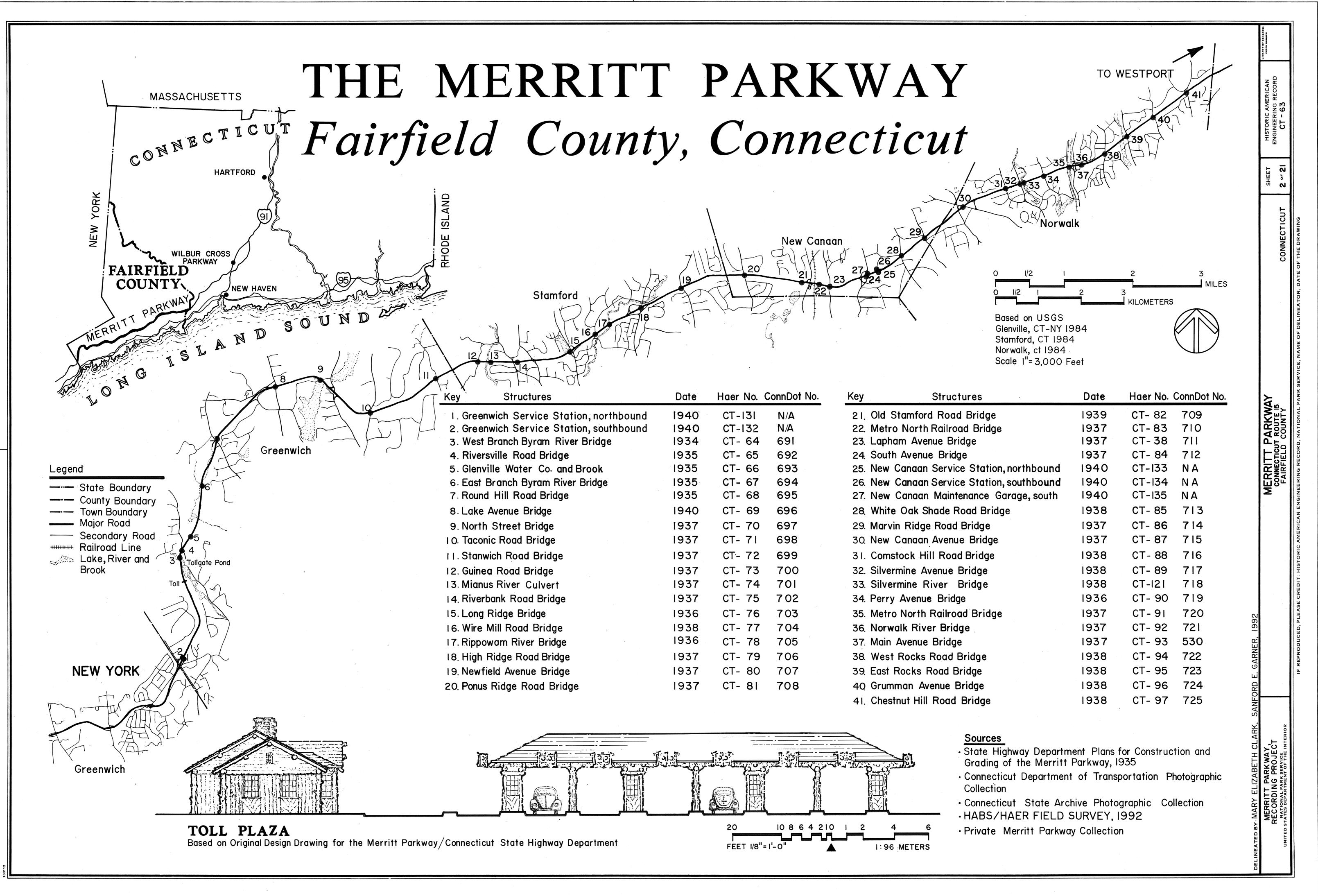
THE FIELDWORK, MEASURED DRAWINGS, HISTORICAL REPORTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS WERE PREPARED UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF ERIC N. DELONY, HAER CHIEF, AND SARA AMY LEACH, HABS HISTORIAN. THE RECORDING TEAM CONSISTED OF JACQUELINE A. SALAME (COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY), ARCHITECT AND FIELD SUPERVISOR; MARY ELIZABETH CLARK (PRATT INSTITUTE) AND B. DEVON PERKINS (YALE UNIVERSITY), ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIANS: JOANNE McALLISTER-HEWLINGS (US/ICOMOS-GREAT BRITAIN, UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD), LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT; CORINNE SMITH (CORNELL UNIVERSITY), ENGINEER; TODD THIBODEAU (ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY) AND GABRIELLE M. ESPERDY (CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK), HISTORIANS; AND JET LOWE, HAER PHOTOGRAPHER.

DECORATE PYLONS, RAILS, SPANDRELS, AND WING WALLS. IN THE SGRAFFITO PROCESS, LAYERS OF COLORED CONCRETE ARE SCRAPED AWAY IN DIFFERENT PATTERNS AND DEPTHS TO EXPOSE THE COLORS BENEATH. REVERSE PLASTER MOLDS, ALSO CALLED WASTE MOLDS, WERE INTEGRATED INTO THE FORMWORK TO CAST THE ORNAMENTAL RELIEF. METAL RAILINGS AND PANELS FEATURING FLORAL, ANIMAL, AND GEOMETRIC THEMES EMBELLISH THE STEEL AND CONCRETE BRIDGE FRAMES. THE MERRITT'S BRIDGES WERE INSPIRED BY STYLES PREVALENT IN THE COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1930s, BUT HERE THEY INTRODUCED ART DECO AND ART MODERNE INTO A NEW PARKWAY CONTEXT.

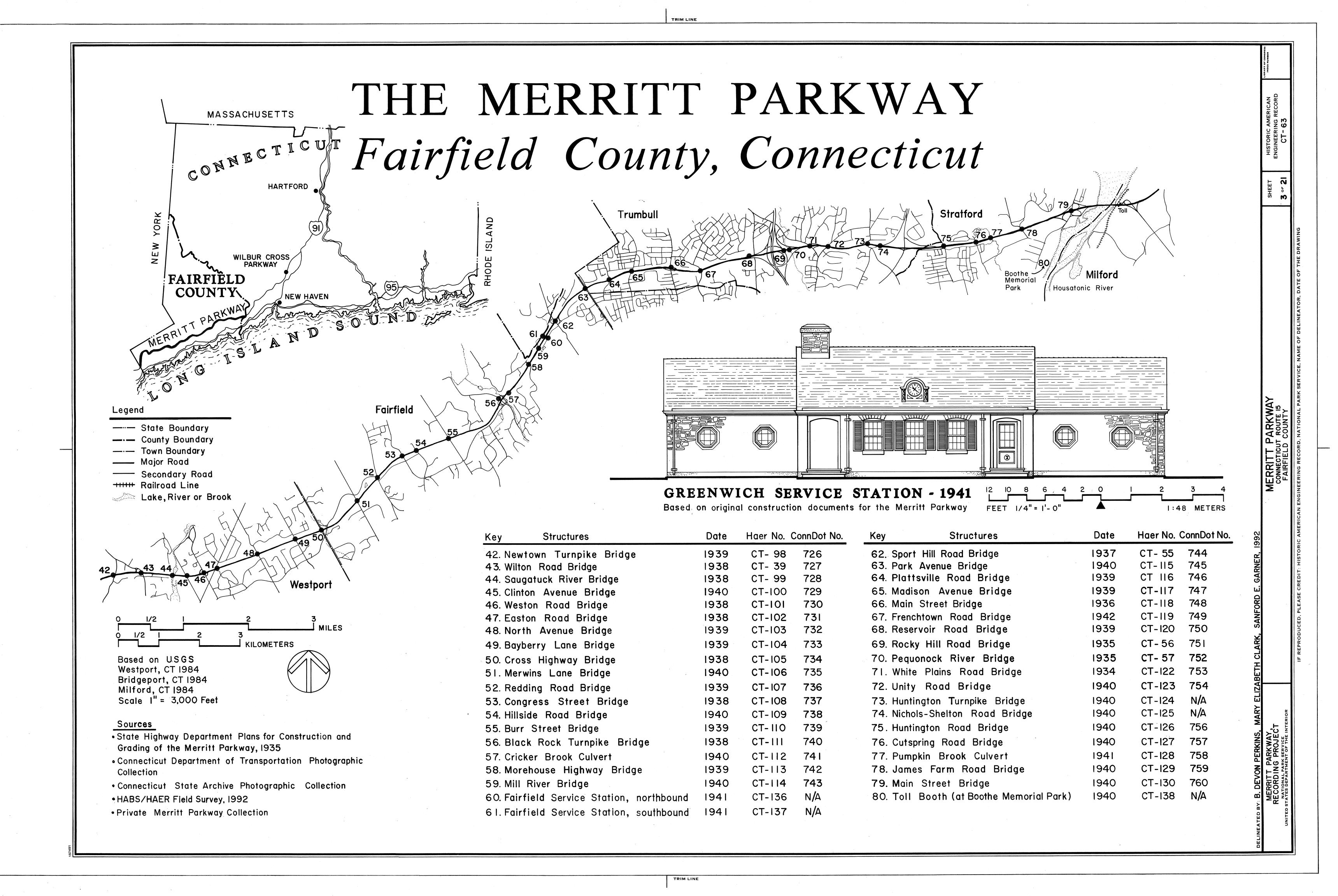
IN DESIGNING THE LANDSCAPE, THE MERRITT'S ARCHITECTS TURNED TO ESTABLISHED PARKWAY PRECEDENTS, SUCH AS INTEGRATING THE ROADWAY INTO THE EXISTING LANDSCAPE AND CREATING A PROGRESSION OF INDIVIDUAL AND CHANGING VISTAS. INSPIRED BY WESTCHESTER COUNTY PARKWAYS SUCH AS THE HUTCHINSON RIVER AND THE SAW MILL RIVER, THE MERRITT'S LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS PLANTED IN A NATURALISTIC MANNER, RELYING LARGELY ON NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS, AND GROUND COVERINGS IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY. BUFFER, AND MEDIAN. THE EFFECTS THEY CREATED WERE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE DRIVERS' EXPERIENCE ON THE MERRITT PARKWAY. AS THE ROADWAY ORIGINALLY WOUND THROUGH THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNTRYSIDE, EACH SUCCESSIVE GRADE OR CURVE PROVIDED A NEW VIEW OF ROLLING FARMLANDS OR WOODED AREAS. MOTORISTS TRAVELING AT 45 MPH, THE PRESCRIBED SPEED LIMIT, COULD EASILY PERCEIVE THE ROADSIDE VISTAS OF LAKES, ROCKY OUTCROPPINGS, OR BRIDGES DESIGNED TO VISUALLY ENHANCE THEIR JOURNEY.

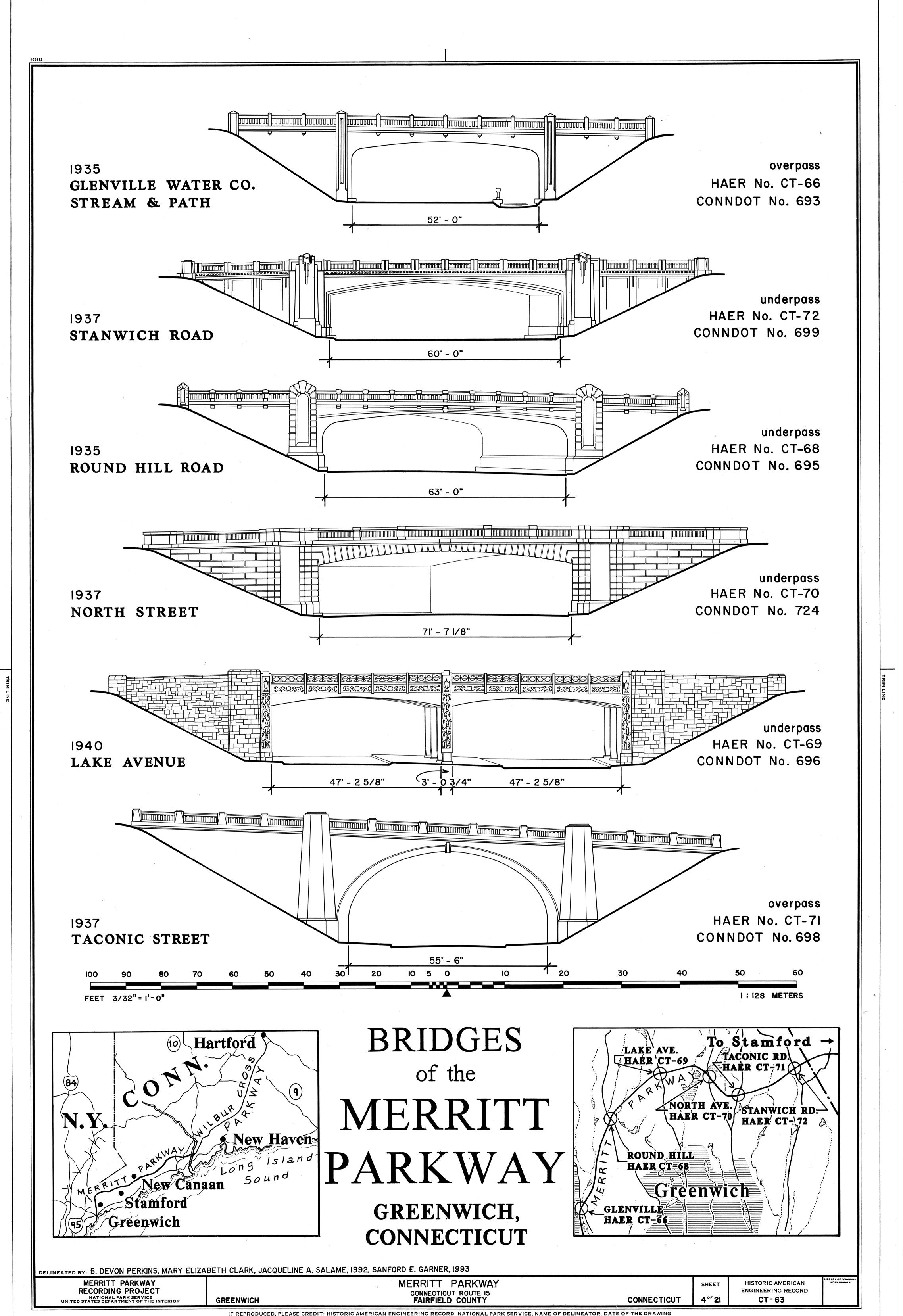
THE AESTHETIC GOALS OF THE MERRITT'S DESIGNERS WERE TEMPERED SOMEWHAT BY THE PRINCIPLES OF ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT, A NATIONAL MOVEMENT THAT FAVORED THE CREATION OF PLEASING VIEWS, BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF SAFETY, UTILITY, OR ECONOMY. THE DESIGNERS WERE MINDFUL OF PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS SUCH AS SIGHT LINES, PLANT REMOVAL AND REUSE, AND OVERALL MAINTENANCE.

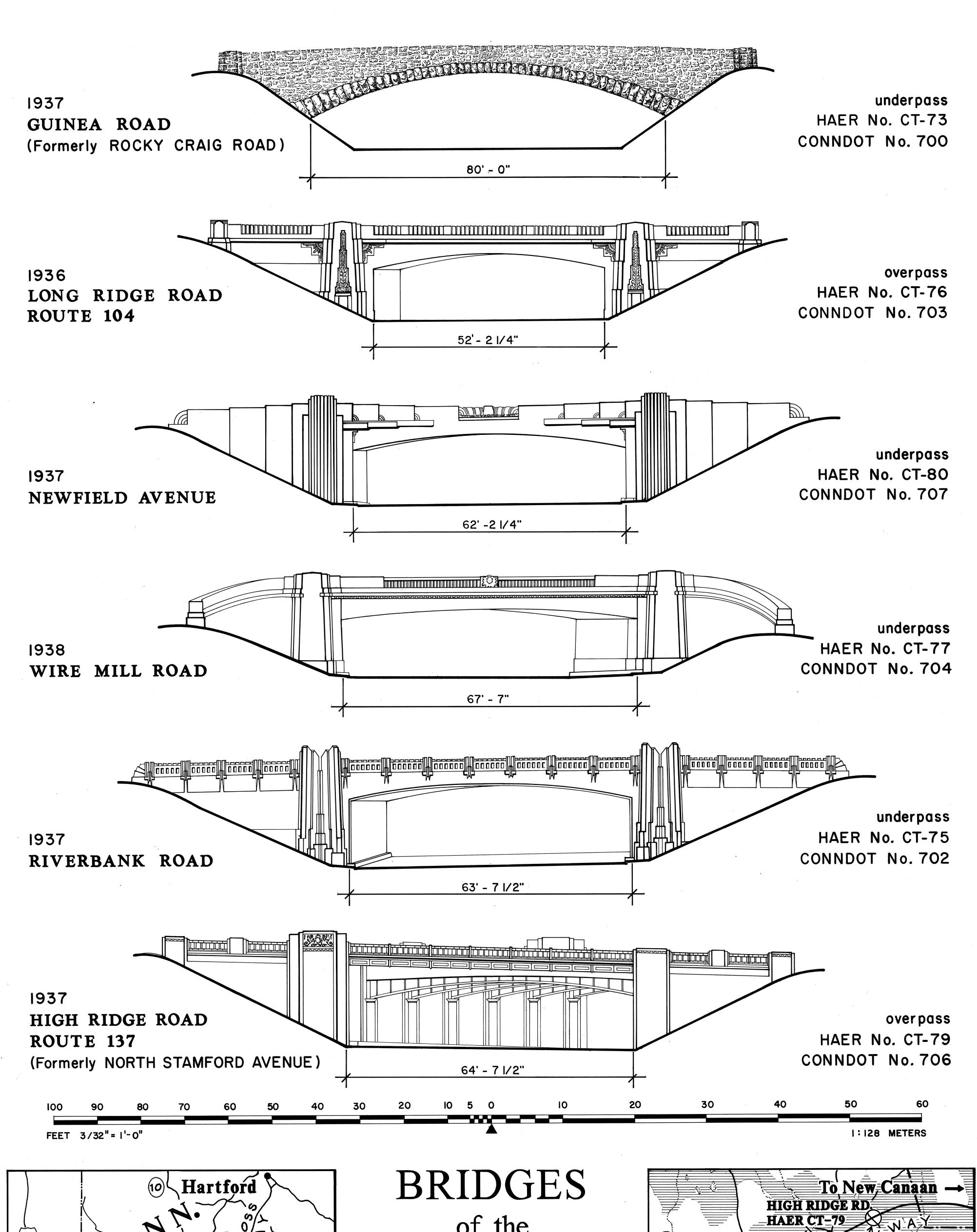
FOLLOWING ITS OPENING, THE PARKWAY PLAYED A CRUCIAL PART IN THE RAPID COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY. IT SERVED THEN, AND CONTINUES TO SERVE, AS AN IMPORTANT THOROUGHFARE FOR COMMUTERS BETWEEN CONNECTICUT AND NEW YORK. DESPITE HIGHER SPEED LIMITS AND ESCALATING COMMUTER TRAFFIC, THE MERRITT RETAINS MUCH OF ITS ORIGINAL CHARACTER.

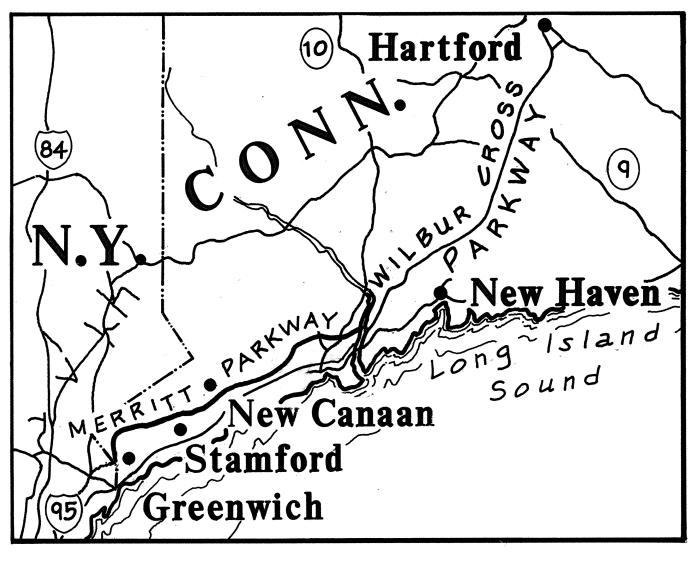


TRIM LINE



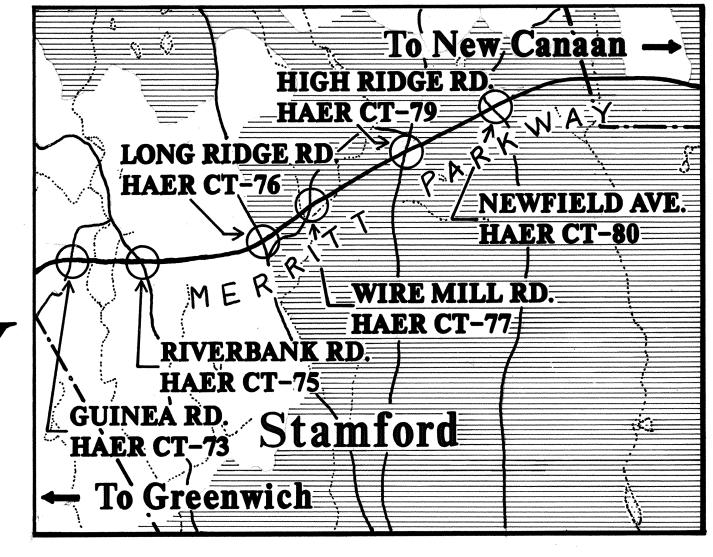






BRIDGES of the MERRITT PARKWAY

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT



MERRITT PARKWAY
RECORDING PROJECT
UNITED STAMFORD

STAMFORD

DELINEATED BY: MARY ELIZABETH CLARK, B. DEVON PERKINS, JACQUELINE A. SALAME, 1992, SANFORD E. GARNER, 1993

MERRITT PARKWAY
CONNECTICUT ROUTE 15
STAMFORD

MERRITT PARKWAY
CONNECTICUT TOUTE 15
STAMFORD

MERRITT PARKWAY
CONNECTICUT TOUTE 15
STAMFORD

MERRITT PARKWAY
CONNECTICUT ROUTE 15
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MERRITT PARKWAY
CONNECTICUT ROUTE 15
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MERRITT PARKWAY
CONNECTICUT TOUTE 15
STAMFORD

MERRITT PARKWAY

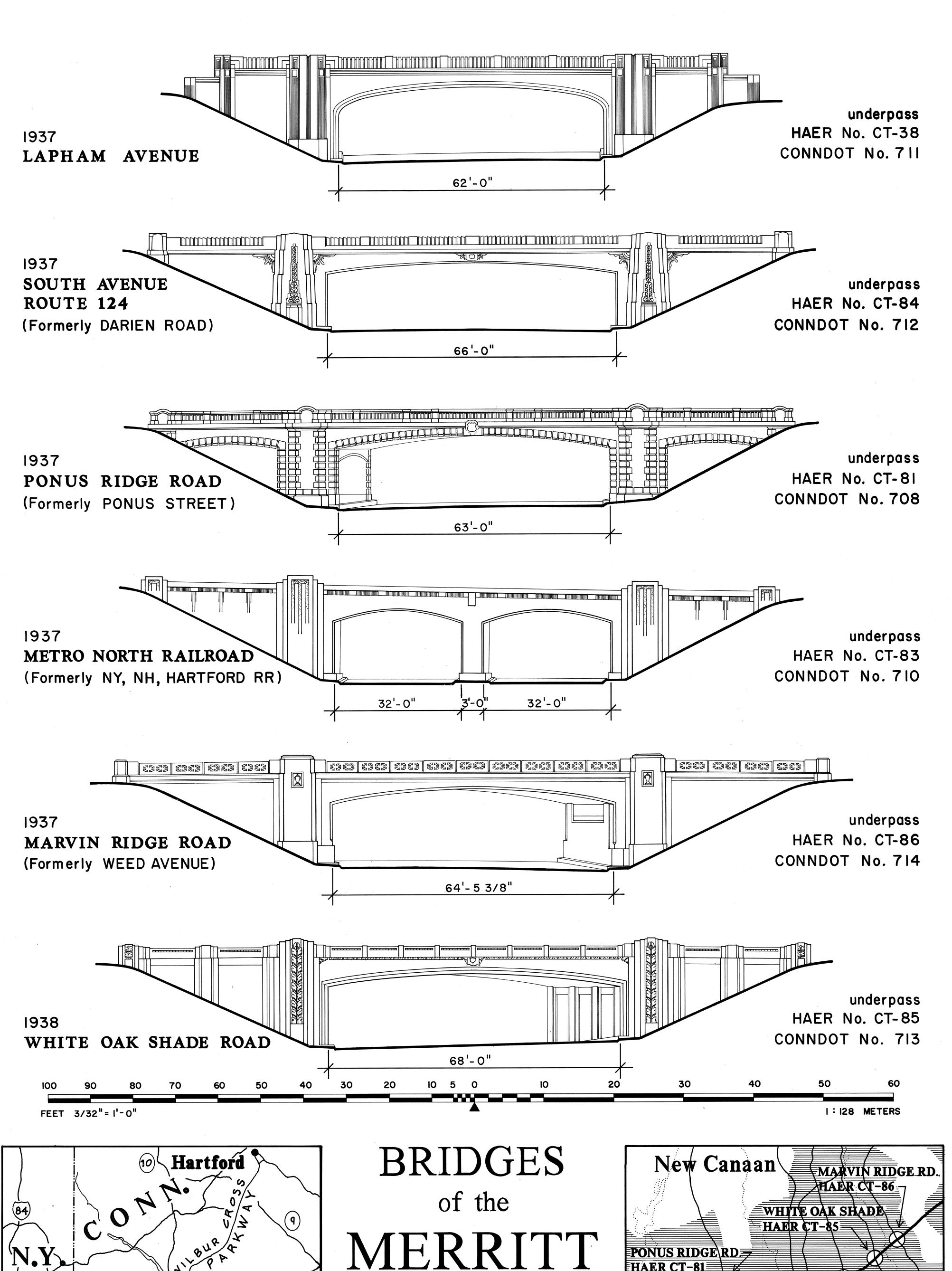
MERRITT PARKWAY

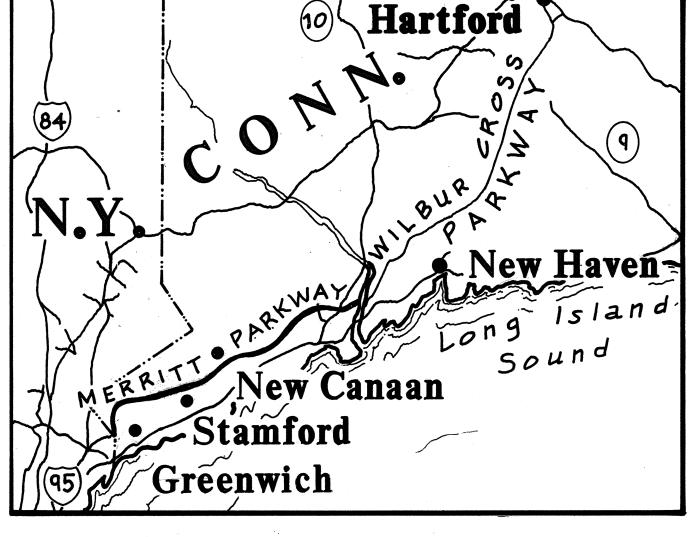
MERRITT PARKWAY

MERRITT PARKWAY

MERRITT PARKWAY

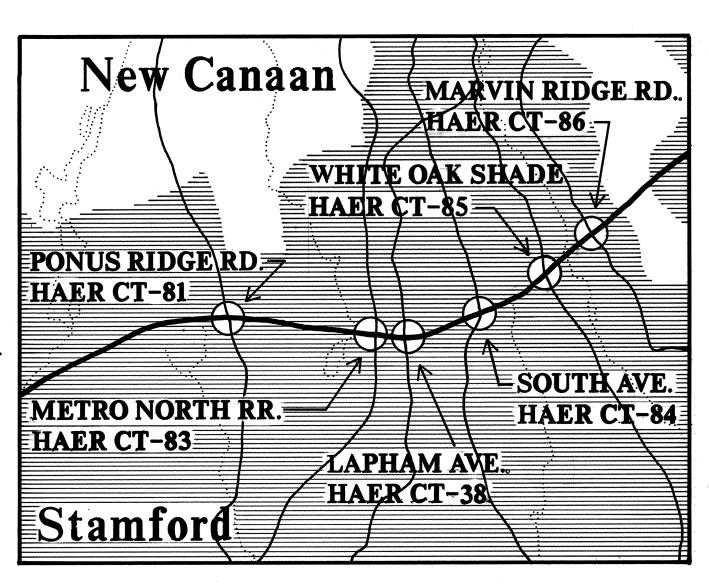
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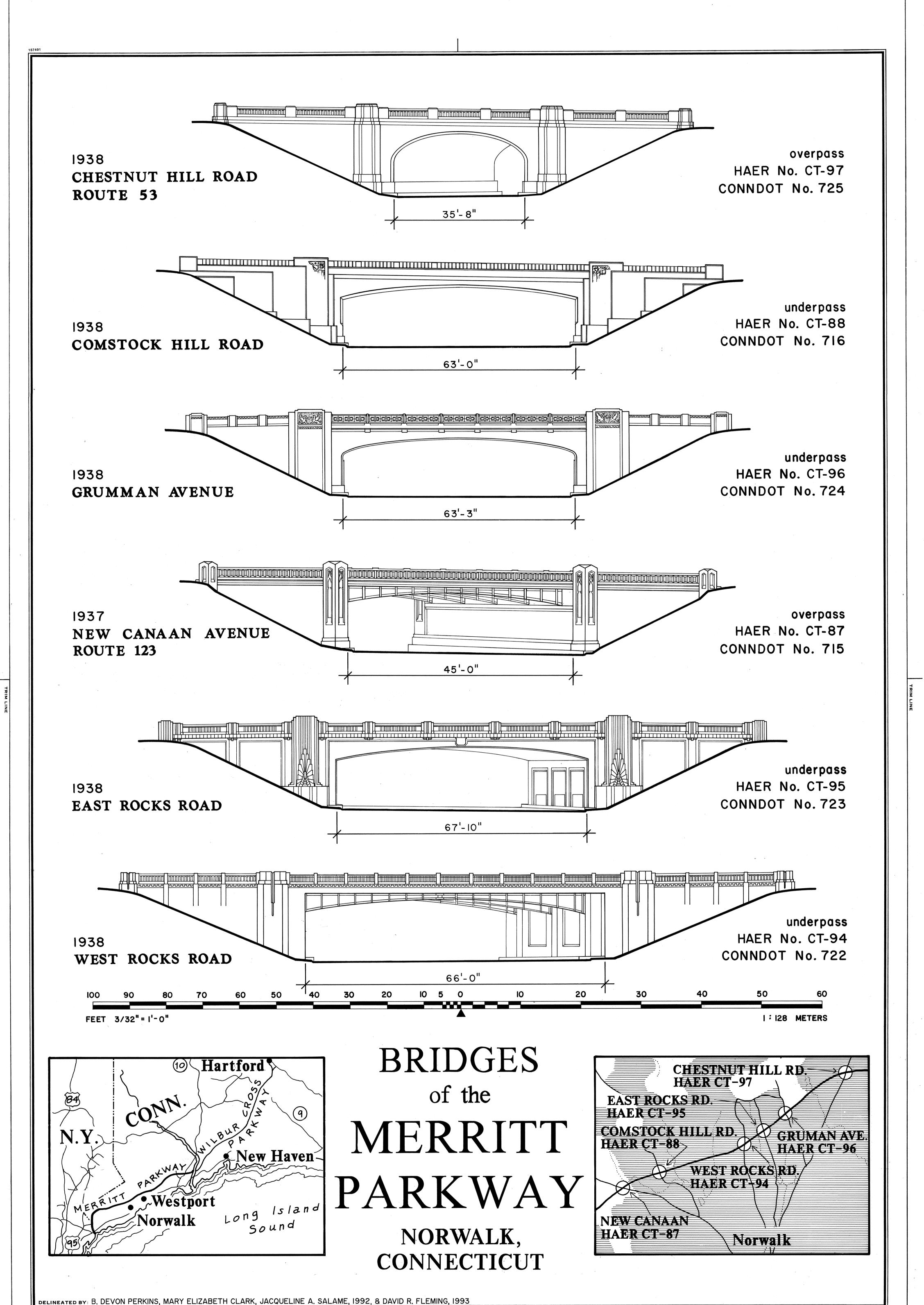


MERRITT PARKWAY

NEW CANAAN, **CONNECTICUT**



DELINEATED BY: B. DEVON PERKINS, MARY ELIZABETH CLARK, JACQUELINE A. SALAME, 1992, & DAVID R. FLEMING, 1993							
MERRITT PARKWAY RECORDING PROJECT	MERRITT PARKWAY CONNECTICUT ROUTE 15	SHEET HISTORIC AMERICAN INDEX NUMBER ENGINEERING RECORD	LIBRÁRY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER				
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	NEW CANAAN FAIRFIELD COUNTY CONNECTICUT	6° ^f 2l	CT- 63	,			



MERRITT PARKWAY
CONNECTICUT ROUTE 15
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

ONE OF THE PRODUCED, PLEASE CREDIT: HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, NAME OF DELINEATOR, DATE OF THE DRAWING

HISTORIC AMERICAN

ENGINEERING RECORD

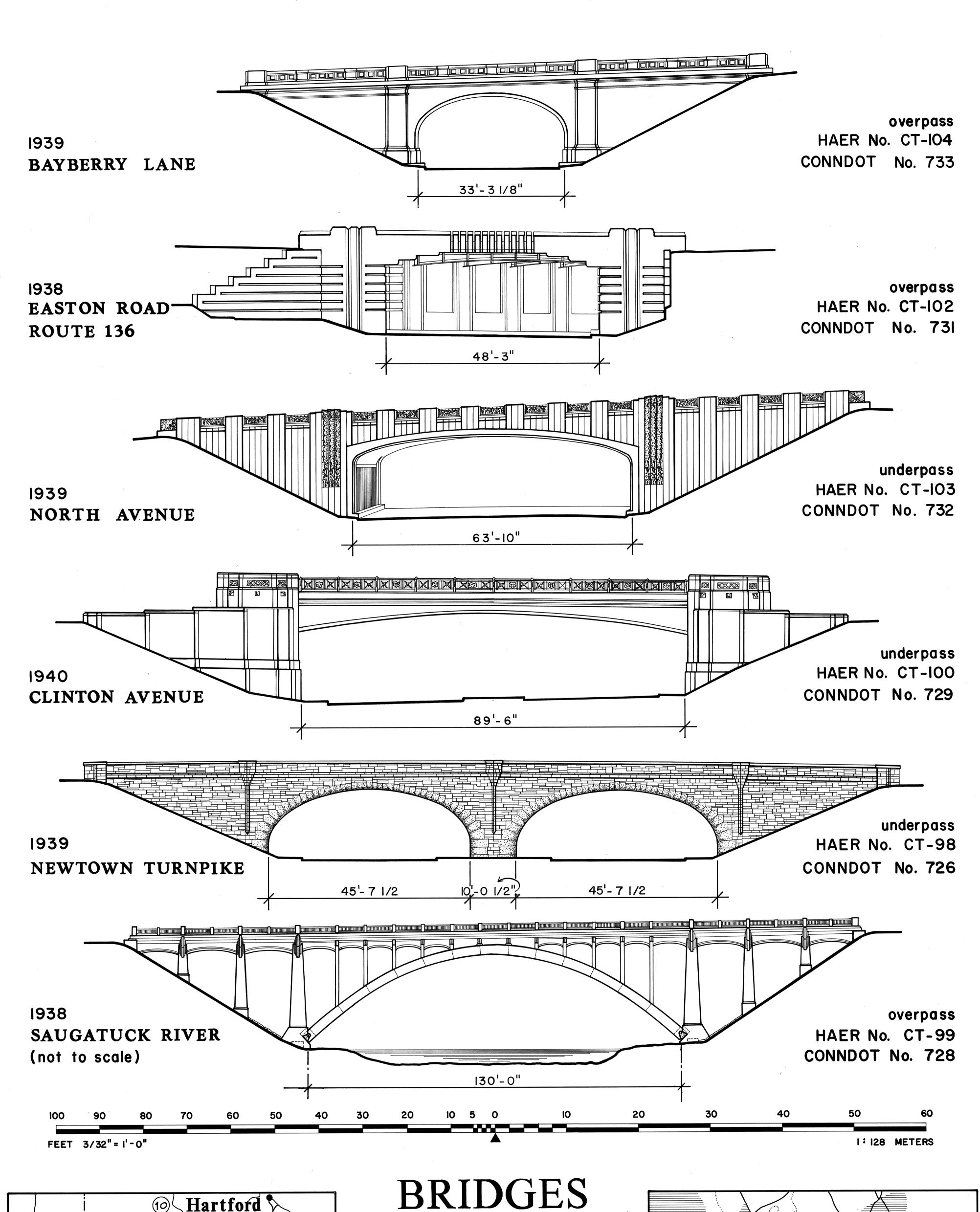
CT-63

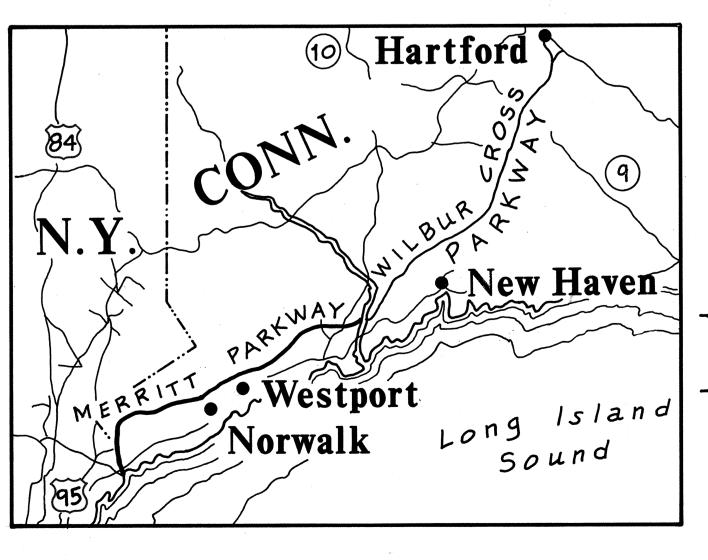
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MERRITT PARKWAY RECORDING PROJECT

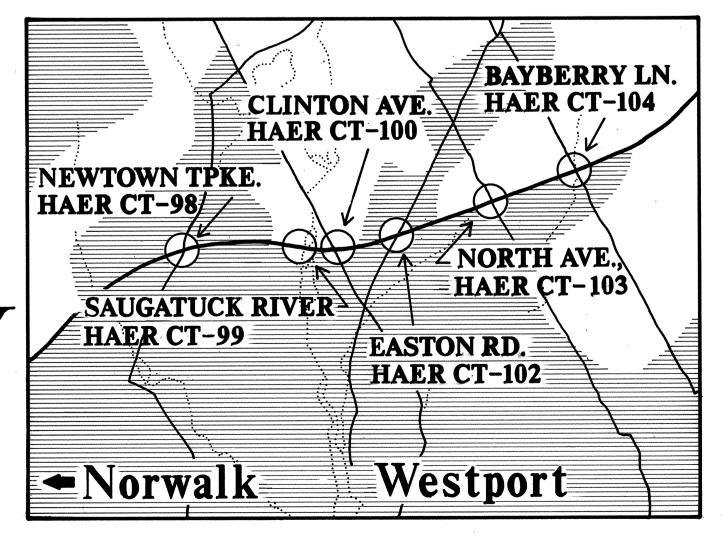
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



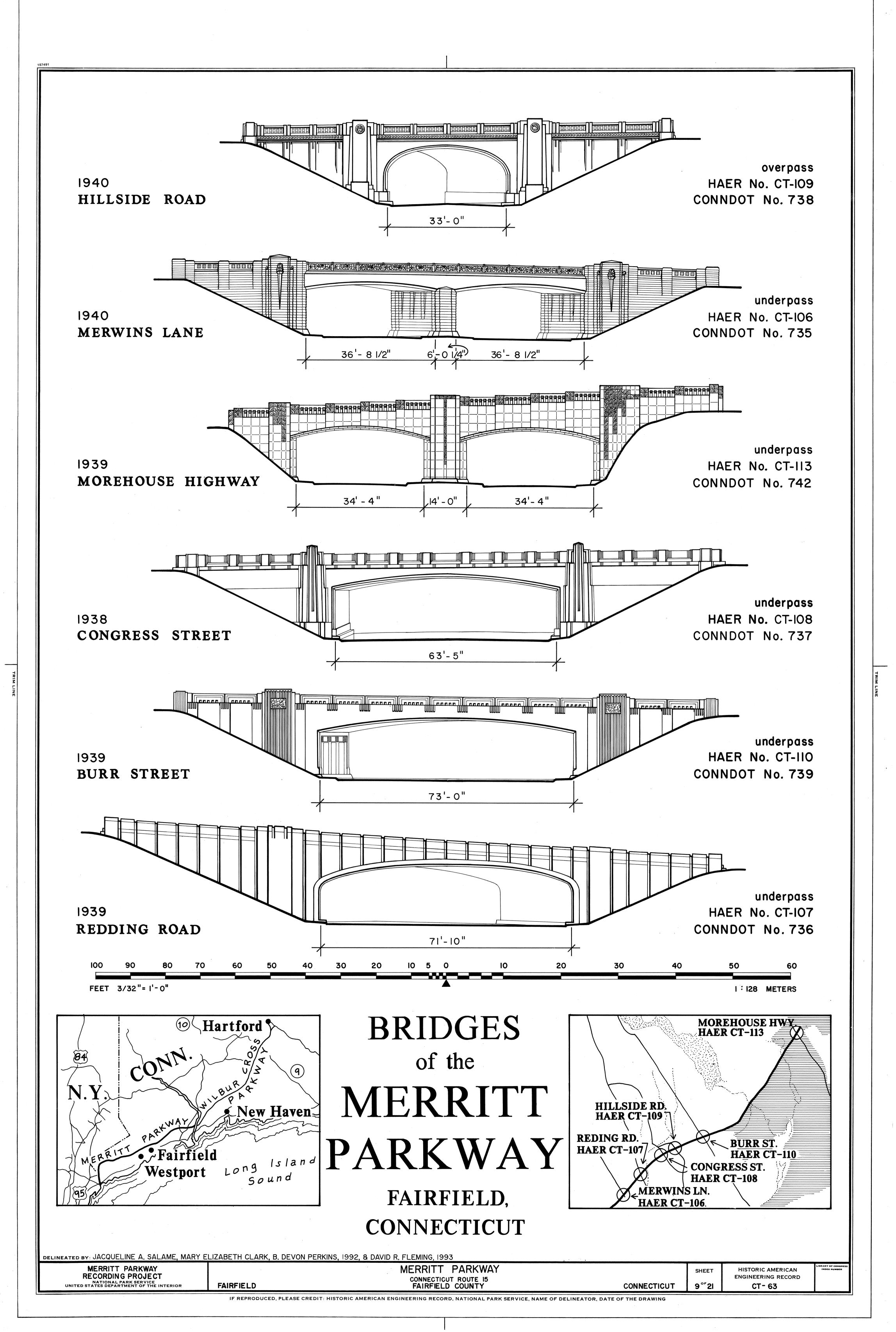


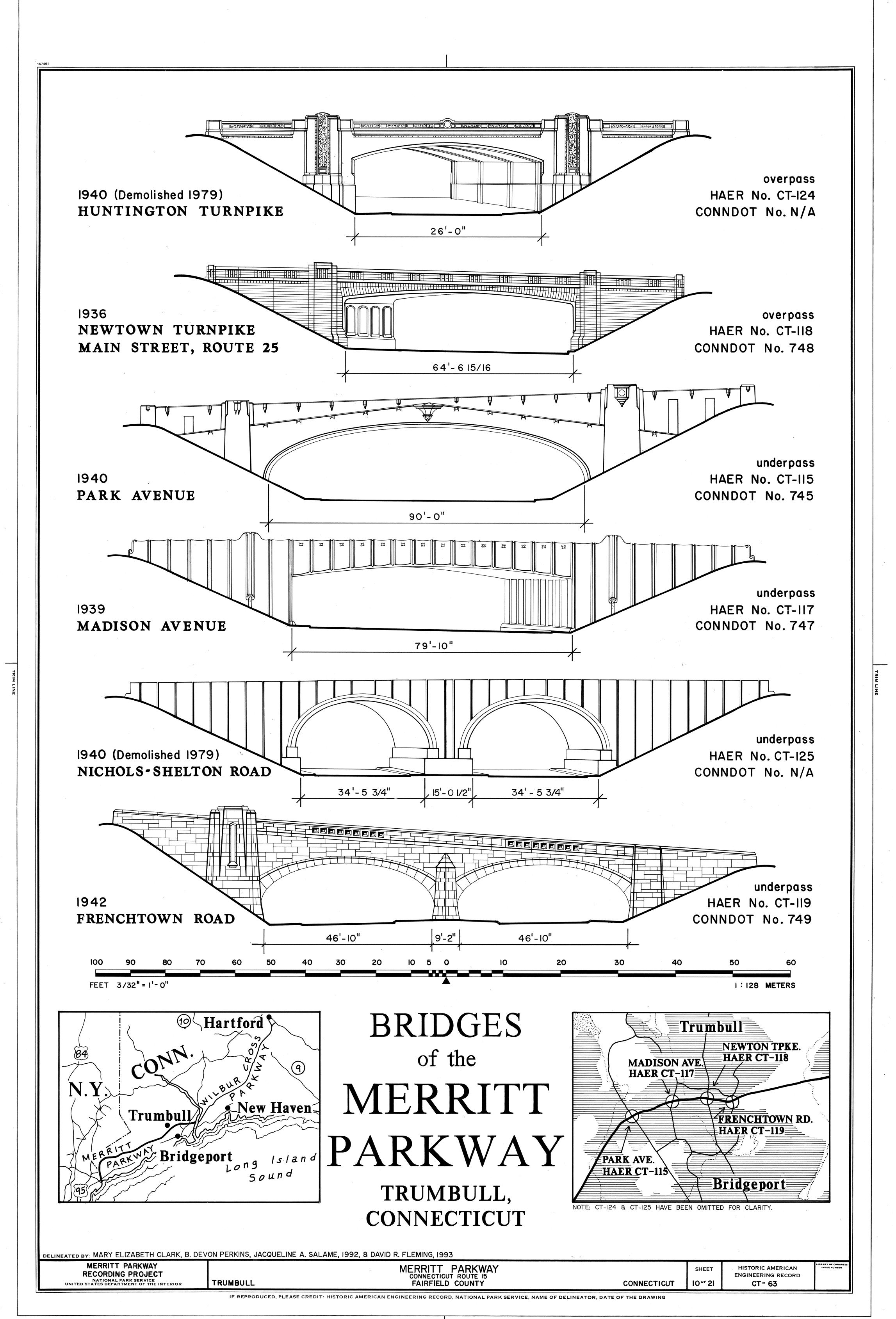
BRIDGES of the MERRITT PARKWAY

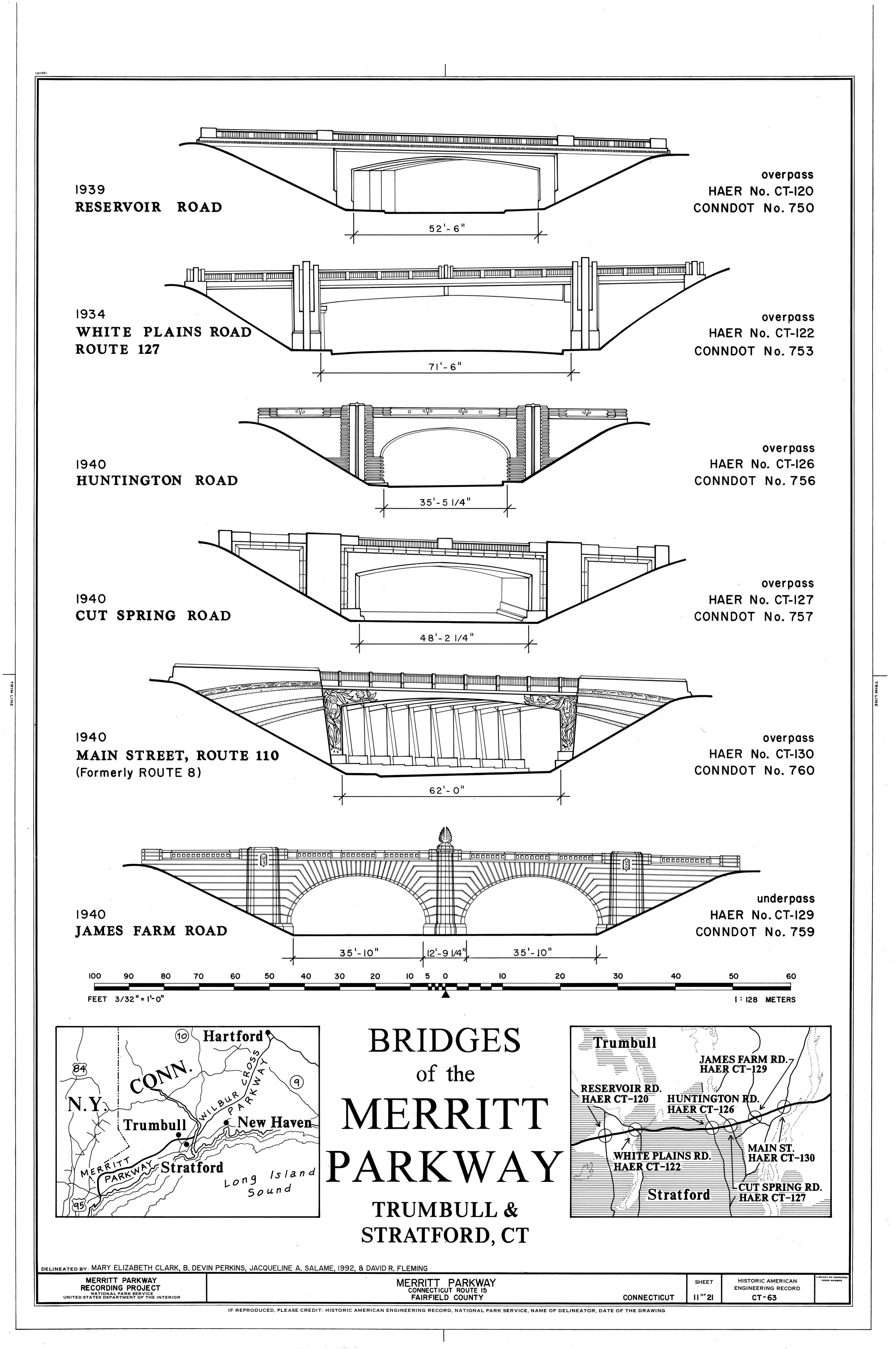
WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



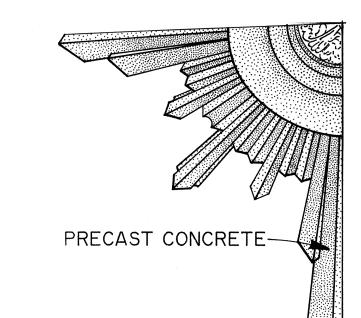
DELINEATED BY: JACQUELINE A. SALAME, MARY ELIZABETH CLARK, B. DEVON PERKINS, 1992, & DAVID R. FLEMING, 1993						
MERRITT PARKWAY RECORDING PROJECT NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	MERRITT PARKWAY CONNECTICUT ROUTE 15 WESTPORT FAIRFIELD COUNTY CONNECTICUT	SHEET 8 ° ^f 21	HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD CT - 63	LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER		

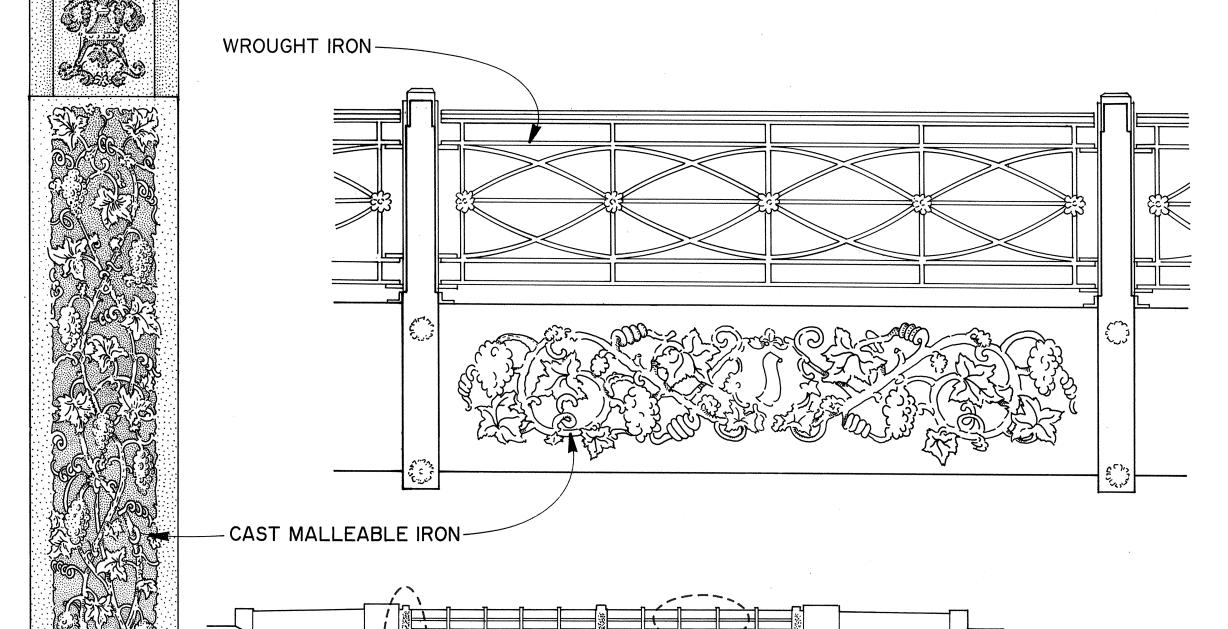






MERRITT PARKWAY BRIDGE DETAILS GREENWICH & STAMFORD, Connecticut



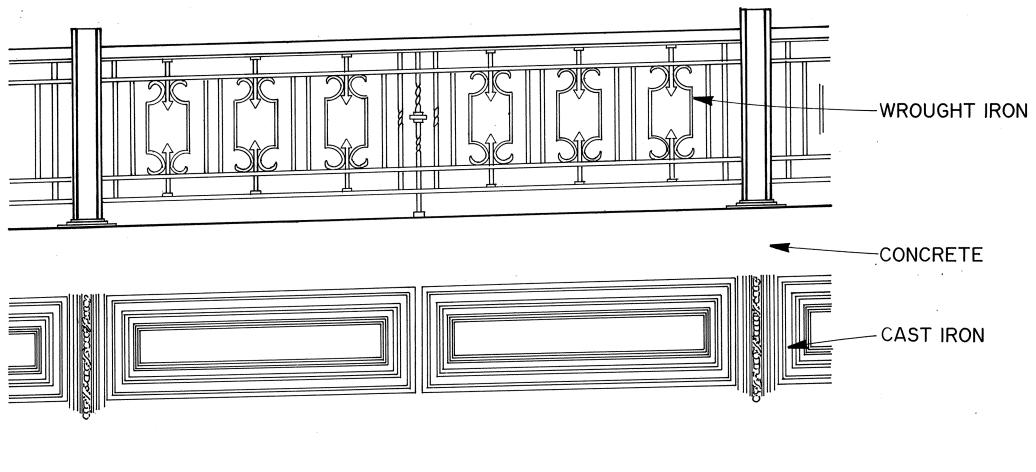


LAKE AVENUE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT- 69

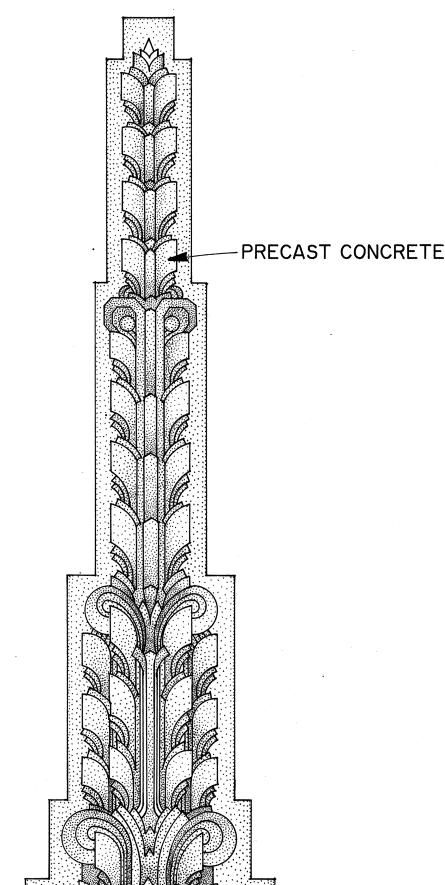
THE GRILLES AND PANELS FEATURING GRAPEVINES AND URNS ARE MADE FROM MALLEABLE CAST IRON, A WHITE CAST IRON THAT HAS BEEN HEATED TO RELIEVE INTERNAL STRESSES PRODUCED DURING SHAPING. THE WROUGHT-

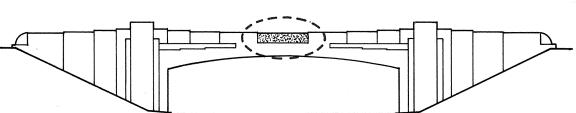
IRON RAILING IS DECORATED WITH ROSETTES AS WASHERS.



HIGH RIDGE ROAD BRIDGE

THE FRIEZE, COMPOSED OF MOLDINGS PURCHASED FROM A CATALOG, WAS INCORPORATED INTO THE FORMWORK FOR THE CONCRETE BRIDGE DECK. THE METAL RAIL POSTS WERE THEN BOLTED TO THE CONCRETE, AND THE RAILINGS WERE BUILT FROM STOCK RAILS AND WROUGHT-IRON ORNAMENT.

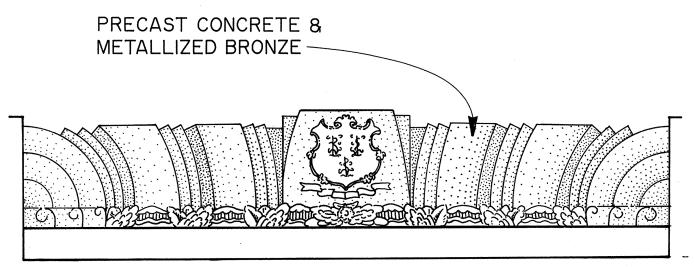


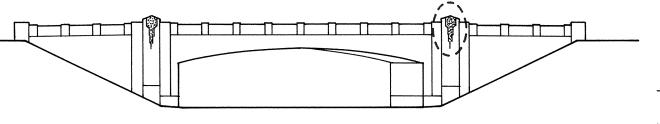


NEWFIELD AVENUE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-80

THIS RAILING ORNAMENT, MADE OF PRECAST CONCRETE, IS UNIQUE ON THE MERRITT PARKWAY BECAUSE IT WAS ORIGINALLY METALLIZED WITH A LAYER OF BRONZE TO EMPHASIZE THE CONNECTICUT COAT OF ARMS.



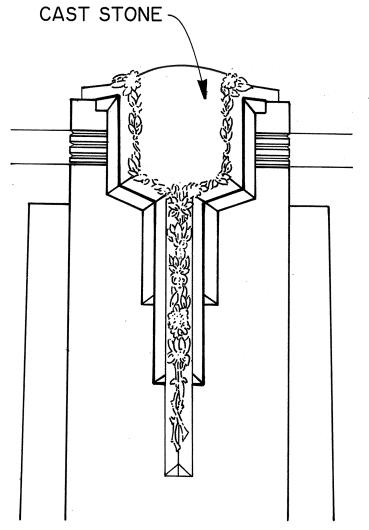


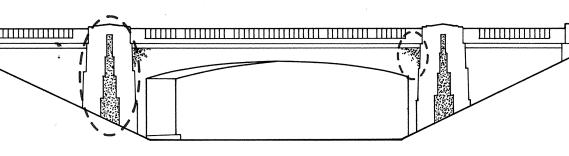
HAER NO. CT-79

STANWICH ROAD BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-72

THIS WINGED-WHEEL PANEL IS MADE OF WHITE PRECAST CONCRETE. THE SHIELD IS FRAMED BY TWO PRECAST SECTIONS OF FLORIATED VINES WITH A PINKISH TINT.





LONG RIDGE ROAD BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-76

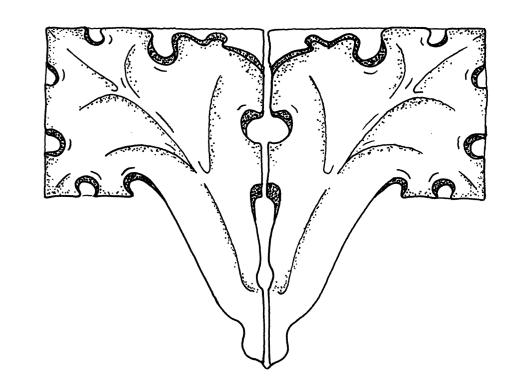
EACH SUNBURST WAS CAST IN THREE BLOCKS AND EACH PYLON ORNAMENT WAS CAST IN FOUR BLOCKS OF VARYING THICKNESS. THE PRECAST BLOCKS WERE HUNG FROM THE BRIDGE FORMWORK AND ANCHORED TO THE STRUCTURAL CONCRETE.

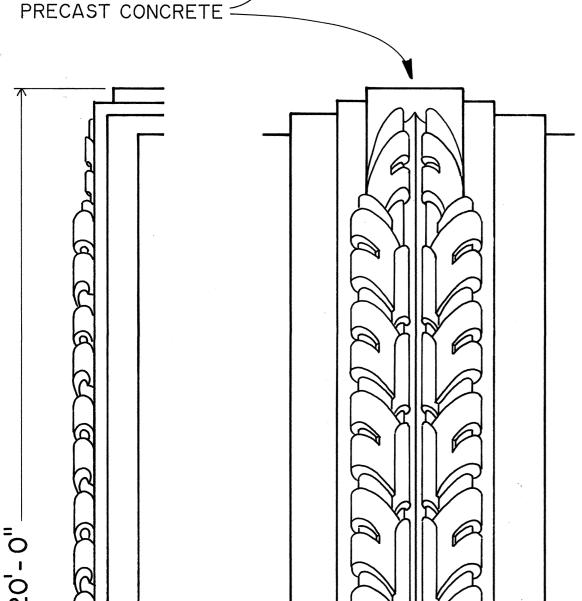
MERRITT PARKWAY
RECORDING PROJECT

RIM LINE

MERRITT PARKWAY BRIDGE DETAILS

NEW CANAAN & NORWALK, Connecticut

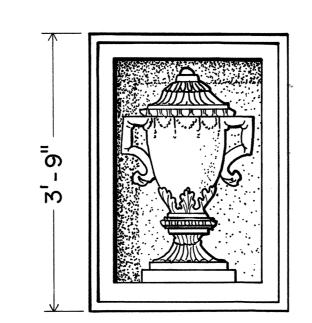


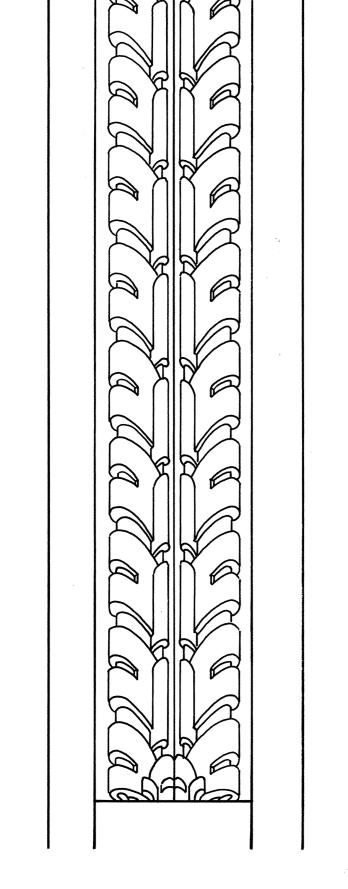


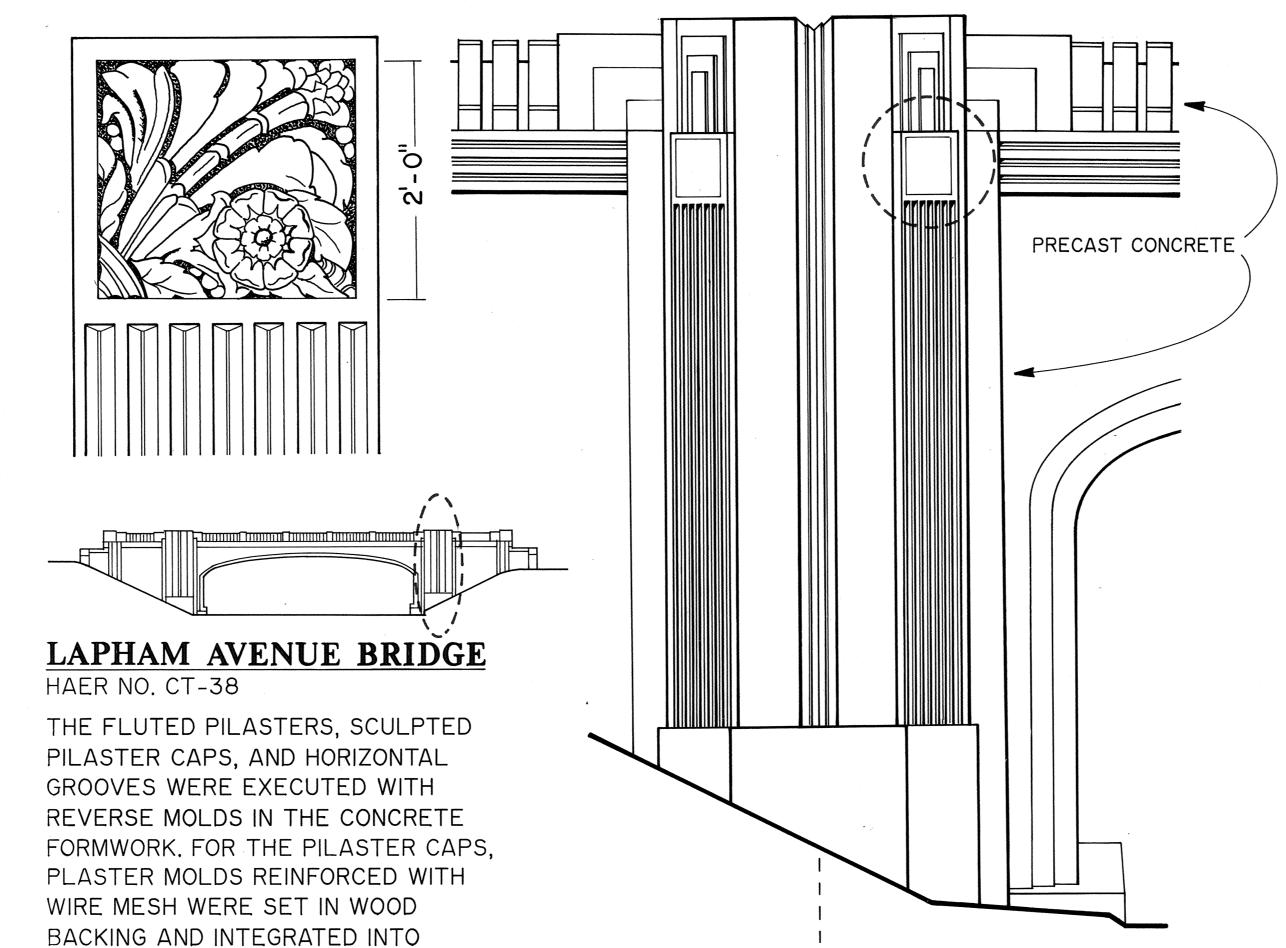


MARVIN RIVER ROAD BRIDGE HAER NO. CT-86

BLUE VITREOUS AGGREGATE IS USED TO SHAPE CAST IN WHITE MARBLE AGGREGATE. THE NICHE IS INSET NEAR THE TOP OF THE PYLONS.



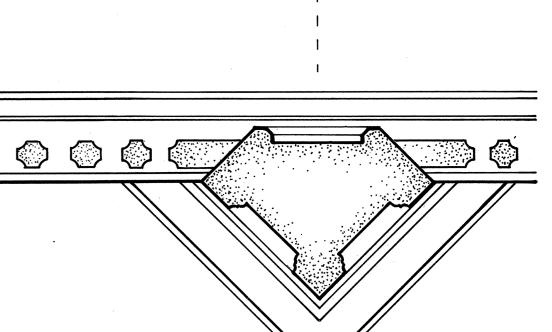


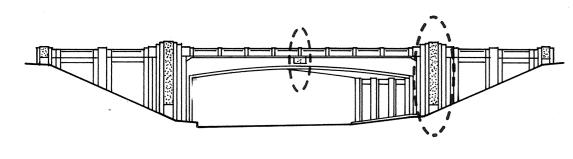


PARTIAL PLAN



THE ONLY GOTHIC DETAILS OF THE ECLECTIC DESIGNS OF THE MERRITT PARKWAY ARE ON THIS BRIDGE, POINTED ARCHES DEFINE THE BALUSTRADE AND FRAME THE RECESSES IN TWO FACES OF THE TRIANGULAR PYLONS. THE LEAF PATTERNS ON THE POSTS AND THE TRACERY ON THE PYLONS WERE FORMED WITH REVERSE MOLDS.



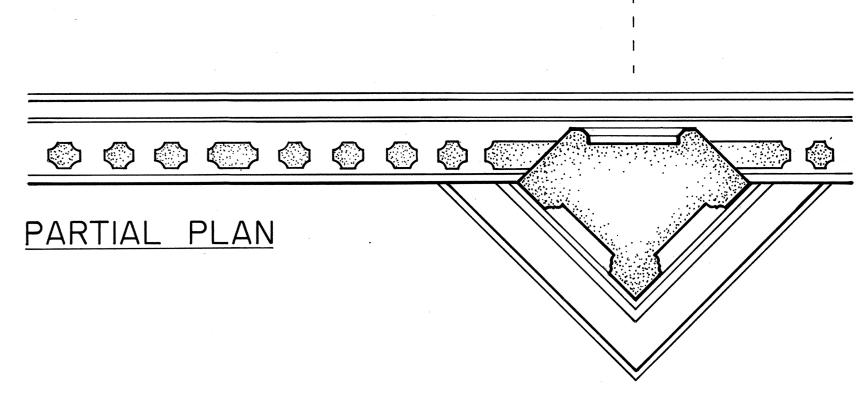


THE FORMWORK.

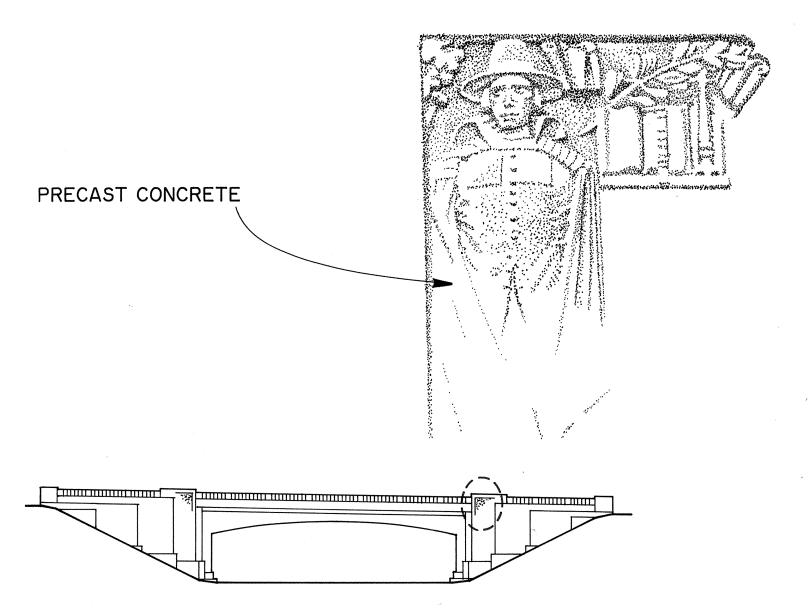
WHITE OAK SHADE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-85

THE EGG-AND-DART MOLDINGS AND PYLON ORNAMENTS ARE PRODUCTIONS OF REVERSE MOLDS IN THE CONCRETE FRAMEWORK. THE CONNECTICUT COAT OF ARMS IS CAST IN PLACE AT THE CROWN OF THE ARCH.

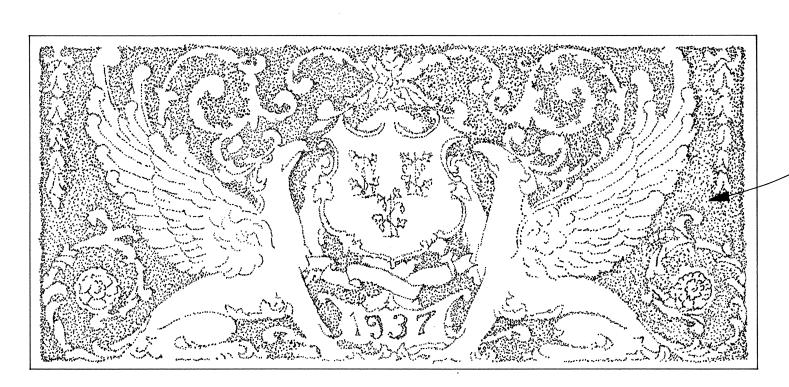


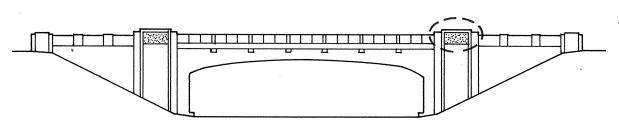
MERRITT PARKWAY BRIDGE DETAILS NORWALK & WESTPORT, Connecticut



COMSTOCK HILL ROAD BRIDGE HAER NO. CT-88

RECESSED PANELS FEATURING A PILGRIM (ABOVE)
AND AN AMERICAN INDIAN ARE PRODUCTS OF
REVERSE MOLDS MOUNTED IN THE CONRETE
FORMWORK FOR THE PYLONS

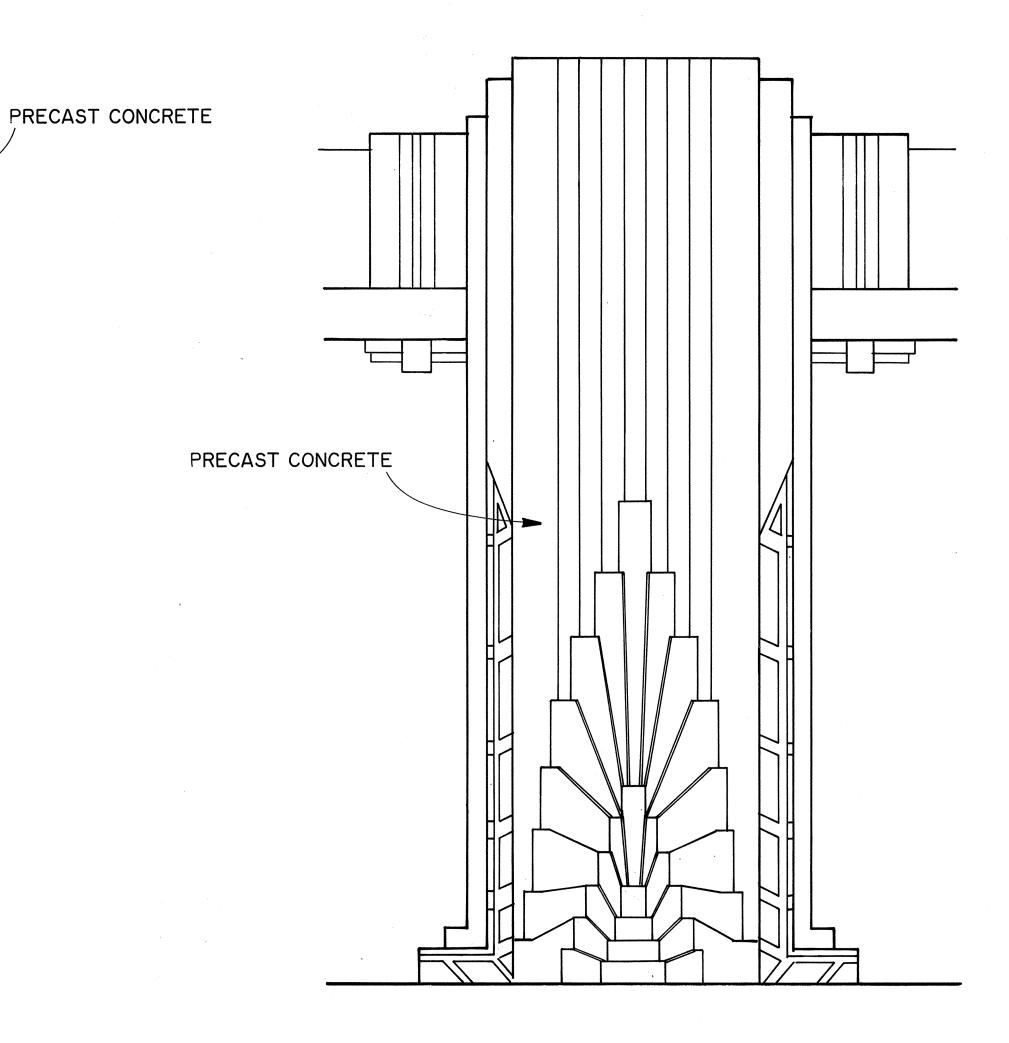


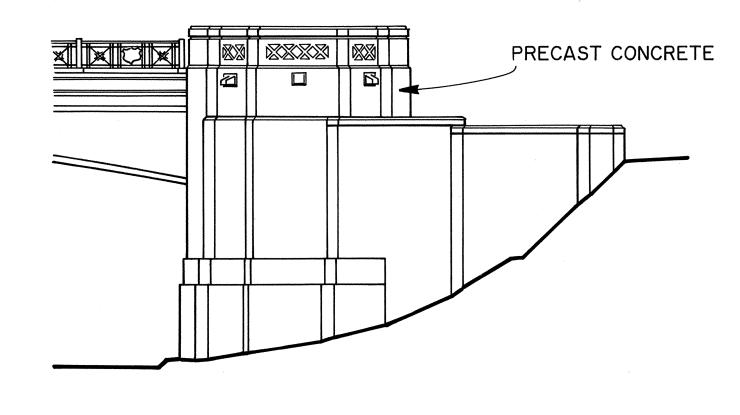


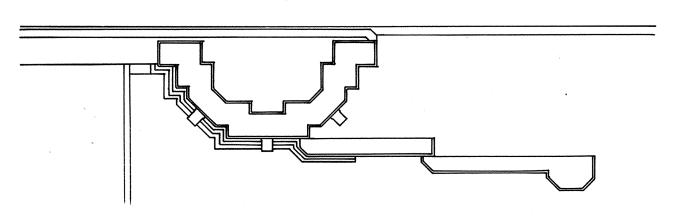
GRUMMAN AVENUE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-96

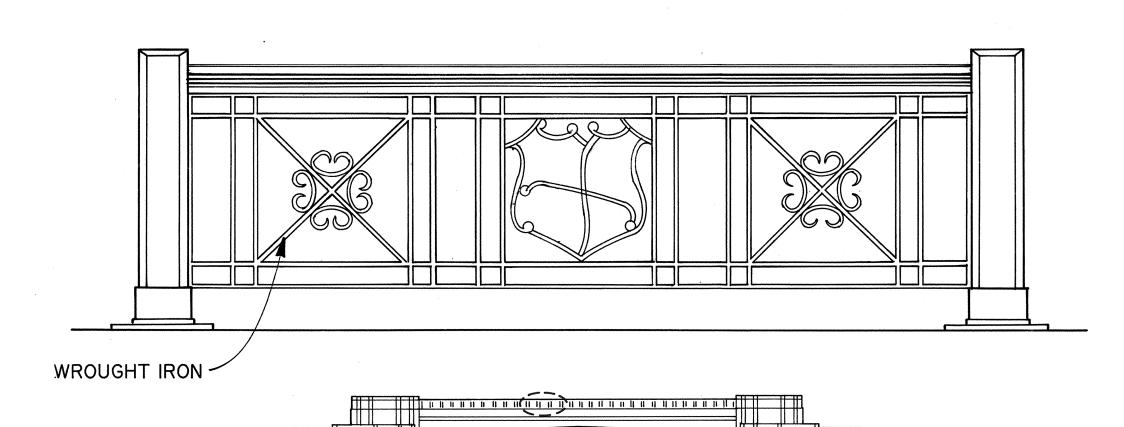
THIS SGRAFFITO PANEL SHOWING TWO GRIFFINS HOLDING A PLAQUE WITH A TREE IS ON TWO PYLONS, AND THE CONNECTICUT COAT OF ARMS IS ON THE OTHER TWO PYLONS. SGRAFFITO, THE PROCESS OF LAYERING DIFFERENT COLORS OF CONCRETE AND REMOVING THE TOP LAYER TO EXPOSE A PATTERN, IS ALSO THE MEDIUM USED ON THE TRIANGULAR MOLDING ACROSS THE BRIDGE.





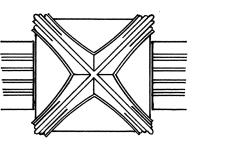


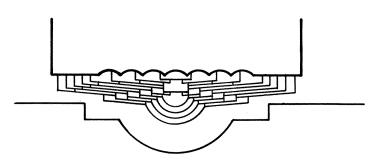
PARTIAL PLAN



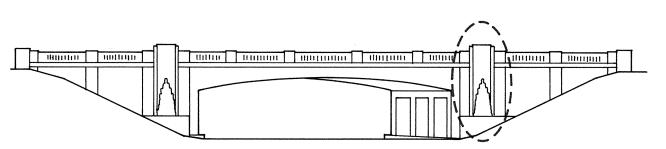


EACH FORTRESS-LIKE PYLON HAS THREE CAST-IN PLACE DRAINS, ONLY ONE FUNCTIONAL. THE DIAMOND PATTERN ABOVE EACH DRAIN IS FORMED WITH RED VITREOUS AGGREGATE. THE WROUGHT-IRON RAILING IS COMPOSED OF STOCK ORNAMENTS TAKEN FROM CATALOGS.





PARTIAL PLAN



EAST ROCKS ROAD BRIDGE

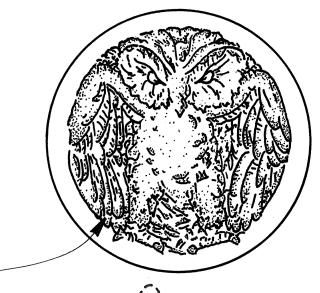
HAER NO. CT-95

THE ZIGGURAT-SHAPED SCULPTURE, THE CHEVRONS, AND FLUTES OF THIS ART DECO-INFLUENCED PYLON ARE ALL FORMED WITH REVERSE MOLDS.

C C CREDIT HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEER

MERRITT PARKWAY
RECORDING PROJECT
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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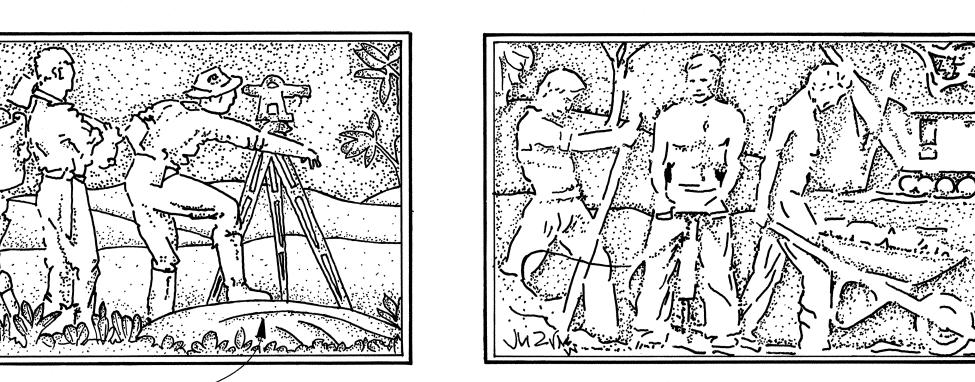
MERRITT PARKWAY BRIDGE DETAILS WESTPORT & FAIRFIELD, Connecticut



CROSS HIGHWAY BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-105

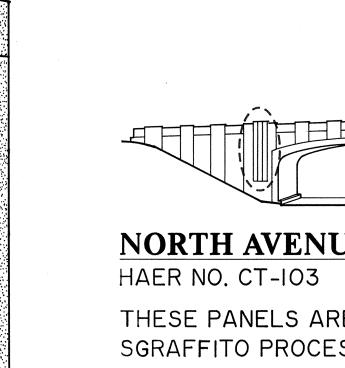
THIS FLORAL BAS-RELIEF IS A PRODUCT OF REVERSE MOLDS PLACED WITHIN THE CONCRETE FORMWORK.





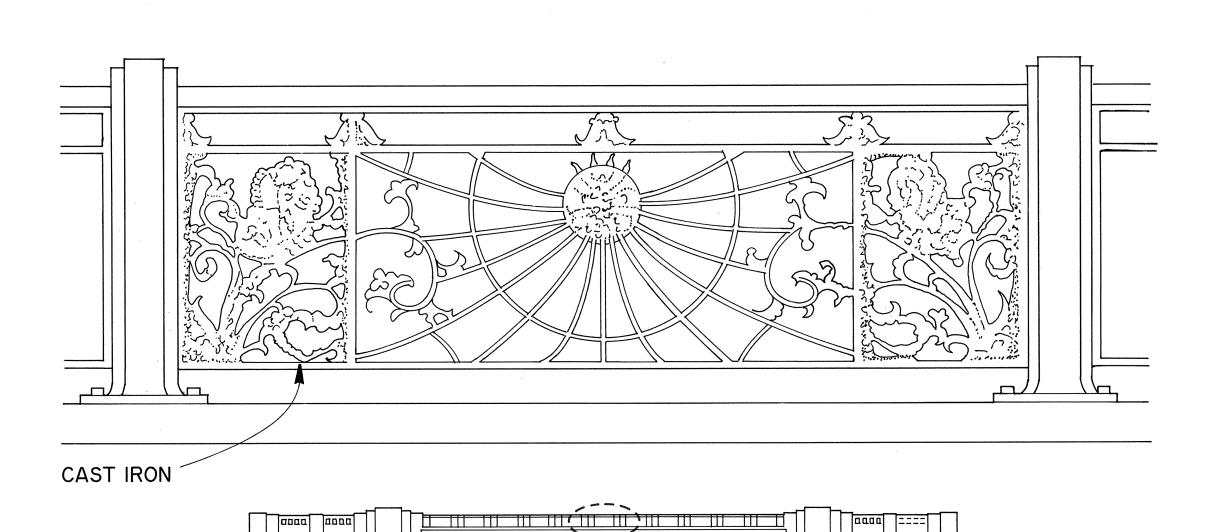
HAER NO. CT-109

THIS OWL, READY TO SWOOP DOWN OUT OF ITS PORTHOLE PERCH, IS A PRODUCT OF REVERSE MOLDS IN THE CONCRETE FORMWORK.



NORTH AVENUE BRIDGE

THESE PANELS ARE MADE USING THE SGRAFFITO PROCESS OF LAYERING DIFFERENT COLORS OF CONCRETE AND REMOVING THE TOP LAYERS TO CREATE A PATTERN. THEY FEATURE WHITE FLORA AND SCROLLS MADE OF WHITE VITREOUS AGGREGATE PLACED ON A BACKROUND OF SWEDISH EMERALD PEARL AND WISCONSIN BLACK AGGREGATE. THE SCROLL MOTIF IS REPEATED IN THE WROUGHT-IRON RAILING.

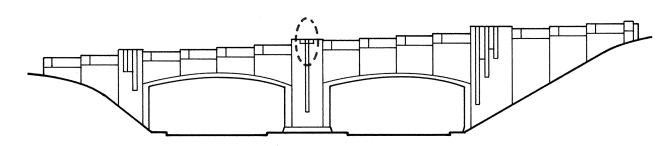


THE BAS-RELIEF PANELS DEPICTING A SURVEY CREW AND A

MERRITT PARKWAY, LABELLING THIS A "CELEBRATION BRIDGE."

CONSTRUCTION CREW PAY HOMAGE TO THE MEN WHO BUILT THE

PRECAST CONCRETE



MOREHOUSE HIGHWAY BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-II3

CLOSELY SPACED GROOVES IN THE CONCRETE CREATE A TILED APPEARANCE. TWO GEOMETRIC PATTERNS, ONE RESEMBLING A QUARTER BULL'S-EYE, ACCENT THE PYLONS AND THE RAILING.

- PRECAST CONCRETE

MERWINS LANE BRIDGE

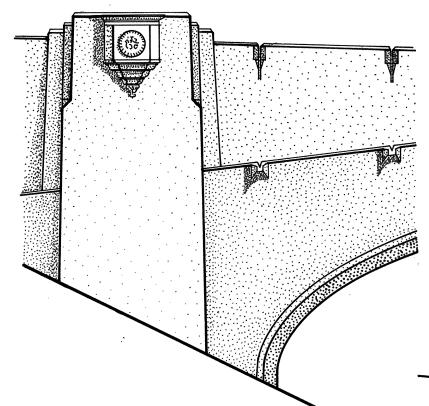
HAER NO. CT-106

CONCRETE BAS-REL

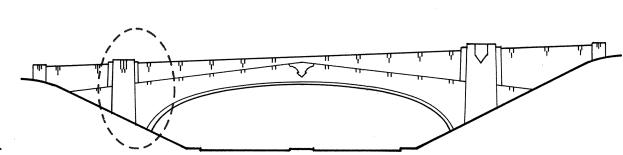
BURR STREET BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-IIO

THESE INSECTS ARE SOME OF THE MOST WHIMSICAL OF THE DETAILS ON THE MERRITT PARKWAY. THE BUTTERFLIES ARE PRECAST CONCRETE ON THE PYLONS AND CAST IRON ON THE RAILINGS. THE SPIDERS ARE IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS ON THE COBWEBS OF EACH RAILING PANEL. THE BACKDROP FOR ALL OF THIS IS AN OVERLAPPING CLAPBOARD PATTERN ON THE STRUCTURAL CONCRETE.



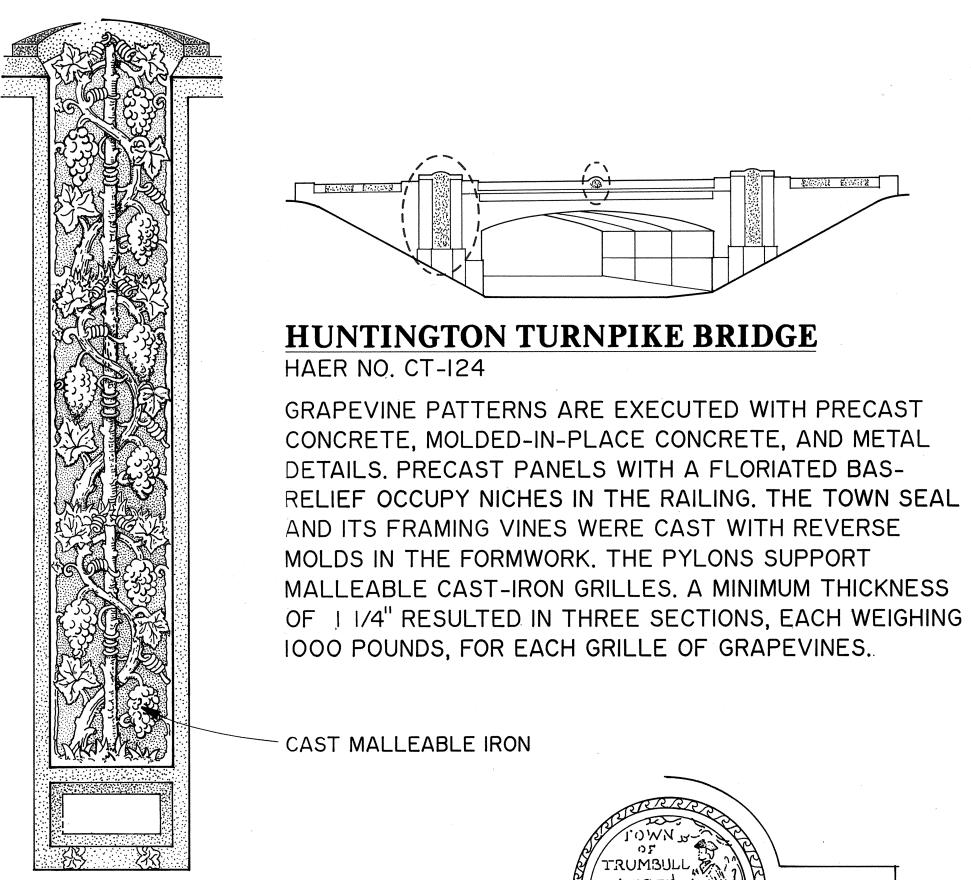
MERRITT PARKWAY BRIDGE DETAILS TRUMBULL & STRATFORD, Connecticut

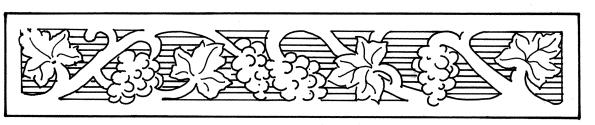


PARK AVENUE BRIDGE

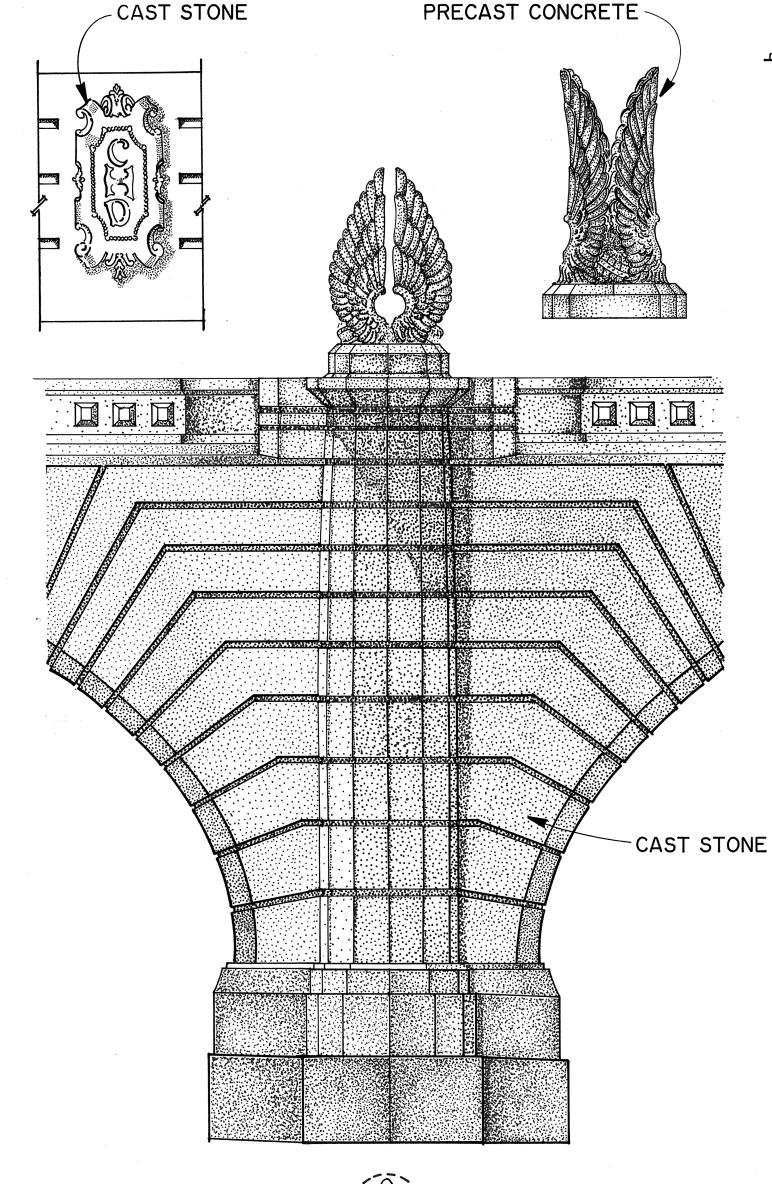
HAER NO. CT-II5

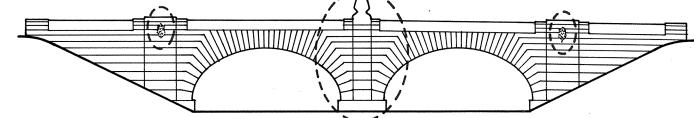
THE CAST-IN-PLACE CARTOUCHE ON THE PYLON FEATURES A SEAL OF THE TOWN OF TRUMBULL. THE SEAL DEPICTS A COLONIAL MINUTEMAN FIGURE AND THE YEAR OF THE TOWN'S FOUNDING, 1797.







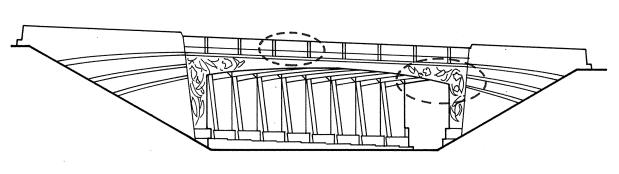




JAMES FARM ROAD BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-129

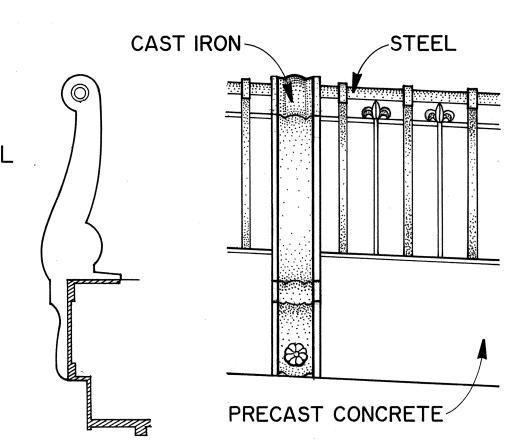
TWO PAIRS OF 16-FOOT TALL WINGS, COMPOSED OF WHITE QUARTZ, ARE MOUNTED ON A CONCRETE PEDESTAL THAT WAS CAST, LIKE THE REST OF THE BRIDGE, TO IMITATE MASONRY. CARTOUCHES PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE CONNECTICUT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT WITH THE INITIALS 'CHD' WERE CAST AT THE TOP OF EACH PYLON WITH REVERSE MOLDS.

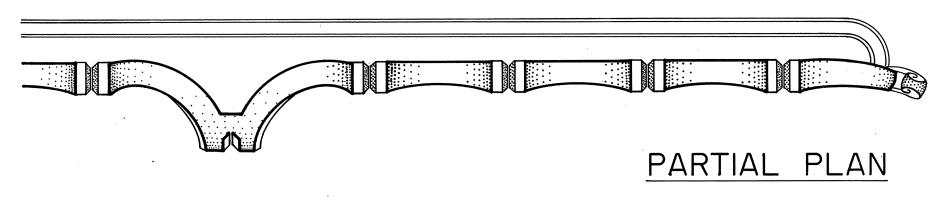


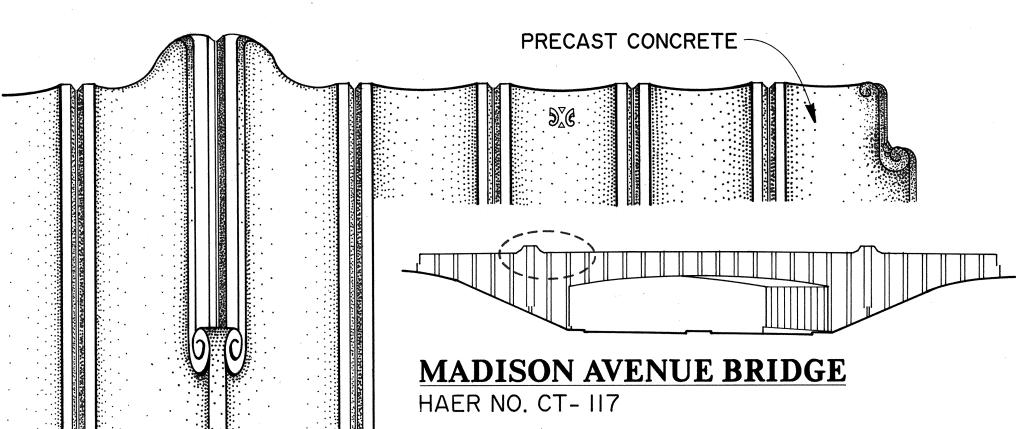
MAIN STREET BRIDGE HAER NO. CT-130

HAER NO. CT-130

ORNATE FLORAL THEMES ARE EXPRESSED ON THIS BRIDGE THROUGH THE USE OF SEVERAL TYPES OF STEEL FLOWERS, AND LEAVES ARE MOUNTED ON THE STRUCTURAL STEEL FRAME. CAST-IRON ACANTHUS AND FLEUR-DE-LIS ARE APPLIED TO THE MALLEABLE CAST-IRON RAILING POSTS. MALLEABLE CAST-IRON IS A WHITE CAST-IRON THAT HAS BEEN HEATED FOR A PERIOD OF TIME TO RELIEVE INTERNAL STRESSES PRODUCED DURING SHAPING.







TWO-INCH THICK REVERSE MOLDS, PLACED WITHIN THE CONCRETE FORMWORK, WERE USED TO PRODUCE THE CONCRETE-SHAPED VERTICAL PANELS WHICH ARE CONTINUOUS FROM THE SPANDREL TO THE TOP OF THE PARAPET RAILING.

HISTORIC AMERIC ENGINEERING REC

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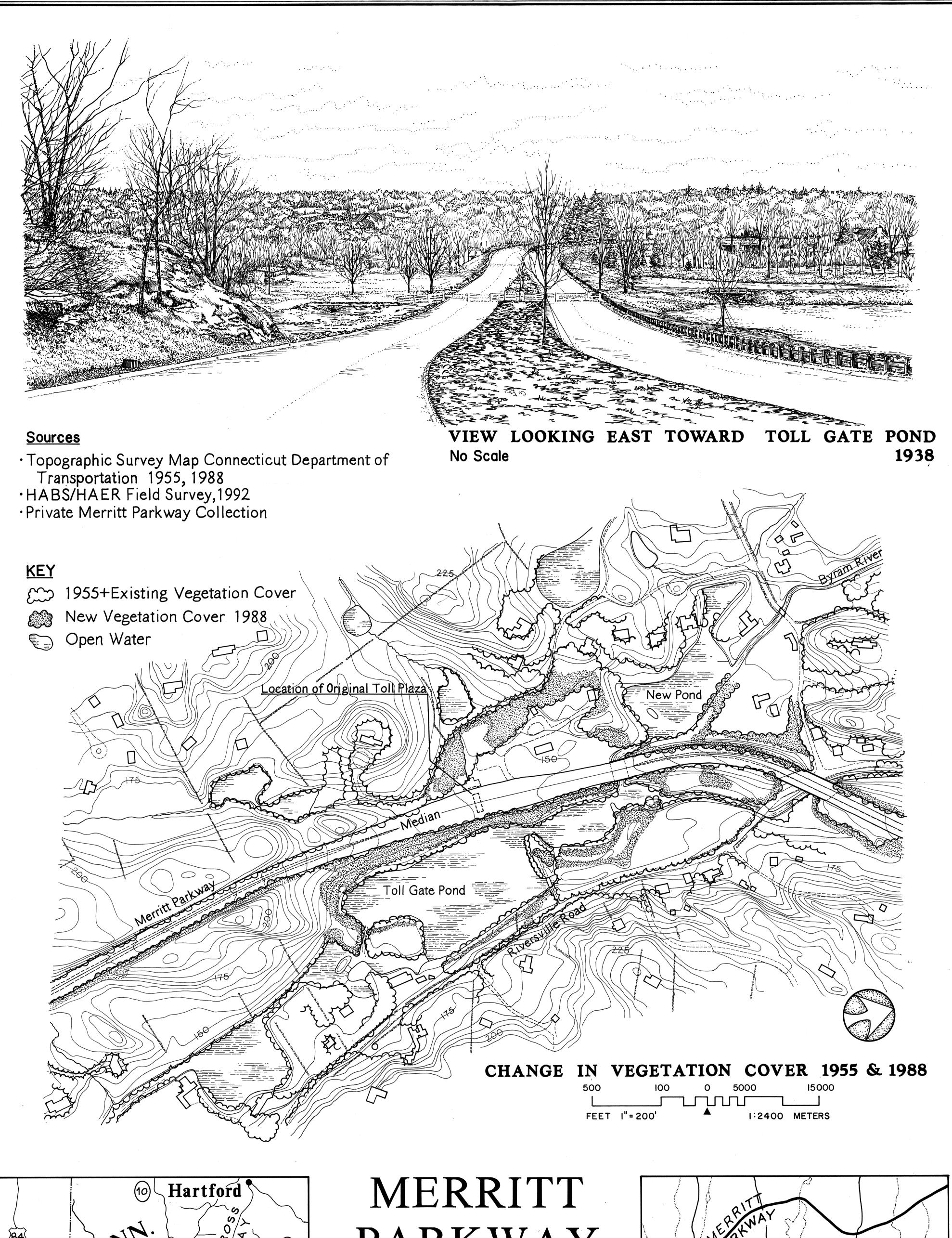
ETAILS

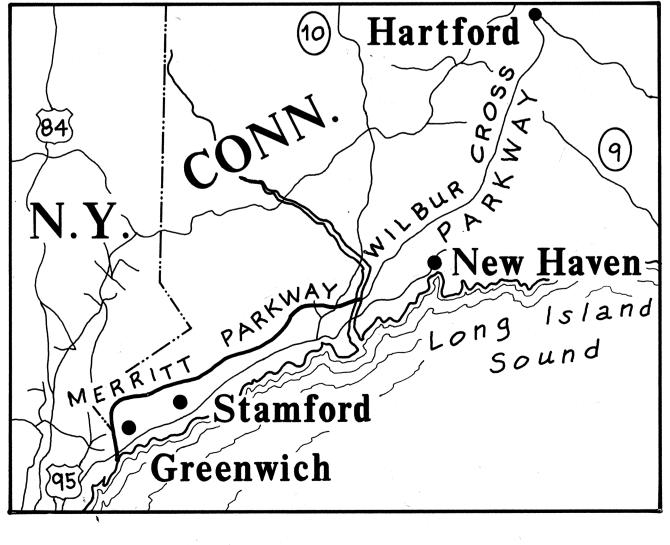
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MERRITT PARKWA
RECORDING PROJE

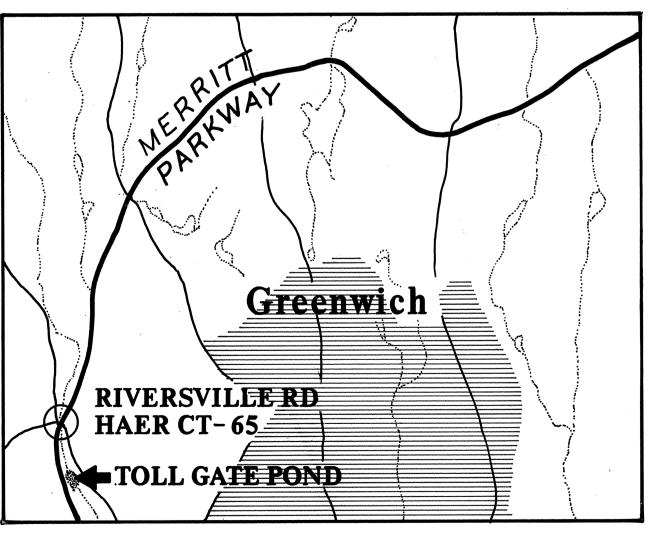
TRIM LINE



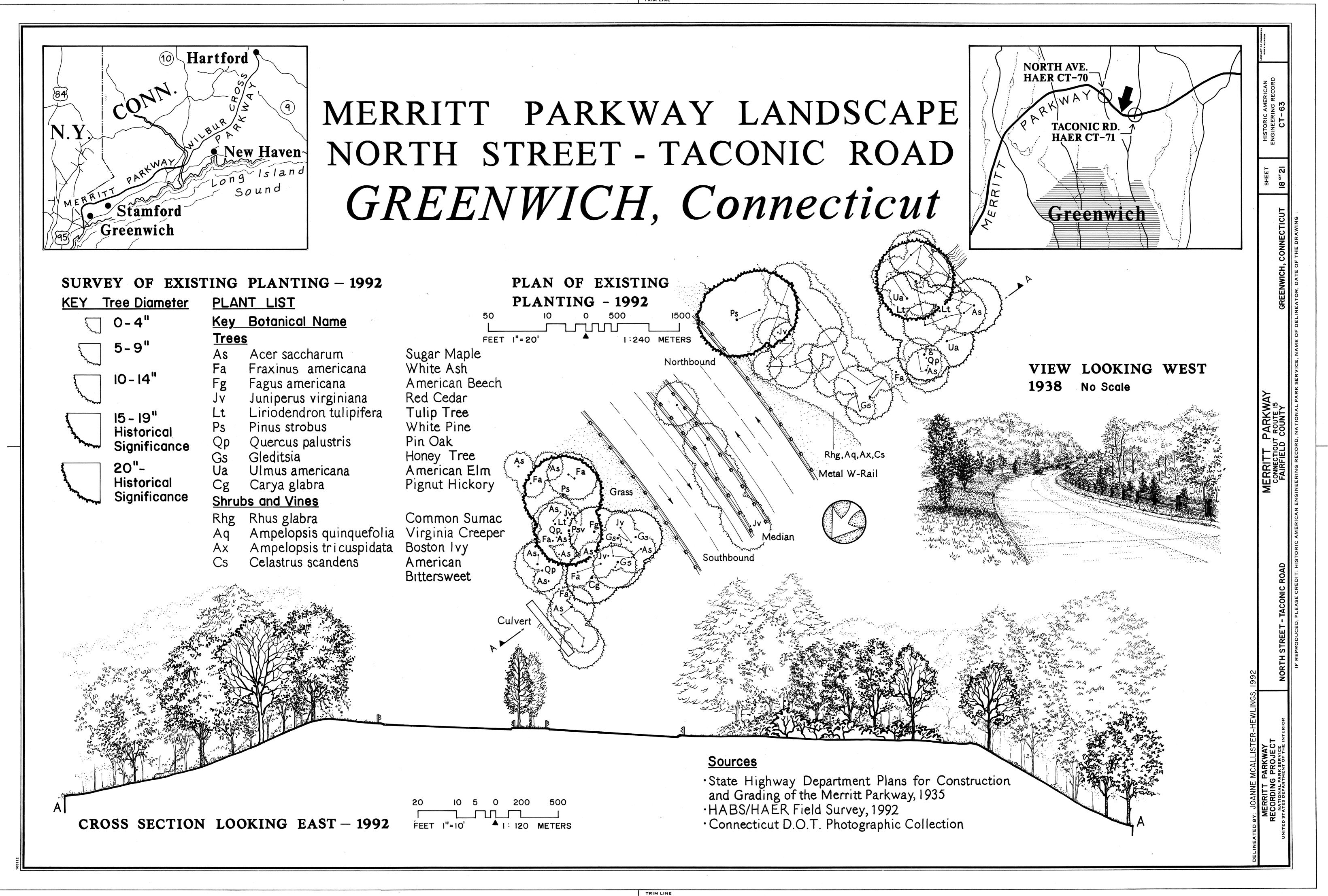


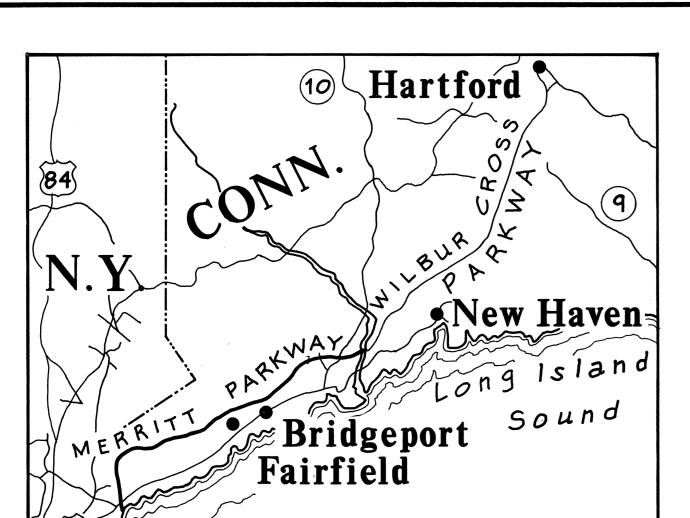
MERRITT PARKWAY LANDSCAPE TOLL GATE POND

GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT

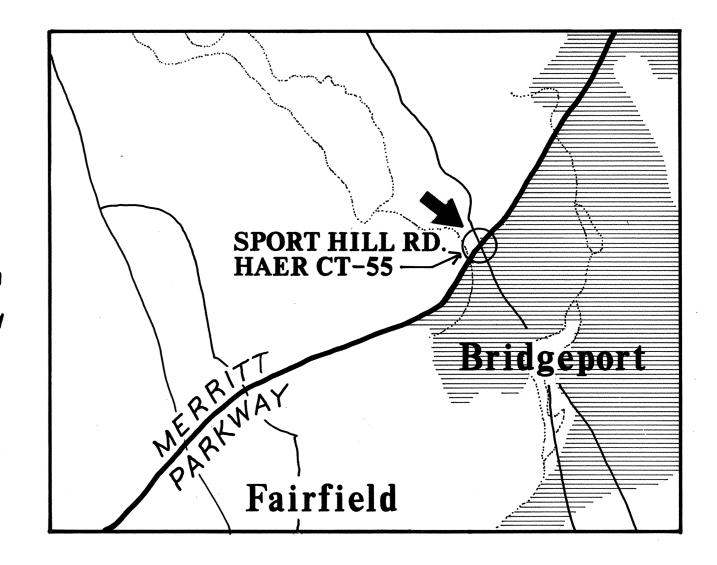


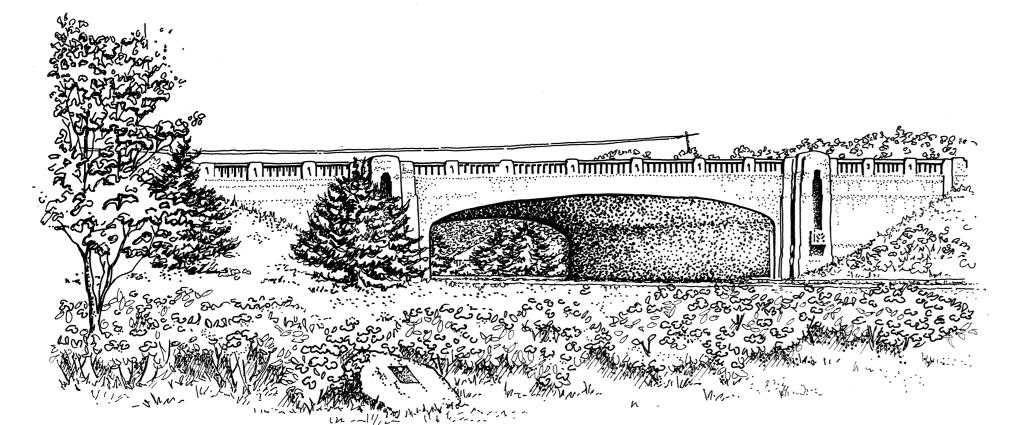
DELINEATED BY: JOANNE MCALLISTER-HEWLINGS, 1992								
MERRITT PARKWAY RECORDING PROJECT	·	MERRITT PARKWAY CONNECTICUT ROUTE 15		SHEET	HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD	LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER		
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	TOLL GATE POND	FAIRFIELD COUNTY	GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT	17° 1	CT-63			





MERRITT PARKWAY LANDSCAPE SPORT HILL ROAD INTERCHANGE FAIRFIELD, Connecticut





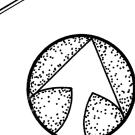
VIEW LOOKING EAST - 1940

SURVEY OF EXISTING PLANTING – 1992					Plaque O Bould	der Bp	Bp	
KEY Tree Did	<u>imeter</u>	<u>PLAN</u>	NT LIST	""	Bp KI		Nedia	
□ 0-4"		<u>Key</u>	Botanical Name	Common Name		As		Jan Cell
√ 5-9"		Trees		0				
√ 10-14 ¹¹		As Bp	Acer saccharum Betula populifolia	Sugar Maple Gray Birch		Off Ramp	Metal W-Bear	⊶ ^A CG-WI m
76. 1	isionicui	Ps Psv	Pinus strobus Pinus sylvestris	White Pine Scotch Pine		Sign	Guardrail	
20"- Hi	istorical.	Qp	Quercus palustris os and Vines	Pin Oak			CP&B ⊗	PLAN
°~√ Si		KI Tr	Kalmia latifolia Toxicodendron radican	Mountain Laurel Poison Ivy		Skinound Jan D	Dense Wood	
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The state of the s				Maria de la companya del companya de la companya del companya de la companya del companya della	43-24 13-24			
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This interchange allows the smooth flow of traffic between the Merritt Parkway and Sport Hill Road. While not a full cloverleaf, /as originally designed in 1937, the interchange consisted of one grade separation and three traffic loops, with short acceleration and deceleration lanes for entrance and egress. The approximate radius of the traffic loop is 139 feet, the length recommended by highway engineers in the 1930s. The original landscaping of the interchange blended the bridge into the countryside and duplicated pre-existing conditions through open planting.

PLAN OF EXISTING PLANTING - 1992

Metal W-Rail

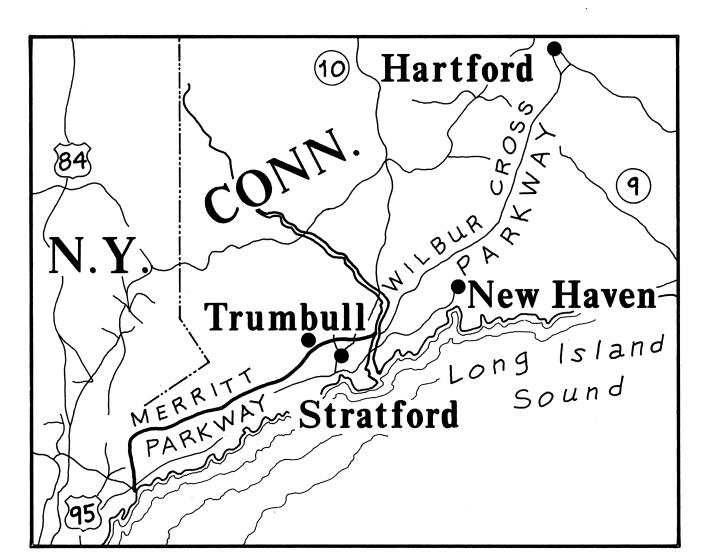


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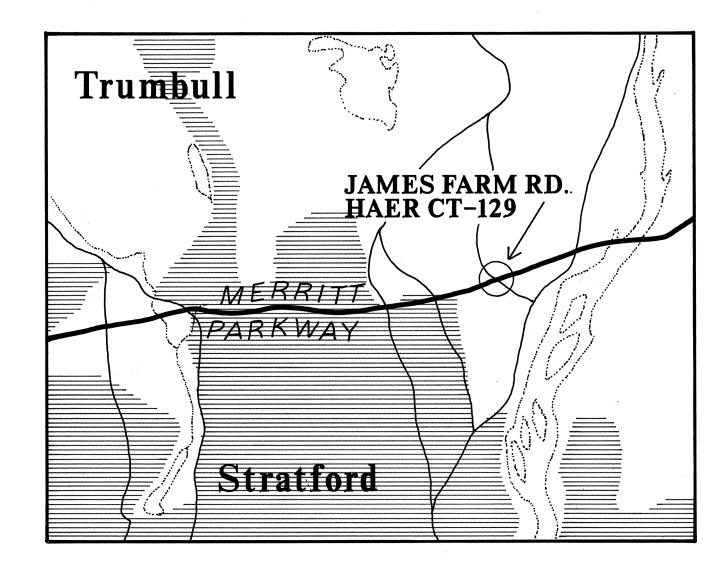
Sources

- ·State Highway Department Plans for Construction and Grading of the Merritt Parkway 1935
- HABS/HAER Field Survey, 1992
- · Connecticut D.O.T. Photographic Collection

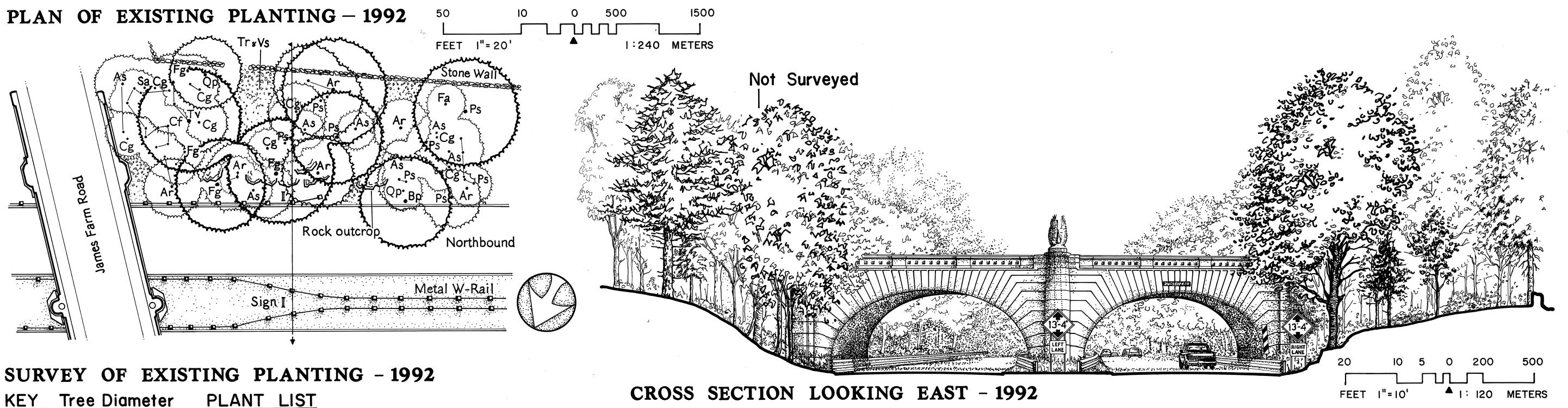
CROSS SECTION LOOKING EAST - 1992



MERRITT PARKWAY LANDSCAPE JAMES FARM ROAD STRATFORD, Connecticut



MERR CONNE FAIR



KEY Tree Diameter PLANT LIST 0-4" Key Botanical Name Trees 5-9" Acer rubrum Acer saccharum 10 - 14"

Red Maple Sugar Maple Gray Birch Betula populifolia Flowering Dogwood Cornus florida Carya glabra Pignut Hickory White Ash Fraxinus americana American Beech Fagus americana White Pine Pinus strobus Pin Oak Quercus palustris Sassafras Sassafras albidum European Linden Tilia vulgaris Vines

I: I20 METERS

CROSS SECTION LOOKING EAST - 1938 **HYPOTHETICAL**

Sources

State Highway Department Plans for Construction and Grading of the Merritt Parkway, 1935

• HABS/HAER Field Survey, 1992

Significance 20"-Historical Significance

15 - 19"

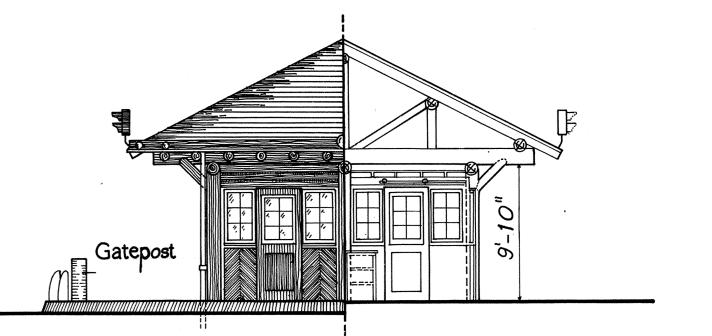
Historical

Poison Ivy Toxicodendron radican Vitis species Grape

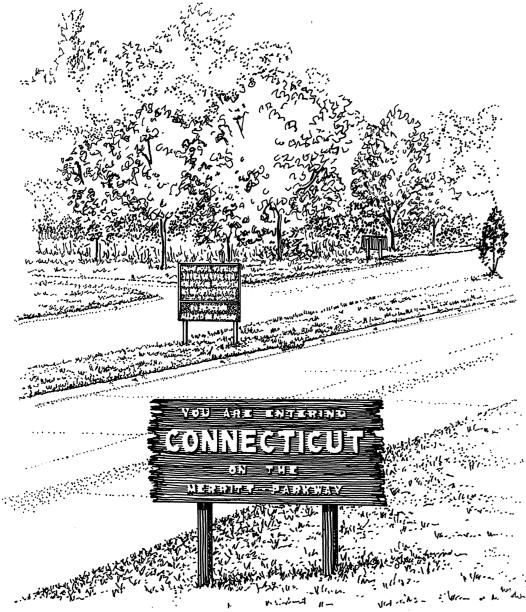
Common Name

Elevation Scale I"=2'-0" SIGN

DETAILS in the LANDSCAPE MERRITT PARKWAY FAIRFIELD COUNTY, CT

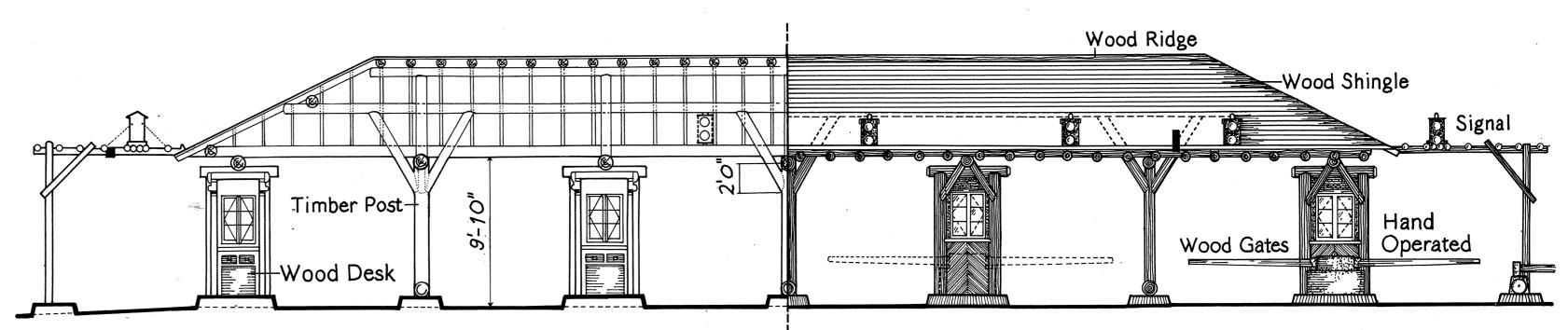


SIDE



Sources

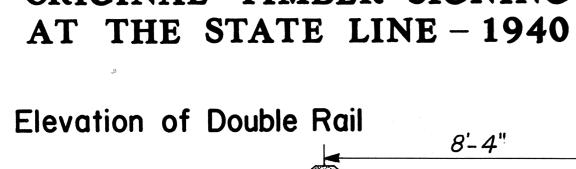
- · State Highway Department Plans for Construction and Grading of the Merritt Parkway, 1935
- · HABS/HAER Field Survey, 1992
- · Private Merritt Parkway Collection

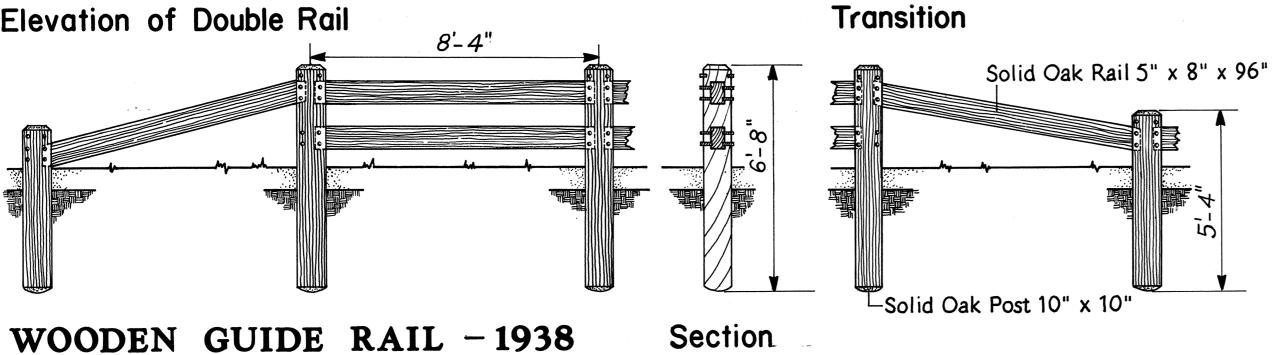


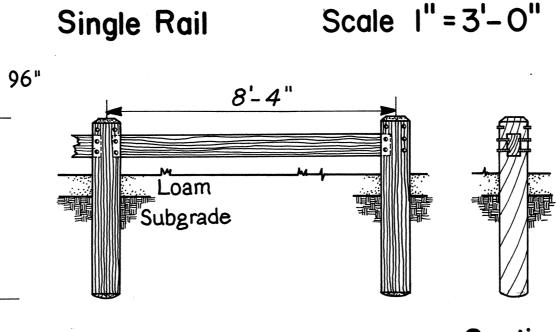
SECTION/ELEVATION OF PERMANENT TOLL PLAZA - 1940 No Scale

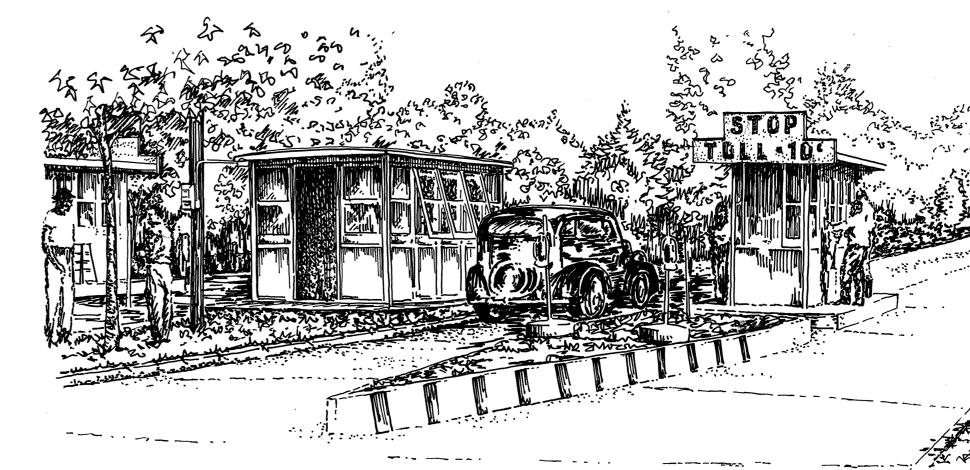
FRONT

ORIGINAL TIMBER SIGNING AT THE STATE LINE - 1940



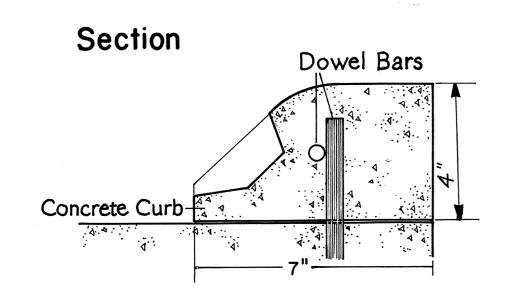


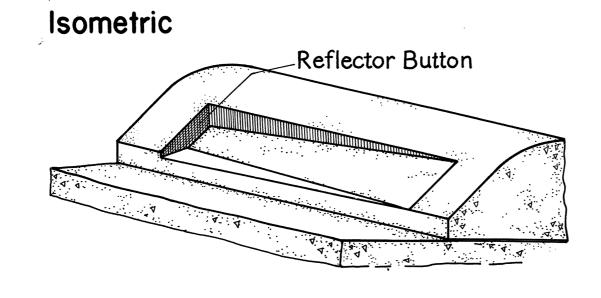


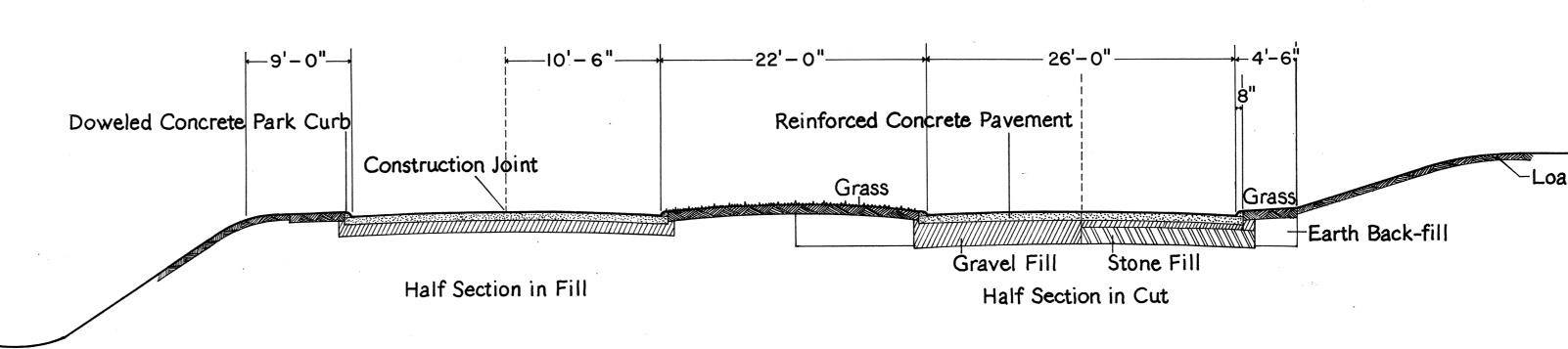


Section

GREENWICH TEMPORARY TOLL PLAZA - 1939 No Scale





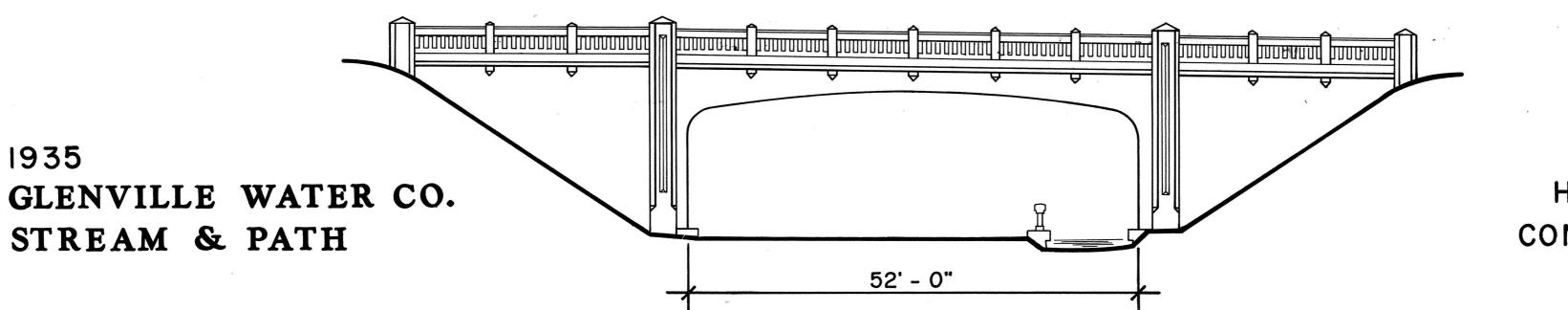


CURB EYE REFLECTOR - 1937

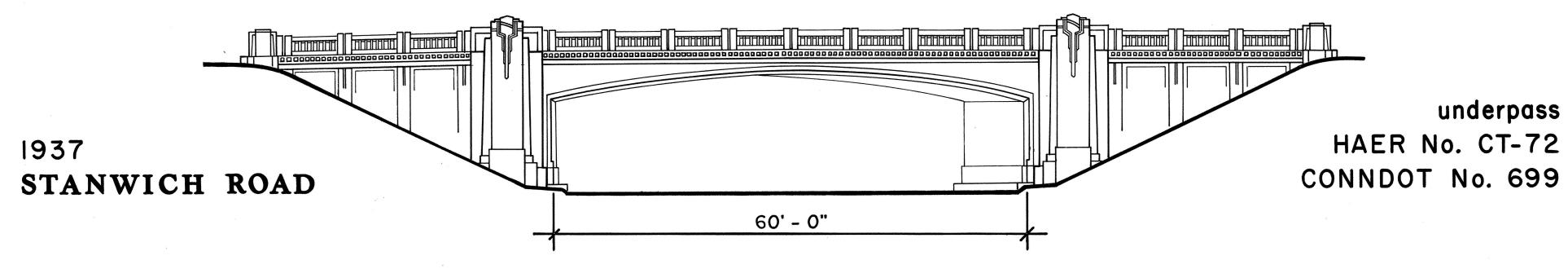
Scale I"= 3"

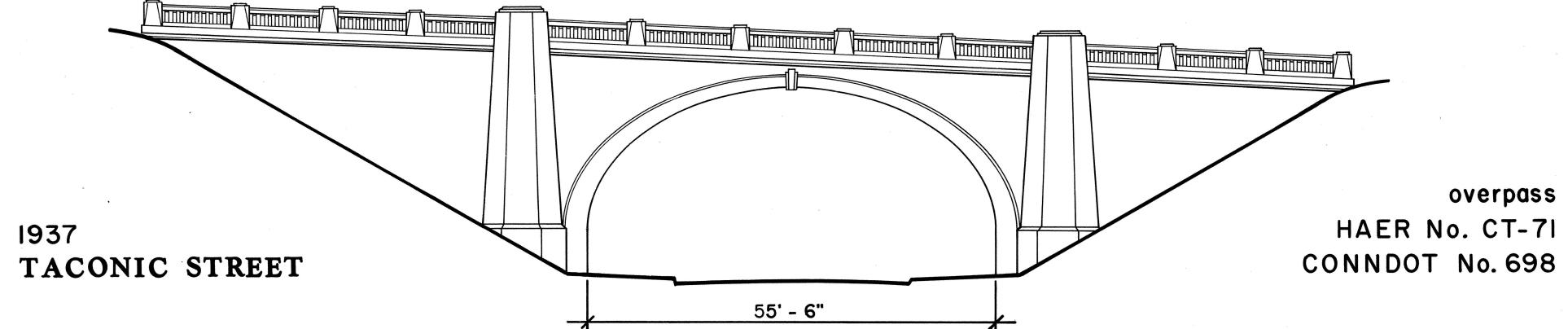
CROSS SECTION SHOWING PAVING CONSTRUCTION – 1938 to 1940

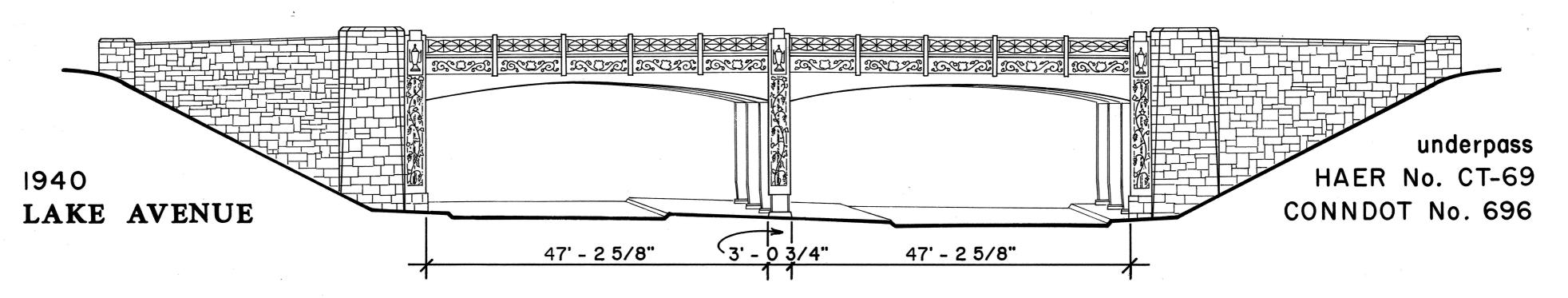
Scale I"=8'-0"

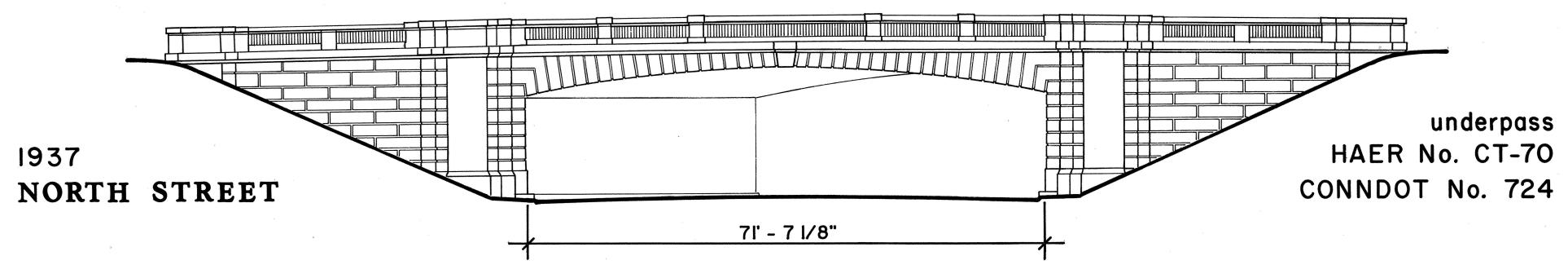


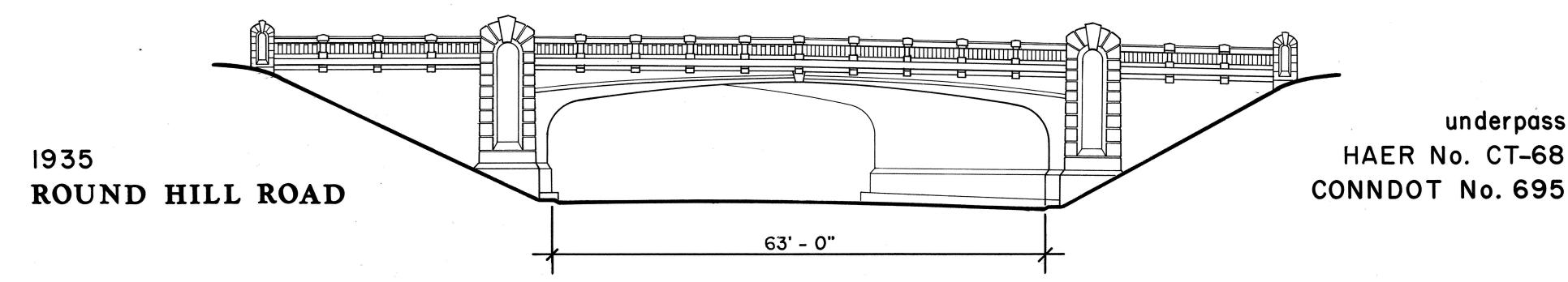
overpass HAER No. CT-66 CONNDOT No. 693

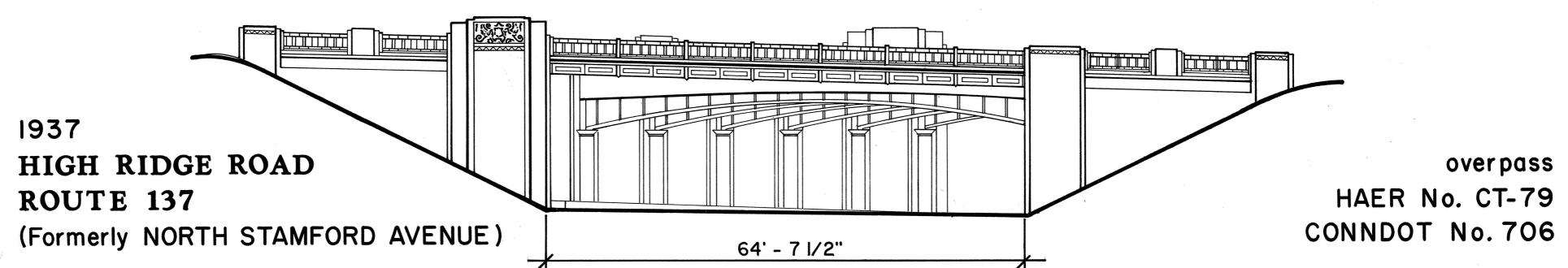


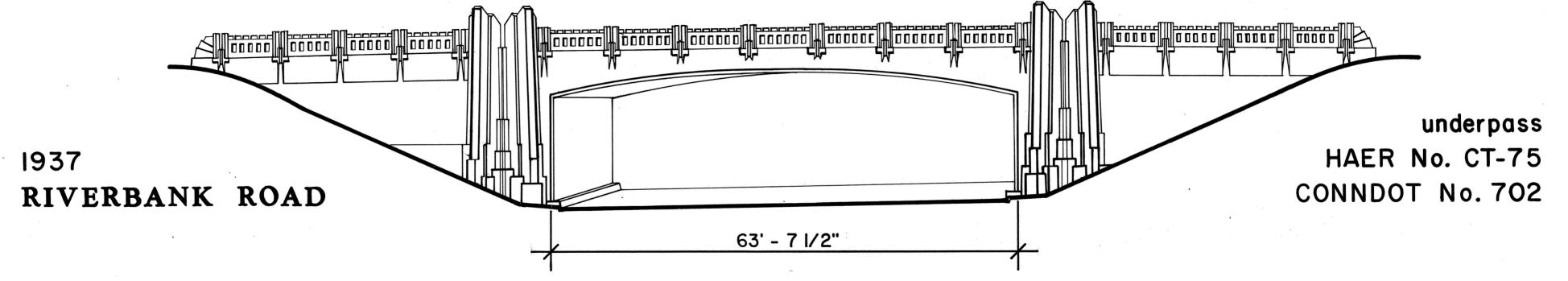


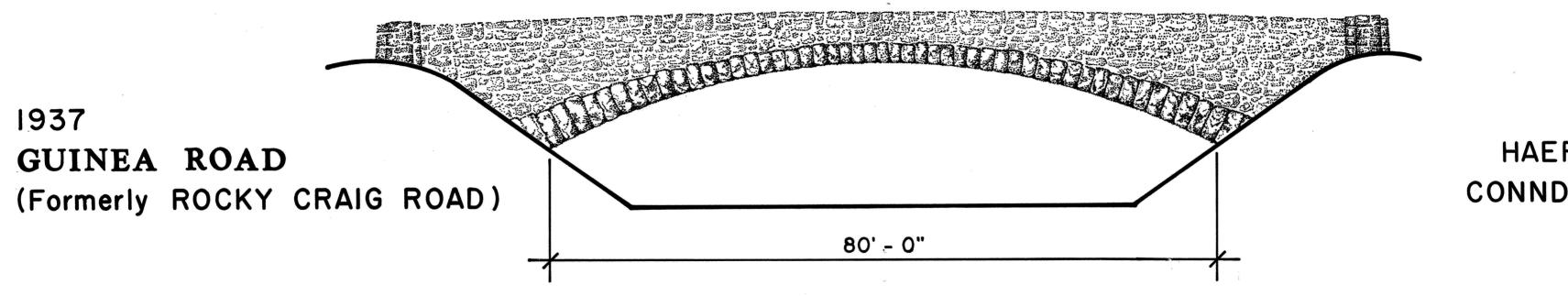




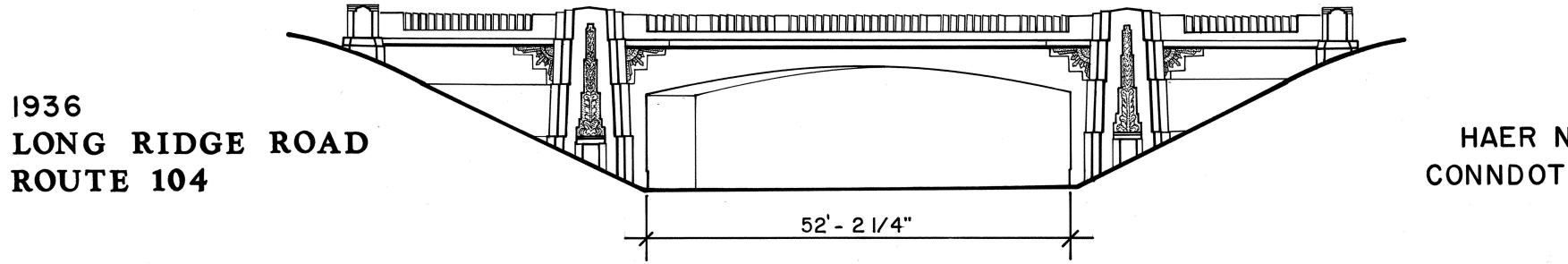




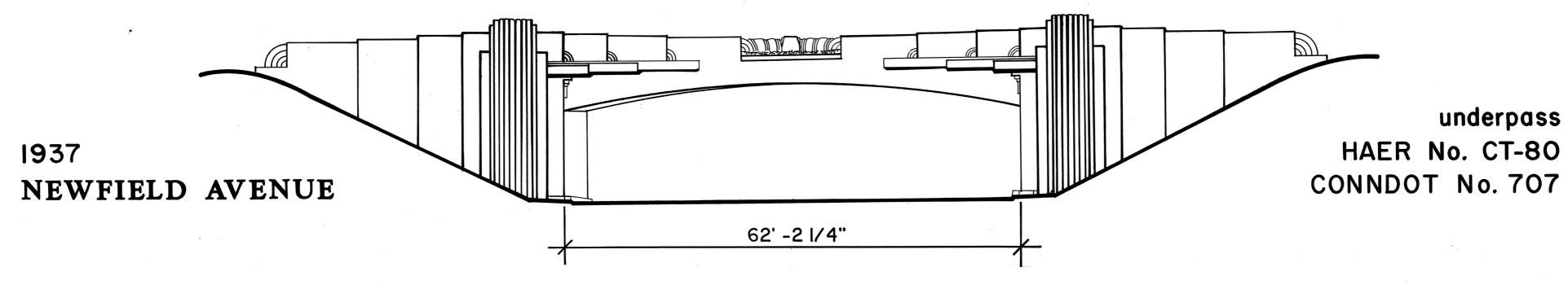


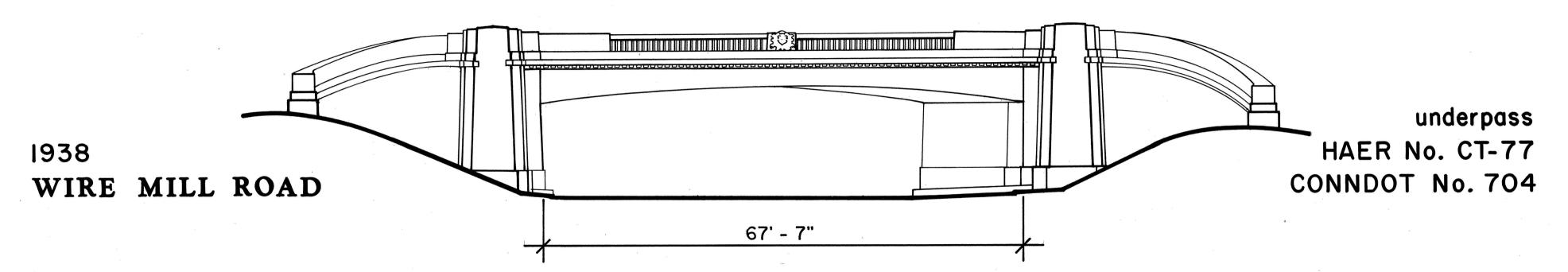


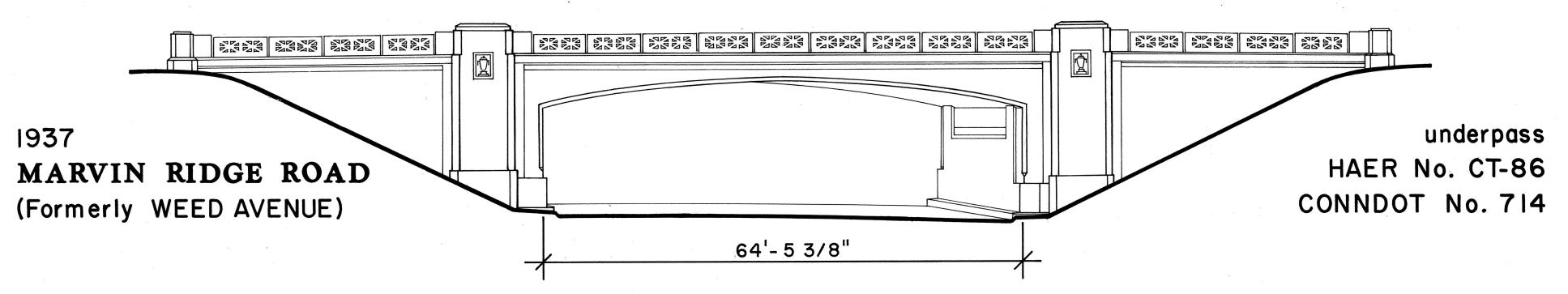
underpass
HAER No. CT-73
CONNDOT No. 700

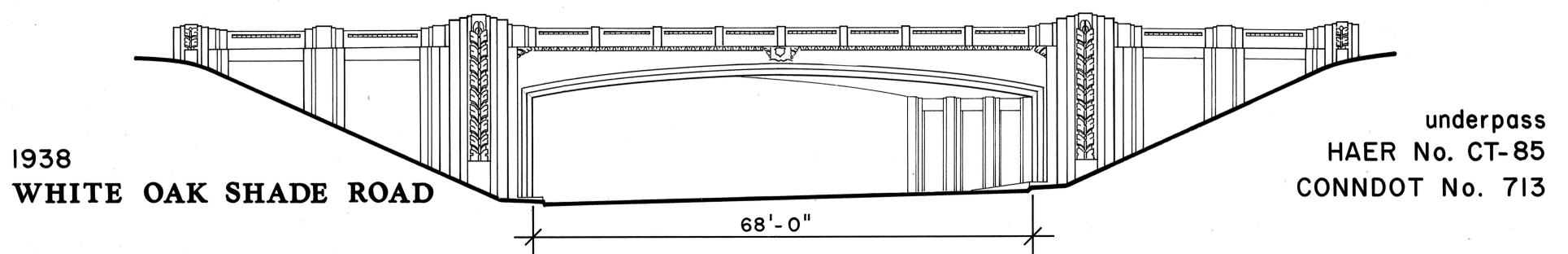


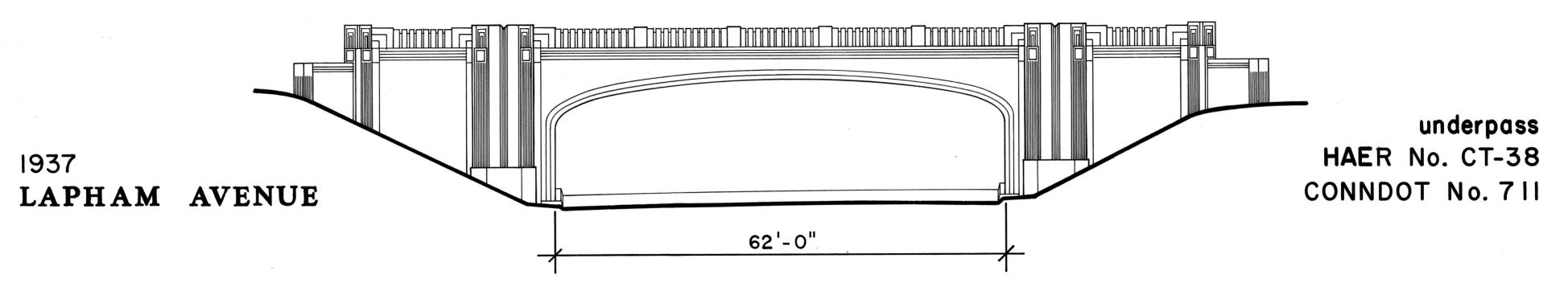
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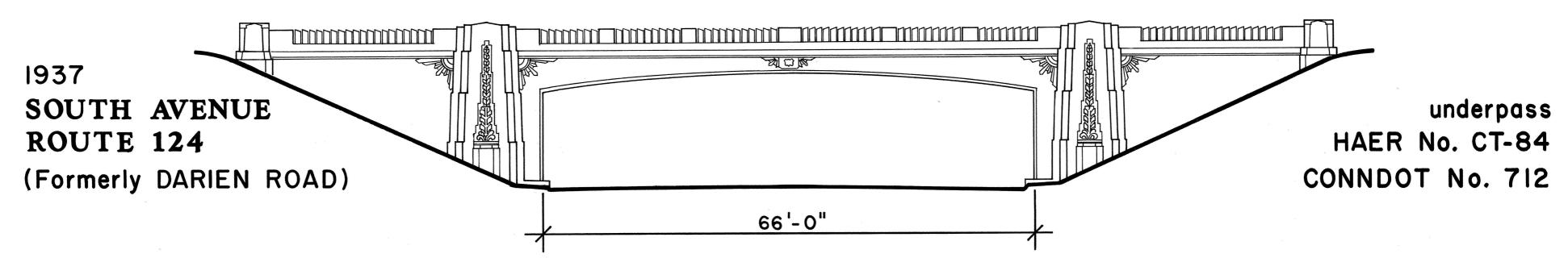


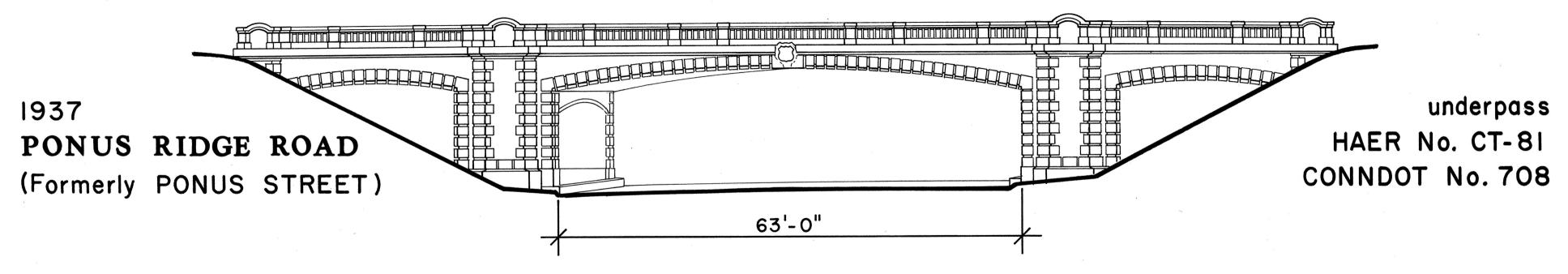


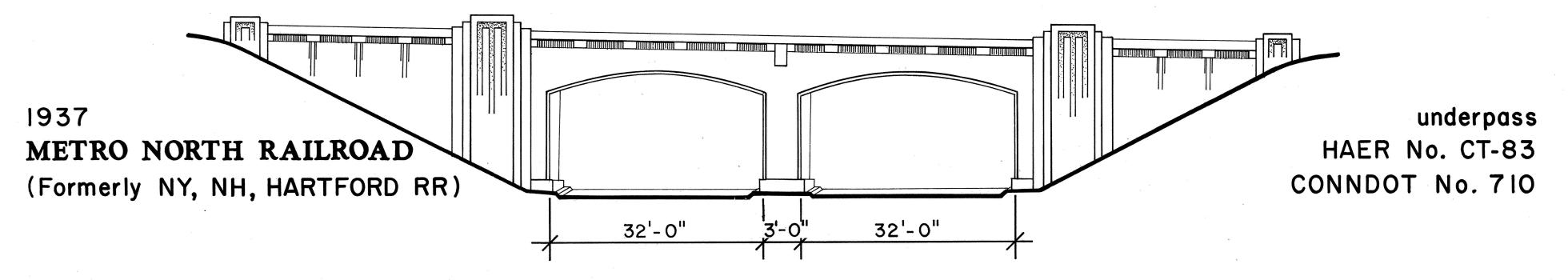


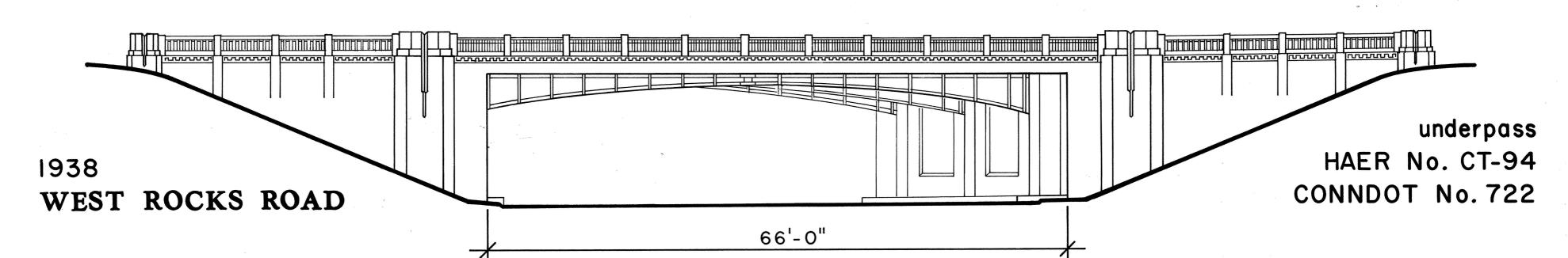


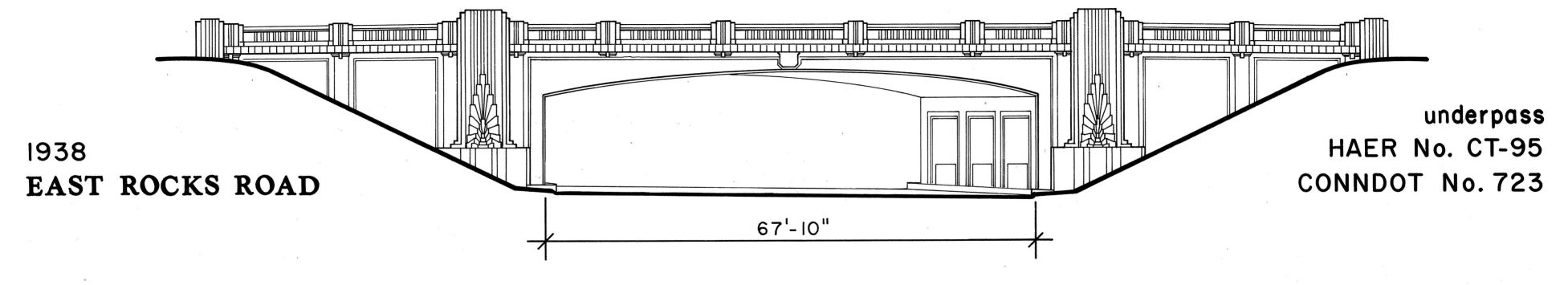


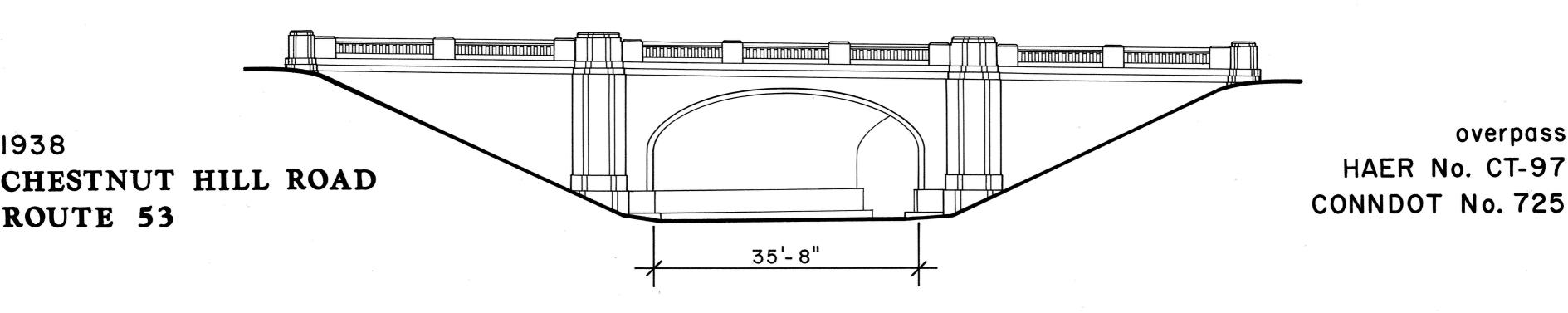


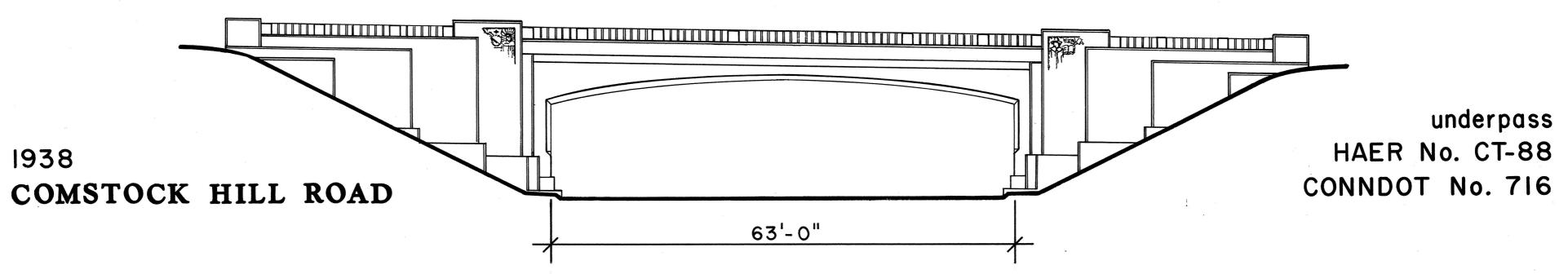


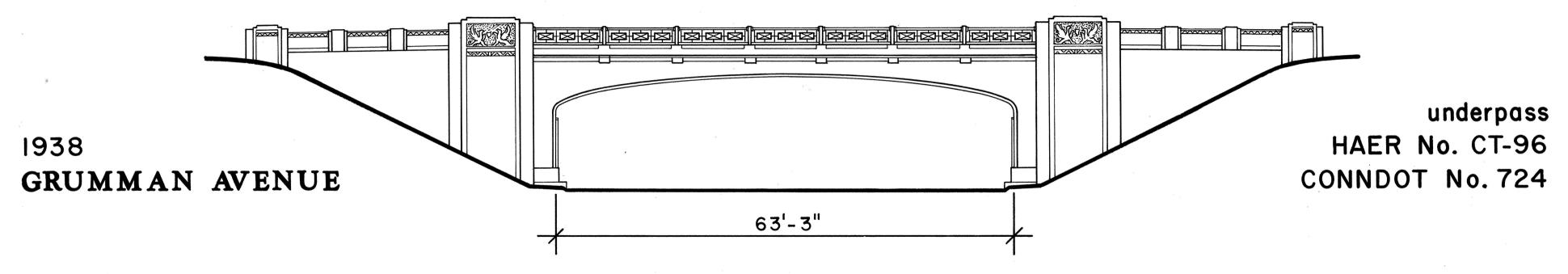


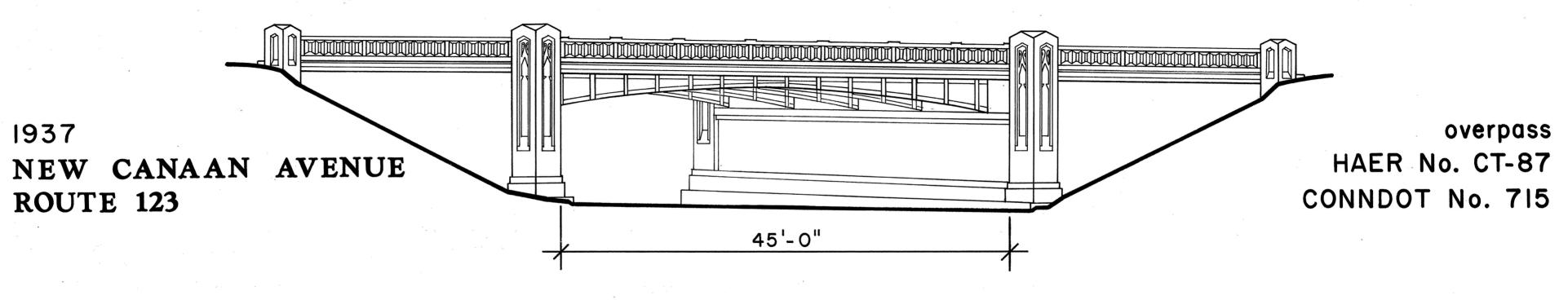


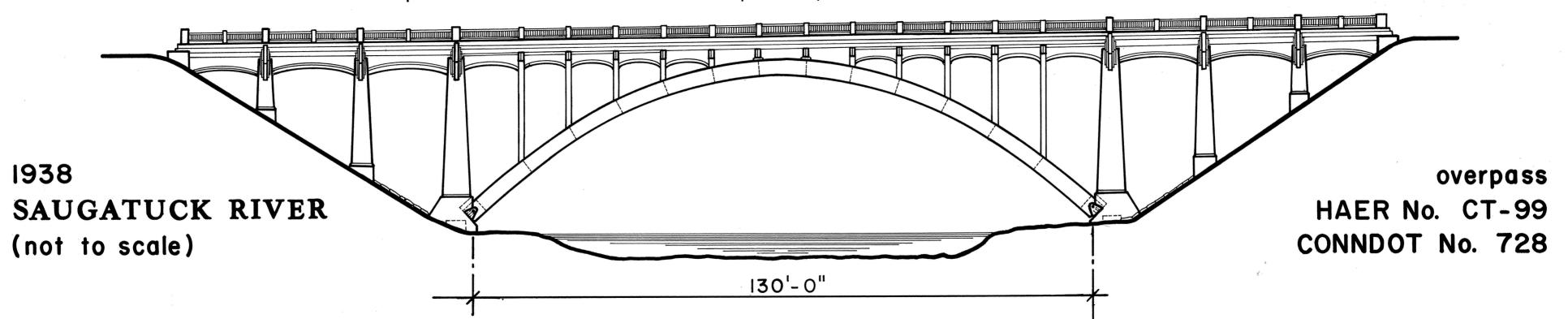


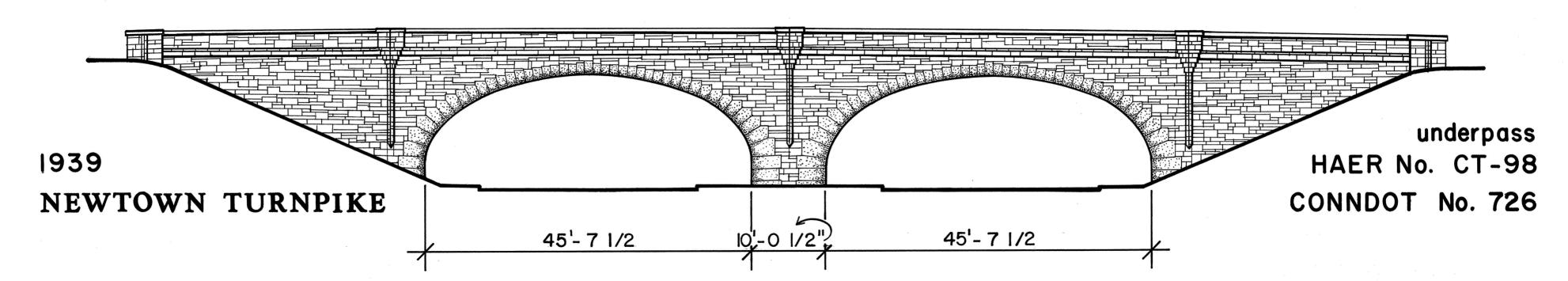


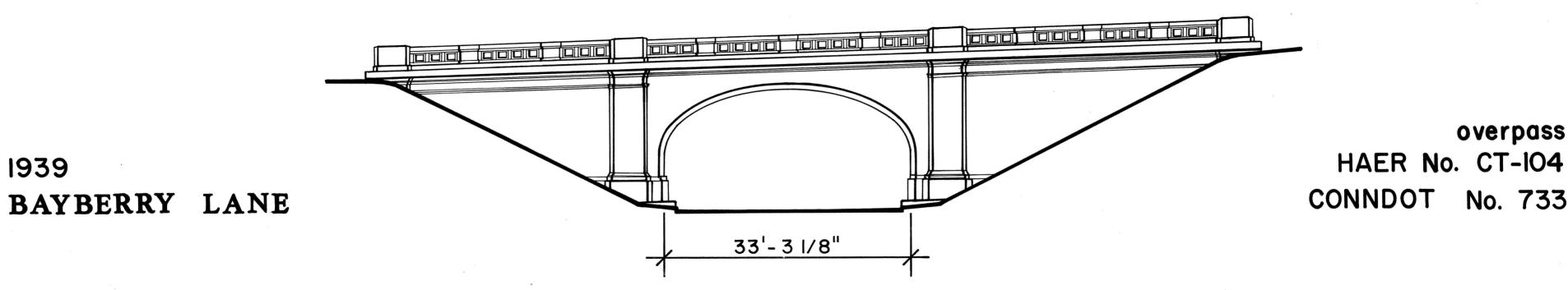








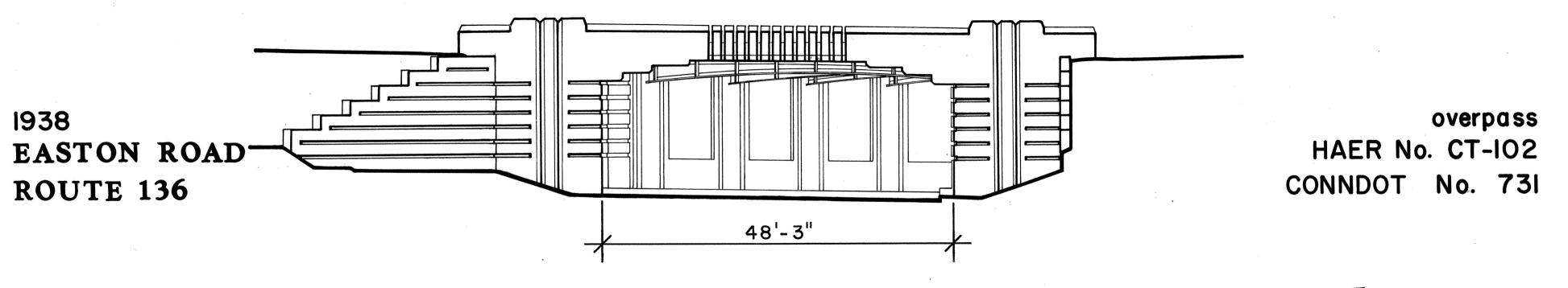


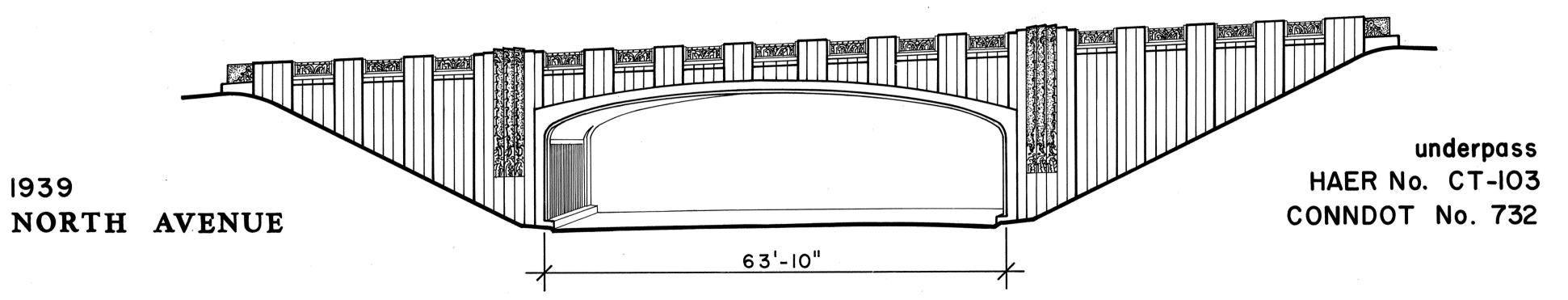


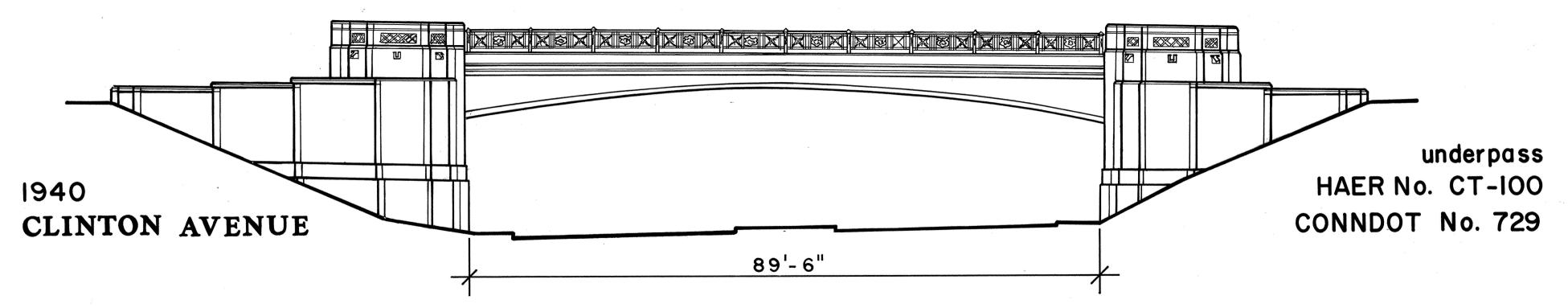
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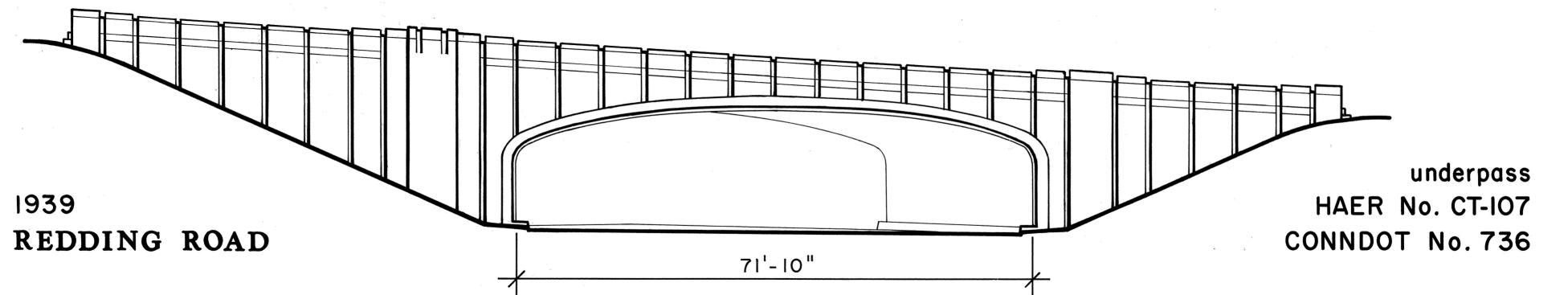
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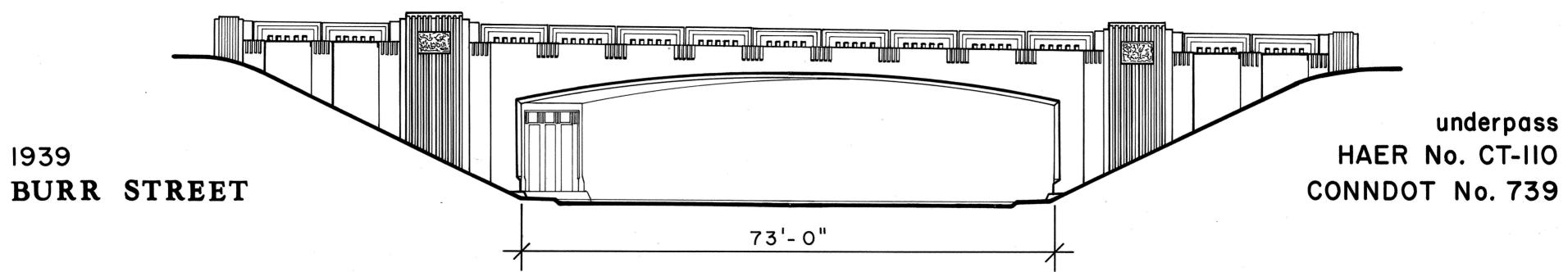
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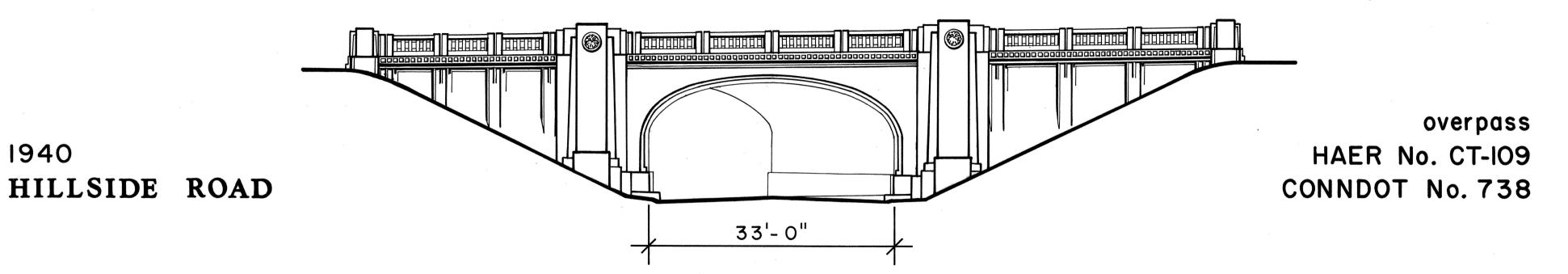


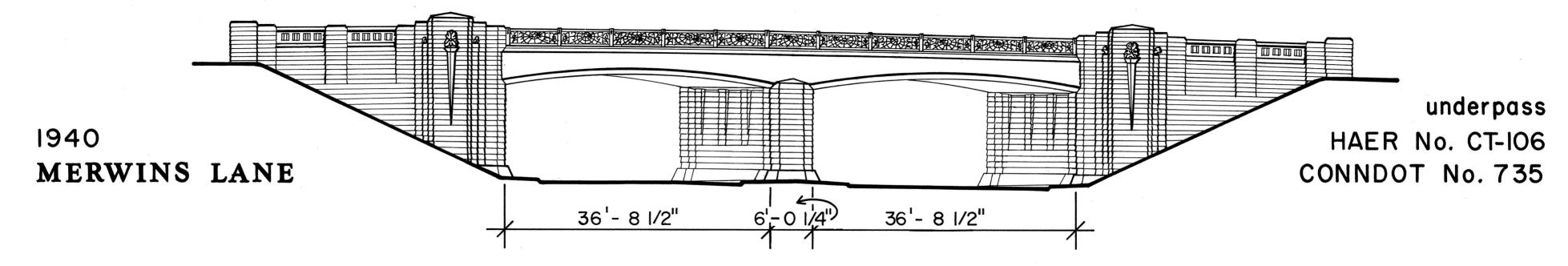


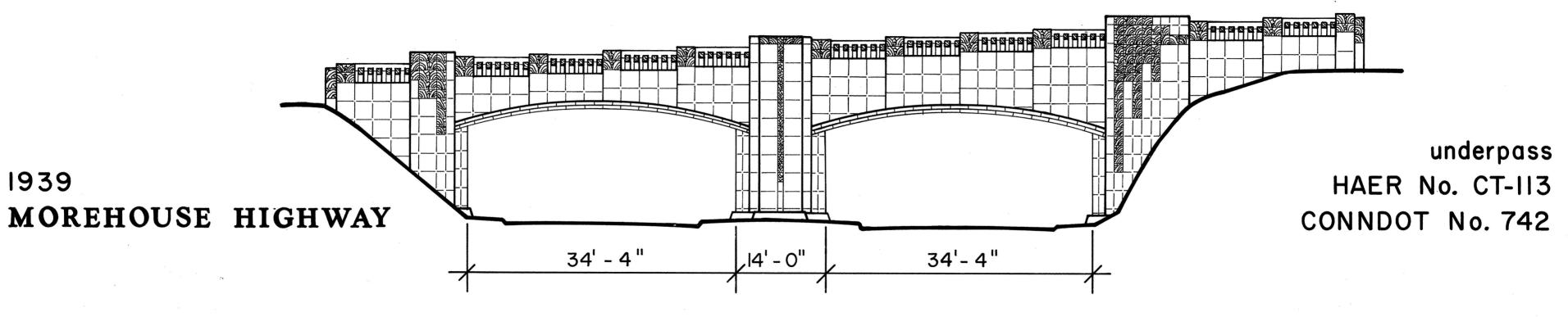


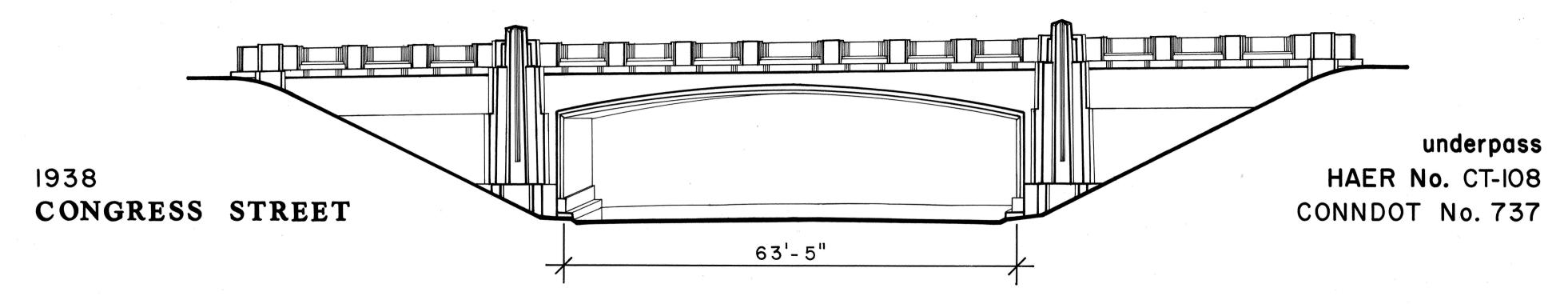


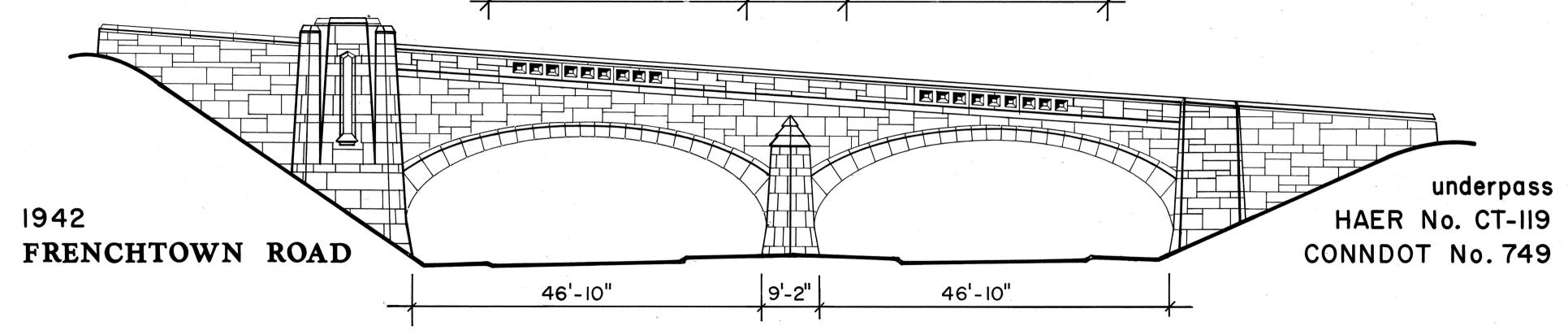


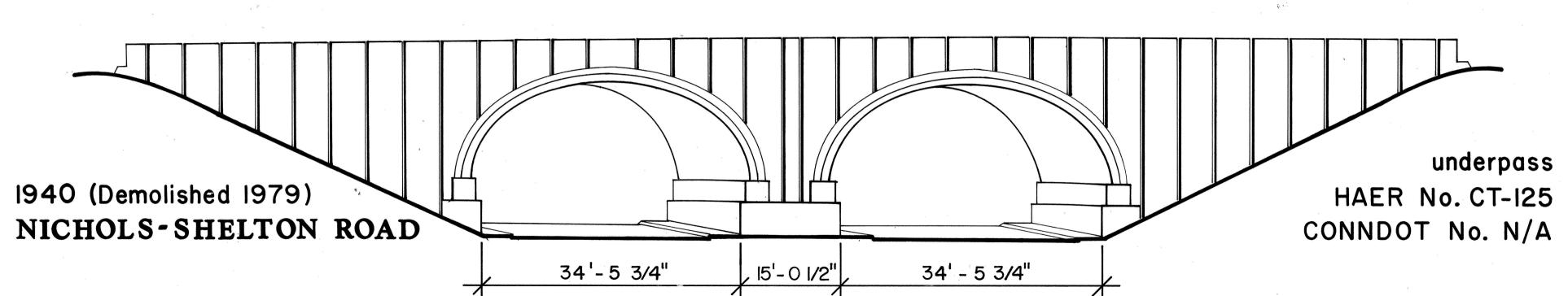


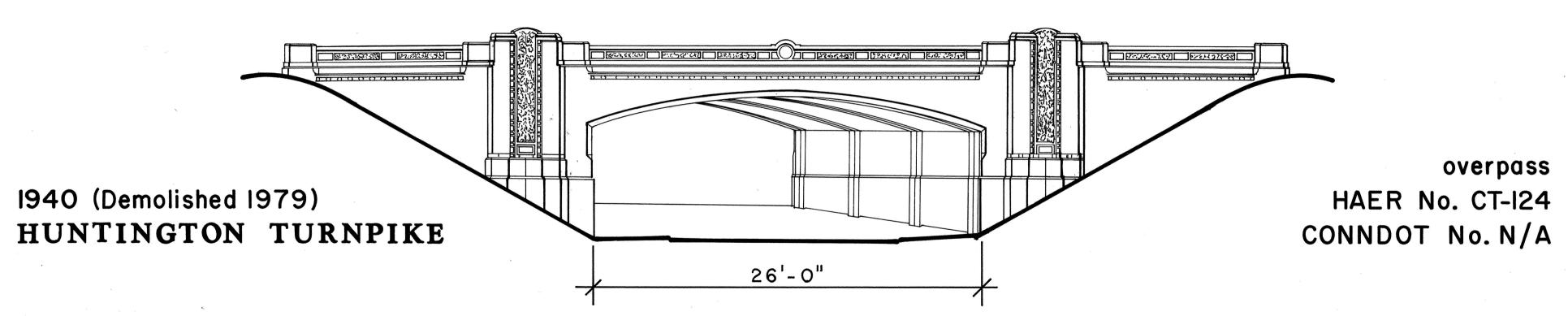


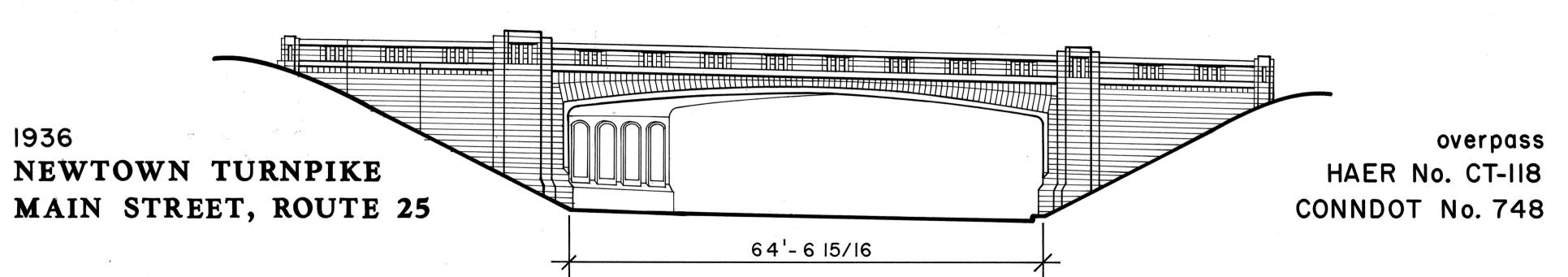


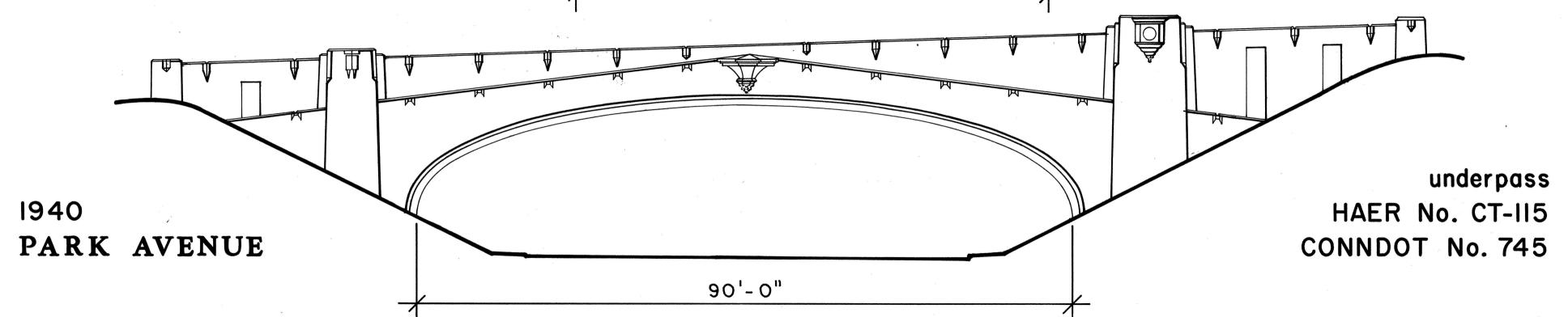


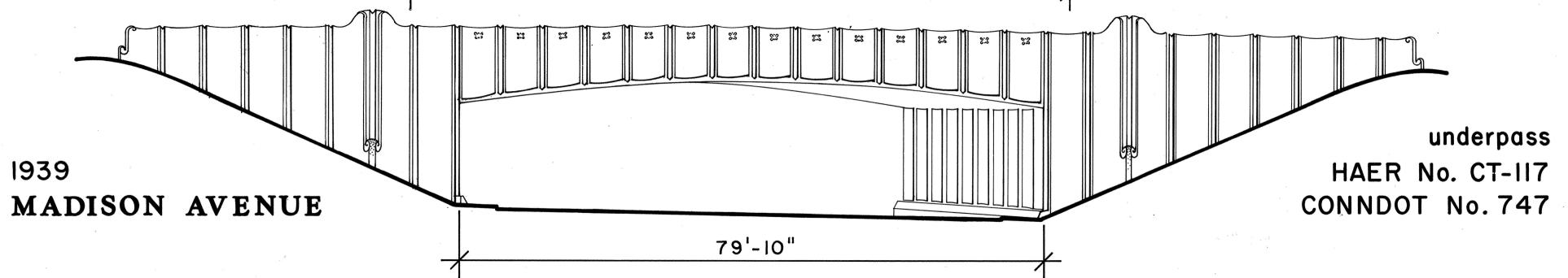


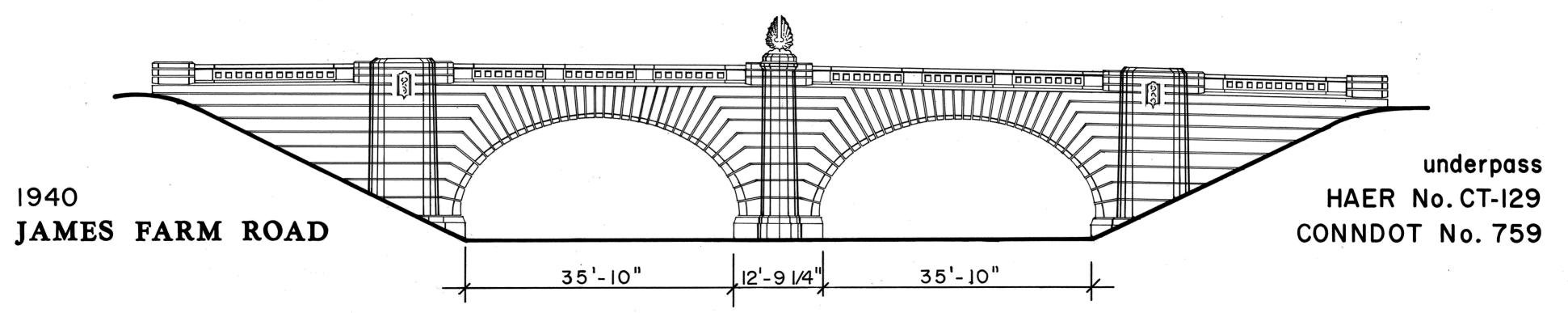


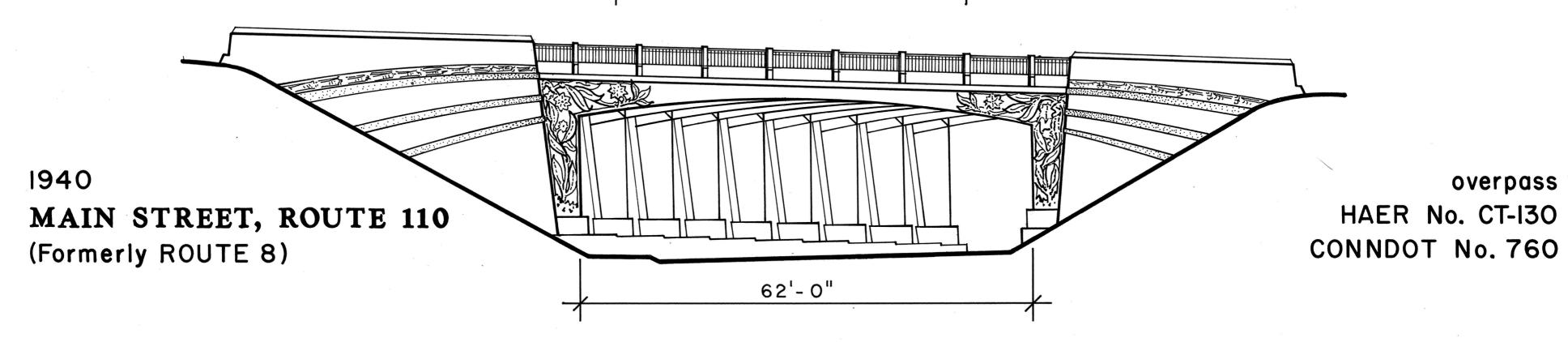


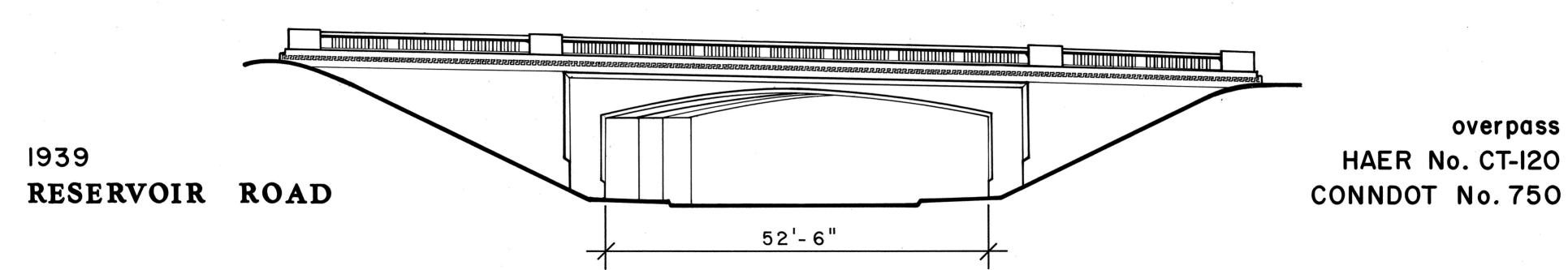


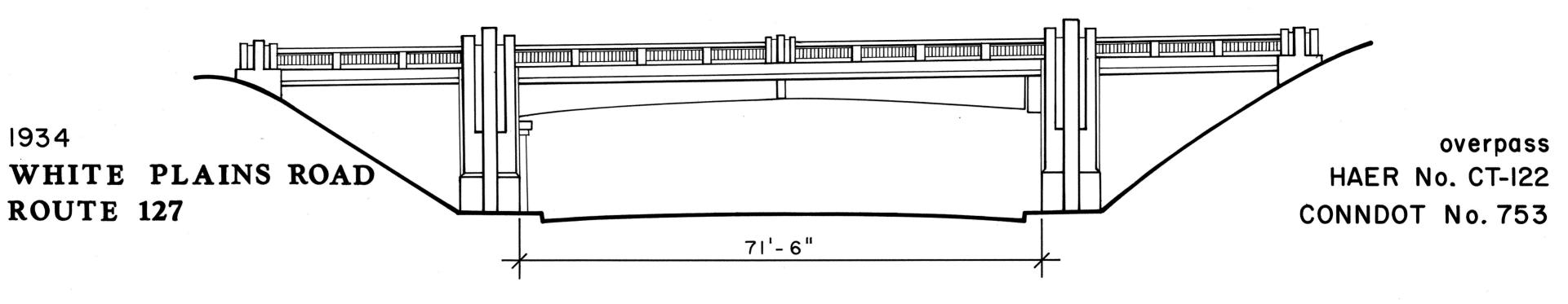


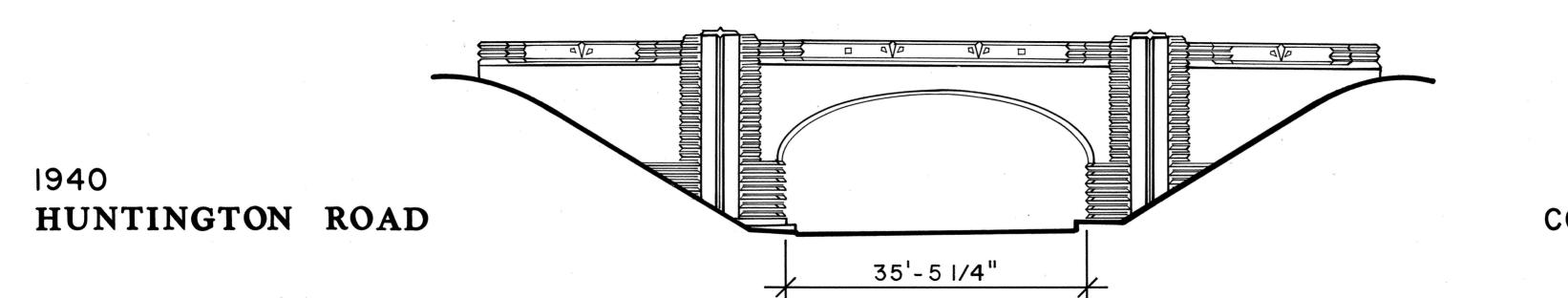




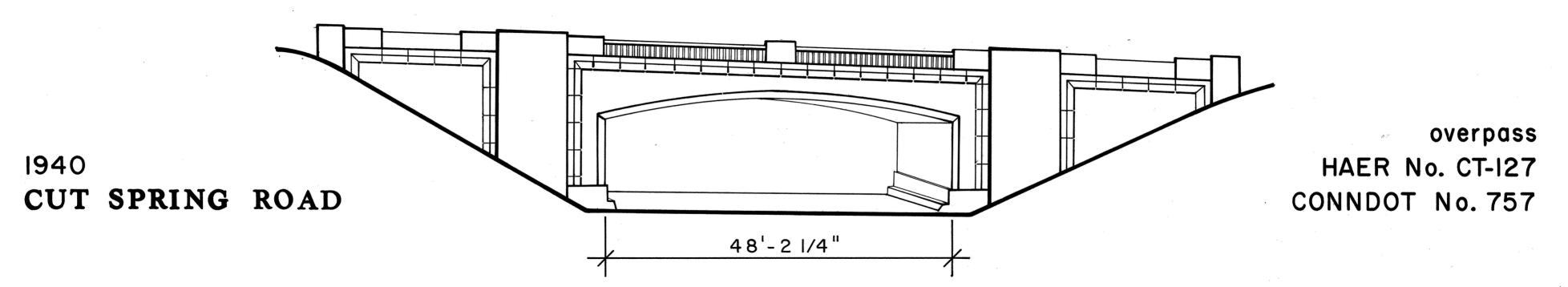






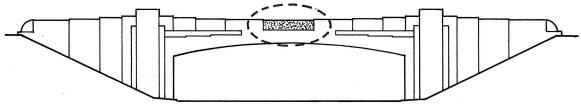


overpass HAER No. CT-126 CONNDOT No. 756





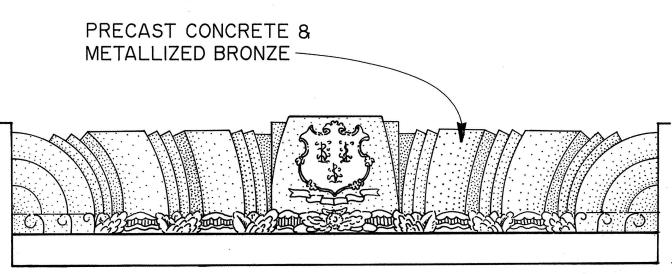
BASED ON ORIGINAL DRAWING BY GEORGE L. DUNKELBERGER, 1944.
TAKEN FROM PUBLIC DOCUMENT NO. 36, BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER, STATE OF CONNECTICUT, FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1943, AND JUNE 30, 1944.

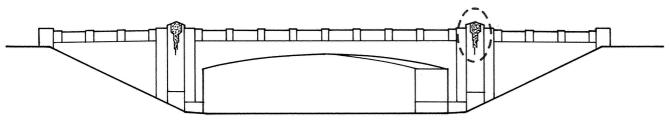


NEWFIELD AVENUE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-80

THIS RAILING ORNAMENT, MADE OF PRECAST CONCRETE, IS UNIQUE ON THE MERRITT PARKWAY BECAUSE IT WAS ORIGINALLY METALLIZED WITH A LAYER OF BRONZE TO EMPHASIZE THE CONNECTICUT COAT OF ARMS.

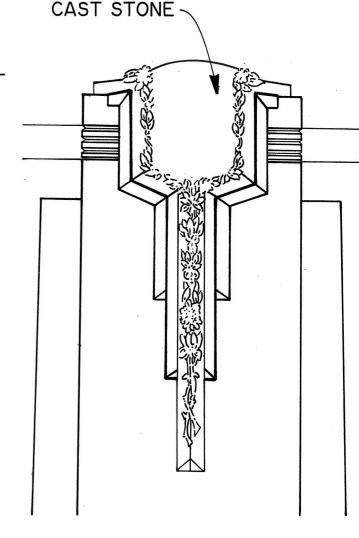


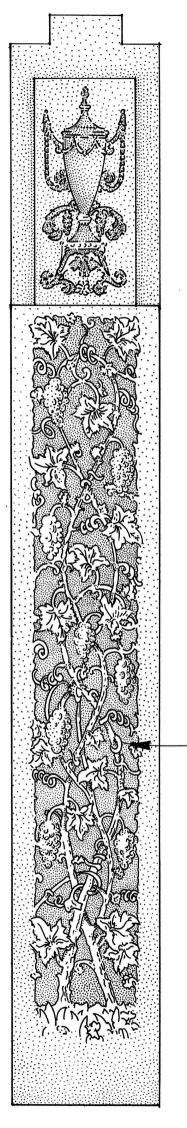


STANWICH ROAD BRIDGE

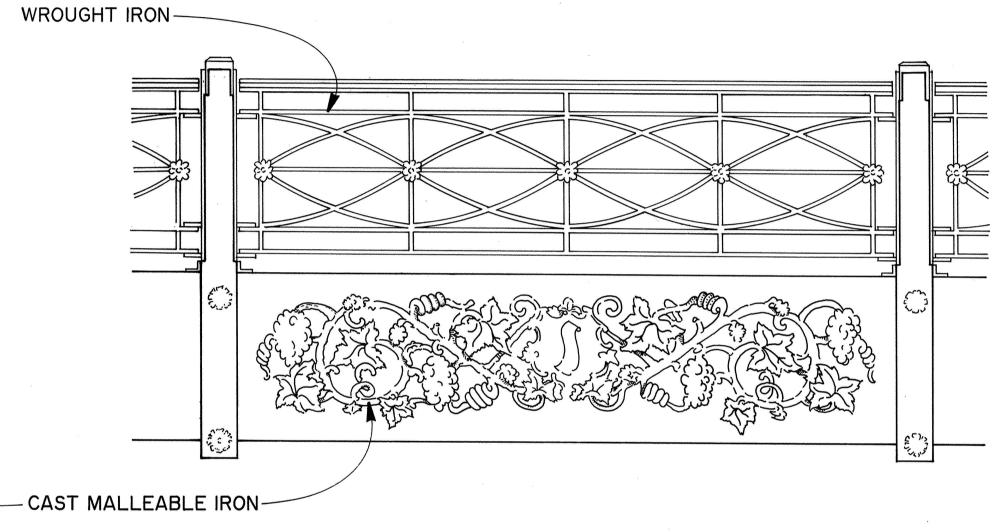
HAER NO. CT-72

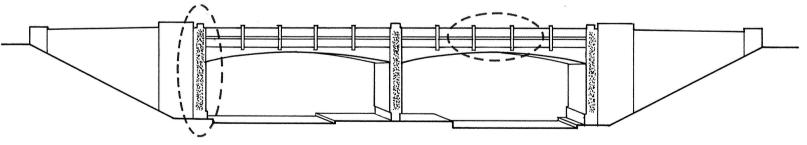
THIS WINGED-WHEEL PANEL IS MADE OF WHITE PRECAST CONCRETE. THE SHIELD IS FRAMED BY TWO PRECAST SECTIONS OF FLORIATED VINES WITH A PINKISH TINT.





MERRITT PARI GRENWICH

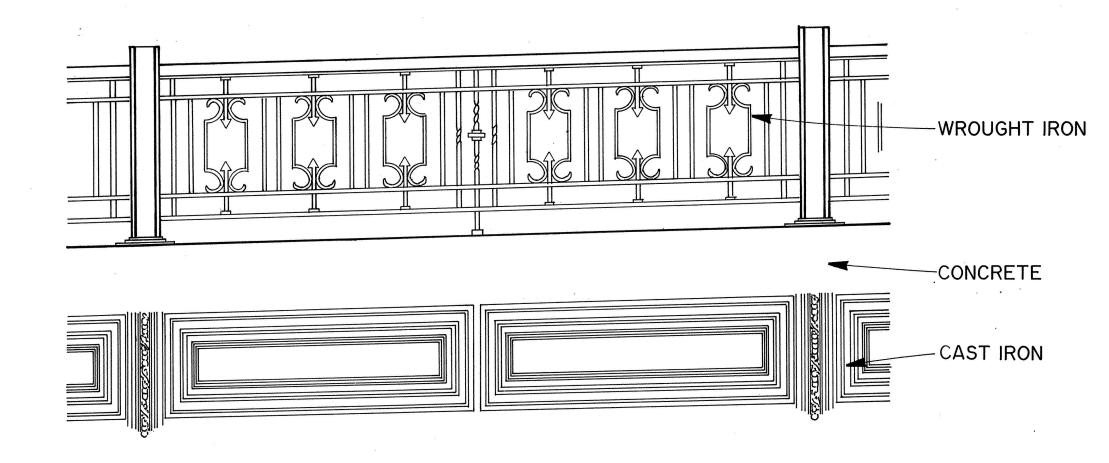


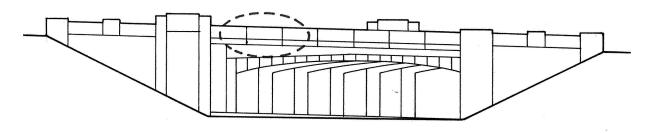


LAKE AVENUE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT- 69

THE GRILLES AND PANELS FEATURING GRAPEVINES AND URNS ARE MADE FROM MALLEABLE CAST IRON, A WHITE CAST IRON THAT HAS BEEN HEATED TO RELIEVE INTERNAL STRESSES PRODUCED DURING SHAPING. THE WROUGHT-IRON RAILING IS DECORATED WITH ROSETTES AS WASHERS.



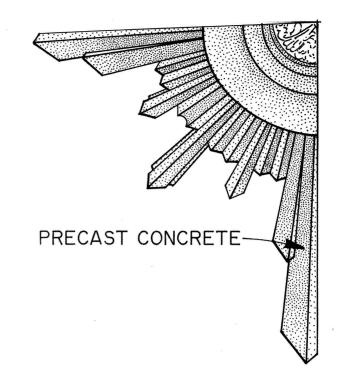


HIGH RIDGE ROAD BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-79

THE FRIEZE, COMPOSED OF MOLDINGS PURCHASED FROM A CATALOG, WAS INCORPORATED INTO THE FORMWORK FOR THE CONCRETE BRIDGE DECK. THE METAL RAIL POSTS WERE THEN BOLTED TO THE CONCRETE, AND THE RAILINGS WERE BUILT FROM STOCK RAILS AND WROUGHT-IRON ORNAMENT.

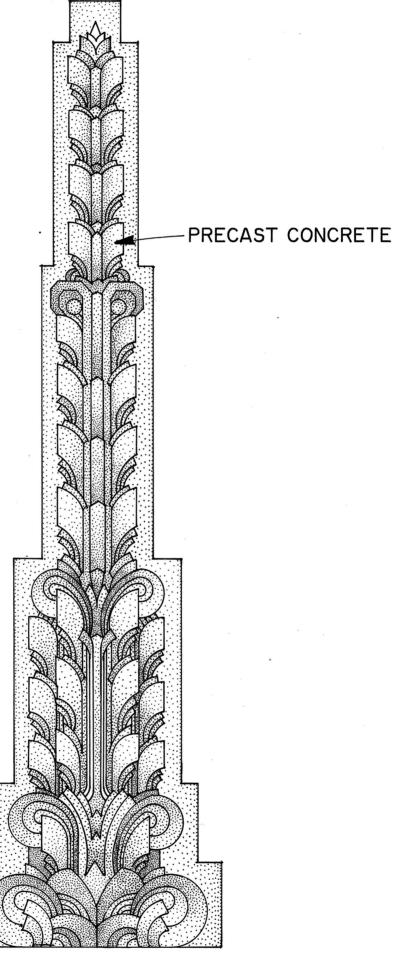
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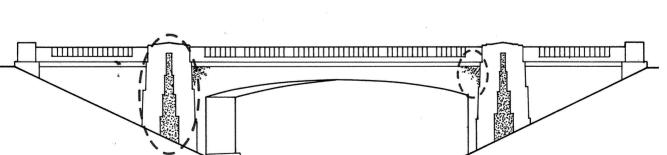


WROUGHT IRON

CONCRETE

-CAST IRON

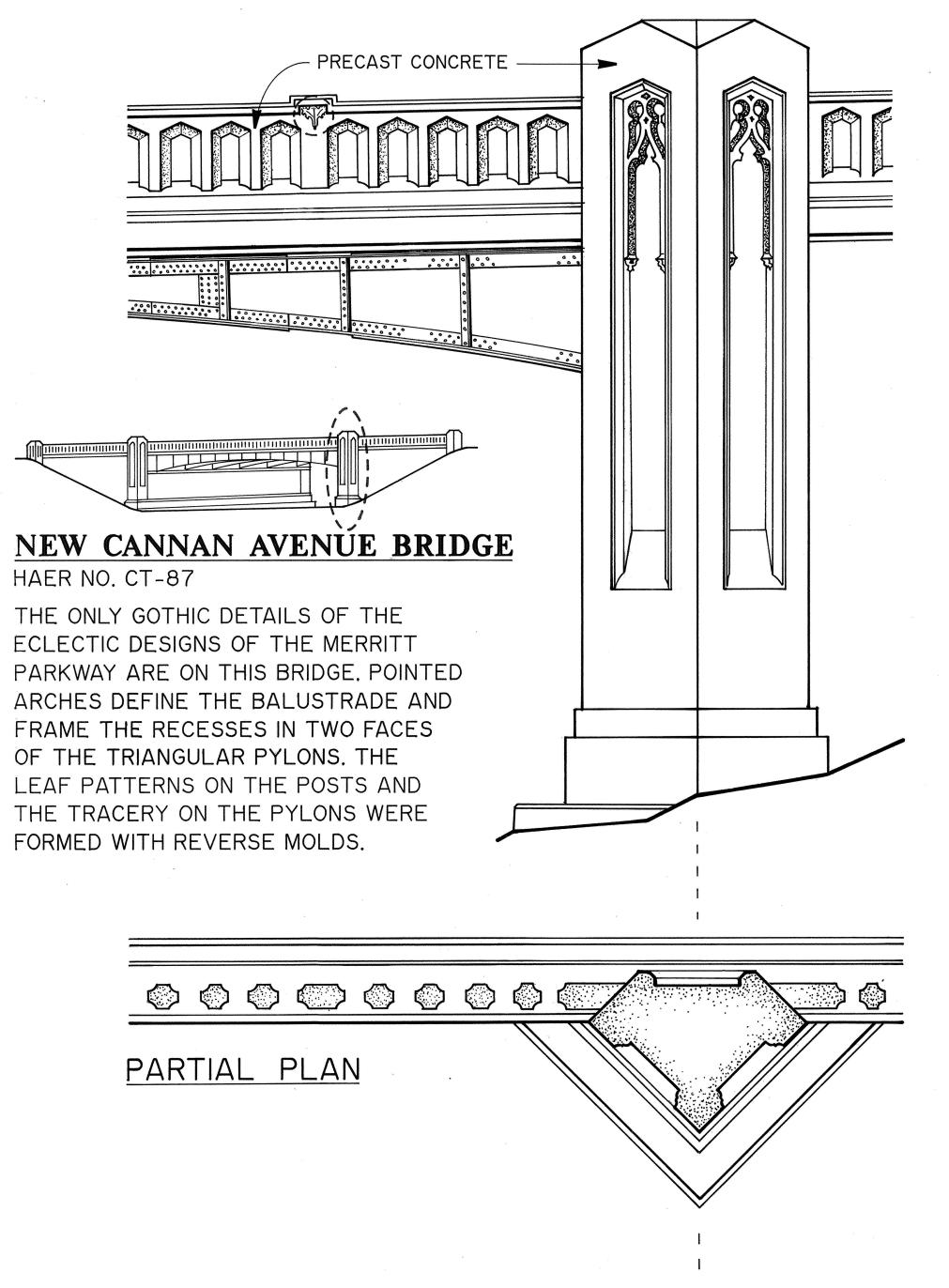


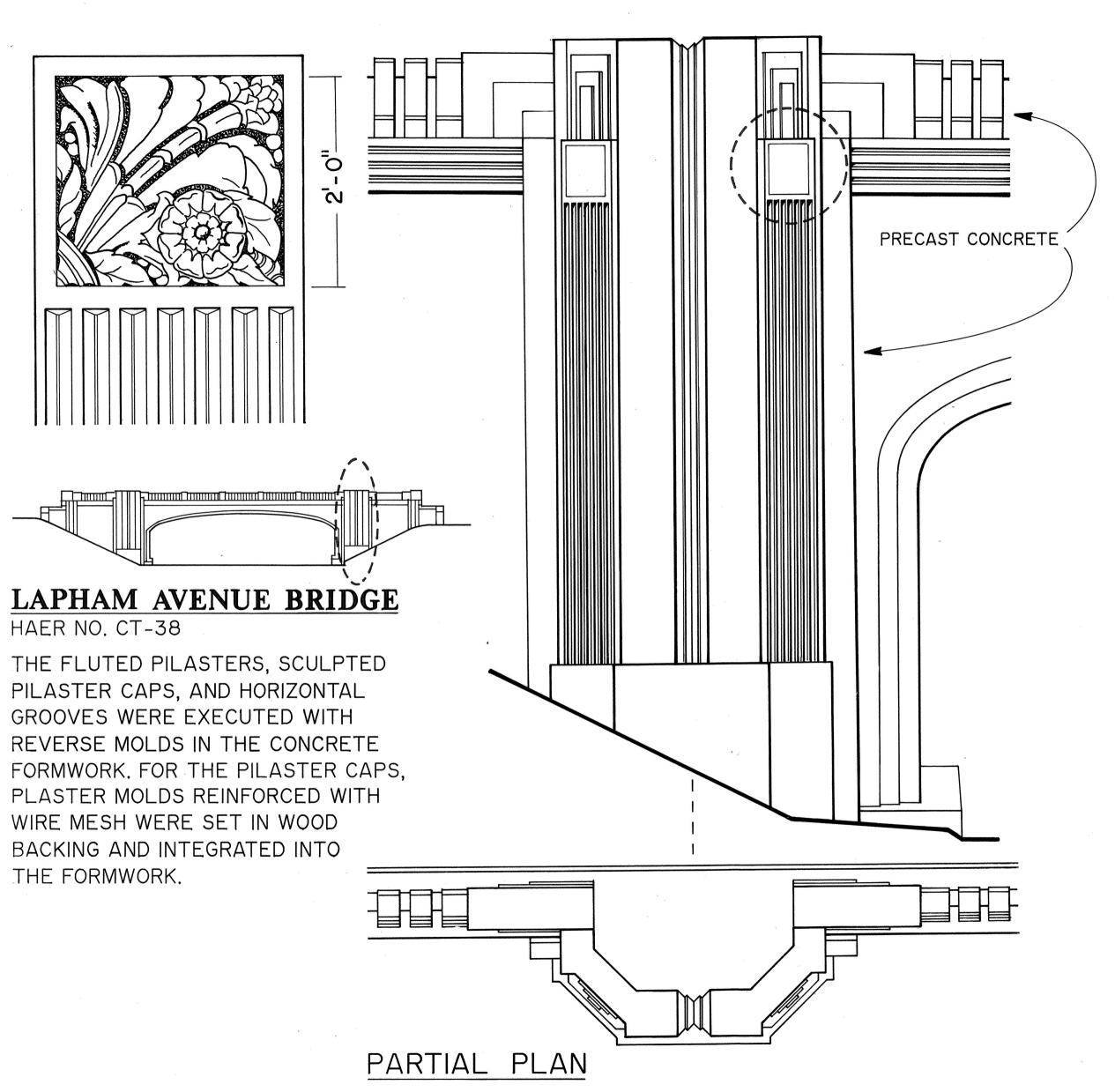


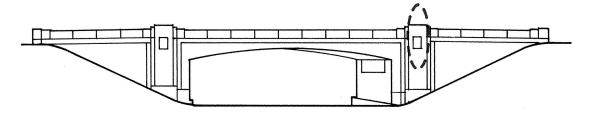
LONG RIDGE ROAD BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-76

EACH SUNBURST WAS CAST IN THREE BLOCKS AND EACH PYLON ORNAMENT WAS CAST IN FOUR BLOCKS OF VARYING THICKNESS. THE PRECAST BLOCKS WERE HUNG FROM THE BRIDGE FORMWORK AND ANCHORED TO THE STRUCTURAL CONCRETE.



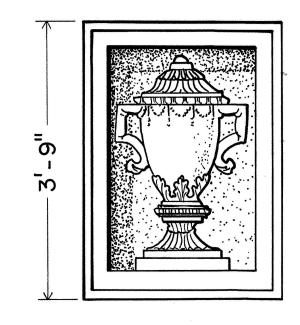


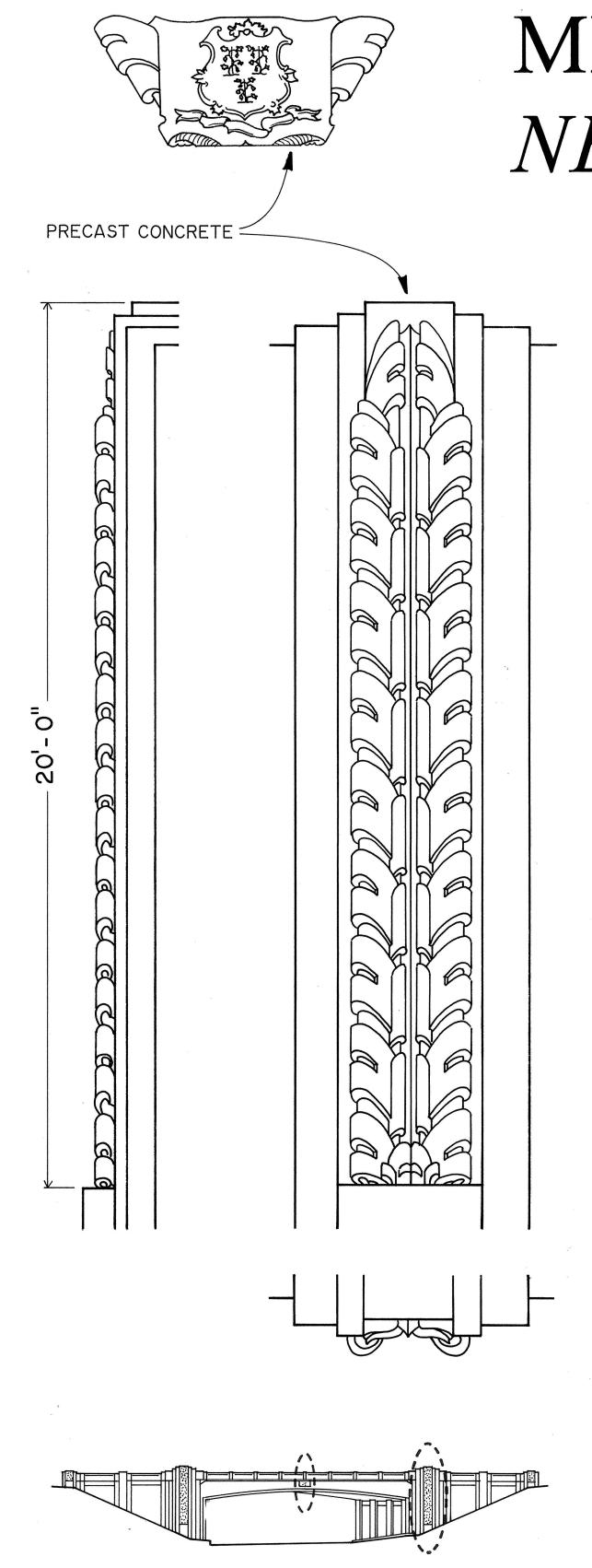


MARVIN RIVER ROAD BRIDGE

HAER, NO. CT-86

BLUE VITREOUS AGGREGATE IS USED TO SHAPE A PRECAST-CONCRETE NICHE FOR AN URN CAST IN WHITE MARBLE AGGREGATE. THE NICHE IS INSET NEAR THE TOP OF THE PYLONS.





WHITE OAK SHADE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-85

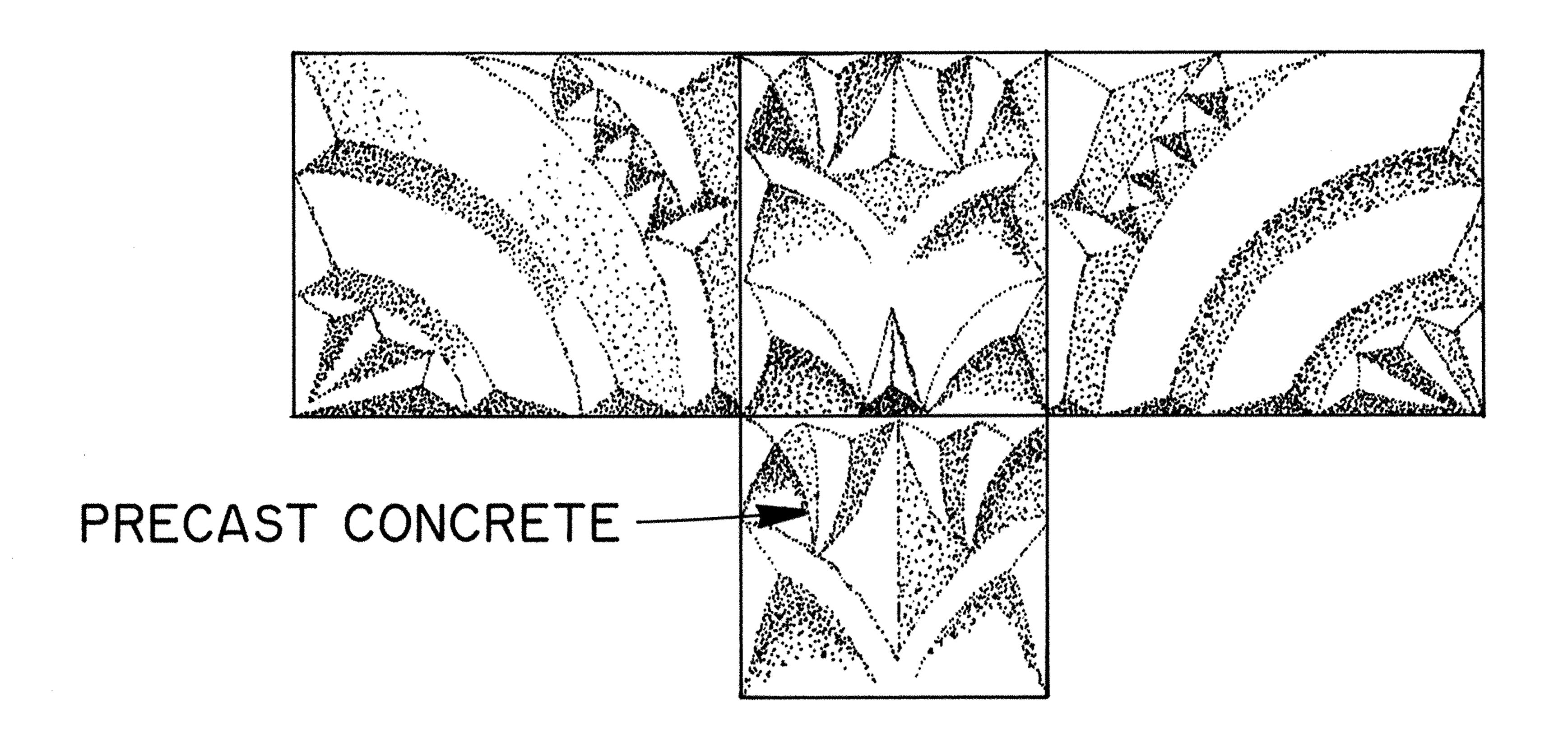
THE EGG-AND-DART MOLDINGS AND PYLON ORNAMENTS ARE PRODUCTIONS OF REVERSE MOLDS IN THE CONCRETE FRAMEWORK. THE CONNECTICUT COAT OF ARMS IS CAST IN PLACE AT THE CROWN OF THE ARCH.

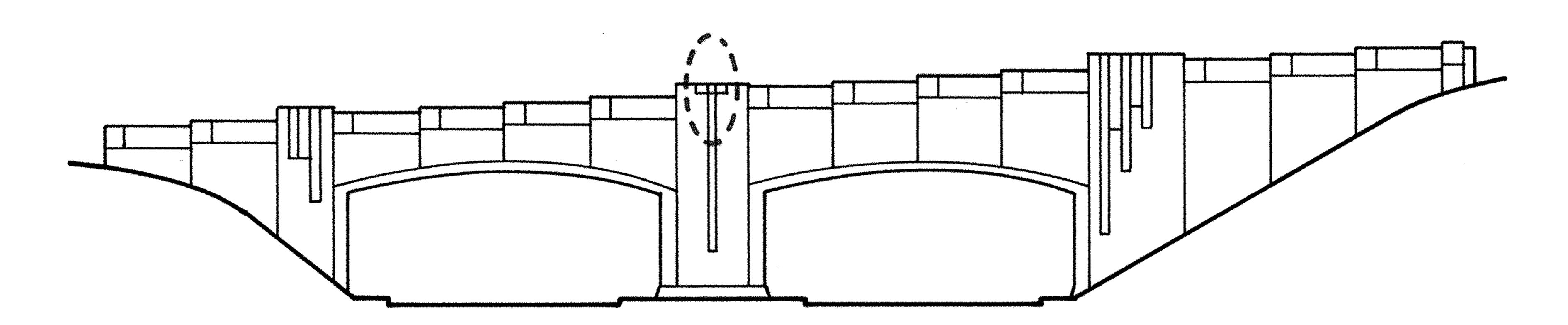
ticut CONCRETE

HILLSIDE ROAD BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-109

THIS OWL, READY TO SWOOP DOWN OUT OF ITS PORTHOLE PERCH, IS A PRODUCT OF REVERSE MOLDS IN THE CONCRETE FORMWORK.

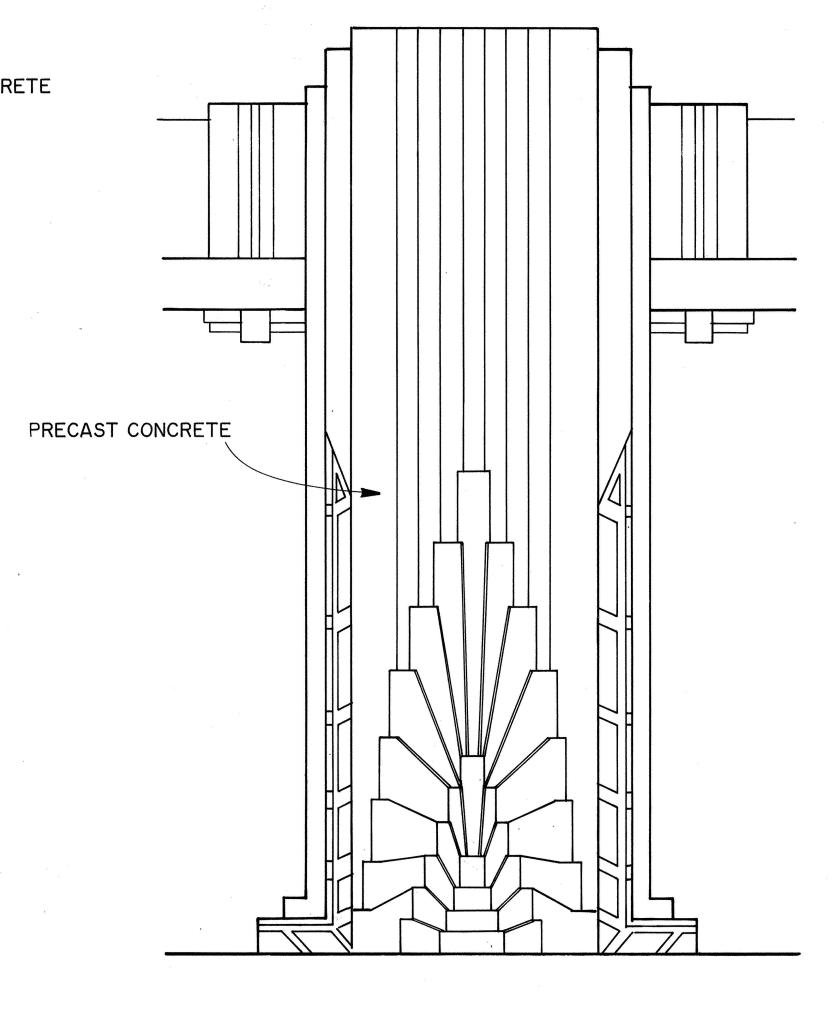


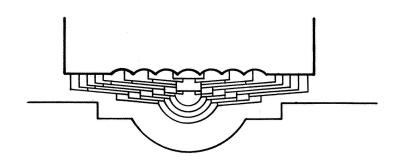


MOREHOUSE HIGHWAY BRIDGE

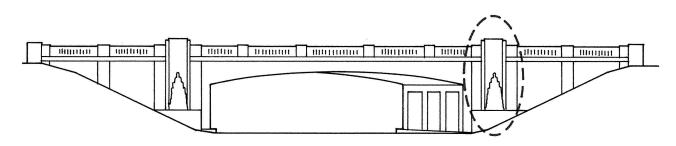
HAER NO. CT-113

CLOSELY SPACED GROOVES IN THE CONCRETE CREATE A TILED APPEARANCE. TWO GEOMETRIC PATTERNS, ONE RESEMBLING A QUARTER BULL'S-EYE, ACCENT THE PYLONS AND THE RAILING.





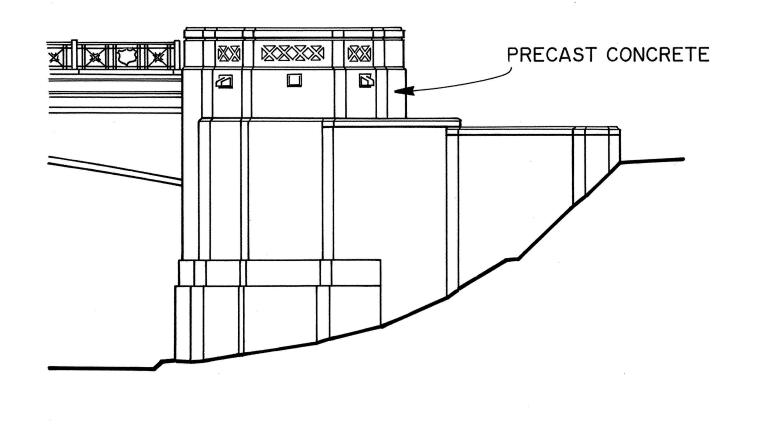
PARTIAL PLAN

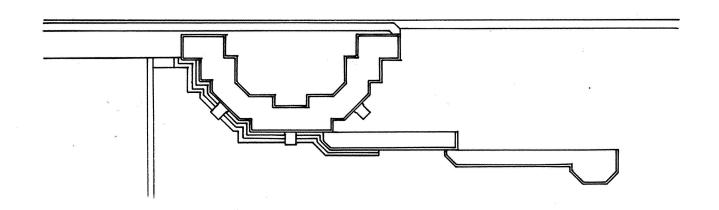


EAST ROCKS ROAD BRIDGE

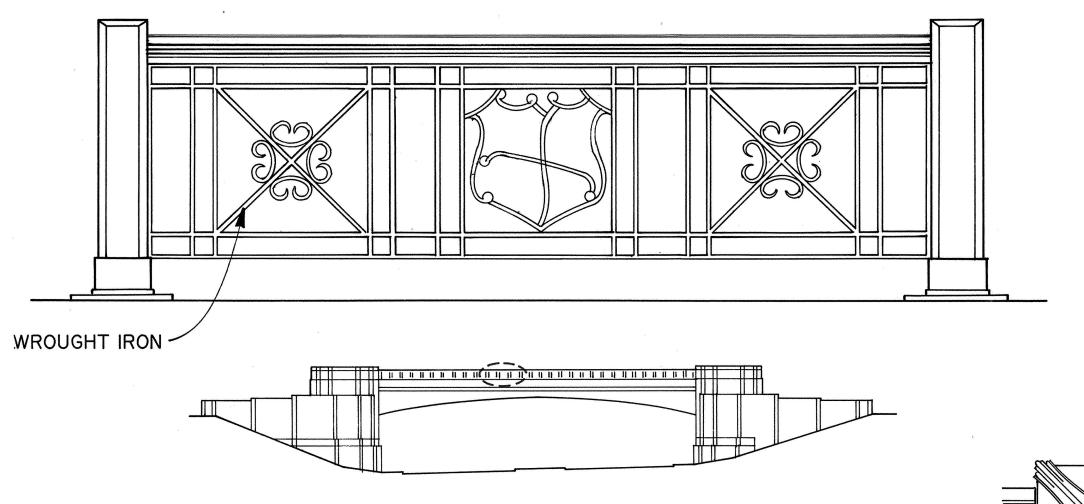
HAER NO. CT-95

THE ZIGGURAT-SHAPED SCULPTURE, THE CHEVRONS, AND FLUTES OF THIS ART DECO-INFLUENCED PYLON ARE ALL FORMED WITH REVERSE MOLDS.





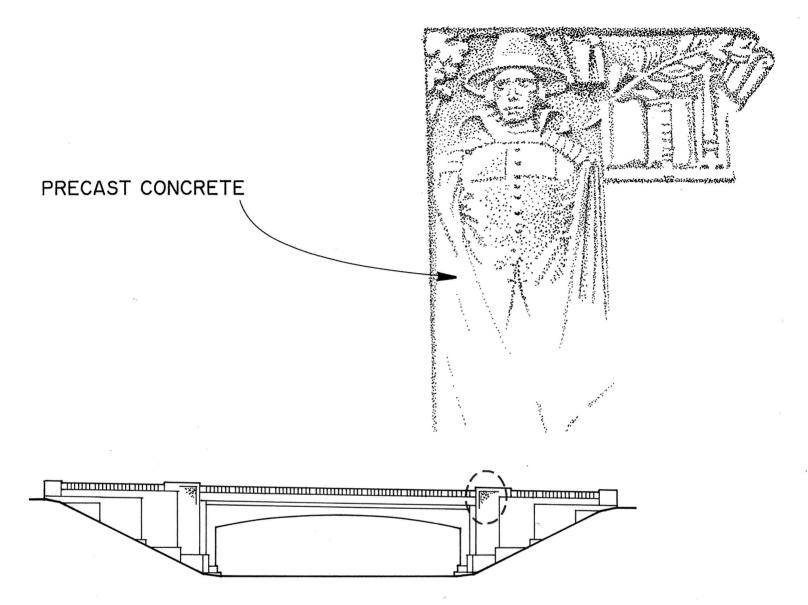
PARTIAL PLAN



CLINTON AVENUE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-100

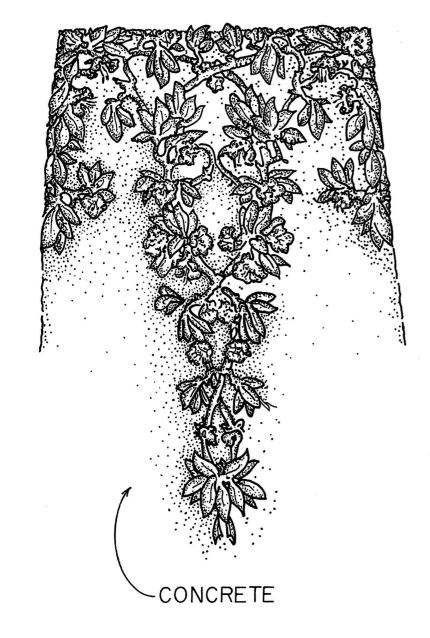
EACH FORTRESS-LIKE PYLON HAS THREE CAST-IN PLACE DRAINS, ONLY ONE FUNCTIONAL. THE DIAMOND PATTERN ABOVE EACH DRAIN IS FORMED WITH RED VITREOUS AGGREGATE. THE WROUGHT-IRON RAILING IS COMPOSED OF STOCK ORNAMENTS TAKEN FROM CATALOGS.



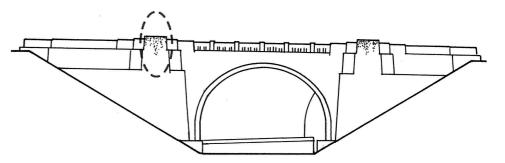
COMSTOCK HILL ROAD BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-88

RECESSED PANELS FEATURING A PILGRIM (ABOVE) AND AN AMERICAN INDIAN ARE PRODUCTS OF REVERSE MOLDS MOUNTED IN THE CONRETE FORMWORK FOR THE PYLONS



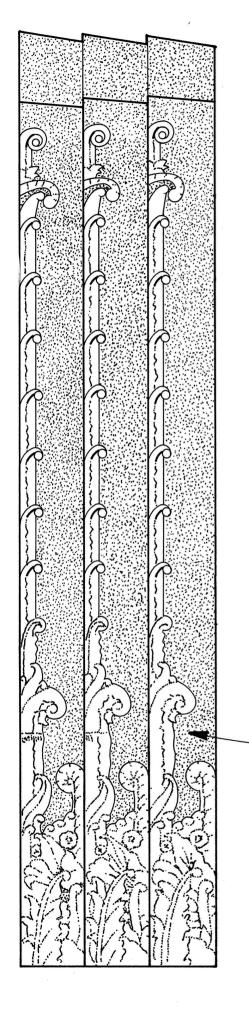
MERRITI WESTPO

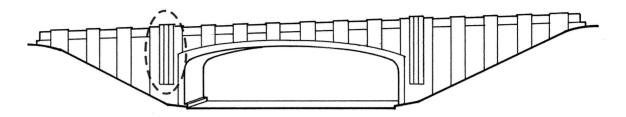


CROSS HIGHWAY BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-105

THIS FLORAL BAS-RELIEF IS A PRODUCT OF REVERSE MOLDS PLACED WITHIN THE CONCRETE FORMWORK.



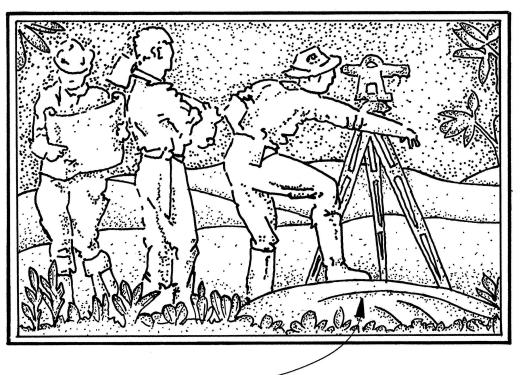


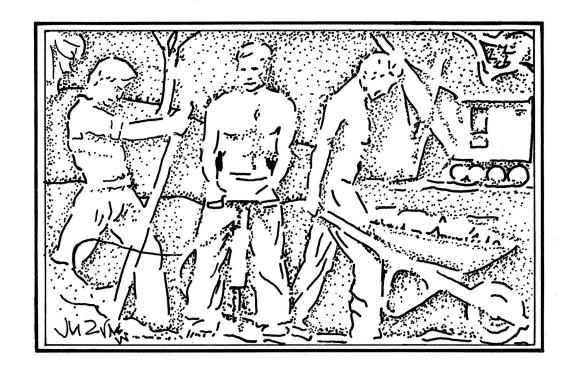
NORTH AVENUE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-103

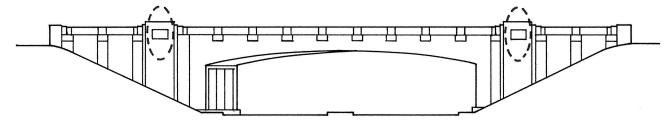
THESE PANELS ARE MADE USING THE SGRAFFITO PROCESS OF LAYERING DIFFERENT COLORS OF CONCRETE AND REMOVING THE TOP LAYERS TO CREATE A PATTERN. THEY FEATURE WHITE FLORA AND SCROLLS MADE OF WHITE VITREOUS AGGREGATE PLACED ON A BACKROUND OF SWEDISH EMERALD PEARL AND WISCONSIN BLACK AGGREGATE. THE SCROLL MOTIF IS REPEATED IN THE WROUGHT-IRON RAILING.

PRECAST CONCRETE





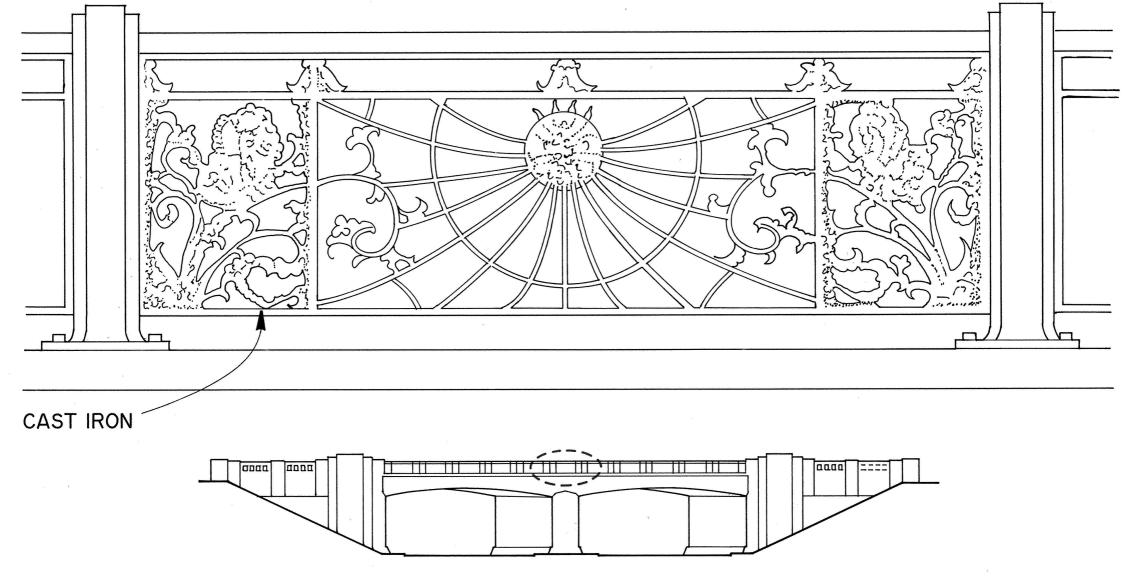
CONCRETE BAS-RELIEF



BURR STREET BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-IIO

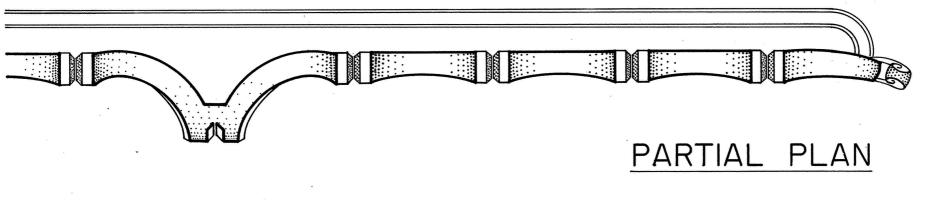
THE BAS-RELIEF PANELS DEPICTING A SURVEY CREW AND A CONSTRUCTION CREW PAY HOMAGE TO THE MEN WHO BUILT THE MERRITT PARKWAY, LABELLING THIS A "CELEBRATION BRIDGE."

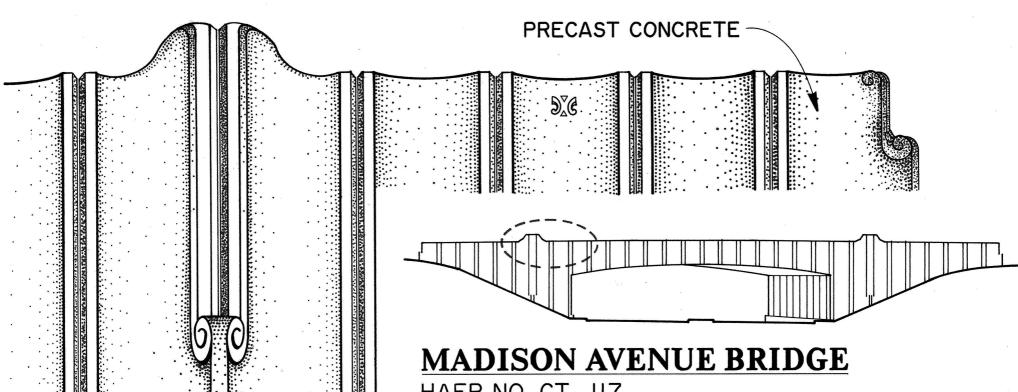


MERWINS LANE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-106

THESE INSECTS ARE SOME OF THE MOST WHIMSICAL OF THE DETAILS ON THE MERRITT PARKWAY. THE BUTTERFLIES ARE PRECAST CONCRETE ON THE PYLONS AND CAST IRON ON THE RAILINGS. THE SPIDERS ARE IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS ON THE COBWEBS OF EACH RAILING PANEL. THE BACKDROP FOR ALL OF THIS IS AN OVERLAPPING CLAPBOARD PATTERN ON THE STRUCTURAL CONCRETE.

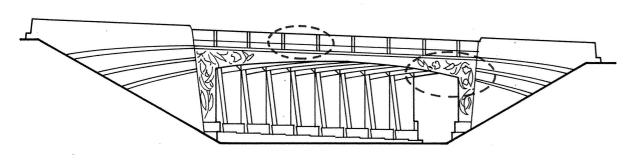




HAER NO. CT-117

TWO-INCH THICK REVERSE MOLDS, PLACED WITHIN THE CONCRETE FORMWORK, WERE USED TO PRODUCE THE CONCRETE-SHAPED VERTICAL PANELS WHICH ARE CONTINUOUS FROM THE SPANDREL TO THE TOP OF THE PARAPET RAILING.

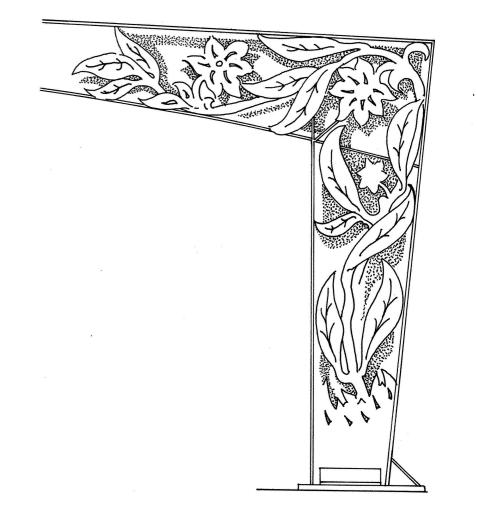
GE DETAILS, Connecticut

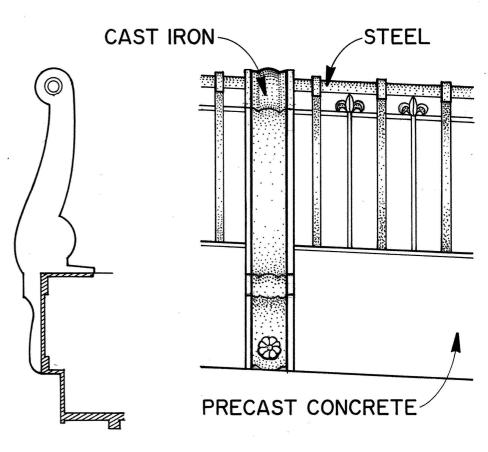


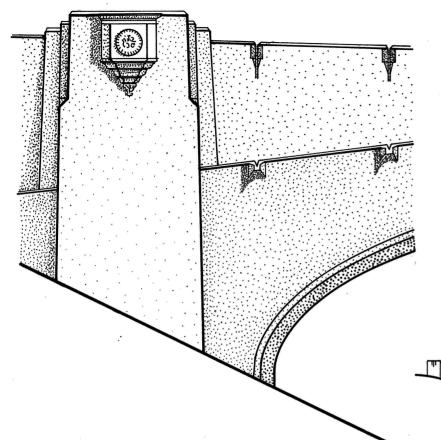


HAER NO. CT-130

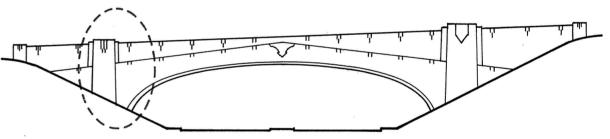
ORNATE FLORAL THEMES ARE EXPRESSED ON THIS BRIDGE THROUGH THE USE OF SEVERAL TYPES OF STEEL FLOWERS, AND LEAVES ARE MOUNTED ON THE STRUCTURAL STEEL FRAME. CAST-IRON ACANTHUS AND FLEUR-DE-LIS ARE APPLIED TO THE MALLEABLE CAST-IRON RAILING POSTS. MALLEABLE CAST-IRON IS A WHITE CAST-IRON THAT HAS BEEN HEATED FOR A PERIOD OF TIME TO RELIEVE INTERNAL STRESSES PRODUCED DURING SHAPING.







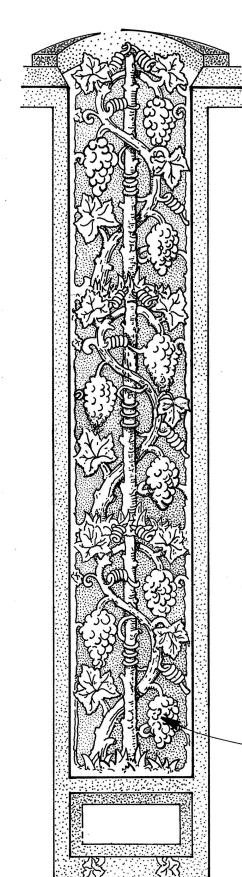
MERRITT P TRUMBULL

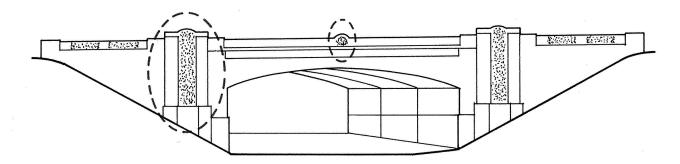


PARK AVENUE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-115

THE CAST-IN-PLACE CARTOUCHE ON THE PYLON FEATURES A SEAL OF THE TOWN OF TRUMBULL. THE SEAL DEPICTS A COLONIAL MINUTEMAN FIGURE AND THE YEAR OF THE TOWN'S FOUNDING, 1797.



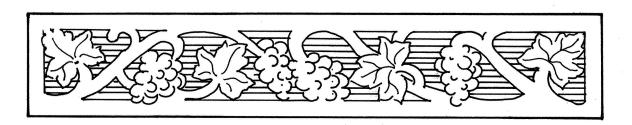


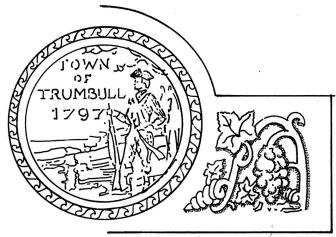
HUNTINGTON TURNPIKE BRIDGE

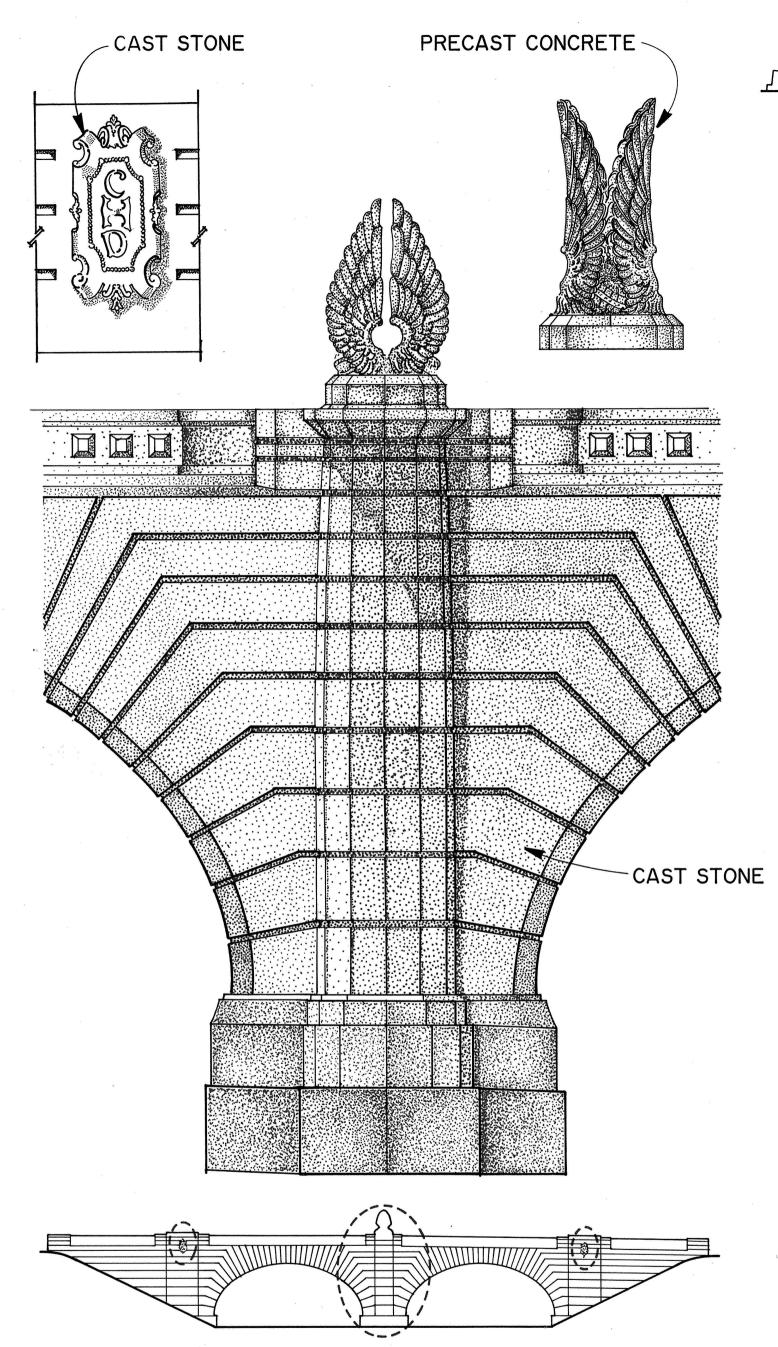
HAER NO. CT-124

GRAPEVINE PATTERNS ARE EXECUTED WITH PRECAST CONCRETE, MOLDED-IN-PLACE CONCRETE, AND METAL DETAILS. PRECAST PANELS WITH A FLORIATED BAS-RELIEF OCCUPY NICHES IN THE RAILING. THE TOWN SEAL AND ITS FRAMING VINES WERE CAST WITH REVERSE MOLDS IN THE FORMWORK. THE PYLONS SUPPORT MALLEABLE CAST-IRON GRILLES. A MINIMUM THICKNESS OF 1 1/4" RESULTED IN THREE SECTIONS, EACH WEIGHING 1000 POUNDS, FOR EACH GRILLE OF GRAPEVINES.

CAST MALLEABLE IRON







JAMES FARM ROAD BRIDGE

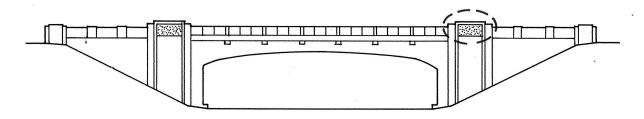
HAER NO. CT-129

TWO PAIRS OF 16-FOOT TALL WINGS, COMPOSED OF WHITE QUARTZ, ARE MOUNTED ON A CONCRETE PEDESTAL THAT WAS CAST, LIKE THE REST OF THE BRIDGE, TO IMITATE MASONRY. CARTOUCHES PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE CONNECTICUT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT WITH THE INITIALS 'CHD' WERE CAST AT THE TOP OF EACH PYLON WITH REVERSE MOLDS.



DETAILS FROM GRUMMAN AVENUE BRIDGE, 1938.





GRUMMAN AVENUE BRIDGE

HAER NO. CT-96

THIS SGRAFFITO PANEL SHOWING TWO GRIFFINS HOLDING A PLAQUE WITH A TREE IS ON TWO PYLONS, AND THE CONNECTICUT COAT OF ARMS IS ON THE OTHER TWO PYLONS. SGRAFFITO, THE PROCESS OF LAYERING DIFFERENT COLORS OF CONCRETE AND REMOVING THE TOP LAYER TO EXPOSE A PATTERN, IS ALSO THE MEDIUM USED ON THE TRIANGULAR MOLDING ACROSS THE BRIDGE.

PREC