

Arch Bridges

Peace River Bridge at Arcadia

DeSoto County
FDOT #450001, 8DE0381

In 1925, DeSoto County replaced a multiple-span, metal truss bridge with this four-span, reinforced concrete arch deck to carry old SR-18 across the Peace River at Arcadia. The original structure, abandoned for many years, now serves as a pedestrian bridge in Desoto Park. The replacement 201-foot long Peace River Bridge was designed and constructed by the Luten Bridge Company for \$25,500. It included a standard solid parapet with cast-in rectangular patterns. The closed spandrel walls were most likely filled with compacted earth and rock.



Photo 5-5. Peace River Bridge at Arcadia, DeSoto County (No. 450001)

The Peace River Bridge played a significant role in the transportation history of the Peace River area. It gains further merit for its association with the Luten Bridge Company. It is the largest remaining Luten bridge in Florida. Despite the bridge's alterations and its need for repair and maintenance, the structure has retained its historical physical integrity. Therefore, it was determined NRHP-eligible during the 2000 survey under Criterion A in the areas of Transportation and Community Planning and Development. It is also eligible under Criterion C in the area of Engineering as an early example of a multiple arch deck bridge constructed by the Luten Bridge Company.



Photo 5-6. Osprey Avenue Bridge, Sarasota County (No. 175950)

Osprey Avenue Bridge over Hudson Bayou

Sarasota County
FDOT #175950, 8SO2376

This 1915 bridge carries Osprey Avenue over Hudson Bayou in Sarasota. It was designed and constructed by the Luten Bridge Company. The 43-foot long, single-span, reinforced concrete arch deck bridge features a Neoclassical Revival style balustrade.

Contracted by Manatee County in 1916, before the creation of Sarasota County, the bridge carried the first Sarasota-to-Venice "hard road" (now known as Osprey Avenue). The county