

Kansas Historic Resources Inventory

Printed: 02/09/2017



209-2820-00089
Shawnee Overpass
00 SHAWNEE ST
Kansas City



LOCATION:

County: Wyandotte

Address: 00 SHAWNEE ST

Address Remarks: 0.1 mile NW of I-35, Shawnee Street over 7th Street Trafficway

City: Kansas City

Zip:

Parcel ID:

Legal Description: NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 27 Township 11S Range 25E

Legal Description Remarks:

Latitude, Longitude 1: 39.071789 -94.620981

Latitude, Longitude 2:

Latitude, Longitude 3:

Latitude, Longitude 4:

Datum: WGS84

DESCRIPTION:

Historic Name: Shawnee Overpass

Alternate Name: Shawnee Street Overpass

Historic Function: Transportation

Subcategory: Road-Related (Vehicular)

Historic Function Remarks: The overpass represents later refinements of metal arch rib bridge construction & its combination with reinforced concrete elements; it is the only known example of this bridge type in Kansas.

Present Function: Transportation

Subcategory: Road-Related (Vehicular)

Present Function Remarks:

Residential/Commercial/Religious Style:

Secondary Style:

Barn Type: Not Applicable

Bridge Type: Open Spandrel

Landscape Type:

Physical Description/Remarks: Overpass is 94 ft long & 23.6 ft wide (after widening in 1976); consists of four essential parts - a roadway deck, deck supports or spandrel framing, & two arch rings which spring from reinforced concrete abutments; structure was rebuilt in 1976 by Continental Steel & Conveyor, Inc. with new wider deck, substructure painting, & new walls & parapets

Plan Form: Not Applicable
Commercial Building Type: Not Applicable
Roof Form: Not Applicable
Stories: 1
Condition: Fair
Principal Material: Metal
Condition Remarks: riveted steel arch ring & reinforced concrete deck
Architect/Designer/Builder: Kansas City Structural Steel (designer) & Concrete Engineering Company
Year of Construction: 1934
Certainty: Documented
Date Notes: construction plans show a date of 1932-1934 which corresponds to the date when the 7th Street Trafficway was built
General Remarks:
Ancillary Structures:
Ancillary Structure Remarks:

REGISTER STATUS:

Listed in State Register: Yes
Date of State Listing: 08/27/1983
Listed in National Register: Yes
Date of National Listing: 03/08/1984
Historic District:
Demolished:
Date Demolished (if applicable):
Potentially Eligible for National Register:
Register Status Remarks:
Thematic Nomination (MPDF):
National Historic Landmark:

SURVEY INFORMATION:

Survey 1

Survey Project Name: Kansas - KDOT/Historic Bridge Inventory - Open Spandrel Concrete Arch Bridges (1980s)
Sequence Number: 105-OA-1
Surveyed By: KSHS/Jochims, Larry & Snell, Michael
Survey Date: 01/01/1985

IMAGES & DOCUMENTS



Shawnee Overpass. Looking S.
07/15/2015. KSHS/Zollner.



Shawnee Overpass -
National Register Nomination Form

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

105-0A-1

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections**1. Name**

historic Shawnee Overpass

and/or common Shawnee Overpass

2. Location

street & number .1 mile northwest of I-35 over Seventh Street Trafficway not for publication

city, town Kansas City vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Wyandotte code 209

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name City of Kansas City, Kansas

street & number City Hall

city, town Kansas City N/A vicinity of state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Wyandotte County Courthouse

city, town Kansas City state Kansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveystitle Inventory of Historic Bridges
Kansas Department of Transportation has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ nodate 1980-83 federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society

city, town Topeka state Kansas

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Shawnee Street Overpass .1 mile northwest of I-35 crossing Seventh Street Trafficway is a steel open spandrel arch measuring 94 feet in length. It has a width of 23.6 feet since it was widened in 1976. The bridge consists of four essential parts; a roadway deck, the deck supports or spandrel framing and two arch rings which spring from reinforced concrete abutments.

The structure was rebuilt in 1976 by Continental Steel and Conveyor, Inc. at a cost of \$149,792. A new wider deck was placed on the bridge, the substructure was painted and new walls and parapets were put in place.

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates [1932-1934] **Builder/Architect** Kansas City Structural Steel (designer)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Shawnee Street Overpass .1 mile northwest of I-35 crossing Seventh Street Trafficway in Kansas City, Kansas retains a high degree of its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling and association. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction no longer being used, namely a reinforced concrete deck supported by a riveted steel arch ring and spandrel posts and may yield information important to the history of engineering.

In use, the steel open spandrel arch or stiffened arch rib bridge acts much as a stiffened suspension bridge would if it were reversed in position. The redesigned former tension members now act in compression.

The design in its crude form began gradually to be introduced soon after the construction of metallic arches in the late 18th century but it was not until the late 19th century that the style became prominent in the United States.

The Shawnee Overpass represents later refinements of metal arch rib bridge construction and its combination with reinforced concrete elements. It is the only known example in Kansas.

Construction plans for the Shawnee Street Overpass show a date of 1932-34 which corresponds to the time of the building of the Seventh Street Trafficway. These plans also indicate that Concrete Engineering Company and Kansas City Structural Steel were involved in building the bridge for the city.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

9. Major Bibliographical References

William Burr and Myron S. Falk, The Design and Construction of Metallic Bridges, Third Edition, New York: John Wiley and Sons Inc., 1916.

Henry Tyrrell, Artistic Bridge Design, Chicago: Myron C. Clark Publishing Company, N.d.
Plans on File, Office of the City Engineer, Kansas City, Kansas.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Kansas City, MO-KS

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

That property on and over which the bridge is built .1 mile northwest of I-35 over Seventh Street Expressway. N $\frac{1}{2}$, S27, T11S, R25E. Includes bridge superstructure plus supporting abutments.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| N/A | | | |

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Larry Jochims, Research Historian and Michael Snell

organization Kansas State Historical Society date _____

street & number 10th and Jackson Streets telephone (913) 296-2973

city or town Topeka state Kansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date _____

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

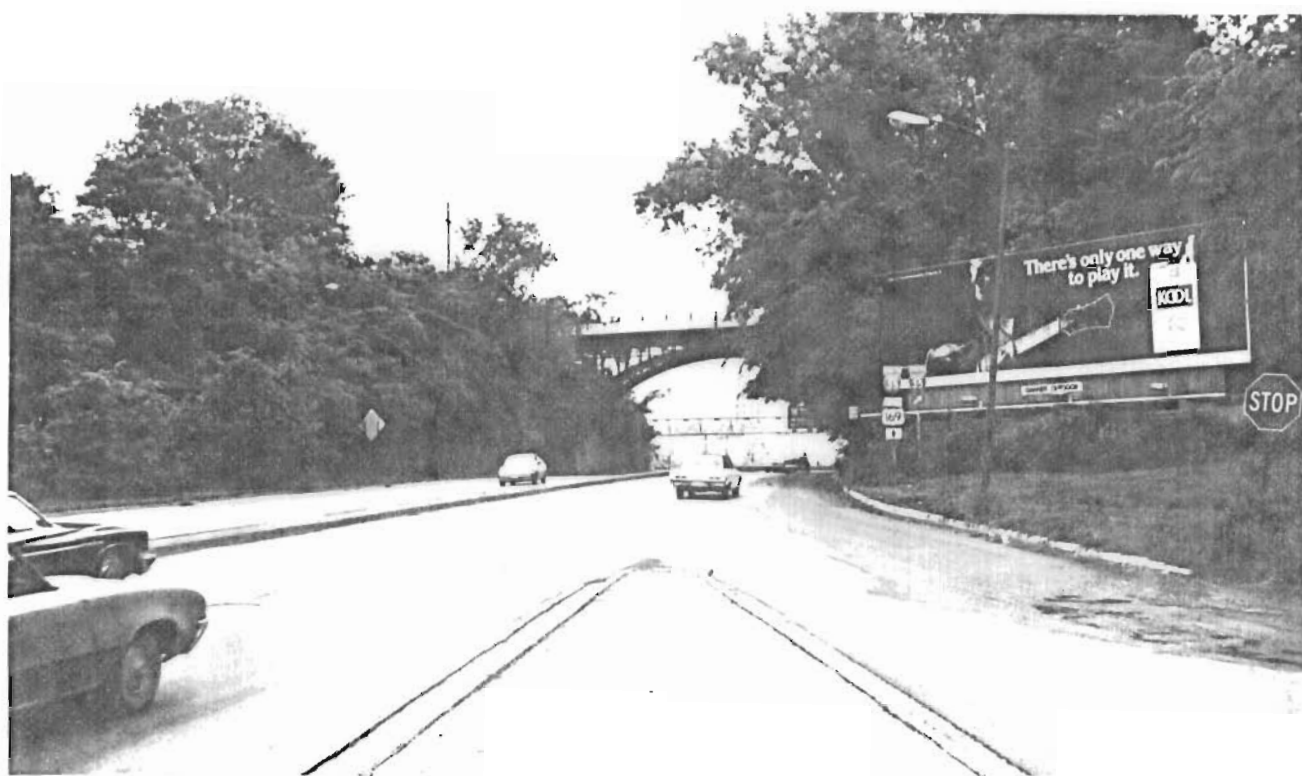
date _____

Chief of Registration



Shawnee Overpass
Kansas City, Kansas
UTM Reference:
15/359790/4325790

The following photographs were taken by Larry Jochims and Michael Snell on June 3, 1983 in Kansas City, Kansas. The photograph negatives are located at the Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas



Shawnee Street Overpass north side looking south.



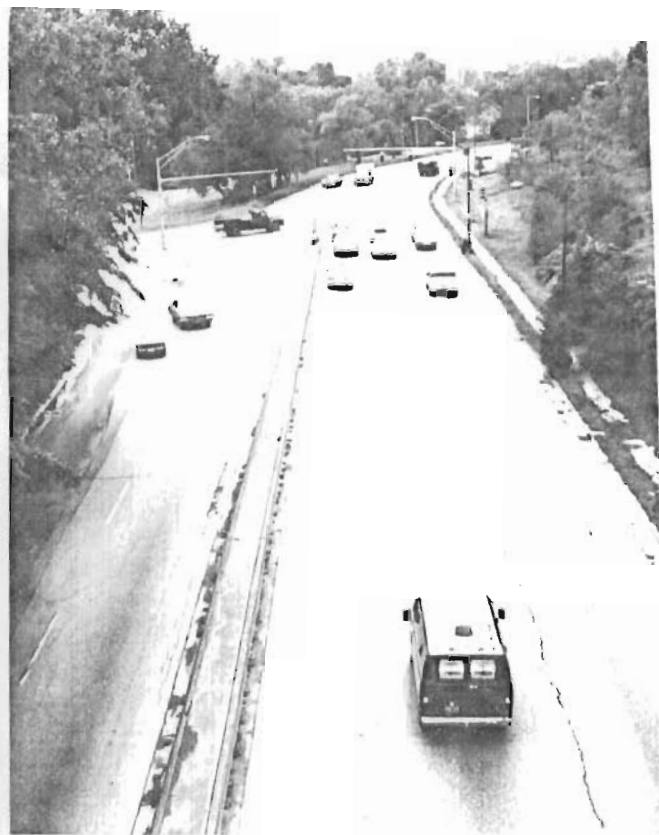
Shawnee Street Overpass north side looking southwest.



Shawnee Street Overpass east approach looking west.



Shawnee Street Overpass west approach looking east.



Shawnee Street Overpass
view from deck looking
northwest.

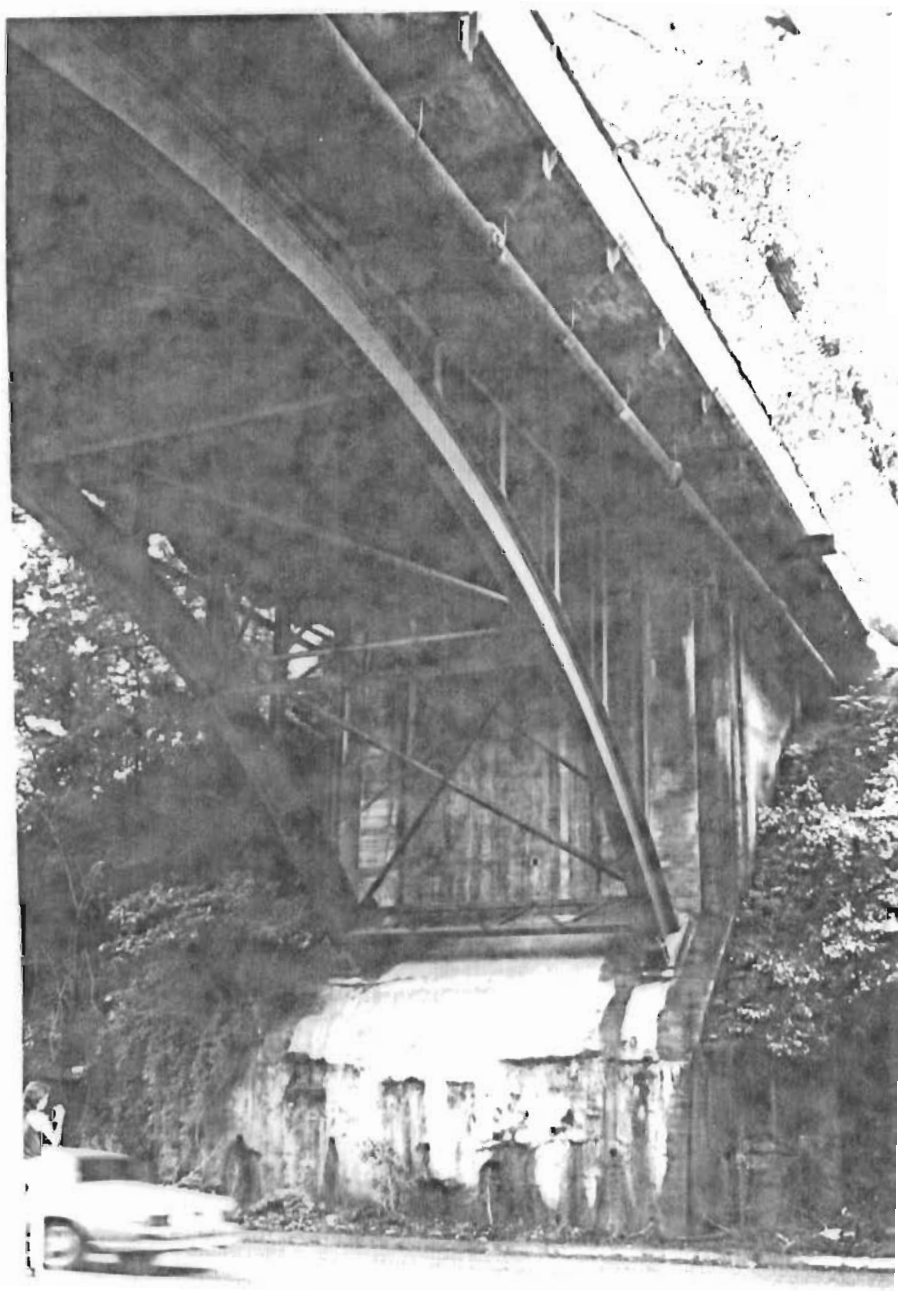
Shawnee Street Overpass



Shawnee Street Overpass view from deck looking southeast.



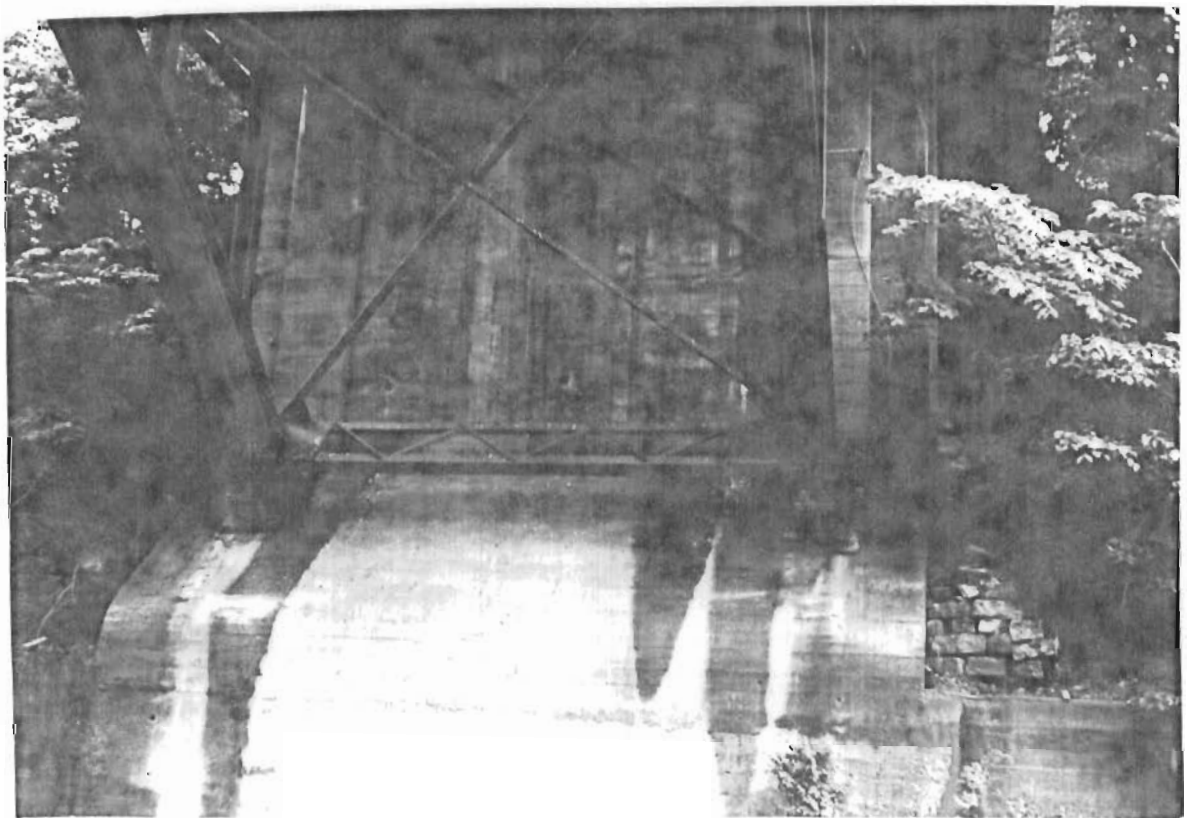
Shawnee Street Overpass north side looking south.



Shawnee Street Overpass
west abutment looking west.



Shawnee Street Overpass south side looking north.



Shawnee Street Overpass east abutment looking east.