

Hillcrest Road Bridge

JACK47

GENERAL DATA

structure no.:	S131B21	city/town:	Kansas City
county:	Jackson	feature inters.:	small creek
		cadastral grid:	S13/14, T48N, R33W
		highway route:	Hillcrest Road
		highway distr.:	4
		current owner:	City of Kansas City

STRUCTURAL DATA

superstructure:	concrete filled spandrel arch		
substructure:	concrete abutments, wingwalls and pier		
span number:	2	condition:	fair
span length:	20.0'	alterations:	original concrete wingwalls lengthened with historic stone retaining walls
total length:	40.0'	floor/decking :	asphalt over earth fill
roadway width:	20.0'	other features:	concrete guardrails with rectangular slots

HISTORICAL DATA

erection date:	1906
erection cost:	unknown
designer:	unknown
fabricator :	none
contractor:	Midland Bridge Company, Kansas City MO (probable)
references:	Missouri Highway and Transportation Department Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure Number S131B21; Board of Park Commissioners of Kansas City, The Park and Boulevard System of Kansas City, Missouri , revision and reprint of 1914 edition, 1920, pages 24-25; Kansas City Parks Department, Cowtown 1890 becomes City Beautiful 1962: The Story of Kansas City's Parks , page 10; Missouri State Board of Agriculture, Highway Department, "Bridges and Culverts," Bulletin No. 5, August 1908, page 4.
sign. rating:	50
evaluation:	NRHP possibly eligible (early example of concrete arch construction)

inventoried by: Clayton B. Fraser 22 February 1994

HAER INVENTORY

Missouri Historic Bridge Inventory

NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

Hillcrest Road Bridge
MHTD: S131B21

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DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION

1906

LOCATION

Hillcrest Road over small creek; S13/14, T48N, R33W
Kansas City; Jackson County, Missouri

USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)

city street bridge / city street bridge

RATING NRHP possible (score: 50)

CONDITION

fair

OWNER

City of Kansas City

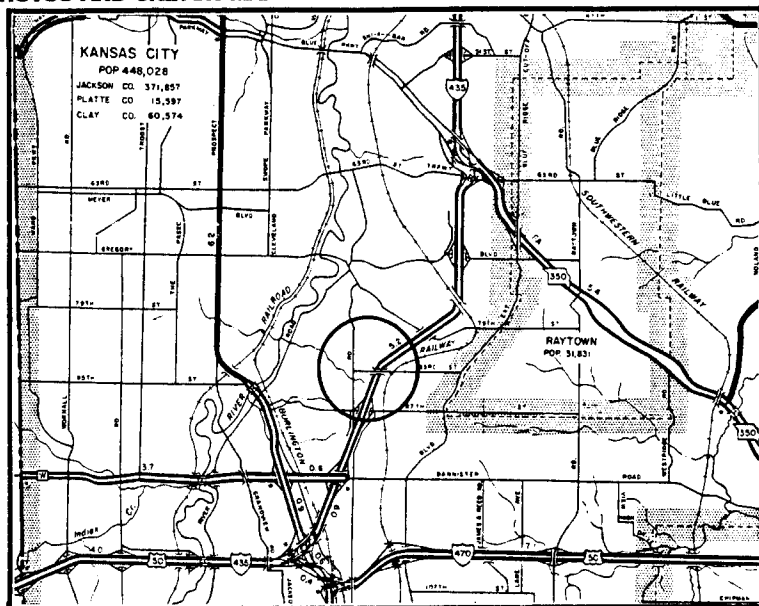
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roadway wdt.:	20.0'	other features:	concrete guardrails with rectangular slots

Located just east of the Hillcrest Country Club, this small concrete bridge carries Hillcrest Road over a small creek. Built in 1906, when the Kansas City Board of Park Commissioners endeavored to establish a system of parks connected by scenic boulevards, the Hillcrest Road Bridge was most likely an attempt to develop the roads in the municipal parks. Hillcrest Road connects with Oldham Road in Swope Park. A concrete filled spandrel arch supported by concrete abutments and pier, this structure was built in 1906, probably by the Midland Bridge Company of Kansas City. The Hillcrest Road Bridge has since functioned in place with only minor modification.

Unlike many Midwestern states, Missouri did not employ reinforced concrete extensively for construction of vehicular bridge superstructures in the 1910s. The various counties and, to a lesser extent, the state highway department continued to prefer steel for bridge superstructures well after concrete had received widespread acceptance elsewhere. This, combined with subsequent attrition, has resulted in a relatively small number of concrete bridges that exist today from this formative period. The Hillcrest Road Bridge is distinguished among these as one of earliest dateable examples of concrete arch construction in the state. Modestly scaled and simply detailed, it is noteworthy as an early, well-preserved example of concrete bridge construction in Missouri.

NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE
Hillcrest Road Bridge

PHOTOS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION



LOCATION MAP

TAKEN FROM MISSOURI HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP



SOURCES

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INVENTORIED BY
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DATE
24 September 1994