

Survey Number: C-22

Bridge Name and Address: Alburtis L. Meyers Bridge
L.R. 158 over Little Lehigh River
Lehigh County

Owner: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation
Transportation & Safety Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Statement of Significance: The Alburtis L. Meyers Bridge is an important long-span open spandrel bridge. Built in 1913, it is the earliest monumental concrete bridge included in this nomination. It is also the earliest multiple-span open-spandrel arch bridge among the Pennsylvania D.O.T.-owned bridges. This bridge, conceived and begun in 1900, illustrates a progressive application in concrete design and construction. The nine handsome, high-rise arches measure 120 feet each, a relatively long-span for this date. Each thin arch supports nine spandrel arches. Additionally, the ornamental detailing of piers and light posts adds to the overall impressiveness of this bridge. The Alburtis L. Meyers Bridge, also known as the Eighth Street Bridge in Allentown, was built as a toll bridge for a trolley company and was used by trolleys and other vehicles. At the time of its construction, it was said to be the longest and highest reinforced concrete bridge in the world. The bridge was purchased by the State highway department in the 1930s.

Area of Significance: Engineering

Boundary Description: The nominated property consists of a 2,650 feet long by 46 feet wide rectangle whose vertices coincide with the outside corners of the bridge's railing's, and includes only superstructure and substructure.

Acreage of Nominated
Property:

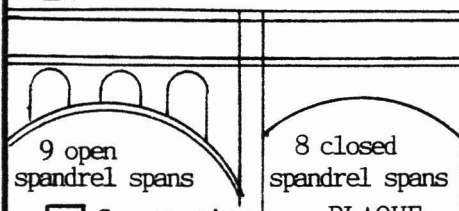
Three acres.

15. TYPE

CHARACTERISTICS

☐ Truss: continuous/cantilever:

☐ webbing: _____
☐ anchor span: _____
☐ cantilever span: _____
☐ suspended span: _____
☐ thru/deck/low (pony): full-slope/half-hip.
☐ connections: pin/riveted.
☐ eyebars: loop welded/die forged.
☒ railing: Concrete - open concrete posts
☐ columns: _____

☒ Arch: masonry/metal:

☒ thru/deck/1/2-thru.
☐ fixed (hingeless) /1/2/3-hinged.
☐ ribs: solid/braced; crescent/parallel.
☒ spandrels: open/solid/~~braced~~ both types
☐ intrados/vault; ribbed/solid.
☒ shape: semi-circular/elliptical/segmental; stilted.
☒ skew 900

☒ Suspension: PLAQUE

Albertus L. Meyers Memorial Bridge
October 1974

☐ stiffening: braced-chain (1/2/3-hinged) /suspended truss.
☐ wire cable: twisted/parallel.
☐ eyebar chain.
☐ back-stay: straight/curved.

☐ Bascule:

☐ single/double leaf.
☐ rolling lift: Schertzer.
☐ trunnion: simple (Chicago) /multiple (Strauss).
☐ counterweights: heel/overhead.
☐ Page/Rall.
☐ semi-lift/direct lift.

☐ Swing:

☐ bearing: center/rim/comboination.
☐ (see Truss above).

☐ Vertical Lift:☐ (see Truss above).☐ Other:☐ other: _____

16. MATERIALS (primary)

Superstructure	type	treatment/finish	source
main span:	Concrete	Smooth	
towers:	"	"	
railings:	"	"	
Substructure			
piers:	Concrete	Smooth	
abutments:			
wings:			
intrados/ ribs	Concrete	Smooth	
voussoirs:	Concrete	Smooth	

17. PHOTO NO's.

05-24 (29-37)
05-26 (1-20)

18. PREPARED BY: R.J. Baransky
AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: PennDOT
; DATE: 8/18/82

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Highway Bridges Owned by the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation TR
State Adams County (and others), PA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

131- 101. Lindbergh Viaduct

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvin Byrum 6/22/88

Attest _____

102. Marion Bridge

Substantive Review

Keeper Linda McClelland 6/22/88

Attest _____

gpc 103. Market Street Bridge
(Luzerne County)

Substantive Review

Keeper Linda McClelland 6/22/88

Attest _____

104. Market Street Bridge
(Cumberland County)Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvin Byrum 6/22/88

Attest _____

105. Marshall's Bridge

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvin Byrum 6/22/88

Attest _____

106. McClay's Twin Bridge (East)

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvin Byrum 6/22/88

Attest _____

107. McClay's Twin Bridge (West)

Substantive Review

Keeper Linda McClelland 6/22/88

Attest _____

108. Meyers, Albertus L., Bridge

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvin Byrum 6/22/88

Attest _____

109. Newtown Creek Bridge

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvin Byrum 6/22/88

Attest _____

110. Old Columbia--Wrightsville Bridge

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvin Byrum 6/22/88

Attest _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Meyers, Albertus L., Bridge (Highway Bridges
Owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Department of Transportation TR)
Lehigh County
PENNSYLVANIA

Working No. MAY 10 1988
 Fed. Reg. Date: 6/19/88
 Date Due: 6/24/88
 Action: ☒ ACCEPT 6-22-88
☐ RETURN
 Entered in the National Register ☐ REJECT
 Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
 Reviewer _____
 Discipline _____
 Date _____
 _____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
 _____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- ☐ excellent ☐ deteriorated
☐ good ☐ ruins
☐ fair ☐ unexposed

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

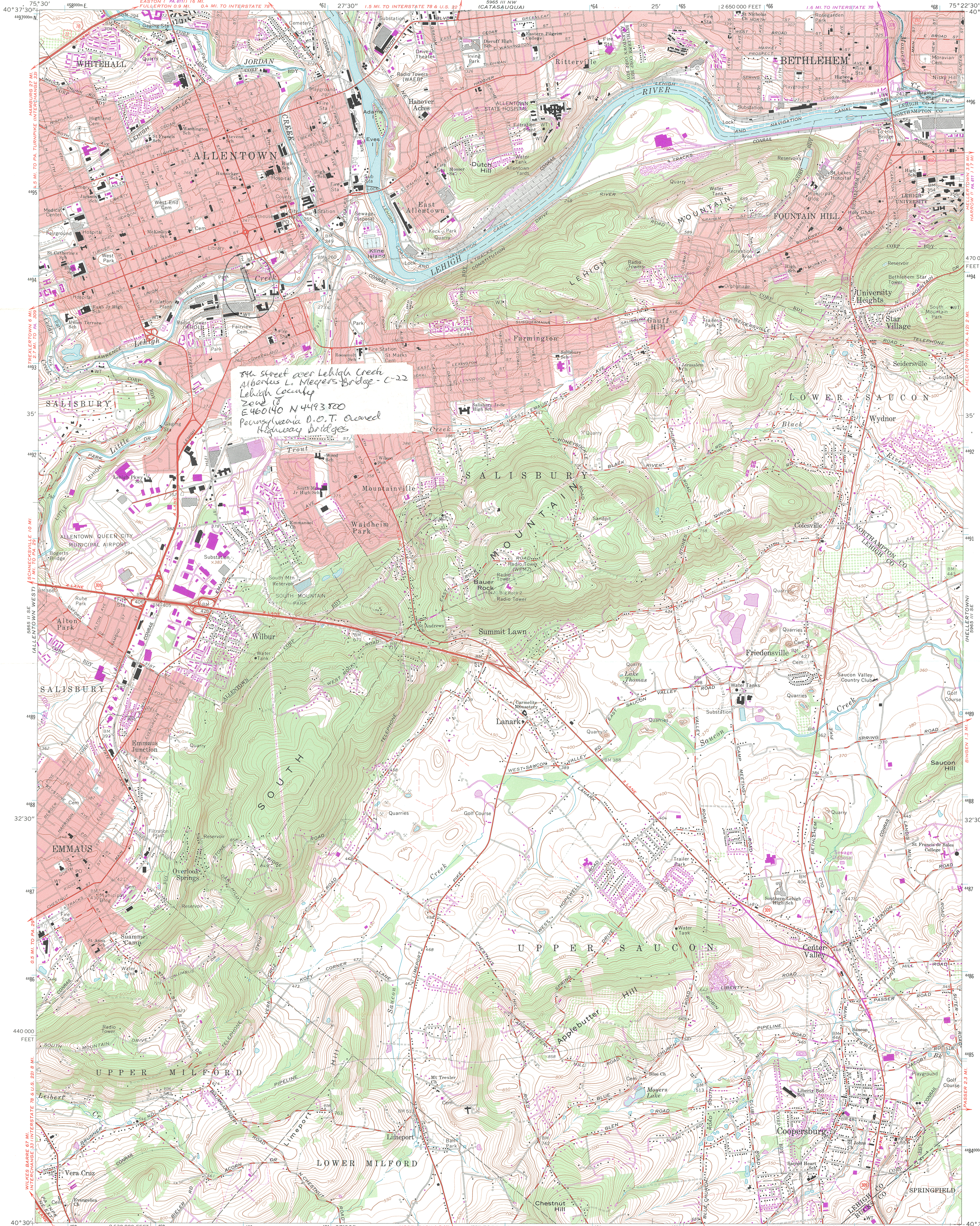
Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



1. Name of Nomination: Highway Bridges Owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Department of Transportation
2. Name of Structure: Alburtis L. Meyers Bridge
3. County: Lehigh County
4. Photo Date: 1982
5. Photo Credit: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
6. Negative Location: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
7. Photo View: View from below, showing arch ribs and transverse arches
8. Photo Number: C-22-2



- C-22-1
1. Name of Nomination: Highway Bridges Owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Department of Transportation
2. Name of Structure: Alburtis L. Meyers Bridge
3. County: Lehigh County
4. Photo Date: 1982
5. Photo Credit: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
6. Negative Location: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
7. Photo View: Elevation
8. Photo Number: C-22-1



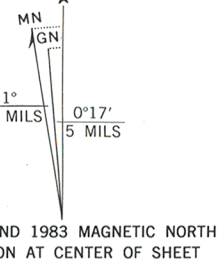
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and USCE

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1962. Field checked 1964

Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Pennsylvania
coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue.
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 6 meters south and
31 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown



SCALE 1:24,000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation
with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial photographs
taken 1981 and other sources. This information not field checked
Map edited 1983

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

ALLENTOWN EAST, PA.
SW/4 ALLENTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
40075-E4-TF-024

1964
PHOTOREVISED 1983
DMA 5965 III SW-SERIES V831