
Bridge NRHP Eligibility Report

Structure ID: 150150B07930002 **Disposition:** In Service **Year Built:** 1929 **Year Rcnst:** 0000

District:	San Antonio	Span Type:	Continuous
County:	Bexar	Roadway Type:	Deck
Location:	0.10 MI E OF SOLEDAD ST	Member Type:	Concrete Girder, Var. Depth - Te
Facility Carried:	CONVENT ST	Main Span Length:	0038
Feature Crossed:	SAN ANTONIO RIVER	Structure Length:	000076
NRHP Det. Date:	08/31/1999	Evaluator:	John W. Murphey

Historical Significance: 2 NR Eligible

NRHP Eligibility Determination Statement:

The Convent Street Bridge is located over the San Antonio River in the downtown River Walk area of San Antonio. This reinforced concrete bridge is built from two curved girder and slab spans supported on one reinforced concrete pier in the center and concrete retaining wall abutments at each end. The bridge measures 76' long carries three lanes of traffic on a 39' wide roadway. Pedestrian passage is provided on both sides of the bridge on wide concrete sidewalks bordered outlined with imitation granite handrailing. The special design railing is composed of open web panels divided into sections by concrete posts.

City of San Antonio engineer, C. Raeber made the initial layout plans for the Convent Street Bridge in March of 1929. In common with a number of other bridges he designed for the city, the Convent Street spans features slender curved girders set on single pier and retaining wall abutments. The selected configuration consists of nine girders reinforced with steel stirrups and bent rods, cast integrally with a concrete slab. To improve the bridge's appearance, the city used an elaborate imitation granite handrail design. San Antonio contractor, J.G. Jeffrey constructed the bridge for unspecified amount of money.

The Convent Street Bridge is significant for its design and special railing. The bridge represents the advanced engineering and aesthetic design of an early 20th century city-built bridge. Although the setting of the river and surrounding landscape have changed over the years, the bridge retains a high degree of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and location to meet National Register eligibility under Criterion C, Engineering, at the state level of significance.