
Bridge NRHP Eligibility Report

Structure ID: 150150B34690003 **Disposition:** In Service **Year Built:** 1929 **Year Rcnst:** 0000

District:	San Antonio	Span Type:	Continuous
County:	Bexar	Roadway Type:	Deck
Location:	0.06 MI E OF SOLEDAD ST.	Member Type:	Concrete Girder, Var. Depth - Te
Facility Carried:	TRAVIS ST. - ML	Main Span Length:	0040
Feature Crossed:	SAN ANTONIO RIVER	Structure Length:	000100
NRHP Det. Date:	08/31/1999	Evaluator:	John W. Murphey

Historical Significance: 2 NR Eligible

NRHP Eligibility Determination Statement:

The Travis Street Bridge crosses the San Antonio River on two curved reinforced concrete continuous girder spans. The thin girder and slab units are supported on a single concrete pier and retaining wall abutments at each end of the bridge. The 99' long span carries three lanes of traffic on a 39' wide asphalt surfaced roadway. Pedestrian passage is provided on both sides of the bridge on wide concrete sidewalks 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 designed this bridge to replace a 1911 open-spandrel arch bridge that was considered a flood hazard by city engineers. Initially there was some thought of reconstructing the arch bridge with steel I-beams placed along the interior of the structure. This plan was terminated when city flood-prevention engineers determined that the bridge would need to be replaced to allow freer passage of water, and suggested using a design similar to that of the spans at Houston and Navarro streets. The contract let Bart Moore, Inc., who were most likely responsible for both the structural work and ornamentation.

In common with a number of other bridges designed by Raeber, the Travis Street span features slender curved girders set on single pier and retaining wall abutments. The selected configuration consists of eight girders reinforced with steel stirrups and bent rods, cast integrally with the concrete slab deck and center support. To improve the bridge's appearance, the city used an elaborate imitation granite handrail design found also on crossings at Josephine, Commerce, and Convent streets

The Travis Street Bridge is significant for its design and special railing. The bridge represents the advanced engineering and aesthetic design of early 20th century city-built bridges. 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.