

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	SBR.900
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Marlborough Road Bridge over Conrail
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	Marlborough Rd
<b>City/Town:</b>	Southborough
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	
<b>Local No:</b>	
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	
<b>Architect(s):</b>	Boston Bridge Works
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Plate Girder
<b>Use(s):</b>	Other Engineering; Other Transportation
<b>Significance:</b>	Engineering; Transportation
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

This file was accessed on:

Friday, July 08, 2016 at 1:46: PM

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY

SBR.900

PI-0 USGS-MARL

Municipality: Southborough District: 3Street name/Rt. #: ST 85, Marlborough RdOver  
Street name/Rt. #: ConrailBridge key #: 900384005101 Photo #s: 68:3A-11ABridge plan #: 5-20-5

Common/historic name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current owner: \_\_\_\_\_

UTM coordinates: \_\_\_\_\_ AASHTO rating: 110 (1-10-86)\*\*\*\*\*  
National Register status (insert date) Field rating: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered: \_\_\_\_\_ Potential: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligible: \_\_\_\_\_ Non-eligible: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*  
Date built (source): 1905 (Maint)

Date(s) rebuilt (source): \_\_\_\_\_

Builder (source): Boston Bridge Works (B.H.)

Designer (source): \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*  
Structural type/materials: 303steel through plate girdermortared, large block, semi-coursed granite masonry abutsOverall length: 61' Deck width/layout: 27' out-outSkew: 15°Main unit, # spans: 1 lengths: 55'Approaches, # spans: - lengths: -Plaque: 1 location: N end, E girder

Alterations, unusual features, comments:

orig. guardrail replaced w/ ss

Visual quality (bridge and setting): High\_\_\_ Average\_\_\_ Low X

Site integrity: Retained\_\_\_ Violated X

Describe: Rural area; former farmland growing up to woods, some modern tract houses along 87.

History of bridge and site:

Sources:

B.H. ☒

Plans No

RR. Not found

Maint ☒

\*\*\*\*\*

Summary statement of significance:

One of some 350 steel plate girder bridges listed in the MDPW statewide computerized database; somewhat altered, and not one of the earliest examples

Statement prepared by: S.J. Roper

Date: 18 July 1986

\*\*\*\*\*

Field survey by: S.J. Roper, MDPW Hist. Bridges Specialist

Date: 17 July 1986

MDPW RECOMMENDATION - NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Street on</u>	<u>No.</u>
Bridge: <u>Southborough</u>	<u>ST 87, Marlborough Rd / Conrail</u>	<u>5-20-5</u>

Historic evaluation

Significant because:

- |                                                        |             |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1) Unusual or unique type                              | _____       |
| or rare survivor of common type                        | _____       |
| 2) Early example of type                               | _____       |
| 3) Design - Valuable contribution to bridge technology | _____       |
| 4) Retains integrity                                   | _____       |
| 5) Builder known and important Boston Bridge Works     | _____X_____ |
| 6) Bridge historically important to area               | _____       |

Not significant because:

- |                                                                             |             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1) Common type steel through plate girder                                   | _____X_____ |
| 2) Post-1931                                                                | _____       |
| 3) Design - no contribution to bridge technology                            | _____X_____ |
| 4) Integrity <sup>lessened</sup> <del>lost</del> because of: a) alterations | _____X_____ |
| b) disintegration                                                           | _____       |
| 5) Builder unimportant or not known                                         | _____       |
| 6) No known significance in area                                            | _____X_____ |

<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially eligible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not eligible	<input type="checkbox"/> Not eligible individually, but located
-----------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------

Comments:

A typical, not very early example of a common bridge type, with some alterations

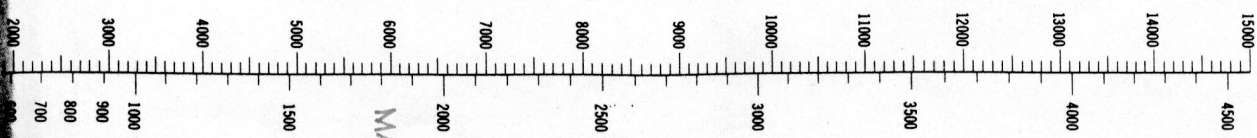
18 July 1986

S. J. Roper  
MDPW Historic Bridges Specialist

S.B.R. 900

CONVERSION  
SCALES

Feet  
Meters



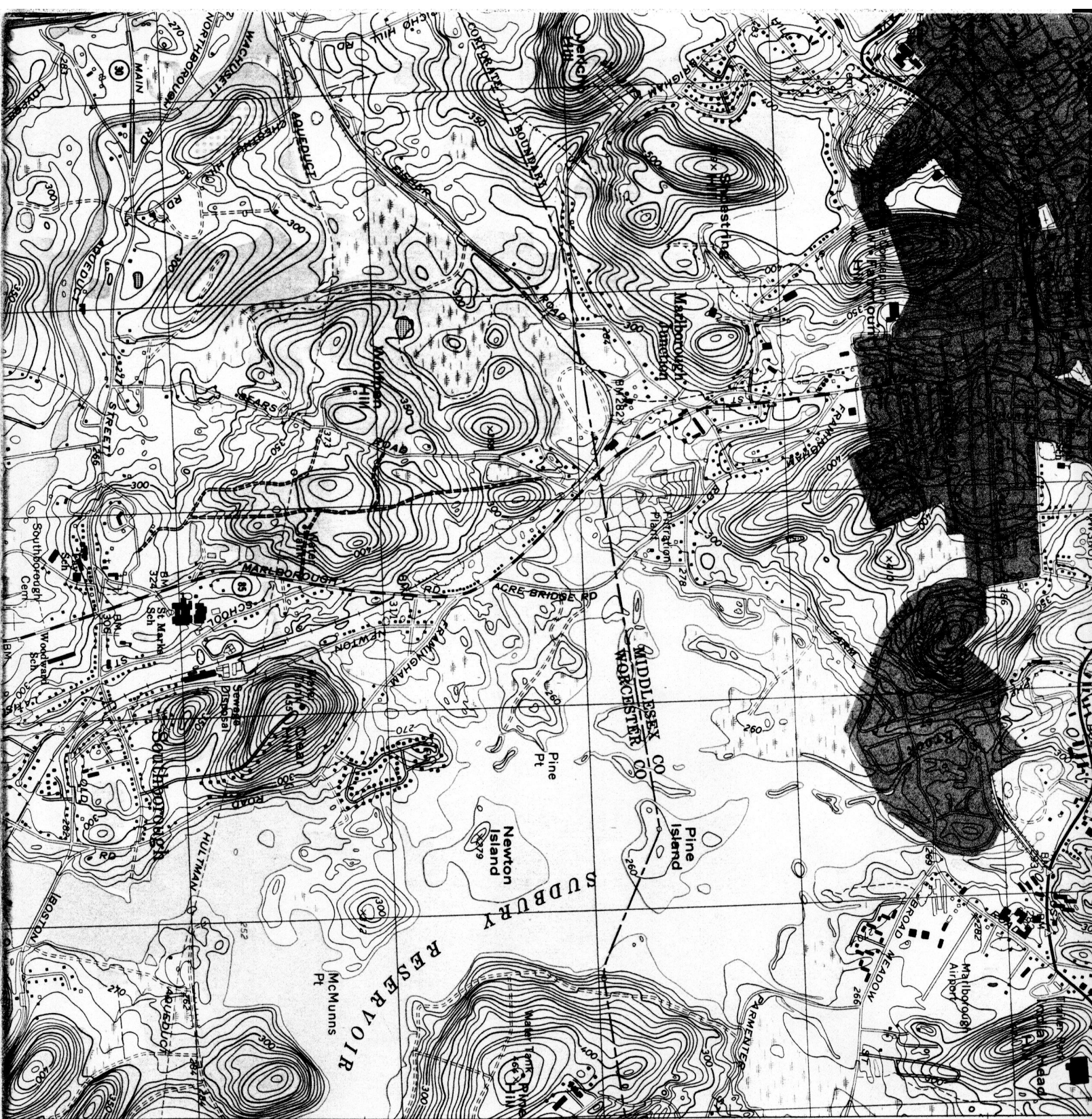
4588 4589 20' 4590 4591

22 MI.

(FRAMINGHAM)  
6768 IV SW

MARLBOROUGH  
QUAD.

5-20-5



(5-20-5)

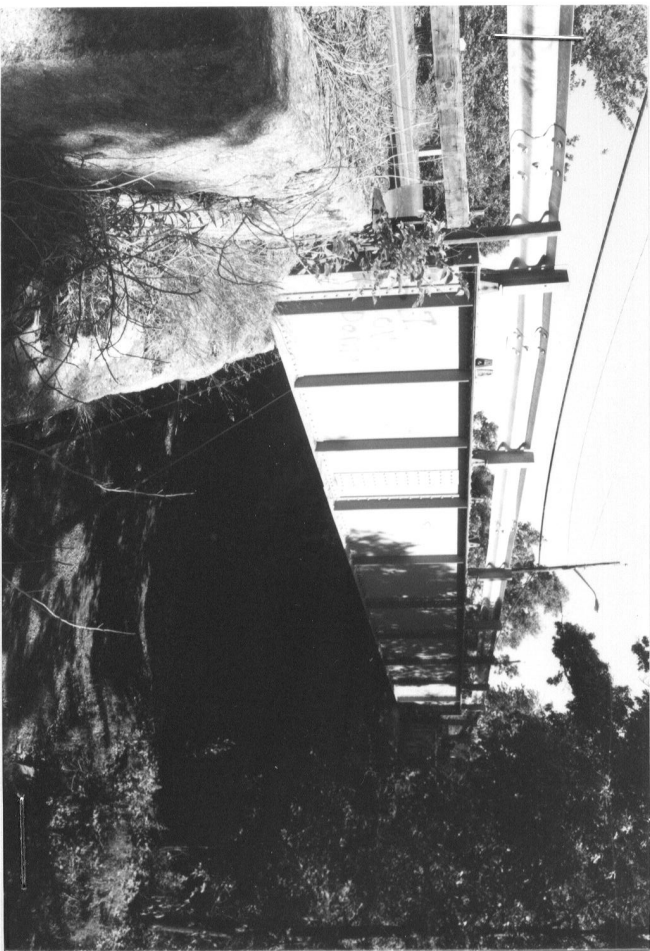
MACRIS No. 5 BR. 900



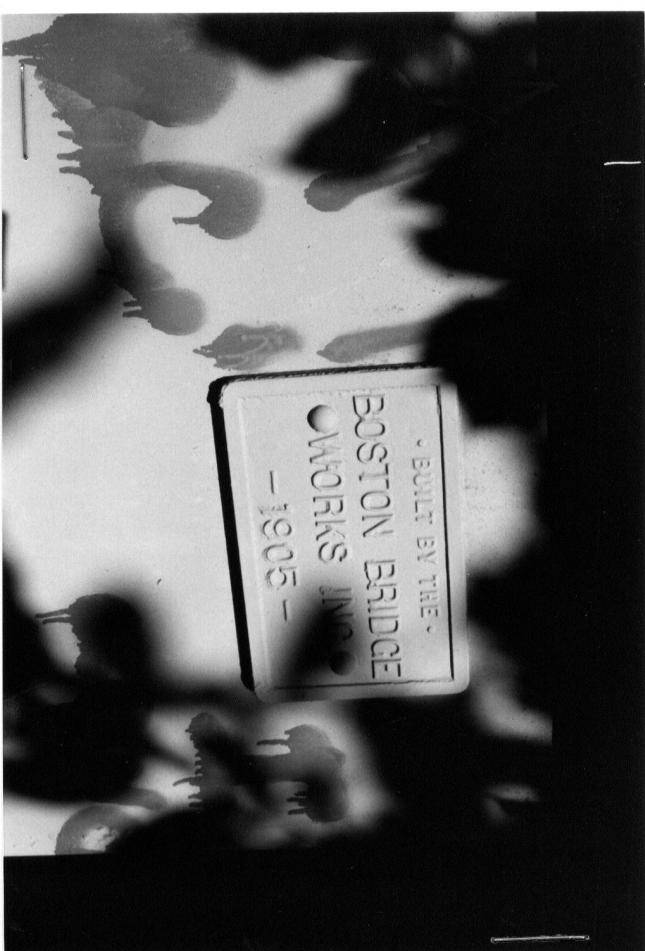
FROM SE (7-15-86)



FROM NW (7-15-86)



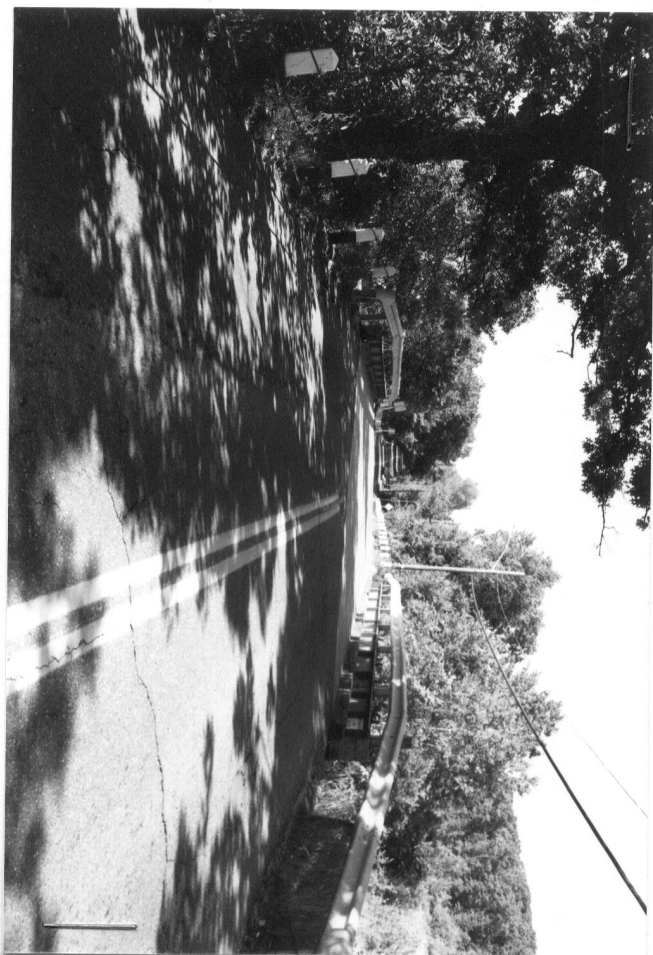
E GIRDER FROM SE (7-15-86)



ON N END, E. GIRDER (7-15-86)



From S (7-15-86)



From N (7-15-86)

TO: Betsy FRETURN TO REVIEWER BY \_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)FROM: Bill SmithDATE: 1/17/87TOWN: SouthboroughPROPERTY: S-20-5 Marlborough Rd. / Conrail  
(NAME AND ADDRESS)

1. Does this property meet the criteria for NR eligibility?

☐ YES☒ NO

## A. Criteria

- a. events
- b. lives
- c. characteristics
- d. information

B. Local \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ National \_\_\_\_\_

2. Statement of Significance: OR Why not eligible?

1905 steel <sup>through</sup> V-Plate Girder

Common Bridge type

☐ DOE LETTER WRITTEN

FILED IN ER FILE \_\_\_\_\_

(DATE) \_\_\_\_\_

The following bridges do not appear to meet National Register criteria at present. However, these bridges have associations with the early development of Rte. 128, a major limited-access dual highway of national significance. As each of these bridges reaches 50 years of age, its National Register eligibility should be reassessed within the context of the development of Rte. 128. A more complete study of the development of Rte. 128 will be needed to complete these reassessments..

SBR.900

Beverly	B-11-9	State 128 over State 97
Beverly	B-11-10	State 128 over State 1A
Danvers/Peabody	D-3-18/P-3-18	State 128 over Waters River
Danvers	D-3-19	State 128 over Crane River
Danvers	D-3-20	State 128 over B & M Railroad
Danvers	D-3-25	State 128 over Elliot St. (State 62)
Peabody	P-3-16	State 114 over State 128

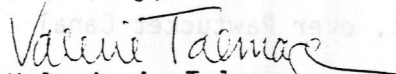
Good example of Art Deco design; however, additional information will be required in order to review this bridge within the context of other small scale Art Deco bridges.

The following bridges do not appear to meet criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Boston	B-16-35	Hyde Park Ave. over Mother Brook
Boston	B-16-106	Cummins Highway over P.C. Railroad
Brockton	B-25-42	(State 27) Crescent St. over Beaver Brook
Princeton/Sterling	P-16-6/S-25-1	State 140 (Main St.) over Justice Brook
Princeton/Sterling	P-16-7/S-25-5	State 140 (Redemption Rock Trail) over Stillwater River
Raynham	R-2-4	Church St. over P.S. Railroad
Sterling	S-25-16	Redemption Rock Trail over Wachusett Brook
Southborough	S-20-5	Marlborough Rd. over Conrail
Walpole	W-3-21	West St. over Conrail
Worcester	W-44-2	Mill St. over Tatnuck Brook

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact William Smith at this office.

Sincerely,



Valerie A. Talmage  
Executive Director  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

cc: Frank Bracaglia, MDPW

VAT/WS/



## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary of State  
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

### Massachusetts Historical Commission

Valerie A. Talmage

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

February 23, 1987

Mr. James A. Walsh  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
Transportation Systems Center  
55 Broadway - 10th Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02142

ATTN: Mr. Hiram Pearlman

RE: Bridges---National Register Eligibility

Dear Mr. Walsh:

The Massachusetts Historical Commission staff has reviewed the historic bridge inventory forms prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works. The MHC concurs with the preliminary finding of the MDPW that the following bridge appears to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Greenfield                      G-12-26                      Meridian St. over Green River

(Wiley & Russell Bridge) virtually unaltered 1917 reinforced concrete filled spandrel with deck arch. Art Deco parapets, four original tuscan column light standards.

Unusual length (99 ft. clear span) for this early type bridge.

Linked to Greenfield Tap & Die complex, built during period of major expansion for this important manufactory; provided major access to plan. Eligible individually and possibly within district of Greenfield Tap & Die, and worker's housing.

The following bridges did not appear to meet National Register Criteria. However, the bridges are within an historic district or potentially eligible historic district, and plans for replacement should take into consideration potential impact to adjacent properties.

Greenfield                      G-12-17                      Colrain Rd. over Allen Brook

Lowell                          L-15-10a, L-15-10c                      School St. over Pawtucket Canal