Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: CE-1477

Name: Kirks Mill Lane over Northeast Creek

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility Recommended ___X____ Eligibility Not Recommended _____

Criteria: ____A ____B _X_C ____D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G __None

Comments:_____

_____

_____

Reviewer, OPS:_Anne E. Bruder_____ Date:__3 April 2001____

Reviewer, NR Program:__Peter E. Kurtze_____ Date:__3 April 2001____

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Historic Bridge Inventory
Maryland State Highway Administration
Maryland Historical Trust

MHT Number CE-1477

Name and SHA No. CE 57 over Northeast Creek

Location:
Street/Road Name and Number: Kirks Mill Lane over Northeast Creek

City/Town: **Pleasant Hill** Vicinity X

County: **Cecil**

Ownership: __State_X_County__Municipal__Other

This bridge projects over: __Road__Railway_X_Water__Land

Is the bridge located within a designated district:__yes_X_no

__NR listed district__NR determined eligible district
__locally designated__other
Name of District_____

Bridge Type:

__Timber Bridge
__Beam Bridge__Truss-Covered__Trestle
__Timber-and-Concrete

__Stone Arch

__Metal Truss

__Movable Bridge
__Swing __Bascule Single Leaf__Bascule Multiple Leaf
__Vertical Lift__Retractile__Pontoon

_X_Metal Girder
_X_Rolled Girder __Rolled Girder Concrete Encased
__Plate Girder __Plate Girder Concrete Encased

__Metal Suspension

__Metal Arch

__Metal Cantilever

__Concrete
__Concrete Arch __Concrete Slab__Concrete Beam
__Rigid Frame
__Other Type Name_____

Description:

Describe Setting:

Bridge No. CE 57 carries Kirks Mill Lane north-south over Northeast Creek in Cecil County, Maryland. The area surrounding the bridge is primarily farmland, with wooded areas around the margins of the creek. Overhead utility lines run parallel to the west side of the bridge.

Describe Superstructure and Substructure:

Bridge No. CE 57 is a steel stringer bridge built around 1930. It is 50.5' long and has a curb-to-curb width of 15'. The superstructure consists of a timber plank deck, and railings, supported by steel stringers. The steel stringers sit directly on two masonry abutments. The wingwalls are also of masonry construction. The railings are wood.

The bridge is in poor condition. Many of the timber deck planks are split. The abutments and wingwalls exhibit some areas of concrete patching. In 1991 a 6' long section of the southeast wingwall partially collapsed. The timber backwall is deteriorating.

Discuss Major Alterations:

The only known modification of the structure includes concrete patching of the abutments and wingwalls, and the installation of rip-rap at the south abutment.

History:
When Built: 1930
Why Built: Local transportation needs
Who Built: Unknown
Why Altered: Safety and structural needs.
Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign: Unknown

Surveyor Analysis:
This bridge may have NR significance for association with:
_X_A Events __Person
_X_C Engineering/Architectural

Was this bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history:

In 1877, the area in the immediate vicinity of the bridge was populated. Just below the bridge was a "grist and saw mill, fed by a mill race which ran south of the bridge. The residence of W.R Watkins is near the mill and he may be the owner. The early 20th century maps of the area indicate there were several structures in the vicinity, but the race is not visible.

When the bridge was built and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?

The construction of this bridge was most likely a replacement of an earlier bridge in the same location, and so would probably have had little effect on growth and development of the area. Most of the modifications to this bridge have been minor repairs, that would not influence the historical development of the area.

Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation and would the bridge add to or detract from historic and visual character of the possible district?

This bridge may be located in an area which might be eligible for historic designation.

Is the bridge a significant example of its type?

This bridge may be a significant example of its type.

Does the bridge retain integrity of the important elements described in the Context Addendum?

In spite its poor condition, this bridge appears to retain all of the important primary character defining elements described in the Context Addendum.

Should this bridge be given further study before significance analysis is made and Why?

Further study of this bridge should be made to determine the significance of the mill complex visible on the 1877 map and to determine its relationship to the bridge. The construction of the original bridge may be related to the mill complex. This bridge is considered eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, and may be eligible under Criteria A.

Bibliography:

Cecil County Department of Public Works
v.d. County bridge inspection files.
Greiner, Inc.
1995 Maryland Inventory of Historic Bridges.
Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson
1877 Illustrated Atlas of Cecil County, Maryland.
Spero, P.A.C. & Company, and Louis Berger & Associates
1994 "Historic Bridges in Maryland: Historic Bridge Context."

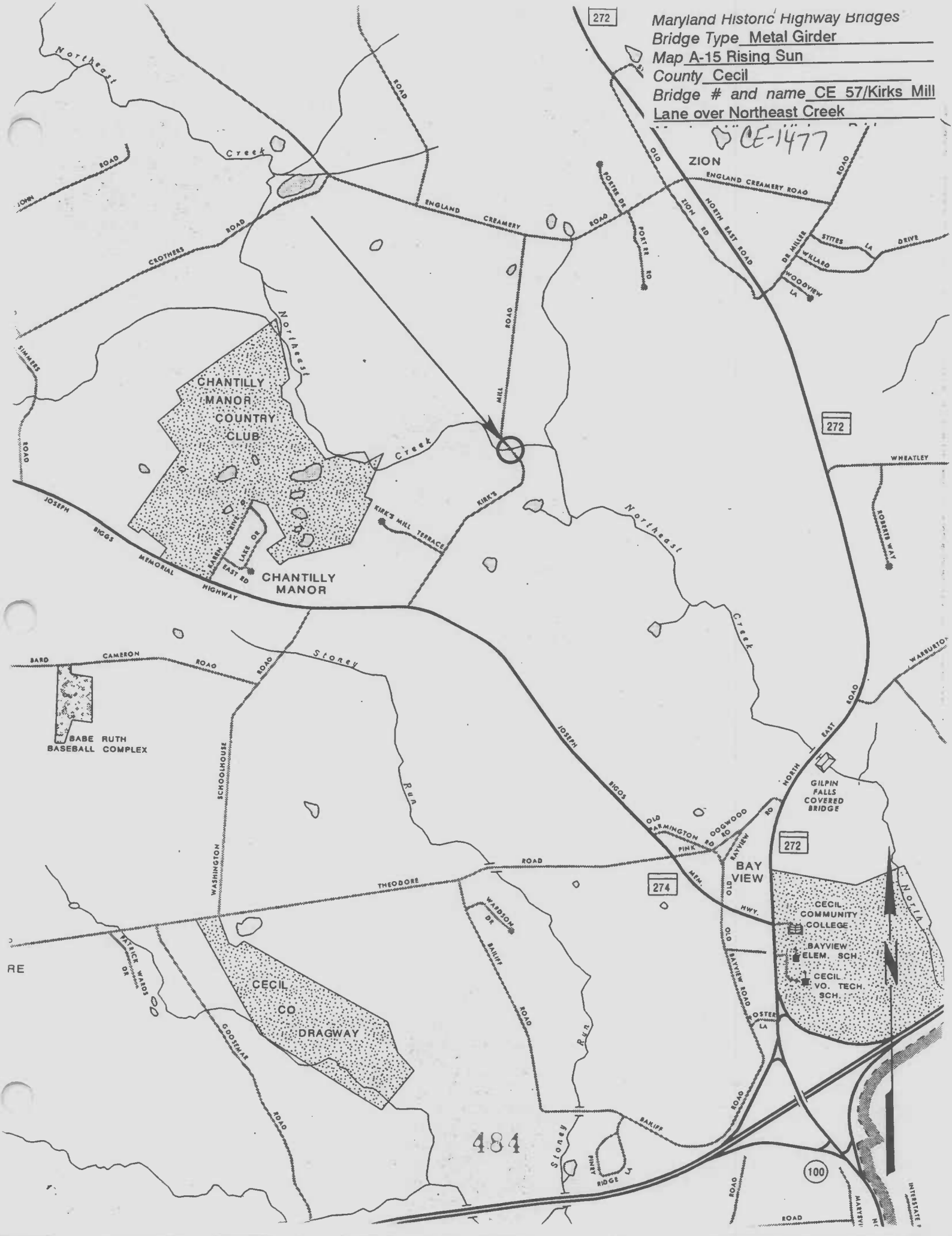
CE-1477

United States Geological Survey
1953 7.5' Bay View Quadrangle, photorevised 1970.
United States Geological Survey
1900 15' Elkton Quadrangle.

Surveyor:
Name: Jason D. Moser **Date:** September 1995
Organization: State Highway Admin. **Telephone:** (410) 321-2213
Address: 2323 West Joppa Road Brooklandville, MD 21022

Maryland Historic Highway Bridges
Bridge Type Metal Girder
Map A-15 Rising Sun
County Cecil
Bridge # and name CE 57/Kirks Mill Lane over Northeast Creek

CE-1477



SINGLE UNIT
10000 LBS GVW
COMBINATION UNIT
10000 LBS GCW

CE-1477

CECIL COUNTY, MD

MATT HURLEY

FEB 14 1995

~~MARYLAND~~ SHPO ~~SHA~~

BRIDGE NO CE 057

LOOKING SOUTH

1 OF 4

SINGLE UNIT
TOTAL LBS GVW
TRIPLE UNIT
TOTAL LBS GCW

CE 1477
CECIL COUNTY, MD

MATT HURLEY

FEB 14 1995

~~MARYLAND SHPO~~ SHA

BRIDGE NO. CE 057

LOOKING NORTH

2 OF 4

CE-1477
CECIL COUNTY, MD
MATT HURLEY
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~~MARYLAND SHPO~~ SHA
BRIDGE NO CE 057
UPSTREAM SIDE OF BRIDGE
3 OF 4

CE-1477
CECIL COUNTY, MD
MATT HURLEY
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~~MARYLAND SHPO~~ SHA
BRIDGE NO CE 057
DOWNSTREAM SIDE OF BRIDGE
4 OF 4