Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: WI-218.

Name: WI-1661 / BETHEL RD. OVER BURNT MILL BR.

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 _____ Eligibility Not Recommended __X____

Criteria: ____A ____B ____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 BRIDGES **MHT No.** WI-218
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION/
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

SHA Bridge No. WI-1661 **Bridge name** Bethel Road over Burnt Mill Branch

LOCATION:
Street/Road name and number [facility carried] Bethel Road

City/town Pittsville **Vicinity** X

County Wicomico

This bridge projects over: Road ___ **Railway** ___ **Water** X **Land** ___

Ownership: State ___ **County** X **Municipal** ___ **Other** ___

HISTORIC STATUS:
Is the bridge located within a designated historic district? Yes ___ **No** X
National Register-listed district ___ **National Register-determined-eligible district** ___
Locally-designated district ___ **Other** ___

Name of district ___

BRIDGE TYPE:
Timber Bridge ___:
Beam Bridge ___ **Truss -Covered** ___ **Trestle** ___ **Timber-And-Concrete** ___

Stone Arch Bridge ___

Metal Truss Bridge ___

Movable Bridge ___:
Swing ___ **Bascule Single Leaf** ___ **Bascule Multiple Leaf** ___
Vertical Lift ___ **Retractile** ___ **Pontoon** ___

Metal Girder ___:
Rolled Girder ___ **Rolled Girder Concrete Encased** ___
Plate Girder ___ **Plate Girder Concrete Encased** ___

Metal Suspension ___

Metal Arch ___

Metal Cantilever ___

Concrete X:
Concrete Arch ___ **Concrete Slab** X **Concrete Beam** ___ **Rigid Frame** ___
Other ___ **Type Name** ___

DESCRIPTION:

Setting: Urban _____ **Small town** _____ **Rural** X

Describe Setting: Bridge No. WI 1661 carries Bethel Road over Burnt Mill Branch in northern Wicomico County. The setting around the bridge is predominantly wooded. The stream is flowing from west to east.

Describe Superstructure and substructure:

Bridge No. WI 1661 is a three span concrete slab bridge built in 1967. Each span is 20'- 2" in length. The total bridge length is 61'- 1". The bridge width from parapet to parapet is 33'- 0". The parapets are solid with attached metal railings. The bridge substructure consists of timbers piles.

Discuss Major Alterations:

This bridge was converted into a concrete slab bridge in 1967 when the original deck was removed. The deck and parapets are modern. The wooden piles underneath remain from an earlier structure.

HISTORY:

WHEN was the bridge built: 1967 (deck and parapets)

This date is: Actual X **Estimated** _____

Source of date: Plaque _____ **Design plans** ____ **County bridge files/inspection form** ____

Other (specify) Imprint on bridge

WHY was the bridge built?

The need for a more efficient transportation network and load capacity.

WHO was the designer?

State Highway Administration

WHO was the builder?

State Highway Administration

WHY was the bridge altered?

New deck was constructed in 1967 to enhance bridge safety and load capacity.

Was the bridge built as part of an organized bridge-building campaign?

Unknown.

SURVEYOR/HISTORIAN ANALYSIS:

This bridge may have National Register significance for its association with:

A - Events ____ **B- Person** _____

C- Engineering/architectural character ____

This bridge does not have National Register significance

Was the bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history?

Unknown.

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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?
There is no evidence to suggest that the construction of this bridge effected the growth or development of this area. This is a rural area, the nature of which has changed little during the past century.

Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation and would the bridge add to or detract from the historic/visual character of the potential district?
This bridge is not located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation.

Is the bridge a significant example of its type?
No, this bridge is not a significant example of its type.

Does the bridge retain integrity of important elements described in Context Addendum?
No, the bridge does not retain the integrity of its original design because the deck and parapets were replaced in 1967.

Is the bridge a significant example of the work of a manufacturer, designer and/or engineer?
No, this bridge is not a significant example of the manufacturer.

Should the bridge be given further study before an evaluation of its significance is made?
No further evaluation is necessary to determine National Register significance.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

County inspection/bridge files X SHA Inspection/bridge files__

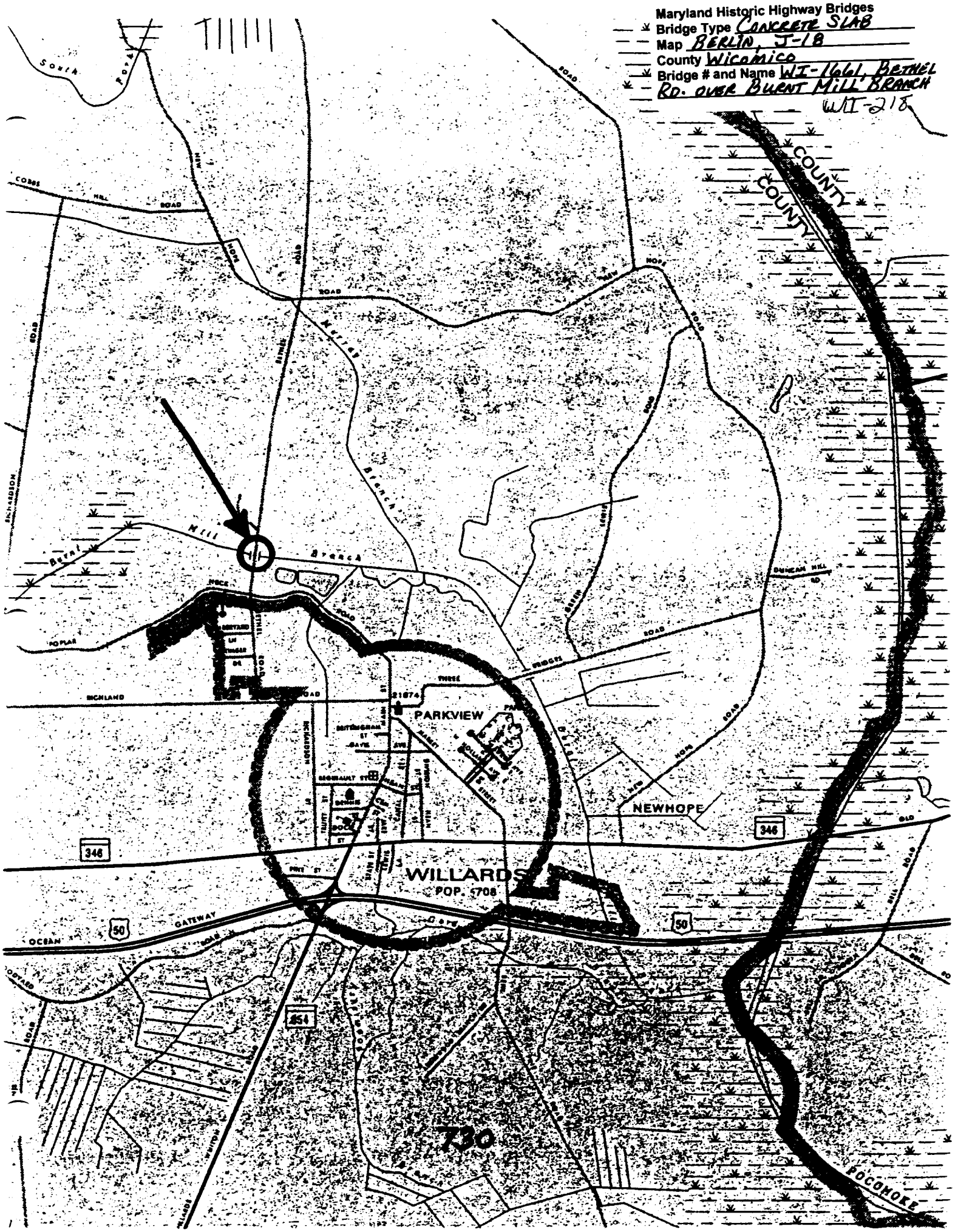
Telephone conversation with Jim Miller, County Engineer for Wicomico County, August 11, 1995.

SURVEYOR/SURVEY INFORMATION:

Date bridge recorded 8/95

Name of surveyor Daniel Moriarty
Organization/Address P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412, Baltimore, Maryland 21204
Phone number 410-296-1635 **FAX number** 410-296-1670

Maryland Historic Highway Bridges
Bridge Type CONCRETE SLAB
Map BERLIN, J-18
County WICOMICO
Bridge # and Name WI-1661, BETHEL RD. OVER BURNT MILL BRANCH
WI-218



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