

Swing Bridges



Photo 5-55. Ft. Denaud Swing Bridge, Hendry County (No. 070013)

Fort Denaud Swing Bridge

Hendry County
FDOT #070013, 8HN0632

The Fort Denaud Bridge over the Caloosahatchee River consists of five prestressed concrete slab approach spans, with a low concrete railing. The spans are joined to a 132-foot-long Warren pony swing span on a rim-bearing pivot. The total length of this bridge is 435 feet. The Powell Brothers Construction Company of Fort Lauderdale, established by former Champion Bridge Company engineer Hugh Quinn, built the structure in 1940. The State Road Department dismantled the bridge in 1958 and re-erected it at its present location in 1963.¹²¹ The structure was

rehabilitated in 1987. The most important alteration during the rehabilitation was the addition of shallow cable stay supports along the top chords of the truss. Despite its alterations, this bridge retains its historic physical integrity. It was determined NRHP-eligible during the 2000 survey under Criterion C in the area of Engineering as a rare example of a rim-bearing swing bridge.

Blackburn Point Swing Bridge

Sarasota County
FDOT #170064, 8SO1890

This Warren pony truss swing span bridge carries Blackburn Point Road over the Intracoastal Waterway, linking Tamiami Trail (US-41) with Casey Key. This bridge was constructed in 1925 by the Champion Bridge Company of Ohio. Essential repairs were made over the years, notably in 1981, after the bridge was struck by a barge. Subsequent repairs were made in 1987 and 1995. The 142-foot-long, single-span Warren pony truss swing bridge operates on a center-bearing pivot located in the middle of the channel. Rigidly connected and sturdily built, the truss



Photo 5-56. Blackburn Point Swing Bridge, Sarasota County (No. 170064)

¹²¹ Atkins and Keeler (1981) date this reconstruction to 1959, but departmental records indicate 1963.