

with molded concrete pineapples. A metal bridge plaque dedicating the bridge "In Memory of Cathy Rosen Duck Key Bridge Tender" is located on a railing post at the east approach.



Photo 6-5. Harbour Bridge (No. 904604)



Photo 6-6. Rosen Bridge (No. 904606)

Sunset Island Bridges, Miami-Dade County

Three reinforced concrete tee-beam bridges (**Table 6-3**) connect the Sunset Islands in Biscayne Bay with Miami Beach. These bridges were constructed by the Sunset Island Company in 1926. A fourth bridge connecting these islands, Sunset Island Bridge Number 3, was replaced in 1995. Sunset Island Bridge Nos. 1 and 2 were determined NRHP-eligible by the Florida SHPO in 2010. They are significant under Criterion A in the area of Community Planning and Development and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Although development on the islands did not actually begin until 1936, their association with the 1920s development of the Sunset Islands heightens the importance of these bridges. The Sunset Island Company planned these bridges, with an emphasis on their appearance, in hopes of attracting development to the islands. While simple from an engineering perspective, the decorative balustrades and ornate, wrought iron lampposts provide these bridges with a notably elegant appearance, and thus lend aesthetic significance. Sunset Island Bridges Nos. 2 and 4 were rehabilitated in the 1990s. In general, these rehabilitations improved both structures in order to meet current roadway safety standards while maintaining their historical integrity. In addition, both bridges had suffered a great deal of deterioration since 1929, especially along the balustrades. All four balustrades were replaced with matching balustrades in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s rehabilitation standards.

Table 6-3. Sunset Island Bridges.

| FDOT No. | FMSF No. | Year Built | Route Carried / Feature Intersected |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| 876707 | 8DA6441 | 1926 | Sunset Drive over Sunset Lake Canal (Bridge No. 1) |
| 876708 | 8DA5828 | 1926 | Sunset Drive over Sunset Lake Canal (Bridge No. 2) |
| 876710 | 8DA5829 | 1926 | W. 29 th Street over Sunset Lake Canal (Bridge No. 4) |

Sunset Island Bridge No. 1 (No. 876707; **Photo 6-7**) is a fine example of a curved concrete tee-beam bridge. In developing its real estate holdings on small islands in Biscayne Bay, the Sunset Island Company

built this 128-foot long, three-span bridge across Sunset Lake Canal. The bridge's most notable features are the curved tee-beams and the cast concrete railings with spindle-shaped balusters.



Photo 6-7. Sunset Island Bridge No. 1 (No. 876707)



Photo 6-8. Sunset Island Bridge No. 4 (No. 876710)

The Sunset Island Company constructed **Sunset Island Bridge No. 2** (No. 876708) in essentially the same style that it built Sunset Island Bridge No. 1. This second bridge also carries Sunset Drive over the Sunset Lake Canal. At 146 feet in length, this structure represents the longest of the three remaining historic Sunset Island Bridges. The curved tee-beams, classical treatment on the cast concrete railings, and the decorative lampposts combine to make it an attractive structure.

Sunset Islands Bridge No. 4 (No. 876710; **Photo 6-8**) carries W. 29th Street across Sunset Canal. The 144-foot-long bridge features curved concrete tee-beams, a decorative, classical-style railing with cast concrete balusters, and period lampposts. The structure retains its original character and provides a good example of an aesthetically pleasing treatment of a standard girder bridge.

Venetian Causeway Bridges, Miami-Dade County

Twelve bridges (Nos. 874459 - 874461, 874463, 874465, 874466, 874471 - 874474, 874477, and 874481) carry the Venetian Causeway over Biscayne Bay, linking Miami and Miami Beach. The 12 bridges (numbered 1-12 from west to east) cut across one natural and five man-made islands. The entire causeway runs about 2.5 miles in length, from NE 15th Street in Miami to Dade Boulevard in Miami Beach.

In 1913, on the same site as the current causeway, Miami Beach pioneer John Collins built one of the longest timber deck trestles in the nation to link his beach community with the mainland. This was replaced in 1926 with the Venetian Causeway, constructed by the Bay Biscayne Improvement Company and its contractor, the Raymond Concrete Pile Company of New York City. The functional purpose of the causeway was to provide access to the Venetian Island communities, also constructed by the Biscayne Bay Improvement Company. The Venetian Causeway (collectively assigned the FMSF No. 8DA4736) was listed in the NRHP in 1989. The 12 bridges are significant under Criterion A in the areas of Transportation and Community Planning and Development and under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Engineering.¹⁴⁷

¹⁴⁷ Welcher, Vicki L., Venetian Causeway, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, May 1989.