

structure.<sup>133</sup> The three other bridges of this type include two in Miami and the Boca Inlet Bridge.<sup>134</sup> The SE 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Hanover Skew Bascule Bridge (FDOT #874131) was completely demolished and replaced in 2003 by Bridge No. 874145. The 1950 NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street Hanover Bascule Bridge over the Miami Canal (FDOT #870625), while extant, has had its machinery removed, and is no longer operational as a bascule bridge.<sup>135</sup>

The Boca Inlet Bridge is newly recommended NRHP-eligible under Criterion C in the area of Engineering as the only intact and functioning bascule bridge in the United States possessing the patented Hanover skew design. In addition to its importance to Florida, this bridge is significant at the national level as an extremely unique and complex moveable structure in terms of both design and structure.

**George Bush Boulevard Bridge/NE  
8<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge**  
Palm Beach County  
FDOT #930026, 8PB13707

This double-leaf, rolling lift bascule bridge, completed in 1949, carries George Bush Boulevard (formerly NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street) over the Intracoastal Waterway in Delray Beach. It was built by the Murphy Brothers Construction Company based on plans approved by the Palm Beach County Engineer, J.M. Boyd. Bridge construction was funded by municipal bonds, as well as the County Commission and the State Road Department. The 270-foot long by 33-foot wide structure is comprised of the



**Photo 5-73. George Bush Boulevard Bridge/NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, Palm Beach County (No. 930026)**

80-foot main steel bascule span and four approach spans of reinforced concrete. The original slotted rail concrete balustrade was covered, in 2003, with recessed metal panels. The tender station, completed in 1950, is located on the south side of the bridge. The concrete building features a metal hipped roof (ca. 2005), center hipped cupola, and a quatrefoil design on the north elevation.

The George Bush Boulevard Bridge was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP by the SHPO on April 16, 2008. It is significant under Criterion A in the area of Community Planning and Development for its historical associations with the post-World War II land boom in Delray Beach. It played a major role in promoting the growth of the city by providing the improved access which was instrumental in shaping the area's development. It is also eligible under Criterion C in the area of Engineering, as it embodies the distinguishing engineering characteristics of a mid-twentieth century rolling lift bascule design. Bridges of this type are very rare in Florida, with only nine remaining. Of these, three are located in Palm Beach County.

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<sup>133</sup> "Replacement of Rare Hanover Skewed Bascule, The Hamilton Avenue Bridge." Accessed at: <http://www.ascemetsection.org/content/view/414/129>.

<sup>134</sup> NSBA (National Steel Bridge Alliance). "NSBA 2009: Prize Bridge Competition" in *Structure: A Joint Publication of NCSEA/CASE/SEI*. October 2008. Accessed at: <http://www.structuremag.org/article.aspx?articleID=775>.

<sup>135</sup> Noles, Timothy, P.E.. Personal communication. Principal, Hardesty & Hanover - Miami, FL. October 13, 2010.