



Photo 5-60. Loxahatchee Bridge/Twenty Mile Bend Bridge, Palm Beach County (No. 930940)

Loxahatchee Bridge/ Twenty Mile Bend Bridge

Palm Beach County

FDOT #930940, 8PB0231

The Loxahatchee Bridge, also known as the Twenty Mile Bend Bridge, was completed by the State Road Department in 1937. It carries US-98/US-441 over the West Palm Beach Canal (Loxahatchee River) near Twenty Mile Bend and the town of Loxahatchee in Palm Beach County. The original Warren through truss swing structure is now a fixed bridge. The three-span bridge, which extends a total length of 221 feet, is comprised of two steel frame approach spans and the 187-foot long main Warren through truss span with

verticals and a parallel topchord. The main span is mounted on a center-bearing pivot that sits on a concrete cylinder pier. Some of the steel members carry the mill mark of “Carnegie U.S.A.”

Constructed by the state when swing bridges were becoming less common, the structure is a particularly fine example of an unusual type, the Warren through truss swing span. In addition, the evidence of careful workmanship combined with a high degree of original integrity makes the bridge historically valuable.

The Loxahatchee Bridge was determined eligible by the SHPO on October 25, 1990. It is significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of Transportation and Engineering, respectively. It is distinguished as the only remaining truss bridge in Palm Beach County, and the only Warren truss bridge in Florida with parallel topchords.