



**Photo 5-74. Clarence Geist Memorial Bridge/Camino Real Bridge/Boca Raton Club Bridge, Palm Beach County (No. 934408)**

**Clarence Geist Memorial Bridge/Camino Real Bridge/Boca Raton Club Bridge**

Palm Beach County  
FDOT #934408, 8PB8111

Completed in 1939, this double-leaf rolling lift bascule bridge carries E. Camino Real Boulevard over the Intracoastal Waterway in Boca Raton. The steel bascule was manufactured by the Nashville Bridge Company. The bridge was constructed by the Cleary Brothers Construction Company from plans approved by the Palm Beach County Bridge Engineer, J.M. Boyd. Funding was provided by the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works under Project No. FLA-1338-F.

The 256-foot long by 32-foot wide structure is comprised of a steel bascule main span extending 87 feet, and 4 concrete girder approach spans supported by a concrete pier substructure. The bridge features common slotted concrete railings topped by a heavy concrete cap. Non-historic alterations in 1984 and 2007 included tender station modifications, painting, and electrical upgrades.

This bridge was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP by the SHPO on December 13, 2007. It is significant under Criterion A in the area of Community Planning and Development for its historical associations with the post-World War II development in Boca Raton and its associations with the federal Depression-era program. 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. It is one of only nine remaining rolling-lift bascule bridges in Florida, and thus, represents a rare bridge type. This bridge also is part of the county-designated Palm Beach County Camino Real and Camino Real Bridge historic district.