

9. HISTORICAL DATA

8. USGS QUAD. Norristown, PA.

UTM's: Zone 18

E	4	7	0	9	2	0
N	4	4	3	5	2	4
E						
N						

Designer/Engineer: Unknown

Builder/Contractor: Unknown

Bridge Company: Unknown

Date(s): 1789 ; basis Plaque on bridge

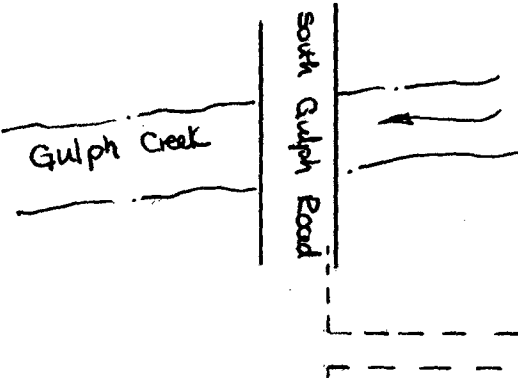
Rebuilt 1789 ; basis Plaque on bridge

_____ ; basis

_____ ; basis

Use: Vehicular present; Vehicular original.

10. SITE PLAN



11. INTEGRITY

altered; _____
 unaltered; _____
 moved; _____

Explain:
 Wing walls have been repaired

12. VIEW

no.

PHOTO

13. COMMENTS

Unusual features:
 South side has concrete cap parapet

Locale/environment: Small suburban picturesque village

Machinery (describe/identify type/equipment):

14. DIMENSIONS

spans: _____ no., 100 ft. O/A
 main: 1 no., 20 ft.
 secondary: _____ no., _____ ft.
 approach: _____ no., _____ ft.
 piers: _____ no.
 towers: _____ no., _____ ft.

1. County Montgomery	2. Municipality U. Merion Twp.	3. Structure No. 46100225101149017	4. Survey Code 811 S-43
5. Present Name Bridge in Upper Merion Twp.	6. Other Name (historic name if any) n/a	7. Crossing South Gulph Road over Gulph Creek	

15. TYPE

CHARACTERISTICS

Truss: continuous/cantilever:

- webbing: _____
- anchor span: _____
- cantilever span: _____
- suspended span: _____
- thru/deck/low (pony): full-slope/half-hip.
- connections: pin/riveted.
- eyebars: loop welded/die forged.
- railing: _____
- columns: _____

Arch: masonry/metal:

- thru/deck/1/2-thru.
- fixed (hingeless) /1/2/3-hinged.
- ribs: solid/braced; crescent/parallel.
- spandrels: open/solid/braced.
- intrados/vault; ribbed/solid.
- shape: semi-circular/elliptical/segmental; stilted.
- skew

Suspension:

- stiffening: braced-chain (1/2/3-hinged) /suspended truss.
- wire cable: twisted/parallel.
- eyebar chain.
- back-stay: straight/curved.

Bascule:

- single/double leaf.
- rolling lift: Schertzer.
- trunnion: simple (Chicago) /multiple (Strauss).
- counterweights: heel/overhead.
- Page/Rail.
- semi-lift/direct lift.

Swing:

- bearing: center/rim/combination.
- (see Truss above).

Vertical Lift:

- (see Truss above).

Other:

- other: _____

16. MATERIALS (primary)

Superstructure	type	treatment/finish	source
main span:	masonry	semi-random	_____
towers:	_____	_____	_____
railings:	_____	_____	_____
Substructure			
piers:	_____	_____	_____
abutments:	_____	_____	_____
wings:	stone	semi-random	_____
intrados/ribs:	stone	_____	_____
voussoirs:	concrete (south)	stone (north)	_____

17. PHOTO NO's.
06-30 (10-16)

18. PREPARED BY:
AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: District 6-0
; DATE: December 2, 1982

Survey Number: S-43

Bridge Name and Address: Bridge in Upper Merion Township
L.R. 225
Montgomery County

Owner: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation
Transportation & Safety Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Statement of Significance: This small-span arch bridge is one of the oldest extant bridges in Pennsylvania. A date stone set in the bridge reads "1789- In the 2nd Year of the Federal Union". The massively structured bridge was built of semi-coursed rubble masonry and spans only twenty feet. Some repairs have been made to this bridge in its nearly 200 years of service as a highway bridge. An 1884 date stone, set in the parapet wall, documents that portions of the stone walls were rebuilt; more recently, the south arch ring was parged with cement. The overall appearance of the Upper Merion Township Stone Arch Bridge, however, is much as it was in 1789. It remains an important example of 18th century bridge construction in Pennsylvania.

Area of Significance: Engineering.

Boundary Description: The nominated property consists of a 100 feet long by 35 feet wide rectangle whose vertices coincide with the outside corners of the bridge's wing walls, and includes only bridge superstructure and substructure.

Acreage of Nominated Property: Less than one acre.

