VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY FORM

File No. 104-130
Negative no(s). 7211

Street address: No address (Rugby Road, just N of no. 180)
Town/City: Charlottesville
Historic name: Common name: Beta Bridge

Material:
- ☐ wood frame (siding: ☐ weatherboard, ☐ shingle, ☐ aluminum, ☐ bricktex, ☐ ____)
- ☐ brick (bond: ☐ Flemish, ☐ stretcher, ☐ ____-course American, ☐ ____)
- ☐ stone (☐ random rubble, ☐ random ashlar, ☐ coursed ashlar, ☐ ____)
- ☐ log (siding: ☐ weatherboard, ☐ shingle, ☐ aluminum, ☐ bricktex, ☐ ____)
- ☐ stucco
- ☐ concrete block
- ☐ enameled steel
- ☐ other: cast concrete
- ☐ cast iron
- ☐ terra cotta
- ☐ glass and metal

Number of Stories: ☐ 1 ☐ 1½ ☐ 2 ☐ 2½ ☐ 3 ☐ ____

Roof Type: ☐ shed ☐ gable ☐ pediment ☐ hipped ☐ other: ____ ☐ mansard ☐ gambrel ☐ parapet ☐ flat

Roof Material: ☐ slate ☐ wood shingle ☐ composition ☐ standing seam metal ☐ other ____ ☐ tile ☐ pressed tin ☐ not visible

Dormers: ☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ ____ ☐ shed ☐ gable ☐ pedimented ☐ hipped ☐ ____

Number of bays — Main facade: ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ ____

Porch: ☐ yes ☐ no

Stories: ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ ____

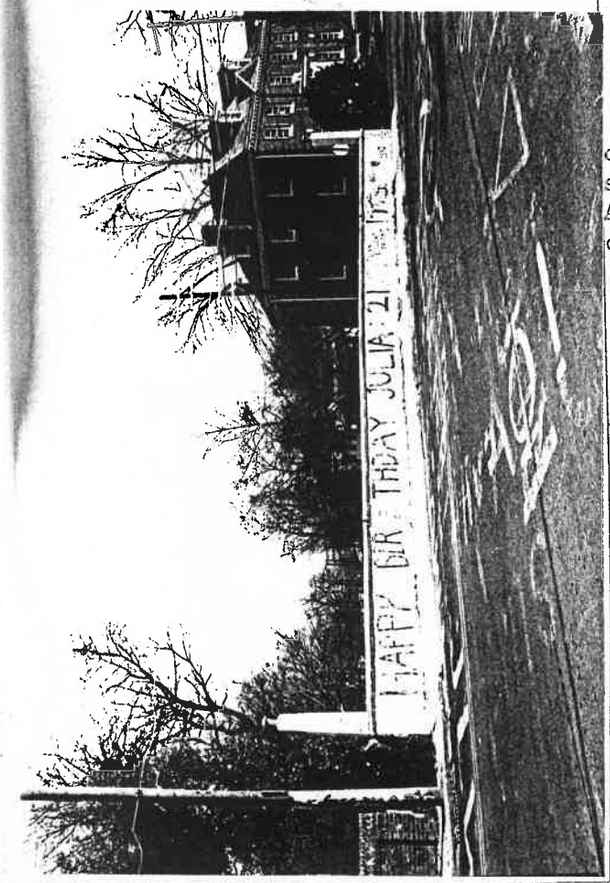
Bays: ☐ 1 (center) ☐ 1 (side) ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ ____

General description

Building type:
- ☐ detached house
- ☐ detached town house
- ☐ row house
- ☐ double house
- ☐ garage
- ☐ farmhouse
- ☐ apartment building
- ☐ gas station
- ☐ government
- ☐ commercial (office)
- ☐ commercial (store)
- ☐ railroad
- ☐ industrial
- ☐ school
- ☐ church
- ☐ ____

Style/period: Decorated Vernacular
Date: Ca. 1925-35
Architect/builder:

Location and description of entrance: NA



Miscellaneous descriptive information (plan, exterior and interior decoration, cornice/eave type, window type and trim, chimneys, additions, alterations)

This railroad overpass is constructed of poured concrete and has an arched underpass. The parapet sides are about 4 feet high and have a molded cap. At either end of the bridge are a pair of decorative cast-concrete obelisks with metal urns atop.

Historical information

This bridge replaces an earlier, wooden one in the late 1920s or early 30s. The earlier bridge was used for streetcars as well as motor vehicles.

Since the early 1960s it has served as an unofficia student bulletin board, being painted (usually at nigh with graffiti and artwork. Having been repainted several times a month for the past two decades, it is now covered in hundreds of layers of paint.

Source: Alexander Gilliam interview; Eugenia Bibb.

Surveyed by: Jeff O'Dell, VHLC
Date: 9-83