

# Minnesota Bridge Inventory 1955-1970

Bridge Number:  SHPO Inventory Number:  Bridge Name:

## Location Data:

Mn/DOT District:  County:  Bridge Owner:

Feature Intersected:  Facility Carried:  Location:

USGS Quadrangle:  UTM\_Zone:  UTM\_Easting:  UTM\_Northing:

Township:  Range:  Section  QTR:  QTR-QTR:

## Structural Data:

Bridge Type:  Mn/DOT Main Span Type Code:

Maximum Span Length (feet):  Number of Main Spans:  Structure Length (feet):

Year Built:  Skew (degrees):  Number of Approach Spans:

## Design and Construction Data:

Engineering Firm:  Engineer:

Fabricator:  Contractor:

## Architectural Treatments:

Original concrete and metal railing featuring narrow metal balustrade and curved ends is extant; the form of the bridge is unique in that there are no straight lines to the steel bridge architectural elements.

## Alterations and Integrity:

## Additional Bridge Details:

The bridge's concrete parapet has angeled brackets to match the angle of the rigid frame structure rather than the square brackets typically found for parapets in the subject period. There is a modern pedestrian bridge to the south that mimics the bridge's form and design.

## Bridge Plaque:

1. City of Bloomington Minnesota Bridge 27522 1969  
2. "Most Beautiful Bridge Short Span Designed by Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoff Awarded in 1970 by the American Institute of Steel Construction"

## Minnesota Bridge Inventory 1955-1970

Bridge Number: 27552 SHPO Inventory Number: HE-BLC-151 Bridge Name: Moir Park Bridge  
Feature Intersected: NINE MILE CREEK Facility Carried: 106th St(MSAS 407) Location: 0.5 MI W OF JCT TH 35W  
Bridge Type: Continuous steel rigid frame Year Built: 1968

### Photographs:



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Bridge Number: 27552 SHPO Inventory Number: HE-BLC-151 Bridge Name: Moir Park Bridge  
Feature Intersected: NINE MILE CREEK Facility Carried: 106th St(MSAS 407) Location: 0.5 MI W OF JCT TH 35W  
Bridge Type: Continuous steel rigid frame Year Built: 1968

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation:

Statement of Significance: Bridge 27552 demonstrates significance for its high artistic value. The overall form and presence of artistic elements such as the use of an ornamental rail and curved steel form illustrates the importance of aesthetics in the design of the bridge. Additionally, site considerations such as Nine Mile Creek, walking trail, and park setting were a factor during the design of this bridge demonstrating the importance of showing harmony with the bridge's surroundings. Bridge 27552 won the American Institute of Steel Construction industry award for the "Most beautiful bridge Short Span" in 1970 and demonstrates significance in the area of high artistic value. Bridge 27552 is significant as an example of a steel-rigid frame, an uncommon bridge type during the 1955-1970 period. Steel-rigid frame bridges were developed in the 1930s; however, they were uncommon in Minnesota during the study period. The bridge does not exhibit physical alterations and it retains its historic integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling, and association. This bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of Engineering at the state level of significance. However, this bridge is recommended not eligible for the National Register under Criterion A as it does not have a direct and significant association with an important historic transportation system, program, or policy identified through contextual research.

National Register Property Category: Transportation

National Register Property Subcategory: Bridge

Historic Context: Urban Centers 1870-1940

Level of Significance: State

National Register Determination: Eligible

National Register Determination Date: 2011

Surveyor: Mead and Hunt, Inc.

Date Surveyed: 2010

Sources: Langseth, Russell. Letter to Bloomington residents "Re: 106th St. Crossing of Nine Mile Creek." 22 April 1968. Bridge 27552, City of Bloomington archived files, Bloomington, Minn.  
Dedication letter, "City of Bloomington Moir Park Bridge." N.d. Bridge 27552, City of Bloomington archived files, Bloomington, Minn.  
Mead & Hunt, Inc. "Minnesota Bridges: 1956-1970: Politics, Policies, Technology and Design historic context" in *Minnesota Bridges, 1955-1970*. Prepared for Minnesota Department of Transportation. 2011.  
Minnesota Department of Transportation. *Bridge Inventory Database*. June 2009.  
Minnesota Department of Transportation. *Bridge Inspection File Records*. Located at Mn/DOT Bridge Office.  
Parsons Brinckerhoff and Engineering and Industrial Heritage. *A Context for Common Historic Bridge Types, NCHRP Project 25-25, Task 15*. [Washington, D.C.]: National Cooperative Highway Research Program, Transportation Research Board, October 2005.