

HAER
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16-CHIG,
121

CHICAGO RIVER BASCULE BRIDGE,
CANAL STREET

HAER No. IL-137

Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor
Canal Street crossing South Branch of
the Chicago River
Chicago
Cook County
Illinois

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

CHICAGO RIVER BASCULE BRIDGE,
CANAL STREET

~~(Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor)~~
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Location: Canal Street crossing South Branch of the Chicago River
Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

Date of Construction: ca. 1930

Present Owner: City of Chicago.

Present Use: Highway Bridge.

Significance: Chicago city engineers employed their standard bascule design for this bridge carrying Canal Street Bridge across the South Branch of the Chicago River. Its streamlined bridgetender's house reflects an architectural aesthetic from the 1920s and 1930s that Chicago's engineers adopted for its bridges in the 1930s.

Historian: Gray Fitzsimons, 1987.

Project Information: This photographic documentation project of bascule bridges crossing the Chicago River was carried out by Jet Lowe, HAER staff photographer, in 1987 and followed on the heels of an inventory of historic engineering and industrial sites in the Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor. HAER historian Gray Fitzsimons was project manager for this undertaking.