

U.S. ROUTE 1/601 BRIDGE (Howard F. Speaks Bridge)  
U.S. Route 1/601 spanning the Wateree River  
Camden Vicinity  
Kershaw County  
South Carolina

HAER No. SC-23

HAER  
SC  
28-CAMD.V  
3-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record  
National Park Service  
Southeast Region  
Department of the Interior  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

U.S. ROUTE 1/601 BRIDGE (Howard F. Speaks Bridge) HAER No. SC-23

HAER  
SC  
28-CAND.V.  
3-

Location: Spanning the Wateree River on U.S. Route 1/601  
in Kershaw County, South Carolina

UTM: 17.531940.3789240  
Quad: Lugoff, South Carolina

Date of Construction: 1942

Builder: Vincennes Steel Corporation, Vincennes, Indiana

Present Owner: South Carolina Department of Transportation  
Post Office Box 191  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Present Use: Vehicular Bridge

Significance: The U.S. Route 1/601 bridge is identified as  
Kershaw 1 in the South Carolina Department of  
Transportation's Non-Metal Truss Highway Bridge  
Inventory. This continuous steel stringer and  
concrete T-beam bridge has unusual side rails  
consisting of metal sections placed between  
concrete posts. It was determined to be eligible for  
the National Register of Historic Places in June,  
1993.

Project Information: This documentation was undertaken in February,  
1997 in accordance with the Memorandum of  
Agreement by the South Carolina Department of  
Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration,  
the State Historic Preservation Officer, and the  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as a  
means to mitigate the replacement of this historic  
non-metal truss bridge.

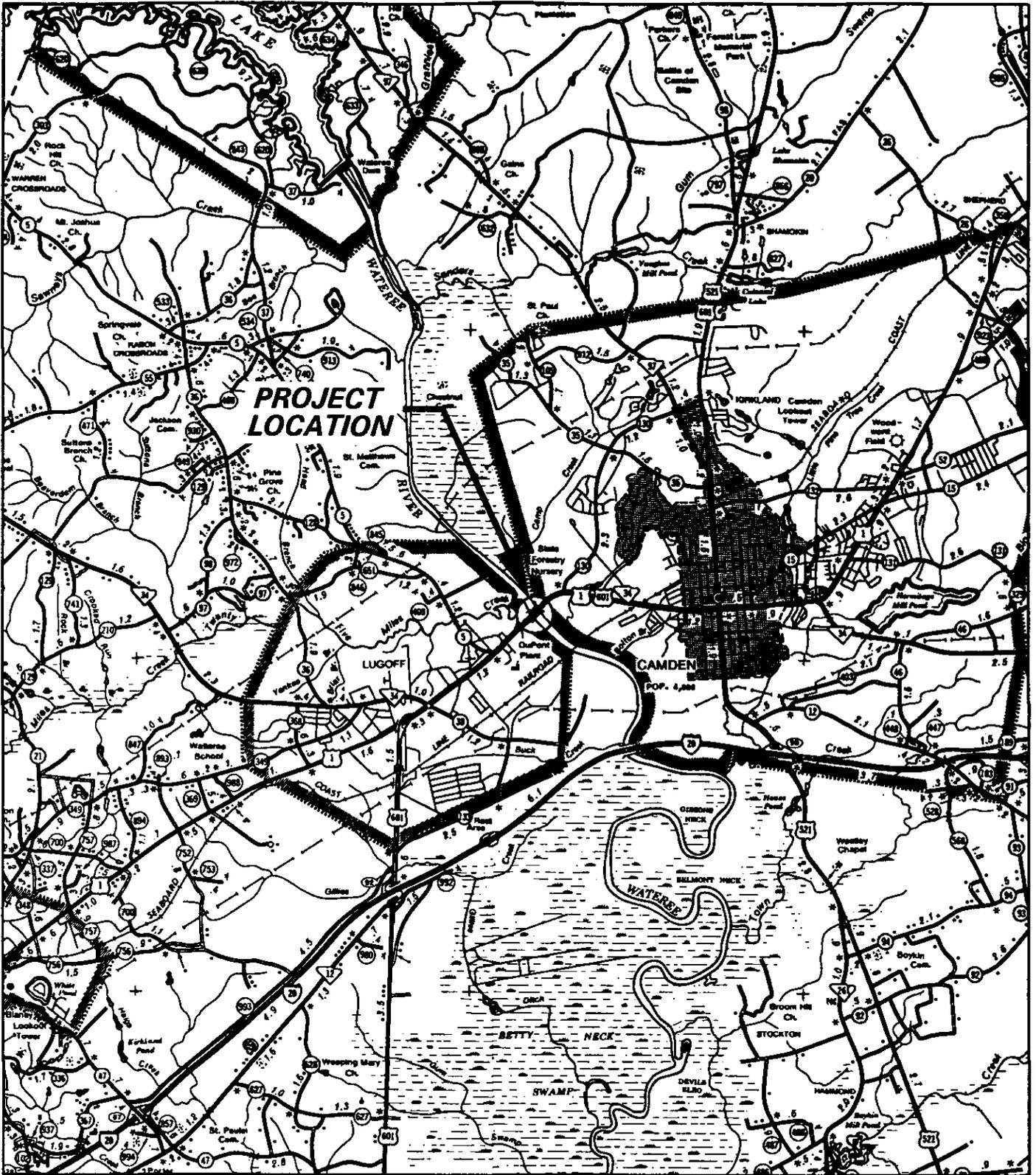
Report Prepared by: Paul F. Emblar  
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South Carolina Department of Transportation  
P. O. Box 191  
Columbia, S.C. 29202

Date: August 11, 1997

The U.S. Route 1/601 bridge is a multi-span, continuous steel stringer and concrete T-beam structure that carries southbound traffic over the Wateree River. Constructed in 1942 by Vincennes Steel Corporation of Vincennes, Indiana, it is located approximately 2.6 miles west of Camden, South Carolina. In 1968, it was named and dedicated in honor of Howard F. Speaks, a former member of the South Carolina State Highway Commission.

The bridge, which has 8 spans, measures 1,951' x 28' (26' curb to curb). The bridge was part of a statewide survey of non-metal truss highway bridges constructed before 1951. This study, conducted by Clemson University in conjunction with the South Carolina Department of Transportation, resulted in the identification of 13 non-metal truss bridges statewide with sufficient historic interest to merit nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Of the 40 extant continuous steel stringer bridges in South Carolina, the U.S. Route 1/601 Bridge, which is identified as Kershaw 1 in the study, was the only one determined to be eligible for the National Register. Its usual side rails, which consist of metal sections placed between concrete posts, distinguish it from other bridges of this type.

The location of the U.S. Route 1/601 bridge over the Wateree River west of Camden, in Kershaw County, South Carolina, is shown on page 3.



Shaded Area Indicates  
County Location in SC

**LOCATION MAP**

**U. S. Route 1/601 Bridge Spanning the Wateree River in  
Kershaw County, S. C.**



SCALE 0 2 MILES