CATEGORY II

NATIONAL EXPERIMENTAL AND EVALUATION PROGRAM

Construction and Monitoring of a Corrugated Galvanized Structural Plate Composite Pipe Arch in St. Johnsbury, Vermont

Project - St. Johnsbury RF F 041-4 (2)
US 5 over St. J & L.C. Railroad

Combined interim and final report

April 4, 1978

Vermont Agency of Transportation - Construction Division

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Vermont Agency of Transpo	rtation	FINAL REPORT				
Construction Division Montpelier, Vermont 0560	2	14. Sponsoring Agency Code				
15. Supplementary Notes Conducted in cooperation Federal Highway Administr		of Transportation	,			
This report evaluates the C.G.S.P. Composite Pipe A appears to be performing in one year since constructionsidered adequate.	rch constructed on a ten the purpose intended. Mo	degree curve. The	structure stabilized			
17. Key Words Pipes, Pipe Arch, Structur Composite Pipe Arch	ral Plate, No restri					
19. Security Classif. (of this report)	20. Security Classif. (of this page)	21. No. of Pages	22. Price			
Unclassified	Unclassified	24				

Initial work plan

Plan sheets BR 100, 106, 107.

Photos

Initial Report

Monitoring measurements in November 1976 and comments by supplier.

Monitoring measurements in May 1977.

Time - deflection charts

Final comments.

INITIAL WORK PLAN

SUPER-SPAN

MOVEMENT CONTROL

Monitoring movement of any SUPER-SPAN is a necessity.

Before a structure can be monitored for changes, it must be measured in the first place. So, the number one rule is: Measure the basic structure dimensions, rise and span, including checking of alignment before backfilling begins. Exact tools and methods used to check movement may vary, but periodic checking is necessary during all backfilling. While this is primarily so the inspector will know the structure is not being distorted beyond acceptable limits, it is also useful in evaluating soil placement procedures and it provides a record which could prove helpful to future design decisions. It is also of great value should any problems develop later. Visual checking is good but should not be considered a substitute for directly measuring the structure.

Drawing 1005717, attached, shows suggested location and spacing of control hooks. It also shows typical size and make-up of a hook furnished as standard. Clip angles can be substituted for control hooks in some instances such as on low profile arches. However, experience indicates the larger hooks are easier to use on large, high structures. The method of measurement should be accurate to about the nearest 1/4".

On horizontal ellipses and low profile arches, vertical checking is often all that is necessary. However, if significant change is occurring, check span as well. Measurement at top of crown is most revealing on these shapes. For structures 23' span and over, hooks are provided in the thrust beam area. Heavy compaction outside the thrust beam can sometimes rotate the beam and measurements on those hooks can indicate flattening in the plates just above the beams.

Pear shapes and high profile arches tend to flatten on the sides during side

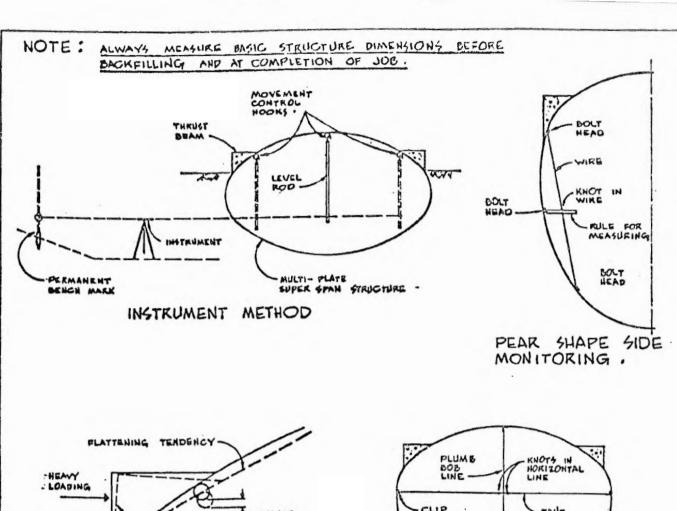
filling. Frequent span measurements are desirable here as well as the crown vertical measurements. In some instances on large pear shapes, it is necessary to string chord lines on the side plates and check mid-ordinate there. This will show immediately any flattening of sides.

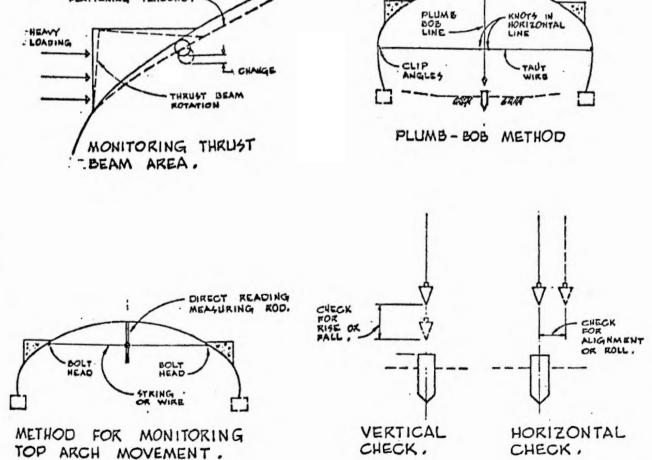
Tape measurements on spans are the easiest way to check that dimension. Vertical movement can be obtained by hanging plumb-bobs from the control hooks or by means of a surveyor's instrument and a rod or stick with hook on it. The bobs have the advantage of being nearly direct reading. The surveyor's instrument method has the advantage of being more accurate, is not subject to damage by stream flow, traffic through the structure or vandalism, and readings can be tied into a permanent bench mark for record purposes.

Frequency of measurement should vary with speed of backfilling operation as well as type of soil and size of compaction equipment used. Heavy continuous compaction will move a structure quickly. This might require measurement on every lift. Fine grained backfill may permit more live load from compaction effort to reach the structure sides and necessitates frequent checks. An extra heavy lift of fill can move the structure quickly. Readings should always be obtained at beginning and end of a shift. Measurements before and after pouring thrust beams can indicate problems from this operation. Always obtain a set of readings if the structure is to be left for any long period of time and always when the job is complete. Final measurements of all basic dimensions, including alignment shall be taken after completion of backfill.

Control hooks can be removed or left in the structure at completion as desired. Most often they are left in place and can thus provide future means for easily checking movement.

Attached drawing 1005758 shows typical methods of monitoring that have worked well.





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Armco Steel Corporation Metal Products Division Michigana, ONs 45042 MULTI-PLATE SUPER SPAN TYPICAL MONITORING IDEAS

HOV. 27, 1973 AS

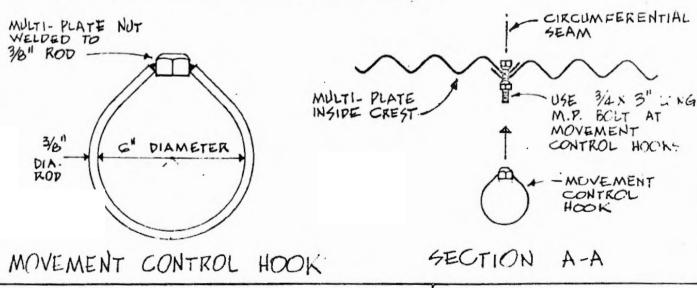
1005758

ARCH SHAPE SHOWN, ALSO APPLIES TO HOKIZ. ELLIPSE

NOTES:

1), STRUCTURES WITH SPAN OF 23' OR SMALLER REQUIRE ONLY THE CENTER ROW OF MOVEMENT CONTROL HOOKS . LARGER THAN 23' SPAN REQUIRE ALL 3 ROWS STRUCTURES OF MOVEMENT CONTROL HOOKS.

2). MOVEMENT CONTROL HOOKS ARE LOCATED AS SHOWN ABOVE AND ON 10' OR 12' CENTERS (CIRCUMFERENTIAL SEAMS) FOR THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE STRUCTURE .



MULTI- PLATE SUPER SPAN MOVEMENT CONTROL HOOK DETAIL

ARMCO Armco Steel Corporation Metal Products Division Middletown, Ohio 45042 DATE 10.19.73 DWG. NO. 1005717

REV.

A SCHOOLITHES

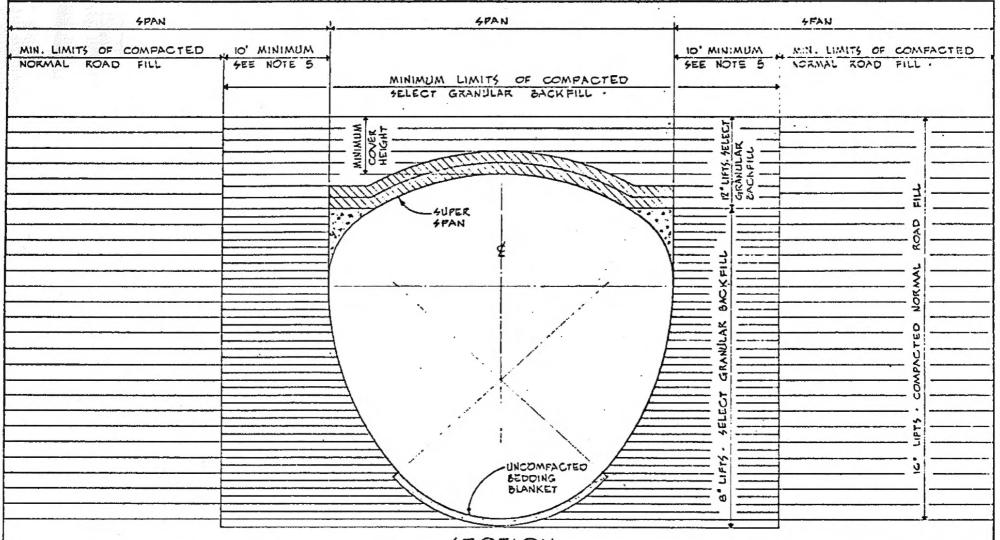
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SECTION

NOTES:

- 1). ALL BACKFILL, BOTH SELECT GRANULAR AND NORMAL ROAD FILL TO BE COMPACTED TO 90 FER CENT PER A.A.4.H.O. T-180 . 2). COMPLETE AND CONTINUAL MONITORING OF THE SUFER SPAN SHAFE IS NECESSARY AT ALL TIMES .
- 3). OO NOT COMPACT THE SURFACE OF EACH LAYER OF BACKFILL AGAINST THE SIDE PLATES CLOSER THAN 2 FEET FROM THE PLATES.
- 4) PREVENT EXCESS DISTORTION OF SHAPE AS NECESSARY BY VARYING COMPACTION METHODS AND EQUIPMENT . * EXCESS DISTORTION " IS DEFINED AS CHANGE IN DESIGN DIMENSIONS IN EXCESS OF C PER CENT .
- 5). GREATER DISTANCE MAY BE REQUIRED. DISTANCE DEPENDS ON BEARING LOAD FOR ANY GIVEN LOADING, STRUCTURE SHAPE AND BACKFILL MATERIAL . SEE " EXCAVATION GUIDELINES SHEET ".

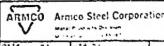
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INITIAL LIFTS OVER GROWN OF STRUCTURE AS INDICATED BY SHADED AREA, ARE TO BE COMPACTED TO REQUIRED DENSITY WITH HAND CPERATED EQUIPMENT OR WITH SMALL TRACTOR (D-4 OR SMALLER) CRAWN EQUIEMENT .

ARMOO MULTI-PLATE SUPER SPAN TYPICAL BACKFILL PLAN PEAR SHAPE



BACKFILL REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPER-SPAN

MATERIAL

A granular type of material shall be used around and over the structure. This select structural backfill material shall conform to one of the following classifications of Soil from A.A.S.H.O. Specification M-145, Table 2: A-1, A-3, A-2-4 or A-2-5.

	A	-1		A-2		
Group Classification	A-1-a	A-1-b	A-3	A-2-4	A-2-5	
Sieve Analysis, Percent Passing: No. 10 (2.00 mm)	50 Max.					
No. 40 (0.425 mm)	30 Max.	50 Max.	51 Min.			
No. 200 (0.075 mm)	15 Max.	25 Max.	10 Max.	35 Max.	35 Max.	
Characteristics of Fraction Passing No. 40 (0.425 mm) Liquid Limit Plasticity Index	6 1	- Max.	 Ń.Р.	40 Max. 10 Max.	41 Min. 10 Max.	
Usual Types of Significant Constituent Materials	Stone Fra Gravel an	•	Fine Sand	Silty or Clayey Gravel and Sand		

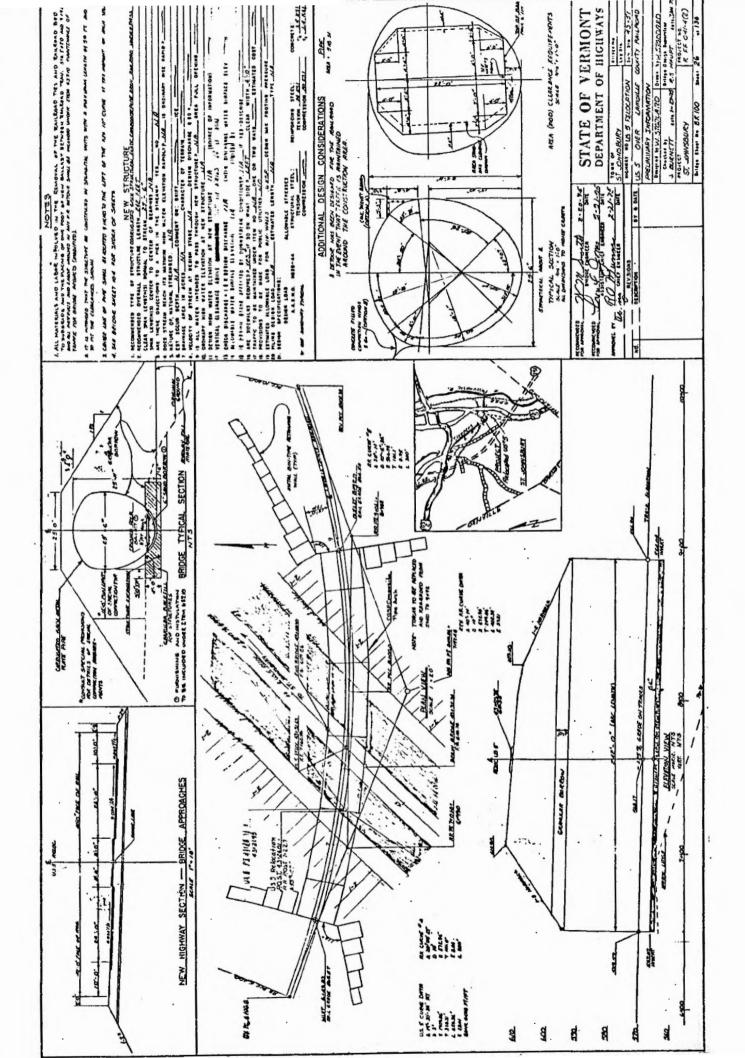
The extent of the structural backfill required is a function of several variables. Design of these limits is an individual job item and shall be in accord with the latest Design Practice issued by Headquarters Engineering.

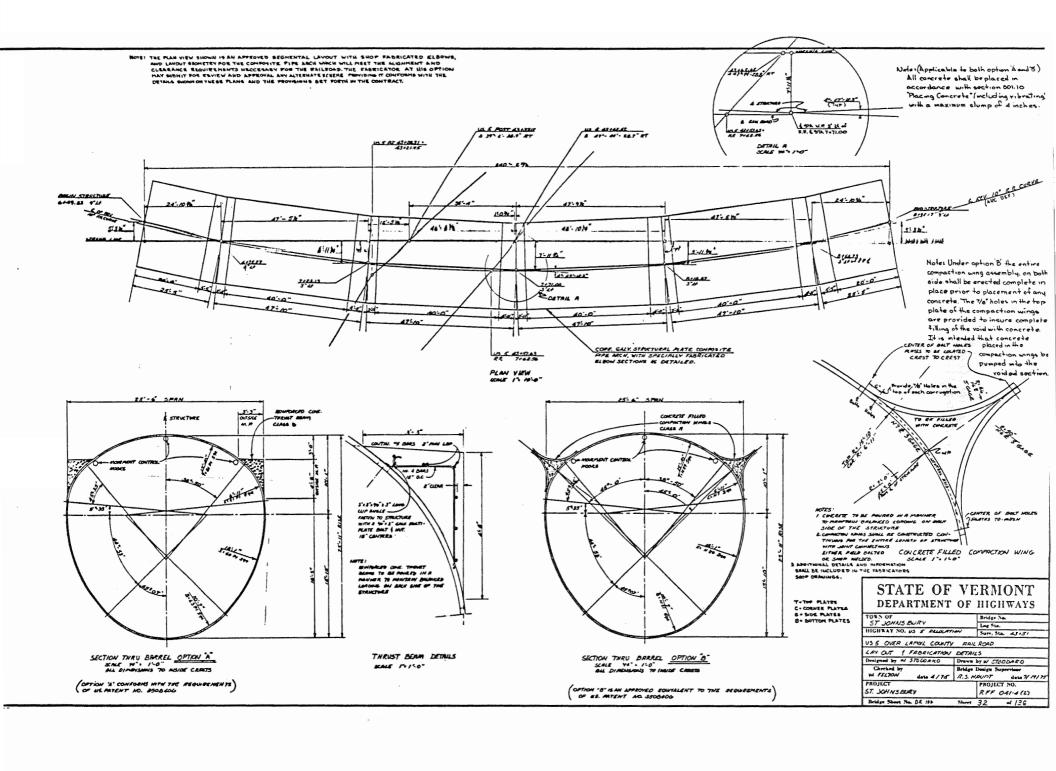
PLACEMENT

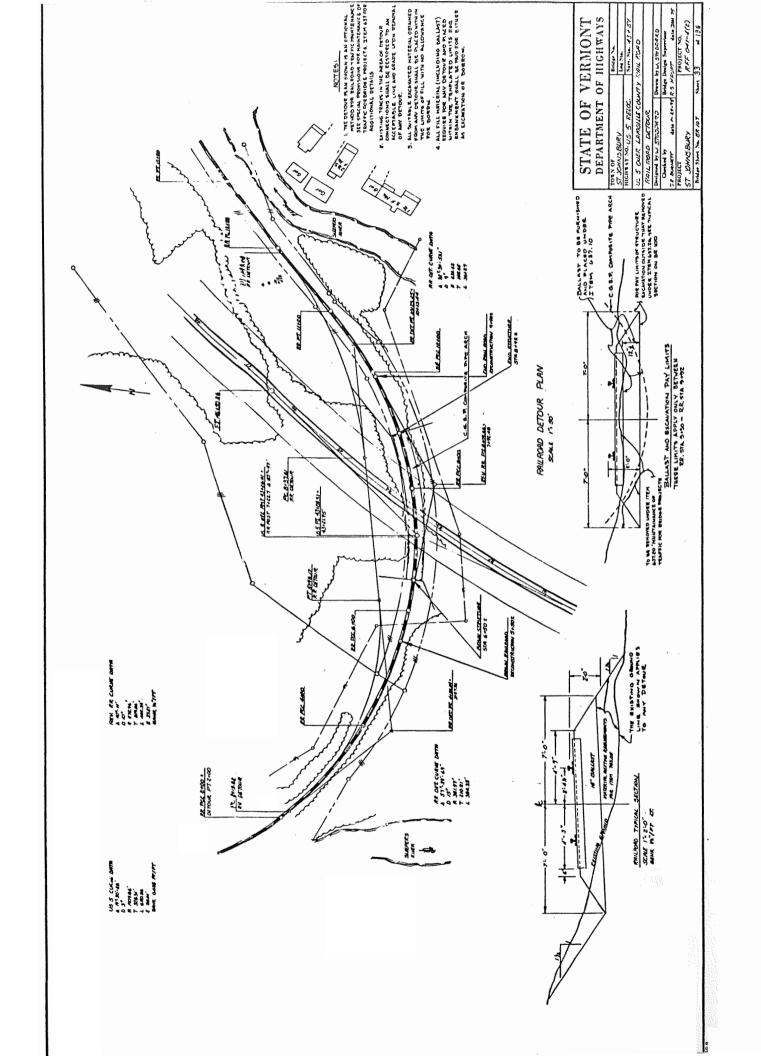
- Backfill material shall be placed in horizontal, uniform layers not exceeding 8" in thickness, before compaction, and shall be brought up uniformly on both sides of 'the structure. Each layer of backfill shall be compacted to a relative compaction of not less than 90%, per A.A.S.H.O. Test Method No. T-180.
- Compaction equipment or methods that produce horizontal or vertical earth pressures which cause excessive distortion or damage to structures shall not be used.

MANUFACTURER'S INSPECTION

The manufacturer shall provide inspection of all backfilling. Said inspector must approve all backfill materials and the placement and compaction thereof, and shall have full authority to stop such work. The engineer (or owner, or contractor) shall provide field density tests of the compacted backfill and suitable survey control on the structure to check structure movement, as directed by the manufacturer's inspector.







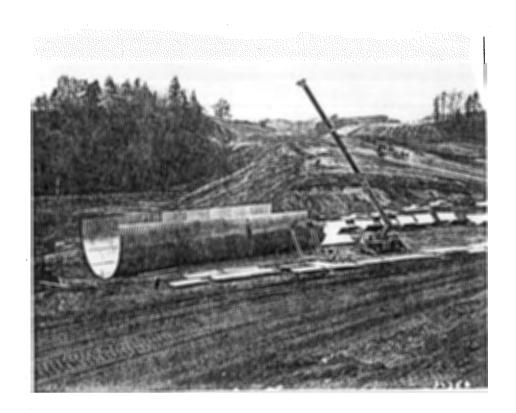
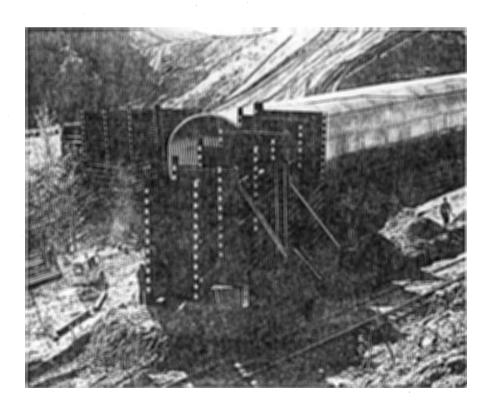


Plate Assembly



Bin Type Retaining Wall



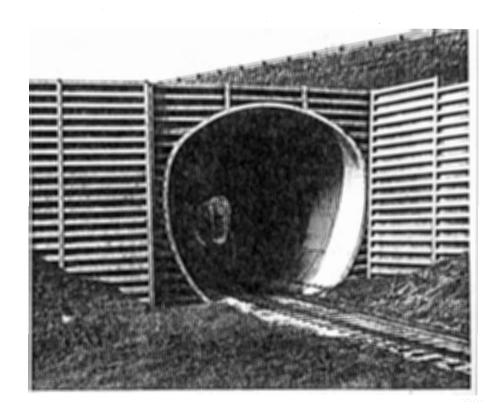
Binwall Backfilled



Concrete Thrust Beam



Backfilling



Structure Completed

PROJECT

State of Vermont, Department of Highways R FF 041-4(2)
Relocation U. S. Route 5 over
Lamoille County Railroad
St. Johnsbury, Vermont

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Armco SUPER-SPAN Pear Shape #81P21-60-66

Span 25'6", Rise 26'2", Length 242'

Plate Gage: Top .218"

Corner .218" Side .249"

Bottom .218"

Top Plate Make-up:

24 @ 10' 1 @ 12'

24 circumferential seams in top section of structure

SHAPE MONITORING DEVICES

Located on each circumferential seam of the top section were three movement control rings.

The ring closest to the top centerline was located on an existing circumferential bolt 3 7/8" north of the theoretical top centerline. This ring was used in monitoring the rise measurement.

Each of the side movement control rings were located on an existing circumferential bolt located approximately 2'4" above the top/corner seam. These rings were used to monitor the effects of the weight of the concrete thrust beams on the crown plates. The side rings were also used to keep the inspector aware of any excessive backfilling efforts that might have caused the thrust beams to rotate, thus flattening and/or peaking the crown section of the structure.

On each side circumferential seam and on each side of the structure, a taut wire was stretched from the corner/side seam to the side/bottom seam. This wire established a chord across the side plates. At about mid-way of the side plate arc, an aluminum angle iron was attached to a bolt head in such a manner that the angle iron probe extended from the side plate to beyond and perpendicular to the chord wire. To this mid ordinate probe a 3/4" bright red tape was attached at the point where the wire intersected the probe. The tape was a visual aid and indicated zero movement at the beginning of the backfill operation.

SHAPE MONITORING

All during the operation of backfilling the Armco SUPER-SPAN structure, constant visual checks were made through the inside, looking for flattening plates, movement of mid ordinate probes and any other action taking place at the instant.

Actual measurements were taken to determine the rise at eleven instances between backfill elevation zero and 31 feet (5 feet over crown). It was desirable to maintain all movement within 2% of the design rise (26'2").

At least once every A.M. and P.M., the wires across the side plates were checked for tautness and the extent that the wire had moved across the 3/4" tape mark on the probe.

On four occasions, measurements were taken from the side rings to the bolt head in the valley next right of the circumferential seam at the side/bottom seam. This measurement was taken only to establish relative movement and not necessarily be a specific distance. Measurements were taken at zero backfill, just before the thrust beams were poured, just after the thrust beams were poured, and at backfill 5' over the crown.

SUMMARY

As anticipated, the rise of the structure increased during the installation of the backfill. This increase 0.24' was well within the desired tolerance with the resulting rise within .03' (3/8") of design. The structure maintained a very uniform shape throughout the backfilling process.

Relative measurements of the side rings indicated very normal action.

The side plate monitoring indicated that the flattening that occurred was less than 3/4" change in the mid ordinate.

With five feet of cover compacted over the crown of the structure, all types of construction equipment successfully crossed without noticeable stress or flexing of the top plates.

From all observations made, this structure is in excellent geometrical shape throughout and has been installed in the recommended manner.

Backfill was a granular borrow type of excellent quality, and was installed in the prescribed 6" lifts. To insure constant performance, a total of 163 field density tests were made during this installation. Any tests that failed, additional effort in compaction was exerted and a retest was made. A Troxler nuclear device was used to test the soil density. The density ranged from 90% to 95% Modified Proctor.

Backfill was completed 5' over the crown of the structure on November 19, 1975.

RISE AT CENTERLINE

EST END SEAM	No backfill 10/22/75	@ 6' 10/24/75	@ 9' 10/27/75	@ 12' 10/28/75	@ 14' 10/29/75	@ 18'-2" Bottom T.B. 10/30/75	@ 18'-2" Bottom T.B. 11/12/75	@ 21'-5" 11/14/75	@ 23'-2" Top of T.B. 11/17/75	@ 29' 11/18/75	@ 31' 11/19/75
1 2 3 4 5	25.82 25.75 25.79 25.89 25.92	25.83 25.72 25.75 25.88 25.92	25.83 25.72 25.82 25.86 25.91	25.84 25.76 25.81 25.91 25.90	25.83 25.73 25.79 25.90 25.92	25.60 25.59 25.70 25.74 25.86	25.78 25.81 25.87 26.04 26.07	25.82 25.83 25.91 26.00 26.09	25.84 25.85 25.95 26.08 26.12 26.12	25.83 25.87 25.98 26.14 26.19 26.15	25.83 25.84 25.96 26.10 26.16
6 7 8 9	25.90 25.91 25.91 - 25.83	25.92 25.95 25.92 25.97 25.87	25.86 25.86 25.92 25.92 25.86	25.91 25.86 25.92 26.01 26.07	25.91 25.93 26.07 26.00 26.04	25.95 25.96 25.98 26.09 26.22	26.08 26.06 26.10 26.18 26.19	26.07 26.09 26.13 26.20 26.20	26.09 26.15 26.27 26.22	26.12 26.21 26.27 26.27	26.12 26.10 26.20 26.28 26.27
11 12 3 14	25.93 25.81 25.76 25.77 25.84	25.91 25.82 25.79 25.71 25.85	25.93 25.75 25.76 25.78 25.91	25.97 25.78 25.80 25.83 25.89	26.00 25.84 25.98 25.98 25.98	26.12 25.98 26.02 26.03 26.13	26.16 26.00 26.03 26.01 26.18	26.17 25.98 26.02 26.01 26.14	26.20 26.06 26.11 26.07 26.18	26.27 26.09 26.12 26.11 26.24	26.27 26.06 26.10 26.10 26.23
15 6 7 18 9	25.95 25.93 25.94 26.02	25.94 25.92 25.93 26.02	25.96 25.92 25.95 25.97	26,00 25.94 25.95 26.01	26.03 26.01 26.04 26.05	26.13 26.11 26.13 26.14	26.21 26.16 26.17 26.17	26.19 26.16 26.17 26.18	26.24 26.18 26.21 26.23	26.28 26.25 26.24 26.25	26.24 26.20 26.22 26.25
21 22 3 24	26.05 26.03 25.92 25.96 25.99	26.02 25.94 25.85 25.83 25.87	26.02 26.02 25.95 25.97 26.00	26.02 26.05 25.96 26.01 26.01	26.10 26.09 25.98 26.02 26.02	26.18 26.16 26.03 26.03 26.00	26.20 - 26.08 26.08 26.06	26.18 - 26.10 26.12 26.10	26.24 - 26.17 26.13 26.12	26.31 26.20 26.16 26.12	26.28 - 26.12 26.14 26.14
EAST END	Average 25.90	25.88	25.89	25.93	26.00	26.00	26,07	26.08	26.12	26.16	26.14

^{*} Measurements taken before thrust beams constructed.

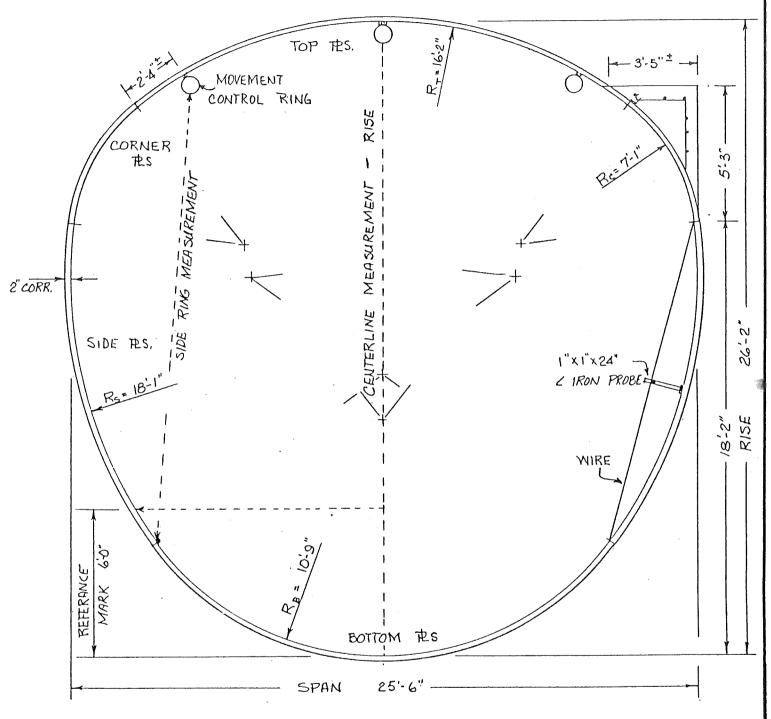
^{**} Measurements taken after thrust beams constructed.

SIDE RING MEASUREMENTS

		NORTH I	RING				SOUTH	RING		
	Α	В	С	D	E	A	В	С	D	E
1	_	19.63	19.77	19.79	19.76	-	19.45	19.53	19.55	19.54
2	-	19.82	19.88	20.00	19.98	-	19.49	19.56	19.58	19.57
3	19.84	19.75	19.91	19.93	19.92	-	19.50	19.60	19.62	19.62
4	19.89	19.87	20.00	20.02	20.00	-	19.56	19.59	19.61	19.61
5	19.98	20.03	20.12	20.15	20.12	-	19.67	19.70	19.72	19.71
6	20.05	20.02	20.19	20.21	20.21	_	19.66	19.65	19.66	19.65
7	20.03	20.02	20.18	20.20	20.19	-	19.66	19.62	19.64	19.62
В	20.00	20.14	20.18	20.20	20.19	_	19.67	19.62	19.64	19.61
9	19.98	20.11	20.14	20.15	20.13	19.60	19.72	19.65	19.67	19.65
_0	19.89	20.03	20.07	20.09	20.08	19.66	19.76	19.70	19.72	19.65
1	19.78	19.92	19.94	19.95	19.94	19.63	19.76	19.72	19.72	19.71
2	19.86	19.99	20.04	20.06	20.05	19.52	19.65	19.60	19.62	19.60
L3	19.72	19.87	19.93	20.95	19.95	19.52	19.69	19.68	19.68	19.66
4	19.85	19.99	20.05	20.07	20.06	19.47	19.65	19.65	19.67	19.65
4 5	19.90	20.05	20.08	20.15	20.13	19.52	19.70	19.65	19.66	19.65
.6	19.79	19.95	19.99	20.01	19.99	19.61	19.77	19.73	19.75	19.74
7	19.84	19.98	20.01	20.23	20.01	19,72	19.88	19.84	19.85	19.86
8	19.82	19.95	19.99	20.03	20.00	19.82	19.95	19.90	19.92	19.94
.9	19.84	19.96	19.98	19.99	19.97	19.72	19.85	19.81	19.83	19.84
0	19.88	19.97	20.00	20.02	19.99	19.67	19.78	19.76	19.78	19.80
1	19.90	19.97	20.00	20.01	19.98	19.76	19.83	19.79	19.82	19.84
1 2	19.89	19.95	19.98	20.05	19.97	19.73	19.80	19.79	19.81	19.82
3	19.87	19.91	19.94	19.96	19.92	19.75	19.80	19.78	19.80	19.81
4	19.68	19.83	19.86	19.89	19.86	19.82	19.69	19.66	19.69	19.70
'g	19.87	19.94	20.00	20.08	20.01	19.65	19.70	19.69	19.70	19.70

A = 10/23/75 No backfill B = 10/30/75 Backfill at bottom of thrust beams - before pour C = 11/12/75 Backfill at bottom of thrust beams - after pour D = 11/17/75 Backfill at top of thrust beams

E = Backfill at 5' over crown of structure



CROSS SECTION OF SUPER SPAN SHOWING LOCATION OF SHAPE MONITORING

PEVICES AND MEASUREMENT LOCATIONS

RAWN 12-5-75

RRMCO MULTI-PLATE SUPER SPAN

S. G. PHILLIPS CO., ST. JOHNSBURY, VERMONT

VERMONT DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION # RFF 041-4(2)

ARMCO STEEL CORPORATION * METAL PRODUCTS DIVISION

ATLANTIC REGION - BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

TO:

W. M. Smith, Bridge Engineer via J. R. Pfialen, Construction Engineer

FROM:

A. E. Remick, Chief Resident Engineer

DATE:

November 17, 1976

SUBJECT:

St. Johnsbury RFF 041-4 (2)

Shape Monitoring Taken Nov. 8 and 9, 1976 for Armco Super-Span for

St. Johnsbury & Lamoille County Railroad

	To Top of Span Rise at Center	Side Ring <u>North Ring</u>	Measurements South Ring
West End 1	25.70	19.93	19.73
2	25.81	20.12	19.76
3	25.88	20.09	19.84
4	26.07	20.20	19.77
5 .	26.07	20.29	19.84
6	26.09	20.36	19.79
7	26.02	20.36	19.76
8	26.14	20.33	19.74
9	26.22	20.30	19.76
10	26.20	20.23	19.82
11	26.20	20.08	19.83
12	26.03	20.18	19.74
13	26.04	20.10	19.84
14	26.02	20.22	19.82
1 5	26.18	20.30	19.81
16	26.21	20.15	19.91
17	26.13	20.18	20.02
18	26.11	20.17	20.11
19	26 .1 6	20.14	20.00
20	26.21	20.15	19.99
21	<u>-</u> ·	20.13	20.01
22	26.08	20.14	20.02
23	26.11	20.12	20.03
24	26.06	20.03	19.90
	Aug. 26.08	Aug. 20.18	Aug. 19.87

Note: Rise at center was determined by taking measurement from bottom of center ring to a mark on wall 6' above invert. By adding the 6' to this measurement, plus the ring height of 0.70', we get total height.

AER: EBH

RSH

ARMCO STEEL CORPORATION

METAL PRODUCTS DIVISION



December 17, 1976

ADDRESS REPLY TO
P. O. BOX 152
PALMER, MA 01069
PHONE: 413 - 283 - 7611

Mr. Richard Haupt Vermont Department of Highways State Office Building Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Dick:

REF: St. Johnsbury, Vermont SUPER-SPAN

Thank you very much for the field measurements that were taken in November on the St. Johnsbury SUPER-SPAN. We're most pleased to see that the vertical change in dimension with the fill completed on it is actually less than 1%, and indeed computes to about 0.6% of design.

The side ring measurement movement, again, shows dimension change of less than two inches which is excellent.

You asked for our comments regarding future monitoring; I would suggest that the structure appears to be reacting as anticipated and its shape conforms very closely to the design. Further monitoring on a station by station basis wouldn't appear to be necessary. I would suggest that you move this now to a stage of just future "walk through visual inspections" to confirm the condition of structure and if there is any visual indication of need then measurements could be taken.

Thanks again for the data on this structure and I hope you have a very happy Holiday Season. I expect to see you shortly after the first of the year.

Yours very truly,

Arthur G. Taylor District Engineer

hvk

cc: C. Hammond

J. E. Greenlaw

H. A. Moulton

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

TO:

J. R. Phalen, Construction Engineer

FROM:

A. E. Remick, Chief Resident Engineer

DATE:

May. 20, 1977

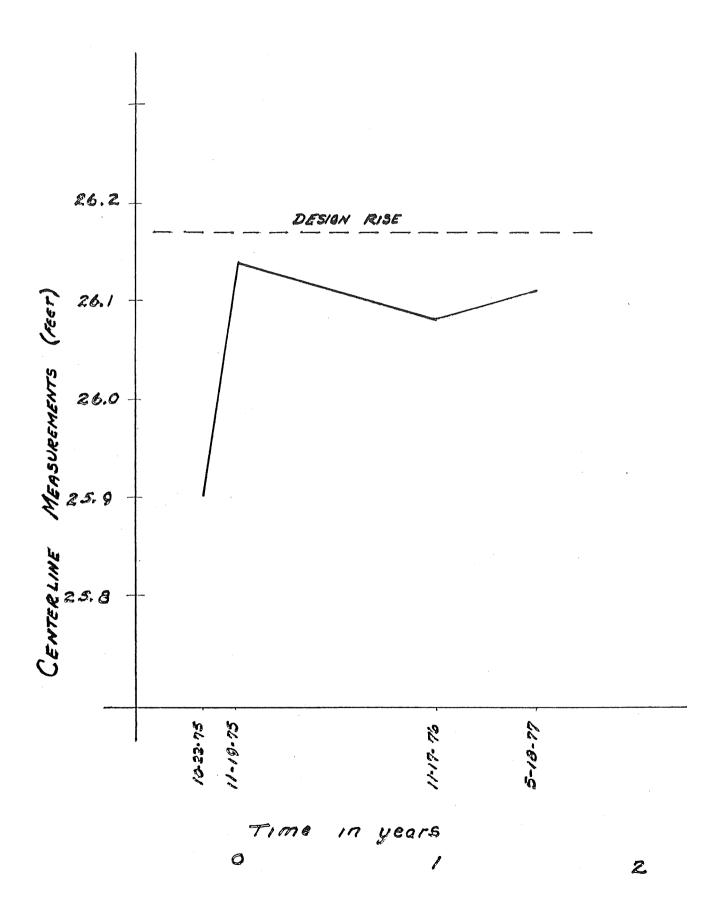
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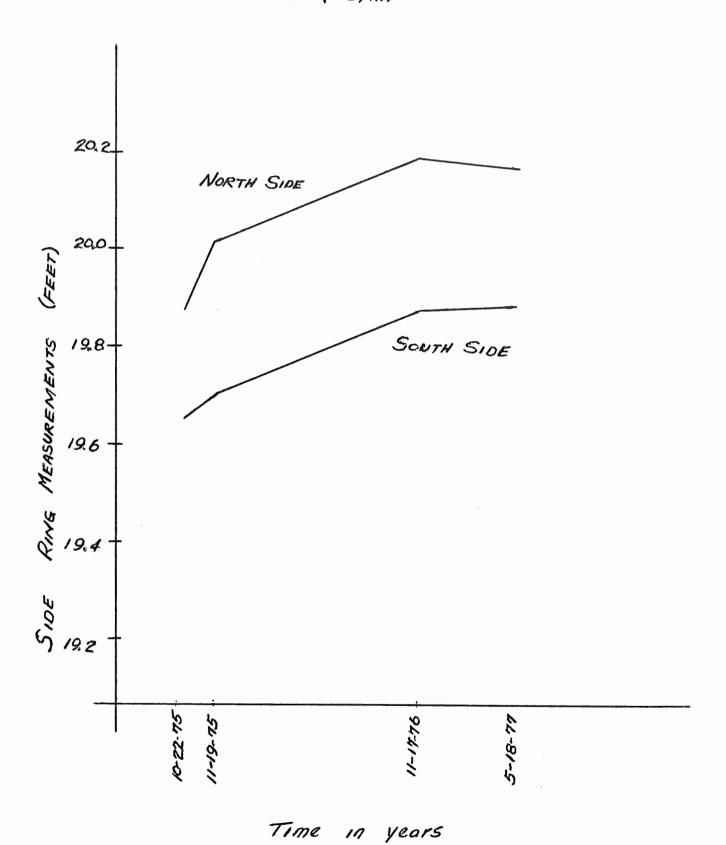
St. Johnsbury RFF 041-4 (2)

Shape Monitoring Taken May 18, 1977 for Armco Super-Span for

St. Johnsbury & Lamoille County Railroad

	To	Top of Span		Side Ring	Measurements
		e at Center		North Ring	South Ring
West End 1		25.85		19.93	19.75
2		25.87		20.12	19.77
3		25.93		20.10	19.84
4		26.12		20.19	19.77
<i>4</i> 5		26.12		20.29	19.86
6		26.12		20.36	19.80
7		26.05		20.32	19.77
8		26.16		20.32	19.75
g		26.20		20.28	19.79
10		26.14		20.21	19.81
11		26.20		20.10	19.86
12		26.07		20.16	19.75
13		26.07		20.04	19.84
14		26.05		20.18	19.81
15		26.20		20.28	19.81
16		26.20		20.13	19.90
17		26. Z 0		20.14	20.03
. 18		26.16		20.12	20.12
19		26.20		20.12	20.02
20		26.24		20.12	19.99
21				20.03	20.04
22		26.13		20.13	20.04
23		26.12		20.08	20.04
. 24		26.10		20.03	19.91
	Avg.	26.11	Avg.	20.16	Avg. 19.88





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Final Comments

The structure appears to be performing the purpose intended and the relative movement is stabilizing as may be seen from the attached charts and measurements.

Future monitoring by periodic visual walk-through inspections should be adequate.

It should be noted that the structure was fabricated for and installed on a $10^{\rm O}$ horizontal curve and it is felt that this tends to prevent rotation of the structure as a whole compared to one placed on straight alignment.