

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 8 1980
DATE ENTERED JUN - 4 1981

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC **6** FLETCHER COVERED BRIDGE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Secondary Route 5/29 at the junction of Secondary Route 5, N.W. of
Maken across the right fork of Ten Mile Creek

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF Maken

STATE
West Virginia

CODE
54

COUNTY
Harrison

CODE
033

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED/in service	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
West Virginia Department of Highways

STREET & NUMBER
1900 Washington Street, East

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

VICINITY OF

STATE

West Virginia 25305

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harrison County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Clarksburg

STATE

West Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fletcher Bridge is 12.4 feet wide and 58.4 feet long. It has red board-and-batten siding and an asphalt composition roof covering and protecting a pair of kingpost trusses. The multiple kingpost truss was the most popular type used for covered bridges. These trusses have six panels, each approximately 9.6 feet in length and 11.6 feet high. The ends of the diagonals (typically 6 x 8 inches) are flush against the top and bottom chords, which consist of two-6 x 4½ inch and two-6 x 10 inch timbers, and fit partially into small notches made in the 7 x 8 inch verticals. The cross sectional dimensions of the diagonals at the end panels, and the centerposts are 8 x 8 inches and 8 x 9½ inches respectively. A series of 2 x 9 inch transverse floor beams, which rest on the bottom chords spaced on 20 inch centers, along the length of the bridge, support the timber deck. Noteworthy are the joggle splice pieces which join the components of the lower chord, and the superior masonry work of the abutments.

The bridge continues to function without the aid of any modern reinforcement.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1891

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Solomon Swiger & L.E. Strum

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On March 10, 1890 the Harrison County Court, after considering the petition of John C. Rogers, ordered that William N. Edgell, Elias Swiger, and R. M. Rogers be appointed viewers to locate a site for a bridge over the right hand fork of Ten Mile Creek, near the residence of John G. Rogers. The viewers were to report back to court concerning the size of abutments, height of fills, span length, and the probable cost (1). J. T. Williams was appointed by the court on July 1, 1891 as a special commissioner to advertise and receive bids for the construction of the bridge. On August 21, 1891, Soloman Swiger was awarded the contract for building the superstructure for \$7.25 per lineal foot, and L. E. Sturm received the contract for the construction of the abutments for \$4.45 per cubic yard. To ensure the faithful performance of their work, Sturm entered into bond with the court on September 16, 1891 for \$1500.00 and on September 18, 1891, Swiger entered into bond for \$600.00. Genius Payne, who was appointed by the court to superintend the building of the bridge, declined the appointment on September 27, 1891 and was succeeded by W. J. Williams. After W. J. Williams, on November 27, 1891, reported to the court that the masonry had been completed according to contract, it was ordered that L. E. Sturm be paid \$937.46. The same day Williams also reported that the superstructure was nearing completion, and the court ordered that Soloman Swiger be given an advance of \$100.00. On December 14, 1891, Williams submitted his final report. A county claims list, dated December 23, 1891, shows that a total of \$435.00 was paid to Soloman Swiger, \$18.00 of which was to be given to D. D. Robinson, and \$30.00 was to be given to the Garrett brothers. The total cost of the bridge was \$1372.46 (2).

The Fletcher Bridge is one of three covered bridges remaining in Harrison County and stands out as one of the few covered bridges in West Virginia that has not been significantly altered from its original condition.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. General Order Book #4, Harriosn County Court, p. 218.
2. General Order Book #5, Harriosn County Court, pp. 169, 176, 180, 184, 225, 226, 237, 242, 269.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Not applicableUTM REFERENCES Quad. name Wolf SummitQuad. scale 1:24000

A | 1,7 | | 5 | 4,4 | 8,0,5 | | 4,3 | 5,0 | 6,0,0 |

ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

E. L. Kemp, Professor of History of Science and Technology and of Civil Engineering

ORGANIZATION

DATE

West Virginia University

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

G14 Woodburn Hall, Town Campus(304) 293-3867

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

MorgantownWest Virginia 26506

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL _____

STATE _____

LOCAL _____

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

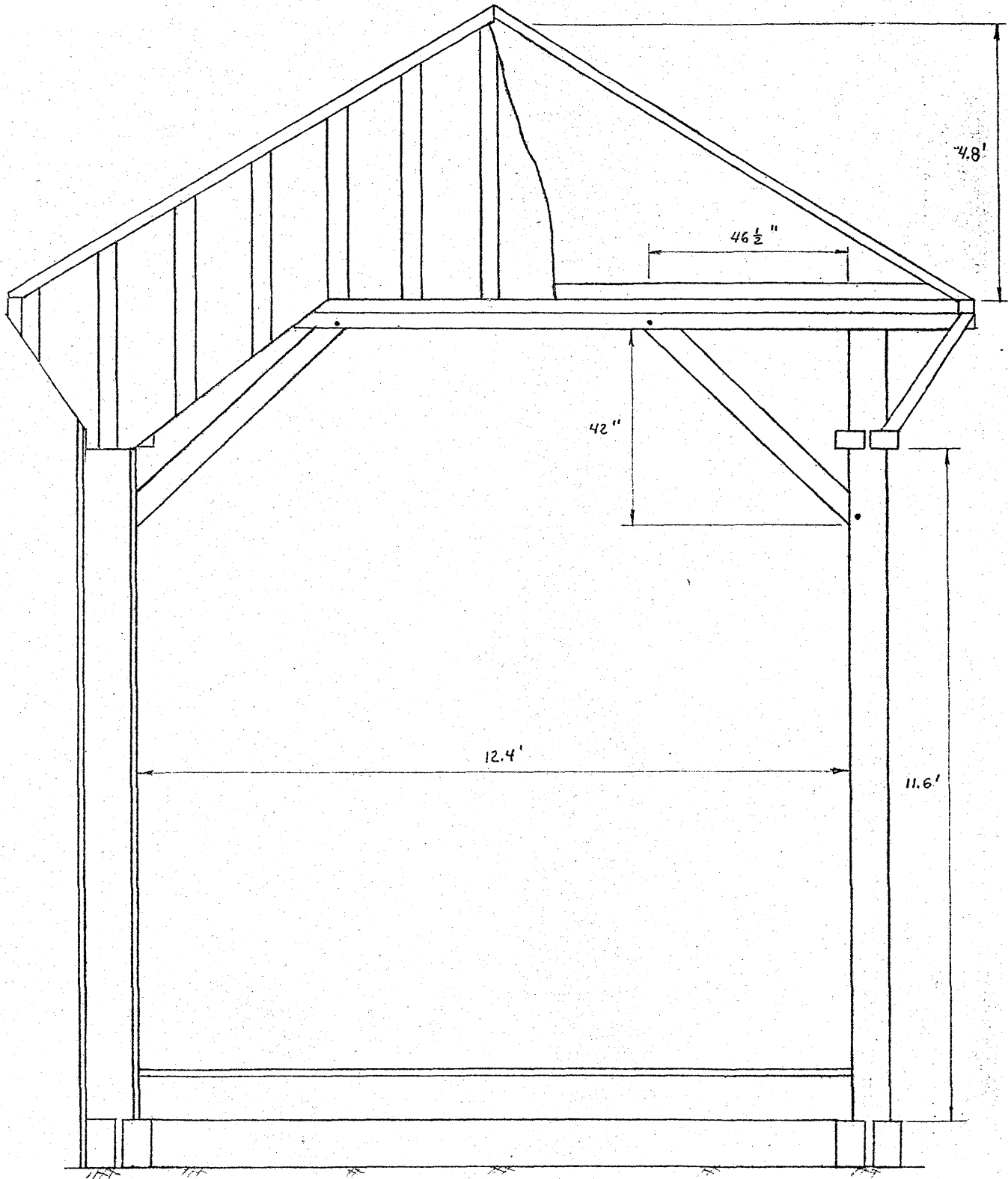
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

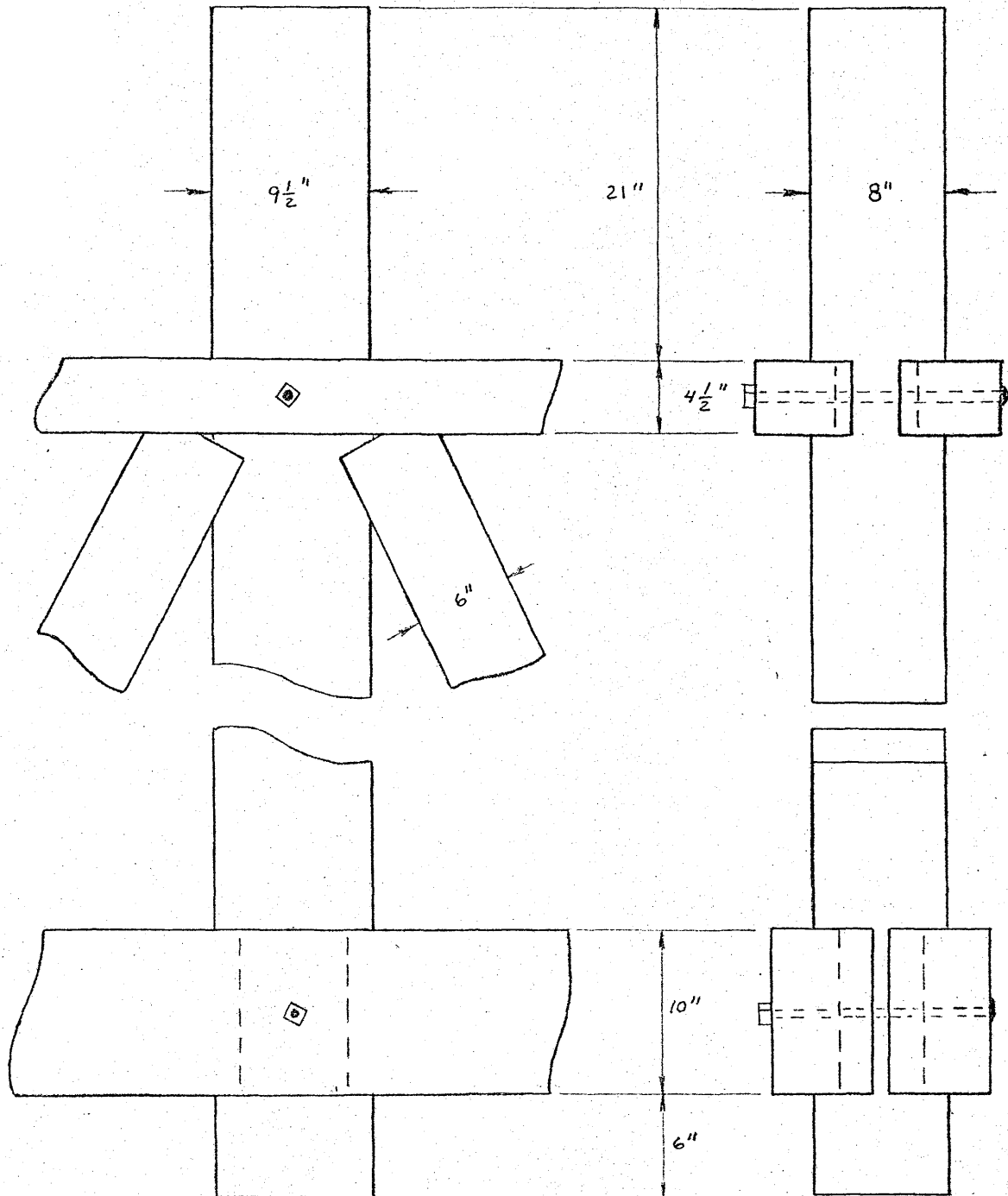
ATTEST:

DATE

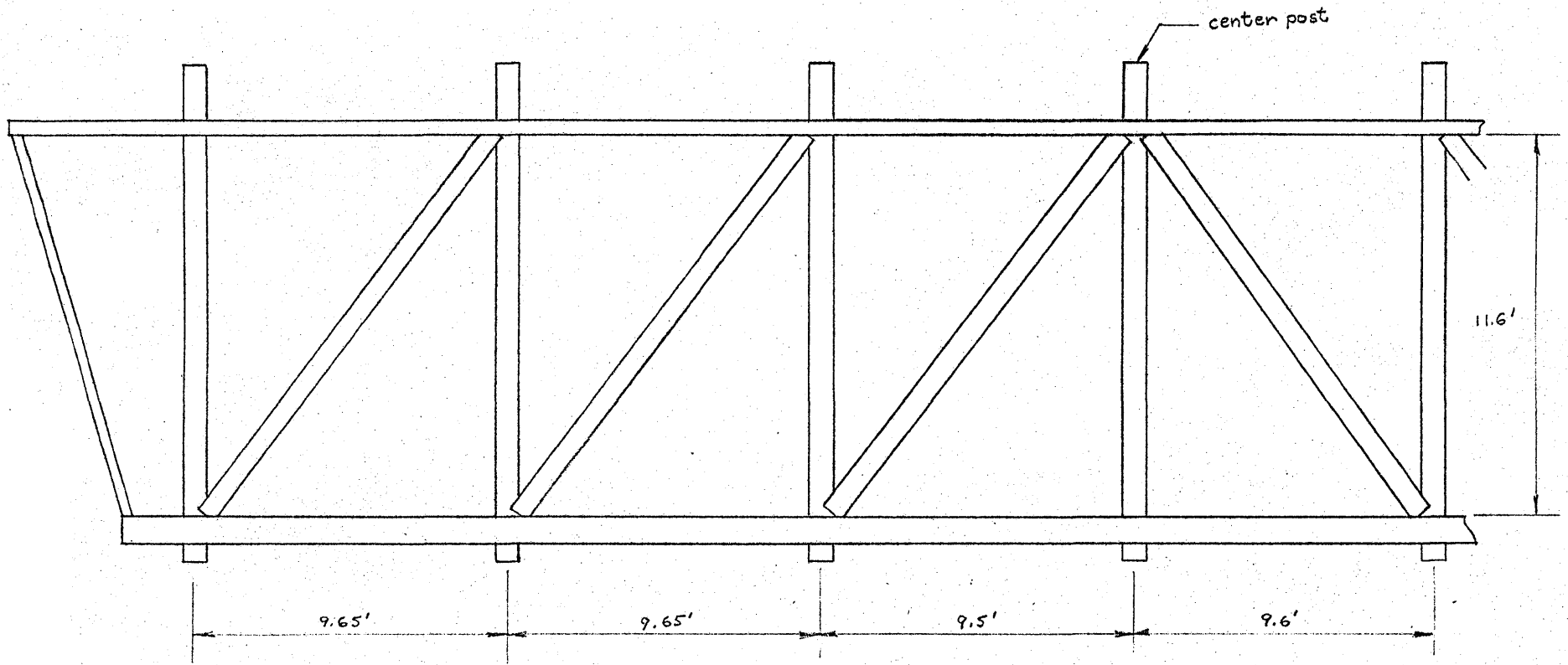
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



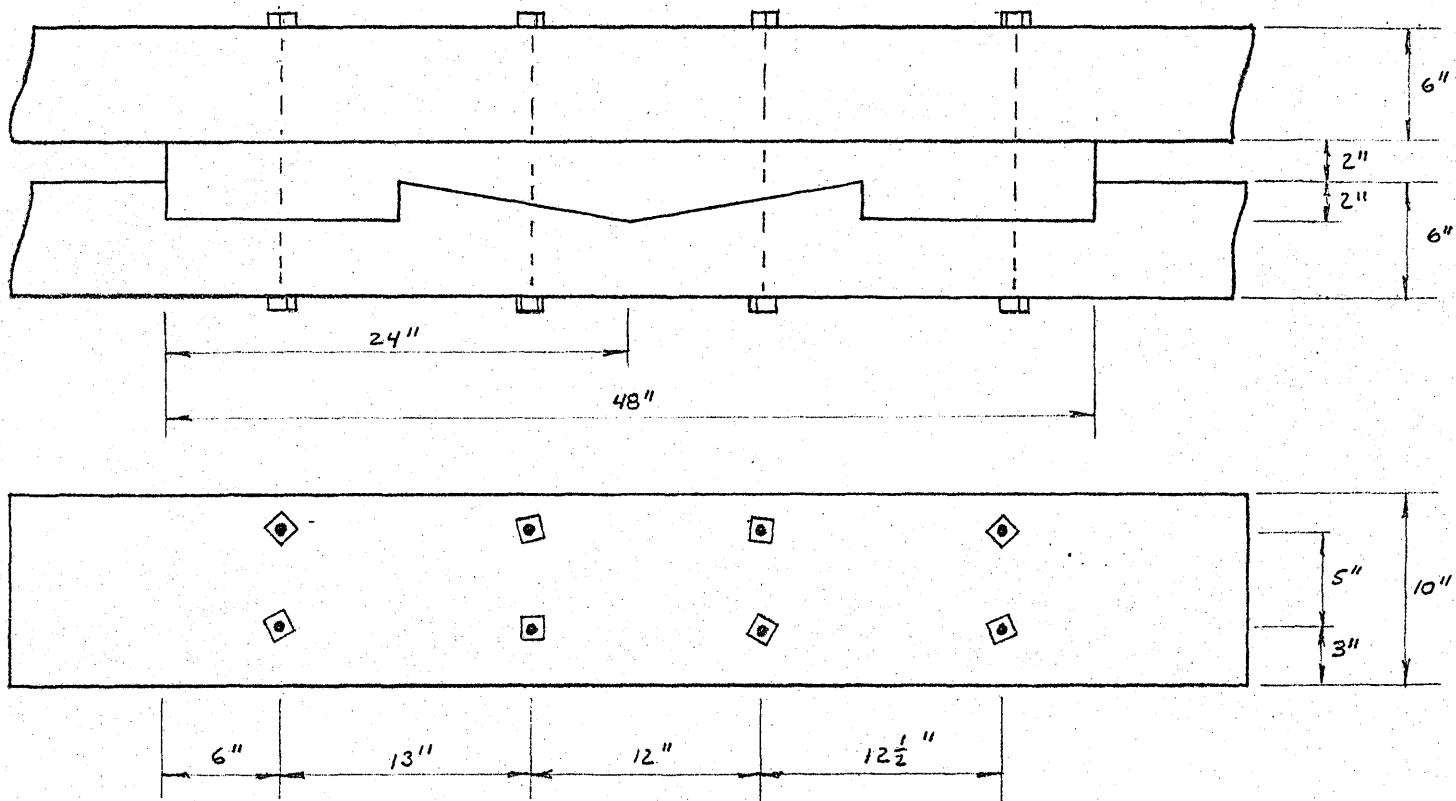
7. FLETCHER COVERED BRIDGE



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