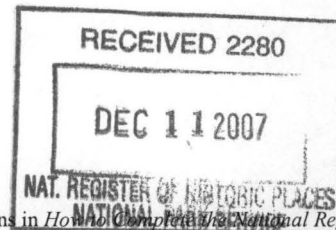


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name U.S. 62 White River Bridge

other names/site number Site #CR1072, Bridge #02597

2. Location

street & number U.S. 62, approximately 1/4 mile south of County Road 212

☐ not for publication

city or town Eureka Springs

☒ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Carroll code 015 zip code 72631

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cathy Matthews  
Signature of certifying official/Title

10/31/07  
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☒ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the  
National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.

☐ removed from the National  
Register.

☐ other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

for  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson D. Beall

1-24-08

U.S. 62 White River Bridge  
Name of Property

Carroll County, Arkansas  
County and State

### 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private  
☐ public-local  
☒ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☒ structure  
☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic Bridges of Arkansas

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register**

N/A

### 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation: Road-related (vehicular)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation: Road-related (vehicular)

### 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Deck truss bridge

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete  
walls N/A  
roof N/A  
other Steel

**Narrative Description**  
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

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### Summary

The U.S. 62 White River Bridge is located at the crossing of the White River, on U.S. 62 about 9 miles northwest of Eureka Springs. Comprised of five spans measuring 128 feet long each and 30.6 feet wide, this steel, deck-truss bridge spans a total of 787 feet. The bridge was built by the Forcum-James Company of Dyersburg, Tennessee.

### Elaboration

The steel, deck-truss bridge is accessed from both the northeast and southwest ends by U.S. 62. Because it is a deck truss, this bridge carries its traffic load level with the top chords. The section of the bridge supported by deck truss consists of 5 main spans, with a total structure length of 787 feet. The deck surface is concrete laid over the steel truss. The bridge supports are reinforced concrete.

The truss is divided into five spans. The bridge consists of vertical deck trusses each spanning 128 feet. Both sides of the bridge have vertical A-shaped trusses separated by vertical members. The side trusses are connected to each other with straight horizontals under the deck and are further connected by crossed diagonals. The bridge is also made up of four I-beam spans which make up the rest of the superstructure.<sup>1</sup>

### Integrity

No structural alterations have been made to the bridge to alter its integrity. Its location and setting remains rural and it exemplifies its original historic design and materials. No changes have been made to alter the historic workmanship or detract from its feeling or association as it is still used as a bridge for vehicular travel and is in excellent condition.

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<sup>1</sup> Bridge Record No. 2597. Busch Relocation White River Bridge. 1953.

U.S. 62 White River Bridge  
Name of Property

Carroll County, Arkansas  
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey  
# \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

### Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Engineering

Transportation

### Period of Significance

1950-1958

### Significant Dates

1950-1958

### Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

### Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

### Architect/Builder

BUILDER: Forcum-James Company of Dyersburg, Tennessee

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☒ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository: Arkansas State Highway and Transportation  
Department

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

### Summary

Constructed in 1950-1952, the U.S. 62 Bridge over the White River is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under **Criterion C** because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a deck truss bridge and is the best example of this design in the surrounding area. In addition to its engineering importance, the White River Bridge is also being nominated for **Criterion A** for its associations with the development of transportation in Carroll County during the mid-twentieth century. This bridge is significant in the areas of engineering and transportation. It is being submitted under the multiple property listing "Historic Bridges of Arkansas" and under the associated historic context "Post WW II Era."

### Elaboration

The White River is the largest tributary river of the Mississippi between the Missouri and Arkansas Rivers. The extreme northwest part of Arkansas was initially accessible by a road from St. Louis that went straight through Carroll County. This encouraged settlement, most of which occurred along the White River. The first white settler came and settled in the central part of the county. Later settlers from Tennessee moved into the northwestern part of the county which is where the White River Bridge is located on what is now U.S. 62.<sup>1</sup>

Eureka Springs was founded in 1879 and before the close of the year boasted 10,000 people.<sup>2</sup> Visitors were drawn to Eureka Springs for the "healing" powers of its water. Being a tourist destination, Eureka Springs needed roads built to connect it to the surrounding cities. Also, as settlement in the area increased in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, a larger road network developed in the county. With Eureka Spring's importance as the westernmost of the two county seats in Carroll County, accessibility to the community, especially from the county's western residents was important. In addition, as automobile and truck travel increased throughout the first part of the twentieth century, the need for a new sturdy bridge to allow U.S. 62 to pass over the White River on the way to Eureka Springs became a necessity.

The U.S. 62 Bridge over the White River was built by the Forcum-James Company of Dyersburg, Tennessee<sup>3</sup> by order of the Arkansas State Highway Commission and the Department of Commerce Bureau of Public Roads. Construction began on October 16, 1950, at which time the estimated cost was \$277,196.00. The bridge was completed two years later at the cost of \$305,519.90. The bridge was completed in 1952 and still serves as a functional bridge to this day. In total, there were eleven deck truss bridges built in Arkansas with the U.S. 62 White River Bridge being the last one built.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas: Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Franklin, and Sebastian Counties*. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889.

<sup>2</sup> "History of Eureka Springs, Arkansas." <<http://www.eurekasprings.com/history/>> (March 12, 2007).

<sup>3</sup> Scoggins, Robert. Email to Sydney Yeager Intern of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Registry. February 2, 2007.

<sup>4</sup> Scoggins, Robert. Email to Sydney Yeager Intern of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Registry. February 2, 2007.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

The bridge was built near the community of Busch, a community founded in 1905 that was originally to be named Walden.<sup>5</sup>

Since the time that the White River Bridge was completed by the Focum James Company of Dyersburg, Tennessee, in 1952, it has remained an important transportation link in Carroll County. Today, U.S. 62 is the main east-west highway in Carroll County connecting the county to the Rogers and Bentonville area in northwest Arkansas. As the only deck-truss bridge in Carroll County and an important transportation link in the area, the U.S. 62 White River Bridge represents an important part of Carroll County's history.

### Statement of Significance

Constructed in 1950-1952, the U.S. 62 Bridge over the White River is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under **Criterion C** because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a deck truss bridge and is the best example of this design in the surrounding area. In addition to its engineering importance, the White River Bridge is also being nominated for **Criterion A** for its associations with the development of transportation in Carroll County during the mid-twentieth century. This bridge is significant in the area of engineering and is being submitted under the multiple property listing "Historic Bridges of Arkansas" and under the associated historic context "Post WW II Era."

<sup>5</sup> Baker, Russell Pierce. *From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices 1832-1971*. Hot Springs, Arkansas: Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

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### Bibliography

Baker, Russell Pierce. *From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices 1832-1971*. Hot Springs, Arkansas: Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988.

Baughn, James. *Historic Bridges of the US: White River Bridge US 62 Carroll County, Arkansas*. (2002) <<http://bridgehunter.com/ar/carroll/white-62/>> (March 12, 2007).

Bridge Record No. 2597. Busch Relocation White River Bridge. 1953.

*The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas: Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Franklin, and Sebastian Counties*. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889.

"History of Eureka Springs, Arkansas." (2007) <<http://www.eukeasprings.com/history/>> (March 12, 2007).

Scoggin, Robert. Email to Sydney Yeager Intern of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, February 2, 2007.

U.S. 62 White River Bridge  
Name of Property

Carroll County, Arkansas  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 426225 4034109  
Zone Easting Northing  
2

3  
Zone Easting Northing  
4

☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator & Sydney Yeager, National Register/Survey Intern  
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date January 22, 2007  
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9787  
city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

## Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department  
street & number P.O. Box 2261 telephone 501-569-2000  
city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72203

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

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### Verbal Boundary Description

Section – 35, Township – 21N, Range – 27W

Beginning at a point 30 feet northeast of the northeast corner of the bridge, proceed northwest 40 feet crossing U.S. 62. Turning southwest, proceed 800 feet, running parallel to the northwest side of the bridge, while crossing the White River. Turning southeast proceed 40 feet crossing U.S. 62. Turning northeast proceed 800 feet, running parallel to the southeast side of the bridge, while crossing the White River and returning to the point of origin.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the White River Bridge on U.S. 62 and its immediate setting.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY U.S. 62 White River Bridge  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Carroll

DATE RECEIVED: 12/11/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/03/08  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/18/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/24/08  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07001421

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 1-24-08 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

~~Entered in the~~  
~~National Register~~

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the  
nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

WHITE RIVER

FORGUM-JAMES CO.  
CONTRACTOR

ARKANSAS  
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION  
AND THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS  
BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS

1952

BRIDGE NO.

WHITE RIVER BRIDGE

CARROLL COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

VIEW OF THE BUILDER'S PLATE, LOOKING SOUTHEAST







WHITE RIVER BRIDGE

CARROLL COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

VIEW OF THE BRIDGE, LOOKING SOUTHWEST



WHITE RIVER BRIDGE

CARROLL COUNTY, AR

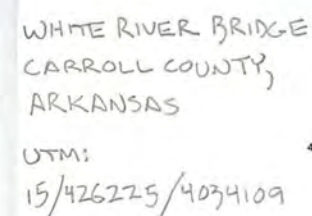
RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

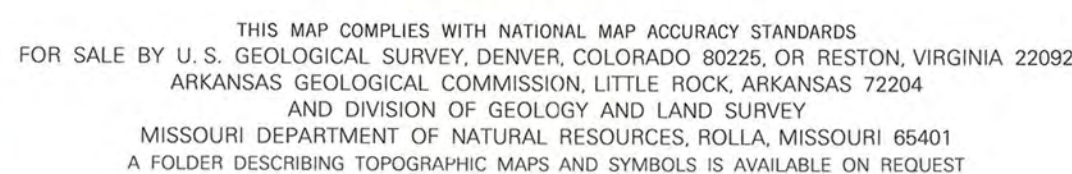
VIEW OF THE BRIDGE TRUSS, LOOKING SOUTH





To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,  
move the projection lines 4 meters south and  
17 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
the National or State reservations shown on this map



ARKANSAS

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

BEAVER, ARK.—MO.  
N3622.5—W9345/7.5  
1957  
PHOTOREVISED 1976  
AMS 7256 IV NE—SERIES V884





## The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Beebe  
Governor

Cathie Matthews  
Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage  
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars  
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



### Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

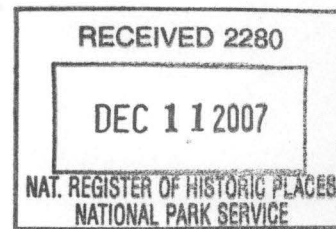
1500 Tower Building  
323 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
(501) 324-9880  
fax: (501) 324-9184  
tdd: (501) 324-9811

e-mail:

[info@arkansaspreservation.org](mailto:info@arkansaspreservation.org)

website:

[www.arkansaspreservation.com](http://www.arkansaspreservation.com)



December 5, 2007

Dr. Janet Matthews  
Chief of Registration  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
8th Floor  
1201 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

RE: White River Bridge – Eureka Springs vic., Carroll County,  
Arkansas

Dear Dr. Matthews:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:rsw

Enclosure

An Equal Opportunity Employer

