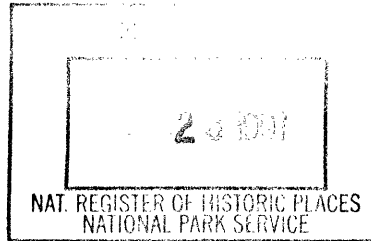


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: New Rockford Bridge

Other names/site number: James River Bridge; 32ED223

2. Location

Street & number: unnamed county road

not for publication

City or town: New Rockford

vicinity

State: North Dakota Code: ND County: Eddy Code: 027 Zip code: 58356

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James E. Sperry
Signature and title of certifying official James E. Sperry

January 8, 1997
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)

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

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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:)

Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 3/13/97

New Rockford Bridge
Name of Property

Eddy, North Dakota
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 the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>1</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

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

Historic Roadway Bridges of N.D.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION: Road-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

TRANSPORTATION: Road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Warren through truss bridge

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation concrete
walls _____
roof _____
other steel
concrete

Narrative Description

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

New Rockford Bridge
Name of Property

Eddy, North Dakota
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** a birthplace or grave.
- 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 Name of repository: # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1904-1946

Significant Dates

1904

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Builder: Fargo Bridge & Iron Co.

New Rockford Bridge
Name of Property

Eddy, North Dakota
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 4	4 8 9 8 9 0	5 2 8 1 1 5 0	2	_ _	_ _	_ _	_ _	_ _	_ _
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing			
3	_ _	_ _	_ _	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: Mark Hufstetler / Historian
Organization: Renewable Technologies, Incorporated Date: December 10, 1996
Street & Number: 511 Metals Bank Building Telephone: (406) 782-0494
City or Town: Butte State: Montana Zip code: 59701

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: Eddy County
Street & Number: Courthouse; 524 Central Avenue Telephone: (701) 947-2813
City or Town: New Rockford State: North Dakota Zip code: 58356

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 listings. 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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

NEW ROCKFORD BRIDGE
EDDY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Narrative Description:

The New Rockford Bridge is located on an unpaved county road in Eddy County, North Dakota. The site is located at the northern edge of the community of New Rockford, the largest town in Eddy County and the county seat. The bridge, constructed on a north-south axis, carries a gravel road through leading north from New Rockford into adjacent farmland. At the time of the bridge's construction this was probably part of the main north-south roadway through Eddy County. (That roadway is now approximately one mile to the east.) The bridge crosses the Sheyenne River, the county's largest watercourse. In this location the river meanders in an approximate east-west direction, flanked by marshy wetlands. A residential neighborhood of New Rockford is located south of the bridge, and most of the land to the north is used for intensive agriculture.

The bridge itself is a rigid-connected (bolted) Warren through truss, with a steel superstructure. The Warren design, which saw widespread use nationally and in North Dakota during the early and mid-twentieth centuries, is characterized by the presence of relatively-heavy diagonal members designed to handle the compressive stress of a bridge load. This is an unusually-early example of a Warren bridge in the state. The bridge contains a single truss span, three panels in length; the truss is supplemented by two-span steel-stringer approaches on both the north and south ends. Overall, the bridge is approximately 168 feet long, with a vehicle deck 18 feet wide.

Design details of the bridge's substructure and superstructure are outlined below:

Substructure: abutments of I-beams set in concrete, with concrete wing walls; steel tubular piers for the main span and steel pile bents for the approach spans

Superstructure:

upper chords: two channel sections with continuous cover plate along the upper flanges and batten plates along the lower flanges

lower chords: two pairs of angle sections with batten plates in between

verticals: two pairs of angle sections with batten plates in between

diagonals: two pairs of angle sections with batten plates in between

bracing (portal): lattice bars across the portal, with knee braces

top lateral struts: two pairs of angle sections with lacing bars in between

laterals (top): round rods

laterals (bottom): round rods

moveable end: rollers

floor system: I-beam stringers, with outside channels; resting on I-beam floor beams, bolted to the superstructure

decking: two layers of wood, with wood curbs

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

NEW ROCKFORD BRIDGE
EDDY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

railing: angle sections

steelmaker's marks: Carnegie Steel Co. (U.S. Steel), Pittsburgh, Pa.

Metal plaques mounted above both portals display the lettering: "FARGO BRIDGE & IRON CO. / 1904 / BUILDERS — FARGO N.D."

The bridge retains a very high level of integrity; it remains in its original location, and all major structural components appear to retain their as-built appearance. Only the decking appears to be non-original.

The New Rockford Bridge is owned and maintained by Eddy County. It carries the state numerical designation 14-108-12.0.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

NEW ROCKFORD BRIDGE
EDDY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Narrative Statement of Significance:

In accordance with the guidelines established in the Multiple Property Documentation form for "Historic Roadway Bridges in North Dakota," the New Rockford Bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criteria "A" and "C." The bridge is significant under Criterion A for its association with an important pattern of bridge construction in a number of counties in the state, in which one or two bridge companies received most of the contracts over a successive period of years, even with, or under the pretense of, competitive bidding. This pattern emerged in the late nineteenth century and, in some counties, continued into the 1930s. This is the oldest documented bridge in Eddy County constructed by long-term county bridge builder, the Fargo Bridge & Iron Company. The company held contracts with the county between 1902 and 1922.

Under Criterion C, the bridge is significant because it is a through truss bridge which is not a Pratt or riveted Parker, and therefore is unusual in North Dakota. Finally, the bridge is National Register eligible under Criterion C because it is the oldest documented metal truss bridge in Eddy County.

Historical information: County records indicate that the county commissioners opened bids for a "steel bridge across James River at New Rockford" on June 21, 1904. Nine firms submitted bids, with the highest being \$5,190 and the lowest from the winner of the contract, Fargo Bridge & Iron Co., with a bid of \$4,396. After construction was completed, the company received its final payment on this bridge in December, 1904.

The bridge's construction history in county records is supported by plaques centered atop each portal which reads:

FARGO BRIDGE & IRON CO.
1904
BUILDERS -- FARGO N.D.

Fargo Bridge and Iron was easily the largest North Dakota-based builder of bridges in the state during the first two decades of the twentieth century, with a particularly strong presence in the southern and eastern regions of the state. At least fifty historic Fargo Bridge & Iron bridges are believed to survive in North Dakota.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 4

NEW ROCKFORD BRIDGE
EDDY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Bibliography:

Bridge plaque, atop north and south portals of structure.

Eddy County Commission, "Minute Book B," p. 297 (June 21, 1904), p. 313 (December 20, 1904).

Johnson, Lon, et.al. "Historic Bridges in North Dakota." Bismarck: North Dakota Department of Transportation, 1992.

State Transportation Department, "Structure Inventory & Appraisal Sheet," Bridge No. 14-108-12.0, December 1987.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 5

NEW ROCKFORD BRIDGE
EDDY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Verbal Boundary Description:

The bridge is located in the Northeast quarter of Section 32, Township 149 North, Range 66 West. The boundary consists of a rectangle, measuring 218 feet north-south and 68 feet east-west, and centered on the bridge superstructure.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary is constructed to include the area occupied by the bridge superstructure and substructure, as well as a 25-foot buffer of land immediately surrounding the structure.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs Page 6

NEW ROCKFORD BRIDGE
EDDY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Index to Photographs

Photographer: Mark Hufstetler

Date: April 1996

Location of original negatives: State Historical Society, of North Dakota,
Bismarck.

Photograph Number	Description	Direction of View
1	South portal and east elevation	NW
2	North portal	S
3	Bridge plaque	S