

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

10 WALKERSVILLE COVERED BRIDGE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Secondary Route 19/17 near U.S. 19 crossing right fork of West Fork River

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

X VICINITY OF Walkersville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY

Lewis

CODE

041

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.

Lewis County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Weston

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

DETERIORATED

GOOD

RUINS

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Walkersville Covered Bridge is 12 feet-1½ inches wide and 39 feet-4 inches long. It has board-and-batten siding and a standing seam metal roof. The trusses, which are of the queenpost type, have two-7½ x 13½ inch centerposts, which are separated by the 7½ x 9½ inch top chord and divide the truss into three panels. Making up the bottom chord are two-8 x 13½ inch timbers, between which fit the 7½ x 9½ inch diagonals. A pair of 5 x 11½ inch transverse floor beams, that are bolted to the bases of the centerposts below the bottom chords, support the bottom chord and floor stringers at midspan. Tie rods, located at the four ends of the bottom chords are attached to the abutments with an iron loop and are bolted to end blocks resting on the top of the bottom chords.

Still functional, the bridge has had no modern reinforcement added to it.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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 1903 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John G. Sprigg

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Following a submission of a petition by J. E. Spriggs, G. I. Dennison, and H. O. Wilson and others to the Lewis County court on June 13, 1902, the court appointed W. E. Wick and W.D. Anderson as a committee to locate a site for a bridge across the right fork of the West Fork River, about one mile south of Walkersville. The committee was to evaluate the nature of the ground for the placement of abutments, the required length of the bridge and all other details necessary for arriving at a cost of construction.

On July 1, 1902 the court decided to build three iron bridges, one of which was to be located south of Walkersville. W. S. Smith was authorized by the court to draft specifications for the stone abutments of the three bridges, and advertize for sealed bids for their construction. Smith was appointed on July 9, 1902 to have the stone abutments and the approaches constructed for the bridge above Walkersville (1). The stone for the abutments came from Morgan Galfords farm (now owned by A. J. Thompson) (2). During the next few months the court apparently decided to build a wooden bridge instead of the previously planned iron bridge. Because on December 10, 1902, John G. Sprigg was awarded a contract to build a wooden bridge on the abutments that had been completed at the West Fork River approximately one mile south of Walkersville. On March 13, 1903, the court ordered that drafts be issued payable to John G. Sprigg for \$567.00 for building the wooden superstructure of the bridge.

The Walkersville Covered Bridge is the only covered bridge remaining in Lewis County and one of four covered bridges in West Virginia, which were constructed according to a queenpost truss design. It also is one of the few covered bridges in West Virginia that has not been significantly altered from its original condition.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Order Book #7, Lewis County Court, pp. 234, 245, 253, 331, 377.
2. Interview, Mrs. Ray Alkire, Walkersville, WV, August 23, 1979.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Not Applicable
 UTM REFERENCES Quad. name Walkersville Quad. Scale 1:24000

A 17	5 4,6 7,9,0	4,3 0,1 0,0,0	B
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C			D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
E. L. Kemp, Professor of History of Science & Technology and of Civil Engineering
 ORGANIZATION West Virginia University DATE _____
 STREET & NUMBER G14 Woodburn Hall, Town Campus TELEPHONE (304) 293-3867
 CITY OR TOWN Morgantown, WV STATE West Virginia 26506

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

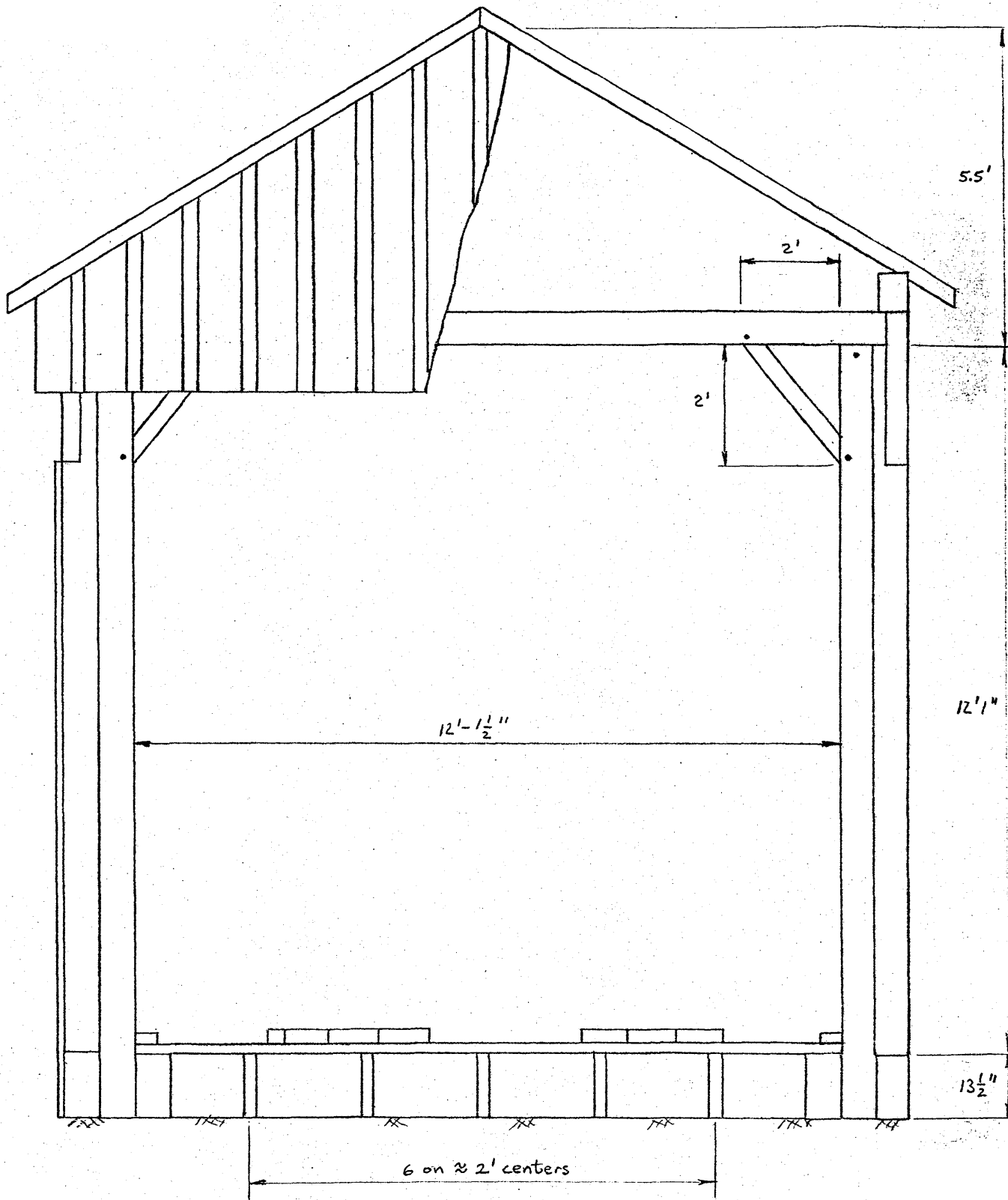
NATIONAL _____ STATE _____ LOCAL _____

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.

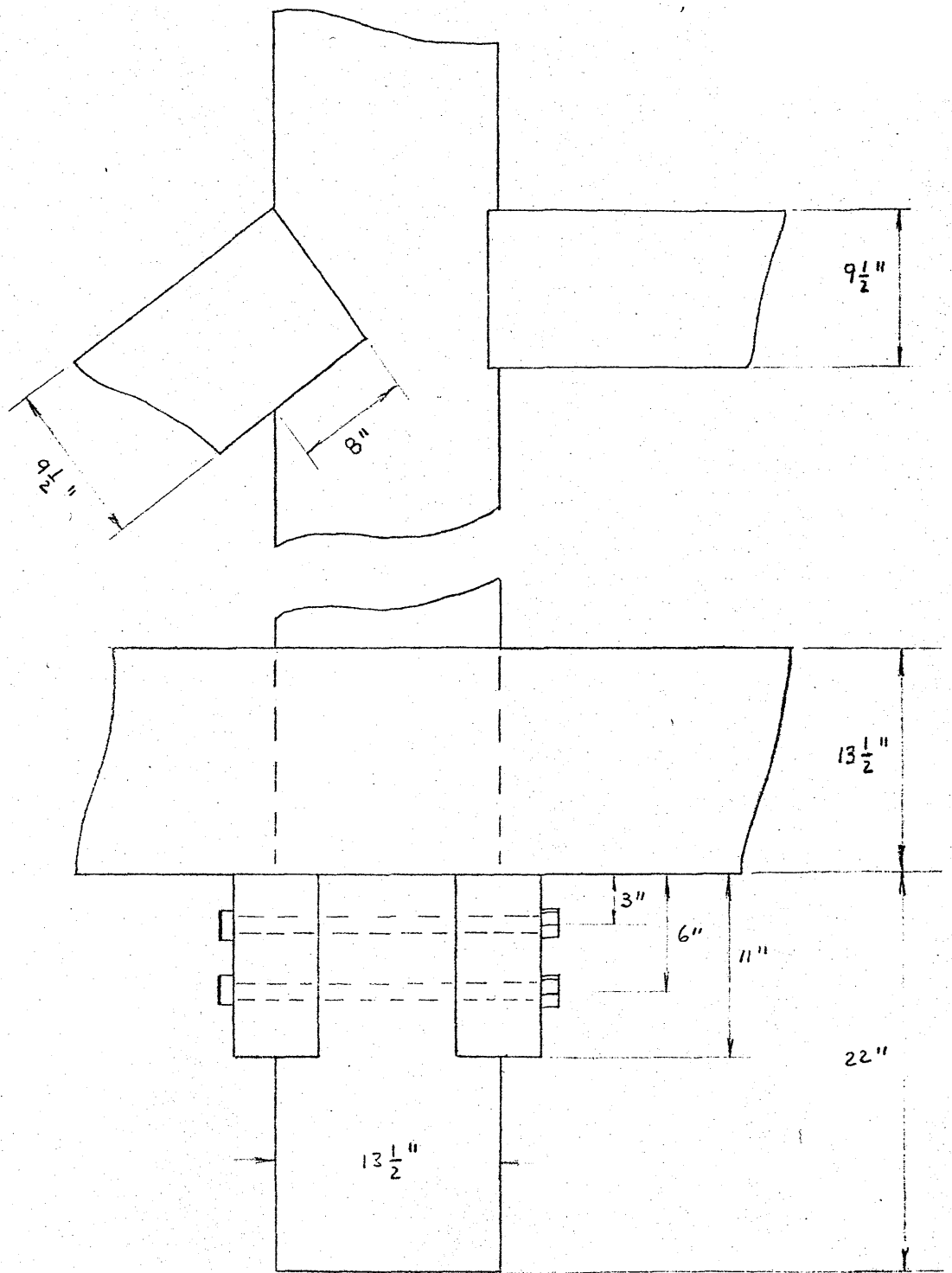
FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE _____

TITLE _____ DATE _____

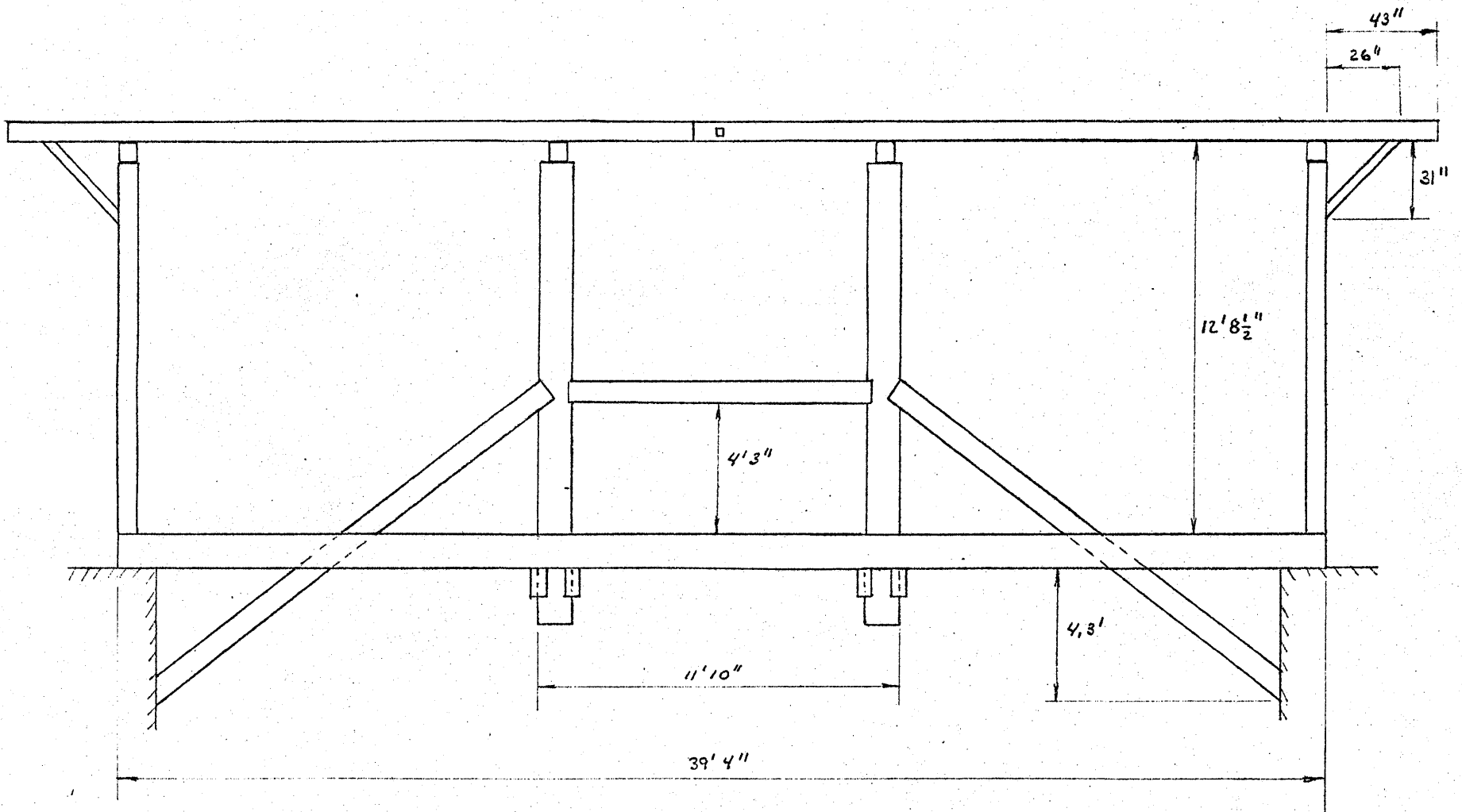
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
	DATE _____
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	
ATTEST:	DATE _____
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	



12. WALKERSVILLE COVERED BRIDGE



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