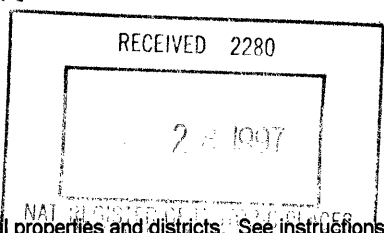


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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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: Romness Bridge

Other names/site number: Sheyenne River Bridge; 32GG93

2. Location

Street & number: unnamed county road  not for publication

City or town: Cooperstown  vicinity

State: North Dakota Code: ND County: Griggs Code: 039 Zip code: 58425

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 January 8, 1997  
Signature and title of certifying official James E. Sperry 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 2/27/97

Romness Bridge  
Name of Property

Griggs, 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.)

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

Historic Roadway Bridges of N.D.

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: Pratt through truss bridge  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation concrete  
walls \_\_\_\_\_  
roof \_\_\_\_\_  
other steel  
wood

**Narrative Description**

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

Romness Bridge  
Name of Property

Griggs, 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**

1912-1946

**Significant Dates**

1912

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Builder: Great Northern Bridge Co.

Romness Bridge  
Name of Property

Griggs, North Dakota  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

|   |       |                       |                           |   |       |                   |                   |
|---|-------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|-------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | 1   4 | 5   6   8   1   7   0 | 5   2   6   2   0   0   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: Griggs County  
Street & Number: Courthouse; P.O. Box 237 Telephone: (701) 797-2771  
City or Town: Cooperstown State: North Dakota Zip code: 58425

**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

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ROMNESS BRIDGE  
GRIGGS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

### Narrative Description:

The Romness Bridge is located on an unpaved county road in rural Griggs County, North Dakota. The site is located approximately eight miles north and one mile east of Cooperstown, North Dakota. The bridge, constructed on an east-west axis, carries a gravel "section-line" road through a rural portion of the county. The surrounding land is largely cultivated, and scattered groups of farmstead buildings exist in the vicinity. The bridge crosses the Sheyenne River, a major watercourse in the area. Here, the River meanders through a wide, shallow valley dotted with trees and wetlands.

The bridge itself is a pin-connected Pratt through truss, with a steel superstructure. The Pratt design, which saw widespread use nationally and in North Dakota during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, is characterized by the presence of relatively-heavy vertical members designed to handle the compressive stress of a bridge load. The use of pinned rather than riveted connections dates the Romness Bridge as a relatively early Pratt design. The bridge contains a single truss span, seven panels in length; there are no approach spans. Overall, the bridge is approximately 102 feet long, with a vehicle deck 18 feet wide.

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

*Substructure:* concrete abutments, with wing walls at both ends

*Superstructure:*

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

*lower chords:* paired punched eyebars

*verticals:* two channel sections with lacing bars along both sets of flanges

*diagonals:* paired punched eyebars

*bracing (portal):* paired angle sections

*bracing (sway):* struts of paired angle sections

*laterals (top):* round rods

*laterals (bottom):* round rods

*moveable end:* plate [uncertain, due to debris cover]

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

*decking:* a single layer of wood--board laid on edge; no curb

*railing:* two angle sections

*steelmaker's marks:* Inland Steel Co., East Chicago, Ind.

The bridge retains a very high level of integrity; it remains in its

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number   7   Page   2  

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ROMNESS BRIDGE  
GRIGGS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

original location, and all major structural components appear to retain their as-built appearance.

The Romness Bridge is owned and maintained by Griggs County. It carries the state numerical designation 20-119-07.0.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

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ROMNESS BRIDGE  
GRIGGS 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 Romness 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 the development of a rural roadway network in Griggs County, and as a representation of attempts by North Dakota counties to expand and improve transportation networks prior to 1926 by construction of through truss bridges, relatively costly structures. Through truss bridges with documented construction dates and builders, such as this one, best illustrate this important trend in North Dakota bridge construction. It is eligible under Criteria "C" as a representative example of the Pratt through truss, a common bridge form used for long-span crossings in turn-of-the-century North Dakota.

Historical information: This bridge was built in 1912 by the Great Northern Bridge Co. of Minneapolis. In May of that year, the county commissioners selected Great Northern from among the three bidders seeking to get the project. Great Northern offered a choice of six different plans for this crossing; the commissioners selected this bridge with wood floor, reinforced concrete foundation "with wood piling underneath," and a carrying capacity of 1,800 pounds per lineal foot. The cost was set at \$4,195, with the deadline for completion set on the 1st of August.

Great Northern built at least two other bridges in Griggs County during the 1910s; unlike most North Dakota counties, however, Griggs County did not rely on a single builder for a majority of its bridge construction projects.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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ROMNESS BRIDGE  
GRIGGS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

### **Bibliography:**

Griggs County Commission: "Minute Book B," p. 623 (May 14, 1912).

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

State Highway Department, "Structure Inventory & Appraisal Sheet," Bridge No. 20-119-07.0, January 1989.



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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 5

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ROMNESS BRIDGE  
GRIGGS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

### Verbal Boundary Description:

The bridge is located in the Southeast quarter of Section 6, Township 147 North, Range 58 West. The boundary consists of a rectangle, measuring 152 feet east-west and 68 feet north-south, 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.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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ROMNESS BRIDGE  
GRIGGS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

### Index to Photographs

Photographer: Mark Hufstetler

Date: January 1991

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

| Photograph<br>Number | Description                     | Direction<br>of View |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1                    | west portal and south elevation | NE                   |
| 2                    | west portal                     | E                    |