

706

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED
MAY 19 1992

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Willow Creek Bridge
other name/site number NEHBS Number PC00-46

2. Location

street & number county road over Willow Creek N/A not for publication
city, town 6.5 miles south of Foster X vicinity
state NE county Pierce code 139 zip code 68737

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Pierce County	Number of Resources within Property	
Category of Property	structure	Contributing	Noncontributing
		0	0 buildings
		0	0 sites
		1	0 structures
		0	0 objects
		1	0 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Highway Bridges in Nebraska, 1870-1942

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Bob Rutherford
Signature of certifying official
Nebraska State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

5/6/92
Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:)

Patrick Andrews

6/29/92

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

OTHER /rigid-connected lattice pony truss

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located 6.5 miles south of Foster, the Willow Creek Bridge spans Willow Creek in a rural Pierce County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. Other than maintenance-related repairs, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Willow Creek Bridge today retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. A description of the structure follows:

span number:	1	construction date:	1913
span length:	34.0'	construction cost:	unknown
total length:	36.0'	current condition:	good
roadway wdt.:	15.7'	alterations:	none

superstructure: steel, rigid-connected lattice pony truss

substructure: steel I-beam pile bent abutments with concrete backwalls

floor/decking: timber deck over I-beam stringers

other features: endpost: 2 angles; upper chord: 2 angles; lower chord: angle; diagonal: lattice bars with rosettes; floor beam: I-beam, field bolted to center panel vertical; lateral bracing: rod with threaded ends; commemorative plate: **Chris Boll, Chairman, Geo. Holmes and Jacob Pilger, Commissioners, J.B. McDonald, County Clerk.**

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

	statewide
Applicable National Register Criteria	C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	N/A
Areas of Significance	Engineering
Period of Significance	1913 (The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)
Significant Dates	1913
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Significant Person	N/A
Architect/Builder (Designer)	Canton Bridge Company, Canton OH
(Fabricator)	Cambria Steel Company, Pittsburgh PA
(Builder)	Canton Bridge Company, Canton OH

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations and areas of significance noted above.

Configured as a rigid-connected lattice pony truss with latticed guardrails, this small-scale truss was built in 1913 by the Canton Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio, which held Pierce County's annual bridge building contract between 1905 and 1918. With its lattice configuration, this diminutive structure represents a throwback of sorts to the Town lattice truss used extensively for nineteenth century covered timber bridges. The multiple diagonals of a lattice truss function both in tension and compression at various times while a vehicle crosses over it, making the truss structurally indeterminate. For this reason lattice trusses were seldom used in all-metal configurations for other than short-span applications. All-steel lattice trusses were uncommon even for their period, though they were sometimes carried as standard items in bridge builders' catalogs. No doubt several were built on Nebraska's secondary roads in the early 1900s. Through attrition, however, only two are known to remain today: this bridge and another Pierce County structure, also over Willow Creek. Both are attributable to the Canton Bridge Company. In a well-preserved state, this bridge is technologically significant as one of the last remaining examples in the state of this early vehicular truss type.

For further contextual information regarding bridge building in Nebraska, registration requirements, and property types, see related multiple property listing "Highway Bridges in Nebraska, 1870 - 1942."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Nebraska Department of Roads, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. C007013805; Pierce County Commissioners' Record, located at the Pierce County Courthouse, Pierce, Nebraska; field inspection by Fred Quivik, 26 July 1989.

___ See continuation sheet

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 # ___

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other (specify repository:)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre
Cadastral Reference S4/33, T25/26N, R3W
USGS Quadrangle Pierce Northwest (7.5 Minute Series, 1963)
UTM References zone 14 easting 610090 northing 4670110

___ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 36 feet by 17.7 feet, which is centered on the UTM point listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure, substructure and floor system.

___ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated structure includes the bridge's superstructure, substructure, floor system, any approach spans and the property on which they rest. These boundaries encompass, but do not exceed, all of the property that has been historically associated with this bridge.

___ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Clayton B. Fraser, Principal, and Carl W. McWilliams, Research Historian		
organization	Fraserdesign and Hess, Roise and Company	date	30 June 1991
street & number	1269 Cleveland Avenue	telephone	303-669-7969
city or town	Loveland	state	Colorado zip code 80537
