

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **MAY 30 1985**  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Jake's Branch of Middle Creek Bridge (N. 1/2 Sec. 14, T. 14 N., R. 10 W., S. 10 E., 1887)

and/or common Jake's Branch Bridge

**2. Location**

street & number Six miles south [FAS 1018] and two miles west of n/a not for publication  
Louisburg

city, town Louisburg  vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Miami code 121

**3. Classification**

| Category                                      | Ownership                                  | Status  | Present Use                            |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied                     | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture   | <input type="checkbox"/> museum                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s)          | <input type="checkbox"/> private           | <input checked="" 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                 | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                  | <b>Accessible</b>                                     | <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 |
|   | n/a  | <input type="checkbox"/> no                           | <input type="checkbox"/> military      | <input type="checkbox"/> other:                    |

**4. Owner of Property**

name Miami County

street & number Miami County Courthouse

city, town Paola  vicinity of state Kansas

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Miami County Courthouse

city, town Paola state Kansas

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Survey of Historic Bridges--  
Kansas Dept. of Transportation has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1980-83  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society

city, town Topeka state Kansas

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The reinforced concrete arch bridge spans Jake's Branch southwest of Louisburg, Kansas. It is 47 feet long and 13.5 feet wide curb to curb, and its deck lies 14 feet above the bed of the stream.

The bridge consists of a concrete arch reinforced by steel ribs which spring from and are disposed between reinforced concrete abutments. The concrete guard rails are incised with rectangles.

## 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/<br>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** 1914 **Builder/Architect** Topeka Bridge & Iron

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Jake's Branch bridge retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling and association. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction no longer being used and may yield information important to the history of engineering.

Topeka Bridge and Iron was responsible for the construction of a great number of reinforced concrete bridges in Kansas. They employed both the designs developed by Daniel Luten of the National Bridge Company and were general agents for Luten's designs, as well as designs developed by Lloyd B. Smith of Topeka.

The company discontinued the fabrication of metal bridges in 1914, and progressively shifted their operation to concrete structures.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Louisburg Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

|      |   |   |         |    |   |    |          |   |    |   |    |   |    |    |
|------|---|---|---------|----|---|----|----------|---|----|---|----|---|----|----|
| 1    | 5 | 3 | 5       | 10 | 4 | 12 | 10       | 4 | 12 | 6 | 14 | 6 | 18 | 10 |
| Zone |   |   | Easting |    |   |    | Northing |   |    |   |    |   |    |    |

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

That property on and over which the bridge is built including bridge structure, abutments and piers. SE $\frac{1}{4}$  S35-T17S-R24E

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | n/a | code | county | code |
|-------|-----|------|--------|------|
|       |     |      |        |      |

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Larry Jochims, Research Historian and Michael Snell

organization Kansas' State Historical Society

date 2/20/85

street & number 120 W. Tenth

telephone (913) 296-2973

city or town Topeka

state Kansas

## 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.

### State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

date 3/4/85

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

See continuation sheet for listing  
Keeper of the National Register

date

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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"Lloyd B. Smith," Kansas Government Journal 29 (April 1943): 9.

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Walt Markley, "Lloyd B. Smith," Builders of Topeka, Topeka: Capper Printing Company, 1934.

Topeka Bridge and Iron Company, Reinforced Concrete Bridges Luten Patents, Daniel Luten, 1908.