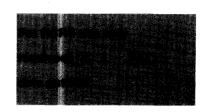
United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Nam	ie			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
historic	Great Norther	n Railway Company	Bridge	
and/or common	Steamboat Bri	dge		
2. Loca	ation sw .	Cass hake o	MN 371	
street & number	Off State Hig	;hway 371	•	not for publication
city, town	Cass Lake v Wilkinson Tow	canship X vicinity of	ss Lake congressional district	7th
state	Minnesota cod	e 22 county	Cass	code 021
3. Clas	sification			
Category district building(s) _X structure site object	Ownership X public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	entertainment government	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation _X other: abandoned
<u>4. Own</u>	er of Prope	rty		
name	State of Minnes	ota, Department of	Natural Resources	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
street & number	Centennial Offi	ce Building, Third	Floor	
city, town	St. Paul	vicinity of	state	Minnesota
5. Loca	ition of Leg	al Descript	ion	
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc.	ass County Courtho	use	
street & number				
city, town	W	alker	state	Minnesota
6. Repr	esentation	in Existing	Surveys	
A!A1_	esota Inventory of oric Sites	has this p	roperty been determined el	legible? yes no
date 1976			federal sta	te county local
depository for su	rvey records Minnesot	a Historical Socie	ty 240 Summit Ave	enue-Hill House
city, town St.	Pau1		state	Minnesota

7. Descriptio	I
---------------	---

Condition excellent deteriorated _X good ruins _X fair unexposed	Check one X unaltered altered	Check oneX original site moved date	
---	---------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Steamboat bridge is located in the southeast quarter of section 20, Wilkinson Township, parallel to State Trunk Highway 371. It spans Steamboat River at its point of outlet from Steamboat Lake, about one-half mile above Leech Lake. It is a through plate girder railroad swing span, continuous over the center pier, with riveted connections and a rim-bearing turn mechanism mounted on a wood pile center pier. The turn mechanism probably was hand powered. At the locking ends are metal wedge shoes which are retractable to facilitate easy movement of the span. The girder structure itself is somewhat unusual in that the span incorporates no additional support for the span ends when in the open position to counteract the negative bending moment over the center pier. The bridge is approximately 58 feet long with a mean low water clearance of eight feet and a high water clearance of four feet. It has been abandoned by the railroad and the tracks have been removed.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1799 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications		landscape architectur law literature military music t philosophy politics/government	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarlan theater _X_ transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	Ca. 1915	Builder/Architect Unl	known	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Steamboat bridge was built circa 1915 by the Great Northern Railway Company, replacing a bridge erected 1897-98 by the Park Rapids and Leech Lake Railway Company, original builders of the line between the cities of Park Rapids and Cass Lake. It is significant as a surviving representative of the interaction of the logging industry and the railroads in northern Minnesota during the logging era. The bridge was constructed as a movable swing span to facilitate steam tugboat log traffic along the waterways between the logging and cutting areas and the sawmills. The rail line segment was abandoned by Burlington Northern Inc. in 1972. (In 1975 Burlington Northern conveyed the bridge crossing to the State of Minnesota.)

9. Maj	or Biblio	graphica	ıl Refere	nces	5		
ment. Historic An	"Series Summa	ompany Archive ry Sheet," abs ering Record. 79.	tract data. N	li nneso	ta Histor	ical Society	Ct Davil
U.S. Engine	er Dept. Lis	t of Bridges of S. Government	ver the Naviga Printing Offic	ble War e. 192	ters of t 3. pp. 22	he United St 6-27.	ates.
10. Ge	ographi	cal Data	ITM NO	r VFRI	FIFN		
	ninated property _ me _Steamboat _ s		-ACREAGE	NOT VI	REED	le scale 7.5	
A 1,5 3 3 Zone East		2 3 6 1 0 0 rthing	B Zone	Eastin	g	Northing	
C			D F H				<u> </u>
in width to center line exposed fac	o the legal ri e and parallel ce of the nort	and justification ght-of-way lim to said line; h abutment and	its, extending in length, the 50 feet south	g 50 fe nis str n from	et on eit ip extend the expos	her side of s 50 feet no	the bridge
state	and countres to	code	county	Journey D	oundanies	code	
state		code				code	
	um Drone		county			Code	
II. FU	rm Prepa	areu by				***	
name/title	Robert M. Fr	ame III, Archi	tectural Histo	rian/R	esearch H	istorian	
organization	Minnesota Hi	storical Socie	ty	date A	pril 1980	·	Ann and an
street & numbe	r 240 Summit A	venue-Hill Hou	se	telephone	612-296	-9074	
city or town	St. Paul		•	state	Minneso	ta	
12. Sta	ate Histo	oric Pres	ervation	Offi	cer C	ertifica	tion
The evaluated s	ignificance of this	property within the s	state is:				
·	national	state	X local				
665), I hereby no	ominate this proper	reservation Officer f rty for inclusion in the dures set forth by the	he National Registe ne Heritage Conser	r and cer	tify that;it ha	is been evaluate	
	reservation Officer	signature X	sell h	175	idle	/	
a contract of the contract of	W. Fridley storic Preser	vation Officer			date	7-15-	-80
For HCRS use	The same of the sa	perty is included in t	he National Regist		date	10/14/80	
Keeper of the	National Register	July 1	lillard		date		