

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 30 1986

date entered

MAY 30 1986

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

1. Name

historic TAYCO STREET BRIDGE

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number Tayco and Water Streets (Over the Menasha Govt. Canal) not for publication

city, town Menasha vicinity of

state Wisconsin code 55 county Winnebago code 139

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Wisconsin Department of Transportation

street & number 944 Vanderperren Way

city, town Green Bay vicinity of state Wisconsin 54304

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Winnebago County Courthouse

street & number 415 Jackson Street

city, town Oshkosh state Wisconsin 54901

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1977, 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison state Wisconsin

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Tayco Street Bridge is located in the industrial city of Menasha on the principal traffic corridor to Neenah. Spanning the Government Canal at the midpoint of its length, the structure is an electrically operated Strauss Trunion bascule bridge. Each bascule pier has a motor, pinion gears, and concrete counterweight below the roadway under twin control towers. The concrete piers are approximately thirty-four feet deep and ninety-two feet wide. The two steel leaves are about fifty-eight feet long and sixty-two feet wide. The steel grated roadway is forty feet wide with eight foot sidewalks on each side. On each pier stand twin towers, flanking the roadway. The northwest tower serves as a women's restroom, the northeast tower as storage, the southeast tower as the operator's house, and the southwest tower as a men's restroom. The second floor in each tower is unfinished; stairs to the counterweight pits are found in the two eastern towers. Eight feet on a side, each tower is two stories high with a hip roof shingled with red tile. The walls are random coursed limestone and the foundations are concrete. The windows are casement on both the first and second floors, with transoms on the second. Some of these windows have been boarded over. Decorative features include a stone sill course running below the second story windows, and a classically crested terra cotta cornice. Classical handrails and concrete obelisk lamp posts with bronze lanterns have been removed.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1935	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
Specific dates	1928-1929 ¹	Builder/Architect	McMahon & Clark ¹	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Tayco Street Bridge is of local architectural significance as a fine example of Period Classical Revival design as applied to bascule bridge construction.

ARCHITECTURE

The Tayco Street Bridge is of local architectural significance as a fine example of Period Classical Revival design as applied to bascule bridge construction. Its predecessor was a rim-bearing swing bridge with a sixty-foot channel clearance. Routing U. S. Highway 41 over this 19th century bridge necessitated its replacement, but stringent War Department requirements mandated that any new bridge across the canal would have to provide clearance of no less than 100 feet. In 1924 McMahon & Clark Engineering Company of Menasha designed a replacement that met this requirement, utilizing a simple trunnion bascule system and a patented Strauss trunnion. Estimated at an astounding \$250,000, the bridge was ultimately funded by the Wisconsin Highway Commission and constructed by Greiling Engineering Company of Green Bay in 1929.

The Tayco Street Bridge is distinguished from the other local bridge by its distinctive ornament. The octagonal towers are themselves decorative, serving only nominal functions in the operation of the bridge. The cornice of each is enriched by a bold terra cotta cresting of lions and acanthus leaves, while the red tile roofs provide a rich contrast to grey stone and brown trim. The contemporary Racine Street Bridge includes a bascule lift in its span across the Fox River, but the design is unrelieved by aesthetic considerations. Both bridges replaced 19th century iron bridges with nominal ornament.

¹Menasha Record; August 31, 1929; Page 1, column 4.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Hool, George A. & Kinne, W. S. Moveable and Long-Span Steel Bridges. McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1923. New York, New York.

Menasha Record, 1928-1929.

Tayco Street Bridge Blueprints, Wisconsin State Department of Transportation.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .35 acres

Quadrangle name Neenah, Wisconsin

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	6	3	8	3	9	4	0	4	8	9	4	7	0	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

1	6	3	8	3	9	4	0	4	8	9	4	7	6	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

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D

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
N/A			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jeffrey H. Mulvey and Peter J. Adams

organization Peter James Adams & Associates date 12/20/1985

street & number P.O. Box 341 telephone 414/722-8963

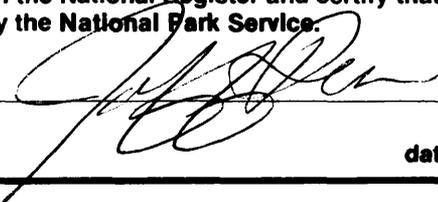
city or town Neenah state Wisconsin 54956

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 _____ date APRIL 23, 1986

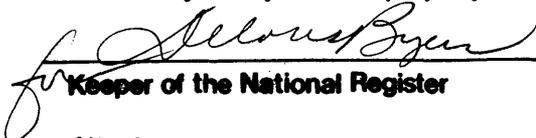
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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the

National Register

date 5-30-86


Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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

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

TAYCO STREET BRIDGE, Menasha, Winnebago County, Wisconsin
Continuation sheet

Item number

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BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of the property to be nominated begins three feet from the northwest corner of the north bascule pier at the intersection of Tayco and Water Streets. From this point the boundary runs approximately 92 feet east to a point three feet from the northeast corner of the north pier; then approximately 165 feet south following the east line of the bridge to a point three feet from the southeast corner of the south bascule pier; then 92 feet west to a point three feet from the southwest corner of the south pier; then 165 feet north following the west line of the bridge to the point of beginning so as to include the bridge, piers, and that portion of the canal embankment under and adjacent to the piers.