

721

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 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 Ashland Bridge
other name/site number Silver Street Bridge; NEHBS Number SD01-79

2. Location

street & number Silver Street over Salt Creek N/A not for publication
city, town Ashland N/A vicinity
state NE county Saunders code 155 zip code 68003

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	<u>Town of Ashland</u>	Number of Resources within Property	
Category of Property	<u>structure</u>	Contributing	Noncontributing
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> structures
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> 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 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.

Bob Fischer DSHPS
Signature of certifying official 5/6/92
Date

Nebraska State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

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 6/29/92
 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:)

Delaney Byers
Signature of the Keeper 6/29/92
Date of Action

Entered in the National Register

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 Warren 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 in Ashland, this bridge over Salt Creek has changed little since its period of significance. Other than maintenance-related repairs, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Ashland 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:	1936
span length:	100.0'	construction cost:	unknown
total length:	237.0'	current condition:	good
roadway wdt.:	21.7'	alterations:	none

superstructure: steel, 8-panel, rigid-connected polygonal Warren pony truss; steel stringer approach spans
substructure: concrete abutment with timber wingwalls; concrete piers
floor/decking: concrete deck over transverse joists (I-beams)
other features: upper chord: 2 channels with cover plate and lacing; lower cord: 2 channels with batten plates; vertical and diagonal: I-beam; guardrail: 2 angles; walkway (south): concrete deck supported by pair angle with steel plate.

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	1936 (The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)
Significant Dates	1936
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Significant Person	N/A
Architect/Builder (Designer)	Nebraska Bureau of Roads and Bridges
(Builder)	Central Bridge and Construction Company, Wahoo NE

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

In late August 1935, the Saunders County commissioners voted to file for funding from the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) of Public Works for a new bridge and approaches at this location. The Lincoln Drainage District planned to alter the course of Salt Creek thus necessitating a new bridge at Ashland to carry heavily traveled US Highway 6 (Silver Street) over the new channel bed. At this time, the commissioners also decided to request FERA monies for 5 other new county bridges. The Ashland Bridge was constructed by the Central Bridge and Construction Company of Wahoo, which held the annual contract to build the bridges in Saunders County that year.

The Nebraska Bureau of Roads and Bridges eschewed Warren truss configurations in favor of the Pratt truss throughout the 1910s and 1920s. In the early 1930s, however, the bureau designed a handful of bridges using Warrens with polygonal top chords for its long-span pony trusses. The Ashland Bridge, the Franklin Bridge (NEHBS No. FR00-72) in Franklin County, the Arlington Bridge over the Elkhorn River, the West Blue River Bridge near Dorchester and the Nemaha River Bridge near Auburn were the most notable examples of this type built between 1931 and 1936. The Ashland and the Franklin Bridges remain intact, but the others have all since been demolished. Although adopted as a standard design in other states, the polygonal Warren truss was never used extensively in Nebraska. The Ashland Bridge is thus technologically noteworthy as one of two remaining examples in the state of this formative engineering exercise.

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 Number U0105F5605; Saunders County Supervisors' Record, 29 April 1935, 30 August 1935, 12 December 1935, located at the Saunders County Courthouse, Wahoo, Nebraska; field inspection by Mary McCormick, 23 May 1990.

___ 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 SW1/4, S1, T12N, R9E

USGS Quadrangle Ashland East (7.5 Minute Series, 1968; photorevised 1983)

UTM References zone 14 easting 721340 northing 4545710

___ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 237 feet by 23.7 feet, which is centered on the UTM point listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure, substructure, floor system, and approach spans.

___ 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

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