

PH085847

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| STATE:<br>California |      |
| COUNTY:<br>Napa      |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY     |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER         | DATE |
| OCT 5                | 1972 |

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Pope Street Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Pope Street over Napa River

CITY OR TOWN:  
St. Helena

STATE: California      CODE: 06      COUNTY: Napa      CODE: 055

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY<br>(Check One)   | OWNERSHIP  | STATUS   | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC   |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Private<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both                                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress            | Yes:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Restricted<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted<br><input type="checkbox"/> No |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)  |  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural<br><input type="checkbox"/> Commercial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Educational<br><input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Government<br><input type="checkbox"/> Industrial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Military<br><input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park<br><input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence<br><input type="checkbox"/> Religious<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)<br><u>City Street</u>                      |

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
City of St. Helena

STREET AND NUMBER:  
City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: St. Helena      STATE: California      CODE: 06

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Office of the County Engineer

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1436 Polk Street

CITY OR TOWN: Napa      STATE: California      CODE: 06

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Napa County

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Road Records - Office of County Engineer

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1436 Polk Street

CITY OR TOWN: Napa      STATE: California      CODE: 06

STATE: California

COUNTY: Napa

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: OCT 5 1972

DATE

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

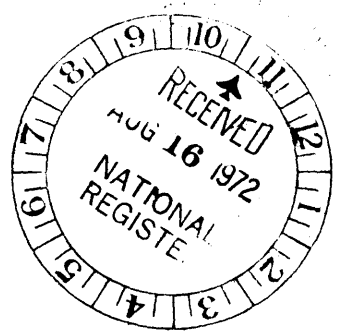
|           |                                    |   |                               |                                       |   |                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                        |   |                               |                                       |   |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
|           | (Check One)                        |   |                               | (Check One)                           |   |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered |                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site |                                    |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old bridges of Napa County, of which there were more than eighty during the first part of the 20th Century, are now largely things of the past. Many are too narrow for today's driving needs; some have been isolated from present day travel routes by highway realignment, one has disappeared beneath the waters of Lake Berryessa.

The oldest, however still stands, spanning the Napa River at Pope Avenue northeast of St. Helena. Designed and built by R.H. Pithie in 1894 of stone obtained from what is still known as the Wing Quarry on Monticello Road, Napa County, it is a triple arch stone masonry structure. The width of the bridge is 18 feet between the face of the parapet walls. The walls are 2 feet thick, the length of the bridge is 175 feet, and the wingwalls are 15 feet in length. The length of the bridge is exclusive of the wingwalls. Its cost was \$14,500. The channel of the creek was changed and together with approaches the improvement represented an outlay of about \$17,500. By engineering standards, it is still 100% structurally sound, although lacking in steel framework usually embodied in today's bridges.

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**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

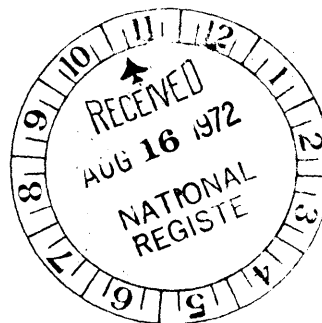
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pope Street Bridge was the first of many stone bridges built throughout Napa County, some 75 or more years ago. Its designer and contractor, R. H. Pithie obtained the structural material from the Wing Quarry located on Monticello Road near the summit of Mt. George Grade, Napa County. H. W. Wing, the quarry founder immigrated to America from England in the mid 1800's, and with J. B. Newman, another expert stone mason, began quarrying in 1876. Going into business for himself in 1880, Wing provided masterfully hewn rock, much of which was used in construction of buildings, wine cellars, cemetery vaults and subsequently on the Pope St. Bridge. Like most bridges of that day, the Pope St. Bridge was built to accommodate horsedrawn vehicles. It was not built to conveniently permit passage of two vehicles at the same time. Nevertheless, since 1894 it has continued to serve those seeking access from St. Helena to Chiles Valley, Pope and Howell Mountain, and forms a connecting link with Highways 128 and 29 and the Silverado Trail. In the big earthquake of 1906 it came through unscathed, a testimonial to the skill of R. H. Pithie, its builder, and to the excellent craftsmanship that went into its construction.



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**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Historical Spots in California - Rensch and Hoover  
 Napa Register (October 21, 1964)

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER   | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE  | LONGITUDE               |  |
|  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees Minutes Seconds   | Degrees Minutes Seconds |  |
| NW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | 38 ° 30' 41"  | 122 ° 27' 17 "          |  |
| NE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |                         |  |
| SE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |                         |  |
| SW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |                         |  |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/4 Acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY  | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
|        |      |         |      |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
|        |      |         |      |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
|        |      |         |      |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
|        |      |         |      |



UTM  
 10/54754  
 4262480  
 CD

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**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
John A. Silvestri - Engineering Services Assistant

ORGANIZATION: County of Napa      DATE: July 7, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1436 Polk Street

CITY OR TOWN: Napa      STATE: California      CODE: 06

**12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National     State     Local

Name [Signature]

Title State Liaison Officer

Date October 16, 1970

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

[Signature]  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 10/5/72

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 10-3-72