

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Washington	
COUNTY: Wahkiakum	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 111153.0012	DATE 11/23/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Grays River Covered Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Approximately 1 1/2 miles east of Grays River town

CITY OR TOWN:
Hon. Julia Butler Hansen
Grays River
CONG. DISTRICT # 3

STATE: Washington CODE: 53 COUNTY: Wahkiakum CODE: 069

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Wahkiakum County

STREET AND NUMBER:
County Seat, Cathlamet

CITY OR TOWN: Cathlamet STATE: Washington CODE: 53

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Wahkiakum County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Cathlamet STATE: Washington CODE: 53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Washington
COUNTY: Wahkiakum
ENTRY NUMBER: 111153.0012
DATE: 11/23/71
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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 County Road Bridge was originally built in 1905 without a cover. The cover was constructed in 1908. It was soon necessary to support the bridge with several cables because of the extra wind stresses on the cover.

In later years a ~~concrete shear~~ support was placed on the upstream side of the center pier and ~~shear~~ piling were placed along each upstream bank. Barriers were placed to divert logs and other debris from the piers at both ends and in the center. Serious accumulations of debris have caused severe damage to center pier on several occasions in the past.

Outside of the cables and concrete referred to above, construction is of wood.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

Built in 1905 and covered in 1908

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 type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Very few covered</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>bridges exist still</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | <u>being used.</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This bridge over the river, symbolizes history and recreation in Wahkiakum County, a county with no urban problems and few rural ones. A county with a small population but abounding in fish and wild life and other recreational resources that might be greatly encouraged to be developed if this symbolice bridge were nationally recognized.

There are many picnic sites along the river within sight of the old bridge.

The bridge was built in 1905 over Grays River and covered in 1908. It has been maintained by Wahkiakum County through its engineers.

Efforts have been made to interest people in contributing to a fund for a park surrounding the bridge.

The Wahkiakum County Historical Society is interested in preservation of the bridge as a historical site.

This is the last covered bridge in Washington which is used by a public highway.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Records at Courthouse

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		46 21 17	123 34 47	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

10/455400
513342
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.1

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Robert Webb, County Soil Conservation Dept., U. S. Dept. of Soil Con.

ORGANIZATION: U. S. Soil Conservation Service DATE: Aug. 24, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Skamokawa STATE: Washington CODE: 53

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 Charles H. Odegaard
Charles H. Odegaard

Title Director - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Date August 27, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

NOV 23 1971

Date _____

ATTEST:

William M. Stewart
Keeper of The National Register

NOV 23 1971

Date _____

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Washington	
COUNTY Wahkiakum	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 114.53.0012	DATE 11/23/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Grays River Covered Bridge
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Approximately 1 1/2 miles east of Grays River town

CITY OR TOWN:
Near Grays River

STATE: Washington	CODE 53	COUNTY: Wahkiakum	CODE 069
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3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
Washington State Highway

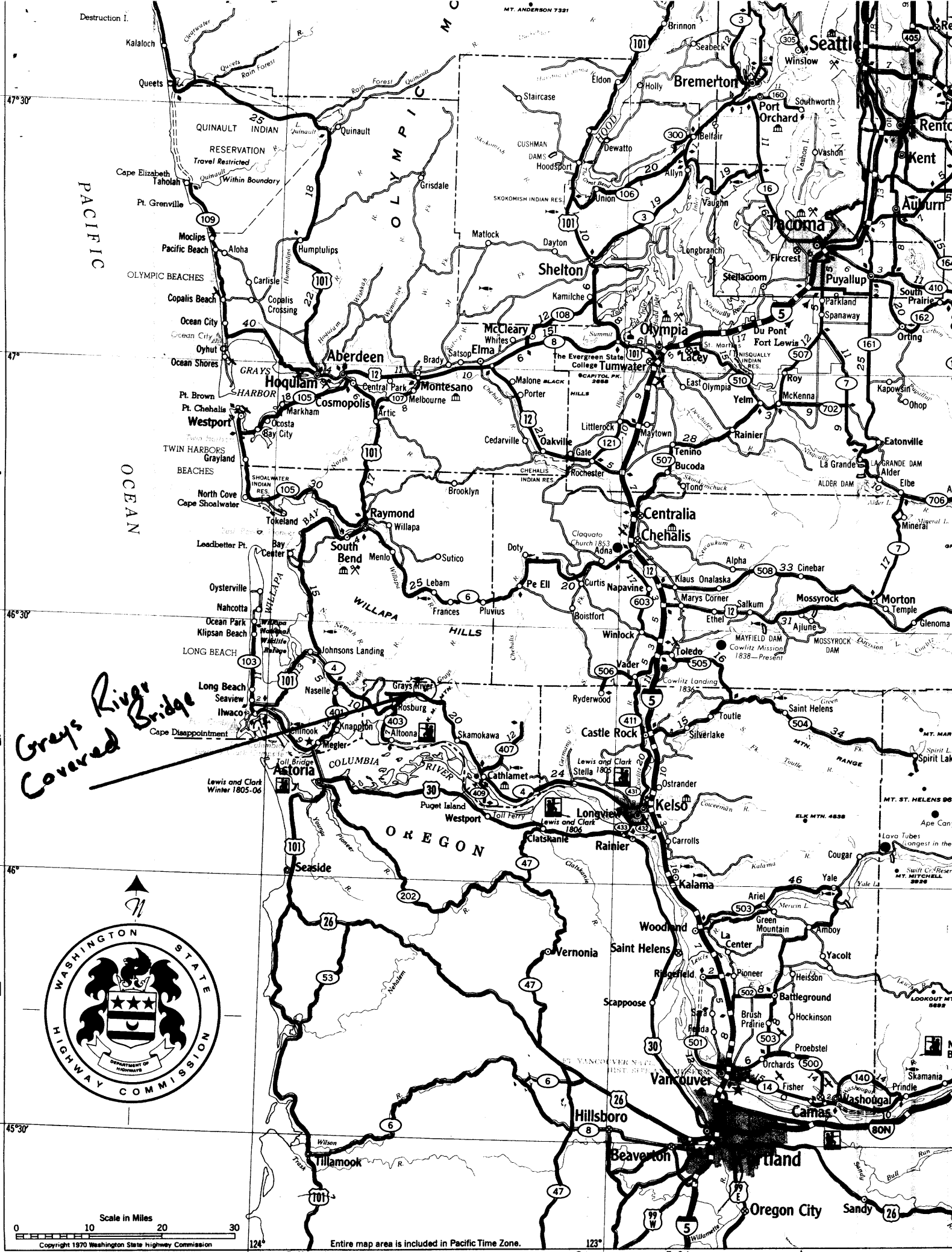
SCALE: 1" = 15 miles

DATE: 1969

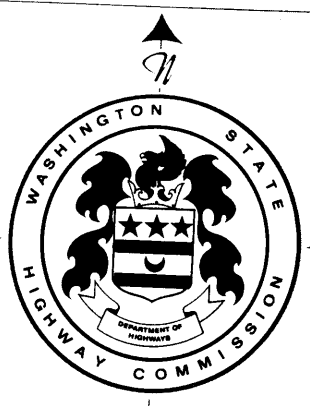
4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



Greys River Covered Bridge



Scale in Miles
0 10 20 30

Entire map area is included in Pacific Time Zone.

124°

To Newwort

To Salem

1. SITE I.D. NO

HAER INVENTORY

Historic American Engineering Record
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

Bridges, Trestles, and Aqueducts

7 6 0 4

3. PRIORITY

1

4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION?
(SPECIFY THREAT) YES NO UNKNOWN

TRUSS: timber

County Designation Number:
10 350118900011 00

5. DATE

1905

6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT

OWNER

ADMIN

7. OWNER/ADMIN

Wahkiakum County

8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

Grays River Covered Bridge

9. OWNER'S ADDRESS

10. STATE
COUNTYWA
069

COUNTY NAME

Wahkiakum

CITY/VICINITY

Cathlamet

CONG.
DIST.

03

STATE
COUNTY

COUNTY NAME

CITY/VICINITY

CONG.
DIST.

11. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO)

1.5 miles East of Grays River

S.T.R. 17 10N 7W

12. EXISTING
SURVEYS NR NHL HABS HAER-I HAER NPS CL6 CONF STATE COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)

 INTERIOR INTACT EXTERIOR INTACT ENVIRONS INTACT

14. UTM ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

SIGN

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER

QUAD

NAME Grays River, Washington-Oregon

UTM ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

SIGN

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER

QUAD

NAME

15. CONDITION.

70 EXCELLENT71 GOOD72 FAIR73 DETERIORATED74 RUINS75 UNEXPOSED76 ALTERED82 DESTROYED85 DEMOLISHED

16. INVENTORIED BY

James B. Armstrong/Lisa Soderberg

AFFILIATION

HAER

DATE

2/7/73; 7/80

17. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS,
MATERIALS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

In 1905, a two-span timber Howe truss was constructed across Grays River at a cost of \$2,700 to facilitate access to State Route #830 for dairy farmers living in the vicinity. The trusses were covered and reinforced with cables in 1908 in order to protect the structural members from exposure to the elements, thus increasing the longevity of the timber components. It is believed that the trusses were originally roofed with corrugated iron, while the shed roof enclosures on the approaches, which were added in ca. 1915, remained shingled until recently. The 188 foot structure includes two 78 foot through trusses, and two timber trestle approach spans. It rests on concrete abutments with timber bulkheads. There is also a center pier which consists of vertical timbers on a concrete footing. The roadway is 14 feet wide, curb to curb.

Wahkiakum County received a grant from the State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to rehabilitate

(CONT OVER)

18. ORIGINAL USE

Bridge/vehicular

PRESENT USE

Bridge/vehicular

ADAPTIVE USE

19. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Wahkiakum County Bridge Files.
National Register nomination.

(CONT OVER)

20. URBAN AREA 50,000
POP. OR MORE? YES NO

21. HCRS REGION

N W

22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

 YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN

23. EDITOR

INDEXER

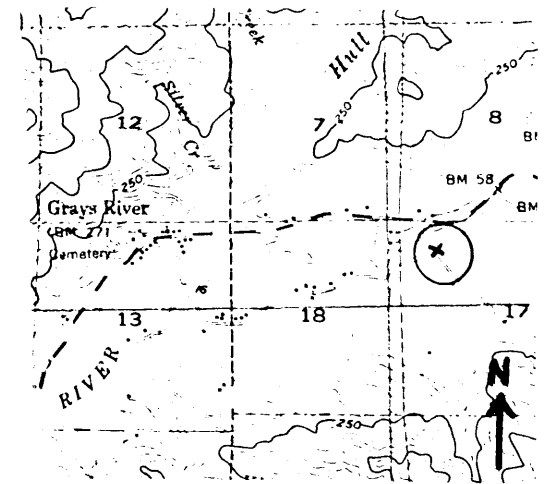
24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

 YES NO

NAME

DISTRICT I.D. NO

27



DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED)

the roof, sidewalls, abutments, and pilings of the bridge in June 1976. A total of \$9,976.00 was spent on the project.

Although the covered bridge was once a common means of extending the short life span of timber structures, there are only four covered bridges remaining in Washington. The Grays River Bridge is the oldest of the covered bridges in the State, and the only one that remains part of a public highway.

REFERENCES (CONTINUED)

ABSTRACT											
HAER NO	LC	TECH REPORT	HIST REPORT	CONTEMP PHOTO	HIST PHOTO	CONTEMP DRWG	HIST DRWG	COLOR PLATE	PHOTOGRAM	SW	FILM