NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

034



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property	
historic name North Sylamore Creek Bridge	
other names/site number Site #ST0324	
2. Location	
street & number FSR 1102 over North Sylamore Creek	not for publication
city or town Fifty-Six	∨icinity
state Arkansas code AR county Stone code 137	zip code
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this \(\) nominar request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property \(\) does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \(\) nationally, \(\) statewide \(\) statewide \(\) locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title Arkansas Historic Preservation Program State or Federal agency and bureau In the property \(\) meets \(\) does not meet the National Register criteria. (\(\) See Continuation sheet for accomments.) Signature of certifying efficial/fitle Date State or Federal agency and bureau	r of Historic meets
4. National Park Service Certification	2
I hereby certify that the property is: entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register.	2.24.10
other, (explain:)	

North Sylamore Creek Bridge Name of Property	County and State	
5. Classification		
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in count.)	
☐ private ☐ building(s) ☐ public-local ☐ district	Contributing Noncontributing	
public-State site	t	ouildings
public-Federal structure	s	sites
☐ object	1 s	structures
		bjects
	1	Γotal
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)	Number of Contributing resources previously lis in the National Register	sted
Historic Bridges of Arkansas	_	
6. Function or Use		
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	
TRANSPORTATION/Road-Related	TRANSPORTATION/Road-Related	
	-	
7. Description		
Architectural Classification	Materials	
(Enter categories from instructions) OTHER/Baltimore Deck Truss	(Enter categories from instructions) foundation CONCRETE	
OTTLE OBJUINION DECK TRUSS	walls STEEL	
	TABLE STEEL	
	roof N/A	
	other	

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: North Sylamore Creek Bridge

County and State: Stone County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable): Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Section number:

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SUMMARY

The North Sylamore Creek Bridge crosses North Sylamore Creek along FSR 1102 to the northeast of Fifty-Six, in Stone County. The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is a one-lane, Baltimore deck truss bridge built on concrete piers in 1931 by Lyle and McWilliam. It has two spans with a length of one-hundred ten (110) feet, a span width of fifteen (15) feet, and a total length of three-hundred fifty-seven (357) feet.

ELABORATION

The North Sylamore Creek Bridge was constructed as a Baltimore deck truss bridge out of steel, with a concrete deck, in 1931. The bridge was constructed in the middle of the Ozark National Forest by Lyle and McWilliam, who were based in Mena. This bridge is unique in that it is the only example of this style of construction in Arkansas. The North Sylamore Creek Bridge has two spans of one-hundred ten feet, with a span width of fifteen feet, and the total length of three-hundred fifty-seven feet.

The Baltimore truss, which was introduced in 1871, is a sub-trussed Pratt truss in which the stresses are statically determinate. Many of the subdivided Pratt configurations acquired specific names such as Baltimore, Pennsylvania, Petit, and Parker. The Baltimore truss changed the basic Pratt configuration by adding additional, auxiliary members, like the Pennsylvania truss, but it does not have an inclined upper chord. The upper and lower chords of a Baltimore truss are parallel, like the Pratt truss. Both the Baltimore and Pennsylvania truss types were developed by engineers of the Pennsylvania Railroad in the 1870s, and both types were also used for highway bridges. ¹

Originally constructed on part of the Forest Highway System, the North Sylamore Creek Bridge crosses North Sylamore Creek in the center of the Ozark National Forest. The metal truss style of construction was common throughout Arkansas in this time as it was cheap. However this bridge is the only representation of a Baltimore truss bridge with a concrete deck identified in the state.

Integrity

The North Sylamore Creek Bridge retains excellent integrity. The Transportation Department and Forest Service have maintained the bridge enough to ensure its reliability. There have been no major repairs to the bridge, nor any major modifications. The road remains in good condition. The bridge is in similar condition and undisturbed setting to that of its construction in 1931.

¹ Information found at: http://www.iowadot.gov/historicbridges/construction.asp : Historic Bridges of Iowa, "Baltimore Truss," Date Accessed: 29 July 2009.

North Sylamore Creek Bridge Name of Property	Stone County, Arkansas County and State	
	County and State	
8. Statement of Significance		
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Levels of Significance (local, state, national) Local	
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) ENGINEERING TRANSPORTATION	
☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	TRANSPORTATION	
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or		
represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance 1931-1960	
☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.		
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates 1931	
Property is: A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.		
☐ B. removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)	
 C. birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance. D a cemetery. 	Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)	
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.		
☐ F a commemorative property	Architect/Builder	
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Lyle and McWilliam, Builder	
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)		
9. Major Bibliographical References		
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one of	or more continuation sheets.)	
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	Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office Other State Agency Federal Agency Local Government University Other Name of repository: Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department	

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: North Sylamore Creek Bridge

County and State: Stone County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable): Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Section number:

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SUMMARY

The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as an excellent example of Baltimore deck truss bridge. The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is the only remaining bridge of this style identified in Arkansas to date. It is also being nominated under **Criterion A** for its associations with the development of the roadway infrastructure in the Ozark National Forest. The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is being submitted to the National Register of Historic Places under the multiple property listing "Historic Bridges in Arkansas."

ELABORATION

The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is located on FSR 1102 and crosses North Sylamore Creek roughly two miles northeast of Fifty-Six in Stone County. The bridge is oriented north and south.

During the Civil War, many men from what is now Stone County left their homes to join the war effort. There was little Civil War action in the county, but a few Confederate units were in the area and continued hit-and-run attacks on Union troops throughout the war. In 1862, the Peace Society was organized at Sylamore and was made up of seventy-six to eighty men from the area of Searcy and Izard counties, which includes present-day Stone County. The men did not want to become involved in the war for either side but were eventually chained and sent to Little Rock (Pulaski County) to the Confederate authorities and given the option of joining the Confederate cause or being shot. All but two joined the Confederacy. In January 1864, a few skirmishes took place along the Sylamore Creek as the Union army searched for Confederate Colonel Thomas R. Freeman and his troops and met with resistance. Despite the search efforts, Freeman remained elusive.²

The legislature created Stone County on April 21, 1873, as the seventy-third county from parts of Independence, Izard, Searcy, and Van Buren counties. One reason for the creation of the new county was the natural barrier of the White River, which made it difficult for residents to reach the county seat. Local businessman Elijah Chappell named Mountain View the county seat. He had submitted the name, which subsequently was drawn out of a hat full of contenders. Mountain View was incorporated in 1890. The first federal census to include Stone County, in 1880, reported a population of more than 5,000, with ninety-nine of those in Mountain View. In the county's early days, the economy was based on small acreage cash crops such as grain and cotton along with timber, trapping, and livestock.³

Education in Stone County began in Mountain View in the late 1800s with the first subscription school. In 1894, the Stone County Academy opened its doors. The academy was replaced in 1928 when the Mountain View

³ (S.C.)

² Information found at: http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?search=1&entryID=811 : Stone County, Information Accessed: 28 July 2009. Referenced through document as: (S.C.)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property:	North Sylamore Creek Bridge
County and State:	Stone County, Arkansas
Name of multiple p Bridges of Arkansa	roperty listing (if applicable): Historic

Section number: 8 Page: 2

Special School District No. 30 building was built. At one time, there were seventy-one school districts in Stone County. In the 1940s, most of these one-room schools consolidated with the five major schools: Fifty-Six, Mountain View, Pleasant Grove, Rural Special, and Timbo. Pleasant Grove lost its high school to fire in 1965, beginning its consolidation with Mountain View. In 1974, its elementary students were bused to Mountain View as well. Fifty-Six eventually became part of the Tri-County School, which closed its doors in 1993. In 2005, both Rural Special and Timbo annexed with Mountain View. Presently, each school maintains its own campus as part of the Mountain View School District.⁴

The 131,000-acre Ozark National Forest, Sylamore District, encompasses the northern portion of the county, providing recreational opportunities such as swimming, hiking, camping, biking, and hunting. Recent additions include the Syllamo Mountain Bike Trail and the Sylamore Shooting Range. Within the national forest is Blanchard Springs Caverns, a living cave administered by the U.S. Forest Service. The White River forms the county's northeast border. Many spring-fed creeks, including the South Sylamore, are tributaries. A familiar tributary of the North Sylamore is Blanchard Springs. Known for cool, clear water that is a haven for trout and bass, the White River provides recreational opportunities in fishing and canoeing and is the source for the county's public water system. Hell Creek Cave, near the White, is home to the endangered *Cambarus zophonastes*, a blind crayfish. This is the only known population in the state.⁵

The highways serving national forests are, for administrative and other purposes, divided into two groups; namely Forest Highways and Forest Developmental Roads. The latter group includes roads of comparatively narrow width commonly known as trails. Forest Service Road 1102 was laid out as a Forest Highway through the Ozark National Forest. The North Sylamore Creek Bridge was constructed by Lyle and McWilliam, whose company was based in Mena, in 1931 for a total cost of 16,152.36 dollars. Metal truss bridges were common in the 1900s because of their ease of construction and low cost. This bridge, however, is rare as this Baltimore steel truss with a concrete deck is the only known of its type in Arkansas.

The Baltimore truss, which was introduced in 1871, is a sub-trussed Pratt truss in which the stresses are statically determinate. Many of the subdivided Pratt configurations acquired specific names such as Baltimore, Pennsylvania, Petit, and Parker. The Baltimore truss changed the basic Pratt configuration by adding additional, auxiliary members, like the Pennsylvania truss, but it does not have an inclined upper chord. The upper and lower chords of a Baltimore truss are parallel, like the Pratt truss. Both the Baltimore and Pennsylvania truss types were developed by engineers of the Pennsylvania Railroad in the 1870s. Both types were also used for highway bridges.⁷

⁴ (S.C.)

⁵ (S.C.)

⁶ Tenth Biennial Report of the State Highway Commission, "National Forest Roads and Trails," 1932: p.61

⁷ Information found at: http://www.iowadot.gov/historicbridges/construction.asp : Historic Bridges of Iowa, "Baltimore Truss," Date Accessed: 29 July 2009.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: North Sylamore Creek Bridge	_
County and State: Stone County, Arkansas	
Name of multiple property listing (if applicable): Historic Bridges of Arkansas	

Section number: 8 Page: 3

The North Sylamore Creek Bridge was constructed as a reliable crossing to satisfy local and tourist traffic through the Ozark National Forest in Stone County in 1931. Bridges like the North Sylamore Creek Bridge were important in providing easy access to the National Forest lands for tourists, locals, and Forest Service staff. The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is also important as an example of a Baltimore Deck Truss, and it is the only example of the style in Arkansas.

Statement of Significance

The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is a good example of a Baltimore deck truss in Arkansas. Constructed in 1931 on a Forest Service Road, the bridge is the only remaining example to date identified of its style in Arkansas.

The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criterion C as an excellent example of Baltimore deck truss bridge. The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is the only remaining bridge of this style identified in Arkansas to date. It is also being nominated under Criterion A for its associations with the development of the roadway infrastructure in the Ozark National Forest. The North Sylamore Creek Bridge is being submitted to the National Register of Historic Places under the multiple property listing "Historic Bridges in Arkansas."

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: North Sylamore Creek Bridge	
County and State:	Stone County, Arkansas
Name of multiple p	property listing (if applicable): Historic
Bridges of Arkansa	as

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Historic Bridges of Iowa, "Baltimore Truss," http://www.iowadot.gov/historicbridges/construction.asp : Information accessed on: 29 July 2009.

Stone County, http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?search=1&entryID=811: Information Accessed: 28 July 2009.

Tenth Biennial Report of the State Highway Commission, "National Forest Roads and Trails," 1932: p. 61.

North Sylamore Creek Bridge Name of Property	Stone County, Arkansas County and State			
Name of Troperty		County a	ind State	
10. Geographical Data				
Acreage of Property Less than one				
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)				
1 15 570955 3983748 Zone Easting Northing		3 Zone	Easting No	orthing
2		4		
			See continuation sheet	
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)				
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)				
11. Form Prepared By		4		
name/title Evan Silva, Intern				
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program		date	June 29, 2009	
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street		telephone	(501) 324-9787	
city or town Little Rock	state	AR	zip code 72201	
Additional Documentation				
Submit the following items with the completed form:				
Continuation Sheets				
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property	y's location	n		
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having larg	e acreage o	or numerous	s resources.	
Photographs				
Representative black and white photographs of the property				
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)				
Property Owner				
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)				
name				
street & number			telephone	
city or town	state	AR	zip code	

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: North Sylamore Creek Bridge

County and State: Stone County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable): Historic Bridges of Arkansas

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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point ten feet south of the southern end of the North Sylamore Creek Bridge, proceed north to a point ten feet north the northern end of the bridge. The boundary includes twenty feet on each side of the highway centerline.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses all of the land historically associated with the North Sylamore Creek Bridge, and its immediate surroundings.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION
PROPERTY North Sylamore Creek Bridge NAME:
MULTIPLE Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Stone
DATE RECEIVED: 1/15/09 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/01/0 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000034
REASONS FOR REVIEW:
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL:
COMMENT WAIVER: N
VACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2-24-10 DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
Entered in The National Register of Historic Places
RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWERDISCIPLINE
TELEPHONEDATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N
If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



NORTH SYLAMORE CREEK BRIDGE STONE COUNTY, AR HOLLY HOPE MARCH 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR VIEW OF THE BRIDGE LOOKING NORTHWEST



NORTH SYLAMORE CREEK BRIDGE STONE COUNTY, AR HOLLY HOPE MARCH 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR VIEW OF THE BRIDGE LOOKING NORTHEAST



NORTH SYLAMORE CREEK BRIDGE STONE COUNTY, AR HOLLY HOPE MARCH 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR VIEW OF THE BRIDGE LOOKING SOUTHEAST



NORTH SYLAMORE CREEK BRIDGE STONE COUNTY, AR HOLLY HOPE MARCH ZOOG

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR BUILDER'S PLATE LOOKING SOUTH



The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Beebe Governor

Cathie Matthews Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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An Equal Opportunity Employer



December 2, 2009

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Dr. Janet Matthews Chief of Registration United States Department of the Interior National Register of Historic Places National Park Service 8th Floor 1201 Eye Street, NW Washington, DC 20005



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Dear Dr. Matthews:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews

State Historic Preservation Officer

Oschie Matthews

CM:rsw

Enclosure





The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Beebe Governor

Cathie Matthews Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



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website:

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Judi Henry Forest Supervisor Ozark-St. Francis NF 605 W. Main Street Russellville, AR 72801-3614

RE: North Sylamore Creek Bridge – Fifty-Six vic., Stone County, Arkansas

Dear Ms. Henry:

We are enclosing for your review and signature the National Register nomination for the North Sylamore Creek Bridge in the Fifty-Six vic., Stone County. Once you have reviewed and signed the nomination, please return it to me or forward it on via FedEx to Dr. Janet Matthews of the National Park Service. (Please do not send it to Washington via regular mail as the radiation used will damage the photographs.) Dr. Matthews' address is:

Dr. Janet Matthews
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
8th Floor
1201 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

If you need further information or have any questions, please call me at (501) 324-9787 or E-mail me at ralph@arkansasheritage.org. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ralph S. Wilcox

National Register & Survey Coordinator

RSW:rsw

Enclosure





Dr. Janet Matthews Chief of Registration United States Dept of the Interior, National Park Service 1201 Eye Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, D.C. 20005



Dear Dr. Matthews:

Enclosed is the signed National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for the North Sylamore Creek Bridge located on the Ozark-St. Francis National Forest.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact our Regional Heritage Program Manager, Melissa Twaroski, at 404-347-7250 or mtwaroski@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

Regional Foreste

Enclosure

cc: Ralph Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator, Department of Arkansas Heritage

