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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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 Big Indian Creek Bridge
other name/site number NEHBS Number GA00-45

2. Location

street & number township road over Big Indian Creek N/A not for publication
city, town 3.0 miles southwest of Wymore X vicinity
state NE county Gage code 067 zip code 68466

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Gage County	Number of Resources within Property	
Category of Property	structure	Contributing	Noncontributing
		0	0 buildings
		0	0 sites
		1	0 structures
		0	0 objects
		1	0 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 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Bob Ruschenborg DSHPO
Signature of certifying official _____ Date 5/6/92
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
- 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:)

Alous Byers

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action 6/29/92

Entered in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/not in use

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 3.0 miles southwest of Wymore, the Big Indian Creek Bridge spans Big Indian Creek in a rural Gage County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. Although the structure's approaches, deck and stringers have recently been removed, the truss itself remains unaltered. As the longest example of its type still remaining in Gage County the bridge possesses a high degree of historical significance, despite the loss of historic fabric. A description of the structure follows:

span number:	1	construction date:	1903
span length:	60.0'	construction cost:	unknown
total length:	127.0'	current condition:	good
roadway wdt.:	15.9'	alterations:	approaches, decking, and stringers removed

superstructure: steel, 4-panel, rigid-connected Warren pony truss with timber approaches (removed)

substructure: I-beam bents (main span); timber pile bents and abutments (approach spans)

floor/decking: removed

other features: upper chord: 2 angles with cover plate; lower chord: 2 angles with batten plates; vertical: angles; diagonal: 2 angles with batten plates; floor beam: I-beams; lateral bracing: rods; guardrail: none.

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	1903 (The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)
Significant Dates	1903
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Significant Person	N/A
Architect/Builder (Designer)	unknown
(Fabricator)	unknown
(Builder)	J.H. Sparks, St. Joseph MO

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

This bridge was one of 18 bridges the Gage County Commissioners ordered constructed on July 31, 1903. J.H. Sparks of St. Joseph, Missouri had the annual contract to construct the county's bridges from 1899 through 1904.

Between 1897 and 1910, Gage County contracted for perhaps as many as two hundred of these standardized riveted Warren pony trusses. At the time of this survey, 32 still survive. The 60-foot span of the Big Indian Creek Bridge is technologically significant as the longest of these survivors.

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 C003412105; Gage County Supervisors' Record, 1874-1917, see specifically 1 April and 31 July 1903, located at the Gage County Courthouse, Beatrice, Nebraska; field inspection by Fred Quivik, 2 March 1989.

___ 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 NW1/4 S2, T1N, R6E

USGS Quadrangle Wymore, Nebraska - Kansas (7.5 Minute Series, 1970)

UTM References zone 14 easting 694140 northing 4439690

___ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 127 feet by 17.9 feet, which is centered on the UTM point listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure and substructure.

___ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated structure includes the bridge's superstructure and substructure 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

name/title	Charlene K. Roise, Principal	date	30 June 1991
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