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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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# 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 Lewis Bridge  
other name/site number Dubel Bridge; Keya Paha River Bridge; NEHBS Number KP00-81

### 2. Location

street & number county road over the Keya Paha River N/A not for publication  
city, town 13.6 miles northeast of Springview X vicinity  
state NE; SD county Keya Paha, NE; Tripp, SD code 123/103 zip code 68778

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	<u>Keya Paha County</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 Wischendorf DSHPO 5/6/92  
Signature of certifying official 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 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:)

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

RECORDED IN THE  
NATIONAL REGISTER

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

OTHER /pin-connected Pratt pony truss

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other N/A

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located 13.6 miles northeast of Springview, the Lewis Bridge spans the Keya Paha River in a rural Keya Paha County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. Other than maintenance-related repairs, noted below, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Lewis 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:	2	construction date:	1922
span length:	60.0'	construction cost:	\$7700.00
total length:	165.0'	current condition:	good
roadway wdt.:	15.0'	alterations:	deck replaced

superstructure: steel, 4-panel, pin-connected Pratt pony truss with steel stringer approach span  
substructure: steel pile bent abutments and piers with timber and steel sheet piling wingwalls  
floor/decking: corrugated steel deck over transverse joist floor system  
other features: upper chord: 2 channels with cover and batten plates; lower chord: 2 looped rectangular eyebars; vertical: 4 angles with lacing; diagonal: 2 looped rectangular eyebars; counter: 1 round eyerod with turnbuckle; lateral bracing: round bar with threaded ends; floor beam: I-beam, bolted to vertical below lower chord (floor beams support rolled I-beam girders, laid longitudinally, which support transverse stringers); guardrail: 2 angles.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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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	1922 (The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)
Significant Dates	1922
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Significant Person	N/A
Architect/Builder (Designer)	Nebraska Bureau of Roads and Bridges
(Fabricator)	Cambria Steel Company, Pittsburgh PA
(Builder)	Standard Bridge Company, Omaha NE

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

In June 1911, the Keya Paha County Commissioners first discussed the need for a bridge over the Keya Paha River north of Burton, near the South Dakota state line. Three months later they met with representatives from Tripp County, South Dakota, to discuss joint funding of the bridge's construction. No apparent action resulted from these discussions, however, and it was not until June 1920 that the two counties met again to discuss the legalities of building the state-line bridge. The two groups were closer to agreement, but they did not undertake actual construction of the bridge until early in 1922. That March the Standard Bridge Company was awarded a contract to erect this two-span pony truss structure, supported by a steel pile bent substructure. The contract price was \$7700, to be divided equally between the two counties. Using steel components rolled in the Cambria mills of Pittsburgh, the Omaha-based bridge firm completed the Lewis Bridge, as it was called locally, by November 1922. The structure featured typical state-standard Pratt trusses, but onto these the bridge company overlaid a transverse joist girder floor system, a hallmark configuration of the Standard Bridge Company. Since its completion, the Lewis Bridge has functioned unaltered at this seldom-used crossing.

The northernmost bridge in the statewide bridge inventory, the Lewis Bridge typifies the Standard Bridge Company's penchant for transverse joist girder construction. The company's president, Robert Z. Drake, had pioneered the development of this configuration early in the 20th century, and it was used extensively throughout the state - by Standard Bridge as well as other in-state bridge erectors - as a freestanding structural type. (Over 1,000 transverse joist girder bridges had been built in Nebraska by 1927, by one report.) The combination of truss and girder technologies that characterizes the Lewis Bridge is a peculiar - and structurally redundant - engineering trait, apparently employed only by the Standard Bridge Company. A handful of these hybrid bridges remains in use today on Nebraska's secondary roads. The Lewis Bridge is technologically significant as one of the best-preserved and thoroughly documented among these.

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."

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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Nebraska Department of Roads, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure Number C005205705P; Keya Paha County Commissioners' Record, Book 1: 19 June 1911 (pages 334-35), 18 September 1911 (page 350); Book 2: 2 June 1920 (page 38), 22 June 1920 (page 40), 7 February 1922 (page 77), 24 March 1922 (page 80), 31 October 1922 (page 91), located at Keya Paha County Courthouse, Springview, Nebraska; field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 8 August 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:)

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreage of Property    less than one acre  
Cadastral Reference    S23, T35N, R20W; S31, T95N, R74W  
USGS Quadrangle        Springview Northwest, Nebr. - S.D. (7.5 Minute Series, 1964)  
UTM References        zone 14    easting 448190    northing 4760580

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 165 feet by 17 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

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title	Clayton B. Fraser, Principal, and Carl W. McWilliams, Research Historian	date	30 June 1991
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