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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 Bridge
other name/site number NEHBS Number HK00-78

2. Location

street & number county road over intermittent stream N/A not for publication
city, town 2.0 miles east of Stratton X vicinity
state NE county Hitchcock code 087 zip code 69043

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	<u>Hitchcock 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 Ruescher 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:)

Entered in the
National Register

Shelous Bryan 6/29/92

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

OTHER /reinforced concrete slab

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation	N/A
walls	N/A
roof	N/A
other	N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located two miles east of Stratton, this diminutive span crosses over an intermittent stream in a rural Hitchcock County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. Other than maintenance-related repairs, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The structure today retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. A description follows:

span number:	1	construction date:	1908
span length:	20.0'	construction cost:	unknown
total length:	23.0'	current condition:	good
roadway wdt.:	18.0'	alterations:	none

superstructure: reinforced concrete slab
substructure: concrete abutments and wingwalls
floor/decking: concrete deck
other features: concrete curb; angled haunches at abutments; "08, IDEAL CEMENT" sandblasted on both spandrel walls

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	1908 (The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)
Significant Dates	1908
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Significant Person	N/A
Architect/Builder (Designer)	Nebraska State Engineer [possible]
(Builder)	Ideal Cement Company

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

Located along a county road (old U.S. Highway 34), between the small town of Stratton and the western shore of Swanson Reservoir, this bridge crosses an unnamed stream just south of modern U.S. Highway 34. The structure is a 20-foot, single-span concrete slab with angled haunches at its ends; it rests on plainly formed concrete abutments and wingwalls. As indicated by an inscription sand-blasted into the slab's spandrel, the bridge was constructed in 1908 by the Ideal Cement Company. County records do not indicate payments made to Ideal that year, however, and show only small-scale bridge activity in 1908. The bridge was possibly designed by the Nebraska State Engineer, who in 1908 had begun designing small-scale highway spans. Later incorporated into U.S. Highway 34, the bridge carried relatively heavy interstate traffic until the highway was rerouted further north. It now carries intermittent local traffic in unaltered condition.

Built before the formation of the Lincoln Highway and the later transcontinental routes and before the designation of U.S. 34, this small-scale bridge represents an early, county-level effort at highway building in Nebraska. Its 1908 construction date distinguishes it as the earliest documented example of concrete bridge construction in the state. Despite its diminutive size and simple detailing, the bridge is a technologically significant early remnant of Nebraska transportation.

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 C004402805P; "General Highway and Transportation Map: Hitchcock County," Nebraska Department of Roads and Irrigation, 1937; Hitchcock County Commissioners' Record, 1907-1910, located at Hitchcock County Courthouse, Trenton, Nebraska; field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 28 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 S8, T2N, R34W
USGS Quadrangle Stratton (7.5 Minute Series, 1962)
UTM References zone 14 easting 313340 northing 4446730

___ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 23 feet by 20 feet, which is centered on the UTM point listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure, substructure and floor system.

___ 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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Clayton B. Fraser, Principal	date	30 June 1991
organization	Fraserdesign and Hess, Roise and Company	telephone	303-669-7969
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city or town	Loveland	zip code	80537
