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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 Sappa Creek Bridge
other name/site number NEHBS Number HN00-52

2. Location

street & number county road over Sappa Creek N/A not for publication
city, town 2 miles east of Stamford X vicinity
state NE county Harlan code 083 zip code 68977

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	<u>Harlan 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 Puschenkov DSHPO
Signature of certifying official

5/6/92
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

**entered in the
National Register**

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:)

Arlene Byers

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 /rigid-connected Pratt 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 two miles east of Stamford, the Sappa Creek Bridge spans Sappa Creek in a rural Harlan County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. Although evidently not in its original location, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Sappa Creek Bridge today retains a high degree of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. A description of the structure follows:

span number:	1	construction date:	1916
span length:	62.0'	construction cost:	unknown
total length:	142.0'	current condition:	good
roadway wdt.:	16.3'	alterations:	original railings replaced by steel cables

superstructure: steel, 4-panel, rigid-connected Pratt pony truss
substructure: timber pile bent abutments and piers with timber backwalls
floor/decking: timber deck over timber stringers
other features: upper chord: 2 angles; lower chord: 2 angles; vertical: 2 angles; diagonal: 2 angles; sway bracing: outrider-type bracing, composed of steel plate extending floor beam beyond deck and braced to outer web by 2 angles; floor beam: 2 angles; bottom lateral: cross-braced, circular-section eyerods with turnbuckles; railing: steel cables.

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)	B
Areas of Significance	Engineering
Period of Significance	1916 (The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)
Significant Dates	1916
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Significant Person	N/A
Architect/Builder (Designer)	unknown
(Fabricator)	Illinois Steel Company
(Builder)	Milwaukee Bridge Company, Milwaukee WI

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

A builder's plate mounted on the west web notes that the bridge was built by the Milwaukee Bridge Company in 1916. Unfortunately, the Harlan County Commissioners' records for 1916 do not refer to this bridge or the Milwaukee Bridge Company, suggesting that it was purchased from outside the county and later moved to its present location. Harlan County's wide variety of bridge types also seems to suggest that this and several other bridges were purchased and moved from other locations. With its upper chords, end posts and virtually all of the other web members comprised of steel angles, the truss is atypically configured among Nebraska's secondary road spans. Numerous such "2-angle" trusses remain in use in Missouri, and a few are in place in Iowa, but in Nebraska this Pratt subtype is extremely rare. The Sappa Creek Bridge is thus technologically noteworthy as a singular example in Nebraska of an unusual structural configuration.

Because this bridge has been moved since its period of significance, Criteria Consideration B has been applied. Significant under Criterion C for its engineering value, the structure still retains the essential technological features that make it a good representative example of its type, period and method of construction.

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 C004200905; Proceedings of the Harlan County Commissioners, 1916, located in Harlan County Courthouse, Alma, Nebraska; field inspection by Demian Hess, 21 January 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:)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre
Cadastral Reference S22/23, T2N, R20W
USGS Quadrangle Stamford (7.5 Minute Series, 1958)
UTM References zone 14 easting 452740 northing 4442290

___ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 142 feet by 18.3 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

11. Form Prepared By

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