

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAY 30 1985  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Maxwell's Slough Bridge *Neosho River*

and/or common Neosho River Tributary Bridge

2. Location

street & number *OF KS 57*, 5 miles west and 1 mile south of St. Paul  not for publication

city, town St. Paul  vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Neosho code 133

3. Classification

<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<i>N/A</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Neosho County

street & number Neosho County Courthouse

city, town Erie *N/A* vicinity of state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Neosho County Courthouse

city, town Erie state Kansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of Historic Bridges  
title Kansas Department of Transportation has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1980-83  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society

city, town Topeka state Kansas

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The St. Paul filled spandrel arch bridge crosses a small tributary to the Neosho River .5 miles west and one mile south of St. Paul on a county road. This single span bridge is 69 feet long and 19.5 feet wide from curb to curb. The roadway is situated 15 feet above low water level. The structure is in very good condition and has suffered very little damage. As it is now situated on a dead end road due to a nearby washed out bridge, the St. Paul filled arch gets very little traffic.

The bridge consists of a reinforced concrete arch ring which springs from and is disposed between two abutments. Reinforced concrete spandrel walls rise from each side of the arch ring and are used to retain the earthen fill which loads the arch. This earth "loading" allows even distribution of the live loads and helps to strengthen the arch. The turned balusters of the railing are located on both sides of the floor line. The roadway is cantilevered by the use of brackets over the 10' wide arch ring.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1924

**Builder/Architect** Topeka Bridge and Construction

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The St. Paul filled spandrel arch bridge .5 miles west and one mile south of St. Paul retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling, and association. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction no longer used, namely the construction of a roadway supported by a reinforced concrete arch ring which is loaded by earthen fill which, in turn, is retained by reinforced concrete spandrel walls. This particular structure was built by the Topeka Bridge and Construction Company which was the area's agent for the Lutten design of reinforced concrete bridges and may yield information important to the history of engineering.

The St. Paul Journal on March 27, 1914 reported that County Engineer Reece was "arranging to replace the two wooden bridges over the two sloughs on the gravel road south of St. Paul." One of these, Maxwell's Slough, was named for an early area landowner. The new bridges were to be constructed of concrete and would be positioned in such a way that they would "straighten out some of the kinks in the road."

According to the St. Paul Journal on August 14, 1924 a total of five new bridges were to be built and the Topeka Bridge and Construction Company was awarded the contracts for all of them totalling \$35,960.79. No further mention is found in the newspapers until December 18, 1924 when the Journal reported the completion of all the bridges built by the Topeka Bridge and Construction Company.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

- "To Complete Road Across County," Chanute Daily Tribune, June 13, 1923, p. 1, c. 3.  
"County Engineer Reece . . .," St. Paul Journal, March 27, 1924, p. 8, c. 3.  
"Contracts Let for 5 Bridges," St. Paul Journal, August 14, 1924, p. 1, c. 3.  
"The Topeka Bridge Company . . .," St. Paul Journal, December 18, 1924, p. 4, c. 5.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Erie, Kans.

Quadrangle scale: 24,000

UTM References

A 

1	5	3	0	17	2	18	10	4	1	5	2	9	2	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

### Verbal boundary description and justification

That property on and over which the bridge is built .5 miles west and one mile south of St. Paul, Kansas. Includes bridge plus superstructure and supporting piers and abutments. NE $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  S23 T29S R20E.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Larry Jochims, Research Historian and Michael Snell

organization Kansas State Historical Society date 2/20/85

street & number 10th and Jackson Streets telephone (913) 296-2973

city or town Topeka state Kansas

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society date 3/4/85

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

  
Keeper of the National Register

date 7/2/85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration