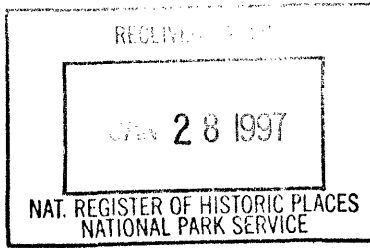


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: West Antelope Bridge

Other names/site number: Sheyenne River Bridge; 32BE41

2. Location

Street & number: unnamed county road not for publication

City or town: Flora vicinity

State: North Dakota Code: ND County: Benson Code: 005 Zip code: 58340

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
James E. Sperry January 8, 1997
Signature and title of certifying official: James E. Sperry, State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota) Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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:)

Edson H. Beall _____
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action: 2/27/97

West Antelope Bridge
Name of Property

Benson, North Dakota
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public - local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>1</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic Roadway Bridges of N.D.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION: Road-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

TRANSPORTATION: Road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Pratt pony truss bridge

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation concrete
walls _____
roof _____
other steel
concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

West Antelope Bridge
Name of Property

Benson, North Dakota
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 Name of repository: # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1907-1946

Significant Dates

1907

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Builder: Fargo Bridge & Iron Co.

West Antelope Bridge
Name of Property

Benson, North Dakota
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 4	4 7 1 2 3 0	5 3 0 3 5 7 0	2	_ _	_ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3	_ _	_ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _	4	_ _	_ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared by

Name/Title: Mark Hufstetler / Historian
Organization: Renewable Technologies, Incorporated Date: December 10, 1996
Street & Number: 511 Metals Bank Building Telephone: (406) 782-0494
City or Town: Butte State: Montana Zip code: 59701

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Name: Benson County
Street & Number: Courthouse; 301 B Avenue South Telephone: (701) 473-5332
City or Town: Minnewaukan State: North Dakota Zip code: 58351

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

WEST ANTELOPE BRIDGE
BENSON COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Narrative Description:

The West Antelope Bridge is located on an unpaved, little-maintained county road in rural Benson County, North Dakota. The bridge, constructed on an east-west axis, carries a rough "section-line" road through an isolated and lightly-settled portion of the county. The surrounding land is relatively hilly moderately arid, most of the region is actively cultivated. The Sheyenne River runs through a low, narrow draw in this area, bordered by scattered trees and native and non-native grasses. While a county route, the road crossing the West Antelope Bridge appears to be used by a single farm operation (housed on the hill to the west), as an access route for cultivated fields and pastureland. Only the west approach to the bridge has seen recent maintenance.

The bridge itself is a pin-connected Pratt pony truss, with a steel superstructure. The Pratt design, which saw widespread use nationally and in North Dakota during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, is characterized by the presence of relatively-heavy vertical members designed to handle the compressive stress of a bridge load. The use of pinned rather than riveted connections dates the West Antelope Bridge as a relatively early Pratt design. The bridge contains a single truss span, three panels in length; the truss is supplemented by a two-span steel-stringer approach on its east end, and a similar single-span approach on the west. Overall, the bridge is approximately 92 feet long, with a vehicle deck 17.8 feet wide.

Design details of the bridge's substructure and superstructure are outlined below:

Substructure: steel pile piers; reinforced concrete abutment on east, pier on east approach is stone; rubble stone abutment on west, with stone wing to the north only on west

Superstructure:

upper chords: two channel sections with continuous cover plate along upper flanges and batten plates along lower flanges

lower chords: paired punched eyebars

verticals: two pairs angle sections joined with lacing bars

laterals (bottom): round rods

moveable end: plate

floor system: I-beam stringers with outside channels, I-beam floor beams, U-bolted to the superstructure

decking: single-layer wood, and wood curbs

railing: 2 angle sections with verticals

steelmaker's marks: ILLINOIS Steel Company, Gary, Indiana

The bridge retains a very high level of integrity; it remains in its

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

WEST ANTELOPE BRIDGE
BENSON COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

original location, and all major structural components appear to retain their as-built appearance.

The West Antelope Bridge is owned and maintained by Benson County. It carries the state numerical designation 03-121-34.0.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

WEST ANTELOPE BRIDGE
BENSON COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Narrative Statement of Significance:

In accordance with the guidelines established in the Multiple Property Documentation form for "Historic Roadway Bridges in North Dakota," the West Antelope Bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criteria "A" and "C." The bridge is significant under Criterion A for its association with an important pattern of bridge construction in a number of counties in the state, in which one or two bridge companies received most of the contracts over a successive period of years, even with, or under the pretense of, competitive bidding. This pattern emerged in the late nineteenth century and, in some counties, continued into the 1930s. This bridge serves as representative example of the pattern; it is the oldest documented bridge in Benson County constructed by a long-term county bridge builder, the Fargo Bridge & Iron Company. The bridge has local significance under Criterion C because it is the oldest documented bridge in the county.

Historical information: County records indicate that on September 9, 1907, county commissioners awarded an \$1100 contract to Fargo Bridge & Iron Company for construction of this bridge. Fargo Bridge & Iron was virtually responsible for all the metal trusses constructed in the county in the first two decades of the twentieth century. Fargo Bridge & Iron was easily the largest bridge contractor in North Dakota during the first two decades of the twentieth century, and was especially prominent among firms working in the eastern and southern reaches of the state. Well over fifty historic Fargo Bridge & Iron bridges are believed to survive in the state.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 4

WEST ANTELOPE BRIDGE
BENSON COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Bibliography:

Benson County Commission, "Record Book B," p. 236 (9 Sept. 1907).

Johnson, Lon, et.al. "Historic Bridges in North Dakota." Bismarck: North Dakota Department of Transportation, 1992.

State Highway Department, "Structure Inventory & Appraisal Sheet," Bridge No. 03-121-34.0, 19 June 1989.

"

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 5

WEST ANTELOPE BRIDGE
BENSON COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Verbal Boundary Description:

The bridge is located in the Northeast quarter of Section 20, Township 151 North, Range 68 West. The boundary consists of a rectangle, measuring 142 feet east-west and 68 feet north-south, and centered on the bridge superstructure.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary is constructed to include the area occupied by the bridge superstructure and substructure, as well as a 25-foot buffer of land immediately surrounding the structure.

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs Page 6

WEST ANTELOPE BRIDGE
BENSON COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Index to Photographs

Photographer: Mark Hufstetler

Date: April 1996

Location of original negatives: State Historical Society, of North Dakota,
Bismarck.

Photograph Number	Description	Direction of View
1	North elevation	SSE
2	South elevation	NW
3	East portal	W