



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

The attached property, Chitwood Bridge in Lincoln County, OREGON, reference number 79002103, and part of the Oregon Covered Bridges Thematic Resource, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 11/29/1979, as evidenced by the FEDERAL REGISTER/WEEKLY LIST Vol. 45 number 54, notice of Tuesday, March 18, 1980, page 17475. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.

For The Keeper: *Carth J. Smith / B. R. J. [Signature]*      2-2-2010  
Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places      Date

THE MATIC GROUP NOMINATION  
OREGON COVERED BRIDGES

Bridge Name and Number Chitwood Bridge, Index No. 38

County Lincoln

Stream or River Yaquina River

Location At Chitwood, off Highway 20, ca. 11 miles NE of Toledo

SE $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 32, T.10S., R.9W., W.M.

Zone 10 E435285 N4944430 Toledo Quadrangle

Acreage and Boundary Description Full width of road right-of-way  
for the distance between abutments and ten feet additional  
at either end, containing in all approximately 6960 square feet.

Present Owner Lincoln County Board of Commissioners

Lincoln County Courthouse

Newport, OR 97365

Date of Construction ca. 1930 *1920 PLAN DATED CONSTRUCTION PLANS*

Description of Bridge *RECONSTRUCTED 1984*  
*ORIGINAL TRUSS MEMBERS INTACT*

Length of span 96 feet

Truss type Howe truss

Cladding Board and batten, battered side walls enclosing  
buttresses

Roofing Shingled gable roof

Decking Wood

Other salient features Semi-elliptical portal arches. Ribbon openings  
under eaves, either side elevation. Concrete piers.

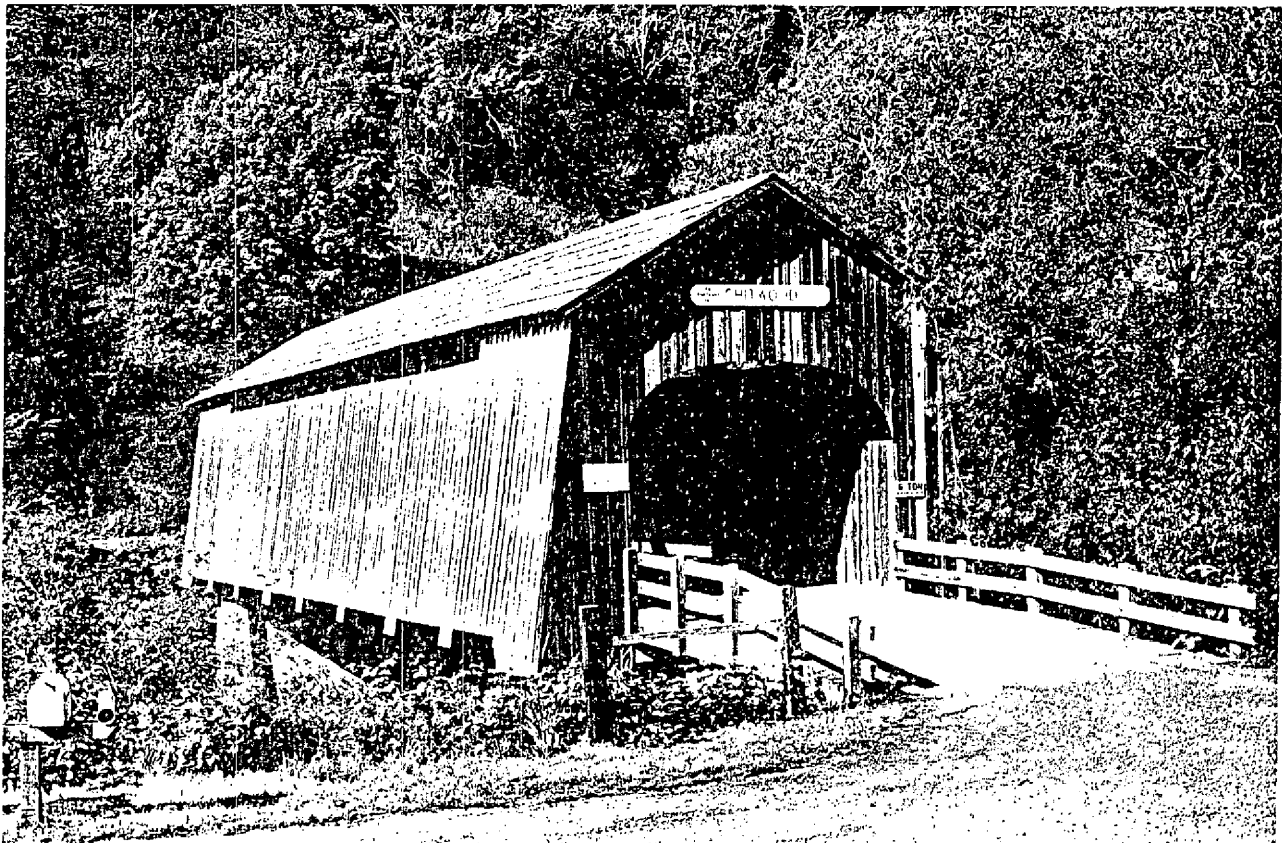
Once a fuel-stop on the Corvallis and Eastern Railroad and loading point for an important sandstone quarry, Chitwood is now a ghost town.

Legal description is included in the appropriate County Road Department right-of-way files and County Deed Records.

Information based on following sources: Statewide Inventory Form prepared by Stephen Dow Beckham, 1976. Typescript on Oregon Covered Bridges by Nick and Bill Cockrell, 1977.

Bridge Index No. 38  
Chitwood Covered Bridge  
Vicinity of Chitwood  
Lincoln County, Oregon  
South Elevation

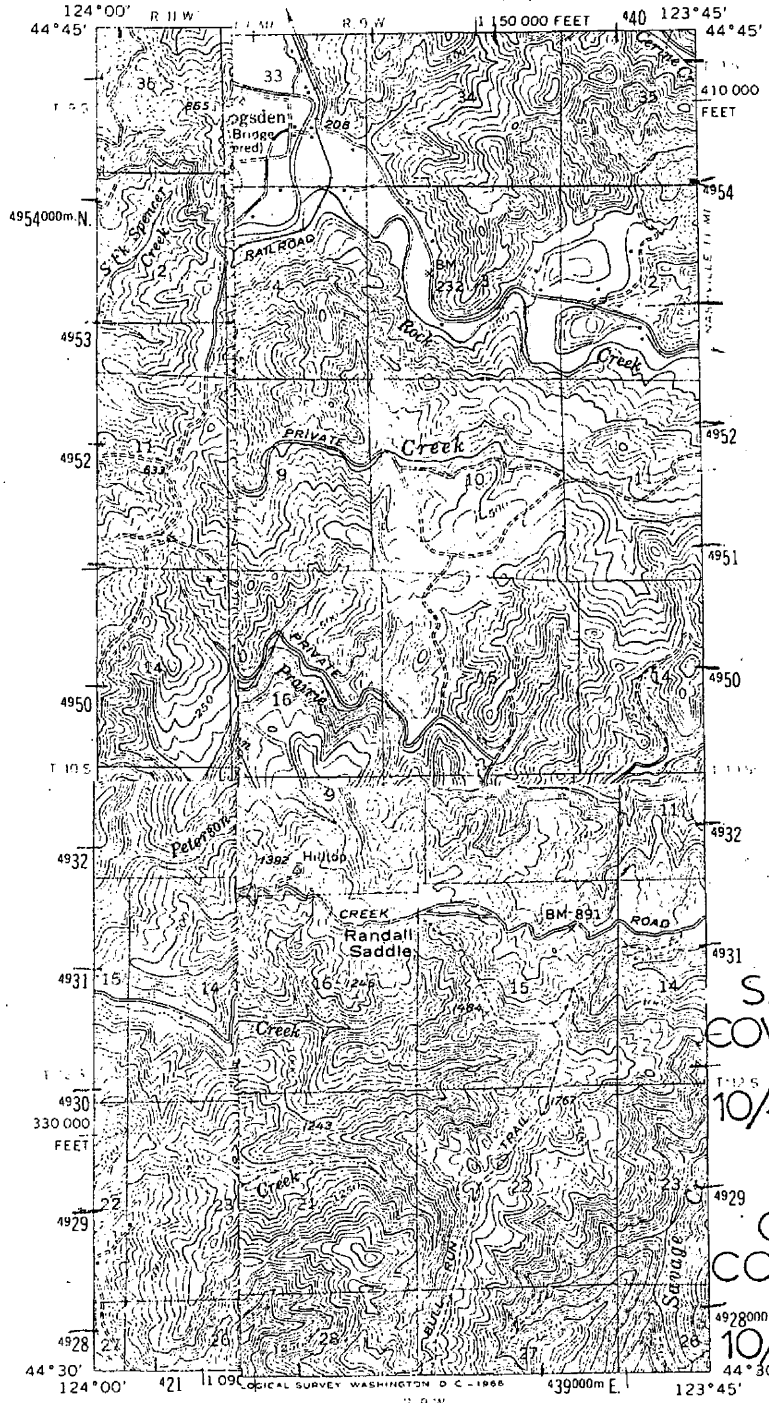
Stephen Dow Beckham Photo, 1976  
History Department  
Lewis and Clark College  
615 SW Palantine Hill Road  
Portland, OR 97219



(CAPE FOULWEATHER)  
11731

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
TOLEDO QUADRANGLE  
OREGON - LINCOLN CO.  
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

12731  
(WALSETZ)



#43

SAM'S CREEK  
COVERED BRIDGE

10/433357/4953490

#38

CHITWOOD  
COVERED BRIDGE

10/435285/4944430

#39

ELK CITY  
COVERED BRIDGE

10/430595/4941020

(WALDPORI)  
11721

Mapped, edited & controlled by USGS at  
Topography by planimetry  
Culture revision and  
Polyconic projection  
10,000-foot grid based on  
1000 meter Universal  
zone 10, shown in blue

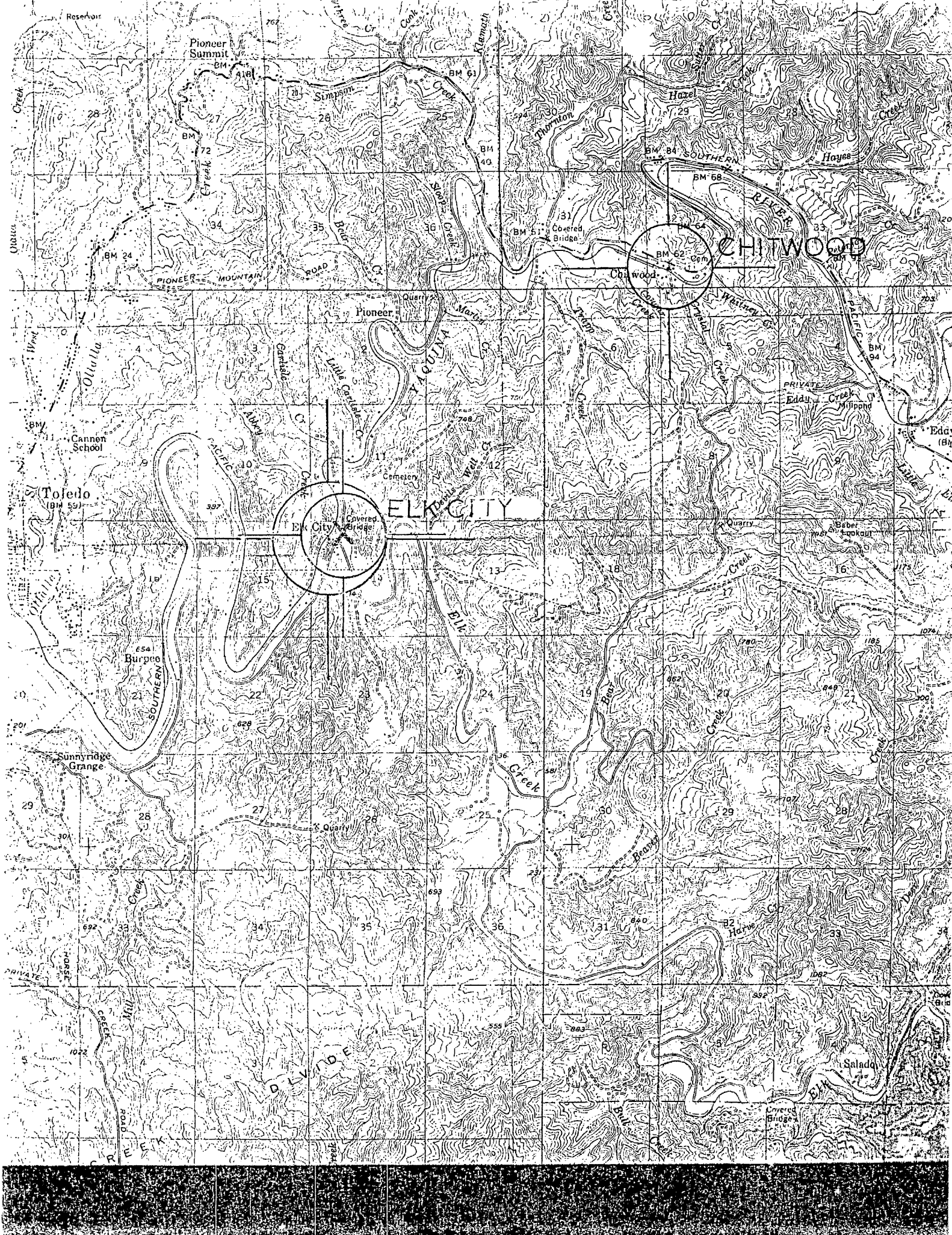
ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty - - - - -  
Medium-duty - - - - - Unimproved dirt .....  
○ U.S. Route      ○ State Route

(WALSETZ)  
12721

TOLEDO, OREG.  
N4430-W12345/15

1957

AMS 1273 III-SERIES V792



Chitwood Bridge  
Stream: Yacuina ve  
Built: Circa 1930  
World Guide No.: 37-21-03

TLOS R. S.  
Truss: Howe  
Length: 96 feet

#38

The bridge at Chitwood was once surrounded by stores, a post office, a telephone office, and several houses, but only the shell of the George Smith store next to the bridge remains, and that has been boarded up for years. Remnants of the Pepin Store, a competitor Smith, stand on the opposite end of the covered bridge.

An excellent vein of sandstone was discovered in the early 1900s, and the Corvallis and Eastern Railroad ran a spur line into the quarry from Chitwood causing an influx of workers for a few years. During this period, Chitwood became an important railstop for the smoking wood-burning trains from Yacuina to Corvallis, as the town was where the engines took on water and fuel, as well as passengers and freight.

Logging in the area once boomed enough to support not only the stores, but contributed to the rowdy times in the Chitwood Dance Hall as well. High speed transportation has dried up the businesses causing Chitwood to remain only as a ghost town.

To get there: From Newport, take Highway 20 east past Toledo, and continue on Highway 20 for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles past the Elk City Road. The Chitwood Bridge is on the right, near mile post 17.