

1. SITE I.D. NO

## HAER INVENTORY

Historic American Engineering Record  
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

Bridges, Trestles, and Aqueducts

3. PRIORITY

1

4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION?  
(SPECIFY THREAT) YES  NO  UNKNOWN

ARCH: steel

7 5 9 6

5. DATE

1929

6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT

OWNER ADMIN

7. OWNER/ADMIN

Simpson Timber Company

8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

High Steel Bridge

9. OWNER'S ADDRESS

Main Office  
North 3rd and West  
Shelton, Washington 98584

10. STATE

WA

COUNTY NAME

Mason

CITY/VICINITY

Shelton

CONG.  
DIST.

03

STATE

COUNTY NAME

CITY/VICINITY

COUNTY

CONG.  
DIST.

11. SITE ADDRESS (STREET &amp; NO)

Crossing: Skokomish South Fork  
Forest Service Road #220212. EXISTING  
SURVEYS NR  NHL  HABS  HAER-I  HAER  NPS  CL6  
 CONF  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL  OTHER

13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)

 INTERIOR INTACT  EXTERIOR INTACT  ENVIRONS INTACT

14. UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN

10 478950 5245880

SCALE  1:24  1:62.5 OTHER QUAD NAME Mt. Tebo, Washington

UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN

SCALE  1:24  1:62.5 OTHER QUAD NAME15. CONDITION 70  EXCELLENT 71  GOOD 72  FAIR 73  DETERIORATED 74  RUINS 75  UNEXPOSED 76  ALTERED 82  DESTROYED 85  DEMOLISHED

16. INVENTORIED BY

Lisa Soderberg

AFFILIATION

HAER/Washington State Bridge Inventory

DATE

June 1979

17. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS,  
MATERIALS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

The High Steel Bridge was the second of two large steel arches to be erected by the Simpson Logging Company on Forest Service land in 1929. These bridges carried a single railroad track across formidable chasms opening up expansive tracts of previously inaccessible timber on the Olympic Peninsula.

The 685 foot steel riveted webbed arch which rises 375 feet above the Skokomish River's South Fork, rivals its majestic surroundings. The building materials which included a considerable amount of concrete for the footings, lumber for the decking, concrete forms, and railings, and 750 tons of steel were hauled by rail across the recently completed Vance Creek Bridge.

The American Bridge Company, a subsidiary of the U.S. Steel Products Company, was the contractor for the \$131,000 structure. The Simpson Logging Company spent an additional \$100,000 in lumber in the construction of the bridge. The total cost of the bridge was paid from the proceeds of timber subsequently hauled across the bridge. (CONT OVER)

18. ORIGINAL USE

logging railroad

PRESENT USE

vehicular

ADAPTIVE USE

19. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Alice Watts, "Put the High Steel Bridge on Your Next Woodsey Tour," Daily Olympian, 28 February 1968.Bob Wyss, "The Way of Bridges in Mason County," Daily Olympian, 21 May 1972.Kramer Adams, Logging Railroads of the West, (Seattle, 1961), p. 54.

(CONT OVER)

20. URBAN AREA 50,000  
POP. OR MORE?  YES  NO

21. NPS REGION

NW

22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

 YES, LIMITED  YES, UNLIMITED because of numerous fatali-  
 NO  UNKNOWN ties in area, Forest Service23. EDITOR  
INDEXER

24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

 YES  NO

NAME

does not want to promote it as a recreation area.

DISTRICT I.D. NO



25. Photos and Sketch Map of Location

---