

162

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**1. Name of Property**

historic name: Twin Bridges Historic District

other name/site number: N/A

**2. Location**

street & number: Washington County Road 11, 3412; .3 mi. N of AR 45

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Morrow

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Washington code: AR 143 zip code: 72749

**3. Classification**

Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

| Contributing | Noncontributing |            |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| _____        | _____           | buildings  |
| _____        | _____           | sites      |
| <u>2</u>     | _____           | structures |
| _____        | _____           | objects    |
| <u>2</u>     | <u>0</u>        | Total      |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Bridges of Arkansas

=====  
**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**  
=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Slater \_\_\_\_\_ 1-18-97 \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

=====  
**5. National Park Service Certification**  
=====

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): \_\_\_\_\_

Edson H. Beall 3/7/92  
Entered in the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

=====  
**6. Function or Use**  
=====

Historic: Transportation Sub: road-related  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Current : Transportation Sub: road-related  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

=====  
**7. Description**  
=====

Architectural Classification:

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: single-span, deck arch

Materials: foundation concrete roof N/A  
walls concrete other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

=====  
**8. Statement of Significance**  
=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Engineering  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1922

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Luten Bridge Company  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
X See continuation sheet.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

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**Summary**

The Twin Bridges Historic District is located off of Washington County Road 11 and consists of two single-span, closed-spandrel concrete deck arch bridges that were designed and constructed by the Luten Bridge Company in 1922. Both bridges remain in excellent condition.

**Elaboration**

The Twin Bridges Historic District is located just to the east of Washington County Road 11 and less than a half-mile north of AR Highway 45. Both bridges are single-span, closed-spandrel concrete deck arch bridges designed and constructed by the Luten Bridge Company in 1922.

Although both bridges were originally located on County Road 11, that road was straightened in 1955, and a modern concrete bridge was constructed to the west of the Twin Bridges. The smaller and southernmost of the two bridges, Bridge # 2, is now located on Washington County Road 3412, which extends to the east from County Road 11, and spans a small creek draining perpendicular into the Baron Fork creek. This bridge is approximately 23' in length, 14' in width, and has a height of 12' over water.

Bridge # 1 spans the Baron Fork creek and is situated north-south on a short road which connects County Road 3412 and County Road 11, just to the east of the 1955 bridge. It is approximately 80' in length, 14' in width, and has a height of 20' over water. Although both bridges feature concrete parapets, the Bridge # 1 parapet is substantially higher. In both cases, the deck of the bridge is covered with dirt and gravel.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

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### Summary

The Twin Bridges Historic District, located on Washington County Road 11, is being nominated as an amendment to the *Historic Bridges of Arkansas* multiple property nomination as the best known extant examples of closed-spandrel type bridges designed and constructed by the Luten Bridge Company in Washington County.

### Elaboration

According to Washington County records, on October 27, 1921 thirteen different petitions were presented and read to the county court requesting the construction of new bridges in the county. The county judge, Ernest Dowell, appointed two commissioners, H. C. Evins and Bruce Holcomb, to determine the bridge sites most needed and to effect their construction when funds were available. Also approved at that session of the county court was a motion that all approaches leading to the bridges should ". . . be built by the citizens and residents benefitted, without expense to this County, and same to be satisfactory to Engineer and County Judge."

Ernest Dowell served as Washington County Judge from 1921 to 1926, and it was under his leadership that approximately 13 bridges were built in the county by the Luten Bridge Company during this time. Bruce Holcomb (1873-1924) was a former Washington County Clerk and a respected businessman. H. C. Evins (1872-1963) was raised in the Morrow area, though he served as Justice of the Peace from Fayetteville at the time of the bridge construction. In addition to these three men, the name of H. O. Morrow is found on an original bronze plaque attached to Bridge # 1. Morrow, a local farmer and school board member, served as Justice of the Peace for the Morrow area and was instrumental in obtaining the Twin Bridges for the area residents.

The Twin Bridges were constructed by the Luten Bridge Company of Knoxville, Tennessee, who are also believed to have built the remainder of the 13 or so bridges that were contracted for during Dowell's administration. A history of the Luten Bridge Company is included in the "Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era" context of the *Historic Bridges of Arkansas* multiple property nomination. In Northwest Arkansas, the Luten Bridge Company is also known for the double-span 1922 Illinois River Bridge (NR 1/28/88) in Benton County.

In 1955, County Road 11 was expanded to two lanes and paved. Consequently, the road was straightened and a new concrete bridge was constructed to the west of the Twin Bridges. Although the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department planned on removing the two older bridges, County Judge William Bush requested that the bridges be retained for use by the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

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local residents.

As the Twin Bridges Historic District in the Morrow vicinity contains the two best known examples of the single-span, closed-spandrel concrete deck arch bridge type to survive in Washington County (the fate of the other eleven is unknown), they are being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as an amendment to the *Historic Bridges of Arkansas* multiple property nomination.

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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X 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

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

|   |           |               |                |   |     |       |       |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|---|-----|-------|-------|
| A | <u>15</u> | <u>368800</u> | <u>3971020</u> | B | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| C | ___       | _____         | _____          | D | ___ | _____ | _____ |

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at the intersection of the southern edge of Washington County Road 3412 and the eastern edge of the new County Road 11 (paved), proceed northeast to the intersection of the eastern edge of County Road 11 and the eastern edge of the old County Road 11 road bed (gravelled); thence proceed southeast along the eastern edge of the old County Road 11 to its intersection with the southern edge of County Road 3412; thence proceed southwest along the southern edge of this road to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

This boundary description includes all of the property historically associated with the Twin Bridges but excludes the modern bridge on the current Washington County Road 11.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### Bibliography

Information submitted by Paula N. Hill and William L. Bush, June 1993,  
which included interviews with: Frank Morris, Ina Reed, Herbert Holcomb, and Marie  
Nolen.

Washington County Court Records

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**11. Form Prepared By**  
=====

Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, National Register Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 01/14/94

Street & Number: 323 Center, 1600 Tower Bldg. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Twin Bridges Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME: Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 2/03/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/15/94  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/03/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/20/94  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000162

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 3/7/94 DATE Entered in the National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

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**CLASSIFICATION**

count       resource type

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**STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION**

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**FUNCTION**

historic       current

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**DESCRIPTION**

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

---

**SIGNIFICANCE**

**Period      Areas of Significance--Check and justify below**

**Specific dates      Builder/Architect**  
**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

summary paragraph  
 completeness  
 clarity  
 applicable criteria  
 justification of areas checked  
 relating significance to the resource  
 context  
 relationship of integrity to significance  
 justification of exception  
 other

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTMs       boundary justification

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**ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION**

sketch maps     USGS maps     photographs     presentation

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**OTHER COMMENTS**

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





Twin Bridges Historic District  
Washington Co., Arkansas  
Photograph by Patrick Zollner  
October 1993  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View of Bridge # 1  
from the west







Twin Bridges Historic District  
Washington Co., Arkansas  
Photograph by Patrick Zollner  
October 1993  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View of Bridge # 2  
from the south





Twin Bridges Historic District  
Washington Co., Arkansas  
Photograph by Patrick Zollner  
October 1993  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View of Bridge #2  
from the east





Twin Bridges Historic District  
Washington Co., Arkansas  
Photograph by Patrick Zollner  
October 1993  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View of Bridge #2  
from the north



ERNEST DOWELL, CO. JUDGE

BRUCE HULCOMB

H. C. EVINS

H. O. MORROW

Twin Bridges Historic District  
Washington Co., Arkansas  
Photograph by Patrick Zollner  
October 1993  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View of plaque on Bridge # 1  
from the northeast



DESIGNED AND BUILT  
BY  
LUTEN BRIDGE CO.,  
KNOXVILLE TENN.  
1922.



Twin Bridges Historic District

Washington Co., Arkansas

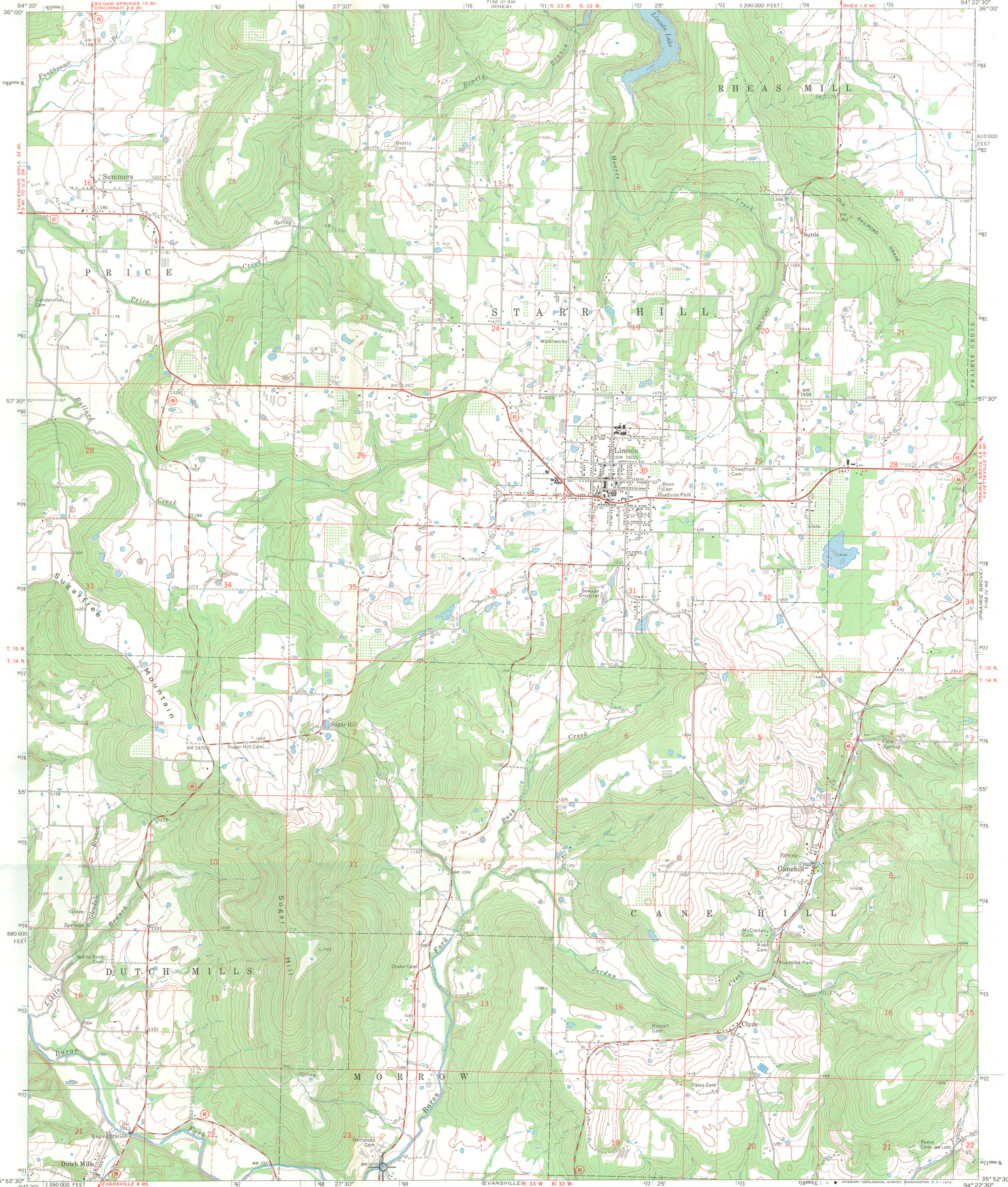
Photograph by Patrick Zollner

October 1993

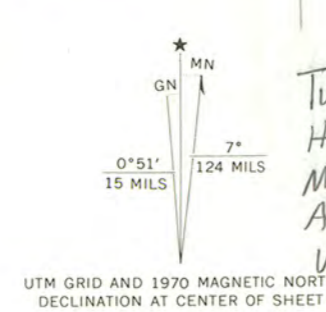
Negative on file at ATTP

View of plaque on Bridge # 1  
from the southwest





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1970  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



*Twin Bridges  
Historic District  
Morrow vic. Washington Co.,  
Arkansas  
UTM: 15/368800/3971020*

SCALE 1:24 000  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface  
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface  
Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface  
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather  
U.S. Route  
State Route

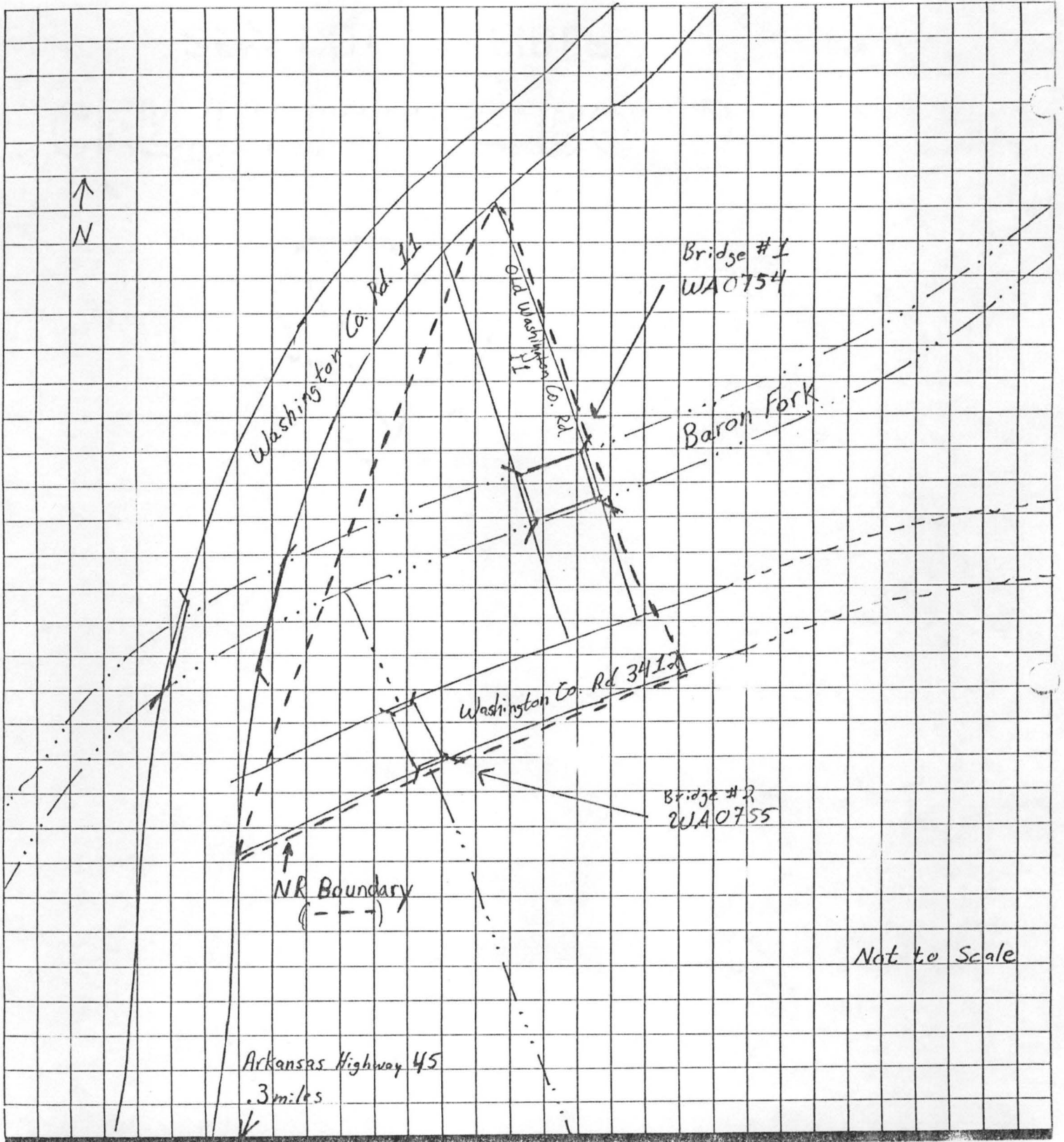
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LINCOLN, ARK.  
N3552.5-W9422.5/7.5

1970

AMS 7155 IV NW—SERIES V884





AHPP USE ONLY

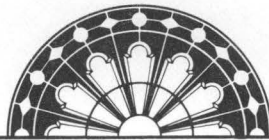
53. Ethnic Heritage: A   B    
 01-Asian 02-Black 03-European 04-Hispanic 05-Native American 09-Other

54. Areas of Significance (Refer to Handbook): A   B   C

55. NR Eligibility  1-Eligible 2-Ineligible 3-Listed 4-Delisted

56. Destroyed: (Y or N)  Date

57. Archeological Potential



ARKANSAS  
HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION  
PROGRAM

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January 19, 1994

Carol D. Shull  
Chief of Registration  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250  
Washington, DC 20002

RE: Twin Bridges Historic District  
Morrow, Washington County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford Slater  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CBS:kg

Enclosures

