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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Beal Slough Bridge
other name/site number NEHBS Number LC00-102

2. Location

street & number West Pioneers Boulevard over Beal Slough N/A not for publication
city, town 0.5 mile west of Lincoln X vicinity
state NE county Lancaster code 109 zip code 68501

3. Classification

Ownership of Property Lancaster County
Category of Property structure
Number of Resources within Property
Contributing Noncontributing
0 0 buildings
0 0 sites
1 0 structures
0 0 objects
1 0 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0
Name of related multiple property listing: Highway Bridges in Nebraska, 1870-1942

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.

Signature of certifying official: [Signature] DSHPO
Date: 5/6/92
State or Federal agency and bureau: Nebraska State Historical Society

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.

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:)

entered in the National Register
[Signature] 6/29/92

Signature of the Keeper
Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

OTHER /concrete rigid frame bridge

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A
walls N/A
roof N/A
other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located 0.5 mile west of Lincoln, this modest span crosses over Beal Slough in a rural Lancaster County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. Other than maintenance-related repairs, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Beal Slough Bridge today retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. A description of the structure follows:

span number:	1	construction date:	1937
span length:	40.0'	construction cost:	\$16,942.00
total length:	42.0'	current condition:	good
roadway wdt.:	24.0'	alterations:	none

superstructure: concrete rigid frame

substructure: concrete with wingwalls

floor/decking: concrete

other features: guardrail: concrete balustrade; bridge plaque: O-174 Capacity 20 tons 1937 (impressed in concrete)

8. Statement of Significance

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

	statewide
Applicable National Register Criteria	C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	N/A
Areas of Significance	Engineering
Period of Significance	1937 (The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)
Significant Dates	1937
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Significant Person	N/A
Architect/Builder (Designer)	Nebraska State Engineer [probably]
(Builder)	Lancaster County / Works Progress Administration

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations and areas of significance noted above.

According to Lancaster County bridge records, the bridge replaced an old pony truss in 1937. A bridge plaque reading "Capacity 20 tons, 1937" confirms this date. The bridge was a collaborative project between the county and the WPA, with the WPA paying \$10,771 of the structure's \$16,942 total cost and the county funding the remainder. The foreman for the project is listed simply as "Ross".

Public works programs of the 1930s allowed federal funding, for the first time, to be used for construction of urban roads and bridges. As a result, aesthetic concerns came to the forefront. The rigid frame design, which had been developed in New York in the early 1920s, gained popularity as both a picturesque and practical alternative. Use of rigid frame construction, as well as the bridge's wide roadway and ornamental concrete balustrade, are evidence that the Beal Slough Bridge was considered an important entryway to the City of Lincoln. The Beal Slough Bridge is technologically significant as a well-preserved, early example of concrete rigid frame bridge construction in Nebraska.

For further contextual information regarding bridge building in Nebraska, registration requirements, and property types, see related multiple property listing "Highway Bridges in Nebraska, 1870 - 1942."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Nebraska Department of Roads, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure Number C005514020; Lancaster County Bridge Record, located at the Lancaster County Courthouse, Lincoln, Nebraska; field inspection by Fred Quivik, 28 February 1989.

___ 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 acre
Cadastral Reference S2/11, T9N, R6E
USGS Quadrangle Lincoln (7.5 Minute Series, 1964; photorevised 1972 and 1980)
UTM References zone 14 easting 693030 northing 4515550

___ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 42 feet by 26 feet, which is centered on the UTM point listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure, substructure and floor system.

___ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated structure includes the bridge's superstructure, substructure, floor system, any approach spans and the property on which they rest. These boundaries encompass, but do not exceed, all of the property that has been historically associated with this bridge.

___ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Charlene K. Roise, Principal	date	30 June 1991
organization	Fraserdesign and Hess, Roise and Company	telephone	303-669-7969
street & number	1269 Cleveland Avenue	state	Colorado
city or town	Loveland	zip code	80537
