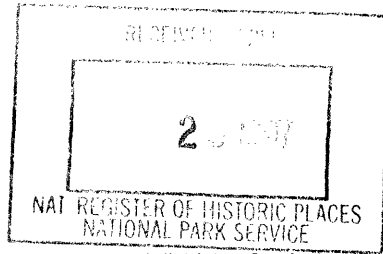


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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: Viking Bridge

Other names/site number: Goose River Bridge; 32TR700

2. Location

Street & number: unnamed county road  not for publication

City or town: Portland  vicinity

State: North Dakota Code: ND County: Trail Code: 097 Zip code: 58274

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant      nationally X statewide      locally. (     See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James E. Sperry January 8, 1997  
Signature and title of certifying official Date  
James E. Sperry  
State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)

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 2/27/97  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Viking Bridge  
Name of Property

Traill, 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.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

Historic Roadway Bridges of N.D.

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

TRANSPORTATION: Road-related  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TRANSPORTATION: Road-related  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Pratt through truss bridge  
\_\_\_\_\_

foundation concrete  
walls \_\_\_\_\_  
roof \_\_\_\_\_  
other iron  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

Viking Bridge  
Name of Property

Trail, 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**

1885-1946

**Significant Dates**

1885

1915

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Builder: C.P. Jones

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Viking Bridge  
Name of Property

Trails, 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	6 2 1 2 9 0	5 2 6 3 6 9 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: Trails County  
Street & Number: Courthouse; P.O. Box 399 Telephone: (701) 436-4457  
City or Town: Hillsboro State: North Dakota Zip code: 58045

**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

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VIKING BRIDGE  
TRAILL COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

### Narrative Description:

The Viking Bridge is located on an unpaved county road in rural Traill County, North Dakota. The site is located approximately one mile north and one mile west of Portland, North Dakota. The bridge, constructed on an approximate north-south axis, carries a gravel "section-line" road through a rural portion of the county. The surrounding land is largely cultivated, and scattered groups of farmstead buildings exist in the vicinity. The bridge crosses the Goose River, a major watercourse in the area. Here, the river meanders through a wide, shallow valley dotted with trees and wetlands.

The bridge itself is a pin-connected Pratt through truss, with an iron 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 Viking Bridge as a relatively early Pratt design; this is confirmed by the bridge's use of iron structural members. The bridge contains a single truss span, six panels in length; there are no approach spans. Overall, the bridge is approximately 110 feet long, with a vehicle deck 17 feet wide.

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

*Substructure:* concrete abutments and wing walls (on the south end only)

*Superstructure:*

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

*lower chords:* paired punched eyebars

*verticals:* two channel sections with lacing bars along both sets of flanges

*diagonals:* paired punched eyebars

*counters:* looped round rods

*bracing (portal):* two sections of lattice across the portal; in between these: crossed diagonal struts supporting the bridge plate (missing on north end)

*bracing (sway):* round rods

*laterals (top):* two pairs of angle sections with lacing bars between

*laterals (bottom):* round rods

*moveable end:* rollers

*floor system:* I-beam stringers, with outside channels, resting on I-beam floor beams, connected to the superstructure with U-bolts

*decking:* a single layer of wood

*railing:* two angle sections

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number   7   Page   2  

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VIKING BRIDGE  
TRAILL COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

*steelmaker's marks:* Carnegie Steel Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.

A small iron plaque centered above the south portal of the bridge displays the date "1885."

The bridge retains a very high level of integrity; while not in its original location, it remains an historic placement (see below). Major structural components appear to retain an historic appearance.

The Viking Bridge is owned and maintained by Traill County. It carries the state numerical designation 49-104-11.0.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

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VIKING BRIDGE  
TRAILL 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 Viking 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 C.P. Jones, a nineteenth century bridge fabricator important for introducing iron and steel bridge technologies to North Dakota.

Also under Criterion A, the bridge is eligible for its association with attempts by North Dakota counties to expand and improve transportation networks prior to 1926 by construction of through truss bridges, relatively costly structures. Through truss bridges with documented construction dates and builders, such as this one, best illustrate this important trend in North Dakota bridge construction.

Finally, the bridge is eligible under Criterion C because it is the oldest documented bridge in the state.

Historical information: This bridge has stood in its current location since 1915, but its superstructure actually dates from 1885. In February 1885 Traill county commissioners voted to advertise for bidders to build a bridge across the Goose River between Portland and Mayville, on the township line between T146N and 147N, R52W. In April, C.P. Jones of Minneapolis was selected from among the four bidders, with a price of \$8,294 (this was the second lowest bid; Horace E. Haston of Rochester, Minn. had the lowest: \$7,994). This was the only major bridge project for the county that year.

The first bridge at the current site of this bridge was one of seven erected in the county in 1892 by the Wrought Iron Bridge Co. By 1914 the bridges at both sites were being examined for possible rebuilding or replacement. C.P. Jones' bridge (called the Mayville-Portland bridge), in particular, was judged unsafe, and in January 1915 the firm of Jardine & Anderson was contracted to remove it and build a new bridge at the crossing. Four months later, J&A received another contract, to move C.P. Jones' bridge to the site it now occupies and, in turn, move the 48-foot steel bridge already there [presumably, the 1892 span built by the Wrought Iron Bridge Co.] to between sections 18 and 19 of the same township. To adapt Jones' bridge for its new site, Jardine & Anderson removed two panels, put in "steel joists," and set it on concrete abutments. The cost of installing the bridge was \$2,138.42, about one-eleventh of its total bill to the county for 1915.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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VIKING BRIDGE  
TRAILL COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

### **Bibliography:**

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

Traill County Commission: Record Book B, pp. 130, 135; Proceedings Book C, pp. 180, 187; Proceedings Book E, pp. 259, 340, 366-367, 406.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 5

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VIKING BRIDGE  
TRAILL COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

### Verbal Boundary Description:

The bridge is located on the boundary between Sections 26 and 27, Township 147 North, Range 53 West. The boundary consists of a rectangle, measuring 160 feet north-south and 67 feet east-west, 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  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photographs Page 6

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VIKING BRIDGE  
TRAILL 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	southern portal and eastern elevation	N
2	southern portal	NNE