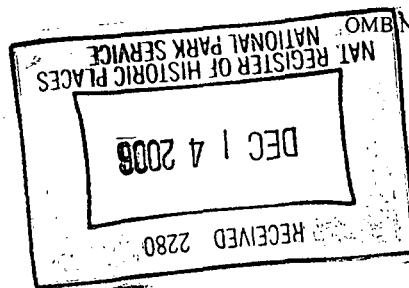


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Zinc Swinging Bridge, BO0162

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 8039 Washington Street

☐ not for publication

city or town Zinc

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Boone code 009 zip code 72601

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cecile Matthews
Signature of certifying official/Title

12/11/06
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 for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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:) _____

for
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall

1-24-07

Zinc Swinging Bridge
Name of Property

Boone County, Arkansas
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 count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

	buildings
	sites
1	structures
	objects
1	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**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/Pedestrian-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/Pedestrian-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Wire-Cable Suspension Bridge

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Metal

roof

other Wood

Narrative Description

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

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

Built in about 1927, the Zinc Swinging Bridge is located in Zinc, Arkansas, a former mining town. This footbridge gracefully sways above Sugar Orchard Creek in a peaceful valley surrounded by woods, wildlife, and the Ozark Mountains. The Zinc Swinging Bridge is the only bridge of its kind in Zinc. The Zinc Swinging Bridge is constructed of two concrete piers, heavy cabling, woven wire, and wooden planks. The bridge runs east and west across this southbound creek and is anchored on the west to the nearby hillside. It is 104 feet long and its highest elevation above ground level is approximately 16 feet. Although the water in Sugar Orchard Creek seldom rises above its banks, this little creek has been known to become a roaring river during heavy rains, making vehicular crossing over the slab impossible. Consequently, the Zinc Swinging Bridge has and continues to provide a much-needed method of pedestrian transport across this seemingly harmless creek to the other side of town. The bridge is located within approximately 242 feet of the railroad right of way, so the sound of a train and its whistle frequently reverberates through the valley. The streets of Zinc are gravel and are not paved. All of these features help to recreate an era that has long gone by.

ELABORATION

Foundation

The bridge is supported by two concrete, triangular shaped piers. The distance between the piers is 60 feet. These piers bear the same shape as many of the piers that were constructed to support the engine mounts and water tanks used by the mining industry in Zinc in the early 1900s. Although the identity of the builder of this bridge is unknown, it is clear that this person or persons were very familiar with the construction techniques of the mining structures prevalent in the town at that time.

The east concrete pier is 12 feet tall. The base of this pier measures 5 feet by 7 feet, and the top of the pier is 16 inches wide and just over 4 feet long. The east pier supports the entryway from that side.

Like the east pier, the west pier is triangular in shape but is only 8 feet tall. It is located in the creek and provides a center support for the bridge. The base and top of this pier are of roughly the same dimensions as the east pier. Metal pipes extend approximately 8 feet upwards from the west pier, bringing the total height of this support to approximately 16 feet, which is the highest elevation of the bridge.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Floor and Walkway

Thick metal cables run from the east pier to the west landing. These cables are 1-1/4 inch cabling. A series of 4 by 6 foot runner boards lay across these cables and are attached to them by heavy metal bolts. Together, these thick cables and runner boards provide the support for the bridge's wooden plank walkway.

The wooden planks are each 4 feet long, 6 inches wide, and 2 inches thick. They are nailed to the runner boards. They span 104 feet, the total length of the bridge.

Walls

The walls of the bridge are 30 inches tall and are made of woven wire. They are topped by a handrail on each side, which is a 5/8 inch cable.

East Landing

Access to the bridge from the east is gained by climbing a wooden staircase consisting of 9 wooden steps. The staircase ascends 12 feet and ends on top of the east pier where the passenger can begin their long walk over the wooden planks towards the west landing.

West Landing

Heavy cables mounted through concrete and firmly planted into the rocky hillside below support the west landing. This landing opens to a short path that runs parallel along a steeply sloping hillside in the woods, passes above a cave, and ultimately leads to a small town street.

INTEGRITY

Since its construction in about 1927, the Zinc Swinging Bridge has received only minimal alterations; it has received only those enhancements necessary to maintain it. Many of the wooden planks were replaced in the 1960s and again in the 1970s. Some of the woven wire has been replaced. Also in the 1970s, concrete was poured under the west pier in order to reinforce its foundation. Depending on the water level in the creek, this pier sometimes rests in water and is prone to erosion. This pier is currently cracked and is in need of repair.

Zinc Swinging Bridge
Name of Property

Boone County, Arkansas
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** birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- ☐ **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.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Engineering

Transportation

Period of Significance

1927 - 1957

Significant Dates

1927 - 1957

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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 # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Zinc Swinging Bridge was built about 1927 by an unknown builder and is owned by the Town of Zinc. This bridge serves as a window to the past in the once thriving community of Zinc. The Zinc Swinging Bridge is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** with **local significance** for its distinctive engineering and design, and it is also being nominated under **Criterion A** with **local significance** for its associations with the development of transportation networks in Zinc, Arkansas.

ELABORATION

The town of Zinc was a prosperous mining community from the late 1800s until approximately the early 1930s. The Zinc Swinging Bridge is one of the few remaining structures that survive from Zinc's heyday. The bridge has received only minimal alterations since its construction. Because it has received only those enhancements necessary to maintain it, the Zinc Swinging Bridge is representative of the mining community and style of life that once existed in the area.

In the spring of 1927, most of the state of Arkansas suffered from massive flooding, and Zinc was no exception. Although many homes and businesses survived, Zinc's railroad track was destroyed along with an earlier footbridge that was used up until this time. It is believed that the Zinc Swinging Bridge was built soon after these floods to replace the earlier one that was lost. It is possible that some of miners and railroad workers in the area may have helped to construct this bridge.

This footbridge gracefully sways above Sugar Orchard Creek in a peaceful valley surrounded by woods, wildlife, and the Ozark Mountains. It is constructed of two concrete piers, heavy cabling, woven wire, and wooden planks. The bridge runs east and west across this southbound creek and is anchored on the west to the nearby hillside. It is 104 feet long and its highest elevation above ground level is approximately 16 feet. Although the water in Sugar Orchard Creek seldom rises above its banks, this little creek has been known to become a roaring river during heavy rains, making vehicular crossing over the slab impossible. Consequently, the Zinc Swinging Bridge has and continues to provide a much-needed method of pedestrian transport across this seemingly harmless creek to the other side of town. The bridge is located within approximately 242 feet of the railroad right of way, so the sound of a train and its whistle frequently reverberates through the valley. The streets of Zinc are gravel and are not paved. All of these features help to recreate an era that has long gone by, and combine to make the Zinc Swinging Bridge locally significant and worthy of National Register listing.

Zinc, Arkansas, is located near the eastern border of Boone County near the right of way of the MN&A Railroad. The Zinc area prospered from the late 1800s until the early 1930s because it was a significant source of mineral deposits. The principal ore was silicate of zinc. It is written that the area produced the best grade of slab zinc that could be smelted from virgin ore. In addition to the mines, the Zinc area also contained an artesian well and numerous springs. During this time, the Zinc area was a community that was

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

home to many people. It had a school, a newspaper, a telephone office, and many businesses including stores and hotels. The Zinc area prospered for many years until the majority of the mines closed in the early 1930s. Today, the city of Zinc is still home to several families; however, its most prosperous years have passed.

Although the mining industry in this town began in the late 1800s, a local man named Elias Barham provided the land for the official Town of Zinc, including the land where the Zinc Swinging Bridge now resides. Elias raised cattle and operated some of the mines in Zinc. Believing the area to offer a great future, he sold 60 acres of his homestead to T. R. Cave on March 20, 1900. On June 2, 1900, T.R. Cave sold an undivided one half interest in this land to J.L. Rogers. The Township of Zinc included this land, and on February 2, 1901, lots in Zinc Town were advertised for sale in the Harrison Daily Times.

On March 7, 1903, T.R. Cave, J.L. Rogers, and their wives entered into an agreement with the White River Railway Company so that the railroad could be established through Zinc and a depot built. This railroad later became a part of the Missouri Pacific Railroad.

On April 1, 1903, R.X. DeGraw, J.S. Rogers, T.R. Cave, and D.W. Cave invested \$50,000 and created and incorporated the Sugar Orchard Mining and Realty Company. The articles of incorporation state that the place of business was to be located in Zinc, and the "general nature of the business proposed to be transacted by this corporation is: to buy, sell, let, lease, handle, and control mining and other lands, including town sites, and the doing of a general real estate business; mining, milling, buying and selling ores or valuable stone of all kinds; erecting, buying, selling, leasing and operating Water Works, telephone exchanges and other business of like character".

Just a few weeks later on April 23, 1903, T.R. Cave, J.L. Rogers, and their wives sold 120 acres, including the 60 acres previously purchased from Elias Barham, to this newly formed company for \$50,000.

On September 30, 1903, Elias purchased 2 lots in Zinc Town from the Sugar Orchard Mining and Realty Company. These lots were also originally a part of his homestead. Elias built a general store on it and operated it with his brother George Solomon. It was called the Barham Brothers' Store. The store was later operated by Elias's son, Elliott.

The miners in the area often traded at the stores in Zinc, including the Barham Brothers' Store. The miners lived in and around Zinc. The miners' living quarters were often very primitive with most of them living in tents near the mines. Some of the mines were Jack Pot, Gloria, and Almy. On Saturday nights they would visit the stores in Zinc to pay their bill for the previous week and to charge their supplies for the coming week. Some of them arrived in town on foot, using the Zinc Swinging Bridge to cross the creek, and others came by wagons and horse back. The Zinc stores would remain open until the miners left to return to their camp.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

The general stores in Zinc carried groceries such as sugar, beans, flour, livestock feed, and other goods including cosmetics, toiletries, beaded purses, chewing tobacco, shoes that buttoned about the ankle, and shoe buttonhooks. They carried bolts of material for shirts and dresses, and wool samples used for ordering men's suits. People chose the kind of fabric they wanted, and the storeowners would measure them and send their order somewhere to be made.

In addition to the miners, many other Zinc residents used the Zinc Swinging Bridge to get to and from the center of the town to purchase their goods and to conduct their affairs. The bridge continues to be used today.

The Zinc Swinging Bridge is one of the few structures that remain in Zinc that date to the period in which Zinc thrived. The Zinc Swinging Bridge has been maintained and preserved by the Town of Zinc to its original style and era, it retains its original architecture and setting, and it is representative of the mining community and style of life that once existed in this area.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Zinc Swinging Bridge was built circa 1927 and is owned by the Town of Zinc. This bridge serves as a window to the past in the once thriving community of Zinc. The Zinc Swinging Bridge is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** with **local significance** for its distinctive engineering and design, and under **Criterion A** with **local significance** for its associations with the development of transportation networks in Zinc, Arkansas.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abstracts and land deeds.

Harrison Times. February 2, 1901, May 25, 1927, May 27, 1927, and June 3, 1927.

Incorporation documents for the town of Zinc, Arkansas.

Interviews with Marion Newman, Mayor of Zinc, 2006.

Interviews with personnel at Boone County Abstract and Title in Harrison, Arkansas, 2003 regarding the location of
the homestead of Elias Barham.

Interviews with Treva Barham Campbell, former resident of Zinc, 2006.

Land plat dedicating the streets and alleys of Zinc, Arkansas for public use by the Sugar Orchard Mining and Realty
Company and signed by D.W. Cave as Secretary and James L. Rogers as President.

Logan, Roger V., Jr. *History of Boone County, Arkansas, Volume I*. Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company. 1998.

Rae, Ralph R. *Boone County and Its People*. Arkansas: The Press-Argus. 1955.

Records from the Barham Brothers' Store in Zinc, Arkansas.

Records of mining agreements entered into by Elias Barham.

Zinc Swinging Bridge
Name of Property

Boone County, Arkansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 507596 4015342
Zone Easting Northing
2 _____

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing
4 _____
☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

See Continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nita Gould
organization _____ date September 17, 2006
street & number 6717 South Marion Avenue telephone 918-743-3809
city or town Tulsa state OK zip code 74136

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 Town of Zinc
street & number 4276 Broadway Blvd telephone None
city or town Zinc state AR zip code 72601

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 listing. 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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

Zinc Swinging Bridge
Name of Property

Boone County, Arkansas
County and State

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

From the intersection of the Washington and Broadway Streets, proceed approximately 500 feet southeasterly to the initial point. From this point proceed twenty-feet north, west, south, and east until arriving back at the initial point.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all property historically associated with the structure that retains integrity.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Zinc Swinging Bridge--BO0162
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Boone

DATE RECEIVED: 12/14/06 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/05/07
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/20/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/27/07
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 06001286

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 1-24-07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



ZINC SWINGING BRIDGE
ZINC, BOONE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

PHOTO BY: Sarah Jampole

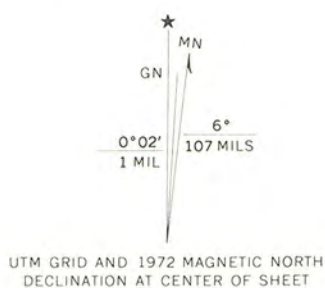
09/05/03

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Archives

West View



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1972
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



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



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

ZINC, ARK.
N3615-W9252.5/7.5

1972

AMS 7456 IV SW-SERIES V884

ZINC SWINGING
BRIDGE
ZINC, BOONE
COUNTY, ARKANSAS
15 501596E
4015342N



The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

1500 Tower Building
323 Center Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 324-9880

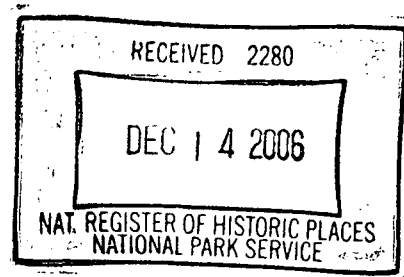
fax: (501) 324-9184
tdd: (501) 324-9811

e-mail: info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.org

An Equal Opportunity Employer



December 6, 2006

Dr. Janet Matthews
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
8th Floor
1201 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Zinc Swinging Bridge – Zinc, Boone County, Arkansas

Dear Dr. Matthews:

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

If you need further information, please call Joanna Hall of my staff at (501) 324-9789. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:rsw

Enclosure