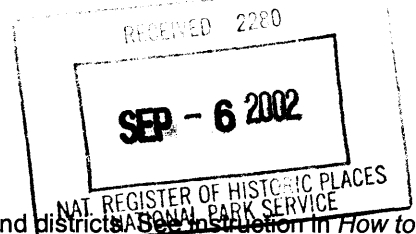


United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1143

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. 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 Spring Creek Bridge

other names/site number CDOT No. G-26-C; 5KC168

2. Location

street & number US Highway 24 at milepost 430.32 [N/A] not for publication

city or town Vona [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Kit Carson code 063 zip code

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 [] statewide [X] locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Georgina Cortez State Historic Preservation Officer August 19, 2002 Date

Signature of certifying official/Title

State Historic Preservation Office, Colorado Historical Society
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 [] See continuation sheet.

Edson W. Beall Signature of the Keeper 10/15/02 Date of Action

Spring Creek Bridge
Name of Property

Kit Carson County, Colorado
County/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 count previously listed resources.)

Contributing Noncontributing

0 0 buildings

0 0 sites

1 0 structures

0 0 objects

1 0 Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Highway Bridges in Colorado

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Concrete slab

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation
walls

roof
other Concrete

Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Spring Creek Bridge
Kit Carson County, Colorado
Highway Bridges in Colorado, MPS

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

Location: US Highway 24 at milepost 430.32, 8.1 miles east of the junction with State Highway 59.

Setting: The bridge crosses Spring Creek in the gently rolling grassland hills of the high plains.

Structure length: 142 feet
Structure width: 24 feet
Roadway width: 20 feet

Main span number: 7
Main span length: 19 feet

Superstructure: Concrete slab
Substructure: Concrete abutments and spill-through piers
Floor/decking: Concrete deck with asphalt overlay
Other features: Colorado Highway Department standard slotted concrete guardrails

Erected: 1928-29
Designer: Colorado Department of Highways
Fabricator: None
Contractor: M.E. Carlson

Alterations: None

Spring Creek Bridge
Name of Property

Kit Carson County, Colorado
County/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.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation

Engineering

Periods of Significance

1929-1952

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Colorado Department of Highways

Carlson, M.E.

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:

Colorado Historical Society

Colorado Dept. of Transportation

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Spring Creek Bridge
Kit Carson County, Colorado
Highway Bridges in Colorado, MPS

Section number 8 Page 2

SIGNIFICANCE

The 1928-1929 Spring Creek Bridge on US Highway 24 east of Vona meets the registration requirements under Criteria A and C as set forth in *Highway Bridges in Colorado*, Multiple Property Documentation Form. The bridge is eligible in the area of transportation for its association with US Highway 40 North, later US Highway 24. This route across eastern Colorado formed an important interstate link for Denver and Colorado Springs. The Spring Creek Bridge is significant as an intact remnant of this early Colorado highway. The period of significance begins in 1929 with the completion of the bridge and extends through its historic use to 1952, a date fifty-years-of-age in keeping with National Register criteria.

The Spring Creek Bridge is also eligible in the area of engineering for its relatively early use of concrete construction. Although the Colorado Highway Department (CHD) occasionally used timber for bridge building during its formative years, the agency encouraged concrete/ steel construction as a more durable alternative. CHD promulgated standard designs for concrete slab, concrete girder and steel stringer bridges in the 1910s and 1920s. Their superstructures differed, but these various bridge types all featured concrete substructures, decks and guardrails. Most of Colorado's early highway bridges have since been altered or lost to attrition, but a few noteworthy examples remain in use. The Spring Creek Bridge is a noteworthy remainder. It is distinguished among the state's early highway structures for its concrete construction, multiple-span configuration and excellent state of integrity.

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

During the 1911-1912 Biennium, the Colorado Highway Commission established State Primary Road No. 30 in eastern Colorado. Beginning at Colorado Springs, the route paralleled the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad tracks northeast to Limon and then zig-zigged eastward to Burlington and the Kansas state line. Although secondary to the Omaha-Lincoln-Denver Highway and the Lincoln Highway in the state's northeastern corner, this road carried interstate traffic between Colorado Springs and the East. During the 1910s the highway was incorporated as part of the Midland Trail, the Golden Belt Route, the Pikes Peak Highway and the Ocean-to-Ocean Highway. In 1922 the US Bureau of Public Roads approved Colorado's first Federal Aid Highway system. Under the new system, the Colorado Springs-Burlington Road was redesignated as State Highway 4. Three years later the Highway Department again renumbered the state's routes to integrate with the newly designated federal highway network. The Colorado Springs-Limon Road became part of US Highway 40 South, and the continuation of the route to Burlington was included as part of US 40 North.

Near the end of 1927 the Highway Department finished several miles of gravel road construction between Stratton and Burlington under Federal Aid Project 134-A. The following spring CHD engineers produced drawings for additional road construction on the highway east

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Spring Creek Bridge
Kit Carson County, Colorado
Highway Bridges in Colorado, MPS

Section number 8-9 Page 3

of Siebert. Funded as Federal Aid Project 134-B, the new project included gravel surfacing of three miles of road and construction of a concrete bridge over Spring Creek near Vona. As delineated by CHD, the new Spring Creek Bridge was comprised of seven 19-foot reinforced concrete girder spans, simply supported by concrete abutments and spill-through, post-and-beam piers. The bridge featured a 20-foot-wide concrete roadway, bounded on both sides by CHD standard slotted concrete guardrails with paneled concrete bulkheads.

In August the Highway Department submitted the project plans to the Bureau of Public Roads; three months later CHD awarded the construction contract to W.A. Colt and Son of Las Animas for \$32,605. Colt in turn subcontracted with M.E. Carlson to build the Spring Creek Bridge, which comprised the lion's share of the work. Carlson worked through the winter, completing the bridge the following spring for the cost of \$20,371.68. The Spring Creek Bridge has functioned in place since, in essentially unaltered condition. US 40 North across Kit Carson County was later renumbered US Highway 24. In the 1970s Interstate 70 was built parallel with US 24. As a result, the Spring Creek Bridge and adjacent highway now carry only intermittent local traffic between Siebert and Vona.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Colorado Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. G-26-C. Located at CDOT, Denver, Colorado.
- Colorado Highway Department. Bridge Kardex File. Located at CDOT Bridge Division, Denver, Colorado.
- DuBois, Robert. "Standard I-Beam Bridges." *Colorado Highways Bulletin* 2:12 (December 1919).
- First Biennial Report of the State *Highway Commission* 1910-1911. Denver: Smith-Brooks Printing Company, 1911.
- Fraser, Clayton B. Field inspection November 1998.
- Fraser, Clayton B. "Highway Bridges in Colorado," National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, March 30, 2000.
- Fraser, Clayton B. "Spring Creek Bridge, 5KC168," Historic Bridge Inventory, 31 March 2000.
- Maloney, J.E. "Standard Bridge Plans." *Colorado Highways Bulletin* 2:11 (November 1919).
- Second Biennial Report of the State *Highway Commission* 1911-1912. Denver: Smith-Brooks Printing Company, 1912.

Spring Creek Bridge
Name of Property

Kit Carson County, Colorado
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 695904 4352340
Zone Easting Northing

2. _____
Zone Easting Northing

3. _____
Zone Easting Northing

4. _____
Zone Easting Northing

[] 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 Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and Clay Fraser, principal

organization Colorado Historical Society and Fraser Design date May 21, 2002

street & number 1300 Broadway telephone 303-866-4681

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80203

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 Colorado Department of Transportation

street & number 4201 E. Arkansas Avenue telephone _____

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80222

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 USC. 470 *et seq.*)

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Spring Creek Bridge
Kit Carson County, Colorado
Highway Bridges in Colorado, MPS

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The bridge is located on US Highway 24 at milepost 430.32, 8.1 miles east of the junction with State Highway 59. The boundaries of this nomination consist of a rectangle of land 10 feet out in each direction from the footprint of the bridge.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nomination includes all the land directly and historically associated with the bridge.

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-2:

Name of Property: Spring Creek Bridge
Location: Kit Carson County, Colorado
Photographer: Clayton Fraser
Date of Photographs: November 1998
Negatives: Colorado Department of Transportation

Photo No. Photographic Information

- 1 Looking down the bridge and highway; view to the east.
- 2 View to the north from bed of Spring Creek.

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Spring Creek Bridge
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USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
Vona Quadrangle, Colorado
7.5 Minute Series, 1979

