

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received MAY 30 1985
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Muddy Creek Bridge (Masonry Arch Bridges of KS-TR)
and/or common Muddy Creek Bridge

2. Location

street & number OFF US 77 One mile north and three miles east of Douglass n/a not for publication
city, town Douglass vicinity of
state Kansas code 20 county Butler code 15

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Butler County
street & number Butler County Courthouse
city, town El Dorado n/a vicinity of state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Reigster of Deeds
street & number Butler County Courthouse
city, town El Dorado state Kansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Survey of Historic Bridges--
title Kansas Dept. of Transportation has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1980-83 federal state county local
depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society
city, town Topeka state Kansas

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This bridge spans Muddy Creek one mile north and three miles east of Douglass, Kansas. It is 66 feet long and 14.8 feet wide. The deck lies 12 feet above the water level. The spandrel walls extend upward above the roadway to form a low railing. At one time metal pipes were embedded in the concrete to form an additional railing. These no longer exist.

Structurally, the bridge consists of a concrete arch reinforced by steel. The arch springs from and is disposed between reinforced concrete abutments.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1910

Builder/Architect R. R. Green, Contractor

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Muddy Creek bridge retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling and association. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction no longer being used and may yield information important to the history of engineering.

Bids for the bridge were let September 16, 1910 and by December 16, 1910 the Walnut Valley Times was reporting that the bridge was well under way. To that point the bridge, located at Metsker Crossing, had used up to 1100 sacks of cement. That made a total of 150 cubic yards of concrete. The 12 to 15 men employed on the project would require five to six weeks to complete.

Green had completed several contracts in Cowley county but this was his first important one in Butler county and he was trying extra hard to do a good job.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- "Bridge Contracts Let by the County Board," Walnut Valley Times, September 16, 1910, p. 1.
 "Tribune Tells About Muddy Creek Bridge," Walnut Valley Times, December 16, 1910, p. 4.
 "New Bridge on Muddy," Douglas Tribune, December 9, 1910, p. 1.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Gordon, Kansas

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>4</u>	<u>6</u> <u>8</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>8</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

That property one and over which the bridge is built including bridge structure and abutments NW $\frac{1}{4}$ S13 T29S R4E.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Larry Jochims, Research Historian and Michael Snell

organization Kansas State Historical Society date 2/20/85

street & number 120 West Tenth telephone (913) 296-2973

city or town Topeka state Kansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society date 3/4/85

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Bill Grosvenor
 Keeper of the National Register

date 3/2/85

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date