

# DATA SHEET

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Georgia</b>
COUNTY: <b>Banks- Franklin</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>JUN 18 1975</b>

### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
**Kesler Covered Bridge**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**same**

### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Ten miles north of Homer on County Line Road <sup>over Middle Fork Broad River</sup> south of intersection with**  
Road S 2196

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Homer *me.***

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**9th - Phil M. Landrum**

STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13** COUNTY: **Banks** CODE: **011**

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied In <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied USE <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Banks County**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Banks County Court House**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Homer**

STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Banks County**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Banks County Court House**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Homer**

STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**None**

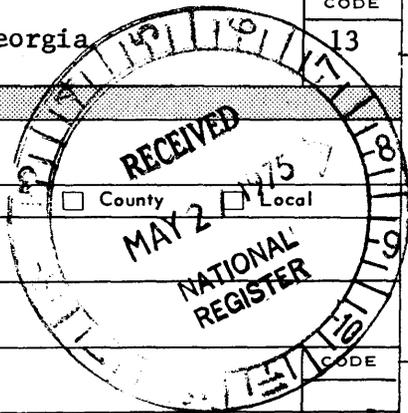
DATE OF SURVEY:     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

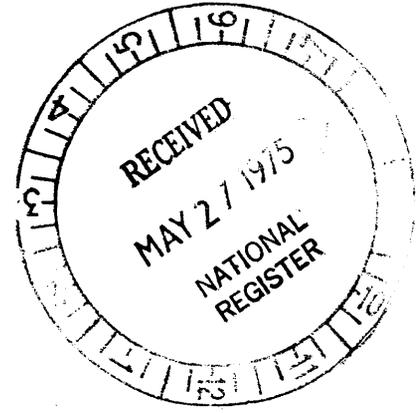
The Kesler Covered Bridge spans the Middle Fork of the Broad River on County Line Road on the border of Banks and Franklin Counties, Georgia. County Line Road is an unpaved dirt road. The bridge is completely covered and extends 69 feet in length with one span. The bridge is 14½ feet wide, overall, and 14 feet high from the deck to the ridge line at the center of the roof. Vehicle clearance is 11 feet.

Construction of this bridge is unusual because the single span is supported by two trusses of different design. One is of the Kingpost design, on the north end, and the other is of the Queenpost design, on the south end. The timbers used in these trusses are 6 x 10 inches in size and of heart pine. The compression rods are 1½ inches in diameter and made of iron. The floor sills are 4 x 10 inches in size and joists are of the same size. The deck is made of 2 x 6 inch planks and there are no longitudinal runners. There is very little cross bracing overhead. The roof is supported by rafters only and this lack of overhead bracing has caused the bridge to list. The metal roof is in good shape and protects the bridge.

This bridge rests on concrete abutments at each end. The sides are covered with pine boards and batten and some boards are missing. The roof overhang is about one foot on the sides and two feet on the ends.

The bridge is in fair condition and needs some repairs to the ends of the roof, the siding, the floor, and additional bracing at the top. Installation of longitudinal runners would help considerably. The bridge is in use and sustains a moderate amount of traffic.

The Kesler Covered Bridge is listed as No. 10-06-11 in the "World Guide to Covered Bridges," published by the National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges, 1972 edition.



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**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1925**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>History</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

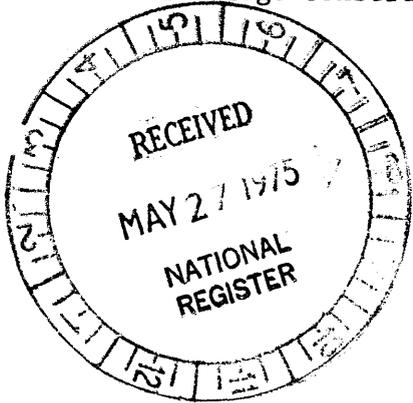
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Kesler Covered Bridge was built in 1925 with Robert Verner as foreman of the construction crew. Others who worked on this bridge were Eugene Vaughn, J. A. Kesler, Grady Crump and Dave Crump. The bridge was named for the Kesler family who, at that time, owned land adjoining the bridge. J. A. Kesler, who helped to build this bridge, was a member of that family.

The bridge was built to replace an earlier bridge that was washed away in a flood. The foundations were raised and the present bridge is a few feet higher than the previous bridge.

This bridge is unusual because of the fact it is constructed of two different truss designs for a single span. On the north end of this bridge is a Kingpost Truss and on the south end, a Queenpost Truss. Normally, a bridge no longer than this would have been designed with a single truss, a Queenpost Truss.

The Kesler Covered Bridge is one of 21 covered bridges remaining in Georgia and one of only 13 that are still in use. Six of Georgia's covered bridges are built of the Kingpost and Queenpost Truss design. Three are of the Kingpost design and two of the Queenpost design and the Kesler Covered Bridge is made of both designs. These truss designs are the earliest and simplest used in covered bridge construction.



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**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

World Guide to Covered Bridges, ed. Oscar F. Lane, Boston, Mass., 1972.  
 Covered Bridges of the South, Richard Sanders Allen. Brattleboro, Vt.:  
 Stephen Greene Press, 1970.  
 Old Covered Bridges in Georgia, pamphlet, Atlanta: Georgia State Parks Dept.  
 Interview with Palmer Ragsdale, Tax Commissioner, Franklin County, Carnes-  
 ville, Georgia, December 12, 1974.  
 James G. Bogle, "The Vanishing Breed," Georgia Magazine, March 1972, p. 16.

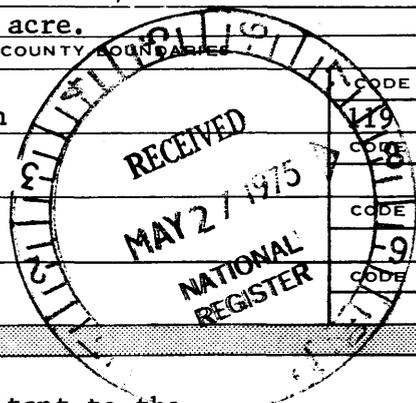
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		34° 25' 40"	83° 22' 55"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than one acre.**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Georgia	13	Franklin	179
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 James G. Bogle, Colonel, U. S. Army retired, consultant to the

ORGANIZATION: Historic Preservation Section, Department of  
 Natural Resources, State of Georgia

DATE: Dec. 18, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 270 Washington Street, S. W.

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta

STATE: Georgia

CODE: 13

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>Jackson O'Neal Lamb</u></p> <p>Title: <u>State Historic Preservation Officer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>May 19, 1975</u></p>	<p><b>NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>AP Wartenberg</u>              Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date: <u>6/18/75</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>W. M. [Signature]</u>              Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: <u>JUN 17 1975</u></p>
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