Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

RECEIVED

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N.M. HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

HISTORIC Apache Canyon Railroad Bridge AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Located three miles (4,8 km) northeast of Lamy over Galisteo Creek

CONGRESSIONAL DI	STRICT
1	
COUNTY	CODE
Santa Fe	

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS		PRESI	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	<u>X</u> PRIVATE				PARK
	BOTH	-WORK IN PROGRESS		EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE		ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED		GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED		INDUSTRIAL	_XTRANSPORTATION
		<u>_X</u> NO	••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	MILITARY	OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Attn: R.K. Knowlten STREET & NUMBER SO Fast Jackson Plud

80 East Jackson Blvd.

Chicago

VICINITY OF

state Illinois

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

^c Santa Fe County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY. TOWN Santa Fe STATE New Mexico

5 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

T	1	Т	L	E

New Mexico State Register of Cultural Properties

DATE December 9, 1977

DEPOSITORY FOR

__FEDERAL __X6TATE ___COUNTY __LOCAL

SURVEY RECORDS	Historic Preservation	Section,	New Mexico	State Planning Office	
CITY, TOWN				STATE	
Santa Fe				New Mexico	

7^c DESCRIPTION

	CONDITION	CHECK ONE CHECK ONE		
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	X_UNALTERED	XORIGINAL	SITE
	RUINS	ALTERED	MOVED	DATE
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located three miles northeast of Lamy, the Apache Canyon Railroad Bridge stands as an example of the comprehensive bridge replacement program launched by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway in the early 1890's. When the original construction crew reached Apache Canyon in the early part of 1880, a wood-treated bridge was erected to span Galisteo Creek. Twelve years later this structure was replaced by a deck plate girder bridge which has been in use for the past eighty-five years.

The Apache Canyon Bridge crosses the canyon diagonally. The girders are 105 ft. in length. The track, intersecting three loops of the Galisteo River at Apache Canyon, makes six crossings over a space of more than two thousand feet. An extremely oblique skew span (105 ft. long) is capable of center support by a transverse secondary span at the center arranged to transform the primary span into two continuous plate girder deck spans.

The ends of the bridge rest on abutments on opposite sides of the canyon. The center line of the track is on a ten degree curve and is $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches off the center line of the plate girder bridge at the center and at both ends of the span. The abutments are anchored in granite rock on both sides of the canyon. The trackbed on the structure measures ten feet in width and the distance between the center point of the structure and the shorter pedestal supporting the deck girder is sixteen feet.

Currently, the bridge stands in good condition and bears a regular traffic load on the trains passing through the canyon from Lamy.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	` AR	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<u>1700-1799</u>	ART	XENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X1800-1899	_XCOMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	XTRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1892

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Apache Canyon Bridge near Lamy is a rare example of an engineering project designed to span a canyon lengthwise. A precedent for this design was set around 1875 when the well-known "hanging bridge" was constructed two miles west of Canyon City, Colorado. The engineering feat performed at Apache Canyon removed one of the numerous obstacles the railroad encountered in connecting a permanent rail line from Raton to Santa Fe.

The tracks of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe reached Las Vegas in the summer of 1879 and then turned westward toward Santa Fe. Construction of the line through Glorieta Pass proved to be a difficult feat. The pass, reaching an elevation of 7,453 feet amidst a large forest, rendered this thirty-mile segment troublesome to build and operate. Following a steep climb to the top of the pass, a cut thirty feet deep had to be made as the rails crossed the divide between the Pecos River and the Rio Grande. The line followed canyons and creek beds to the headwaters of Galisteo Creek.

From the crest of the pass the A.T. & S.F. crews built downwards for forty miles, owing to a descent in elevation of more than two thousand feet. Apache Canyon, a narrow, rugged gorge situated just northeast of Lamy, presented the supervisors and construction crew with a formidable challenge. In early 1880 the company erected a wood bridge at the site, but this structure served only temporary needs. Twelve years later the unique deck plate girder bridge replaced the rather unreliable wood structure.

From Apache Canyon the line turned westward to meet the Rio Grande. The crews then built rapidly down the Rio Grande Valley, passing through Albuquerque on April 15, 1880. By September, the railhead had reached San Marcial in southwestern New Mexico, a distance of 235 miles from Las Vegas.

The appearance of the A.T. & S.F. in New Mexico had a profound effect upon the territory's economy. The arrival of the railroad stimulated mining development and influenced the expansion of sheep and cattle operations. With the railroad at their disposal, Rio Grande Valley farmers had an easily accessible means of shipping produce to eastern markets.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Bridging Canyons Lengthwise." Engineering News, Vol. XXVII, No. 27 (June 30, 1892), 653. (Available at Library, Texas Tech University)

Bryant, Keith, L., Jr. <u>History of the Atchison</u>, <u>Topeka and Santa Fe</u> <u>Railway</u>. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, Inc., 1974, pp. 60-63. (Available at Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University)

10GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 27 ACRES UTM REFERENCES

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c 1,3 42,24,7,0	3,92,99,4,0	D 1.3	422280	3 9 2 9 9 6 0
VERRAL BOUNDARY DESCRI	PTION			

L BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the point where the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway enters Apache Canyon from the northeast (UTM Reference 13/422600/3930360), proceed southwest along the tracks for 2000 feet. The boundary includes 300 feet on either side of the track. rent

Justification: The boundary is drawn to include the bridge and the associated abutments and retaining walls.

LIST ALL STATES AN	D COUNTIES FOR PROPER	IES OVERLAPPING S	STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
1 FORM PREPARE	D BY		
NAME / TITLE			
William L. Cumiford	, Project Manager		
ORGANIZATION			DATE
History of Engineer	ing Program		Mar. 2, 1978
STREET & NUMBER		ч.	
Box 4089 Texas Tec	h University	<u> </u>	(806) 742-3591
			0
Lubbock			Texas
2 STATE HISTORI	C PRESERVATIO	N OFFICER C	ERTIFICATION
THE EVA	LUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF	THIS PROPERTY WIT	THIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL 👗	STAT	Έ	LOCAL
As the designated State Historic	Preservation Officer for the N	lational Historic Prese	rvation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665
hereby nominate this property f	or inclusion in the National I	Register and certify th	at it has been evaluated according to
criteria and procedures set forth	by the National Park Service.		_
	4)	0.0
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION	1 per-	m w M	uc
	strue Reservate	. Of hier	DATE 11-13-78
DR NPS USE ONLY	i		
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT TH	IS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED	IN THE NATIONAL R	EGISTER
Clarke	altur	\sim 1.	J DATE 4:27 79
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The construction of the Apache Canyon Bridge was an important development from both engineering and historical perspectives. Technologically, the structure was innovative in that it was one of the first bridges built in the west designed to span a canyon lengthwise. Furthermore, it was one of the first major projects in the massive bridge replacement program initiated by the Santa Fe Railway in 1892, a testimony to the importance placed upon the New Mexico line by the company.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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PAGE 2 CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9

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