

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name North Loup Bridge
other name/site number NEHBS Number VY00-26

2. Location

street & number county road over the North Loup River N/A not for publication
city, town 1.5 miles northeast of North Loup X vicinity
state NE county Valley code 175 zip code 68859

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	<u>Valley County</u>	Number of Resources within Property	
Category of Property	<u>structure</u>	Contributing	Noncontributing
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> structures
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Highway Bridges in Nebraska, 1870-1942

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 request does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Bob Keshenough DSHPO 5/6/92
Signature of certifying official Date

Nebraska State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property request meets request does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register _____ see continuation sheet	<u>Patrick Andrews</u>	<u>6/29/92</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register _____ see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain:)	_____	_____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

OTHER /pin-connected Pratt through truss

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located 1.5 miles northeast of the small town of North Loup, this bridge spans the North Loup River in a rural Valley County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. Other than maintenance-related repairs, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The North Loup Bridge today retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 3	construction date: 1912
span length: 100.0'	construction cost: \$13,085.39
total length: 337.0'	current condition: good
roadway wdt.: 14.8'	alterations: none

superstructure: steel, 3-span, pin-connected Pratt through truss with pin/rigid Pratt pony truss approach
substructure: concrete abutments with concrete-filled steel cylinder and steel pile bent piers
floor/decking: concrete deck over I-beam stringers
other features: upper chord: 2 channels with cover plates and lacing; bottom chord: 2 looped rectangular eyebars; vertical: 2 channels with lacing; diagonal: 2 looped rectangular eyebars; lateral bracing: round bar with threaded ends; floor beam: I-beam, field bolted to vertical beneath lower chord; guardrail: lattice.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

	statewide
Applicable National Register Criteria	C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	N/A
Areas of Significance	Engineering
Period of Significance	1912 (The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)
Significant Dates	1912
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Significant Person	N/A
Architect/Builder (Designer)	Valley County Engineer
(Fabricator)	Cambria and Lackawanna Steel Companies, Pittsburgh PA
(Builder)	Empire Bridge Company, Omaha NE

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations and areas of significance noted above.

During the early 1910s, Valley County did not undertake any major new bridges on its road system. In 1912, however, the board of supervisors contracted for two substantial structures: one over the Middle Loup River at Arcadia and another over the North Loup River near the town of North Loup, in the southeast corner of the county. The clerk advertised for competitive proposals for the latter bridge in April and then re-advertised in July. According to plans and specifications developed by the county, the structure consisted of three 100-foot through trusses on steel cylinder piers, with a 40-foot pony truss approach span supported by steel pile bents on the south side. When bids were received in August, the county awarded the contract to the Empire Bridge Company of Omaha. Construction progressed slowly during the remainder of 1912. Empire completed the bridge the following June for a total cost of \$13,089, using components rolled by Cambria and Lackawanna. The North Loup Bridge has carried traffic since with only minimal maintenance, although with the routing of nearby State Highway 22 it has functioned in a secondary capacity. At least one of its trusses has apparently shifted slightly on its foundations, and the bridge is currently scheduled for replacement.

The North Loup Bridge was the second structure built over the river by Valley County, preceded only by the span at Ord, the county seat. The latter structure was extensively rebuilt in 1916 and has since been demolished. Such multiple-span pinned through trusses - most of which were comprised of medium-span Pratts - were once common in Nebraska. Almost all of these early bridges have since been replaced or substantially altered, however. The North Loup Bridge is technologically significant as a well-preserved, multiple-span example of what was once a mainstay vehicular truss type in Nebraska.

For further contextual information regarding bridge building in Nebraska, registration requirements, and property types, see related multiple property listing "Highway Bridges in Nebraska, 1870 - 1942."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Nebraska Department of Roads, Structure Inventory and Appraisal, Structure Number C008833415; Valley County Supervisors' Record, Book 4: 3 April 1912 (page 477), 10 July 1912 (page 498), 27 August 1912 (page 506), 20 September 1912 (page 509), 9 June 1913 (page 539), 12 August 1913 (page 563), located at Valley County Courthouse, Ord, Nebraska; original construction drawing by Valley County Engineer, located at Valley County Engineer's Office, County Courthouse, Ord, Nebraska; field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 6 July 1989.

___ See continuation sheet

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 (specify repository:)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre
Cadastral Reference S24, T18N, R13W
USGS Quadrangle Ord Southeast (7.5 Minute Series, 1954; photorevised 1985)
UTM References zone 14 easting 520780 northing 4595250

___ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 337 feet by 16.8 feet, which is centered on the UTM point listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure, substructure, floor system, and approach spans.

___ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated structure includes the bridge's superstructure, substructure, floor system, any approach spans and the property on which they rest. These boundaries encompass, but do not exceed, all of the property that has been historically associated with this bridge.

___ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Clayton B. Fraser, Principal		
organization	Fraserdesign and Hess, Roise and Company	date	30 June 1991
street & number	1269 Cleveland Avenue	telephone	303-669-7969
city or town	Loveland	state	Colorado zip code 80537
