

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to 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 (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: West Park Bridge

Other names/site number: 32BA39

2. Location

Street & number: Fourth Street Southwest not for publication

City or town: Valley City vicinity

State: North Dakota Code: ND County: Barnes Code: 003 Zip code: 58072

3. 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 does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James E. Sperry Signature and title of certifying official James E. Sperry Date January 8, 1997
State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

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:)

Edson W. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 2/27/97

West Park Bridge

Name of Property

Barnes, North Dakota

County and 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 include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>1</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Historic Roadway Bridges of N.D.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION: Road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

TRANSPORTATION: Road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: concrete false arch bridge

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation concrete

walls _____

roof _____

other concrete

Narrative Description

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

West Park Bridge

Name of Property

Barnes, North Dakota

County and 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.)

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 Name of repository: # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1924-1946

Significant Dates

1924

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

West Park Bridge

Name of Property

Barnes, North Dakota

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 4	5 7 5 5 0 0	5 1 9 6 6 0 0	2	_ _	_ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3	_ _	_ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _	4	_ _	_ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _

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: Mark Hufstetler / Historian
 Organization: Renewable Technologies, Incorporated Date: December 10, 1996
 Street & Number: 511 Metals Bank Building Telephone: (406) 782-0494
 City or Town: Butte State: Montana Zip code: 59701

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: City of Valley City
 Street & Number: P.O. Box 390 Telephone: (701) 845-1700
 City or Town: Valley City State: North Dakota Zip code: 58072

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 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

WEST PARK BRIDGE
BARNES COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Narrative Description:

The West Park Bridge is located on Fourth Street Southwest, an urban street running east-west through a largely residential neighborhood in Valley City, North Dakota. The main campus of Valley City State University is just to the southeast. The Sheyenne River meanders through central Valley City, requiring the use of several urban bridges in the community. Three of these structures are historic concrete bridges dating from the 1920s; this bridge and one just to the east share a common design. The East and West Park Bridges allow Fourth Street to cross a narrow oxbow in the Sheyenne River. Both bridges derive their name from the park which occupies much of the oxbow land.

The bridge itself is three spans in length, utilizing a concrete deck girder design. The substructure (piers, abutments, back and wing walls) are also concrete. Concrete deck girder bridges began to be a commonly-used form nationwide in the early 1920s, as improvements in concrete technology made the material a viable substitute for formerly-ubiquitous metal-truss designs. Most such bridges were highly utilitarian, but the East and West Park Bridges are distinguished by several design features intended to lend aesthetic appeal to the structures. The most prominent such element is the false-arch appearance created by the variable-depth outside girders on each span. A decorative concrete balustrade and historic, ornamental light standards also provide relatively prominent decorative detail. Such qualities are highly unusual among North Dakota bridges, and in this case are a reflection of the urban, parklike surroundings of the structures. Overall, the bridge is approximately 134 feet long, with a vehicle deck 36.6 feet wide.

Design details of the bridge's superstructure are outlined below:

floor system: three middle beams hidden by arched girders on outside
decking: concrete
railing: concrete balustrade with solid concrete panels with recessed panels on ends
sidewalk: cantilevered on both sides

The bridge retains a very high level of integrity; it remains in its original location, and all major structural components appear to retain their as-built appearance. The survival of the bridge's historic light standards and decorative balustrade are particularly noteworthy, since these features are missing or altered on the adjacent East Park Bridge.

The West Park Bridge is owned and maintained by the City of Valley City. It carries the state numerical designation 0-VCO.2.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

WEST PARK BRIDGE
BARNES COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Narrative Statement of Significance:

In accordance with the guidelines established in the Multiple Property Documentation form for "Historic Roadway Bridges in North Dakota," the West Park Bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criteria "A" and "C." The bridge is significant under Criterion A as an example of early twentieth-century bridge design and construction philosophies in urban North Dakota. Because of their settings, bridges in urban areas were more likely to be custom-designed structures employing modern technology, and with designs emphasizing visual detail. This bridge represents each of these qualities. The bridge is also eligible for listing under Criterion C because of its aesthetic merit. The use of the unusual false arch girder design and the attractive railing and lamps identify this structure as one of outstanding aesthetic design.

Historical information: According to county records, in July 1924 a committee consisting of the Valley City mayor and two aldermen requested the county board to secure federal aid to replace the two existing park bridges on 4th Street (which at the time was also designated as State Highway No. 12). Later that month the county requested the state to proceed with preparation of surveys, plans, specifications, and estimates for the East Park Bridge (Bridge 0-VCO.1). No further references to Bridge 0-VCO.2 were found in county records. The similarity between the two bridges, however, indicates that Bridge 0-VCO.2 was most likely built shortly after the East Park Bridge. (The East Park Bridge was constructed in 1924 by the F.M. Haas Company of Minot, under a \$23,262.67 contract.)

Like the East Park Bridge, the West Park Bridge is a concrete deck-girder built in a false-arch design. The design has the aesthetic appeal of an arch bridge, while using the more economical girder construction. The result is a utilitarian bridge compatible with an urban park setting. The design is enhanced by neoclassical ornamentation, including an open balustrade, spandrel panels, and lamp standards. The bridge retains excellent design integrity.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 3

WEST PARK BRIDGE
BARNES COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Bibliography:

Barnes County Commissioners' Proceedings, July 8, 15, Nov. 5, 1924; Book I, pp. 348, 353, 383-6.

Johnson, Lon, et.al. "Historic Bridges in North Dakota." Bismarck: North Dakota Department of Transportation, 1992.

"Park Bridges: A Special Case in Aesthetics," in Jeffrey A. Hess & Robert M. Frame III, "Wisconsin Stone-Arch and Concrete Arch Bridges," vol. 1, Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation, p. 133-5.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 4

WEST PARK BRIDGE
BARNES COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Verbal Boundary Description:

The bridge is located in the Southwest quarter of Section 21, Township 140 North, Range 58 West. The boundary consists of a rectangle, measuring 184 feet east-west and 87 feet north-south, and centered on the bridge superstructure.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary is constructed to include the area occupied by the bridge superstructure and substructure, as well as a 25-foot buffer of land immediately surrounding the structure.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs Page 5

WEST PARK BRIDGE
BARNES COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Index to Photographs

Photographer: Charlene Roise

Date: October 1990

Location of original negatives: State Historical Society, of North Dakota,
Bismarck.

Photograph Number	Description	Direction of View
1	West portal	E
2	South elevation	NE