UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATA SHEET

RECEIVE MAY 2 1 1975

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Harrisburg Covered Bridge

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION Harrisburg off U.S. 411 over East Fork of Little Pigron STREET & NUMBER RIJAN South of U. S. Highway 411 NOT FOR PUBLICATION CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Harrisburg Vicinity First VICINITY OF STATE COUNTY CODE CODE Tennessee Sevier 155 **CLASSIFICATION** CATEGORY **OWNERSHIP STATUS** PRESENT USE X_PUBLIC ___DISTRICT _OCCUPIED __AGRICULTURE ___MUSEUM __BUILDING(S) __PRIVATE _UNOCCUPIED __COMMERCIAL ___PARK XSTRUCTURE BOTH ----WORK IN PROGRESS __EDUCATIONAL _PRIVATE RESIDENCE __SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE __ENTERTAINMENT ___RELIGIOUS __OBJECT IN PROCESS YES: RESTRICTED ___GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC XX YES: UNRESTRICTED $\underline{X}_{TRANSPORTATION}$ BEING CONSIDERED _INDUSTRIAL __NO __OTHER: __MILITARY **OWNER OF PROPERTY** NAME Sevier County STREET & NUMBER Courthouse CITY, TOWN STATE Tennessee Sevierville VICINITY OF LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Sevier County Register's Office STREET & NUMBER Courthouse CITY, TOWN STATE Tennessee Sevierville **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** TITLE DATE __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK (DNE
X_EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED		SITE
GOOD	RUINS	XXALTERED	MOVED	DATE
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Harrisburg Covered Bridge was built over the East Fork of the Little Pigeon River by Elbert Stephenson Early in 1875. Like many covered bridges in America it had fallen into dilapidated condition. In 1972 the Great Smokies Chapter and the Spencer Clack Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution financed the repair and restoration of the structure.

The bridge is of quite simple design. It was originally supported by what is known as a "queenpost" truss (see photo of the interior portion of the bridge). This type of truss made of hardwood beams permitted the engineer to span a greater distance than the more simplistic "kingpost" truss. The Harrisburg Bridge is roughly sixty feet long; a large concrete support was added at the center of the bridge in 1972.

The flooring of the bridge is made of oak planks which were laid from side to side. Windows are set between the vertical post of the truss. Shingles were probably the original roofing material, however, a new galvanized tin roof was added during restoration. Clapboard siding covers the vertical posts which support the roof. The bridge is located a short distance off U. S. Highway 411; one lane width adequately serves the residents of the rolling countryside beyond the East Fork.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

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SPECIFIC DAT	ES <u>1875</u> .	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT Elbert Step	henson Early

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Harrisburg Covered Bridge is one of a half-dozen which are still standing in Tennessee. Fortunately, it was saved from total dilapidation when two local DAR chapters saw fit to restore the structure in 1972. It is still in use today.

Harrisburg is a small community in rural Sevier County. There was never any extensive development in the area; it is marked by some fine examples of mid and late nineteenth century homes. The bridge was built by Elbert Stephenson Early in 1875. Early, a resident of the area, was the owner of Newport Mills.

The Harrisburg Covered Bridge, long a landmark in the area, is significant as an example of the covered bridges which were once numerous in the state, but have now almost disappeared. It is one of only three that remain in use today.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carberry, Michael, <u>Historic Sites in Blount, Cocke, Monroe and Sevier</u> <u>Counties</u> (Knoxville, 1973).

10 GEOGRAPHICA	L DATA	~K	
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