

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0697311

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RECEIVED FEB 14 1979

DATE ENTERED JUN 22 1979

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC COVERED BRIDGES OF WASHINGTON AND GREENE COUNTIES *Thematic*
AND/OR COMMON *Reserves*

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER _____

CITY, TOWN _____ --NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE VICINITY OF COUNTY CODE

Pennsylvania _____ 42 Washington & Green 125/059

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> thematic	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Multiple (See continuation sheet)
STREET & NUMBER _____

CITY, TOWN _____ STATE _____
VICINITY OF _____

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Washington Co. Courthouse / Greene Co. Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER South Main Street / High Street
CITY, TOWN Washington, PA / Waynesburg, PA
STATE STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places
DATE 1978 --FEDERAL STATE --COUNTY --LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission
CITY, TOWN Harrisburg STATE Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Washington and Greene Counties are located in the southwest corner of Pennsylvania bordering the states of Ohio and West Virginia. In the nineteenth century Washington and Greene Counties were important agricultural and sheep-raising areas as well as being rich in bituminous coal, natural gas, petroleum, sand, and clay. The eastern borders of these counties are formed by the Monongahela River. Coal mining and steel and glass manufacturing today are the major industrial activities in these counties.

Covered bridges were once plentiful in Pennsylvania, every year more are destroyed and replaced. The Office of Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in conjunction with local historical and governmental groups is currently conducting a survey of the remaining covered bridges in Pennsylvania. This nomination is a development of the survey.

There were originally 35 covered bridges in Greene County and 42 in Washington County. As of October 1978 there are 9 covered bridges remaining in Greene County, 25 in Washington County and one between counties.

The majority of the remaining bridges are Queenpost truss; 6 in Greene County, 15 in Washington County. Kingpost truss are the second most abundant with 2 in Greene County and 9 in Washington County. Greene and Washington Counties each have only one Burr arch truss bridge and share one Burr arch truss bridge.

The majority of the bridges are made of white oak, which was the plentiful and durable lumber during the nineteenth century. None of the bridges remaining have their original split oak shingles. These have been replaced with tin, sheet iron or corrugated iron. Four types of siding were used in the construction of the Washington and Greene County bridges: lap siding, drop siding, double V barn siding and plain sheathing boards. Lap siding is the old type and was used on the older bridges such as Hughes, Washington County. Several have drop siding generally called weatherboarding; others of later construction are double v barn siding but most are covered with vertical sheathing. Stripping is used between the boards to seal against the elements.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The covered bridges of Washington and Greene Counties are fine examples of the adaptiveness and resourcefulness of the rural American in the nineteenth century. The development of the covered bridge is historically tied to Europe and as the new world became settled, bridge builders were confronted with the problem of spanning the large rivers of North America where the most plentiful resource was timber.

The first American covered bridge was the Permanent Bridge in Philadelphia built by Timothy Palmer in 1805. It was a three span bridge measuring 550 feet. Following this pretegiuous start the covered bridge boom began. And as the need grew many new types of trussing systems were developed. Pennsylvania was once and possible is still the leader in the number and development of covered bridges in the United States. Records show that Pennsylvania once had over three hundred of these bridges. Many of these bridges are the first example of a trussing type and were built by noted bridge builders such as Timothy Palmer, Louis Wernwag, James Moore and Theodore Burr. But the majority of Pennsylvania's covered bridges were built by local carpenters. This is especially true in the rural counties such as Washington and Greene. Where the simple King and Queen post styles were used the most.

The majority of the remaining bridges in Washington and Greene Counties are Queenpost and Kingpost truss. The simple Kingpost truss is basically a triangle truss with two-timbers slanting down from the center to the ends of the lower chord of the bridge. The kingpost extends down vertically from the center to the lower chord, forming two triangles. This trussing system was used for smaller bridges seldom over 30 to 35 feet.

The Queenpost is a variation of the Kingpost with an added horizontal crosspiece and could be used for spans of 60 to 70 feet.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED	JUN 22 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

The Burr Arch truss is commonly used for longer spans of 100 feet or more. It is a multiple kingpost with large arches fastened to the sides and tied to the abutments.

The covered bridge is an important historical transportation resource of Pennsylvania. The identification and preservation of all of Pennsylvania's covered bridges is important.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 23 1979
DATE ENTERED	JUN 22 1979

Washington & Greene County Covered Bridges

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

The covered bridges of Washington and Greene Counties are significant for several reasons. Firstly, they are significant for the reasons stated in the statement concerning the covered bridge in Pa. as a whole. Secondly, these two counties represent the largest number of remaining structures on a county basis, after Lancaster and Columbia Counties. They are certainly the largest number remaining in the western part of Pa. Because of the number remaining several comparisons can be made.

This set of 35 bridges is unusual for its geographic location as well as the heavy concentration of two truss types. It is hard to make comparisons of the type and numbers of bridges during the 1830 to 1880 period when over 1500 bridges were located in 64 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties, however with a more complete knowledge of the existing bridges some comparative statements can be made today. Western Pa. never had a heavy concentration of covered bridges historically, however, the counties of Washington and Greene stand out in their number of bridges. Geographically this section of Pa. is extremely hilly with numerous small streams and valleys. Never as rich an agricultural area as the central Pa. counties, the area did however support many family farms and in the late 1800's many sheep farms. However, the transportation systems of the area were just as important to the local farmer taking grain to mill or produce to market as in the larger agricultural areas of Pa. It is an interesting regional variation that the covered bridges in these two counties are mainly Queenpost and Kingpost truss. While these two truss types are usually used for smaller spans, they also are simpler to construct and therefore easier for the local carpenter to adapt in his area. From what records that exist, it appears that all the covered bridges in these two counties were built by local carpenters. The majority are identical in appearance with vertical siding, gable roofs and windows cut in the side walls. These windows appear to be a local adaptation as they are not present in any great number in any other county.

This set of 44 bridges are a significant part of the transportation history of the area and the state.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 23 1979
DATE ENTERED JUN 22 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

The covered bridge is an important and significant historic structure in the Commonwealth of Pa. Not only does Pa. have the most extant covered bridges today, it probably had the most during the height of the covered bridge period 1830 to 1875. Estimates have been made that Pa. once had at least 1500 covered bridges. (Allen, 1959: 51). Not only is the sheer number important but Pa. had the first known U.S. covered bridge, as well as the prototypes for most of the major truss types.

The first US covered bridge was located in Philadelphia over the Schuylkill, built in 1800 by Timothy Palmer, a master carpenter from Newburyport, Massachusetts. From the completion of this first bridge, the age of the covered bridge was upon Pa. Not only was the truss types of Burr and others first tried out in Pa. but the covered bridge spread as the local carpenter adapted it to the local problem of crossing the numerous small streams and creeks throughout Pa. The covered bridge is also important in the history of bridge building. The early stone arch bridges were really only practical on smaller streams and then in areas with an abundance of good building stone. The peak of the stone bridge in Pa. can be seen in the Rockville Bridge over the Susquehanna River built by the Pa. Railroad and contains a quarter of a million tons of stone. The covered bridge was the transition from the stone to the cast-iron in most places.

Since the heyday of the covered bridge they have been rapidly disappearing through neglect, flood, arson and progress. Prior to the Agnes Flood of 1972, Pa. had 271 covered bridges, spread across 41 of its 67 counties. Since that time the number has been decreasing at a fast rate. Because of their importance, the state level National Register Review Committee as well as the Office of Historic Preservation have embarked on a covered bridge survey and registration project. A survey form and inquiry letter were developed and mailed to county bridge engineers, historical societies, members of the Society of Industrial Archaeologists, the Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society and numerous others. To date we have information on approx. 3/4 of the 41 counties containing covered bridges. Our results to date show that the number of covered bridges is down about a third from the 1972 figure of 271. Just since beginning our survey, two bridges have been destroyed by arson and one by an overloaded truck. It is because of

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 23 1979

DATE ENTERED JUN 22 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

this rapid disappearance rate, as well as their significance to Pa. in the history of transportation that we intend to nominate as many as possible to the National Register of Historic Places. Because of time and the immensity of the task a thematic nomination covering the whole state is impossible. We are therefore nominating these structures on a county or two county basis. All bridges constructed after 1930 have been excluded unless the bridge has a significance of its own. Bridge construction dates and builders are not always readily available, therefore after exhausting the files of the bridge engineers, historical societies and the archives, we have been lenient with the bridges for which we could find no dates, mainly on the view that very few have been built in the last 50 years and that the registration of all of these fast disappearing resource is valuable. Moved structures have been included in our nominations for several reasons; firstly in all cases if these structures had not been moved they would have been destroyed, secondly they still retain their significance as examples of trussing types and while they have lost their location they still retain an integrity of location in a rural setting. Therefore we have tended to nominate every eligible covered bridge in each county.

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DATE ENTERED	JUN 22 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Wilson, Raymond E. "Twenty Different Ways to Build a Covered Bridge."
Technology Review, May 1971, p. 125-131.

Shank, William H., Historic Bridges of Pennsylvania, Buchart-Horn,
1966. p. 3-16.

Allen, Richard Sanders. Covered Bridges of the Middle Atlantic
States. Battleboro, Vermont: Stephen Greene Press, 1959, p. 73-79.

Washington-Greene County Covered Bridge Map. Washington-Greene County
Tourist Promotion Agency.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREEN COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

BRIDGE INVENTORY

Washington County

- W1. Name: Erskine Covered Bridge (#38-63-15)
Stream: Middle Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
Builder: William Gordon
Year: 1845
End Post to End Post Length: 39'6"
Road Surface Width: 11'8"
Distinguishing Features: The Erskine Covered Bridge has vertical siding, a tin covered gable roof and each side wall has two square cut windows.
Condition: Good
- W2. Name: Pine Bank Covered Bridge (#38-63-35)
Stream: crosses Rouine
Truss Type: Kingpost
Year: 1870
End Post to End Post Length: 30'6"
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: This vertical sided, gable roofed bridge was originally located over Thom's Run in Gilmore Township and was moved to Meadowcroft Village by Albert Miller in 1962.
- W3. Name: Sprowl's Covered Bridge (#38-63-03)
Stream: Rocky Run, a branch of Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
Year: 1875
End Post to End Post Length: 27'6"
Road Surface Width: 12'7"
Distinguishing Features: The Sprowl's Covered Bridge has two vertical siding and a tin covered gable roof. Square windows are cut into each of the sidewalls.
Condition: Good

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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	JUN 22 1979
DATE ENTERED	

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE

3

W4. Name: Day Covered Bridge (#38-63-12)

Stream: Short Creek

Truss Type: Queenpost

Year: 1875 (c.)

End Post Length: 36'6"

Road Surface Width: 12'

Distinguishing Features: The Day Covered Bridge has vertical siding and tin covered gable roof. Its cut block abutments have been reinforced with concrete.

Condition: Good *Very good*

W5. Name: Henry Covered Bridge (#38-63-16)

Stream: Mingo Creek

Truss Type: Queenpost

Year: c. 1881

End Post Length: 36'

Road Surface Width: 12'4"

Distinguishing Features: The Henry Covered Bridge has vertical siding, a tin covered gable roof and the sidewalls are pierced by two square cut windows. The cut stone abutments are braced by concrete supports.

Condition: Good *Very good*

W6. Name: Martin's Mill Covered Bridge (#38-63-24)

Stream: Ten Mile Creek

Truss Type: Queenpost

Year: 1888

End Post Length: 72'

Road Surface Width: 14'3"

Distinguishing Features: This bridge replaces an earlier covered bridge which was destroyed by flood in 1850.

Condition: *Very good*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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JUN 22 1979
DATE ENTERED

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 4

- W7. Name: Bailey Covered Bridge (#38-63-08)
Stream: Ten Mile Creek
Truss Type: Burr
Builder: Bailey Brothers
Year 1889
End Post Length: 66'
Road Surface Width: 15'
Load: 2 tons
Distinguishing Features: The Bailey Covered Bridge has vertical siding, a tin covered gable roof and two windows piercing each side wall. The cut stone abutments and span is now supported by steel beams and a mid-stream concrete pier.
Condition: Good
- W8. Name: Hughes Covered Bridge (#38-63-17)
Stream: Ten Mile Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
Year: 1889
End Post Length: 55'6"
Road Surface Width: 12'4"
Distinguishing Features: This bridge is no longer used for traffic and now sits in a field off I-79 at Marianna Exit, South of Washington. The Hughes Covered Bridge has vertical siding and a tin covered gable roof. Each side wall has four windows.
- W9. Name: Wilson's Mill Covered Bridge (#38-63-28)
Stream: Cross Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
Year: 1889
End Post Length: 35'
Road Surface Width: 13'
Distinguishing Features: This bridge has vertical siding, a tin covered gable roof and one large window on each side.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 14 1979
DATE ENTERED	22 1979

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

COVERED BRIDGE, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 5

W10. Name: Davis, Horn, Overholtzer (#38-30-31 - #38-63-31)

Stream: Ten Mile Creek

Truss Type: Burr Arch

Year: 1889

End Post Length: 96'

Road Surface Width: 14'3"

Distinguishing Features: This bridge replaced a c. 1838
bridge destroyed by flood in 1888.

W11. Name: Ralston Freeman Covered Bridge (#38-63-27)

Stream: Aunt Clara's Fork of King's Creek

Truss Type: Kingpost

Year: 1915

End Post Length: 28'

Road Surface Width: 12'

Distinguishing Features: This covered bridge has vertical
siding and a gable roof.

W12. Name: Sawhill Covered Bridge (#38-63-34)

Stream: Buffalo Creek

Truss Type: Queenpost

Year: 1915

End Post Length: 49'

Road Surface Width: 12'6"

Distinguishing Features: This covered bridge has vertical
siding and a raised seem tin covered gable roof.

W13. Name: Brownlee, Scott Covered Bridge (#38-63-09)

Stream: Templeton Fork of Wheeling Creek

Truss Type: Kingpost

End Post Length: 31'6"

Road Surface Width: 11'7"

Distinguishing Features: The Brownlee, Scott Covered Bridge
has vertical siding and a gable roof.

Condition: Fair

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED JUN 22 1979

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 6

- W14. Name: Crawford Covered Bridge (#38-63-10)
Stream: Robinson Fork of Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 39'
Road Surface Width: 11'7"
Distinguishing Features: The Crawford Covered Bridge has vertical siding and a tin covered gable roof. Square windows are cut into the ends of the side walls. Cut stone abutments and later rods support the bridge.
Condition: Good
- W15. Name: Danley Covered Bridge (#38-63-11)
Stream: Robinson Fork of Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 39'
Road Surface Width: 11'10"
Load: 2 Tons
Distinguishing Features: The Danley Covered Bridge has vertical siding and a tin covered gable roof, as well as cut stone abutments.
Condition: Good
- W16. Name: Devil's Den, McClurg Covered Bridge (#38-63-13)
Stream: Kings Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
End Post Length: 24'
Road Surface Width: 12'3"
Distinguishing Features: The McClurg or Devels Den Covered Bridge has vertical siding, a tin covered gable roof and cut stone abutments. Each side wall is cut by four windows.
Condition: Good

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 7

- W17. Name: Ebenezer Covered Bridge (#38-63-14)
Stream: South Fork of Maple Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 32'
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: Moved to Mingo Creek County Park
in 1977 and placed on abutments of an earlier bridge.
Condition: Good, but altered
- W18. Name: Jackson's Mill Covered Bridge (#38-63-18)
Stream: Kings Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 35'
Road Surface Width: 14'
Distinguishing Features: A petition was filed for bridge at
this site in 1865 however this may be a later bridge.
Jackson's Mill Covered Bridge has vertical siding and a
tin covered gable roof and sidewall windows. Some of the
side panelling is missing.
Condition: Fair
- W19. Name: Krepps Covered Bridge (#38-63-19)
Stream: Cherry Creek Branch of Raccoon Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
End Post Length: 24'
Road Surface Width: 13'3"
Load: 2 Tons
Distinguishing Features: The Krepps Covered Bridge has vertical
siding and a tin covered gable roof. Two windows each side-
wall. Wooden posts and bracing now supports the floor of
the bridge.
Condition: Fair

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 8

- W20. Name: Leatherman Covered Bridge (#38-63-20)
Stream: South Branch of Pigeon Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 36'
Road Surface Width: 12'
Distinguishing Features: Leatherman Covered Bridge has vertical siding and a gable roof and cut stone abutments. Two square cut windows are located in each side wall.
Condition: Good
- W21. Name: Lyle Covered Bridges (#38-63-21)
Stream: Raccoon Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 13'
Road Surface Width: 12'
Distinguishing Features: Lyle Covered Bridge has vertical siding, a gable roof, cut stone abutments and pierced by three windows on each side wall.
- W22. Name: Longdon L. Miller Covered Bridge (#38-63-22)
Stream: Templeton's Fork of Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 67'6"
Road Surface Width: 11'10"
Distinguishing Features: Longdon Covered Bridge has vertical siding, a tin covered gable roof and has three square cut windows on each side. Wooden bracing now supports the bridge floor.
Condition: Good

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 9

- W23. Name: Mays, Blaney Covered Bridge (#38-63-23)
Stream: Middle Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 31'6"
Road Surface Width: 11'10"
Distinguishing Features: This covered bridge was once known as Blaney Covered Bridge for J. Blaney who once owned land east of the bridge.
Condition: Good
- W24. Name: Plant's Covered Bridge (#38-63-26)
Stream: Tompleton's Fork of Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
End Post Length: 24'6"
Road Surface Width: 12'10"
Distinguishing Features: This bridge has vertical siding, a tin covered gable roof, two windows cut in each side.
- W25. Name: Wyt Sprowls Covered Bridge (#38-63-29)
Stream: Robinson Fork of Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 43'
Road Surface Width: 11'6"
Distinguishing Features: Wyt Sprowl's Covered Bridge has vertical siding, a gable roof and three windows on each side.
- W26. Name: Wright, Cerl Covered Bridge (#38-63-30)
Stream: North Fork of Pigeon Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
End Post Length: 26'
Road Surface Width: 13'4"
Distinguishing Features: This covered bridge has horizontal siding and tin covered gable roof and has four window cuts in side walls and stone abutments.

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 10

G1. Name: King Covered Bridge (#38-30-24)

Stream: Hoover Run

Truss Type: Queenpost

End Post Length: 46'6"

Road Surface Width: 15'

Clearance: 11'6"

Distinguishing Features: The King Covered Bridge has wide horizontal siding, a gable roof covered with a raised seam tin roof and abutments of cut stone blocks.

Condition: Good

G2. Name: Nettie Woods Covered Bridge (#38-30-36)

Stream: Pursley Creek

Truss Type: Queenpost

Builder: Lisbon Scott

Year: 1882

End Post Length: 40'

Road Surface Width: 15'

Clearance 11'4"

Distinguishing Features: This bridge was named for Edward (Ned or Neddie) W. Wood, a Civil War Veteran, who owned the land on which it was built. It has vertical plank siding and a gable roof covered with tin.

Condition: Good

G3. Name: Scott Covered Bridge (#38-30-28)

Stream: Ten Mile Creek

Truss Type: Queenpost

Builder: William Lang of Bristoria

Year: 1885

End Post Length: 41'

Road Surface Width: 15'

Clearance: 11'

Distinguishing Features: Scott Covered Bridge has vertical plank siding, a gable roof covered with raised seam tin and abutments of cut stone blocks.

Condition: Fair

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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DATE ENTERED	JUN 22 1979

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 11

- G4. Name: Grimes Covered Bridge (#38-30-22)
Stream: Ruff Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
Year: 1888
End Post Length: 31'8"
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: Grimes Covered Bridge has vertical plank siding, a gable roof covered with raised seam tin and cut stone block abutments.
Condition: Fair
- G5. Name: Carmichaels Covered Bridge (#38-30-21)
Stream: Muddy Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
Year: 1889
End Post Length: 64'
Road Surface Width: 15'
Clearance: 13'
Distinguishing Features: Carmichaels Covered Bridge has vertical board and battin siding, and a gable roofed covered with a raised seam tin roof.
Condition: Good
- G6. Name: Shriver Covered Bridge (#38-30-29)
Stream: Harqus Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
Year: 1900
End Post Length: 40'
Road Surface Width: 15'
Load: 2 Tons
Distinguishing Features: The Shiver Covered Bridge has vertical plank siding and a gable roof covered with tin. Two large windows are cut in each side flanking the queenpost.
Condition: Good

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 12

- G7. Name: Red, Neils Covered Bridge (#38-30-27)
Stream: Whiteley Creek
Truss Type: Burr Arch
Year: 1900
End Post Length: 86'
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: The Red, Neils Covered Bridge has vertical plank siding and a gable roof covered with flattened tin.
Condition: Fair
- G8. Name: White Covered Bridge (#38-30-30)
Stream: Whiteley Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
Year: 1919
End Post Length: 66'6"
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: The White Covered Bridge has vertical siding and a gable roof. Its abutments are cut stone blocks.
Condition: Good
- G9. Name: Lippincott Covered Bridge (#38-30-25)
Stream: Ruff Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
Year: 1943
End Post Length: 27'8"
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: The Lippincott Covered Bridge has horizontal siding and a shingle covered gable roof.
Condition: Good

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Acreage is calculated by adding 20 feet to each length and 10 feet to each width to include abutments.
When width is not known 15' is used.

Greene County

1. King
AC: .03 (66.5 x 25 = 1662.5 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
Zone 17 N 4400840 E 562300

2. Nettie Woods
AC: .03 (60 x 25 = 1500 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
Zone 17 N 4412620 E 565460

3. Scott
AC: .03 (61 x 25 = 1525 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
Zone 17 N 4415280 E 557640

4. Grimes
AC: .02 (51.7 x 25 = 1292.5 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4422840 E 571770

5. Carmichael's
AC: .04 (84 x 25 = 2100 ÷ 43,560 = .04)
Zone 17 N 4416520 E 588980

6. Shriver
AC: .03 (60 x 25 = 1500 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
Zone 17 N 4411440 E 561650

7. Red, Neils
AC: .06 (106 x 25 = 2650 ÷ 43,560 = .06)
Zone 17 N 4407140 E 584400

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

Greene County

- 8. White
AC: .04 (86.5 x 25 ÷ 43,560 = .04)
Zone 17 N 4406420 E 581120

- 9. Lippincott
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Zone 17 N 4421620 E 574640

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AC: .02 (59.5 x 21.7 = 1291.15 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
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- 2. Pine Bank
AC: .02 (50.5 x 25 = 1262.5 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4459740 E 543270

- 3. Sprowl's
AC: .02 (47.5 x 22.6 = 1073.5 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4428910 E 550610

- 4. Day
AC: .02 (56.5 x 22 = 1243 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4431060 E 560320

- 5. Henry
AC: .02 (56 x 22.3 = 1248.8 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4431560 E 571650

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 3

Washington County

6. Martin's Mill

AC: .05 (92 x 24.25 = 2231 ÷ 43,560 = .05)
Zone 17 N 4429420 E 574110

7. Bailey

AC: .04 (86 x 25 = 2150 ÷ 43,560 = .04)
Zone 17 N 4430140 E 568630

8. Hughes

AC: .03 (75.5 x 22.33 = 1685.91 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
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9. Wilson's Mill

AC: .02 (55 x 23 = 1265 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
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10. Davis Horn, Overholtzer (Spans Washington & Greene Counties)

AC: .06 (116 x 24.25 = 2813 ÷ 43,560 = .06)
Zone 17 N 4428860 E 580020

11. Ralston Freeman

AC: .02 (48 x 22 = 1056 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4477260 E 541790

12. Sawhill

AC: .03 (69 x 22.5 = 1552.5 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
Zone 17 N 4447700 E 549690

13. Brownlee, Scott

AC: .02 (51.5 x 21.58 = 1111.37 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4432600 E 551360

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

COUNTY BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 4

Washington County

14. Crawford
AC: .02 (59 x 21.58 = 1273.22 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4427940 E 545040
15. Danley
AC: .02 (59 x 21.83 = 1287.97 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4433810 E 547800
16. Devil's Den, McClurg
AC: .02 (44 x 22.25 = 979 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4474800 E 541840
17. Ebenezer
AC: .02 (52 x 25 = 1300 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17
18. Jackson's Mill
AC: .03 (55 x 24 = 1320 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
Zone 17 N 4474730 E 543300
19. Krepps
AC: .02 (54 x 23.25 = 1255.5 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4465570 E 556790
20. Leatherman
AC: .02 (56 x 22 = 1232 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4440080 E 579120
21. Lyle
AC: .01 (33 x 22 = 726 ÷ 43,560 = .01)
Zone 17 N 4478060 E 553740

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 5

Washington County

22. Longdon, L. Miller

AC: .04 (87.5 x 21.83 = 1910.13 ÷ 43,560 = .04)
Zone 17 N 4427580 E 545000

23. Mays, Blaney

AC: .02 (51.5 x 21.83 = 1124.25 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4437450 E 543680

24. Plant's

AC: .02 (44.5 x 22.83 = 1015.94 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4430040 E 549820

25. Wyt Sprowls

AC: .03 (63 x 21.5 = 1354.5 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
Zone 17 N 4428940 E 545850

26. Wright, Cerl

AC: .02 (46 x 23.33 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4445630 E 581000

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DATE ENTERED JUN 22 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4

PAGE 1

Greene County Covered Bridges #1 to 9: Greene County Courthouse
High Street
Waynesburg, Pennsylvania

Washington County Covered Bridges #1, 3-7, 9, 11-26:

Washington County
Washington County Courthouse
South Main Street
Washington, Pennsylvania

#2 Pine Bank Covered Bridge:

The Meadowcroft Foundation
Avella, Pennsylvania 15312

#8 Hughes Covered Bridge

Amwell Township
John Redd, RD 8, Box 2
Washington, PA 15301

#10 Davis, Horn, Overholtzer Covered Bridge

joint ownership

Washington County Courthouse
South Main Street
Washington, Pennsylvania

and

Greene County Courthouse
High Street
Waynesburg, Pennsylvania

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Washington & Greene County Covered Bridges

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Specific Questions:

1. Lippincott Covered Bridge (#38-30-25)

This covered bridge replaced an earlier very old covered bridge, in 1943. The present bridge was built by the Greene County Roads and Bridges Department under the supervision of Benjamin F. Lewellan. It was built as a covered wooden bridge due to the shortage of metal during World War II. This structure portrays the continued adaptation of the use of wood to solve bridging problems in an area where stone and during the War, metal was not available.

2. Pine Bank Bridge, Washington County (#38-63-35) Ebenezer Covered Bridge, Washington County (#38-63-14)

Both these structures were threatened by demolition, their placement in a different location saved them. Both structures are earlier bridges and retain their significance as examples of truss and regional types. The photo of Pine Bank bridge is its present location.

3. Hughes Bridge, Washington County

Yes, the road is not used anymore.

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 9

- W23. Name: Mays, Blaney Covered Bridge (#38-63-23)
Stream: Middle Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 31'6"
Road Surface Width: 11'10"
Distinguishing Features: This covered bridge was once known
as Blaney Covered Bridge for J. Blaney who once owned land
east of the bridge.
Condition: Good
- W24. Name: Plant's Covered Bridge (#38-63-26)
Stream: Tompleton's Fork of Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
End Post Length: 24'6"
Road Surface Width: 12'10"
Distinguishing Features: This bridge has vertical siding, a
tin covered gable roof, two windows cut in each side.
- W25. Name: Wyt Sprowls Covered Bridge (#38-63-29)
Stream: Robinson Fork of Wheeling Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
End Post Length: 43'
Road Surface Width: 11'6"
Distinguishing Features: Wyt Sprowl's Covered Bridge has
vertical siding, a gable roof and three windows on each side.
- W26. Name: Wright, Cerl Covered Bridge (#38-63-30)
Stream: North Fork of Pigeon Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
End Post Length: 26'
Road Surface Width: 13'4"
Distinguishing Features: This covered bridge has horizontal
siding and tin covered gable roof and has four window
cuts in side walls and stone abutments.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

10

G1. Name: King Covered Bridge (#38-30-24)

Stream: Hoover Run

Truss Type: Queenpost

End Post Length: 46'6"

Road Surface Width: 15'

Clearance: 11'6"

Distinguishing Features: The King Covered Bridge has wide horizontal siding, a gable roof covered with a raised seam tin roof and abutments of cut stone blocks.

Condition: Good

G2. Name: Nettie Woods Covered Bridge (#38-30-36)

Stream: Pursley Creek

Truss Type: Queenpost

Builder: Lisbon Scott

Year: 1882

End Post Length: 40'

Road Surface Width: 15'

Clearance 11'4"

Distinguishing Features: This bridge was named for Edward (Ned or Neddie) W. Wood, a Civil War Veteran, who owned the land on which it was built. It has vertical plank siding and a gable roof covered with tin.

Condition: Good

G3. Name: Scott Covered Bridge (#38-30-28)

Stream: Ten Mile Creek

Truss Type: Queenpost

Builder: William Lang of Bristoria

Year: 1885

End Post Length: 41'

Road Surface Width: 15'

Clearance: 11'

Distinguishing Features: Scott Covered Bridge has vertical plank siding, a gable roof covered with raised seam tin and abutments of cut stone blocks.

Condition: Fair

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 11

- G4. Name: Grimes Covered Bridge (#38-30-22)
Stream: Ruff Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
Year: 1888
End Post Length: 31'8"
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: Grimes Covered Bridge has vertical plank siding, a gable roof covered with raised seam tin and cut stone block abutments.
Condition: Fair
- G5. Name: Carmichaels Covered Bridge (#38-30-21)
Stream: Muddy Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
Year: 1889
End Post Length: 64'
Road Surface Width: 15'
Clearance: 13'
Distinguishing Features: Carmichaels Covered Bridge has vertical board and battin siding, and a gable roofed covered with a raised seam tin roof.
Condition: Good
- G6. Name: Shriver Covered Bridge (#38-30-29)
Stream: Harqus Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
Year: 1900
End Post Length: 40'
Road Surface Width: 15'
Load: 2 Tons
Distinguishing Features: The Shriver Covered Bridge has vertical plank siding and a gable roof covered with tin. Two large windows are cut in each side flanking the queenpost.
Condition: Good

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 12

- G7. Name: Red, Neils Covered Bridge (#38-30-27)
Stream: Whiteley Creek
Truss Type: Burr Arch
Year: 1900
End Post Length: 86'
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: The Red, Neils Covered Bridge has vertical plank siding and a gable roof covered with flattened tin.
Condition: Fair
- G8. Name: White Covered Bridge (#38-30-30)
Stream: Whiteley Creek
Truss Type: Queenpost
Year: 1919
End Post Length: 66'6"
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: The White Covered Bridge has vertical siding and a gable roof. Its abutments are cut stone blocks.
Condition: Good
- G9. Name: Lippincott Covered Bridge (#38-30-25)
Stream: Ruff Creek
Truss Type: Kingpost
Year: 1943
End Post Length: 27'8"
Road Surface Width: 15'
Distinguishing Features: The Lippincott Covered Bridge has horizontal siding and a shingle covered gable roof.
Condition: Good

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

PECIFIC DATES _____ BUILDER/ARCHITECT _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The covered bridges of Washington and Greene Counties are fine examples of the adaptiveness and resourcefulness of the rural American in the nineteenth century. The development of the covered bridge is historically tied to Europe and as the new world became settled, bridge builders were confronted with the problem of spanning the large rivers of North America where the most plentiful resource was timber.

The first American covered bridge was the Permanent Bridge in Philadelphia built by Timothy Palmer in 1805. It was a three span bridge measuring 550 feet. Following this pretegiuous start the covered bridge boom began. And as the need grew many new types of trussing systems were developed. Pennsylvania was once and possible is still the leader in the number and development of covered bridges in the United States. Records show that Pennsylvania once had over three hundred of these bridges. Many of these bridges are the first example of a trussing type and were built by noted bridge builders such as Timothy Palmer, Louis Wernwag, James Moore and Theodore Burr. But the majority of Pennsylvania's covered bridges were built by local carpenters. This is especially true in the rural counties such as Washington and Greene. Where the simple King and Queen post styles were used the most.

Vertical roadbed type

The majority of the remaining bridges in Washington and Greene Counties are Queenpost and Kingpost truss. The simple Kingpost truss is basically a triangle truss with two-timbers slanting down from the center to the ends of the lower chord of the bridge. The kingpost extends down vertically from the center to the lower chord, forming two triangles. This trussing system was used for smaller bridges seldom over 30 to 35 feet.

The Queenpost is a variation of the Kingpost with an added horizontal crosspiece and could be used for spans of 60 to 70 feet.

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COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

The Burr Arch truss is commonly used for longer spans of 100 feet or more. It is a multiple kingpost with large arches fastened to the sides and tied to the abutments.

The covered bridge is an important historical transportation resource of Pennsylvania. The identification and preservation of all of Pennsylvania's covered bridges is important.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Wilson, Raymond E. "Twenty Different Ways to Build a Covered Bridge."
Technology Review, May 1971, p. 125-131.

Shank, William H., Historic Bridges of Pennsylvania, Buchart-Horn,
1966. p. 3-16.

Allen, Richard Sanders. Covered Bridges of the Middle Atlantic
States. Battleboro, Vermont: Stephen Greene Press, 1959, p. 73-79.

Washington-Greene County Covered Bridge Map. Washington-Greene County
Tourist Promotion Agency.

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COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

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Greene County

1. King
AC: .03 (66.5 x 25 = 1662.5 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 3

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AC: .02 (51.5 x 21.58 = 1111.37 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 4

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20. Leatherman
AC: .02 (56 x 22 = 1232 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4440080 E 579120
21. Lyle
AC: .01 (33 x 22 = 726 ÷ 43,560 = .01)
Zone 17 N 4478060 E 553740

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 14 1979
DATE ENTERED

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

COVERED BRIDGES, WASHINGTON & GREENE COUNTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 5

Washington County

22. Longdon, L. Miller

AC: .04 (87.5 x 21.83 = 1910.13 ÷ 43,560 = .04)
Zone 17 N 4427580 E 545000

23. Mays, Blaney

AC: .02 (51.5 x 21.83 = 1124.25 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4437450 E 543680

24. Plant's

AC: .02 (44.5 x 22.83 = 1015.94 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4430040 E 549820

25. Wyt Sprowls

AC: .03 (63 x 21.5 = 1354.5 ÷ 43,560 = .03)
Zone 17 N 4428940 E 545850

26. Wright, Cerl

AC: .02 (46 x 23.33 ÷ 43,560 = .02)
Zone 17 N 4445630 E 581000

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Continuation Sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .98

QUADRANGLE NAME SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
E	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
G	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
F	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
H	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Charlotte K. Lane, Executive Director / Susan M. Zacher

ORGANIZATION

Washington-Greene Co. Tourist Promotion Agency / PHMC

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

412-222-8130 / 717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Washington, Pa. 15301

Harrisburg, Pa. 17120

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

ED WEINTRAUB, Director
Office of Historic Preservation

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



Sawhill Covered Bridge
Crosses Buffalo Creek
Blair Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania
Length 49' - Width 12'-6"
Built 1915 - Queenpost

10 of 35

Covered Bridges of Washington &
Greene Counties

PD: 1978

PC: W.&G.Co. T.P.A. FEB 14 1979

PV: Sawhill Covered Bridge
Washington Co. (38-63-34)

JUN 22 1979
DofE

W:12