

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Horse Creek Bridge

other names/site number N/A

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2. Location

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street & number Intersection of Route 66 & Horse Creek not for publication N/A

city or town Afton vicinity X

state Oklahoma code OK county Ottawa code 115

zip code 74331

5. Classification

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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

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 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) Route 66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: TRANSPORTATION Sub: road-related (vehicular)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: TRANSPORTATION Sub: road-related (vehicular)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Steel Girder

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

roof N/A

walls N/A

other CONCRETE

METAL:Steel

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

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8. Statement of Significance

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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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION

Period of Significance 1936-1944

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8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

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Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
 N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Pharaoh and Company, builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(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 # _____
 - recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>15</u>	<u>325220</u>	<u>4062840</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

N/A 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.)

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11. Form Prepared By
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Maryjo Meacham, Director, Design/Research Center; Brenda Peck, Historian
name/title Lisa Bradley & Susan Roth, Graduate Assistants: Oklahoma SHPO, ed.
organization University of Oklahoma, date May 31, 1992
College of Architecture
street & number 830 Van Vleet Oval telephone 405/325-2293
city or town Norman state OK zip code 73019

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Additional Documentation
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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)

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
Horse Creek Bridge
Ottawa County, Oklahoma
Route 66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma

Page 8

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Property Owner

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name State of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Department of Transportation

street & number 200 N.E. 21st telephone _____

city or town Oklahoma City state OK zip code 73105

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Horse Creek Bridge
name of property
Ottawa County, Oklahoma
county and State

Materials

other ASPHALT

SUMMARY

Horse Creek Bridge, on the northeastern edge of Afton, Oklahoma, was constructed in 1936 as part of Route 66. Spanning Horse Creek, the one hundred and forty foot steel girder bridge has reinforced concrete guard rails. A reinforced concrete walkway runs the length of each side of the bridge.

DESCRIPTION

Horse Creek Bridge spans a creek bed in a wooden area on the northeastern edge of Afton, Oklahoma. The bridge was built in 1936 by the contracting firm of Pharaoh and Company. The two-lane Horse Creek Bridge is a steel girder bridge, constructed of steel and reinforced concrete. Pebble-sized aggregate was used in the concrete mixture for the bridge and the stones are visible where the asphalt has worn through on the concrete decking. The bridge is composed of three spans, each measuring forty, sixty, and forty feet, respectively, for a total span of one-hundred and forty feet. A series of three steel I-beam girders support the concrete deck of the bridge. The girders are supported by an underpinning of two steel piers encased in concrete.

The bridge is twenty-four feet wide. A four-foot-wide reinforced concrete pedestrian walkway lines each side of the bridge. Each walkway is bordered with guard rails, which run the length of the bridge. Pedestrian walkways were common features during the 1930s and 1940s and were generally three to four feet in width. Bridges in rural areas generally had narrower walkways than city bridges.

Horse Creek Bridge is in good condition and remains unaltered with the exception of the asphalt overlay on the concrete decking. This alteration has not impaired the bridge's historic integrity. It is located on its original site on Route 66 and continues to maintain a high degree of its historical and engineering character.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 10

Horse Creek Bridge
name of property
Ottawa County, Oklahoma
county and State

SUMMARY

Horse Creek Bridge, on Route 66 northeast of Afton, Oklahoma, is historically significant as a reflection of the need to accommodate pedestrians during a period in which automobiles were becoming increasingly dominant on the roadways. The evolution of automobiles as the primary means of transportation made it necessary for engineers to take pedestrian safety into consideration. Consequently, a dual walkway was incorporated into the design of this bridge. Horse Creek Bridge is significant because it is virtually the only remaining bridge in use on Route 66 in Oklahoma to utilize these dual pedestrian walkways. Contextually, it relates to "Transportation on Route 66 in Oklahoma (1926-1944)." As a property type, it relates to Road Bridges on Route 66 and the subtype of Steel Girder Bridges.

TRANSPORTATION SIGNIFICANCE

Horse Creek Bridge is significant because it reflects a time when pedestrians utilized roadways as much as automobiles. The dual walkway was incorporated because engineers anticipated that pedestrian traffic would need protection from the increasing, fast-moving automobile traffic. The automobile was a growing force along Route 66, and the dual walkway was a way to protect both the driver and the pedestrian.

During the 1930s, many sections of Route 66 were realigned and paved, including most of the roadbed between Afton and Miami, Oklahoma. In 1936, Horse Creek Bridge located just outside Afton, was built by the contractor Pharaoh and Company. At the time of the bridge's construction, the town of Afton was growing and anticipated expanding northeast beyond the bridge. Such an expansion necessitated the inclusion of pedestrian walkways on either side of the Horse Creek Bridge so that the pedestrian population could have access and be shielded when crossing the bridge.

According to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Horse Creek Bridge appears to be one of the few remaining bridges that utilized dual pedestrian walkways. Horse Creek Bridge continues to serve as a reminder of a time when the automobile and pedestrian were once equals, or near equals, along Route 66 in Oklahoma. This bridge shows the close association of the roadway to the automobile and the pedestrian.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9, 10 Page 11

Horse Creek Bridge
name of property
Ottawa County, Oklahoma
county and State

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Anders, Mary Ann. "Survey of Route 66 through Oklahoma." Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, 1984.
- Bassett, Tom. Interview, Afton, Oklahoma. September 1991.
- Lopez, David. Oklahoma Department of Transportation. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, December 1991.
- Oklahoma Department of Transportation. Bridge Division. Bridge Construction Records project file no. WPH 8 sec. "D-BR."
- Scott, Quinta and Susan Croce Kelly. Route 66: The Highway and Its People. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southwest corner of the bridge, go 145' 9" east, turn and go 53' northwest to the northeast corner of the bridge, turn and go 145' 9" west to the northwest corner of the bridge, turn and go southeast 53' to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes the property that historically has been associated with the structure, including the walkways and guardrails.

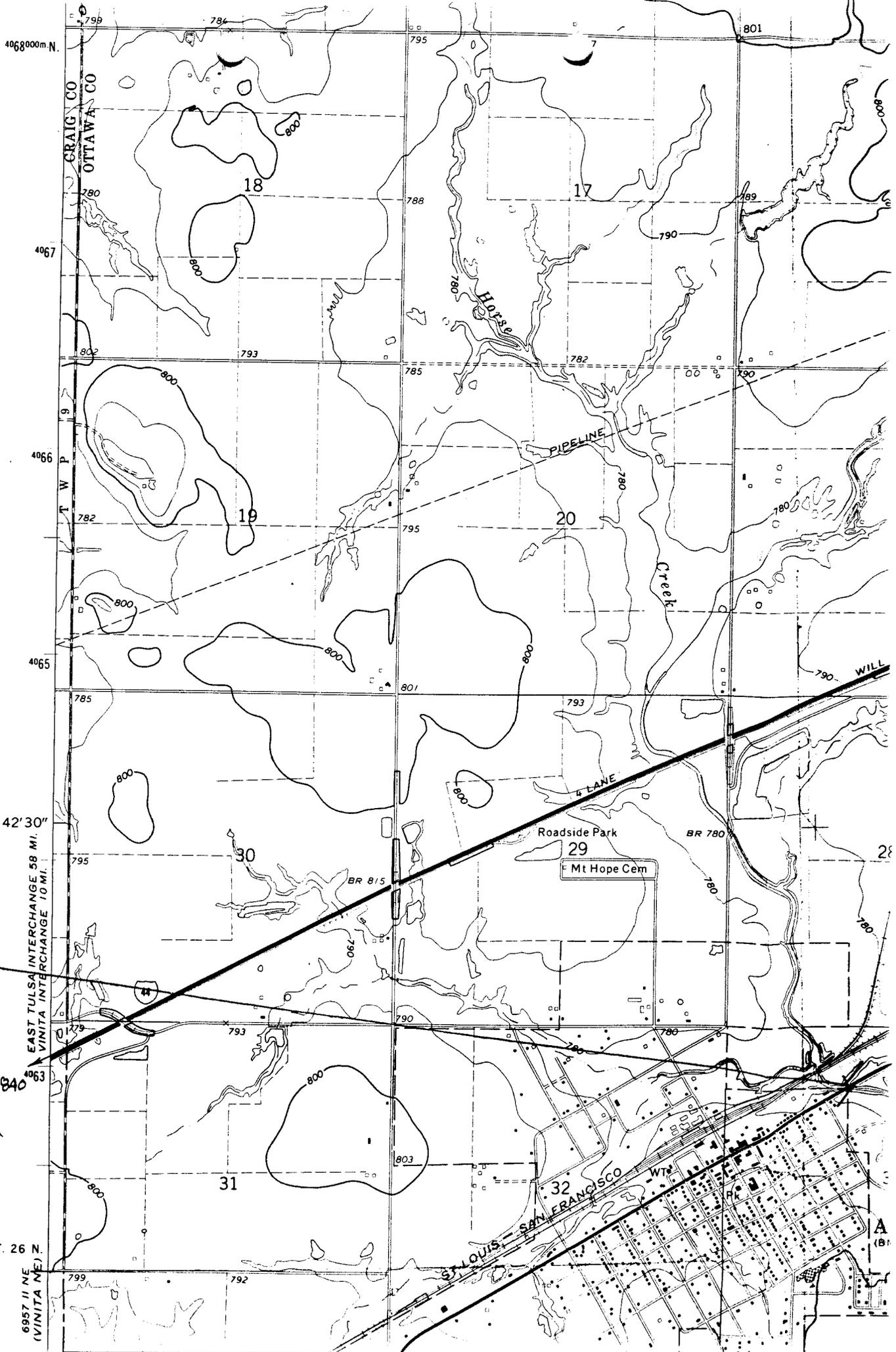


Horse Creek Bridge





Horse Creek Bridge



Horse Creek
bridge
vicinity of
Atton, OK

UTM
15 325220 4062840

Hawa Co, OK

T. 26 N.
6957 II NE
(VINITA NE)

CRAIG CO
 OTTAWA CO
 TWP 19
 EAST TULSA INTERCHANGE 58 MI.
 VINITA INTERCHANGE 10 MI.
 4068000m N
 4067
 4066
 4065
 42'30"
 4063

801

18

17

19

20

30

28

31

32

ST. LOUIS
SAN FRANCISCO

A
(B)