UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

NAME
HISTORIC: HEINS MILL COVERED BRIDGE
AND/OR COMMON:

LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER: Secondary Route 40 at junction of Route 60/11, crossing Milligan Creek
CITY, TOWN: Lewisburg
STATE: West Virginia
COUNTY: Greenbrier

CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY: X STRUCTURE
OWNERSHIP: X PUBLIC
STATUS: X OCCUPIED/IN SERVICE
PRESENT USE: X TRANSPORTATION

OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME: West Virginia Department of Highways
STREET & NUMBER: 1900 Washington Street, East
CITY, TOWN: Charleston
STATE: West Virginia

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Greenbrier County Court House, Office of the County Clerk
STREET & NUMBER:
CITY, TOWN: Lewisburg
STATE: West Virginia

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE: None
DATE:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN:
STATE:
The Herns Mill Covered Bridge has red board-and-batten siding and a roof made of galvanized metal sheeting. It has a span of 53 feet-8 inches and a width of 10 feet-6 inches.

The truss design is a local variation of the queen post type, in which the 8 x 11 inch diagonals fit into the ends of the huge 11 x 18 inch bottom chord. The vertical posts divide the truss into six panels, which are 9 feet-5 inches high. The cross sectional dimensions of the two large centerposts and the other five posts are 9 x 12 inches and 6 x 6 inches, respectively. Double metal tension rods, that run along the sides of the large centerposts are bolted to the bottom chord, top chord and diagonal.

In recent times the bridge has been heavily reinforced. Wide flange stringers provide a majority of the support for the asphalt riding surface (which was originally a timber deck) and a concrete pier and steel bent support the bridge at midspan.
SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD
- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
X 1800-1899
- 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW
- ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
X ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
X TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1884

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The construction of the Herns Mill Covered Bridge was an undertaking of the Greenbrier County Court in 1884. Lewisburg District road commissioners Harvey Handly and J. W. Johnston, who had been ordered in January of the same year to examine the bridge over "Millicans" Creek near the mill of S. S. Herns, made a report to the court concerning the present condition of the bridge and the probable cost of construction of a new bridge at that location. The same day the court ordered the commissioners to take the necessary action to have the bridge rebuilt. Harvey Handly, J. W. Johnston and John D. Arbuckle, commissioners, on July 9, 1884, submitted an order to the court which stated that the bridge had been completed according to the contract. Drafts were then issued to the unnamed contractors for the sum of $800.00.

The Herns Mill Bridge undoubtedly provided convenient access to the S. S. Herns Mill when it was in operation. Although it does not serve the same purpose today, it is still used by local traffic and visited by tourists driving through the area. The bridge is one of the two remaining covered bridges in Greenbrier County and one of many covered bridges built in the 1800's which exhibited the queenpost truss design that was commonly used for spans of 40 to 50 feet. If proper steps are not soon initiated to upgrade and restore the bridge, it will soon deteriorate beyond repair.
### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Order book #4, Greenbrier County Court, pp. 279, 307, 335, 341, 441.

### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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VERSAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

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### FORM PREPARED BY

**Name / Title**

E. L. Kemp, Professor of the History of Science & Technology & Civil Engineering

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West Virginia University

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**City or Town**

Morgantown

**State**

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**Telephone**

(304) 293-3867

**Date**

26506

### STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

NATIONAL _____ STATE _____ 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.

**Federal Representative Signature**

**Title**

**Date**

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

**Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation**

**Attest:**

**Keeper of the National Register**

**Date**
5. HERNS MILL COVERED BRIDGE
5. HERNS MILL COVERED BRIDGE