**NAME**

HISTORIC: WALKERSVILLE COVERED BRIDGE

AND/OR COMMON

**LOCATION**

Secondary Route 19/17 near U.S. 19 crossing right fork of West Fork River

CITY, TOWN: West Virginia

VICINITY: VICINITY OF Walkersville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2

**CLASSIFICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISTRICT</td>
<td>PUBLIC</td>
<td>X OCCUPIED in service</td>
<td>AGRICULTURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING(S)</td>
<td>PRIVATE</td>
<td>UNOCCUPIED</td>
<td>COMMERCIAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>STRUCTURE</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>WORK IN PROGRESS</td>
<td>EDUCATIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SITE</td>
<td>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</td>
<td>ACCESSIBLE</td>
<td>ENTERTAINMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBJECT</td>
<td>IN PROCESS</td>
<td>YES: RESTRICTED</td>
<td>GOVERNMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BEING CONSIDERED</td>
<td>X YES: UNRESTRICTED</td>
<td>INDUSTRIAL</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>NO</td>
<td>X TRANSPORTATION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME: West Virginia Department of Highways

STREET & NUMBER: 1900 Washington Street, East

CITY, TOWN: Charleston

STATE: West Virginia 25305

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Lewis County Court House

STREET & NUMBER: 

CITY, TOWN: Weston

STATE: West Virginia

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE: None

DATE: 

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: 

CITY, TOWN: 

STATE: 
The Walkersville Covered Bridge is 12 feet-1½ inches wide and 39 feet-4 inches long. It has board-and-batten siding and a standing seam metal roof. The trusses, which are of the queenpost type, have two-7½ x 13¼ inch centerposts, which are separated by the 7½ x 9½ inch top chord and divide the truss into three panels. Making up the bottom chord are two-8 x 13¼ inch timbers, between which fit the 7½ x 9½ inch diagonals. A pair of 5 x 11½ inch transverse floor beams, that are bolted to the bases of the centerposts below the bottom chords, support the bottom chord and floor stringers at midspan. Tie rods, located at the four ends of the bottom chords are attached to the abutments with an iron loop and are bolted to end blocks resting on the top of the bottom chords.

Still functional, the bridge has had no modern reinforcement added to it.
SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

PREHISTORIC

1400-1499

1500-1599

1600-1699

1700-1799

1800-1899

X1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC

COMMUNITY PLANNING

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

ENGINEERING

EXPLORATION/SETLEMENT

INDUSTRY

INVENTION

ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC

CONSERVATION

LAW

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

ENGINEERING

EXPLORATION/SETLEMENT

INDUSTRY

INVENTION

AGRICULTURE

ECONOMICS

LITERATURE

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

ENGINEERING

EXPLORATION/SETLEMENT

INDUSTRY

INVENTION

ART

SCULPTURE

MILITARY

ART

SCULPTURE

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

MUSIC

THEATER

INVENTION

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

EXPLORATION/SETLEMENT

COMMUNICATIONS

INVENTION

INVENTION

INDUSTRY

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

MUSIC

THEATER

OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES  1903

BUILDER/ARCHITECT   John G. Sprigg

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Following a submission of a petition by J. E. Spriggs, G. I. Dennison, and H. O. Wilson and others to the Lewis County court on June 13, 1902, the court appointed W. E. Wick and W. D. Anderson as a committee to locate a site for a bridge across the right fork of the West Fork River, about one mile south of Walkersville. The committee was to evaluate the nature of the ground for the placement of abutments, the required length of the bridge and all other details necessary for arriving at a cost of construction.

On July 1, 1902 the court decided to build three iron bridges, one of which was to be located south of Walkersville. W. S. Smith was authorized by the court to draft specifications for the stone abutments of the three bridges, and advertise for sealed bids for their construction. Smith was appointed on July 9, 1902 to have the stone abutments and the approaches constructed for the bridge above Walkersville (1). The stone for the abutments came from Morgan Galfords farm (now owned by A. J. Thompson) (2). During the next few months the court apparently decided to build a wooden bridge instead of the previously planned iron bridge. Because on December 10, 1902, John G. Sprigg was awarded a contract to build a wooden bridge on the abutments that had been completed at the West Fork River approximately one mile south of Walkersville. On March 13, 1903, the court ordered that drafts be issued payable to John G. Sprigg for $567.00 for building the wooden superstructure of the bridge.

The Walkersville Covered Bridge is the only covered bridge remaining in Lewis County and one of four covered bridges in West Virginia, which were constructed according to a queenpost truss design. It also is one of the few covered bridges in West Virginia that has not been significantly altered from its original condition.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Order Book #7, Lewis County Court, pp. 234, 245, 253, 331, 377.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Not Applicable

UTM REFERENCES Quad. name Walkersville Quad. Scale 1:24000

ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING
A 117 546 719 10 43 0 0 0 0 0
C 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE
E. L. Kemp, Professor of History of Science & Technology and of Civil Engineering

ORGANIZATION
West Virginia University

STREET & NUMBER
Gl4 Woodburn Hall, Town Campus

CITY OR TOWN
Morgantown,

STATE
West Virginia

POSTAL CODE 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 89-655), 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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE
12. WALKERSVILLE COVERED BRIDGE
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