

book copy

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018
NR LISTED 6/30/95

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

Historic Name: Haggard Ford Swinging Bridge

Other Name/Site Number: BO 0076

=====

2. Location

=====

Street & Number: 8 mi. N. of Harrison on Cottonwood Rd.

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Harrison

Vicinity: X

State: AR County: Boone

Code: AR 009

Zip Code: 72601

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: Public

Category of Property: Structure

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>1</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: "Historic Bridges of Arkansas"

=====
4. State/Federal Agency Certification
=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet

Cathryn H. Slater _____ 4-21-95
Signature of certifying official Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====
5. National Park Service Certification
=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ____ entered in the National Register _____
 ____ See continuation sheet.
- ____ determined eligible for the _____
 National Register _____
- ____ See continuation sheet.
- ____ determined not eligible for the _____
 National Register _____
- ____ removed from the National Register _____
- ____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic: Transportation Sub: Road-related (bridge)

Current : Transportation Sub: Pedestrian-related

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

Other: Suspension Bridge

Materials: foundation Concrete roof N/A
walls N/A other Wood, Steel

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

Located eight miles north of Harrison on the Cottonwood Road, the Haggard Ford Swinging Bridge is a one-lane suspension bridge that was constructed by the Works Progress Administration from 1938 to 1941.

Elaboration

Located eight miles north of Harrison on the Cottonwood Road, the Haggard Ford Swinging Bridge is a one-lane suspension bridge approximately 160 feet in length that spans Bear Creek. It was constructed by the Works Progress Administration with local labor from 1938 to 1941 under the direction of foreman Jess Chaney.

The bridge consists of poured concrete towers with concrete anchorages, steel cables and hangers, and a wooden deck.

The bridge was initially constructed without adequate rip-rap to protect the abutments, despite warnings from the local residents that Bear Creek could flood severely. Consequently, the fill washed out during a big flood on April 14, 1945. The bridge was not damaged, however, and the fill was replaced with extra thought and care.

The bridge is in original condition with the exception of the wood decking which was replaced in 1977.

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

Justifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: State.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Engineering
Transportation
Social History

Period(s) of Significance: 1938 - 1941

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Chaney, Jess.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Summary

The Haggard Ford Swinging Bridge is being nominated with state significance as an amendment to the "Historic Bridges of Arkansas" multiple property nomination under Criterion A for its association with the World War II era of bridge building and with the Works Progress Administration. Under Criterion C, the Haggard Ford Swinging Bridge is significant for its engineering as one the few remaining historic suspension bridges in Arkansas.

Elaboration

Haggard Ford is named for Mrs. Nancy Haggard, a widow with three children who lived near the creek crossing at the turn of the century. In the late 1930's it was decided to construct a bridge at the ford due to the gravelly nature of Bear Creek, which routinely ensnared automobiles as they crossed stream. The Works Progress Administration paid local laborers a dollar a day to construct the bridge, which was started in 1938 or 1939 and completed in 1941.

On May 7, 1961 a big flood washed much of Harrison away and rendered the Haggard Ford Swinging Bridge incapable of supporting vehicular traffic. It

was replaced by an adjacent low-water concrete slab and county maintenance was discontinued.

By 1977, the bridge had deteriorated to the extent that many citizens believed it to be a hazard to the numerous children who patronized the Bear Creek swimming hole underneath the bridge. After several requests for its removal, Boone County Judge Clifford Tomlinson ordered the county road crews to dismantle the bridge. Fortunately, Leon and Gertrude Karasinski circulated a petition signed by 500 residents to save and restore the bridge for foot traffic only. A Bridge Restoration Committee was formed and a "plank sale" rally held on July 30, 1977. Supporters purchased \$10 planks on which their name was inscribed. Volunteer labor rebuilt the decking, which was replaced at a cost of \$3,281.58. Although 340 planks were needed to replace the deck, over 400 boards were sold, so the hand rail was reconstructed with the additional planks. The grand opening was held on September 3, 1977 with State Representative Hugh Ashley as the speaker.

The Haggard Ford Swinging Bridge is being nominated with state significance as an amendment to the "Historic Bridges of Arkansas" multiple property nomination under Criterion A and C. Under Criterion A, the bridge is categorized within the World War II era of bridge building and is significant for its association with the Works Progress Administration relief efforts in Boone County. Under Criterion C, the Haggard Ford Swinging Bridge is significant for its engineering design. Few suspension bridges have survived in Arkansas, and of those extant and documented, only two are older than the Haggard Ford Bridge (the Beaver Bridge in Carroll County, NR 9/6/90, and the Sylamore Creek Bridge in Stone County).

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

Information submitted by Troy Creamer, July 1994.

McDonald, Sue. "Bridge Restored by 'Neighbors.'" *Harrison Daily Times*.
October 3, 1977.

Rose, Sammy. "Swinging Bridge at Haggard Ford Renovated by Citizens."
Harrison Daily Times. July 4, 1986 (sesquicentennial edition).

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 -- Specify Repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>488280</u>	<u>4022100</u>	B	_____	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is a one-lane bridge approximately 160 feet in length. The boundary is a rectangular parcel encompassing the bridge and adding fifteen feet to each side.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all of the components of the historic bridge, fifteen feet of both approaches, and a portion of the streambed below.

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: April 21, 1995

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

BATAVIA QUADRANGLE
 ARKANSAS-BOONE CO.
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

1 660 000 FEET
 487 488 489
 93° 07' 30" 36° 22' 30"

Haggard Ford
 Swinging Bridge
 Harrison vic., Ark.
 Boone Co., Ark.
 UTM: 15/48280/
 4024100



