

NR listed 3/07/94

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Twin Bridges Historic District

other name/site number: N/A

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2. Location

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street & number: Washington County Road 11, 3412; .3 mi. N of AR 45

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Morrow

vicinity: X

state: AR

county: Washington

code: AR 143

zip code: 72749

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>2</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>2</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

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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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.

Catharine A. Slater _____ 1-18-97
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

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5. National Park Service Certification
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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

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6. Function or Use
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Historic: Transportation Sub: road-related

Current : Transportation Sub: road-related

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

N/A

Other Description: single-span, deck arch

Materials: foundation concrete roof N/A
 walls concrete other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Engineering

Period(s) of Significance: 1922

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Luten Bridge Company

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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X See continuation sheet.

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:

- X State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreeage of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>368800</u>	<u>3971020</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at the intersection of the southern edge of Washington County Road 3412 and the eastern edge of the new County Road 11 (paved), proceed northeast to the intersection of the eastern edge of County Road 11 and the eastern edge of the old County Road 11 road bed (gravelled); thence proceed southeast along the eastern edge of the old County Road 11 to its intersection with the southern edge of County Road 3412; thence proceed southwest along the southern edge of this road to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary description includes all of the property historically associated with the Twin Bridges but excludes the modern bridge on the current Washington County Road 11.

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, National Register Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 01/14/94

Street & Number: 323 Center, 1600 Tower Bldg. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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

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National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

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Summary

The Twin Bridges Historic District is located off of Washington County Road 11 and consists of two single-span, closed-spandrel concrete deck arch bridges that were designed and constructed by the Luten Bridge Company in 1922. Both bridges remain in excellent condition.

Elaboration

The Twin Bridges Historic District is located just to the east of Washington County Road 11 and less than a half-mile north of AR Highway 45. Both bridges are single-span, closed-spandrel concrete deck arch bridges designed and constructed by the Luten Bridge Company in 1922.

Although both bridges were originally located on County Road 11, that road was straightened in 1955, and a modern concrete bridge was constructed to the west of the Twin Bridges. The smaller and southernmost of the two bridges, Bridge # 2, is now located on Washington County Road 3412, which extends to the east from County Road 11, and spans a small creek draining perpendicular into the Baron Fork creek. This bridge is approximately 23' in length, 14' in width, and has a height of 12' over water.

Bridge # 1 spans the Baron Fork creek and is situated north-south on a short road which connects County Road 3412 and County Road 11, just to the east of the 1955 bridge. It is approximately 80' in length, 14' in width, and has a height of 20' over water. Although both bridges feature concrete parapets, the Bridge # 1 parapet is substantially higher. In both cases, the deck of the bridge is covered with dirt and gravel.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1**Summary**

The Twin Bridges Historic District, located on Washington County Road 11, is being nominated as an amendment to the *Historic Bridges of Arkansas* multiple property nomination as the best known extant examples of closed-spandrel type bridges designed and constructed by the Luten Bridge Company in Washington County.

Elaboration

According to Washington County records, on October 27, 1921 thirteen different petitions were presented and read to the county court requesting the construction of new bridges in the county. The county judge, Ernest Dowell, appointed two commissioners, H. C. Evins and Bruce Holcomb, to determine the bridge sites most needed and to effect their construction when funds were available. Also approved at that session of the county court was a motion that all approaches leading to the bridges should ". . . be built by the citizens and residents benefitted, without expense to this County, and same to be satisfactory to Engineer and County Judge."

Ernest Dowell served as Washington County Judge from 1921 to 1926, and it was under his leadership that approximately 13 bridges were built in the county by the Luten Bridge Company during this time. Bruce Holcomb (1873-1924) was a former Washington County Clerk and a respected businessman. H. C. Evins (1872-1963) was raised in the Morrow area, though he served as Justice of the Peace from Fayetteville at the time of the bridge construction. In addition to these three men, the name of H. O. Morrow is found on an original bronze plaque attached to Bridge # 1. Morrow, a local farmer and school board member, served as Justice of the Peace for the Morrow area and was instrumental in obtaining the Twin Bridges for the area residents.

The Twin Bridges were constructed by the Luten Bridge Company of Knoxville, Tennessee, who are also believed to have built the remainder of the 13 or so bridges that were contracted for during Dowell's administration. A history of the Luten Bridge Company is included in the "Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era" context of the *Historic Bridges of Arkansas* multiple property nomination. In Northwest Arkansas, the Luten Bridge Company is also known for the double-span 1922 Illinois River Bridge (NR 1/28/88) in Benton County.

In 1955, County Road 11 was expanded to two lanes and paved. Consequently, the road was straightened and a new concrete bridge was constructed to the west of the Twin Bridges. Although the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department planned on removing the two older bridges, County Judge William Bush requested that the bridges be retained for use by the

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local residents.

As the Twin Bridges Historic District in the Morrow vicinity contains the two best known examples of the single-span, closed-spandrel concrete deck arch bridge type to survive in Washington County (the fate of the other eleven is unknown), they are being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as an amendment to the *Historic Bridges of Arkansas* multiple property nomination.

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National Park Service**

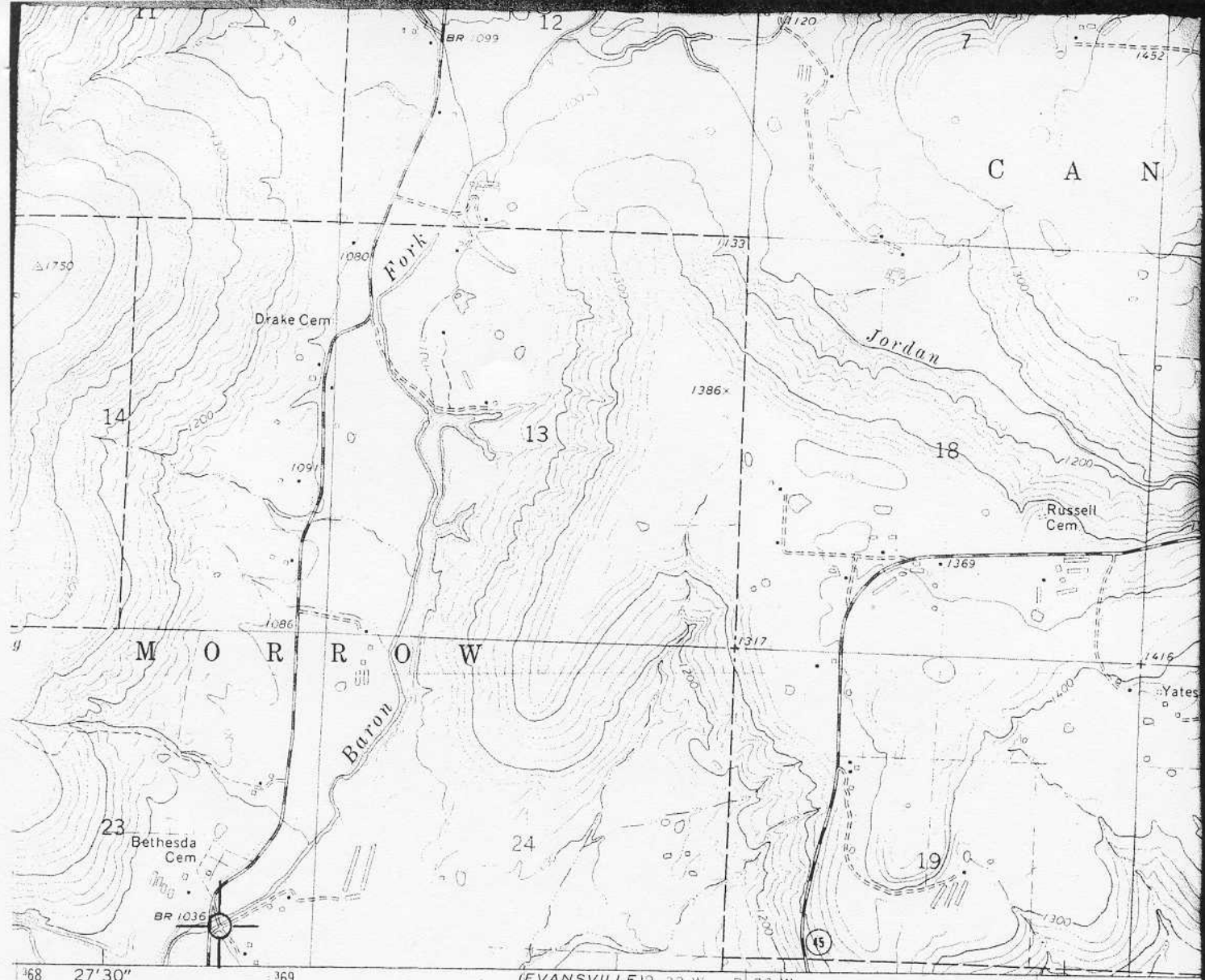
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Bibliography

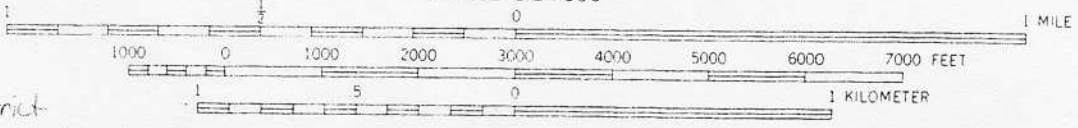
Information submitted by Paula N. Hill and William L. Bush, June 1993,
which included interviews with: Frank Morris, Ina Reed, Herbert Holcomb, and Marie
Nolen.

Washington County Court Records



168 27'30" 169 (EVANSVILLE) R 33 W. R 32 W. 172 25'

SCALE 1:24 000



Twin Bridges
 Historic District
 Morrow vic., Washington Co.,
 Arkansas
 UTM: 15/368800/3971020

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

DRTH
 SET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225. OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
 AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST