

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name U.S. 62 White River Bridge
other names/site number Site #CR1072, Bridge #02597

2. Location

street & number U.S. 62, approximately 1/4 mile south of County Road 212 not for publication
city or town Eureka Springs vicinity
state Arkansas code AR county Carroll code 015 zip code 72631

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets
does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title 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 for additional
comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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 the Keeper Date of Action

U.S. 62 White River Bridge
Name of Property

Carroll County, Arkansas
County and State

5. Classification

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
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation: Road-related (vehicular)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation: Road-related (vehicular)

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Deck truss bridge

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls N/A

roof N/A
other Steel

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

8. Statement of Significance

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.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B.** removed from its original location.
- C.** birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- 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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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 # _____

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Engineering

Transportation

Period of Significance

1950-1958

Significant Dates

1950-1958

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

BUILDER: Forcum-James Company of Dyersburg, Tennessee

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department

U.S. 62 White River Bridge
Name of Property

Carroll County, Arkansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u> Zone	<u>426225</u> Easting	<u>4034109</u> Northing	3	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator & Sydney Yeager, National Register/Survey Intern
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date January 22, 2007
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9787
city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

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.)

Property Owner

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

name Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department
street & number P.O. Box 2261 telephone 501-569-2000
city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72203

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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Summary

The U.S. 62 White River Bridge is located at the crossing of the White River, on U.S. 62 about 9 miles northwest of Eureka Springs. Comprised of five spans measuring 128 feet long each and 30.6 feet wide, this steel, deck-truss bridge spans a total of 787 feet. The bridge was built by the Forcum-James Company of Dyersburg, Tennessee.

Elaboration

The steel, deck-truss bridge is accessed from both the northeast and southwest ends by U.S. 62. Because it is a deck truss, this bridge carries its traffic load level with the top chords. The section of the bridge supported by deck truss consists of 5 main spans, with a total structure length of 787 feet. The deck surface is concrete laid over the steel truss. The bridge supports are reinforced concrete.

The truss is divided into five spans. The bridge consists of vertical deck trusses each spanning 128 feet. Both sides of the bridge have vertical A-shaped trusses separated by vertical members. The side trusses are connected to each other with straight horizontals under the deck and are further connected by crossed diagonals. The bridge is also made up of four I-beam spans which make up the rest of the superstructure.¹

Integrity

No structural alterations have been made to the bridge to alter its integrity. Its location and setting remains rural and it exemplifies its original historic design and materials. No changes have been made to alter the historic workmanship or detract from its feeling or association as it is still used as a bridge for vehicular travel and is in excellent condition.

¹ Bridge Record No. 2597. Busch Relocation White River Bridge. 1953.

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Summary

Constructed in 1950-1952, the U.S. 62 Bridge over the White River is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under **Criterion C** because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a deck truss bridge and is the best example of this design in the surrounding area. In addition to its engineering importance, the White River Bridge is also being nominated for **Criterion A** for its associations with the development of transportation in Carroll County during the mid-twentieth century. This bridge is significant in the areas of engineering and transportation. It is being submitted under the multiple property listing "Historic Bridges of Arkansas" and under the associated historic context "Post WW II Era."

Elaboration

The White River is the largest tributary river of the Mississippi between the Missouri and Arkansas Rivers. The extreme northwest part of Arkansas was initially accessible by a road from St. Louis that went straight through Carroll County. This encouraged settlement, most of which occurred along the White River. The first white settler came and settled in the central part of the county. Later settlers from Tennessee moved into the northwestern part of the county which is where the White River Bridge is located on what is now U.S. 62.²

Eureka Springs was founded in 1879 and before the close of the year boasted 10,000 people.³ Visitors were drawn to Eureka Springs for the "healing" powers of its water. Being a tourist destination, Eureka Springs needed roads built to connect it to the surrounding cities. Also, as settlement in the area increased in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, a larger road network developed in the county. With Eureka Spring's importance as the westernmost of the two county seats in Carroll County, accessibility to the community, especially from the county's western residents was important. In addition, as automobile and truck travel increased throughout the first part of the twentieth century, the need for a new sturdy bridge to allow U.S. 62 to pass over the White River on the way to Eureka Springs became a necessity.

The U.S. 62 Bridge over the White River was built by the Forcum-James Company of Dyersburg, Tennessee⁴ by order of the Arkansas State Highway Commission and the Department of Commerce Bureau of Public Roads. Construction began on October 16, 1950, at which time the estimated cost was \$277,196.00. The bridge was completed two years later at the cost of \$305,519.90. The bridge was completed in 1952 and

² *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas: Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Franklin, and Sebastian Counties.* Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889.

³ "History of Eureka Springs, Arkansas." <<http://www.eukasprings.com/history/>> (March 12, 2007).

⁴ Scoggins, Robert. Email to Sydney Yeager Intern of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Registry. February 2, 2007.

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still serves as a functional bridge to this day. In total, there were eleven deck truss bridges built in Arkansas with the U.S. 62 White River Bridge being the last one built.⁵ The bridge was built near the community of Busch, a community founded in 1905 that was originally to be named Walden.⁶

Since the time that the White River Bridge was completed by the Focum James Company of Dyersburg, Tennessee, in 1952, it has remained an important transportation link in Carroll County. Today, U.S. 62 is the main east-west highway in Carroll County connecting the county to the Rogers and Bentonville area in northwest Arkansas. As the only deck-truss bridge in Carroll County and an important transportation link in the area, the U.S. 62 White River Bridge represents an important part of Carroll County's history.

Statement of Significance

Constructed in 1950-1952, the U.S. 62 Bridge over the White River is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under **Criterion C** because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a deck truss bridge and is the best example of this design in the surrounding area. In addition to its engineering importance, the White River Bridge is also being nominated for **Criterion A** for its associations with the development of transportation in Carroll County during the mid-twentieth century. This bridge is significant in the area of engineering and is being submitted under the multiple property listing "Historic Bridges of Arkansas" and under the associated historic context "Post WW II Era."

⁵ Scoggins, Robert. Email to Sydney Yeager Intern of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Registry. February 2, 2007.

⁶ Baker, Russell Pierce. *From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices 1832-1971*. Hot Springs, Arkansas: Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988.

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Bibliography

Baker, Russell Pierce. *From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices 1832-1971*. Hot Springs, Arkansas: Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988.

Baughn, James. *Historic Bridges of the US: White River Bridge US 62 Carroll County, Arkansas*. (2002) <<http://bridgehunter.com/ar/carroll/white-62/>> (March 12, 2007).

Bridge Record No. 2597. Busch Relocation White River Bridge. 1953.

The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas: Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Franklin, and Sebastian Counties. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889.

“History of Eureka Springs, Arkansas.” (2007) <<http://www.eurekasprings.com/history/>> (March 12, 2007).

Scoggin, Robert. Email to Sydney Yeager Intern of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, February 2, 2007.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Section – 35, Township – 21N, Range – 27W

Beginning at a point 30 feet northeast of the northeast corner of the bridge, proceed northwest 40 feet crossing U.S. 62. Turning southwest, proceed 800 feet, running parallel to the northwest side of the bridge, while crossing the White River. Turning southeast proceed 40 feet crossing U.S. 62. Turning northeast proceed 800 feet, running parallel to the southeast side of the bridge, while crossing the White River and returning to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the White River Bridge on U.S. 62 and its immediate setting.