**NAME**

HISTORIC

1 CARRIOTON COVERED BRIDGE

AND/OR COMMON

---

**LOCATION**

SECONDARY ROAD 36 AT JUNCTION OF SECONDARY ROAD 11/3

CITY, TOWN

Crossing Buchannon River at Carrollton

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY

Barbour

CODE

001

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**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>X PUBLIC</td>
<td>X OCCUPIED IN SERVICE</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING(S)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRUCTURE</td>
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<td>Educational</td>
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<tr>
<td>SITE</td>
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<td>Work in Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBJECT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**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.

Barbour County Court House, Office of the County Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Philippi

STATE

West Virginia

---

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE
**DESCRIPTION**

**CONDITION**  _EXCELLENT_  _DETERIORATED_  _RUINS_  _UNEXPOSED_

**CHECK ONE**  _UNALTED_  X _ALTERED_  _MOVED_  DATE_

**CHECK ONE**  _ORIGINAL SITE_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Carrollton Covered Bridge has a span of 140 feet-9 inches from the centers of the opposite endposts and is 16 feet wide. It has board-and-batten siding and a modern wooden shingle roof. The very plain end gable is attractively decorated by a simple wood cruciform.

The superstructure is an excellent example of a patented Burr Arch type and consists of two multiple kingpost trusses, with panels 10 feet-1 inch long and 11 feet-3 inches high, each sandwiched between a two piece arch made up of 7½ x 15 inch timbers. The ends of the 7 x 9 inch diagonals fit into the enlarged inclined ends of the 7 x 12 inch verticles. Approximately 7 feet below the bottom chord, which is composed of two-7 x 12 3/4 inch members, the ends of the arches rest on the abutments, and the distance from the center line of the arch to the bottom of the two-7 x 8½ inch members making up the top chord is 3 feet. One of the noteworthy features of the trusses are the massive centerposts, which are tapered to a minimum width of eight inches and flare out at the top to a maximum width of 18 inches.

In 1962 the bridge was deemed unsafe for travel. Local community efforts helped to save the bridge and bring about the bridge's subsequent renovation. In 1963 the timber deck was replaced by a 150 foot three-span concrete deck with a 12 foot roadway and a 3 foot sidewalk. Modifications were made to the abutments and two concrete piers were added in order to provide adequate support for the deck.
Nineteenth century maps (1, 2) show an "M. F. Pike", which crosses the Buchanan River at the present location of the Carrollton bridge. The "M. F. Pike" is probably the "Middle Fork Road", which is mentioned in the 1855 (3) and 1857 (4) Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works. Included in these reports is reference to a contract for a "Buchannan bridge", which was constructed on the Middle Fork Road and spanned the Buchanan River. The bridge's length was the same span (approximately 142 feet) as the present day Carrollton bridge.

Emmett J. and Daniel O'Brien were the contractors for the Buchanan bridge. A native of Beverly, West Virginia, Emmett had been the masonry contractor for the more famous Philippi bridge (2). The O'Brien brothers raised the superstructure prior to November 25, 1855, and construction was completed in the fall of 1856 (4).

The original cost of the bridge was $2,928.11 for the 839 perches making up the abutments and $1,691.15 for the superstructure, which was built for $11.875 per lineal foot. However, after the contract was awarded, the unforeseen instability of the river banks made it necessary to increase the width of the superstructure by two feet and the length of the wing walls by twenty feet. As a result of these modifications, $200.00 was added to the cost of the superstructure. The total cost of the bridge was $4,819.26 (3, 4).

The Carrollton Covered Bridge is one of the two remaining covered bridges in Barbour County. It is the second longest covered bridge in West Virginia and it is one of three bridges in the state, which display the patented Burr Arch System. Constructed approximately two years following the completion of the Philippi bridge, it stands as the 3rd oldest covered bridge in West Virginia.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Attached Sheet

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF Nominated Property Not applicable

UTM REFERENCES Quad. name Audra Quad. scale 1:24000

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

A 1,7 5,7 8 9 8 5 4 3 2 6 9 6 0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

C

D

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 the History of Science & Technology & Civil Engineers

ORGANIZATION West Virginia University

STREET & NUMBER G14 Woodburn Hall, Town Campus

CITY OR TOWN Morgantown, West Virginia

STATE West Virginia

TELEPHONE (304) 293-3867

DATE

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:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


1. CARROLLTON COVERED BRIDGE
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