**NAME**

FLETCHER COVERED BRIDGE

**LOCATION**

Secondary Route 5/29 at the junction of Secondary Route 5, N.W. of Maken across the right fork of Ten Mile Creek

**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>OCCUPIED IN SERVICE</td>
<td>AGRICULTURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING(S)</td>
<td>PRIVATE</td>
<td>UNOCCUPIED</td>
<td>COMMERCIAL</td>
</tr>
<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>PRIVATE RESIDENCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBJECT</td>
<td>IN PROCESS</td>
<td>YES: RESTRICTED</td>
<td>ENTERTAINMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BEING CONSIDERED</td>
<td>YES: UNRESTRICTED</td>
<td>RELIGIOUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>GOVERNMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>INDUSTRIAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>TRANSPORTATION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

West Virginia Department of Highways

1900 Washington Street, East

Charleston, VICINITY OF West Virginia 25305

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

Harrison County Court House

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

None
DESCRIPTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONDITION</th>
<th>CHECK ONE</th>
<th>CHECK ONE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X. EXCELLENT</td>
<td>X. UNALTERED</td>
<td>X. ORIGINAL SITE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_GOOD</td>
<td>_RUINS</td>
<td>_MOVED</td>
</tr>
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<td>_FAIR</td>
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<td>_DATE</td>
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<tr>
<td>_UNEXPOSED</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fletcher Bridge is 12.4 feet wide and 58.4 feet long. It has red board-and-batten siding and an asphalt composition roof covering and protecting a pair of kingpost trusses. The multiple kingpost truss was the most popular type used for covered bridges. These trusses have six panels, each approximately 9.6 feet in length and 11.6 feet high. The ends of the diagonals (typically 6 x 8 inches) are flush against the top and bottom chords, which consist of two-6 x 4½ inch and two-6 x 10 inch timbers, and fit partially into small notches made in the 7 x 8 inch verticals. The cross sectional dimensions of the diagonals at the end panels, and the centerposts are 8 x 8 inches and 8 x 9½ inches respectively. A series of 2 x 9 inch transverse floor beams, which rest on the bottom chords spaced on 20 inch centers, along the length of the bridge, support the timber deck. Noteworthy are the joggle splice pieces which join the components of the lower chord, and the superior masonry work of the abutments.

The bridge continues to function without the aid of any modern reinforcement.
PERIOD AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC COMMUNITY PLANNING LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE RELIGION
1400-1499 ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC CONSERVATION LAW SCIENCE
1500-1599 AGRICULTURE ECONOMICS LITERATURE SCULPTURE
1600-1699 ARCHITECTURE EDUCATION MILITARY SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799 ART ENGINEERING PHILOSOPHY THEATER
1800-1899 COMMERCE EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT TRANSPORTATION
1900- COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1891
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On March 10, 1890 the Harrison County Court, after considering the petition of John C. Rogers, ordered that William N. Edgell, Elias Swiger, and R. M. Rogers be appointed viewers to locate a site for a bridge over the right hand fork of Ten Mile Creek, near the residence of John G. Rogers. The viewers were to report back to court concerning the size of abutments, height of fills, span length, and the probable cost (1). J. T. Williams was appointed by the court on July 1, 1891 as a special commissioner to advertise and receive bids for the construction of the bridge. On August 21, 1891, Soloman Swiger was awarded the contract for building the superstructure for $7.25 per lineal foot, and L. E. Sturm received the contract for the construction of the abutments for $4.45 per cubic yard. To ensure the faithful performance of their work, Sturm entered into bond with the court on September 16, 1891 for $1500.00 and on September 18, 1891, Swiger entered into bond for $600.00. Genius Payne, who was appointed by the court to superintend the building of the bridge, declined the appointment on September 27, 1891 and was succeeded by W. J. Williams. After W. J. Williams, on November 27, 1891, reported to the court that the masonry had been completed according to contract, it was ordered that L. E. Sturm be paid $937.46. The same day Williams also reported that the superstructure was nearing completion, and the court ordered that Soloman Swiger be given an advance of $100.00. On December 14, 1891, Williams submitted his final report. A county claims list, dated December 23, 1891, shows that a total of $435.00 was paid to Soloman Swiger, $18.00 of which was to be given to D. D. Robinson, and $30.00 was to be given to the Garrett brothers. The total cost of the bridge was $1372.46 (2).

The Fletcher Bridge is one of three covered bridges remaining in Harrison County and stands out as one of the few covered bridges in West Virginia that has not been significantly altered from its original condition.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. General Order Book #4, Harrison County Court, p. 218.
2. General Order Book #5, Harrison County Court, pp. 169, 176, 180, 184, 225, 226, 237, 242, 269.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Not applicable

UTM REFERENCES: Quad. name: Wolf Summit

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
A | 1, 7 | 54, 48, 0, 0 | 43, 5, 06, 0, 0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
B | | | |
C | | | |

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 and Technology and of Civil Engineering

ORGANIZATION

West Virginia University

STREET & NUMBER

Old Woodburn Hall, Town Campus

CITY OR TOWN

Morgantown

STATE

West Virginia

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 89-665), 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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
7. FLETCHER COVERED BRIDGE
7. FLETCHER COVERED BRIDGE
FLETCHER COVERED BRIDGE
WOLF SUMMIT VICINITY
HARRISON COUNTY
WEST VIRGINIA

UTM
17/544805/4850600