**NAME**

HISTORIC

10. WALKERSVILLE COVERED BRIDGE

AND/OR COMMON

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Secondary Route 19/17 near U.S. 19 crossing right fork of West Fork River

CITY, TOWN

X VICINITY OF Walkersville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY

Lewis

CODE

041

**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>PRIVATE</td>
<td>UNOCCUPIED</td>
<td>COMMERICAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X STRUCTURE</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>WORK IN PROGRESS</td>
<td>PARK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SITE</td>
<td>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</td>
<td>ACCESSIBLE</td>
<td>EDUCATIONAL</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>GOVERNMENT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

West Virginia Department of Highways

STREET & NUMBER

1900 Washington Street, East

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

VICINITY OF

West Virginia

STATE

25305

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Lewis County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Weston

STATE

West Virginia

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

__ FEDERAL __ STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE
### DESCRIPTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONDITION</th>
<th>CHECK ONE</th>
<th>CHECK ONE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXCELLENT</td>
<td>_____________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOOD</td>
<td>_____________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAIR</td>
<td>X  UNALTERED</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>ALTERED</em></td>
<td><em>UNEXPOSED</em></td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance.

The Walkersville Covered Bridge is 12 feet-1½ inches wide and 39 feet-4 inches long. It has board-and-batten siding and a standing seam metal roof. The trusses, which are of the queenpost type, have two-7½ x 13½ inch centerposts, which are separated by the 7½ x 9½ inch top chord and divide the truss into three panels. Making up the bottom chord are two-8 x 13½ inch timbers, between which fit the 7½ x 9½ inch diagonals. A pair of 5 x 11½ inch transverse floor beams, that are bolted to the bases of the centerposts below the bottom chords, support the bottom chord and floor stringers at midspan. Tie rods, located at the four ends of the bottom chords are attached to the abutments with an iron loop and are bolted to end blocks resting on the top of the bottom chords.

Still functional, the bridge has had no modern reinforcement added to it.
SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

PREHISTORIC
1400-1499
1500-1599
1600-1699
1700-1799
1800-1899
X 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
AGRICULTURE
ARCHITECTURE
ART
COMMERCE
COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNITY PLANNING
CONSERVATION
ECONOMICS
EDUCATION
ENGINEERING
EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
INDUSTRY
INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
LAW
LITERATURE
MILITARY
MUSIC
PHILOSOPHY
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
POLITICAL
TRANSPORTATION

RELIGION
SCIENCE
SCULPTURE
SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
THEATER

SPECIFIC DATES 1903

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Following a submission of a petition by J. E. Spriggs, G. I. Dennison, and H. O. Wilson and others to the Lewis County court on June 13, 1902, the court appointed W. E. Wick and W.D. Anderson as a committee to locate a site for a bridge across the right fork of the West Fork River, about one mile south of Walkersville. The committee was to evaluate the nature of the ground for the placement of abutments, the required length of the bridge and all other details necessary for arriving at a cost of construction.

On July 1, 1902 the court decided to build three iron bridges, one of which was to be located south of Walkersville. W. S. Smith was authorized by the court to draft specifications for the stone abutments of the three bridges, and advertise for sealed bids for their construction. Smith was appointed on July 9, 1902 to have the stone abutments and the approaches constructed for the bridge above Walkersville (1). The stone for the abutments came from Morgan Galford's farm (now owned by A. J. Thompson) (2). During the next few months the court apparently decided to build a wooden bridge instead of the previously planned iron bridge. Because on December 10, 1902, John G. Sprigg was awarded a contract to build a wooden bridge on the abutments that had been completed at the West Fork River approximately one mile south of Walkersville. On March 13, 1903, the court ordered that drafts be issued payable to John G. Sprigg for $567.00 for building the wooden superstructure of the bridge.

The Walkersville Covered Bridge is the only covered bridge remaining in Lewis County and one of four covered bridges in West Virginia, which were constructed according to a queenpost truss design. It also is one of the few covered bridges in West Virginia that has not been significantly altered from its original condition.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Order Book #7, Lewis County Court, pp. 234, 245, 253, 331, 377.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Not Applicable

UTM REFERENCES
Quad. name Walkersville
Quad. Scale 1:24000

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 & Technology and of Civil Engineering

ORGANIZATION
West Virginia University

STREET & NUMBER
G14 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 89-655), 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:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
12. WALKERSVILLE COVERED BRIDGE
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WALKERSVILLE
COVERED BRIDGE,
WALKERSVILLE
VICINITY,
LEWIS COUNTY
WEST VIRGINIA

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY