

HABS/HAER INVENTORY

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Washington, DC 20240

1. SITE I.D. NO

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2. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

San Luis Bridge; State Bridge
Bridge over Culebra Creek
CDH: CSSMME-0.1-S159

CS01

5. ORIGINAL USE

roadway bridge

7. CLASSIFICATION

BT&A: ARCH: REINFORCED CONCRETE

7 5 9 5

9. RATING

local

10. DATE

1911

3. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO)

County Road SMME over Culebra Creek
SW¼ S26, T34N, R72W

6. PRESENT USE

roadway bridge

8.

UTM ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

1 3

4 6 1 8 0 0

4 1 1 6 2 4 0

11. REGION

RMRO

4. CITY/VICINITY

San Luis

COUNTY

Costilla

STATE

Colorado

SCALE

1:24

1:62.5

QUAD

San Luis

12. OWNER/ADMIN ADDRESS

Costilla County Costilla County Courthouse 354 Main Street San Luis Colorado 81152

13. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, MAJOR ALTERATIONS, EXISTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

Segmental, reinforced concrete open spandrel arch

span number: 1
span length: 57'0"
overall length: 62'6"
roadway width: 14'1"

flr./decking: 5" thick monolithic concrete slab
substructure: concrete retaining bulkheads
guardrails: steel pipe

With an appropriation of \$2000 by the State Legislature, the State Engineer designed this reinforced concrete arch over Culebra Creek on the west edge of San Luis in 1910. Competitive bids were solicited and received in August; four bridge contractors submitted proposals: Missouri Valley Bridge and Iron Company of Leavenworth, Kansas, Midland Bridge Company of Kansas City, Missouri, Cuno Engineering and Construction Company and the M.F. Levy Construction Company of Denver. Low bidder at \$4700, Levy was awarded the construction contract, and the county made up the difference in appropriation. High water in the creek delayed excavation for the abutments until late February 1911, but the work progressed quickly thereafter, and the bridge was completed in May. The San Luis Bridge featured a single 57' open spandrel primary arch upon which bear six concrete columns supporting the floor slab. Once on State Highway 15, the bridge has since been relegated to county road status. There it remains in unaltered condition.

14. CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT

☒ GOOD

☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

15. DANGER OF DEMOLITION?
(SPECIFY THREAT)

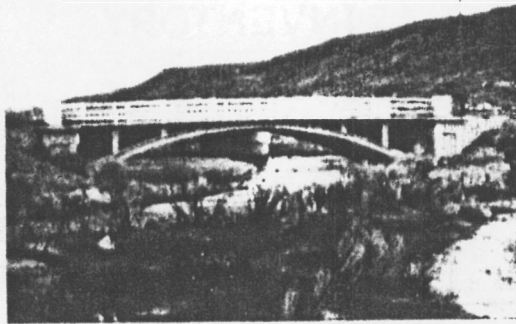
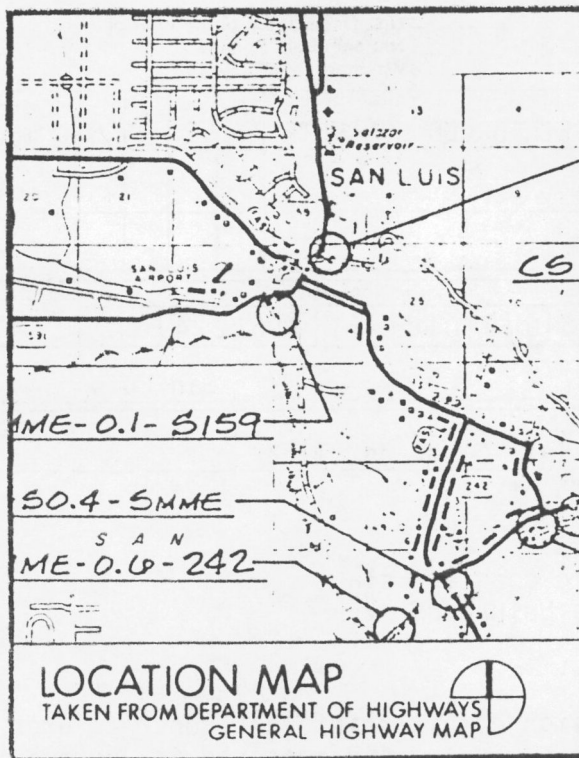
☐ YES

☐ NO

☒ UNKNOWN

16. SIGNIFICANCE AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Engineering

The San Luis Bridge is technologically significant as the best-preserved early example in Colorado of a relatively little-used bridge type in the Rocky Mountains - the open-spandrel concrete arch. Although one other open arch in the state is older (the Bannock Street Bridge in Denver (DE24); 1908), it has been modified extensively, compromising its integrity. Historically, the San Luis Bridge is notable as a regionally important crossing & one of the few State Bridges remaining in Colorado.



18 LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ YES ☒ NO ☐ NAME

19 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY ☐ YES, LIMITED ☒ YES, UNLIMITED ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN

20. EXISTING SURVEYS ☐ NR ☐ NHL ☐ HABS ☐ HAER-1 ☐ HAER ☐ NPS ☒ STATE
☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL ☐ OTHER

21 REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Structure Inventory and Appraisal: CSSMME-0.1-S159. Colorado Department of Highways, Denver Colorado.

15th Biennial Report of the State Engineer, Colorado: 1909-1910. Denver Colorado: Smith-Brooks Printing Company, 1911, pages 144-45.

16th Biennial Report of the State Engineer, Colorado: 1911-1912. Denver Colorado: Smith-Brooks Printing Company, 1913, page 108.

22 INVENTORIED BY

Clayton Fraser and Carl Hallberg

AFFILIATION

Fraserdesign Loveland Colorado

DATE

17 January 1984

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 12/27/84

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 5 of 6

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Vehicular Bridges in Colorado Thematic Resources
State COLORADO

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

41. Rifle Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelous Byers 2/4/85

Attest

42. Roubideau Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelous Byers 2/4/85

Attest

43. St. Charles Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelous Byers 2/4/85

Attest

44. San Luis Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelous Byers 2/4/85

Attest

45. Satank Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelous Byers 2/4/85

Attest

46. Sheely Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelous Byers 2/4/85

Attest

47. South Canon Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelous Byers 2/4/85

Attest

48. Sutherland Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelous Byers 2/4/85

Attest

49. Wheeler Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelous Byers 2/4/85

Attest

50. Royal Gorge Bridge
(Previously listed 9/2/83)

Keeper

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

San Luis Bridge (Vehicular Bridges in
Colorado TR)
Costilla County
COLORADO

Working No. DEC 27 1984
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/4/86
Date Due: 1/24/85 - 2/14/85
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 2-4-85
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ excellent | ☐ deteriorated |
| ☐ good | ☐ ruins |
| ☐ fair | ☐ unexposed |

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



CS01 San Luis Bridge 13
San Luis vicinity Colorado
view from northwest

Clayton B. Fraser, photographer
Loveland Colorado
duplicated from CDH photograph

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



COLORADO

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

○ State Route