

Historic Name: Ramsey Park Swayback Bridge Common Name: Owner's Name and Address: City of Redwood Falls Redwood Falls, MN 56283		County: Redwood Community: Redwood Falls Address/Legal Desc.: NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 36, T 113, R36
Classification: Building _____ Structure ☒ Object _____ District _____		Acresage:
Condition: Excellent _____ Good ☒ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____		Verbal Boundary Desc.:
Open to the Public: Yes ☒ No	Visible from the road: Yes ☒ No	
Occupied: Yes ☒ No	Present Use: Bridge	
History: Date Constructed: 1938 Original Owner: State of Minnesota Architect/Builder: WPA Crews Original Use: Bridge designer unknown		
Description: The Ramsey Park Swayback Bridge is located in the Redwood River Gorge at a point just below the confluence of the Redwood River and Ramsey Creek, and downstream from both Redwood Falls and Ramsey Falls. The area of the gorge was dedicated as Alexander Ramsey State Park in 1912, and remained part of the state park system until it was turned over to the city of Redwood Falls in 1957. The 183-foot ten-span structure is constructed of concrete and North Redwood granite. Its concrete slab roadbed is supported by nine granite piers which extend the full 20 foot width of the bed at twelve foot intervals (eleven feet between the end piers and the u-abutments). The granite sides of the structure extend upward to form short rails which follow the curve of the roadbed and terminate in u-abutments with a stepped profile. (see continuation sheet)		UTM Reference: Redwood Falls Quad., 15 min Lat. Long. 44° 33' 02" 95° 07' 28"
Significance: The Ramsey Park Swayback Bridge is one of scores of structures constructed by WPA crews in state parks during the late 1930s and early 1940s. It is the only known bridge so constructed utilizing the functional swayback design. The crew of the project quarried the stone in nearby North Redwood under the direction of stonecutter William Hosken (see Honnor-Hosken house nomination). Other WPA Ramsey Park buildings also utilize the North Redwood granite. The structure is significant as a uniquely designed WPA constructed bridge. Even though it is only forty years old at the time of this nomination, recognition is important to insure retention of its integrity as plans for bridge remodeling and replacement are being considered.		Level of Significance: Local ☒ State _____ Nation _____ Status: Survey _____ Date _____ Local _____ State _____ Nat'l. Reg. _____ Nat'l. Land. _____ HABS/HAER _____ Theme/s: Primary <u>Engineering</u> Secondary _____ Other _____ Local Contact/Org.: Prepared by and date: Dennis A. Gimmestad September 1978 35523636012301

Description:

The bridge's design, consistent with its wooded setting, is based primarily on functional requirements. During frequent spring high waters, the dip in the bed permits tree branches and other debris carried by the river to flow across the center section of the structure, avoiding a jam which could force the stream around the end abutments and undermine the bridge approaches.

Significance:

RECEIVED

NATIONAL
HISTORIC

Property

Redwood County Multiple Resource Area

State

Minn.

Working Number

12.12.78.4725

TECHNICAL

Photos

24

Maps

12

Acreage
level

CONTROL

12.13.78

HISTORIAN

Initially, there are several technical problems: ① no photos of archeol. sites, ② Train Depot are both moved structures, ③ level of significance not indicated. Moreover I have problems w/ this as an adequate MR Nom. Everything nominated is a "best representative example" of chosen to fit pre-identified historical themes of County's development.

Conference

B. Monden

3/26/79

In accepting this nomination we would gain properties in this county

But we would probably lose an equal number.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

- Agree with Brad - they may have omitted eligible properties contained within historic districts. However, info on each survey sheet is adequate - complete to the point. - Acreage unless clarifying on grain elevator. - I can basically accept -

Bradham

3.27.79

With regard to the 4 archeological properties: information is minimal - for 3 prehistoric sites boundaries appear arbitrary and unjustified, little or no information on sub-surface (or sub-plowzone) remains, no info on what work done at site, etc. For the Anglo-historic site, no specific discussion of archeological potential - leans more toward historical association.

ARCHEOLOGIST

Joy Bush

4-3-79

Conference?

The area significance does not provide enough site-specific reference. Sources as though survey methodology made deliberate attempt to come out with the kind of results necessary to permit predictive statements, but none are made. Also question if really only 4 of 57 sites in county were for possess information potential sufficient to warrant listing. If they were excluded because not enough yet known,

OTHER

should have statement to that effect. Also need discussion of "adequateness" - or else risk false impression that all archeological resources in county are known. For the four sites nominated - probably could get most of info (with possible exception of boundaries) with phone calls.

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Return for questions raised
by archeologist

Return
Franklin
4.20.79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

Send-back

5.3.79

Re-submit

11.14.79

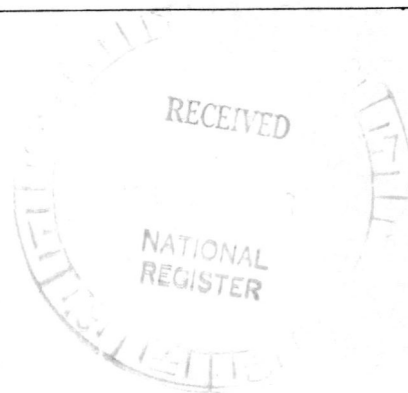
Entered

Historic Name: Ramsey Park Swayback Bridge Common Name: Owner's Name and Address: City of Redwood Falls Redwood Falls, MN 56283		County: Redwood Community: Redwood Falls Address/Legal Desc.: Ramsey Park
Classification: Building _____ Structure <u>X</u> Object _____ District _____		Acreage:
Condition: Excellent _____ Good <u>X</u> Fair _____ Deteriorated _____		Verbal Boundary Desc.: T113 R36 Sec. 36 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ The bridge spans the Redwood River in the above $\frac{1}{4}$ Section. This nomination comprises the bridge and a 30' area at either end, measured radially from the center of the end of the bridge. (see tel. sheet 10/80)
Open to the Public: Yes <u>X</u> No _____	Visible from the road: Yes <u>X</u> No _____	UTM Reference: Redwood Falls Quad., 15 mir Lat. _____ Long. _____ 44° 33' 02" 95° 07' 28"
Occupied: Yes <u>X</u> No _____	Present Use: Bridge	
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Significance:



State MN (Redwood) Working Number

TECHNICAL

Photos 28-5
Maps 12

level of significance

CONTROL

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

see attached sheets - O'Connell 11/28/79
Well-written nomination covering a range of different kinds of properties: archaeological sites, both prehistoric and historic, farms, houses, railroad stations, churches, civic and commercial buildings, and engineering structures. All properties are eligible; in fact, selection process has probably been excessively stringent. (Continuation sheet acknowledges that further eligible resources may be identified.) County history is well-organized, identifies major historical themes represented by various resources. Add for further archaeological data - see below

Hold
O'Connell
1/11/80

ARCHEOLOGIST

Archaeological sites held for more information: Holmberg Site
Palm Creek Site
Telling Site
Laura Ingalls Wilder Site

Archaeological sites returned 7/31/80; remaining properties can be listed. Accept, noting historical resources only
- O'Connell 8/6/80

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

(archaeological prop)

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Send-back 9-16-80
Re-submit _____

Entered AUG 11 1980



Redwood Co. Multiple Resource Area

Ramsey Park Swayback Bridge

Ramsey Park

Redwood Falls, MN

Dennis Gimmestad

1978

DEC 12 1978

Minnesota Historical Society, 690

Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101

View from SW

02411/6

AUG 11 1980

2/28

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SOLD WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION.

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000371