NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

1 NAME
HISTORIC
COVERED BRIDGES OF JUNIATA AND SNYDER COUNTIES
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE Pennsylvania CODE 42

COUNTY Juniata/Snyder CODE 067/109

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
DISTRICT
BUILDING(S)
STRUCTURE
SITE
OBJECT

OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC
PRIVATE
X BOTH

ACCESSIBLE
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
IN PROCESS
BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS
OCCUPIED
UNOCCUPIED
WORK IN PROGRESS

PRESENT USE
AGRICULTURE
COMMERCIAL
EDUCATIONAL
ENTERTAINMENT
GOVERNMENT
INDUSTRIAL
MILITARY
X TRANSPORTATION
OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Multiple (See continuation Sheet)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.
Registro OF DEEDS, ETC.

Juniata County Courthouse/Snyder County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street / West Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Mifflintown / Middleburg

STATE Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE Pennsylvania
Owners

#38-34-01 Academia, Pomeroy Covered Bridge
Juniata County Historical Society
C/o David A. Shellenberger, President
R. D. #1
Mifflintown, Pennsylvania 17059

#38-34-02 Dimmsville Covered Bridge
Juniata County
Juniata County Courthouse, Main Street
Mifflintown, Pennsylvania 17059

#38-34-04 Lehman's, Port Royal Covered Bridge
Kenneth & Lucy Lehman
R. D. #2, Louarille Farm
Port Royal, Pennsylvania 17082

#38-34-05, 38-55-05 North Oriental - Beaver Covered Bridge
Juniata County
Courthouse, Main Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059

#38-55-02 Dreese's or Beavertown Covered Bridge
#38-55-03 Klinepeter's or Gross Covered Bridge
#38-55-04 Aline or Meiserville Covered Bridge
Snyder County
Courthouse, West Market Street
Middleburg, Pennsylvania 17842
#38-34-06, 38-55-05 East Oriental - Sheaffer Covered Bridge

David L. & Connie Delbaugh
R. D. #1
Liverpool, Pennsylvania
**DESCRIPTION**

**CONDITION**

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Deteriorated
- Ruins
- Unexposed

**CHECK ONE**

- Unaltered
- Altered

**CHECK ONE**

- Original site
- Moved

**DATE**

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Juniata and Snyder Counties have a total of eight covered bridges; three in Juniata, three in Snyder and two between counties. All but one of these bridges employ a Burr type truss. The North Oriental/Beaver Covered Bridge has a multiple kingpost. The Academia, Pomeroy and the Lehman's, Port Royal bridges have two spans using two Burr trusses. A breakdown by number of spans, truss type and length is shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Spans</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Truss</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 (135')</td>
<td>270'</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100'</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>1888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2 (54')</td>
<td>108'</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>62'</td>
<td>MKP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>90'</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>c. 1870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>95'</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>1871 or 1878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100'</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>60'</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In appearance all the bridges are the same with vertical plank siding, open rectangular windows at eave level, gable roof and cut stone abutments.

There is high preponderance of Burr truss type bridges in these two counties as compared to Washington and Greene Counties where only one of thirty-five covered bridges is a Burr. This may be tied to the practical reason of length, where Burr type trusses are used for spans over 100 feet or related to skill of local bridge builders.

**BRIDGE INVENTORY** (Juniata County)

Name: Academia Pomeroy Covered Bridge   #38-34-01
Stream: Tuscarora Creek
Truss Type: Burr
Year: 1902
Builder: James M. Groninger
End Post to End Post Length: 270'
(Two spans of 135' each)
Road surface width: 15' 6"
Condition: Excellent
Distinguishing Features: This large covered bridge has vertical siding, open windows at the eave level, a gable roof, and stone abutments.
Name: Dimmsville Covered Bridge  #38-34-02
Stream: Cocolamus Creek
Truss Type: Burr
End Post Length: 100'
Road Surface Width: 15'
Condition: Excellent
Distinguishing Features: The Dimmsville Covered Bridge has vertical siding, rectangular windows at eave level plus a square window midway, a gable roof and cut stone abutments.

Name: Lehman's, Port Royal Covered Bridge  #38-34-04
Stream: Licking Creek
Truss Type: Double Burr
Year: 1888
End Post Length: 107'
Road Surface: 15' 6"
Load: 2 Ton
Distinguishing Features: The Lehman's, Port Royal Covered Bridge has a double Burr arch, vertical siding, rectangular windows at eave level and a gable roof. This bridge was badly damaged during the Agnes Flood of 1972 and rebuilt using original timbers and using the same style.

Name: North Oriental/Beaver Covered Bridge  #38-34-05
Stream: Mahantango Creek
Truss Type: Multiple Kingpost
End Post Length: 62'
Road Surface Width: 12'6"
Condition: good
Load: 9 tons
Distinguishing Features: The North Oriental Covered Bridge has vertical siding, rectangular window openings at eave level and a gable roof.
Name: East Oriental/Sheaffer Covered Bridge  
Stream: Mahantango Creek  
Truss Type: Burr  
End Post Length: 90'  
Road Surface Width: 15' 6"  
Load: 2 Tons  
Condition: Good  
Distinguishing Features: The East Oriental Covered Bridge has vertical siding, rectangular window openings at eave level and a gable roof. Currently used for storage.

Name: Dreese's or Beavertown Covered Bridge  
Stream: Middlecreek  
Truss Type: Burr  
Year c. 1870  
End Post Length: 95'  
Road Surface Width: 14' 8"  
Load: 2 Tons  
Condition: Good  
Distinguishing Features: This bridge has vertical siding, open windows near eaves and a gable roof.

Name: Klinepeter's or Gross Covered Bridge  
Stream: Middlecreek  
Truss Type: Burr  
Year: 1871 or 1878  
End Post Length: 100'  
Road Surface Width: 16' 4"  
Condition: Good  
Load: 3 Tons  
Distinguishing Features: This bridge has vertical siding, open windows at eave level, a gable roof and large stone abutments.
Name: Aline or Meiserville Covered Bridge #38-55-04
Stream: North Branch of Mahantango Creek
Truss Type: Burr
Year: 1884
End Post Length: 60'
Road Surface Width: 18'
Load: 2 Tons
Condition: Good
Distinguishing Features: The Aline or Meiserville Covered Bridge has vertical siding, open windows at eave level, a gable roof and large stone abutments.
The covered bridge is an important element in the development of transportation in the United States. Pennsylvania at one time had covered bridges in 64 of its 67 counties. The rural counties of Juniata and Snyder were two of the 64 counties with covered bridges.

Located in the Susquehanna River Watershed area, the majority of the covered bridges in this area are of the Burr arch truss type. The longest bridge remaining is the two-span, Academia, Pomeroy Bridge in Juniata County, it is also the newest being built in 1902. The shortest of the bridges is the Aline or Meiserville Bridge in Snyder County with a length of only 60 feet. The oldest remaining bridge, for which dates are known is Dreese's or Beavertown in Snyder County.

The eight bridges nominated here are the only remaining covered bridges in Juniata and Snyder Counties.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allen, R.S. Covered Bridges of the Middle Atlantic States. Battleboro, VT, 1959, p. 61-72.
Frankhouse, I.B. History of Port Royal & vicinity, 1950, p. 31-34. Snyder County Bridge Engineer Records.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 43

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See Continuation Sheet)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Susan M. Zacher / Tobi Casner

ORGANIZATION
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

STREET & NUMBER
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN
Harrisburg

STATE
Pennsylvania

TELEPHONE
717-787-4363

DATE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE X ___ 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE ED WEINTRAUB, Director Office of Historic Preservation

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allen, R.S. Covered Bridges of the Middle Atlantic States. Battleboro, VT, 1959, p. 61-72.
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10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .43

QUADRANGLE NAME

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
A
C
E
G

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
B
D
F
H

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