United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form  

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic  COVERED BRIDGES OF BRADFORD, SULLIVAN AND LYCOMING COUNTIES  

and/or common

2. Location

street & number  

(city, town)  

vicinity of  

congressional district 10/11/17  

state Pennsylvania  

code 42  

Bradford/Sullivan  

county Lycoming  

code 015/113/081

3. 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>occupied</td>
<td>museum</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>yes: restricted</td>
<td>entertainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>object</td>
<td>in process</td>
<td>yes: unrestricted</td>
<td>government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>being considered</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>industrial</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bradford/Sullivan/Lycoming County Courthouses

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places</th>
<th>has this property been determined eligible? yes no</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>title</td>
<td>date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 1976                                      | federal state county local                      |

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg  

state Pennsylvania
7. Description

There are seven remaining covered bridges in the counties of Bradford, Sullivan and Lycoming.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bridge</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Truss</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knapp's</td>
<td>Bradford</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>1853</td>
<td>95'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forksville</td>
<td>Sullivan</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>146'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillsgrove*</td>
<td>Sullivan</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>c.1850</td>
<td>171'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonestown</td>
<td>Sullivan</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>c.1850</td>
<td>99'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buttonwood</td>
<td>Lycoming</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>1898</td>
<td>63'6&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cogan House</td>
<td>Lycoming</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>1877</td>
<td>93'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lairdsville</td>
<td>Lycoming</td>
<td>Burr</td>
<td>1888</td>
<td>77'10&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All burr arch trusses, the seven bridges range from 63'6" to 171'. A variety of siding, flooring portal types make comparison on a regional basis difficult. It is also hard to compare the small number remaining with once present in the three counties. However, the remaining bridges are fine examples of the wooden bridge in Pennsylvania.
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Located in the Susquehanna River watershed, these north central Pennsylvania Counties have never been heavily populated with agriculture and lumbering the most important economic basis today, as well as in the past. The use of lumber as a building resource was not only evident in their bridges but their buildings as well. While never rich in the number of covered bridges historically, there is significant difference between what was present 75 years ago and what is present today.

In 1890, Sullivan County had 30 covered bridges, today they only have 3. Bradford County had a least two with the possibility of many others not recorded, today only one remains. This remaining bridge is the highest-above-water covered bridge in Pennsylvania. Lycoming also has been reduced in number to only three.

These remaining examples of the covered bridge are an important link and record of the transportation histories in each county.
9. Major Bibliographical Reference

County Bridge Records
PHMC Survey of Pennsylvania Covered Bridges
Allen, Richard S. Covered Bridges of the Middle Atlantic States

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property: 1.49
Quadrangle name: See Continuation Sheet
UMT References: See Continuation Sheet

Verbal boundary description and justification

Verbal boundary description is calculated by adding 20 feet to each length and 10 feet to each width to include the abutments.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>state</th>
<th>code</th>
<th>county</th>
<th>code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Susan M. Zacher
organization: PHMC
street & number: P. O. Box 1026
city or town: Harrisburg
state: PA

date: 17120

12. 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>title</th>
<th>Office of Historic Preservation</th>
<th>date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

For HCGR use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration
#38-08-01  Name: Knapp's (Luther's Mills) Covered Bridge
Location: T544 Burlington Township
UTM: Zone 18  N 4626960  E 370900  Acreage:  \[
(95\text{ ft}) \times (14\text{ ft} + 10\text{ ft}) = 115\text{ ft} \times 24\text{ ft} = 2760
\]
\[
\div 43,560 = 0.06
\]
Owner: Bradford County
Stream: Brown's Creek
Truss Type: Burr
Builder: 1853
Year: 1853
End Post to End Post Length: 95 ft
Road Surface Width: 14 ft
Clearance:
Load:

Distinguishing Features: Bradford County's only covered bridge dates from 1853 and is excellent condition due to its excellent maintainence. In 1963, the bridge flooring, roof and abutments were repaired. This burr arch truss bridge spans Brown's Creek and is one of the highest covered bridges in Pennsylvania, the drop from the bridge to the water is over 30 feet. It has vertical plank siding which covers only to the middle of the sidewalls, similar to Bedford County bridges. Because it is the only covered bridge left in the county it is hard to assess its regional characteristics.

Condition: Excellent
**Name:** Forksville Covered Bridge  
**Location:** L.R. 56007 Spur Forks Township  
**UTM:** Zone 18 N 459400 E 366420  
**Acreage:** \( \frac{146' \times 26'}{43560} = .9\)  
**Owner:** Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
**Pennsylvania Department of Transportation**  
**Stream:** Loyalstock Creek  
**Truss Type:** Burr  
**Builder:** Sadler Rogers  
**Year:** 1850  
**End Post to**  
**End Post Length:** 146 ft  
**Clearance:**  
**Road Surface**  
**Width:** (15 ft)  
**Load:**  
**Distinguishing Features:**  
This large one span bridge crosses Loyalstock Creek and serves the small community of Forksville.  
Built in 1850 by Sadler Rogers, who also built the Hillsgrove bridge, this structure is only one of three covered bridges left in Sullivan County.  
It has vertical plank siding sheaths the walls almost to eave level. Its flooring is made up of very narrow wooden strips laid across the width of the bridge.  
**Condition:** Good
#38-57-02  Name: Hillsgrove Covered Bridge
Location: T357  Elkland Township
UTM: Zone 18  N4591040  E360440  Acreage:
Owner: Sullivan County

Stream: Loyalstock Creek
Truss Type: Burr
Builder: Sadler Rogers
Year: c.1850

End Post to End Post Length: 171 ft
Clearance: Hillsgrove bridge crosses Loyalstock Creek south
of the Forksville bridge. These two structures are similar in design and style, and were built by the same person. Set against the hillside, the Hillsgrove bridge has vertical plank siding and narrow width-laid flooring.

Condition: Good

Road Surface Width: 18 ft
Load: 43.560 = .12  (171'+20') x (18'+10') = 191' x 28' = 5348
Name: Sonestown Covered Bridge
Location: T310 Davidson Township
UTM: Zone 18 N 4578160 E 369880 Acreage:
Owner: Sullivan County
Stream: Muncy Creek
Truss Type: Burr
Builder: 
Year: c.1850

End Post to End Post Length: 99 ft
Clearance: 

Road Surface Width: (15 ft)
Load: 3 tons

Distinguishing Features:
Sonestown bridge crosses Muncy Creek in eastern Sullivan County. Built to reach Johnny Hazen's gristmill, the Sonestown bridge is only one of three left in the county. It has vertical plank siding open near the eaves to admit light. Its flooring is wide planks laid widthwise with vertically laid planks for wheel tracks.

Condition: Good
# 38-41-01  Name: Buttonwood Covered Bridge
Location: T816  Jackson Township
UTM: Zone 18  N 4597320  E 322200  Acreage:  
Owner: Lycoming County  
Stream: Block House Creek
Truss Type: Burr
Builder:
Year: 1898

End Post to
End Post Length: 63 ft 6 in
Clearance: 10 ft 8 in

Road Surface
Width: 14 ft 5 in
Load: 3 tons

Distinguishing
Features: Located just north of the community of Buttonwood in the broad valley, the Buttonwood Bridge serves several small farms. This Burr arch bridge is in very good condition. Its high Burr arch reaches to the eaves and can be viewed because its vertical plank siding only covers three-fourths of the sidewalls.

Condition: Good
Name: Cogan House Covered Bridge
Location: T784  Cogan House Township
UTM: Zone 18  N 4585080  E 316000  Acreage:
Owner: Lycoming County
Stream: Larry's Creek
Truss Type: Burr
Builder: 
Year: 1877

End Post to  93ft
End Post Length:  
Clearance: 10 ft 6 in
Road Surface
Width: 19 ft 7 in
Load: 4 tons

Distinguishing Features: Located in a remote valley, the Cogan House bridge services township route 816, a dirt road serving private land and state game land. Its rough horizontal siding and wooden shingles help this small bridge blend into the surrounding forest.

Condition: Good
# 38-41-03  **Name:** Lairdsville, Frazier Covered Bridge
**Location:** T664 Moreland Township
**UTM:** Zone 18 N4562840 E362830
**Acreage:**
\[
\frac{(77.88' + 20') \times (15.08' + 10')}{2453.57 \div 43.560} = 97.83' \times 25.08' = 0.05
\]
**Owner:** Lycoming County

**Stream:** Little Muncy Creek
**Truss Type:** Burr
**Builder:**
**Year:** 1888

**End Post to End Post Length:** 77 ft 10 in
**Clearance:** 10 ft 6 in

**Road Surface**
**Width:** 15 ft 1 in
**Load:** 3 tons

**Distinguishing Features:** Located in a broad valley the Lairdsville serves several farms on township route 664, a dirt road. Stone abutments support this Burr arch structure. Its gable roof is tin covered and horizontal siding covers three-fourths of its sides leaving a open panel under the eaves for light.

**Condition:** Fair