

Judith River Bridge
Spanning the Judith River
Moore Vicinity
Fergus County
Montana

HAER No. MT-18

HAER
MONT,
14 - MOR.V,
1 -

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Judith River Bridge

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Location: Spanning the Judith River six miles NNW of Moore, Fergus County, Montana.

Date of Construction: 1912

Present Owner: Fergus County
Fergus County Courthouse
Lewistown, Montana 59457

Present Use: Vehicular Bridge

Significance: Fergus County, around the turn of the Twentieth Century, was a rapidly growing agricultural area, especially for wheat production. The Judith Basin was the most bountiful section of the County, if not the State. This era saw a great expansion of rail service to the County and a flurry of bridge construction providing for the movement of agricultural equipment and products. Most of the bridges from this period were built by the Security Bridge Co. of Billings. This 60 foot riveted, single-span Warren pony truss bridge is typical of those built by Security throughout Eastern Montana during the second decade of this century. This particular bridge is unique among bridges of this type in Fergus County in that it bears a 1912 placque of the Security Bridge Company. The County paid \$3130 for its construction. The superstructure of the bridge is comprised as follows: lower cord is two channel sections with batten plates; verticals at the panel intersections are two angle sections with batten plates and verticals at the panel mid-points are single angle sections; diagonals are two angle sections with lacing bars riveted to their lower flanges. Sway bracing is provided by a series of double knee braces of angle sections. Steel I-beam stringers sit on the top flange of steel I-beam floor beams which are riveted to the superstructure. The deck is concrete and the span is supported by concrete abutments.

Transmitted by: Kevin Murphy, Historian HAER, 1984; from data compiled by Fredric L. Quivik, 1979

ADDENDUM TO
JUDITH RIVER BRIDGE
Spanning the Judith River
Moore Vicinity
Fergus County
Montana

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National Park Service
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