

Coram Bridge
Spanning the Flathead River
Coram Vicinity
Flathead County
Montana

HAER No. MT-20

HAER
MONT,
15 - COR V,
1 -

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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

ENDUM
FOLLOWS

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Coram Bridge

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Location: Spanning the Flathead River southwest of Coram, Flathead County, Montana.

Date of Construction: ca. 1900

Present Owner: Burlington Northern Railroad
176 East 5th Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Present Use: Railroad Bridge

Significance: This two-span, pin-connected, Baltimore deck truss bridge across the Flathead River is approached from either direction by plate girder spans between trestles. The two Baltimore spans are 210 feet in length. Vertical members extend upward from the mid-points of the inclined end-posts and the piers to support floor beams above. The other floor beams rest upon the top chord at the panel points. Composite I-beam stringers are riveted to the web of the composite I-beam floor beams. The spans are supported by granite piers. Originally the bridge was comprised of two lines of trusses or plate girders. A third line of virtually identical trusses or plate girders and vertical supports has been added between the original two to increase the load bearing capabilities of the structure. The bridge was built by the Great Northern RR along its transcontinental route. When the G.N. merged with the Northern Pacific & the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy RR in 1970 to form the Burlington Northern, this line became the main transcontinental line of the B.N. because it enjoys a lower pass and gentler grades over the Continental Divide than does the N.P. transcontinental line across southern Montana.

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

ADDENDUM TO
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XEROGRAPHIC COPIES OF COLOR TRANSPARENCIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013

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