F-6-8

Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC: Bullfrog Road Bridge

AND/OR COMMON:

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: Bullfrog Road over the Monocacy River — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN: Taneytown — X VICINITY OF — CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Sixth

STATE: Maryland — CODE: 24 — COUNTY: Frederick — CODE: 021

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
X STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	X TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: The Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County, Maryland
c/o William Fout, Roads Department Engineer

STREET & NUMBER: Winchester Hall

CITY, TOWN: Frederick — __ VICINITY OF — STATE: Maryland 21701

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Frederick County Roads Department (Bridge #0506)

STREET & NUMBER: Montevue Lane

CITY, TOWN: Frederick — STATE: Maryland 21701

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: Historic American Engineering Record

DATE: Summer, 1977 — X FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: National Park Service, 1100 L Street, NW

CITY, TOWN: Washington — STATE: D. C. 20240

7 DESCRIPTION

F-6-8

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bullfrog Road Bridge crosses the Monocacy River on Bullfrog Road in upper Frederick County east of Emmitsburg, Maryland. The bridge is a rare Parker iron thru truss structure in a single span of 183 feet in length and 16 feet 5 inches in width. It was built by the York Bridge Company of York, Pennsylvania in 1908, according to a nameplate on the Bridge.

The bridge is set on two random coursed stone abutments with wing walls. The east abutment is located across the Monocacy River in Carroll County, Maryland.

The bridge is a steel truss structure with riveted joints and a wood plank deck. The Parker Truss is a pratt truss bridge with polygonal top chord similar to the camelback truss, but the level of the top chord changes at every panel.[1] The patent for the Parker Truss was made in the late 19th century, and was illustrated in James A. L. Waddall's book of Bridge Engineering.

[1] Dan Deibler, Metal Truss Bridges in Virginia, 1865-1932.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

F-6-8

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	X ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	X TRANSPORTATION
X 1900	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY) industrial archeology
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1908 BUILDER/ARCHITECT York Bridge Company York Pennsylvania

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Iron Truss Bridges were the most popular form of bridge construction in Frederick County, Maryland between the 1870's and the 1930's. The Bullfrog Road Bridge is an example of a twentieth century bridge, built by the York Bridge Company of York, Pennsylvania, a company which built at least twenty different bridges for the county in the early 1900's. Most of the bridges remaining, however, are the small pony pratt or thru pratt trusses. The Bullfrog bridge is unusual in that it is based on the Parker design, the only example of that style truss in Frederick County. Also, this is one of only four bridges which have survived the floods which have frequented the Monocacy River Valley for more than fifty years and the new bridge construction which is planned for many of the crossings.

According to Polk's York City Directory, the York Bridge Company was most active between the years 1902 and 1917, advertising as "bridge builders, iron and steel structural work, etc." By 1917 the company had changed its name to the York Bridge and Construction Company.

Because of its unique and rare design, the Bullfrog Road Bridge should be protected as an example of developing bridge engineering design.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

F-6-8

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 233' x 50'

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A				B			
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Maryland	24	Carroll County	013
Maryland	24	Frederick County	021

11 FORM PREPARED BY

1km

NAME / TITLE

Cherilyn Widell

ORGANIZATION

Frederick County Historic Preservation

DATE

January 17, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Winchester Hall; 12 East Church Street

TELEPHONE

(301) 663-8300

CITY OR TOWN

Frederick

STATE

Maryland 21701

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ____ STATE ____ 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 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

GPO 892-453

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deibler, Dan. Metal Truss Bridges in Virginia, 1865-1932. Vol. I. Virginia Highway and Transportation Research Council, 1975.

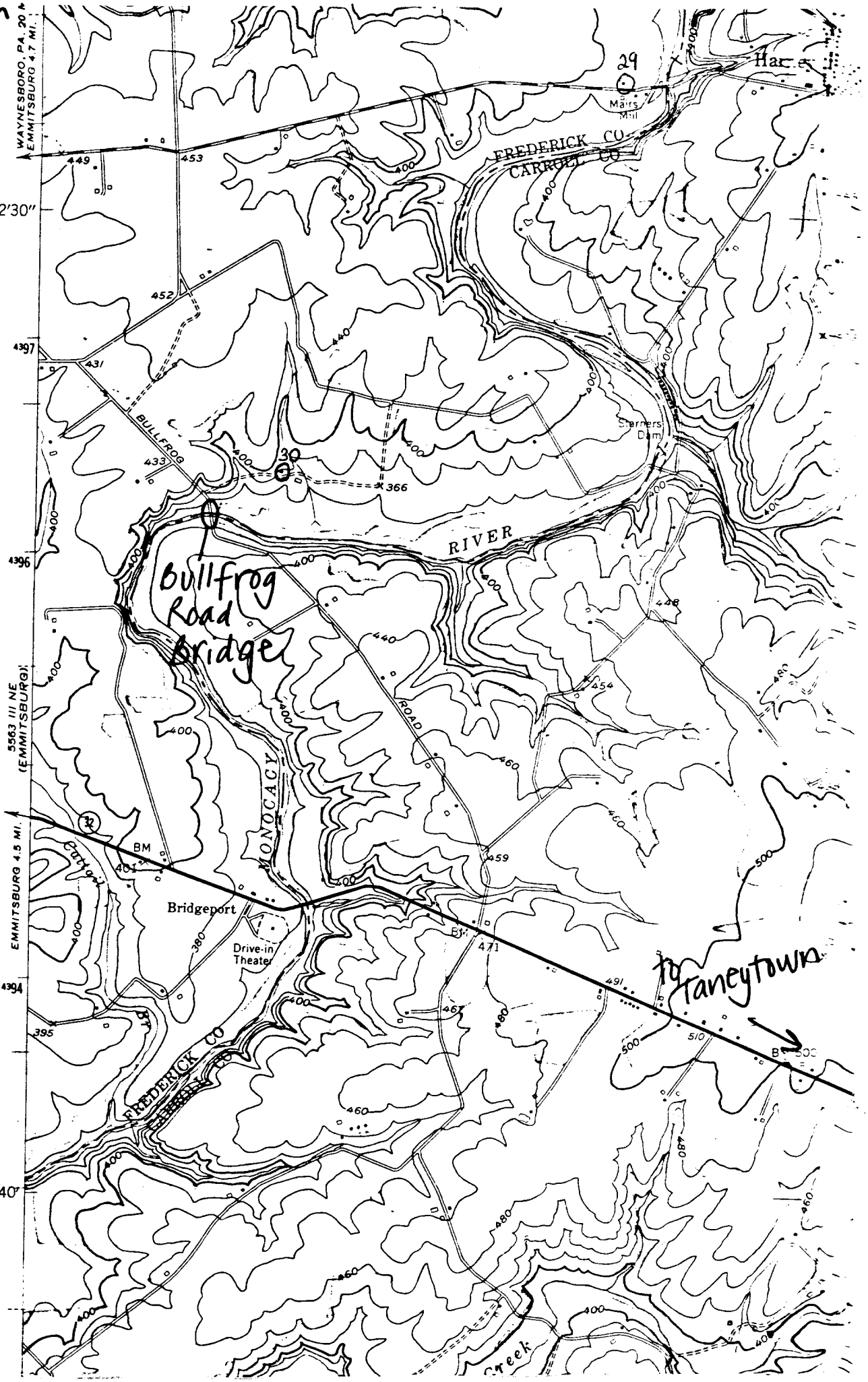
Jackson, Donald. "Railroads, truss bridges and the rise of the civil engineer." Civil Engineering (October, 1977), 97-101.

Meeting minutes of the Frederick County Commissioners, 1882-1889.

The Frederick Examiner, Wednesday, September 13, 1854.

Taneytown Quad

F-6-8



SINGLE UNIT
6,000 LBS GVW
COMBINATION UNIT
6,000 LBS GCW

Inventory # F-6-8

Name F506- BULLFROG RD OVER MONOCACY RIVER
County/State FREDERICK COUNTY/MD
Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO
Date 2/95

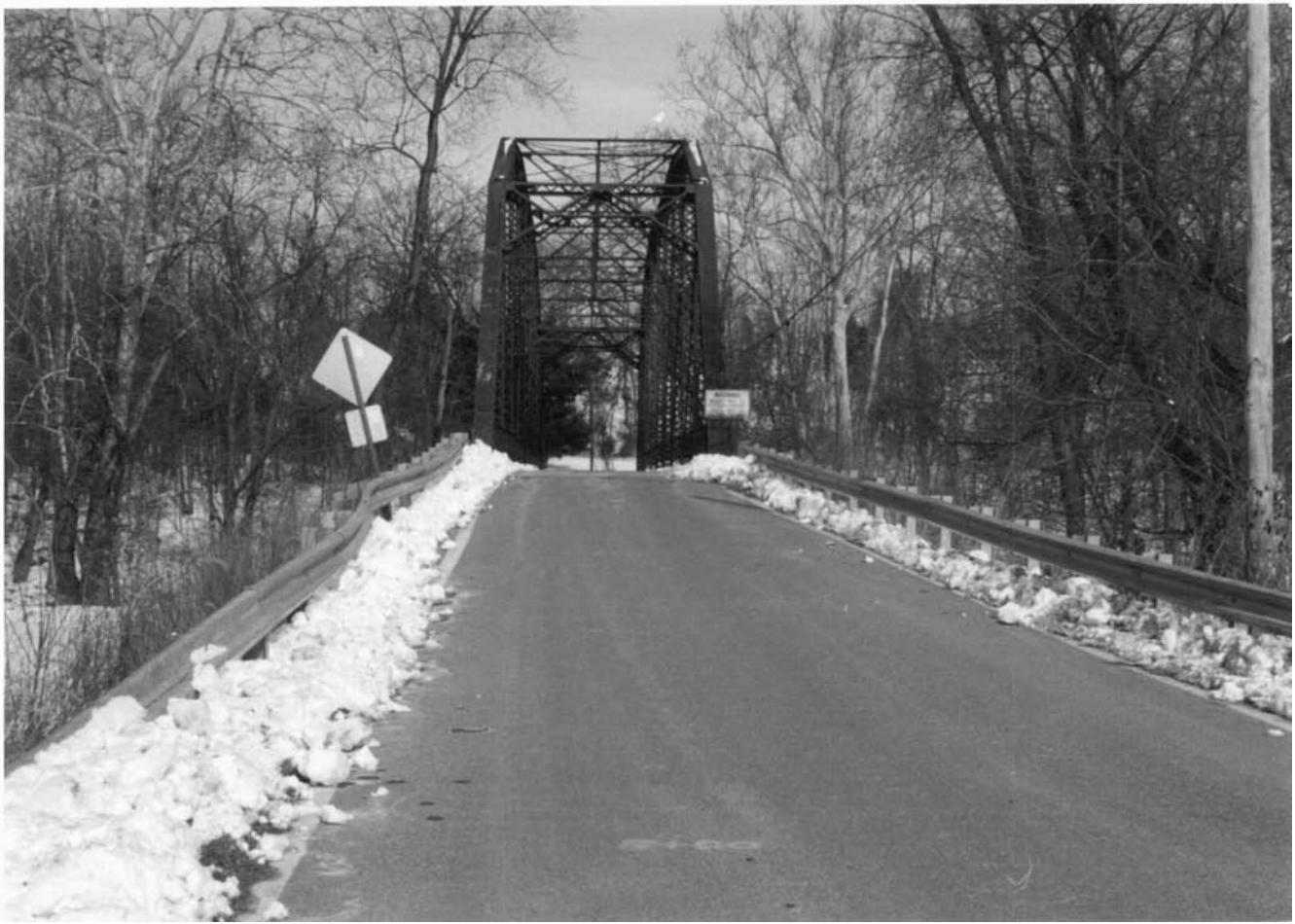
Location of Negative SHA

Description APPROACH EAST

Number ~~8~~ 1 of ~~34~~ 5

F506

2 of 5



Inventory # F-6-8

Name F506- BULLFROG RD OVER MONOCACY RIVER
County/State FREDERICK COUNTY/MD
Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO
Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description APPROACH WEST

Number ~~10~~ 3 of ~~24~~ 5

Inventory # F-6-8

Name FS06-BULLFROG RD OVER MONOCACY RIVER
County/State FREDERICK COUNTY / MD
Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO
Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION LOOKING NORTH

Number ~~11~~ 4 of ~~34~~ 5

Inventory # E-6-8

Name FS06 - BULLFROG RD OVER MONOCACY RIVER
County/State FREDERICK COUNTY/MD
Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO
Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION LOOKING SOUTH

Number ~~12~~ 5 of ~~34~~ 5

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

F-6-8
1100930717

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Bullfrog Road Bridge

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Bullfrog Road over the Monocacy River

CITY, TOWN Taneytown ___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT E.D.5

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Frederick

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	X_PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
X_STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X_YES UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	X_TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME The Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County, Maryland

Telephone #: 663-8300

STREET & NUMBER c/o William Fout, Roads Department Engineer
Winchester Hall

CITY, TOWN Frederick ___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Maryland 21701

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:
Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic American Engineering Record

DATE Summer, 1977

X_FEDERAL __STATE X_COUNTY __LOCAL #0506

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS National Park Service

CITY, TOWN Washington, D.C.

STATE

DESCRIPTION

F-6-8

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bullfrog Road Bridge crosses the Monocacy River on Bullfrog Road in upper Frederick County east of Emmitsburg, ~~in Frederick County, Maryland~~. The bridge is a rare Parker iron thru truss structure in a single span of 183 feet in length and 16 feet 5 inches in width, built by the York Bridge Company of York, Pennsylvania, in 1908, according to a nameplate located on the bridge.

The bridge is set on two random stone abutments with wing walls. The east abutment is located across the Monocacy River in Carroll County, Maryland.

The bridge is a steel truss structure with riveted joints and a wood plank deck. The Parker Truss is a pratt truss bridge with polygonal top chord similar to the camelback truss but the level of the top chord changes at every panel.[1] The patent for the Parker Truss was made in the late 19th century, and was illustrated in James A.L. Waddell's book of Bridge Engineering.

1 Metal Truss Bridges in Virginia 1865-1932, Virginia Highway and Transportation Research Council, Dan Deibler, May, 1975

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

SIGNIFICANCE

F-6-8

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	X TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION	Industrial Archeology	

SPECIFIC DATES 1908 BUILDER/ARCHITECT York Bridge Company, York, Pennsylvania

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Iron Truss Bridges were the most popular form of bridge construction in Frederick County, Maryland between the 1870's and the 1930's. The Bullfrog Road Bridge is an example of a twentieth century bridge, built by the York Bridge Company of York, Pennsylvania, a company which built at least twenty different bridges for the county in the early 1900's. Most of the bridges remaining, however, are the small pony pratt or thru pratt trusses. The Bullfrog bridge is unusual in that it is based on the Parker design, the only example of that style truss in Frederick County, Maryland. Also, this bridge is one of only four bridges which have survived the many floods which frequent the Monocacy River Valley for more than fifty years and the new bridge construction which is planned for many of the crossings.

According to Polk's York City Directory, the York Bridge Company was most active between the years 1902 and 1917, advertising as "bridge builders, iron and steel structural work, etc.". By 1917, the company had changed its name to the York Bridge and Construction Company.

Because of its unique and rare design the Bullfrog Road Bridge should be protected as an example of developing bridge engineering design.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

F-6-8

Metal Truss Bridges in Virginia 1865-1932, Virginia Highway and Transportation Research Council, Dan Deibler, May 1975, p. 14
"Railroads, truss bridges and the rise of the civil engineer"
Civil Engineering, October 1977 pgs. 97-101; Donald Jackson
Frederick County Commissioners Meeting Minutes 1882-1889
The Frederick Examiner Wednesday, September 13, 1854

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .27 acre

233' x 50' = 11,650 sq. ft.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
Maryland	Carroll County
STATE	COUNTY

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Cherilyn Widell
ORGANIZATION
Frederick County Historic Preservation
DATE
1-17-78
STREET & NUMBER
Winchester Hall; 12 East Church Street
TELEPHONE
662-8300
CITY OR TOWN
Frederick
STATE
Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438