

~~LR 11/17/73~~ ~~NRHP 5/22/73~~ DESTROYED, SEPT 2015

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Patrick
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Bob White Covered Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: About 2 1/2 miles south of Woolwine on unpaved Virginia Route 708 just off State Route 618.

CITY OR TOWN: near Woolwine

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Fifth; W. C. Daniel

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

COUNTY: Patrick

CODE: 141

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied Used <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Virginia Department of Highways

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Patrick County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Stuart

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Covered Bridge Locations: Department of Highways

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Virginia Department of Highways

STREET AND NUMBER: Public Information Office

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Patrick

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ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The eighty-foot heavy oak timber bridge is said to be a truss bridge constructed on the principles of the Burr arch, a combination of arches and radiating kingposts which was invented around 1804 by Theodore Burr and patented in 1817. Without destroying the fabric of the bridge, it would be difficult to ascertain definitively whether or not it is indeed a Burr truss. The interior of the bridge is of circular-sawn overlap diagonal sheathing (that is, the interior is sheathed once with the diagonal boards going in one direction and then again with the boards going in the opposite direction); the exterior is covered with boards-and-battens which are also circular-sawn and appear to have never been painted. The portals project and are supported by long corner bracing which is sheathed along with the sides of the bridge. The gables have board-and-batten sheathing.

The roof is constructed of common rafters mitered into each other at the peak of the gable. These timbers project above the side walls of the bridge and thus forms simple rafter brackets. The bridge has open eaves; that is, the space between the rafters above the side walls and beneath the roof, is open to provide ventilation. A wind brace is placed next to every other rafter end and cross-bracing ends are mitered into each other at every fourth rafter. Finally, corner bracing extends from the same rafters to which the horizontal cross-braces are attached. In 1972 short reinforcing plates, projecting about twelve inches into the interior, have been fastened to some of the rafters under the eaves. The present roofing is of corrugated metal painted green and lies atop boards set across the rafters.

The bridge is set on crossties lying on three concrete piers. The approaches to the bridge are constructed upon dry-laid rubble piled against the end piers. The mid-stream, center pier, a cut-water, is flat on the eastern side, but V-shaped on the western, upstream side to help prevent the accumulation of debris. Inside the bridge, transverse boards form the flooring while longitudinal runners delineate wheel tracks. On the underside of the bridge, parallel boards run approximately beneath the runners; between these parallel boards are wooden V-trusses. Spaced between each pier are two iron-bolted, wooden tierods which have seasoning cracks.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

ACL

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1920-21

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                 | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bob White Covered Bridge is one of Virginia's eleven remaining covered bridges and is an excellent example the timber bridge-building art. It and Meems Bottom Bridge in Shenandoah County are the only covered bridges still part of the State Highway system.

The bridge presumably takes its name from the Bob White Post Office which once stood nearby, but the origin of the name itself is unknown. Begun in 1920 and completed in the fall of 1921, the bridge was built under the direction of Walter Weaver, who also was responsible for the design of the nearby Jack's Creek Covered Bridge. Weaver also is reported to have been skilled in sawmilling, blacksmithing, and coffin making. Members of Weaver's family assisted in the construction of the bridge. One son worked as a carpenter while another acted as waterboy. A young daughter carried lunch to the site from the Weaver's home, two miles distant.

The bridge is used today mainly by churchgoers headed toward the nearby Smith River Church of the Brethren. The picturesque structure is enhanced by its unspoiled rural setting.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Taylor, James C., "They Came to See Relics of an Era",  
Martinsville Bulletin, Sunday, June 13, 1971.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE							
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds			
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	36°	46'	46"	80°	14'	50"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Under 10 acres.

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
A. C. Lee

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: March, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Director  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Patrick	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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1. NAME			
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AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
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CITY OR TOWN: near Woolwine			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 51	COUNTY: Patrick	CODE 141
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U. S. G. S. 7 1/2 quadrangle Charity, Va.			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1967			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

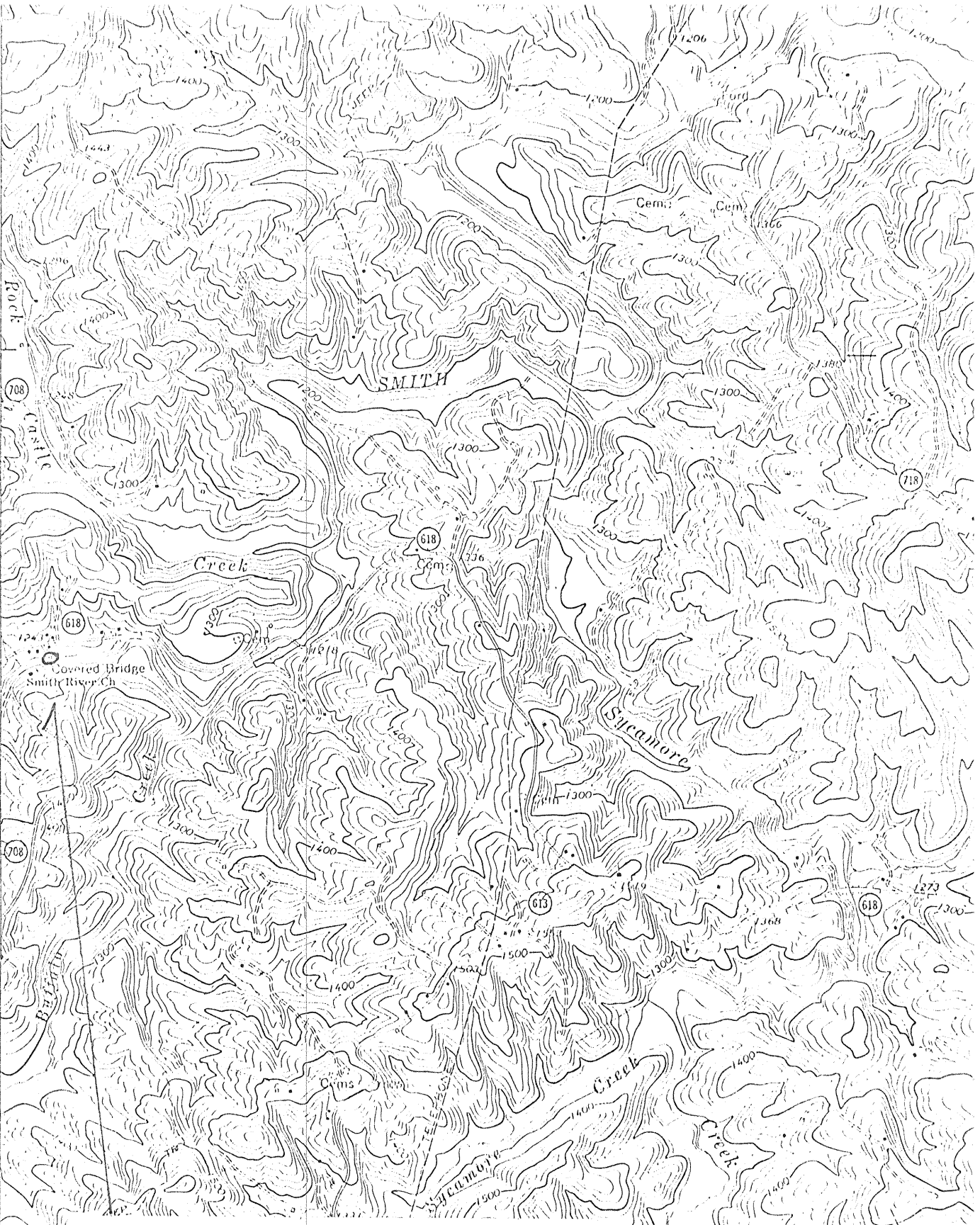
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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STATE: Virginia	CODE 51	COUNTY: Patrick	CODE 141
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1972			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission; Richmond, Va.			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
View of north and east sides.			

4073  
4072  
47'30"  
4071  
0.9 MI. TO VA. 8  
4070  
4069  
160 000  
FEET  
4068



U.S.G.S. 7 1/2' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)  
Charity, Va. 1967

BOB WHITE COVERED BRIDGE

latitude  
36°46'46"

longitude  
80°14'50"

36°45'  
80°15'

Mapped  
Control t

\* 1:52 5000  
111

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MN

1970 12'30" 91 35