

# Inventory of Metal Truss, Movable, and Steel Arch Bridges

**Bridge #:** 29 0045      **District** 10  
**Road:** STATE ROUTE 4      **Route:** 4      **PM:** 0.01  
**Feature Intersected:** OLD RIVER

## Evaluation Summary (NRHP Eligibility)

**Previous:** 2 Eligible

**Update:** 2 Eligible

**City:**      **County** San Joaquin  
**Other Location Info:** EAST OF VICTORIA ISLAND ON SR4

**Description:** Bridge 29 0045 has three steel, rigid-connected truss spans that carry 2 lanes. The mainspan is a Swing through truss span, 256 feet long, and secondary spans are Pratt through truss spans, each 132 feet long.

**Year Built:** 1915      **Moved:** No  
**2nd Date:** 1978 Year Altered      Year Moved

**Owner:** State

**Builder:** American Bridge Company

**Designer:** F. E. Quail, San Joaquin County Surveyor

**Surveyor:** CDM / JMC

**Contractor:** Healy (Tibbits-Pacific)

**Survey Date:** 4/9/2003

Points	1986	2003
Date of Construction	12 1910-1919 period	12 1910-1919 period
Builder/Designer Signific	12 Major example of signif. builder / designer	12 Major example of signif. builder / designer
<i>Length:</i>		
Number of Spans	4 3 span(s)	4 3 span(s)
Length of Spans	8 pony >80; through >150; deck >150	8 pony >80; through >150; deck >150
Surviving # of Type	4 17	6 15
<i>Special Features:</i>		
Pin Connected	0 Is not pin-connected	0 Is not pin-connected
Iron	0 Is not iron	0 Is not iron
Decorative Feature	2 minor	2 minor
<i>Aesthetics</i>		
Site	4 Good	4 Good
Structural	5 Excellent	5 Excellent
<i>Integrity:</i>		
Location/Setting	0 Excellent	0 Excellent
Design/Material	0 Excellent	0 Excellent
Feeling/Association	0 Excellent	0 Excellent
Transport. / Hist.Assoc.	7 State	N/A
Totals	58	53

## Criterion A Evaluation

See Historic Evaluation.

## Notes:

Surviving number of type score increased.

## Historic Evaluation

The Old River Bridge (29 0045) in San Joaquin County was found eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the bridge inventory conducted by Caltrans in the 1980s. The evaluation concluded that the bridge was eligible for listing under Criterion C as it embodied the distinctive characteristics of type, period, and method of construction, as well as Criterion A, as a vital component in an important highway. Built in 1915 on Highway 4, one of the earliest east-west routes in the state, the Old River Bridge shares the distinction of being the second oldest unmodified swing bridge in California with the Middle River Bridge (29 0049). It is a major example of an American Bridge Company bridge in California. With a swing span of 256 feet and a 132 foot secondary through Pratt span, the Old River Bridge is a long swing bridge.



Facing south



Facing south



Facing south



Facing west





Facing west



Facing west

Location Map

