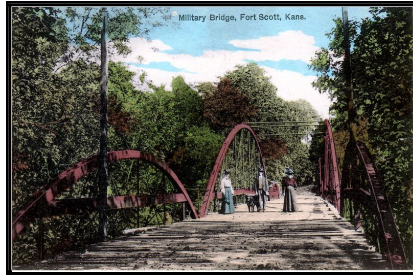


Kansas Historic Resources Inventory

Printed: 06/30/2016



011-0000-00003
Marmaton Bridge
00 238TH ST
Fort Scott vicinity



LOCATION:

County: Bourbon

Address: 00 238TH ST

Address Remarks: 1.0 mi. NE of Fort Scott

City: Fort Scott vicinity

Zip:

Parcel ID:

Legal Description: NW 1/4 of Section 21 Township 25S Range 25E

Legal Description Remarks:

Latitude, Longitude 1: 37.859548 -94.670518

Latitude, Longitude 2:

Latitude, Longitude 3:

Latitude, Longitude 4:

Datum: WGS84

DESCRIPTION:

Historic Name: Marmaton Bridge

Alternate Name:

Historic Function: Transportation

Subcategory: Road-Related (Vehicular)

Historic Function Remarks: It crosses the Marmaton River at the site of a ford that was an integral part of an older military / public highway. The highway had been constructed by the US Army to connect various forts that had been established as part of the 1840-1853 Permanent Indian Frontier. When the bridge was constructed in 1878 the frontier had advanced west and the highway was used by civilian vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Although constructed by the Bourbon County Commission, the bridge is frequently inaccurately referred to as the Old Military Bridge.

Present Function: Vacant/Not in Use

Subcategory:

Present Function Remarks:

Residential/Commercial/Religious Style:

Secondary Style:

Barn Type: Not Applicable

Bridge Type: Bowstring Truss

Landscape Type:

Physical Description/Remarks: Rare example of a triple-span bowstring (1 large & 2 small spans)

Plan Form: Rectangle

Commercial Building Type: Not Applicable

Roof Form: Not Applicable

Stories:

Condition: Deteriorated

Principal Material: Metal

Condition Remarks: Metal, stone, wood

Architect/Designer/Builder: King Bridge Company

Year of Construction: 1878

Certainty: Documented

Date Notes:

General Remarks:

Ancillary Structures: None

Ancillary Structure Remarks:

REGISTER STATUS:

Listed in State Register: Yes

Date of State Listing: 03/03/1982

Listed in National Register: Yes

Date of National Listing: 05/11/1982

Historic District:

Demolished:

Date Demolished (if applicable):

Potentially Eligible for National Register:

Register Status Remarks:

Thematic Nomination (MPDF):

National Historic Landmark:

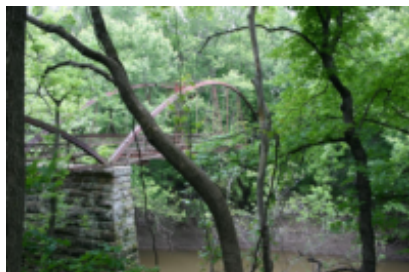
SURVEY INFORMATION:

There is no survey information for this record.

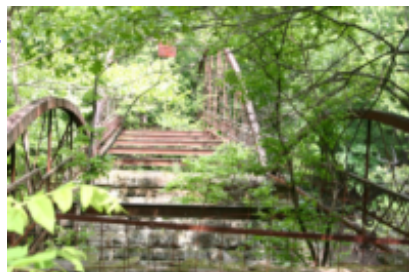
IMAGES & DOCUMENTS



Historic Postcard Image



Marmaton Bridge, Fort Scott vicinity
(SMartin - May 15, 2005)



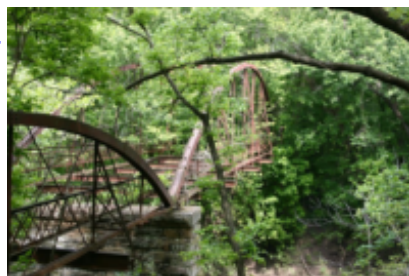
Marmaton Bridge, Fort Scott vicinity
(SMartin - May 15, 2005)



Marmaton Bridge, Fort Scott vicinity
(SMartin - May 15, 2005)



Marmaton Bridge, Fort Scott vicinity
(SMartin - May 15, 2005)



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(SMartin - May 15, 2005)



Marmaton Bridge, Fort Scott vicinity
(SMartin - May 15, 2005)



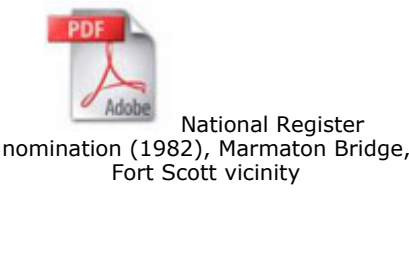
Marmaton Bridge, Fort Scott vicinity
(SMartin - May 15, 2005)



Marmaton Bridge, Fort Scott vicinity
(SMartin - May 15, 2005)



Marmaton Bridge, Fort Scott vicinity
(SMartin - May 15, 2005)



National Register
nomination (1982), Marmaton Bridge,
Fort Scott vicinity

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational 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 Marmaton Bridge

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 1 mile NE of Fort Scott

N/A not for publication

city, town N/A Fort Scott X vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state Kansas code 20 county Bourbon code 011

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none

4. Owner of Property

name Bourbon County

street & number 210 South National

city, town Fort Scott N/A vicinity of state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bourbon County Courthouse

street & number 210 South National

city, town Fort Scott state Kansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Kansas Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate July, 1972 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Ks. State Historical Society---Historic Preservation Dept.

city, town Topeka state Kansas 66612

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The bridge that spans the Marmaton River one mile northeast of the city of Fort Scott, Kansas, is on the original bridge site and is currently in fair condition. The bridge is comprised of three bowstring tied arch spans which include various stringers and braces. Two cut stone piers support the large 112 foot center span which is flanked by the two smaller spans of 50 feet each that terminate on the respective north/south abutments of the bridge. The existing superstructure, piers and abutments are comprised of original fabric, but most of the flooring was removed after it was destroyed by a fire which occurred in 1974. The bridge is 15'9" wide. The floor of the bridge is about 35 feet above the Marmaton River.

Some deterioration has occurred as the result of constant exposure to indigenous environmental conditions and the cessation of applicable maintenance. All of the metal fabric in the superstructure and sub-bracing is severely rusted but appears to be sound and undamaged by the fire which destroyed the flooring. The piers and abutments are in good condition and do not have any major age cracks in the bonding fabric or stone matrix.

In 1980 Bourbon County Engineer Lewis Shields estimated that the total restoration cost would be approximately \$20,000.00. The latter restoration would include the replacement of the oak floor and support beams and the sandblasting/coating of all of the metal fabric.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1878-1879

Builder/Architect

King Bridge Company

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Marmaton Bridge near Fort Scott, Kansas, is a rare extant example of a triple span bow-string arch bridge. It crosses the Marmaton River at the site of a ford that was an integral part of an older military/public highway. The highway had been constructed by the U. S. Army to connect various Forts that had been established as part of the 1840-1853 Permanent Indian Frontier. When the bridge was constructed in 1878 the frontier had advanced west and the highway was used by civilian vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Although constructed by the Bourbon County Commission, the bridge is frequently inaccurately referred to as the Old Military Bridge.

The May 4, 1878, Fort Scott Monitor noted that "some efforts are being made to have a bridge constructed over Military Ford. It has been a want long felt by the business men of our city and farmers East of us."

The contract for the metal fabric of the bridge was awarded to the King Bridge Company of Cleveland, Ohio, on June 8, 1878. The completed bridge was accepted by the Bourbon County Board of Commissioners on January 14, 1879 and the King Bridge Company was paid \$3233.00 for completing their part of the construction contract. Mr. John S. Miller was awarded the contracts for the construction of the stone bridge piers and the approach abutments. On January 21, 1879, Mr. Miller was paid \$1500.00 for having completed the approach abutments.

The Marmaton Bridge served vehicular and pedestrian traffic that traveled the county road from 1878 to 1965. In 1965 the bridge was closed and became a footbridge. In 1974 the flooring of the bridge was almost completely destroyed by a fire of suspicious origin and it was closed to all traffic.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(see continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1/2 acre

Quadrangle name Fort Scott

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

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4	1	9	1	3	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification That property on and over which the bridge is built, 1 mile NE of Fort Scott, S21, T25S, R25E. Includes bridge superstructure plus supporting stone piers and bank abutments.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nora Pat Small, Architectural Historian

organization Ks. State Historical Society--HPD date 3-30-82

street & number 120 West Tenth telephone 931 296-3251

city or town Topeka state Kansas 66612

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 Ex. Director and St. Historic Preservation Officer date March 24, 1982

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE

1

I. Newspapers:

Fort Scott Monitor

1. May 4, 1878
2. May 21, 1878
3. May 22, 1878
4. June 6, 1878
5. June 8, 1878
6. Dec. 12, 1878
7. Jan. 16, 1878
8. Jan. 29, 1889

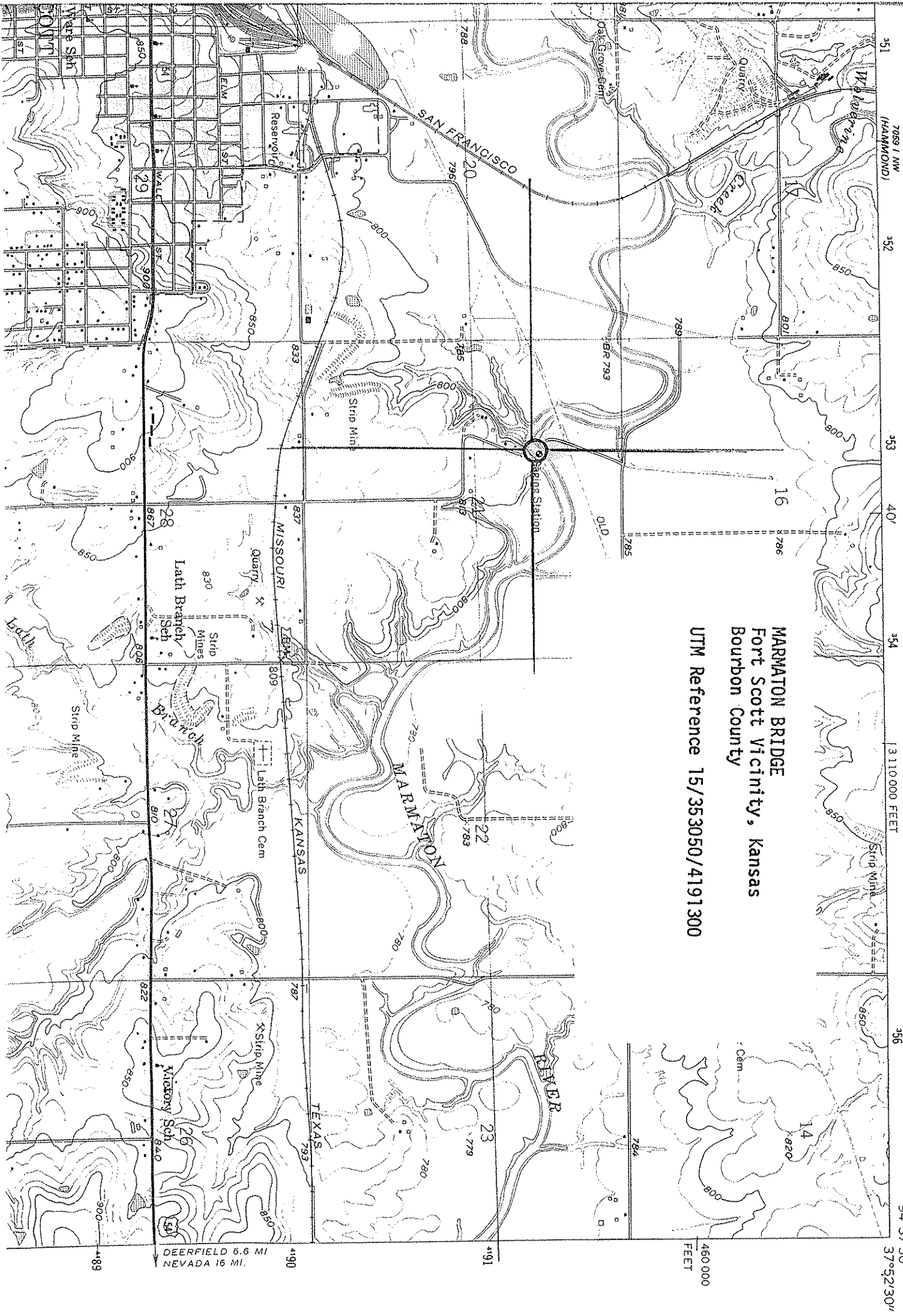
II. Bourbon County Commission Record Book C:

1. June 8, 1878
2. July 19, 1878---pg. 122
3. Oct. 10, 1878---pg. 142
4. Oct. 12, 1878---pg. 156
5. Oct. 23, 1878---pg. 160
6. Oct. 23, 1878---pg. 161
7. Jan. 14, 1879---pg. 195
8. Jan. 20, 1879---pg. 196
9. Jan. 21, 1879---pg. 197

STATE OF KANSAS

FORT SCOTT QUADRANGLE
KANSAS—BOURBON CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

MARMATON BRIDGE
Fort Scott vicinity, Kansas
Bourbon County
UTM Reference 15/353050/4191300



Inventory Number 011-000h-000

REGISTER OF HISTORIC KANSAS PLACES---COVER SHEET

Name of Property Marmaton Bridge

Location

(street and number)

vicinity of Fort Scott

(city, town, or vicinity location)

1 mile NE of Fort Scott; S21, T25S, R25E

(legal description)

Bourbon

(county)

Owner of Property Bourbon County

210 South National

(street and number)

Fort Scott

(city, town, county)

National Register status:

date approved for nomination to the National Register by Kansas Historic
Sites Board of Review 2/13/1982

date entered in National Register 5/11/82

Description: The bridge which spans the Marmaton River 1 mile NE of the

city of Fort Scott is on the original bridge site and is currently in fair

condition. The bridge is comprised of three Bowstring tied arch spans

that include various stringers and braces. Two cut stone piers support the

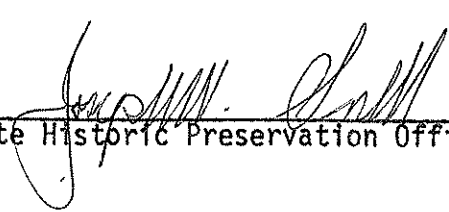
large center span which measures 112'. Two 50' spans reach from the north

and south abutments of the bridge to the center span.

Significance The Marmaton Bridge is a rare extant example of a triple span
Bowstring arch bridge. It was built by order of the County Board of
Commissioners in 1878 and 1879. It was used by vehicular and pedestrian
traffic from 1879 until 1965 when it was closed to all but foot traffic.
A fire in 1974 destroyed most of the floor boards and so rendered it
inaccessible even by foot.

Form prepared by Nora Pat Small date 3/3/82

This property was approved for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places by
the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review on Feb. 13, 1982
I hereby certify that this property is included in the Register of Historic Kansas
Places.



State Historic Preservation Officer

March 3, 1982

Date