

STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY  
 HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS  
 State Historic Preservation Office  
 Oregon State Parks, Salem, 97310



APR 76

Physical

County Douglas

Theme 6-A

Name  
 (Common) Booth Bridge

(Historic) (same)

Address Winchester, Ore.

Present Owner State of Oregon

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_

Original Use Bridge

Date of Construction 1923-24

historical significance:

The Booth Bridge at Winchester, Oregon, is a major concrete span crossing the North Umpqua River. It was constructed in 1923-24 to improve travel on Highway 99, the principal thoroughfare between Oregon and California. The bridge served as a major route of travel for the next forty years. It is today in use but is adjacent to a wider and more heavily used bridge on Interstate Highway No. 5. This bridge has 7 major concrete arches. There are bronze markers mounted in small balconies on both the south and north ends of the bridge in honor of Robert Booth for whom the bridge was named.

Three Robert Booths of three generations of the same family have been prominent in Douglas County history. Rev. Robert Booth, born in Lancashire, England, on August 4, 1820, settled in Oregon in 1853. In August, 1867, he became Methodist minister at Wilbur. From 1870-72 he preached in eastern Oregon, but then returned to Douglas County. Robert A. Booth, was born in Yamhill County, Oregon, but was reared in Douglas County. He established the first store in Yoncalla and operated a sawmill there. Later a banker in Grants Pass, Robert A. Booth eventually became president of the Douglas National Bank at Roseburg. In 1899 he moved to Eugene where he founded the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company. Robert Roy Booth, a son of Robert A. Booth, was reared in Grants Pass and Eugene. After working for his father's lumber company, he located in Douglas County in 1908 as a stock raiser in Scotts Valley.

Continue back if necessary

Recorded by Stephen Dow Beckham Date 19 Apr. 1976 Sources Consulted:

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

Gaston, Joseph. Centennial History of Oregon.

Please enclose map Township 26 <sup>N</sup> <sub>S</sub> Range 6 <sup>E</sup> <sub>W</sub> Section 25

Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1912, vol. 4, 252.

(over)

Sources:

"Rev. Robert Booth." Portrait and Biographical Record of Western Oregon. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1904, p. 527.