

## **General Bridge Information:**

*TXDOT District: Yoakum*  
*County: Gonzales*  
*Structure ID: 130900AA0353003*  
*Facility Carried: CR 353*  
*Feature Crossed: Peach Creek*  
*Bridge Owner: County Highway Agency*

## **Statement of Eligibility:**

This evaluation does not reflect potential significance under Criterion A. Criterion A evaluations must be conducted at the local level of significance in the area of Transportation, per the registration requirements established in the "Historic Road Infrastructure of Texas" MPS. This evaluation would typically be conducted in conjunction with project planning for future projects prior to Section 106 consultation.

Bridge 130900AA0353003 carries County Road 353 over Peach Creek in Gonzales County. TxDOT bridge inspection records incorrectly list the bridge's construction date as 1900. However, the bridge was constructed in 1897 according to the Texas Department of Transportation Historic Bridge File. It is a one-span, pin-connected Pratt through truss with two steel I-beam approach spans and an overall structure length of 110 feet. A notable fabrication detail is the use of U-bolts for the bottom chord and floor beam connection. The bridge features decorative portals with the words "GONZALES COUNTY" stamped into the bracing, intricate cresting, curved knee bracing, and plaques.

The bridge is significant as one of 18 remaining examples of Pratt through truss bridges originally designed as vehicular bridges in Texas. It is also significant as an early example of a pin-connected truss constructed before 1900, and it possesses high artistic value for the deliberate ornamentation of the portals.

The bridge retains integrity of location as it remains in its historic location. Other than replacement railing, there are no visible alterations to the bridge. The loss of historic railing constitutes a minor loss of design integrity. Otherwise, the bridge retains integrity of materials, workmanship, setting, feeling and association.

Based on the registration requirements established in the "Historic Road Infrastructure of Texas" MPS, Bridge 130900AA0353003 possesses significance as a rare surviving example of a once-common type, the Pratt through truss, in the state. It also possesses significance as an early example of a pin-connected truss built before 1900 and for high artistic value. The bridge retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance and is recommended eligible for National Register of Historic Places listing under Criterion C in the area of Engineering.

In addition, per a policy decision by the Texas SHPO, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission in 2014, all metal trusses constructed before 1946 are significant at the local level as embodying distinctive characteristics of a type. Determination as to whether this particular metal truss bridge possesses sufficient integrity to warrant eligibility for listing in the NRHP requires consultation with the Texas SHPO.

# Statewide Vehicular Truss Bridge Reevaluation

## GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION

**District:** Yoakum  
**County:** Gonzales  
**Feature Crossed:** PEACH CREEK  
**Bridge Owner:** County Highway Agency  
**Latitude:** 29.50818546

**Structure ID:** 130900AA0353003  
**Location:** 2.55 MI E OF CR 228  
**Facility Carried:** COUNTY ROAD 353  
**Longitude:** -97.3139889



Photo 1: Elevation of one-span, pin-connected Pratt through truss, a rare survivor of a once-common truss type in the state; view facing east-northeast



Photo 2: Detail of primary connection at top chord, vertical, and sway bracing

# Statewide Vehicular Truss Bridge Reevaluation

## GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION

**District:** Yoakum  
**County:** Gonzales  
**Feature Crossed:** PEACH CREEK  
**Bridge Owner:** County Highway Agency  
**Latitude:** 29.50818546

**Structure ID:** 130900AA0353003  
**Location:** 2.55 MI E OF CR 228  
**Facility Carried:** COUNTY ROAD 353  
**Longitude:** -97.3139889



Photo 3: Underside of truss



Photo 4: Detail of primary connection at bottom chord and U-bolt at floor beam

# Statewide Vehicular Truss Bridge Reevaluation

## GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION

**District:** Yoakum  
**County:** Gonzales  
**Feature Crossed:** PEACH CREEK  
**Bridge Owner:** County Highway Agency  
**Latitude:** 29.50818546

**Structure ID:** 130900AA0353003  
**Location:** 2.55 MI E OF CR 228  
**Facility Carried:** COUNTY ROAD 353  
**Longitude:** -97.3139889



Photo 5: Detail of decorative portal with curved knee bracing, intricate cresting, and punched bracing



Photo 6: Detail of truss panel with replacement railing