

## what **Historical Services Unit** does

- Research and Write Historic Reports
- Determine National Register Eligibility
- Determine Historic Boundaries
- Determine Effects to Historic Properties
- Mitigate Adverse Effects to Historic Properties
- Complete Historic Documentations for Specific Historic Properties
- Historic Turnpike Research and Analysis
- Coordinate with Federal, State, and Local Resource Agencies
- Conduct Public Workshops for Specific Bridge and Highway Projects

## contact us

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edwight  
**bridge**  
*raleigh county*



Edwight is a former coal camp located in northwestern Raleigh County. The area's first reported commercial mine, called Edwight No. 1 Drift, was opened in 1916 under the ownership of the Raleigh-Wyoming Coal Company. The town, which was called Launa prior to coal activities, was renamed Edwight around 1920 after Mr. Edward W. Knight, a prominent Charleston attorney and legal advisor for Raleigh-Wyoming. Edwight gained fame as one of the top coal-producing areas of the state, but this achievement came at a price, as at least 60 miners were killed during the service of the Edwight/Hazy mining operations, 1916-1959. Miners from Edwight joined the march to the Battle of Blair Mountain in 1921. In its heyday, the town had a company store, church, elementary school, gas station, pool hall, doctor's office, barber shop, boarding houses, grocery store, movie theatre, restaurant/bar, small cafe, and dozens of company houses.

## Edwight History

The Edwight Truss has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a result of its association with the development of the town of Edwight. The bridge provided an important local transportation link for the town and various mine sites. Edwight Truss was also a locally significant example of the camelback Parker Through Truss, a rare bridge type in Raleigh County. A camelback truss is distinguished by its sloped, rather than straight, top chords. Although the bridge will be replaced in 2014 due to deterioration, its role in Edwight's history has been studied and documented by the West Virginia Division of Highways.



**Location:** County Route 3/2 near the intersection of WV Route 3, spanning Marsh Fork  
**Type:** One-span Steel Camelback Through-Truss  
**Length:** 150 feet  
**Year constructed:** 1920  
**Contractor:** Unknown