



**WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Division of Highways**

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • (304) 558-3505

**Byrd E. White, III**  
Secretary of Transportation  
Commissioner of Highways

**Jimmy Wriston, P. E.**  
Deputy Secretary/  
Deputy Commissioner

**May 18, 2021**

**Ms. Susan Pierce, Deputy State  
Historic Preservation Officer  
Division of Culture and History  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305**

**Dear Ms. Pierce:**

**State Project S344-34-1.21  
Federal Project STP-0034(076)D  
FR# 20-528-RO  
Pocatalico River Road Truss Replacement  
Roane County**

The West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH) is submitting the attached state level documentation concerning the Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge in Roane county for your review. The MOA between WVDOH, SHPO, and FHWA that was signed on January 26, 2021 specifies stipulations to mitigating the removal of the National Register eligible Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge. This documentation serves to satisfy stipulations I, II, and III of the agreed upon MOA.

Should you require additional information, please contact Tyler N. Wilson of our Environmental Section at (304) 414-6494 or at [Tyler.N.Wilson@wv.gov](mailto:Tyler.N.Wilson@wv.gov).

**Very truly yours,**

**Ben L. Hark  
Environmental Section Head  
Engineering Division**

**BH:s  
Attachments  
bcc: DDE (TW)**

**STATE LEVEL HISTORIC DOCUMENTATION REPORT**  
**Pocatalico River Road Truss**  
**ROANE COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA**  
**STATE PROJECT No. S344-34-1.21**  
**FEDERAL PROJECT No. STP-0034(076)D**



**Prepared by:**

**Tyler N. Wilson, Historian**

West Virginia Department of Transportation  
Division of Highways  
Engineering Division  
Environmental Section

**May 2021**

STATE LEVEL HISTORIC DOCUMENTATION  
POCATALICO RIVER ROAD TRUSS

Location: Along County Route 34 outside the town of Walton in Roane County, West Virginia  
USGS Kettle Quadrangle

Date of Construction: 1899

Builder: Canton Bridge Company, Canton, OH.

Present Owner: West Virginia Division of Highways  
Building 5  
1900 Kanawha Blvd E  
Charleston, WV 25305

Present Use: Vehicular Bridge

Significance: The Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge is significant for its Pratt Truss architectural style and its association with the Canton Bridge Company who was a noted regional bridge building company.

Project Information: The project has been undertaken due to the poor condition of the bridge. The bridge is in deteriorating condition, with refurbishment being inadequate to maintain proper load limits. The bridge is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and mitigation documentation is necessary for this project. This documentation was undertaken in January 2021 in accordance with a Memorandum of Agreement among the West Virginia Department of Transportation, the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, and the Federal Highways Administration. These measures are required prior to replacement of this National Register eligible structure. The project is scheduled to begin in 2023.

Tyler N. Wilson, Historian  
West Virginia Division of Highways  
Charleston, WV 25305  
May 2021

The Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge is located near the town of Walton, West Virginia. It carries County Route 34 over the Pocatalico River in Roane County. The Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge is an 1899 Pratt Truss Bridge with a laminated wood deck, a steel girder substructure, cut stone abutments, and V-Lacing throughout the bridge. The bridge is 103 feet long and 12 feet wide. The main members have "Carnegie" stamps, indicating that the metal superstructure was sourced from Carnegie Steel. According to state maintenance records, some of the main members were replaced in 1987. The bridge is a well-preserved example of an early truss bridge type in West Virginia and was constructed by the Canton Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio, a company that is a known builder of historic bridges in the region. The Canton Bridge Company was founded in 1892 by Canton native John R. Reed and became a large regional bridge company before it was bought by the American Bridge company in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

The Pratt Truss was one of the most widely used truss types in West Virginia during this era. Since its introduction in 1844, this bridge design became part of hundreds of bridges created up to Second World War. It was designed by American engineers Thomas Willis Pratt (1812 – 1875) and his father Caleb Pratt, just several years after William Howe patented his famous Howe truss design. This bridge design immediately became widely used during the period when many bridges moved from wood components toward all-steel construction designs. Its most compelling feature was the ability was to span great distances using simple construction methods. It was regularly used to span anchor points that are up to 250 feet apart. It was commonly used in railroad bridge construction, but was also a preferred choice for creating other types of bridges all around the world until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

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STATE LEVEL HISTORIC DOCUMENTATION  
INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge  
County Route 34  
Pocatalico River  
Roane County, West Virginia

Photographer: Tyler N. Wilson

February 2020

POCATALICO RIVER ROAD TRUSS-1	View southwest toward Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge
POCATALICO RIVER ROAD TRUSS -2	View south toward Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge
POCATALICO RIVER ROAD TRUSS -3	Bridge builder plaque
POCATALICO RIVER ROAD TRUSS -4	View southwest toward Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge
POCATALICO RIVER ROAD TRUSS -5	View of the abutments, substructure, and parapets
POCATALICO RIVER ROAD TRUSS -6	View southeast toward Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge





Photo 1



Photo 2





Photo 3



Photo 4





Photo 5



Photo 6

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
BY AND AMONG  
THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION,  
THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER  
AND THE WEST VIRGINIA DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POCATALICO RIVER ROAD TRUSS  
BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
STATE PROJECT# S344-34-1.21  
FEDERAL PROJECT #STP-0034(076)D  
ROANE COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA  
September 2020**

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH), proposes to replace the Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge, hereinafter referred to as the Project. The project will replace the existing bridge with a new bridge on a new upstream alignment; and

**WHEREAS**, the FHWA has determined that the Project will have an adverse effect upon the Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge, a property eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); and

**WHEREAS**, the FHWA has consulted with the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer (WVSHPO) pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 Implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; (16 U.S.C., 470f); and

**WHEREAS**, the FHWA has determined that the Project will not affect archaeological properties; and

**WHEREAS**, The WVDOH has contacted the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia and received no response; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with 36 CFR 800.6 (a) (1), the FHWA has notified the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) of its adverse effect determination providing the specified documentation, and the ACHP has chosen not to participate in the consultation pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6 (a) (1) (iii);

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the FHWA, the WVSHPO, and the WVDOH agree that the undertaking will be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effects of the undertaking on historic properties.

## STIPULATIONS

The FHWA shall ensure that the following stipulations are carried out:

### Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge Replacement Project

- I. The Pocatalico River ROAD Truss Bridge will be documented in its present historic setting. The documentation package will include 5"x7" black and white digital prints in accordance with the National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Survey Photo Policy Expansion of January 2009. The documentation package will include hard copies in the form of PDFs for reports and documents, and TIFF files for photographs. The WWSHPO will be given the opportunity to review the documents before submission of final versions.
- II. A brief history of the structure will be included along with fully completed West Virginia Historic Property Inventory forms and copies of any available plan sheets and drawings of the bridge from WVDOH bridge files
- III. West Virginia Division of Highways staff will provide the Roane County Public Library a copy of the Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge State Level Historic Documentation for references and educational purposes.
- IV. 50 color brochures of the Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge will be developed by the WVDOH and distributed to the Roane County Public Library. The WWSHPO will be given the opportunity to review all educational materials developed for this stipulation. A CD containing the brochure will also be given to the library to print brochures when the original total has been exhausted.
- V. The Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge will be documented on the West Virginia historic bridge website.

### VI. Duration

This MOA will expire if its stipulations are not carried out within five (5) years from the date of its execution. At such time, and prior to work continuing on the undertaking, the FHWA shall either (a) execute an MOA pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6, or (b) request, take into account, and respond to the comments of the ACHP under 36 CFR 800.7. Prior to such time, FHWA may consult with other signatories to reconsider the terms of the MOA and amend it in accordance with Stipulation X below. FHWA shall notify the signatories as to the course of action it will pursue.

## **VII. Post-Review Discoveries**

If any unanticipated effects to or discoveries of historic properties or archaeological sites, including human burial sites and/or skeletal remains, are encountered during the implementation of this undertaking, work shall be suspended in the area of the discovery until the WVDOT has developed and implemented an appropriate treatment plan in consultation with the WWSHPO pursuant to 36 CFR 800.13 (b).

## **VIII. Monitoring and Reporting**

Each year following the execution of this MOA until it expires or is terminated, FHWA shall provide all parties to this MOA a summary report detailing work carried out pursuant to its terms. Such report shall include any scheduling changes proposed, any problems encountered, and any disputes and objections received in FHWA's efforts to carry out the terms of this MOA.

## **IX. Dispute Resolution**

Should any signatory or concurring party to this MOA object at any time to any actions proposed or the manner in which the terms of this MOA are implemented, FHWA shall consult with such party to resolve the objection. If FHWA determines that such objection cannot be resolved, FHWA will:

- A. Forward all documentation relevant to the dispute, including the FHWA's proposed resolution, to the ACHP. The ACHP shall provide FHWA with its advice on the resolution of the objection within thirty (30) days of receiving adequate documentation. Prior to reaching a final decision on the dispute, FHWA shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely advice or comments regarding the dispute from the ACHP, signatories and concurring parties, and provide them with a copy of this written response. FHWA will then proceed according to its final decision.
- B. If the ACHP does not provide its advice regarding the dispute within the thirty (30) day time period, FHWA may make a final decision on the dispute and proceed accordingly. Prior to reaching such a final decision, FHWA shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely comments regarding the dispute from the signatories and concurring parties to the MOA, and provide them and the ACHP with a copy of such written response.
- C. FHWA's responsibility to carry out all other actions subject to the terms of this MOA that are not the subject of the dispute remain unchanged.



**X. Amendments**

This MOA may be amended when such an amendment is agreed to in writing by all signatories. The amendment will be effective on the date a copy signed by all of the signatories is filed with the ACHP.

**XI. Termination**

If any signatory to this MOA determines that its terms will not or cannot be carried out, that party shall immediately consult with the other parties to attempt to develop an amendment per Stipulation X, above. If within thirty (30) days (or another time period agreed to by all signatories) an amendment cannot be reached, any signatory may terminate the MOA upon written notification to the other signatories.

Once the MOA is terminated, and prior to work continuing on the undertaking, FHWA must either (a) execute a MOA pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6, or (b) request, take into account, and respond to the comments of the ACHP under 36 CFR 800.7. FHWA shall notify the signatories as to the course of action it will pursue.

**EXECUTION** of the Memorandum of Agreement by the FHWA, WWSHPO, the WVDOT and the Council, and implementation of its terms evidence that the FHWA has afforded the Council an opportunity to comment on the Pocatatico River Road Truss Bridge Replacement Project and its effects on historic properties, and that the FHWA has taken into account the effects of the undertaking on the historic properties.

**Signatories Page**



Federal Highway Administration

1/26/21

Date



West Virginia Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

10/13/20

Date

**INVITED SIGNATORY:**



West Virginia Division of Highways

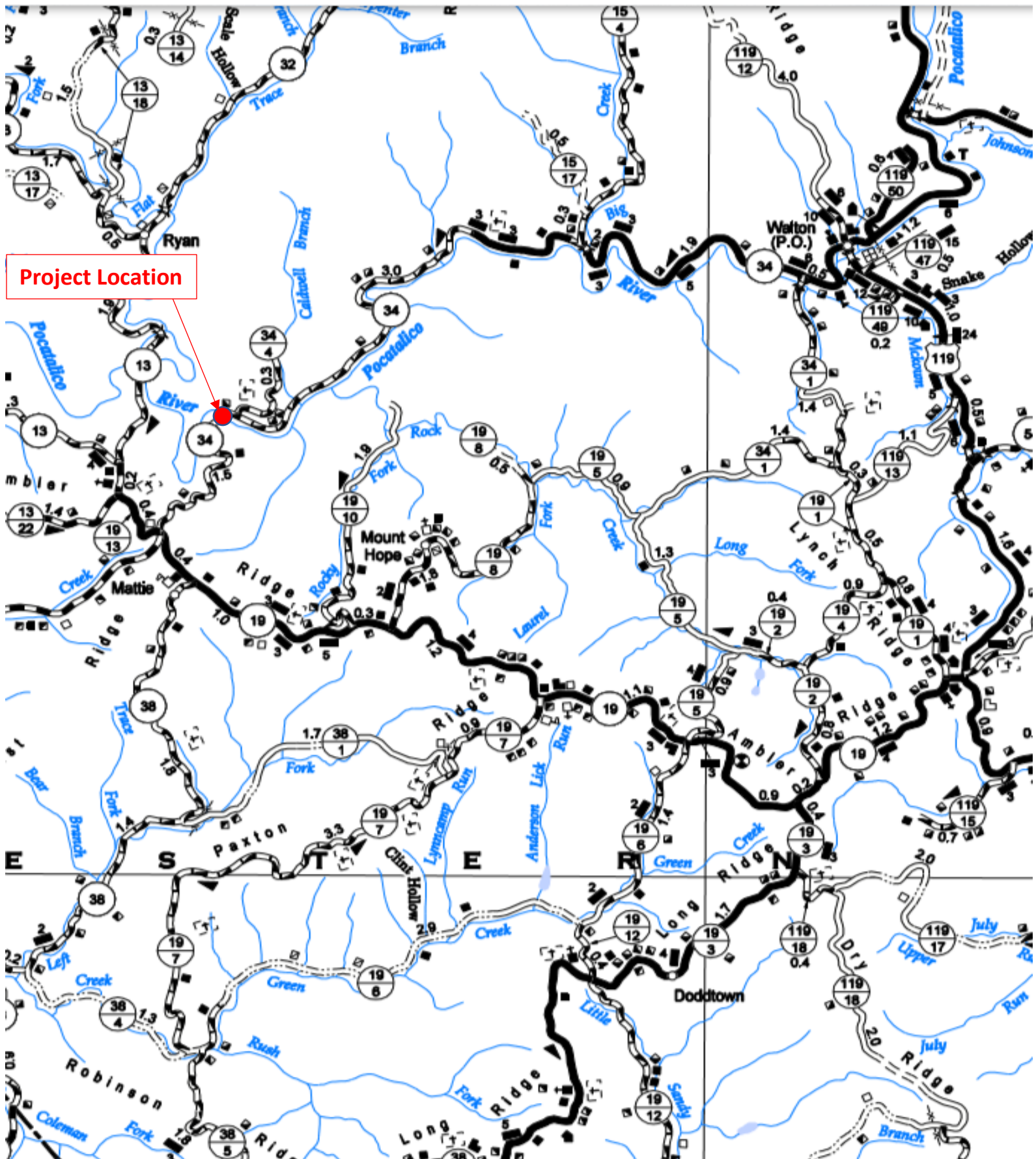
12-18-2020

Date

# Pocatalico River Truss Bridge Replacement, Roane County

State Project Number: S344-34-1.21

Federal Project Number: STP-0034(076)D











# WV SHPO Map



May 13, 2021

1:4,514 0 0.0375 0.075 0.15 mi

-  Architecture Sites - Point
-  National Register - Point
-  Cemeteries - Point
-  Architecture Sites - Area
-  National Register - Area
-  Cemeteries - Area
-  Architecture Survey - Area

**Notes:**

Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge

Roane County

SP# S344-34-1.21; FR# STP-0034(076)D

WVGISTC, WVSHPO



# WV TOPO Map



May 13, 2021

1:18,056 0 0.15 0.3 0.6 mi

- ◆ Architecture Sites - Point
- ◆ National Register - Point
- Cemeteries - Point
- Architecture Sites - Area
- National Register - Area
- Cemeteries - Area
- Architecture Survey - Area

**Notes:**

Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge

Roane County

SP# S344-34-1.21; FR# STP-0034(076)D



OFFICE  
REVIEW

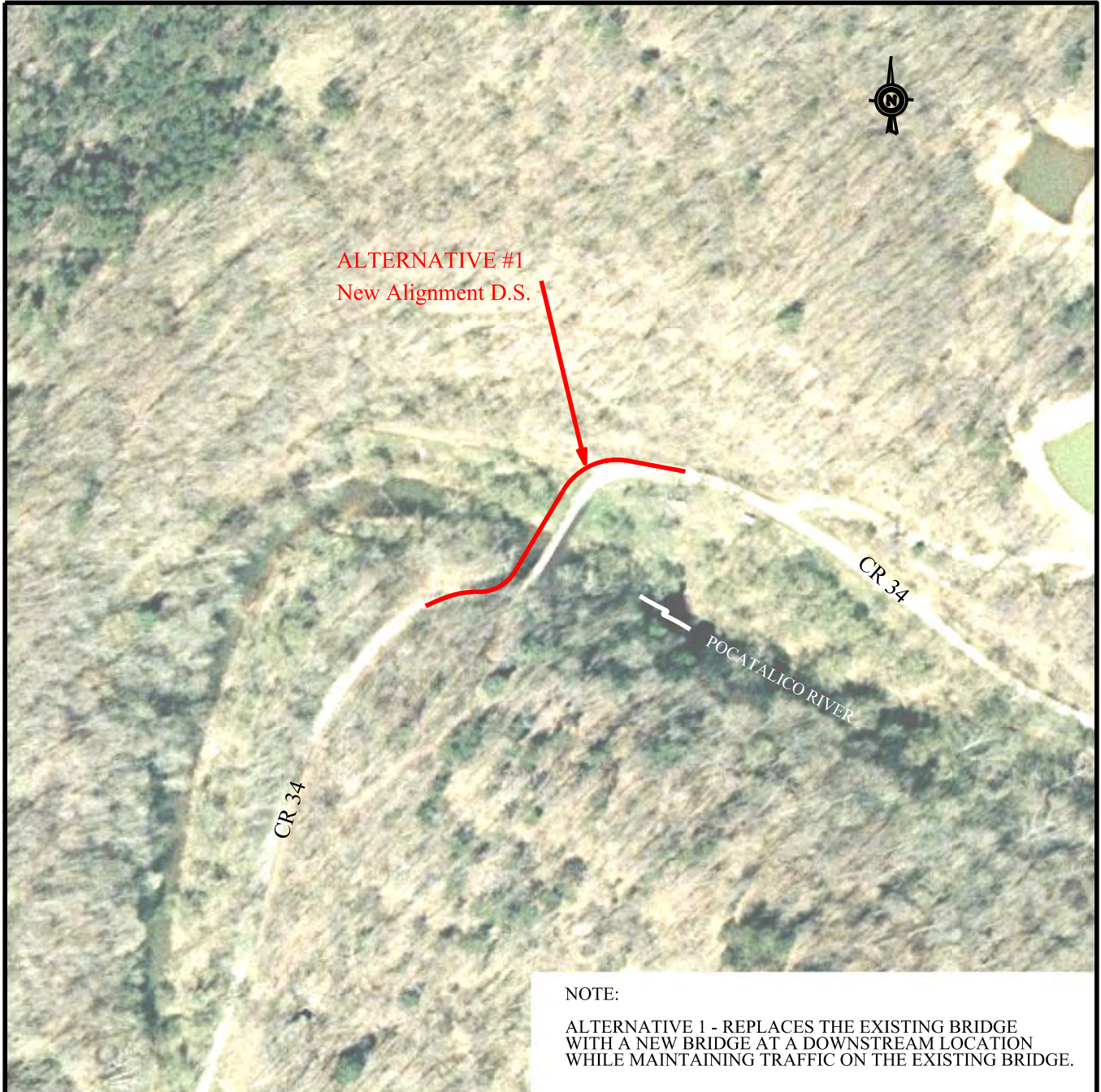
# LOCATION MAP

## POCATALICO RIVER ROAD TRUSS

### STATE PROJECT NO. S244-34-1.21

### ROANE COUNTY

LAT. 38° 37' 26.77" N & LONG. 81° 28' 0.61" W



WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
ENGINEERING DIVISION





**NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION INFORMATION**

**National Register Determination**      Eligible      Reason Not Evaluated

**National Register Determination Date**      2013

This bridge is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion A as it does not have a significant association with an important historic transportation system, program, event, trend, or policy identified through contextual research and survey activities.

This bridge is as an example of the earliest period of use and evolution of its type.

This bridge was designed or constructed by a known regional or West Virginia-based engineer, architect, or firm whose work is recognized as distinguishable within the state of West Virginia.

Although this bridge has undergone alterations, it still retains the historic integrity necessary to convey its engineering significance and, therefore, is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C.




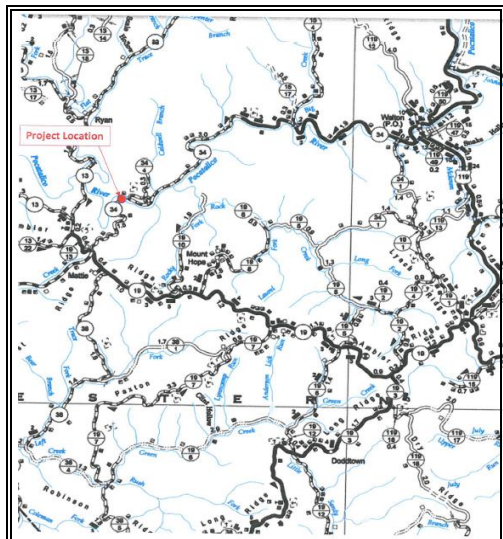
West Virginia Historic Bridge Inventory Form  
Form Prepared By      Mead & Hunt and KCI  
Form Preparation Date      2013



### West Virginia Historic Property Inventory



<b>Street Address</b> Located on County Route 34 in Roane County	<b>Common/Historic Name/Both</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pocatalico River Truss Bridge	<b>Field Survey #</b> RO-0038	<b>Site # (SHPO Only)</b> RO-0038
<b>Town or Community</b> Walton	<b>County</b> Roane	<b>Negative No.</b>	<b>NR Listed Date</b>
<b>Architect/Builder</b> Canton Bridge Company	<b>Date of Construction</b> 1899	<b>Style (SHPO Only)</b>	
<b>Exterior Siding / Materials</b> Steel V-lattice	<b>Roofing Material</b> Laminated wood plank	<b>Foundation</b> Cut Stone	
<b>Property Use or Function</b> Transportation	<b>UTM</b> Zone18 NAD 1983 Easting -81.466939 Northing . 38.623961		
	<b>Quadrangle Name</b> Kettle		
<b>Survey Organization &amp; Date</b> WVDOH February 20, 2020	<b>Part of What Survey / FR#</b> State County Route S344-34-1.21		



<b>Present Owners</b> WVDOH	<b>Owners Mailing Address</b> Building 5 1900 Kanawha Blvd E Charleston, WV 25305
<b>Describe Setting</b> <div style="text-align: right;"> Unknown--&lt;1 Acres  <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Artifacts Present </div> <p>The Pocatalico River Truss Bridge is located along an isolated, wooded stretch of County Route 34 in Roane County.</p>	
<b>Description of Buildings or Site (Original and Present)</b>	Stories
<p>The Pocatalico River Truss Bridge is an 1899 Pratt Truss Bridge with a laminated wood deck, a steel girder substructure, and cut stone abutments, and V-Lacing throughout the bridge.</p>	
<b>Alterations</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No    If yes, describe <p>The wood deck has been replaced.</p>	
<b>Additions</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No    If yes, describe	
<b>Describe All Outbuildings</b> N/A	
<b>Statement of Significance:</b> See Continuation Sheet	
<b>Bibliographical References</b> <p>SHPO GIS Interactive Map, Accessed 8 January 2020.</p> <p>Rice, Otis K. and Brown, Stephen W. <u>West Virginia: A History</u>  The University Press of Kentucky. Lexington, KY. 1993.</p>	
<b>Form Prepared By:</b> <div style="float: right;"><b>Date:</b> February 20, 2020</div> Name/Organization: Tyler N. Wilson Address:                WV Division of Highways 1334 Smith Street Charleston, WV 25301  E-Mail: Tyler.N.Wilson@wv.gov	



# WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Name: Pocatalico River Truss Bridge

Survey Number: RO-0038

Project / FR#: STP-0034(076)D State County Route: S344-34-1.21

February 20, 2020

The bridge was constructed in 1899 by the Canton Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio. The bridge is a 103 feet long and 12 feet wide Pratt Truss that has a timber deck, cut stone abutments, and V-lacing throughout the bridge. The main members have "Carnegie" stamps, indicating that the metal superstructure was sourced from Carnegie Steel. According to state maintenance records, some of the main members were replaced in 1987. Further study of the area found no significant event or trend to have occurred. A study of historic maps has shown the area has largely uninhabited, with little industry having occurred. Therefore, this area is not eligible to be declared a historic district. The bridge itself is not associated with any historic trends, events, or labor movements. Therefore, the bridge is not eligible of the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A.

The structure and surrounding area are not known to have been associated with the productive period of some notable person's life pr to have been associated for any length of time with such a person. The structure is not a representation of such a person's historic contribution. The structure is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge is a 1899 Pratt Truss Bridge with a laminated wood deck, a steel girder substructure, and cut stone abutments and V-Lacing throughout the bridge. Consequently, this bridge is eligible under Criterion C as it is a well-preserved example of an early bridge type in West Virginia and was constructed by the Canton Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio, a company that is a known builder of historic bridges in the region. The Pratt Truss was one of the most widely used truss types, and an extremely popular design choice for trussed bridges from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century until the Second World War in the earth 20<sup>th</sup> Century.





Photo #1  
Pocatalico River Road Truss  
Roane County  
County Route 34, spanning the Pocatalico River  
View southwest toward Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge.





Photo #2  
Pocatalico River Road Truss  
Roane County  
County Route 34, spanning the Pocatalico River  
View south toward Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge.



Photo #3  
Pocatalico River Road Truss  
Roane County  
County Route 34, spanning the Pocatalico River  
Bridge builder plaque.



Photo #4  
Pocatalico River Road Truss  
Roane County  
County Route 34, spanning the Pocatalico River  
View southwest toward Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge.





Photo #5  
Pocatalico River Road Truss  
Roane County  
County Route 34, spanning the Pocatalico River  
View of the abutments, substructure, and parapets.



Photo #6  
Pocatalico River Road Truss  
Roane County  
County Route 34, spanning the Pocatalico River  
View southeast toward Pocatalico River Road Truss Bridge.