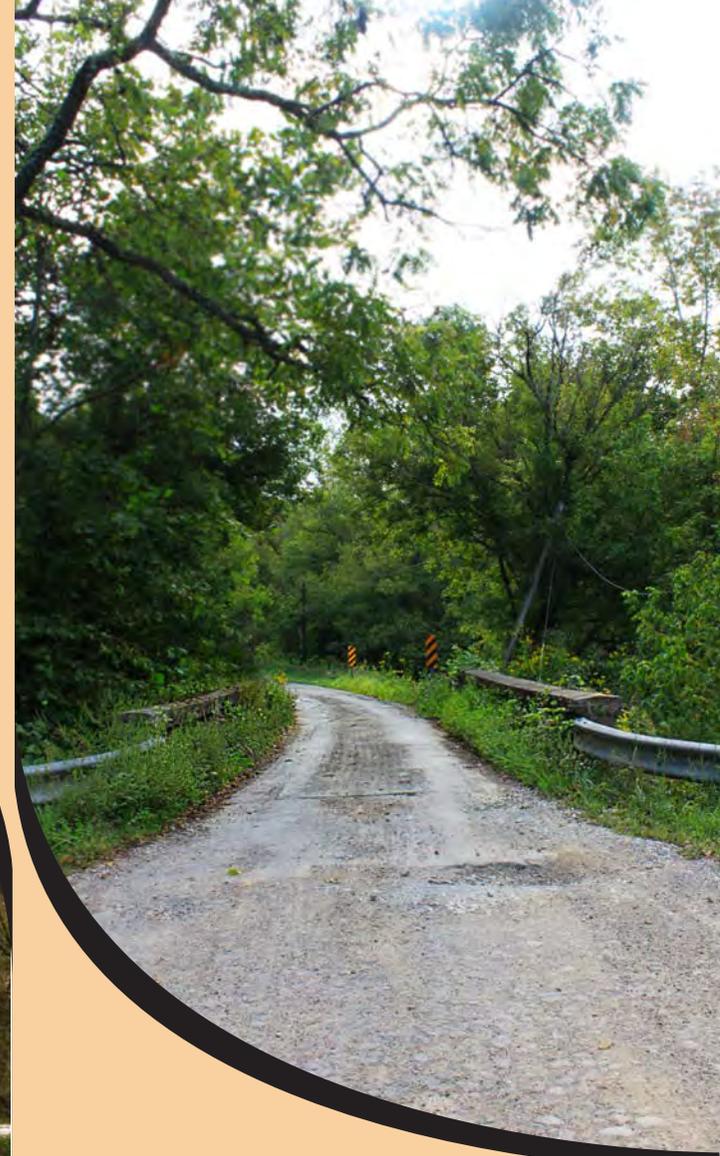


whatHistoricalServicesUnitdoes

- 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

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walnut grove
bridge
calhoun county

Walnut Grove Bridge History

Walnut Grove Thru Girder Bridge is on County Rt 9 in unincorporated Rocksdale-Walnut Grove Church area, part of a wider farming community in western-central Calhoun County. This bridge was built in 1920 and is a 43'-0" long by 15'-1" wide single-span reinforced concrete through girder superstructure supported on cut stone abutments. The two concrete girders extend upward creating the bridge's concrete railings. The deck is 14-inch-thick reinforced concrete. The roadway width (between railings) is 12'-4 1/2".

The first reinforced concrete through girder bridge was purportedly built in France ca. 1893 and the earliest in the US built in the first decade of the 20th century. In the 1910s the concrete thru girder became a standard bridge design used by early state highway departments, including in WV, and was most commonly built in the US until ca. 1930.

The through girder bridge type consists of a two concrete beams – aka, the railings – that support and were cast to be incorporated with the concrete slab deck, basically creating a monolithic superstructure. This system tended to be used for spans 20 to 60 feet long and no wider than about 20 feet. These strong bridges required a narrow roadway (to prevent excessive dead load) and, since the integral girders/railings were the sole support, they were impossible to widen. In WV many of these bridges have been replaced, with very few remaining by 2019.

Walnut Grove Thru Girder Bridge has been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for its engineering significance as an example of a reinforced concrete through girder bridge, an increasingly uncommon type amongst extant older bridges in WV.



Location: County Route 9, east of County Route 18, spanning Left Fork Barnes Run

Type: Reinforced Concrete Thru Girder Span

Length: 43 feet

Year constructed: 1920

Contractor: Unknown