

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER  
LISTED

DEC 27 2006

### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A) Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

#### 1. Name of Property

Historic name Fox Creek Stone Arch Bridge  
Other name/site number Chase County Bridge # 9.2-03/KDOT Bridge # 903.3-520.2

#### 2. Location

Street & number 1/2 mi. N & 3/4 mi. W of int. US 50 & Cottonwood St.  not for publication  
City or town Strong City  vicinity  
State Kansas Code KS County Chase Code 017 Zip code 66869

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Patricia Zolner DSHPO 10/6/06  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Kansas State Historical Society

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official /Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is

	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register _____ <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:) _____		

Fox Creek Stone Arch Bridge

Name of Property

Chase Co., Kansas

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes. C is checked.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Engineering

Period of Significance

1898

Significant Dates

1898

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

B. Lantry & Sons

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, landmark, survey, engineering.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State agency, Federal agency, Local government, University, Other.

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Fox Creek Stone Arch Bridge  
Chase Co., Kansas

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**Description**

**Summary**

The Fox Creek Stone Arch Bridge spans Fox Creek in north central Chase County, Kansas. It is on a county road located ½ mile North and ¾ mile West of the intersection of US Highway 50 and Cottonwood Street in Strong City, Kansas. The bridge is located over Fox Creek in the NW ¼ of Section 17 of Township 19 South, Range 8 East. The county contracted for a single arch limestone bridge to be built in 1897 and it was finished in 1898. No significant modifications have been performed to the structure to date. The bridge span length is 40', and the structure length is 55' (Edge of Wearing Surface to Edge of Wearing Surface). The bridge roadway width is 16', and the total width of the bridge deck is 20'. The bridge has a sufficiency rating of 47%.

**Elaboration**

The structure consists of native limestone blocks combined with concrete mortar. The fitted limestone blocks were cut from a nearby quarry. The Fox Creek Stone Arch Bridge was designed and constructed in the limestone arch style that relies on compression of the stones for structural strength. This pattern is similar to other Chase County historic stone arch bridges. Compacted fill within the structure provides distribution of live and dead loads through the arch. The center of the bridge is graded to be higher than the edges and provides good surface drainage. The cracks between the stones and a good aggregate base provide drainage for the bridge.

The bridge was built by Chase County. A notice to contractors was published November 18, 1897 in the *Chase County Leader* newspaper asking for bids for a single arch stone bridge across Fox Creek. The January 13, 1898 edition of the *Chase County Leader* reports the order awarding the contract to Lantry Sons to build a single stone arch bridge on Fox Creek not to exceed \$2,000. Labor for the contraction consisted of a local work force skilled in limestone rock construction.

While showing some significant deterioration from erosion of the limestone, the bridge has remained in use for public vehicular traffic since its construction in 1898 to the present time, and is listed on the Federal Highway Administrations bridge inventory in Chase County. Structural inspections are performed biennially to evaluate the condition of the bridge. At the present time this county road and this historic bridge are part of the only emergency evacuation route for the residential part of Strong City north of Highway 50.

Fox Creek Bridge is part of the Community Connection Trail, a bike and pedestrian trail connecting, Strong City, and Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. The bridge is a scenic feature of the trail as well as a connection between town and country.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Fox Creek Stone Arch Bridge  
Chase Co., Kansas

Section number 9,10,11 Page 2

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**Bibliography**

*Chase County Leader.* October 18, 1897; January 13, 1898.

*Strong City Derrick.* January 14, 1898.

*Roots & Patchwork: an Historical View of Chase County, Kansas U.S.A.* The Chase County Historical Society, (Kansas Graphics, Inc., Cottonwood Falls, Kansas, 2002)

Picture archives of The Chase County Historical Museum

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of this property is described as being centered on the county road right-of-way with the north boundary twenty-five feet north of the center line of the bridge and the south boundary twenty-five feet south of the center line of the bridge. The east and west boundaries lie seventy feet from the center of the bridge.

**Boundary Justification**

These boundaries were selected to encompass the entire right-of-way surrounding the bridge.

**Photographic Information**

The following information is consistent for all photographs:

Fox Creek Stone Arch Bridge  
Chase County, Kansas  
Photograph by Patrick Zollner  
February 2006  
Digital image archived at the Kansas State Historical Society

The following information is specific to each photograph:

Photo # 1 View from the southeast.  
Photo # 2 View of roadbed from the east.  
Photo # 3 View of stone arch detail from the northeast.



SAFFORDVILLE 6 MI.  
EMPORIA 17 MI.

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456  
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4253080  
14/714080/  
UTM Coordinates  
Chase Co, Kansas  
Fox Creek Bridge