United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic       Middle Creek Tributary Bridge

and/or common Middle Creek Tributary Bridge

2. Location

street & number  5.8 miles west of Princeton

n/a   not for publication

city, town       Princeton

x   vicinity of

state       Kansas

code 20

county       Franklin

code 59

3. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>district</td>
<td>public</td>
<td>occupied</td>
<td>agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>building(s)</td>
<td>private</td>
<td>unoccupied</td>
<td>commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>structure</td>
<td>both</td>
<td>work in progress</td>
<td>educational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>site</td>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>Accessible</td>
<td>entertainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>object</td>
<td>in process</td>
<td>yes: restricted</td>
<td>government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>being considered</td>
<td>yes: unrestricted</td>
<td>industrial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>no</td>
<td>military</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Owner of Property

name       Franklin County

street & number       Franklin County Courthouse

city, town       Ottawa

x   vicinity of

state       Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.       Register of Deeds

street & number       Franklin County Courthouse

city, town       Ottawa

state       Kansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Survey of Historic Bridges--
title       Kansas Department of Transportation

has this property been determined eligible?   yes  x  no

date       1980-83

federal  x  state  county  local

depository for survey records       Kansas State Historical Society

city, town       Topeka

state       Kansas
### 7. Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Check one</th>
<th>Check one</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_ excellent</td>
<td>_ deteriorated</td>
<td>_ unaltered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X good</td>
<td>_ ruins</td>
<td>X original site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_ fair</td>
<td>_ unexposed</td>
<td>_ moved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Middle Creek Tributary bridge is 24 feet long and 25 feet wide curb to curb. The roadway lies 11.5 feet above the water level.

The corrugated metal multiplate arch springs from and is disposed between concrete and stone abutments. The stone spandrel walls project upward to the crown of the arch. They are capped by a course of vertically set stones upon which rests a stone guard railing. The guard rail features a concrete cap. A dressed keystone sits at the crown of the ring stones and extends through the spandrel wall cap stones. Short stone wing walls are located at each approach.
8. Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>prehistoric</td>
<td>archeology-prehistoric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1400–1499</td>
<td>archeology-historic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500–1599</td>
<td>agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600–1699</td>
<td>architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800–1899</td>
<td>commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900–</td>
<td>communications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specific dates: [1930]  
Builder/Architect: Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Middle Creek Tributary bridge retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling and association. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction no longer being used and may yield information important to the history of engineering.

Research has failed to reveal details about the construction of the Brush Creek bridge. Metal multiplate bridges were being built before World War II and after the metal sections again became available after the war they were widely advocated by companies such as Armaco whose Missouri-Kansas division was located in Topeka.

The bridge represents the combination of two materials, steel and stone, that at one time were in serious competition as a bridge building medium. It had become faster and more economical to build the arch out of steel and then the spandrel walls from the readily available stone. The final result was a strong and economical bridge that still harmonized with the natural environment.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
9. Major Bibliographical References


10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property  Less than one acre

Quadrangle name  Williamsburg, Kansas

UTM References

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A Zone</th>
<th>B Zone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easting</td>
<td>Easting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northing</td>
<td>Northing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quadrangle scale  1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification
That property on and over which the bridge is built including bridge structure and abutments. SW¼ SW¼ S12 - T18S - R18E

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>state</th>
<th>code</th>
<th>county</th>
<th>code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Larry Jochims, Research Historian and Michael Snell

organization  Kansas State Historical Society
date  2/20/85

street & number  120 W. Tenth
telephone  (913) 296-2973
city or town  Topeka
state  Kansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title  Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society
date  3/4/85

For NPS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:  
date

Chief of Registration
Middle Creek Tributary Bridge
Princeton, Kansas

UTM Reference 15/292780/4262890