

LIMERICK ROAD BRIDGE
Spanning the Pigeon River at Limerick Road
Caseville vicinity
Huron County
Michigan

HAER No. MI-74

HAER
MICH
32-CASEVILLE
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, P.A. 19106

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
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Location: Limerick Road spanning the Pigeon River
Caseville vicinity,
Huron County, Michigan

UTM: 17.4865050.329100
Quad: Rush Lake, Mich.

Date of Construction: 1900

Contractor: Probably King Iron Bridge Co.
of Cleveland, Ohio

Present Owner: Huron County Road Commission
Huron, MI

Significance: With a main span of 26.82 m
(88'), this is among the
longest known surviving
Overhead Through Truss Bridges
in Michigan.

Project Information: The bridge replacement became
more critical after the 1991
bridge inspection indicated
the 6 ton load limit. To
mitigate the adverse effect,
the State Historic Preservation
Office stipulated documentation
of the historic bridge. This
documentation was undertaken
to fulfill the first stipulation
of the Memorandum of Agreement.

R.S. Scott Associates
405 River Street
Alpena, MI 49707

Summary Description of Bridge and Setting

The Limerick Road Bridge is located in Caseville Township, Sections 1 & 12, T17N, R10E in Huron County. Built in 1900, the bridge is a single span steel overhead through truss structure with riveted connections. The span length is 26.82 m (88') with the overall length 90' and crosses the Pigeon River at a 90 degree angle. The existing bridge has a 4.27 meters (14 feet) clear roadway width and a corrugated metal deck with a concrete wearing surface. The materials used in the bridge to give it strength are steel--angles, lattice tension members, tie rods, I-beams, plates and guard rail fastened together with rivets.

Limerick Road east and west of the bridge is constructed of a gravel surface on a 20.12 m (66') right-of-way. The total roadway width is 8.53 m (28') with two 3.05 m (10') lanes and 1.22 m (4') shoulders. The present average daily traffic is 85 vehicles and the future expected traffic is 100 vehicles in the year 2013. Limerick Road was used by emergency vehicles, farm equipment, school buses, logging trucks, and delivery trucks.

After a tractor hit the west end of the bridge in 1985, angles were welded to the overhead portion of the truss. This was the only known alteration to the structure.

The Bad Axe Library, the Huron Historical Society and the Huron County Road Commission were contacted for any information on the Limerick Road Bridge. The best source of information on the bridge came from the Huron County Road Commission's survey notes and 1991 inspection report. However, no information about the people or firms who build the bridge, nor how it was constructed or what kind of tools were used was found.

The bridge is significant to this farming community and with out the use of the bridge all vehicles except cars and pick-ups must detour 9.65 km (6 miles). The load restriction of Limerick Road Bridge is having an adverse effect on the economy of Huron County.

Bibliography

Huron County Road Commission, Limerick Road over the Pigeon River Survey Notes, 1992.

