

At the time of statehood and the creation of the county, the population was 37,677. The county saw a population increase to 52,570 by 1920. The population began to decline with the Great Depression and the decrease in coal mining. By 1960, the population was 34,360. However, the population has subsequently increased and in 2010 it was 45,837.²²

PART II – ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING INFORMATION

General Description

The Brushy Creek Bridge carries vehicular traffic over the creek. The bridge is a single Camelback pony truss with two steel stringer approach spans. It was constructed by the Campbell Brothers of Kansas City, Missouri in 1923. The total length of the bridge is approximately 149 feet. The bridge is slightly more than 17 feet in width.

The top cord and end posts are steel beams with a lace pattern. A lattice guardrail runs the length of the bridge. The decking of bridge is covered with asphalt. There are two identical plates identifying the bridge contractor, county engineer, and construction date on either side of the bridge. The substructure of the bridge has concrete abutments on either side of the creek.

Structural damage includes, but not limited to rusted truss members and deteriorating asphalt decking.

Camelback Truss

The camelback truss is a variation of the Parker truss, with most being Parker trusses with five slopes in the upper chord and end posts. The camelback variation was created by Charles H. Parker. The top chord is not parallel with the bottom chord, which creates less dead load at the ends and more strength at the center. While it is more complicated to build, it provides a lighter structure of equal strength.²³

PART III – SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Original Drawings and Other Sources

No original drawings were found. The Office of the County Commissioners indicated that they do not have the minutes for this time period. (Personal Communications, May 9, 2012, Visit to County June 12, 2012). Local Newspapers were also researched but did not have information pertaining to the bridge.

PART IV END NOTES

¹ Johnson, Kenneth S. "Rivers and Creeks," Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture. Oklahoma State University. Electronic document, available at <http://digital.library.okstate.edu/encyclopedia>, accessed March 14, 2012.

² Corbett, Bill. "Transportation," Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture. Oklahoma State University. Electronic document, available at <http://digital.library.okstate.edu/encyclopedia>, accessed 15 March 2012.