

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Sanitarium Lake Bridges Historic District

other names/site number Bridges #10955 and #10956, Marble Bridge and Lake Street Bridge, Site #CR2110 and CR2112

2. Location

street & number Carroll County Road 317 (Lake Lucerne Road), approximately 0.5 miles south of Greenwood Hollow Road ☐ not for publication

city or town Eureka Springs ☒ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Carroll code 015 zip code 72632

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 for 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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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 certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Sanitarium Lake Bridges Historic District

Carroll County, Arkansas

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

		buildings
		sites
2	1	structures
		objects
2	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/Road-Related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/Road-Related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/Masonry Arch

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls STONE

roof N/A

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ENGINEERING

TRANSPORTATION

Period of Significance

1891-1960

Significant Dates

1891

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Eureka Sanitarium Company, Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

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):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☒ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # AR-103

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☒ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department

Name of Property

County and State

Acreage of Property Less than one

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>434060</u>	<u>4026296</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>15</u>	<u>434121</u>	<u>4026108</u>

3	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	_____	_____	_____

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

zip code 72201

Submit the following items with the completed form:

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state AR zip code _____

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Sanatorium Lake Bridges Historic District

County and State: Carroll County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Section number: 7 Page: 1

SUMMARY

Bridge #10955, or the Marble Bridge, crosses a ravine along County Road 317 (Lake Lucerne Road) to the south of Eureka Springs, in northwest Carroll County. Bridge #10956, or the Lake Street Bridge, traverses a dry branch, located roughly to the southeast of Marble Bridge, along the same route. Marble Bridge is a masonry deck arch built of cut stone in 1891. It has a single span with a length of forty-four (44) feet, a span width of twenty-two (22) feet, and a total length of forty-eight (48) feet. The Lake Street Bridge is also a masonry deck arch built of stone in 1891. It has a single span of twenty-two (22) feet long, a span width of sixteen (16) feet, for a total length of twenty-two (22) feet.

ELABORATION

The Eureka Sanitarium Company constructed these two masonry deck arch bridges out of cut stone along County Road 317 (Lake Lucerne Road) in 1891. The bridges were built as part of the development of Crystal Lake, later Sanitarium Lake, currently Lake Lucerne, a huge state-of-the-art health resort. While unknown, physical evidence suggests that the Lake Road bridges were professionally designed and built by experienced stone masons, perhaps some of the same individuals who designed and built the stone masonry structures in downtown Eureka Springs.¹ Both bridges have a single span; with the Marble Bridge span forty-four feet long, a span width of twenty-two feet, and a total length of forty-eight feet. The Lake Street Bridge has a main span of twenty-two feet long, sixteen feet wide, and a total length of twenty-two feet. Neither bridge is skewed in its construction. The top of the stone walls act as low curbs on the bridges.

The arch is an ancient structural form, probably a refinement of the even earlier practice of corbelling stones or timbers to span a void. The defining characteristic of an arch is its reliance on compression to transfer gravity loads to the supporting foundations. While arch bridges can be built of any material, an arch is the only efficient way to span long distances with stone. Since the stones in a masonry arch rely on each other for support, wooden falsework is used to support the arch until all the stones are fitted together. The structure becomes self-supporting when the final stone is wedged into place at the crown of the arch. Well-built stone arch bridges are extremely strong and durable. America's oldest stone arch bridge, Pennypack Creek Bridge built in 1697 in Philadelphia, still carries traffic more than three centuries after its construction.²

Bridge #10955 and Bridge #10956, as numbered by the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department; connect parts of County Road 317, a five mile entrance road to the Lake Lucerne Resort, over ravines present in the foothills of the Ozarks. This style of bridge is very rare in Arkansas, as many of the bridges constructed in

¹ Lola Bennett, "Marble Bridge," Historic American Engineering Record, (2007):4

² Lola Bennett, "Marble Bridge," Historic American Engineering Record, (2007):5

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Sanatarium Lake Bridges Historic District

County and State: Carroll County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Section number: 7 Page: 2

the state are of concrete or metal construction. In fact, there are only six surviving examples of this type identified to date.³ In addition, Marble Bridge is one of the largest surviving stone arch bridges in Arkansas.

Lake Lucerne Road, in between the two bridges, is considered to be a non-contributing structure since it has been repaved several times since the bridges were built.

Integrity

The Marble Bridge and the Lake Street Bridge retain excellent integrity. The county transportation department has maintained the bridges enough to ensure their reliability. There have been no modifications from the original bridges, nor any major repairs. The roads between have since been repaved and upgraded, and remain in good condition. Both bridges are in similar condition and setting to that of their construction in 1891.

³ Lola Bennett, "Marble Bridge," Historic American Engineering Record, (2007):5

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Sanatarium Lake Bridges Historic District

County and State: Carroll County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Section number: 8 Page: 1

SUMMARY

The Sanitarium Lake Bridges Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as a good example of a masonry arch deck bridge construction. The two bridges, the Marble Bridge, one of the largest, and the Lake Street Bridge, are two of six remaining bridges of this style identified in Arkansas to date, and the only ones in Carroll County. It is also being nominated under **Criterion A** for its associations with the development of the roadway infrastructure in the new community of Eureka Springs in the late 1800s. The Sanitarium Lake Bridges Historic District is being submitted to the National Register of Historic Places under the multiple property listing "Historic Bridges in Arkansas."

ELABORATION

Bridge #10955, also known as the Marble Bridge, is located on County Road 317, or Lake Lucerne Road, and crosses a natural ravine roughly two miles south of Eureka Springs in Carroll County. The bridge is oriented northwest to southeast. Bridge #10956, also known as the Lake Street Bridge, is located roughly to the southeast of Marble Bridge and curves from north to east over a dry branch.

Carroll County was created on November 1, 1833. The county was named after the state of Maryland resident Charles Carroll. Carroll, one of the first to sign the Declaration of Independence, identified himself by adding his place of residence as he penned "Charles Carroll of Carrollton." The county's boundaries changed several times. Sections were taken in 1836 and 1838 to create Madison and Searcy counties. Another portion became Newton County in 1842. The creation of Boone County in 1869 reduced Carroll below the minimum square miles required for a county, so part of Madison County was added. In the county's early years, lumber mills appeared, farmers grew sustenance crops, and an abundance of game made for good hunting. The Kings River, the White River, and other water sources such as Osage and Dry Fork provided access to the growing county.⁴

At the start of the Civil War, as in other counties in northwest Arkansas, after resisting the state's determination to secede, the county voted for delegates to attend the convention to decide the allegiance of Arkansas to the dividing nation. Carroll County residents voted for delegates that would remain loyal to the United States. However, a second convention found things very different. A change in county attitudes and the secession of several states had Carroll County and its delegates in favor of joining the Confederate States of America. But the county was divided. Peace societies sprang up. Union and Confederate troops crossed the county several times, engaging in skirmishes. Union troops moved in and out of the county, encamping and occupying it at times. Carrollton was destroyed, leaving little more than stables. Two residences and a hotel were all that remained in Berryville. Skirmishes occurred at Berryville, Carrollton, and Crooked Creek.⁵

⁴ Information found at: <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?search=1&entryID=752> : Carroll County. Accessed on 16 July 2009. Referenced through document as: (C.C.)

⁵ (C.C.)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Sanatorium Lake Bridges Historic District

County and State: Carroll County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Section number: 8 Page: 2

Corn, wheat, rye, oats, and potatoes were some of the county's main crops. Farmers also grew grapes, plums, apples, and peaches. The timber crop consisted of black oak, post oak, and cedar. Cotton was added to Carroll County's agricultural crop prior to the Civil War. Decreasing prices contributed to the declining production. Bears, deer, turkeys, and wild cats roamed the county.⁶

Eureka Springs, "The City of Healing Waters," has fifty natural mineral springs within its borders.⁷ The use of these springs in the western part of the county in 1879 brought a rapid population increase in the area. Individuals seeking the healing powers of its waters made Eureka Springs a thriving community. The new town drew residents far different from the farm families in the county. When Chicago physician Dr. Charles E. Davis came to the Ozarks seeking a cure for his wife, in 1880, Eureka Springs was booming, "Hotels, boarding houses and every available habitation are full to overflowing; tents are springing up in all directions...Our business men are thoroughly imbued with the importance of our city and its magic waters, and subscribe largely and liberally to all efforts at public improvement."⁸

The railroad reached Eureka when the Eureka Springs Railway ran between the city and Seligman, Missouri. The judicial district of Carroll County was divided into two sections in 1883: an eastern district with the seat at Berryville and a western district with the seat at Eureka Springs. Kings River served as the boundary between the districts. Tourism became a focus as people came in search of the beauty of the hills and the uniqueness of Eureka Springs. The "back to the land" movement in the 1960s brought new residents who wanted to simplify their lives. The influx created a noticeable distinction in the county's cities as Eureka Springs drew a wider variety of residents, while the remainder of the county maintained its more traditional base. While retaining its rural status, Carroll County has successfully merged its history with the changing times to create a county that draws a diverse group of residents as well as tourists.⁹

After witnessing his wife's health restored, Dr. Davis moved to Eureka Springs and became involved with several financial backers to create the Eureka Sanitarium Company. The Company worked to establish a state-of-the-art health resort in the region. They developed an 1,800-acre park on the shores of a spring-fed lake three miles south of Eureka Springs. First known as Crystal Lake, the resort later becoming "Sanitarium Lake," "Spring Lake," and finally, "Lake Lucerne."¹⁰

In 1891, the Sanitarium Company constructed all necessary features of a resort, a boathouse, hiking and bridle trails, and cut a five-mile entrance road, upon which several stone arches to carry the road over natural ravines and depressions were built. The Eureka Springs Sanitarium Company was active for nearly two decades. Dr.

⁶ (C.C.)

⁷ Lola Bennett, "Marble Bridge," Historic American Engineering Record, (2007):3

⁸ Lola Bennett, "Marble Bridge," Historic American Engineering Record, (2007):3

⁹ (C.C.)

¹⁰ Lola Bennett, "Marble Bridge," Historic American Engineering Record, (2007):3-4

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Sanatorium Lake Bridges Historic District

County and State: Carroll County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Section number: 8 Page: 3

Davis retired from private practice in 1920, and sold Sanatorium Lake to Crescent College President Richard R. Thompson, who developed a small resort, renamed Lake Lucerne. It remained a popular recreation facility through the 1960s.¹¹

The arch is an ancient structural form, probably a refinement of the even earlier practice of corbelling stones or timbers to span a void. The defining characteristic of an arch is its reliance on compression to transfer gravity loads to the supporting foundations. While arch bridges can be built of any material, an arch is the only efficient way to span long distances with stone. Since the stones in a masonry arch rely on each other for support, wooden falsework is used to support the arch until all the stones are fitted together. The structure becomes self-supporting when the final stone is wedged into place at the crown of the arch. Well-built stone arch bridges are extremely strong and durable. America's oldest stone arch bridge, Pennypack Creek Bridge built in 1697 in Philadelphia, still carries traffic more than three centuries after its construction.¹²

The Marble Bridge and the Lake Lucerne Road Bridge were built to allow access to a health resort which attracted patients from across America to the rural city of Eureka Springs in 1891. The use of stone was a logical choice given the rocky nature of the land in the Eureka Springs area. The use of the arch form for the bridge gave them a picturesque and charming nature that would have been aesthetically pleasing to the people staying at the resort. The draw of the mineral springs shaped the community of Eureka Springs into the tourist attraction it is today. The formation and posterity of the city can be traced to when these springs were discovered and widely believed to have healing powers, and these bridges stand as monuments to that era.

Today, the Sanatorium Lake Bridges Historic District illustrates the development of infrastructure in the earliest days of Eureka Springs existence. The bridges in the district are the oldest remaining bridges in the community, and are reminders of the development of Eureka Springs as a health resort in the late 1800s. The bridges are also significant as rare remaining nineteenth-century masonry arch bridges in Arkansas.

Statement of Significance

The Marble Bridge, #10955, and the Lake Street Bridge, #10956, are great examples of the masonry deck arch design in Arkansas. They were built by the Eureka Sanatorium Company in 1891 and retain excellent integrity of setting and remain unaltered. As masonry arch bridges made of cut stone, these bridges are two of six surviving of this type in Arkansas documented to date and the only remaining examples in Carroll County.

The Sanatorium Lake Bridges Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as a good example of a masonry arch deck bridge construction. The two bridges, the Marble Bridge, one of the largest, and the Lake Street Bridge, are two of six remaining bridges

¹¹ Lola Bennett, "Marble Bridge," Historic American Engineering Record, (2007):4

¹² Lola Bennett, "Marble Bridge," Historic American Engineering Record, (2007):5

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Sanatarium Lake Bridges Historic District

County and State: Carroll County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
Historic Bridges of Arkansas

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of this style identified in Arkansas to date, and the only ones in Carroll County. It is also being nominated under **Criterion A** for its associations with the development of the roadway infrastructure in the new community of Eureka Springs in the late 1800s. The Sanitarium Lake Bridges Historic District is being submitted to the National Register of Historic Places under the multiple property listing “Historic Bridges in Arkansas.”

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Sanatarium Lake Bridges Historic District

County and State: Carroll County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
Historic Bridges of Arkansas

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Bennett, Lola, "Marble Bridge," Historic American Engineering Record, (2007).

Carroll County. <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?search=1&entryID=752>
Accessed on 16 July 2009.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property: Sanatarium Lake Bridges Historic District

County and State: Carroll County, Arkansas

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)
Historic Bridges of Arkansas

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Verbal Boundary Discription

Beginning at a point 10 feet south of the southern end of the Lake Street Bridge, the boundary follows County Road 317 (Lake Lucerne Road) to a point 10 feet northwest of the northwestern end of the Marble Bridge. The width of the boundary includes 10 feet on either side of the roadway centerline.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses all of the land historically associated with the Marble and Lake Street Bridges, and their immediate surroundings.