

# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Monitor Bridge

Property ID: 1465

## Location



**Address:** Main St, Crossing Wenatchee River, Monitor, WA 98836

**Geographic Areas:** Chelan County, T23R19E14

## Information

**Number of stories:** N/A

**Construction Dates:**

Construction Type	Year	Circa
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**Historic Use:**

Category	Subcategory
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**Historic Context:**

Category
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**Architect/Engineer:**

Category	Name or Company
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**Thematics:**

**Local Registers and Districts**

Name	Date Listed	Notes
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## Project History



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Project Number, Organization, Project Name	Resource Inventory	SHPO Determination	SHPO Determined By, Determined Date
032906-05-CH, , Chelan County PUD Sewer Line Upgrade (Monitor Bridge)	1/1/1980	Determined Eligible	, 4/5/2006

## Photos



Original HPI form(s)



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### Inventory Details - 1/1/1900

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**Common name:**

**Date recorded:** 1/1/1900

**Field Recorder:**

**Field Site number:**

**SHPO Determination**

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### Inventory Details - 1/1/1980

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**Common name:**

**Date recorded:** 1/1/1980

**Field Recorder:**

**Field Site number:**

**SHPO Determination** 032906-05-CH

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**Statement of Significance:**

The Monitor Bridge (08173600) is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its intact reinforced concrete open-spandrel arch design. Built by Chelan County in 1930, the bridge is a 357-foot long multi-span reinforced concrete open-spandrel arch bridge located over the Wenatchee River. The bridge was designated a Category II bridge in 1980 as a significant resource for its engineering but did not rise to the level of NRHP-eligibility at that time (Soderberg 1980).

The Monitor Bridge does not meet eligibility per Criterion A. The bridge is the third structure to span the Wenatchee River at this location and is not associated with important events or trends in transportation, commerce or settlement. Such trends were well-established locally, with construction of the West Monitor Bridge in 1907 as well as the predecessor to the Monitor Bridge itself. In addition, the bridge is not associated historically with a significant individual or individuals recognized at the local, state or national level, and thereby does not meet eligibility per Criterion B.

Although in good condition, the structure is listed as functionally obsolete due to the narrow two-lane deck. Aside from evidence of concrete spalling among the rails and some areas of its spandrel columns and ribs, the structure retains an adequate degree of integrity of location, materials, workmanship, design, feeling, setting, and association.

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The earliest known bridge to span the Wenatchee River near Monitor was “built by the railway people” as payment for use of the nearby county road. In 1906, major flooding damaged the structure beyond repair. A 160-ft. steel truss span replaced the original crossing in 1909 (Wenatchee World Daily, 1910). The 1931 Monitor Bridge replaced the existing steel truss bridge with the current concrete open spandrel arch. Plan drawings provided by Chelan County report that local engineer, A.M. Buell, designed the bridge under supervision of County Engineer B.B. Carter.

**Physical Description:**

The Monitor Bridge carries two lanes of traffic 357-feet over the Wenatchee River into the unincorporated town of Monitor. Located in Southeastern Chelan County, its 20-ft. wide deck is abutted by two 4-ft. wide elevated concrete sidewalks that run the length of the bridge. The original concrete balustrade railings are present on its west and east elevations. The bridge is comprised of three arch spans measuring 131-ft., 121-ft., and 105-ft., with two approach spans measuring 36-ft. and 22-ft. respectively.

The date of its construction (1930) is embossed in both concrete rail end. Its multi-span design consists of three monolithic arch spans that support four rows of ten square spandrel columns with brackets on top. Six brackets are set directly attached to the arch ribs and support the cantilevered sidewalks. Minor haunches connect each spandrel column and horizontal concrete

caps connect each column while acting as floor beams. Both approach spans are supported by four rows of four columns on its east end and three sets of four columns on its west end. Two monolithic piers founded on piles, one instream pier and one located on the west river bank, support the bridge. Two massive abutments on the east end are also founded on piles. A utility pipe is suspended from its south side.

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### Sources:

Bridge Engineering Information System (BEIS). Monitor. Plans, map, inspection reports and photos. Online, Tumwater.

Wenatchee Daily World “Chelan County Bridge Summarized.” Volume 5, Number 259, May 16, 1910.

Soderberg, Lisa. “Historic Bridges and Tunnels in Washington State.” *National Register of Historic Places*. 1980.

Schumacher, James. “Monitor Bridge. Chelan County Bridge No. 305, Structure ID # 08173600.” National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, March 6, 2006.













