Historic Sites Survey

State of Mississippi Department of Archives & History P. O. Box 571, Jackson, MS. 39205

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:	NAME: Youngblood Bridge					
Measuring 70 feet in length, the twin-tower swinging suspension bridge has	STREET NO: Youngblood Road					
a central span of 40 feet and two 15 foot spans between the towers and the Fifteen Mile Creek bank. Iron-sheathed concrete towers support the 16 foot						
wide wooden deck, which consists of creosoted pine float beams, stringers,						
decking, and oak runners. One-and-one-half-inch galvanized steel cables are suspended from the towers and anchored to the creek bank.	BLOCK/LOT:					
	PRESENT OWNER: Board of Supervisors					
The Youngblood Bridge was constructed in 1900 and repaired by W.H. Groom and Son in 1915 at a cost of \$799.96. The bridge is located on the bord	ADDRESS Jefferson County Courthouse P.O. Box 145					
of the Homochitto National Forest, and is still used for vehicular traffic	PBESENT USE					
The bridge incorporates the Schuster and Jacob cable anchoring system de-	FORMER USE:					
sign (patent #s 6203,729591; dated June 2, 1903), as well as improvements made on that system by W.H. Groome and Son.	DATE: 1900					
	STYLE:					
ALTERATIONS:	ARCH/BUILDER: Schuster and Jacob, engineers					
None (routine maintenance consists of replacement of the wood deck approxi-	J.F. Gallbreath, builder					
mately every fifteen years).	SOURCE OF DATE: Minute Books, Board of Supervisors, Jefferson					
OUTBUILDINGS:	ENVIRONMENT: County, Mississippi.					
	rural LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE					
LANDSCAPE FEATURES:	NEIGHBORHOOD					
Forested, wilderness setting; gravel road.	LOCAL STATE X					
Forested, wilderness setting, graver road.	NATIONAL					
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:	PHOTOS					
The Youngblood Bridge is a highly successful technological product of the						
early twentieth century that met rural transportation needs in south-						
western Mississippi. Easier to maintain than wooden bridges and less expensive than iron bridges, swinging suspension bridges similar to the						
Youngblood Bridge proliferated in Jefferson County after 1900. The						
patented Schuster and Jacob anchoring system allowed for a simple yet secure method for anchoring bridge cables in the ground. The substitution						
of concrete infill in the cable anchoring system by W.H. Groome and Son						
was hastened after the frequent deterioration of the wood infill used						
according to the Schuster and Jacob patent. The Schuster and Jacob bridge design was used by local contractors in Jefferson county such as Robert						
Taylor, J.K. Gallbreath and W.H. Groome and Son. Although originally con-						
structed by J.K. Gallbreath in 1900, the repair of the Youngblood Bridge	NEG. #					

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CONTINUATION:



in 1915 by Groome incorporated the improved anchoring system. All of the bridges constructed in Jefferson county were financed by bonds issued by the county. The Youngblood Bridge served the agricultural transportation needs of local farmers and rural settlement areas south of Union Church.

HYSICAL CONDITIC	ON:	

good

HREATS:

SITE OR ARE

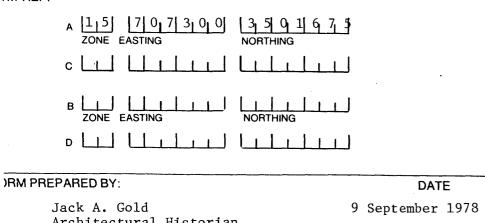
deterioration

ERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Swinging suspension bridge and county road right-of-way along Youngblood Road where the said crosses Fifteen Mile Creek

CREAGE: one acre

TM REF:



Architectural Historian Division of Historic Preservation



Swinging Suspension Bridges HEMALS YOUNGBLOOD BRIDGE RESOURCES Union Church, Jefferson County, M Jack A. Gold September 7, 1978 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Oak runners and deck; view to the southwest. Photo 1 of 3



Swinging Suspension BRidges Atematic YOUNGBLOOD BRIDGE RESOMENES Union Church, Jefferson County, Mississippi Jack A. Gold September 7, 1978 Mississippi Department of Archives and History Wooden deck; view to the northeast. Photo 2 of 3 MAY 2 3 1979 FEB 5 1979



Adspension Bridg YOUNGBLOOD BRIDGE Union Church, Jefferson County, Mississippi September 7, 1978 Him Mississippi Department of Archives and History View to the northeast. Photo 3 of 3 1979 FEB 5 MAY 2 3 1979