

Arizona

Querino Canyon Bridge

The Querino Canyon Bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Source of the following photo and Overview is: <https://www.nps.gov/places/querino-canyon-bridge.htm>



NPS Photo courtesy of Rhys Martin

Overview of Querino Canyon Bridge

The Querino Canyon Bridge is picturesquely situated over a rugged and beautiful canyon just outside Houck, Arizona. Designed by the Arizona Highway Department, the bridge is a representative example of early highway truss design. There are three concrete-decked steel Warren trusses with sub-verticals supported by steel piers. Each truss is about 77 feet long and 20 feet wide. Concrete abutments support the bridge from below and steel lattice guardrails typical of the period line the roadway. [This paragraph adapted from the National Park Service description to provide a more technically correct explanation.]

The State built the bridge in 1929 as part of a grand rehabilitation and relocation of Route 66 across northern Arizona. The project included several bridges, drainage construction, and at least 25 miles of roadway. The largest of these multiple efforts, the bridge over Querino Canyon formed an integral link on one of America's primary arteries.

This section of the highway became a county road during the 1960s after construction of Interstate 40. The Querino Canyon Bridge remains intact, carrying local traffic on Navajo Nation land. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

An important crossing of rerouted U.S. 66, the Querino Canyon Bridge formed an integral link on one of America's primary transcontinental routes. Picturesquely sited over the rugged canyon, the Querino Bridge is a typically configured example of early highway truss design.

1. **Historic Significance:** Served as an important element in Route 66, a highway which is historically significant for its effect on regional and national economic, social, and political development.
2. **Contributions:** Supported Route 66's role in contributing to regional and national growth.
3. **Uniqueness:** See Uniqueness narrative for Route 66 as a whole in the Nomination Discussion section.
4. **Date of original construction:** Constructed in 1929
5. **Names of key engineers:** Designed by the Arizona Highway Department.
6. **Photographs:** Included above.
7. **Additional documentation:** HABS / HAER Inventory. Available at: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/75607912>
8. **References:**

Bridge Record, Arizona City Streets and County Roads: 8071: Structures Section,' Arizona Department of Transportation.

"Department Closed Brilliant Construction Year," Arizona Highways. 7-1931-3

Location: 35 16 15.9 N 109 16 37.4 W

Local and vicinity maps: The Querino Canyon Bridge crosses Querino Canyon 3.8 miles southwest of Houck, AZ as part of Old Highway 66.

Vicinity map on following page.

