





- Due to its rural location, West Union Bridge has required few repairs during its lifetime. The bridge retains an unusually high degree of historic integrity and its picturesque rural setting possesses a high level of aesthetic integrity.
- Bypassed in 1964, West Union Bridge has been preserved in place as a local historic landmark. The structure retains the feeling of a nineteenth-century covered bridge.

**Owner of Property:** Parke County, Indiana

**Acreage of Property:** Less than one acre

**Origins of Nomination:** The *Covered Bridges NHL Context Study*, as well as this nomination, originated from the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER)'s National Covered Bridges Recording Project, which was funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)'s National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation (NHCBP) Program. West Union Bridge is one of eighty-six covered bridges recorded by HAER between 2002 and 2015 and one of twenty structures selected for National Historic Landmark (NHL) consideration. Five covered bridges have previously been designated as NHLs under this program: Humpback Bridge and Knight's Ferry Bridge in 2012, Brown Bridge and Duck Creek Aqueduct in 2014, and the California Powder Works Bridge in 2015.

**Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:**

- Designation would recognize the importance of covered bridges to the development of transportation and engineering in the United States.
- Designation would encourage future preservation of this bridge.

**Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:** None is known.

**Landmarks Committee Comments:**

**Landmarks Committee Recommendation:** Designation. Dr. Chen moved, Dr. Allan seconded; unanimous approval.

**Advisory Board Recommendation:**

**Public Comments Favoring Designation (received as of 9/27/16):**

Cameron F. Clark, State Historic Preservation Officer, Indiana Department of Natural Resources