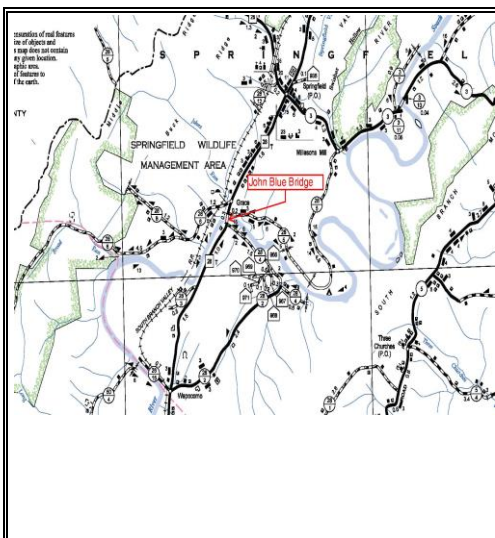




WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

Street Address Located along WV Route 28, spanning South Branch of the Potomac River, near Grace.	Common/Historic Name/Both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> John Blue Bridge-common Grace Bridge-historic	Field Survey # HPI #1	Site # (SHPO Only)
Town or Community Grace	County Hampshire	Negative No.	NR Listed Date
Architect/Builder Fort Pitt Bridge Works	Date of Construction 1936	Style (SHPO Only)	
Exterior Siding / Materials Main Span: Steel Riveted Through Truss End Span: Steel Riveted Pony Trusses	Roofing Material Deck Material: Concrete	Foundation Abutments: Concrete Piers: Concrete	
Property Use or Function Transportation	UTM Zone 17 NAD 1983 Easting 0696673E Northing 4366701N		
Survey Organization & Date WVDOH October 16, 2014	Quadrangle Name Springfield		
Part of What Survey / FR# State County Route S314-28-22.27 Federal Route BR-0028(058)D			



Name: John Blue Bridge

Survey #: HPI #1

Survey / FR#: State County Route S314-28-22.27 Federal Project #BR-0028(058)D

Present Owners WVDOH	Owners Mailing Address Capitol Complex Building 5 Charleston, WV 25305
Describe Setting <div style="text-align: right;">Unknown -- <1 Acres <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Artifacts Present</div> <p>The bridge is located in a rural area in Hampshire County near Grace. The bridge carries WV Route 28 over South Branch of the Potomac River approximately 0.03 miles south of County Route 28/5. The bridge is situated between horizontal curves on each side.</p>	
Description of Buildings or Site (Original and Present) <div style="text-align: right;">Stories Front Bays</div> <p>The structure was built by Fort Pitt Bridge Works in 1936. It consists of two 90 foot end spans and a 230 foot main central span. The end spans are steel riveted pony trusses and the main span is a steel riveted through truss. The bridge has an overall total length of 419 feet 6 inches. It is supported by two concrete abutments and two rectangular concrete piers. The overall width is 25 feet 2 inches. The bridge has a concrete deck. It is posted for weight limits and trucks and buses are restricted to cross one at a time. The Average Daily Traffic (ADT) is 2,900 Vehicles Per Day (VPD) with a 20 year ADT projected to be 3,800 VPD.</p>	
Alterations <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, describe Painting and routine maintenance work.	
Additions <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, describe	
Describe All Outbuildings N/A	
Statement of Significance: See Continuation Sheet.	
Bibliographical References WVDOH Bridge Inspection Report. Maintenance Division. 2014. Barnes, Tom. "Fort Pitt Bridge Works Site to be Redeveloped." <u>Pittsburgh Post-Gazette</u> . 23 July 2006. Fort Pitt Bridge Works, Pittsburgh, Pa., Records 1886-1949, AIS 1963.27, Archives Service Center, University of Pittsburgh.	
Form Prepared By: <div style="float: right;">Date: October 20, 2014</div> Name/Organization: Randy Epperly Address: WV Division of Highways Capitol Complex Building 5, Rm. 431 Charleston, WV 25305 Phone #: 304-558-9385	

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Name John Blue Bridge
Survey Number: HPI #1
Project / FR#: State County Route S314-28-22.27 Federal Project # BR-0028(058)D

Other than a general association with the history of the area, the John Blue Bridge has no important link with events or trends that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history. The bridge was constructed in 1936 to replace a bridge in the general location that had been damaged in the 1936 flood. This bridge was not built as a new linkage between major towns but was a replacement needed for a damaged bridge. Therefore this bridge is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

The bridge was named for John Blue, one of the first settlers in Hampshire County. Blue came to the area around 1725 and owned the land where present day WV Route 28 is located. The bridge itself does not have a direct association with the family. The Blue family settled in the area and may have had a connection to the original wire bridge. The current bridge was built in 1936 and named in honor of John Blue in 2003. The bridge is also known as Grace Bridge and Blue Beach Bridge. The bridge is not associated with a significant person or significant person's life and is not eligible under Criterion B.

The John Blue Bridge is a 419 foot 6 inch truss bridge consisting of a through truss and pony trusses. It was listed as Grace Bridge on the 1990 Final List of Historic Bridges for West Virginia. The bridge contains few alterations and remains a good example of a steel truss bridge. It was built by Fort Pitt Bridge Works, founded in 1896 and was eventually sold in 1986. Fort Pitt Bridge Works is known for its steel fabrications for bridges and also steel used in both World Wars. The bridge is eligible under Criterion C for being a good example of its bridge type and its association with a known builder.

The bridge is not likely to contain any important information that will contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory. It is not eligible under Criterion D.