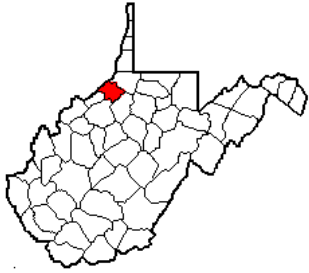
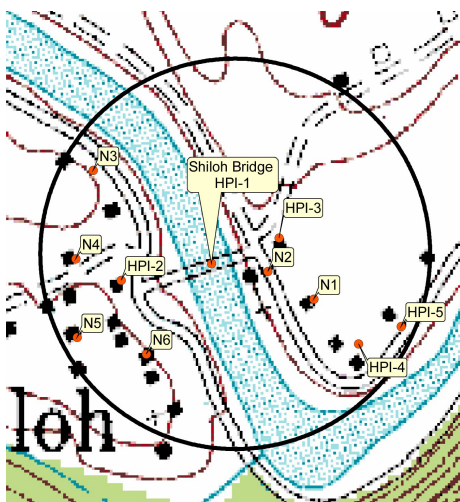


Internal Rating: \_\_\_\_\_



## WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

<b>Street Address</b> Tyler County Route 14/4 Milepost 0.27	<b>Common/Historic Name/Both</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Common <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Both Shiloh Truss Bridge	<b>Field Survey #</b> 1	<b>Site # (SHPO Only)</b> TY
<b>Town or Community</b> Shiloh	<b>County</b> Tyler	<b>Negative No.</b>	<b>NR Listed Date</b>  NR No.
<b>Architect/Builder</b> Ben Pipes	<b>Date of Construction</b> 1898  <input type="checkbox"/> Circa	<b>Style (SHPO Only)</b>	
<b>Exterior Siding / Materials</b> Metal	<b>Roofing Material</b>	<b>Foundation</b> Stone - Ashlar	
<b>Property Use or Function</b> Transportation	<b>UTM Zone 17N NAD 1983</b> Easting     499077 Northing    4367427		
<b>Survey Organization &amp; Date</b> Aurora Research Associates LLC WVDOH 05/25/2013	<b>Quadrangle Name</b> Ben's Run		
	<b>Part of What Survey / FR#</b> WVDOH Shiloh Bridge Replacement		



Site No.

Name: Shiloh Truss Bridge

Survey #: TY

Survey/FR#: WVDOH Shiloh Bridge

<b>Present Owners</b> West Virginia Division of Highways	<b>Owners' Mailing Address</b> Building 5 Room 110 1900 Kanawha Blvd East Charleston, WV 25305
<b>Describe Setting</b> Acres <input type="checkbox"/> Artifacts Present  Shiloh Bridge crosses Middle Island Creek in the rural community of Shiloh. There are scattered residences in the area. The surrounding landscape is mountainous and forested.	
<b>Description of Buildings or Site (Original and Present)</b> Shiloh Bridge is a simple two-span wrought iron pin-connected Pratt through truss supported by two full height stone ashlar abutments and one solid stone ashlar pier. The overall length of the structure is 244'-6" and the roadway width is 15'-2".	<b>Stories</b> <b>Front Bays</b>
<b>Alterations</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Additions</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Describe all Outbuildings</b>	
<b>Statement of Significance</b> See continuation sheet.	
<b>Bibliographical References</b> See continuation sheet.	
<b>Form Prepared By:</b> Courtney Fint Zimmerman Name/Organization: Courtney Fint Zimmerman Address: 1436 Graham Road Silver Lake, OH 44224 Phone #: 304-685-7410	
<b>Date:</b> 05/25/2013 Aurora Research Associates, LLC	

# WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Name: Shiloh Truss Bridge  
Survey #: TY  
Survey/FR#: WVDOH Shiloh Bridge

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## Statement of Significance

The community of Shiloh is located about 8 miles southeast of the town of Friendly and the Ohio River, and about 10 miles west of Middlebourne, the county seat. Shiloh was a small community of early settlers on Middle Island Creek and included a gristmill prior to 1850. Shiloh was a busy little town in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century with a number of businesses including several mills, a blacksmith, and general stores. There was also a four-story woolen mill constructed in 1865 that operated until about 1904, when it closed due to lack of transportation to get the products to market. Other local institutions included a school, several churches, a doctor, a town newspaper, a community brass band and the Odd Fellows and Grand Army of the Republic fraternal organizations.

The current Shiloh truss bridge was built in 1898 and replaced a wooden pontoon pedestrian bridge that had been built in 1894. According to county histories, the current bridge was built by Ben Pipes. The 1900 and 1910 Censuses list a Benjamin Pipes born in 1870 living in Meade District, just south of Union District and Shiloh, with an occupation of merchant. Pipes had moved to Canton, Ohio by 1920 and had the occupation of bus driver in the 1920 U.S. Census. He died in 1927. His obituary noted that he was a county commissioner for three years and built a number of bridges and culverts with George F. Watson and later T.O. Johnson.

George F. Watson was born in Tyler County in 1872. According to his World War I draft registration card, Watson worked as a contractor in stone, cement and brick work. U.S. Census data also lists occupations of stone cutter and bridge/road contractor for Watson. Theodore O. Johnson was born in 1883 and was a carpenter. Based on the date of construction of Shiloh Bridge, if Pipes worked with a partner it would have been Watson, as Johnson was only 15 years old.

No further information could be found regarding Benjamin Pipes. It is not known how he became involved in the bridge construction industry. A substantial number of wrought iron and steel truss bridges built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century were available through catalog order and shipped as kits all over the country. It is possible that Pipes became skilled at erecting these types of bridges.

Shiloh became known after a children's book of the same name was written in 1991 by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. The book tells the fictional story of a boy named Marty Preston who finds an abused beagle in Shiloh, whom he names after the town. The book won the Newbery Medal for children's literature and mentions the Shiloh truss bridge and other real places in the community.

Shiloh Bridge is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for design. The bridge is locally significant as an example of a wrought iron Pratt through-truss. Although the bridge is heavily corroded and the condition is poor, the integrity of materials and design still conveys the design concepts employed in construction of the bridge. No significant links were found to historical events or persons, and the bridge does not have potential to yield important historical information. The bridge is not eligible under Criterion A, B or D.

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