

The Sleepy Creek Arch Bridge carries County Route 1 over Sleepy Creek in Morgan County near the town of Sleepy Creek. It was built in 1923, by the Luten Bridge Company. No original plans were found for the bridge. Sleepy Creek Arch Bridge consists of 2 simple reinforced concrete deck arches supported by a concrete pier and 2 concrete footings. The railings, a feature of Luten bridges, are solid concrete parapets. The overall length of the bridge is 103 feet 5 inches and the overall width is 15 feet 6 inches. The 2008 Average Daily Traffic is 670 vehicles per day and it is used as a one-lane structure. Bridge plates are located on the bridge showing the builder's name and date and the county court. The bridge is in poor condition. The wingwalls have been stabilized and the spans and arch are deteriorating. Rebar is visible on the pier. The wingwalls and spandrel walls are fractured and the parapet walls have been damaged by vehicles (WVDOH Bridge Files).

## Sleepy Creek History

Concrete deck arch bridges were primarily built between 1900 and 1951. They were built as a cheaper alternative to a masonry bridge. Closed spandrel arches are used for shorter bridge spans as compared to open spandrel arches. In a closed spandrel the fill material within the spandrel is what takes the traffic loads. The arch ring and spandrel walls are the significant elements of a closed spandrel bridge (KCI, 2014). The Luten Bridge Company of York, Pennsylvania was founded in 1902 by Daniel Luten. The company was known during the early 20th century for their concrete arch bridge designs. The company was known as the National Bridge Company until 1920 when the name was changed to Luten. The company was a prolific builder in West Virginia during the early 1920s.



**Location:** CR-1, spanning Sleepy Creek in Morgan County  
**Type:** Two Span Concrete Arch Bridge  
**Length:** 103 feet 5 inches  
**Year constructed:** 1923  
**Contractor:** Luten Bridge Company

## what **Historical Services Unit** does

- Research and Write Historic Reports
- Determine National Register Eligibility
- Determine Historic Boundaries
- Determine Effects to Historic Properties
- Mitigate Adverse Effects to Historic Properties
- Complete Historic Documentations for Specific Historic Properties
- Historic Turnpike Research and Analysis
- Coordinate with Federal, State, and Local Resource Agencies
- Conduct Public Workshops for Specific Bridge and Highway Projects

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sleepy creek  
**bridge**  
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