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January 5, 2007

Diana Wood
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street NW
Washington D.C. 20423

#E1-2768
AB-600(5-9-10.1X)
BHV

**Re: YILA Naches Branch Railroad Cultural Resources Report
AHS Letter Report 2006-08**

Dear Ms. Wood:

At the request of Mark Brzoska, P.E., at Yakima County Public Services, I am sending you a copy of the cultural resources report concerning the Naches Rail Corridor Railbanking Project: Abandonment Phase. This project is sometimes referred to as the Yakima Interurban Lines Association (YILA) Naches Branch Rail Line. Attached to the report are six Washington State Historic Property Inventory Forms documenting historic features recorded along the surveyed portion of rail line. If you need to contact Mr. Brzoska concerning this matter his address is:

Mark Brzoska, P.E.
Yakima County Public Services
128 N. Second Street
Fourth Floor Courthouse
Yakima, WA 98901
Phone: 509-574-2312

I hope this facilitates the progress of this endeavor. If you need to contact me, please call 509-359-2284, or e-mail me at semerson@mail.ewu.edu.

Cordially,


Stephen Emerson
Program Director

Enc:

April 18, 2006

Mark Brzoska, P.E.
Yakima County Public Services
128 N. Second Street
Fourth Floor Courthouse
Yakima, WA 98901

**Re: Naches Rail Corridor Railbanking Project: Abandonment Phase
AHS Letter Report 2006-08**

Dear Mr. Brzoska:

Archaeological and Historical Services (AHS) contracted with Yakima County Public Services to: 1) Conduct a site files search at the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP), in Olympia, to determine if any railroad or bridge features of the Yakima Interurban Lines Association (YILA) Naches Branch Rail Line have previously been recorded; 2) Conduct field evaluations and photography of bridge features of the YILA Naches Branch, including the Naches River Bridge No. 4.1, and four smaller bridges; 3) Complete Washington State Historic Property Inventory Forms for bridge features, including recommendations on NRHP eligibility; and 4) Provide a professional letter report of findings and recommendations for future management, with inventories attached.

In recent proceedings, YILA is seeking abandonment of their ownership and responsibilities concerning the Naches Branch Rail Line. This segment of rail extends from milepost (MP) 2.97 near Yakima to MP 14.26 near Naches, a distance of 11.29 mi (Figure 1). The YILA expects to transfer the line intact (without salvaging it) to Yakima County. The proposed abandonment is being reviewed by DAHP. In order to complete their review, DAHP requested that historic features be recorded for inclusion in the Washington State Historic Property Inventory database. (The Naches Depot is being restored and recorded by the City of Naches and is not included in this report.) DAHP also requested determinations of eligibility and a statement of effect.

Following completion of the abandonment process, Yakima County is proposing to restore rail service to the YILA corridor. In addition a pedestrian path may be constructed within the rail right-of-way. This would require modification of some existing structures, including bridges, to add a pedestrian walkway. This future work is not the subject of this report, and may require further investigation or survey.

The Naches Branch Rail Line was constructed in 1905-1906 by the North Yakima and Valley Railway Company, a corporation established on July 24, 1905. The Naches Depot was built in 1906 and appears in a 1907 photograph (Crawford 1968:n.p.). The company also built several smaller lines in the Yakima vicinity during the following eight years. It was controlled by the Northwestern Improvement Company until June 24, 1914, when the line was sold to the Northern Pacific Railroad (Cheever 1949:107). The line continued to operate for many years, and was significant as the main transportation outlet for lumber and agricultural products from the Naches River Valley, connecting with major intercontinental railroad lines at Yakima.

The overall condition of the Naches Branch Rail Line at the time of survey (February 2006) was poor. Most of the railroad bed itself is intact, as are the tracks. Portions of track, however, have been removed from the southeastern end of the line (Figure 2). A few individual track sections bear dates as early as 1896 and 1909, but most appear to be of more recent origin. The latest track date noted was 1983. Much of the line is in need of repair, with deteriorating ties and crooked portions of track visible. The majority of the line is overgrown with weeds (Figure 3).

During the survey, six historic-period bridges were noted and recorded on Washington State Historic Property Inventory Forms, copies of which are attached to this letter report as Appendix A. Five of these bridges (Bridge Nos. 3, 4, 10, 10.1, and 13) are simple timber stringer structures without engineering significance and are not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The sixth bridge is No. 4.1, which crosses the Naches River. This bridge consists of four separate spans. The main spans are identical through trusses measuring 162 ft long. Each one is an iron pin-connected Pratt truss structure with straight top and bottom cords. Each contains eight panels, including the triangular panels at each end. The central panels are reinforced by tension members, those in the central two panels forming an X. The deck is supported by steel riveted plate floor beams and stringers. A central poured concrete pier supports each end of the bridge where they meet. A similar concrete pier supports the east end of the easternmost truss, while the west end of the westernmost truss is supported by a poured concrete abutment. Both truss decks are bordered by timber curb pieces. At the eastern end of the bridge there are two short spans. The first is a steel I-beam stringer structure, about 29 feet long, supported at the east end by a timber bent supported by timber pilings. This pier supports the west end of the final span, a timber stringer structure measuring about 12 ft long supported at the east end of the bridge by a poured concrete pier (Jeffers 1999).

The two primary western spans of this bridge are excellent and early examples of a pin-connected Pratt through truss. Clues to its origin are on the bridge. The upright members bear the words "Trenton NJ," probably indicating their place of manufacture. A curvilinear metal plaque attached to the diagonal truss member at the east end of the easternmost truss bears these words: "Designed and Erected by Raymond and Campbell, Council Bluffs Iowa - 1884." A further clue to the history of these trusses is provided by an original engineering drawing, which gives this information: "These two spans were built across the Rum River, Bridge No. 27, St. Paul Div. in 1884, removed in 1905, repaired by the St. Paul Foundry Co. as shown on general and detailed plans, and re-erected at the crossing of the Natchez River, Wash. on the North Yakima and Valley Railway in 1906" (Jeffers 1999). A similar plaque has disappeared from the

west end of the westernmost truss, marked by the "shadow" of its former location. The Naches River Bridge No. 4.1 is dented and scraped in places, but overall it retains remarkable integrity of its appearance as erected in 1906. As an intact early example of a Pratt truss bridge, and as the most significant and best documented component of the former North Yakima and Valley Railway, it is eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion C, for its architectural and engineering significance.

The Naches Branch Rail Line, like other railroad lines either operating currently, or operated until recently, has seen ongoing maintenance for years, and is not in itself eligible for listing on the NRHP. The only component that is eligible for NRHP listing is the Naches River Bridge, described above. The proposed abandonment of the line, transferring ownership from YILA to Yakima County, will have no effect on the railroad or any of its components, because the abandonment will not entail any physical changes. Likewise the abandonment will have no adverse effect on the eligible Naches River Bridge. Proposed future improvements to the Naches Branch Rail Line in order to resume service, as well as construction of a proposed pedestrian path, will have no effect on the rail line either. However, any proposed improvements to the Naches River Bridge will have to be reviewed, in light of its NRHP eligibility, to determine if project activities will constitute an adverse effect.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this report or the inventory form, please call me at 509-359-2239 or e-mail me at semerson@mail.ewu.edu. Thank you.

Cordially,



Stephen Emerson
Program Director

References Cited

Cheever, Bruce

1949 The Development of Railroads in the State of Washington: 1869 to 1948.
Unpublished Master's thesis, Western Washington College of Education, Bellingham.

Crawford, Jeanne R.

1968 *As The Valley Was*. Yakima Federal Savings and Loan Association.

Jeffers, Kevin

1999 WSDOT Rail Bridge Inspection Report. Naches River Bridge No. 4.1.

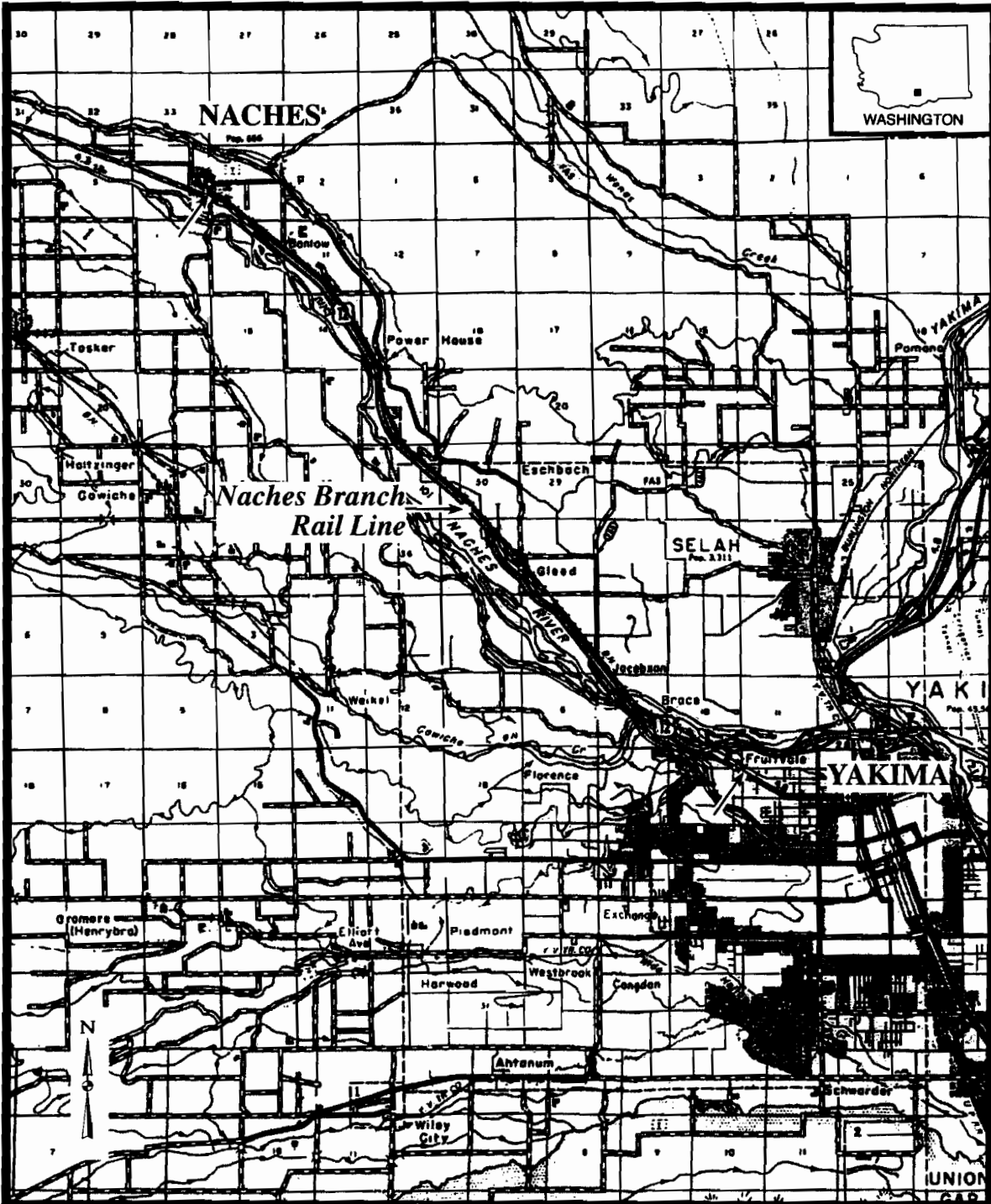


Figure 1. Map of the Naches Branch Rail Line (adapted from Yakima County map).



Figure 2. Tracks end at southeast end of Naches Branch Rail Line.



Figure 3. Weed growth on Naches Branch Rail Line.



Figure 4. Naches River Bridge No. 41, view to the northwest.



Figure 5. Naches River Bridge No. 41, eastern approach.

Appendix A

Historic Property Inventory Forms

Historic Property Inventory Report for North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 13, Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 13 at Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 13

LOCATION SECTION

Field Site No. YILA1 OAHF No.:
Historic Name: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 13, Naches Flume Bridge

Common Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Bridge No. 13, Naches Flume Bridge

Property Address: Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 13

Comments:

County Yakima Township/Range/EW Section 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec 03 SW NW Quadrangle NACHES

UTM Reference
Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com
Sequence: 1 Easting: 675818 Northing: 5177491

Tax No./Parcel No.

Plat/Block/Lot

Supplemental Map(s)
Acreage
< One

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Survey Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association

Field Recorder: S. Emerson

Date Recorded: 2/23/2006

Owner's Name:

Owner Address:

City/State/Zip:
. Washington

Classification: Structure

Resource Status
Survey/Inventory

Comments

Within a District? No

Contributing?

National Register Nomination:

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Current Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Plan: Other

No. of Stories:

Structural System:

Changes to plan:

Changes to interior:

Style

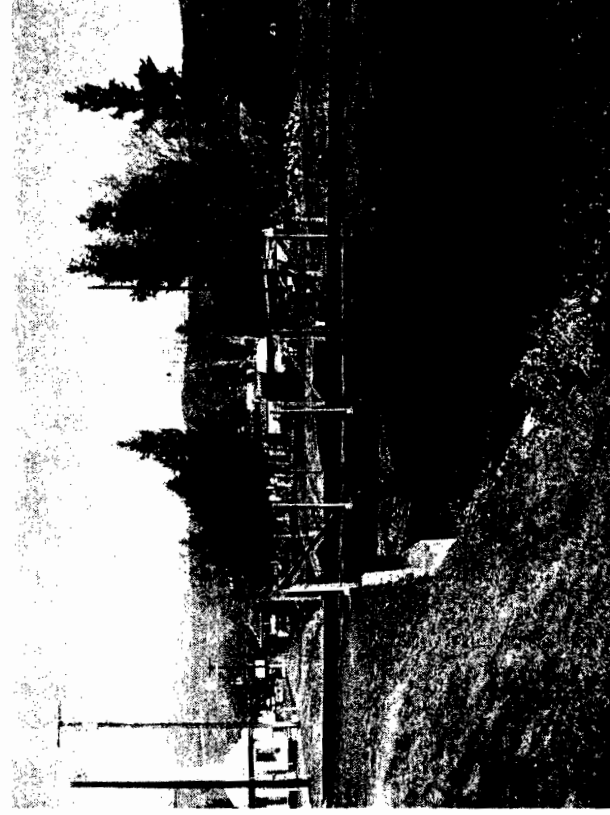
Changes to original cladding:

Changes to other:

Changes to windows:

Other (specify):

Form/Type



View of Southwest side of the bridge

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA1-a

Comments: View to the northeast

Historic Property Inventory Report for North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 13, at Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 13
Naches Flume Bridge

Cladding	Foundation	Roof Material	Roof Type
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NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Transportation

Other

Date Of Construction: 1905-1906

Architect:

Builder: North Yakima and Valley Wasteway

Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance

This bridge is located at Mile Post 13 (thirteen miles west of the line's beginning in Yakima) of the Naches Branch Rail Line, which has been out of use for a number of years. The bridge is located near the center of Naches, and crosses the irrigation ditch that leads from the Naches Flume, which connects to the Wapatox Power Canal, to the north. The rail line is currently owned by the Yakima Interurban Lines Association, which is presently seeking to abandon its ownership and responsibility, to be turned over to Yakima County for future rehabilitation and reactivation. The Naches Branch Rail Line was constructed in 1905-1906 by the North Yakima and Valley Railway Company, a corporation that was established on July 24, 1905. The line was controlled by the Northwestern Improvement Company until June 24, 1914, when it was sold to the Northern Pacific Railroad. The line continued to operate for many years, and was significant as the main transportation outlet for lumber and agricultural products from the Naches River Valley, connecting with major intercontinental railroad lines at Yakima. This bridge is a simple timber stringer structure. It is a common type and does not possess any particular engineering significance. It is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

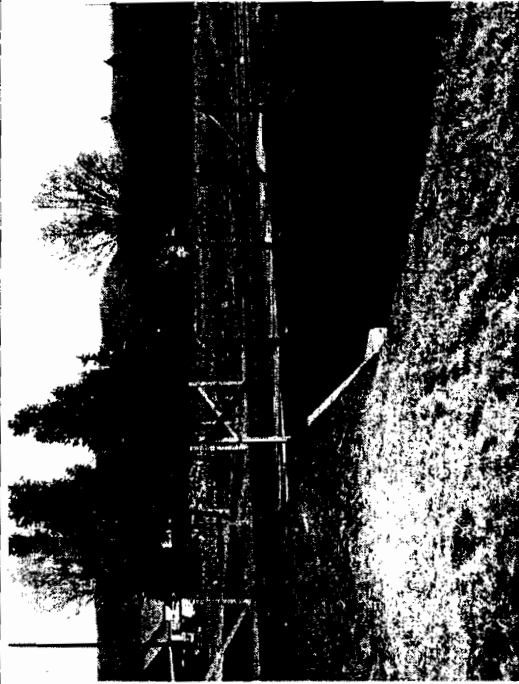
Description of Physical Appearance

This bridge is a simple timber stringer structure, with two longitudinal timber stringers and four perpendicular timber bents. The stringers are supported at each end on trapezoidal-shaped poured concrete abutments. The bridge deck is bordered by timber curb pieces, and still carries track. Wood plank pedestrian walkways are situated along either side of the bridge, protected by angle-iron and steel cable railings.

Major Bibliographic References

Bruce Cheever. The Development of Railroads in the State of Washington 1869 to 1948. MA thesis, Western Washington College of Education, 1949.
Stephen Emerson. Naches Rail Corridor Railbanking Project: Abandonment Phase. AHS Letter Report 2006-08.

Additional Photos for: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 13, at Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 13
Naches Flume Bridge



View of Southwest side of the bridge taken 2/23/2006
Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA1-b
Comments: View to the north

View of
Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):
Comments:

taken



View of Northeast side of the bridge taken 2/23/2006
Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA1-c
Comments: View to the southwest

View of
Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):
Comments:

taken

Historic Property North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 10.1, at vicinity of Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 10.1
Inventory Report for Wapatox Canal Bridge

LOCATION SECTION

Field Site No. YILA2 OAHF No.:

Historic Name: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 10.1, Wapatox Canal Common Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Bridge No. 10.1, Wapatox Canal Bridge

Property Address: vicinity of Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 10.1

Comments:

County Yakima Township/Range/EW Section 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec Quadrangle NACHES
T14R17E 03 SW NW

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com
Sequence: 1 Easting: 679472 Northing: 5173898

Tax No./Parcel No.

Plat/Block/Lot

Supplemental Map(s)

Acres
≤ one

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Survey Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association

Field Recorder: S. Emerson

Date Recorded: 2/23/2006

Owner's Name:
YILA

Owner Address:

City/State/Zip:
Washington

Classification: Structure

Resource Status
Survey/Inventory

Comments

Within a District? No

Contributing?

National Register Nomination:

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Current Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Plan: Other No. of Stories:

Structural System:

Changes to plan:

Changes to original cladding:

Changes to windows:

Changes to interior:

Changes to other:

Other (specify):

Style

Form/Type



View of Southwest side of the bridge

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA2-a

Comments: View to the north

Historic Property Inventory Report for North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 10.1, at vicinity of Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 10.1 Wapatox Canal Bridge

Cladding	Foundation	Roof Material	Roof Type
NARRATIVE SECTION			
Study Unit <u>Transportation</u>	Other	Date Of Construction: <u>1907</u> Architect: Builder: <u>North Yakima and Valley Railway</u> Engineer:	
Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: <u>No</u> Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): <u>No</u> Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):			
Statement of Significance This bridge is located at Mile Post 10.1 (10.1 miles west of the line's beginning in Yakima) of the Naches Branch Rail Line, which has been out of use for a number of years. It passes over the forebay of the Wapatox Power Canal, just before that artery empties into the Naches River. The line is presently owned by the Yakima Interurban Lines Association, which is currently seeking to abandon its ownership and responsibility, to be turned over to Yakima County for future rehabilitation and reactivation. The Naches Branch Rail Line was constructed in 1905-1906 by the North Yakima and Valley Railway Company, a corporation that was established on July 24, 1905. The line was controlled by the Northwestern Improvement Company until June 24, 1914, when the line was sold to the Northern Pacific Railroad. The line continued to operate for many years, and was significant as the main transportation outlet for lumber and agricultural products from the Naches River Valley, connecting with major intercontinental railroad lines at Yakima. This bridge is a common type and does not possess any particular engineering significance. It is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.			
Description of Physical Appearance This bridge is a timber stringer structure, longer than others along the line. It consists of two sets of four timber stringers that rest on timber bents that are supported by round wood pilings. Rows of pilings act as piers and are strengthened by timber cross-bracing. At each end the bridge is supported by abutments formed of large timbers placed perpendicularly to the tracks. Sheet metal protects the upper sides of bridge timbers. The bridge deck is bordered by timber curb pieces, and still carries track.			
Major Bibliographic References Bruce Cheever. The Development of Railroads in the State of Washington 1869 to 1948. MA thesis, Western Washington College of Education, 1949. Kevin Jeffers. WSDOT Rail Bridge Inspection Report. Naches River Bridge, No. 10.1, 1999. Stephen Emerson. Naches Rail Corridor Railbanking Project: Abandonment Phase. AHS Letter Report 2006-08.			

Additional Photos for: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 10.1, Wapatox Canal Bridge at vicinity of Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 10.1



View of Northeast side of the bridge taken 2/23/2006
Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA2-b
Comments: View to the west



View of Bridge deck taken 2/23/2006
Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA2-c
Comments: View to the west

View of Bridge deck taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):
Comments:

View of Bridge deck taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):
Comments:

Historic Property North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 10, at vicinity of Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 10
Inventory Report for Powerhouse Wasteway Bridge

LOCATION SECTION

Field Site No. YILA3 OAHF No.:
Historic Name: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 10, Powerhouse Wasteway Bridge

Property Address: vicinity of Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 10

County Yakima Township/Range/EW Section 13 SW SW SW Quadrangle NACHES

Tax No./Parcel No.

Plat/Block/Lot

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Survey Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association

Field Recorder: S. Emerson

Date Recorded: 2/23/2006

Owner's Name:

Owner Address:

City/State/Zip:
Washington

Classification: Structure

Resource Status
Survey/Inventory

Comments

Within a District? No

Contributing?

National Register Nomination:

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Current Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Plan: Other No. of Stories:

Structural System:

Changes to plan:

Changes to original cladding:

Changes to windows:

Changes to interior:

Changes to other:

Other (specify):

Style

Common Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Bridge No. 10, Powerhouse Wasteway Bridge

Comments:

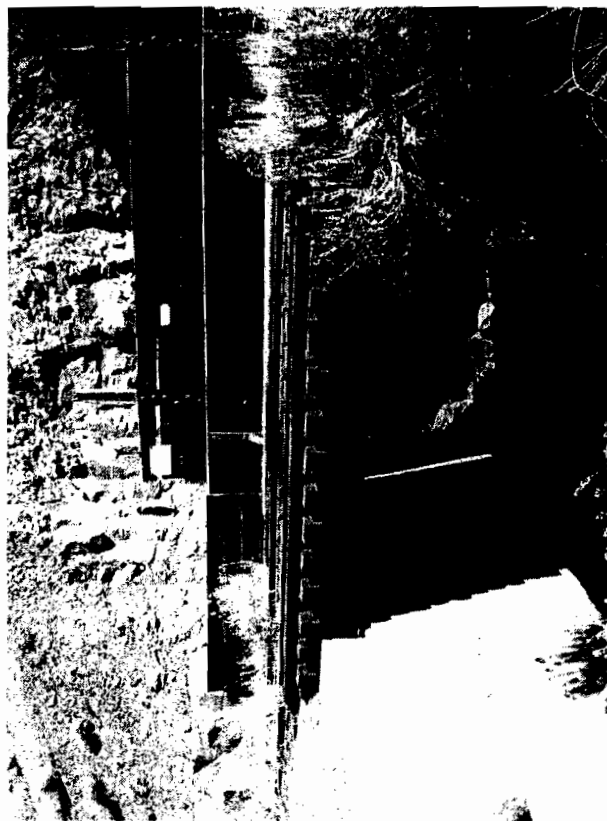
UTM Reference

Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com

Sequence: 1 Easting: 679510 Northing: 5173814

Supplemental Map(s)

Acreage
< one



View of Southwest side of bridge

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA3-a

Comments: View to the north

Form/Type

Historic Property Inventory Report for North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 10, at vicinity of Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 10
Powerhouse Wasteway Bridge

Cladding	Foundation	Roof Material	Roof Type
NARRATIVE SECTION			
Study Unit	Other	Date Of Construction: <u>1907</u>	
Transportation		Architect:	
		Builder: <u>North Yakima and Valley Railway Company</u>	
		Engineer:	

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance

This bridge is located at Mile Post 10 (ten miles west of the line's beginning in Yakima) of the Naches Branch Rail Line, which has been out of use for a number of years. It is a short span, crossing a deep chasm blasted from solid rock that contains the wasteway of the Wapatox Power Canal irrigation and power production system. The primary portions of that system were built in 1907, shortly after the railroad itself was built, so this bridge is only slightly more recent than the railroad. The line is currently owned by the Yakima Interurban Lines Association, which is presently seeking to abandon its ownership and responsibility, to be turned over to Yakima County for future rehabilitation and reactivation. The Naches Branch Rail Line was constructed in 1905-1906 by the North Yakima and Valley Railway Company, a corporation that was established on July 24, 1905. The line was controlled by the Northwestern Improvement Company until June 24, 1914, when the line was sold to the Northern Pacific Railroad. The line continued to operate for many years, and was significant as the main transportation outlet for lumber and agricultural products from the Naches River Valley, connecting with major intercontinental railroad lines at Yakima. This bridge is a simple timber stringer structure. It is a common type and does not possess any particular engineering significance. It is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Description of Physical Appearance

This bridge is a simple timber stringer structure, with six timber stringers supported by high poured concrete abutments at each end. Timber curb pieces border the deck, which still carries track. A wood plank walkway is attached to the northeast side of the bridge. Also, a timber plank wall protects the northeast side of the bridge, where it faces a deep rock chasm that contains the Powerhouse Wasteway.

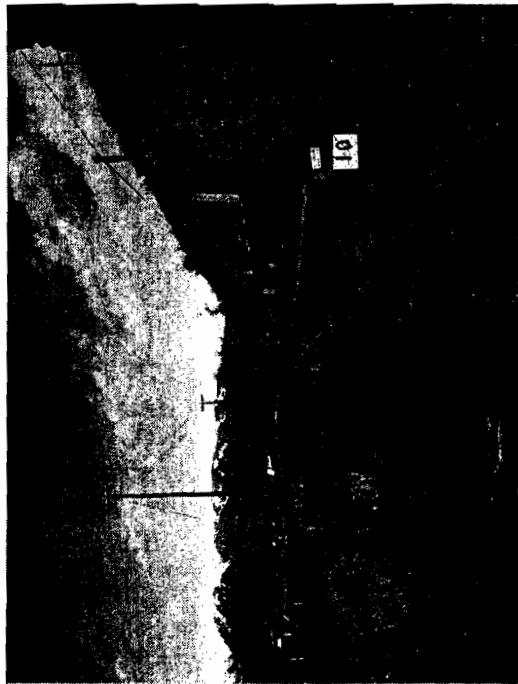
Major Bibliographic References

Bruce Cheever. The Development of Railroads in the State of Washington 1869 to 1948. MA thesis, Western Washington College of Education, 1949.

Kevin Jeffers. WSDOT Rail Bridge Inspection Report. Powerhouse Wasteway Bridge, No. 10, 1999.

Stephen Emerson. Naches Rail Corridor Railbanking Project: Abandonment Phase. AHS Letter Report 2006-08.

Additional Photos for: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 10, at vicinity of Naches, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 10
Powerhouse Wasteway Bridge



View of Bridge deck

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA3-b

Comments: View to the northwest



View of Powerhouse wasteway

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA3-c

Comments: View to the north

View of

taken

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

View of

taken

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

Historic Property
Inventory Report for

North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 4, at vicinity of Yakima, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 4
Cowiche Creek Bridge

LOCATION SECTION

Field Site No. YILA4 OAHP No.:
Historic Name: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 4, Cowiche Creek
Bridge

Common Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Bridge No. 4, Cowiche
Creek Bridge

Property Address: vicinity of Yakima, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 4

Comments:

County Yakima Township/Range/EW Section 10 SW 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec Quadrangle
T13R18E 10 SW SE YAKIMA WEST

UTM Reference
Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com
Sequence: 1 Easting: 685574 Northing: 5166457

Tax No./Parcel No.

Plat/Block/Lot

Supplemental Map(s)
Acreage
< one

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Survey Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association

Field Recorder: S. Emerson

Date Recorded: 2/23/2006

Owner's Name:

Owner Address:

City/State/Zip:

YILA

Classification: Structure

Resource Status
Survey/Inventory

Comments

Within a District? No

Contributing?

National Register Nomination:

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Current Use: Vacant/Not in Use

Plan: Other No. of Stories:

Structural System:

Changes to plan:

Changes to interior:

Changes to original cladding:

Changes to other:

Changes to windows:

Other (specify):

Style

Form/Type



View of Southwest side of bridge

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILLA4-a

Comments: View to the east

Historic Property Inventory Report for North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 4, at vicinity of Yakima, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 4 Cowiche Creek Bridge

Cladding	Foundation	Roof Material	Roof Type
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NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit Other

Transportation

Date Of Construction: 1905-1906

Architect:

Builder: North Yakima and Valley Railway Company

Engineer:

- Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No
- Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): No
- Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance

This bridge is located at Mile Post 4 (four miles west of the line's beginning in Yakima) of the Naches Branch Rail Line, which has been out of use for a number of years. The bridge crosses Cowiche Creek. The line is presently owned by the Yakima Interurban Lines Association, which is currently seeking to abandon its ownership and responsibility, to be turned over to Yakima County for future rehabilitation and reactivation. The Naches Branch Rail Line was constructed in 1905-1906 by the North Yakima and Valley Railway Company, a corporation that was established on July 24, 1905. The line was controlled by the Northwestern Improvement Company until June 24, 1914, when the line was sold to the Northern Pacific Railroad. The line continued to operate for many years, and was significant as the main transportation outlet for lumber and agricultural products from the Naches River Valley, connecting with major intercontinental railroad lines at Yakima. This bridge is a simple timber stringer structure. It is a common type and does not possess any particular engineering significance. It is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Description of Physical Appearance

This bridge is a simple timber stringer structure, with six timber stringers running lengthwise, reinforced by steel I-beams, and six timber bents placed perpendicularly. The timbers are protected on their upper side by roofing tin. Timber curb pieces border the deck, which still carries tracks. On the northeast side of the bridge is a timber walkway protected by an angle iron and steel cable railing. The bridge deck rests on timber piers that are held in place by round pilings driven into the ground.

Major Bibliographic References

Bruce Cheever. The Development of Railroads in the State of Washington 1869 to 1948. MA thesis, Western Washington College of Education, 1949.

Kevin Jeffers. WSDOT Rail Bridge Inspection Report. Cowiche Creek Bridge, No. 4, 1999.

Stephen Emerson. Naches Rail Corridor Railbanking Project: Abandonment Phase. AHS Letter Report 2006-08.

Additional Photos for: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 4. at vicinity of Yakima, WA, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 4
Cowiche Creek Bridge



View of Bridge deck

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA4-b

Comments: View to the northwest



View of Detail of timber pier

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA4-c

Comments: View to the north

View of

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

taken

View of

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

taken

Historic Property North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 4.1, at vicinity of Yakima, WA, Natches Branch Line, M.P. 4.1
Inventory Report for Naches River Bridge

LOCATION SECTION

Field Site No. YILA5 OAHP No.:
Historic Name: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 4.1, Naches River
Bridge

Common Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Bridge No. 4.1, Naches
River Bridge

Property Address: vicinity of Yakima, WA, Natches Branch Line, M.P. 4.1

Comments:

County Yakima Township/Range/EW Section 09 NW SE 1/4 1/4 Sec YAKIMA WEST
UTM Reference
Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com
Sequence: 1 Easting: 684891 Northing: 5173898

Tax No./Parcel No.

Plat/Block/Lot

Supplemental Map(s)

Acreage
< one

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Survey Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association

Field Recorder: S. Emerson

Date Recorded: 2/23/2006

Owner's Name:

Owner Address:

City/State/Zip:
Washington

Classification: Structure

Resource Status
Survey/Inventory

Comments

Within a District? No

Contributing?

National Register Nomination:

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Current Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Plan: Other No. of Stories:

Structural System:

Changes to plan:

Changes to original cladding:

Changes to windows:

Changes to interior:

Changes to other:

Other (specify):

Style

Form/Type



View of Southwest side of bridge taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA5-a

Comments: View to the north

Historic Property Inventory Report for North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 4.1, at vicinity of Yakima, WA, Natches Branch Line, M.P. 4.1 Naches River Bridge

Cladding	Foundation	Roof Material	Roof Type
NARRATIVE SECTION			
Study Unit	Date Of Construction: <u>1884/1906</u>		
Transportation	Architect:		
	Builder: <u>St. Paul Foundry/North Yakima and Valley Railway</u>		
	Engineer:		

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: Yes

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance

This bridge is located at Mile Post 4.1 (4.1 miles west of the line's beginning in Yakima) of the Naches Branch Rail Line, which has been out of use for a number of years. It crosses the Naches River. The rail line is currently owned by the Yakima Interurban Lines Association, which is presently seeking to abandon its ownership and responsibility, to be turned over to Yakima County for future rehabilitation and reactivation. The Naches Branch Rail Line was constructed in 1905-1906 by the North Yakima and Valley Railway Company, a corporation that was established on July 24, 1905. The line was controlled by the Northwestern Improvement Company until June 24, 1914, when it was sold to the Northern Pacific Railroad. The line continued to operate for many years, and was significant as the main transportation outlet for lumber and agricultural products from the Naches River Valley, connecting with major intercontinental railroad lines at Yakima. The two primary western spans of this bridge are excellent and early examples of a pin-connected Pratt through truss. Clues to its origin are on the bridge. The upright members bear the words "Trenton N.J." probably indicating their place of manufacture. A curvilinear metal plaque attached to the diagonal truss member at the east end of the easternmost truss bears these words: "Designed and Erected by Raymond and Campbell, Council Bluffs Iowa - 1884." A further clue to the history of these trusses is provided by an original engineering drawing, which gives this information: "These two spans were built across the Rum River, Bridge No. 27, St. Paul Div. in 1884, removed in 1905, repaired by the St. Paul Foundry Co. as shown on general and detailed plans, and reerected at the crossing of the Natches River, Wash. On the North Yakima and Valley Railway in 1906." A similar plaque has disappeared from the west end of the westernmost truss, marked by the "shadow" of its former location. The Naches River Bridge No. 4.1 is dated and scrapped in places, but overall it retains remarkable integrity of its appearance as erected in 1906. As an intact early example of a Pratt truss bridge, and as the most significant and best documented component of the former North Yakima and Valley Railway, it is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, for its architectural and engineering significance.

Description of Physical Appearance

This bridge consists of 4 separate spans. The main spans are identical through trusses measuring 162 feet long. Each one is an iron pin-connected Pratt truss structure with straight top and bottom chords. Each contains eight panels, including the triangular panels at each end. The central panels are reinforced by tension members, those in the central two panels forming an X. The deck is supported by steel riveted plate floor beams and stringers. A central poured concrete pier supports each end of the bridge where they meet. A similar concrete pier supports the east end of the easternmost truss, while the west end of the westernmost truss is supported by a poured concrete abutment. The borders of both truss decks are bordered by timber curb pieces. At the eastern end of the bridge there are two short spans. The first is a steel I-beam stringer structure, about 29 feet long, supported at the east end by a timber bent supported by timber pilings. This pier supports the west end of the final span, a timber stringer structure measuring about 12 feet long supported at the east end of the bridge by a poured concrete pier.

Major Bibliographic References

Bruce Cheever. The Development of Railroads in the State of Washington 1869 to 1948. MA thesis, Western Washington College of Education, 1949.
 Kevin Jeffers. WSDOT Rail Bridge Inspection Report. Naches River Bridge, No. 4.1, 1999.
 Stephen Emerson. Naches Rail Corridor Railbanking Project: Abandonment Phase. AHS Letter Report 2006-08.

Additional Photos for: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 4.1, Naches River Bridge at vicinity of Yakima, WA, Natches Branch Line, M.P. 4.1



View of Southeastern approach taken 2/23/2006
 Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA5-b
 Comments: View to the northwest



View of Truss and pier detail taken 2/23/2006
 Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA5-c
 Comments: View to the west



View of Southwest side of bridge taken 2/23/2006
 Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA5-d
 Comments: View to the east



View of Western Truss and abutment detail taken 2/23/2006
 Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA5-e
 Comments: View to the north

**Historic Property
Inventory Report for**

North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 3

at vicinity of Yakima, WA, Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Naches Branch
Line, M.P. 3

LOCATION SECTION

Field Site No. YILA6 OAHF No.:

Historic Name: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 3

Common Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Bridge No. 3

Property Address: vicinity of Yakima, WA, Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Naches Branch Line, M.P. 3

Comments:

County Yakima Township/Range/EW Section 10 SW SE 1/4 1/4 Sec SELAH Quadrangle

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com

Sequence: 1 Easting: 686535 Northing: 5165936

Tax No./Parcel No.

Plat/Block/Lot

Supplemental Map(s)

Acreage
< one

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Survey Name: Yakima Interurban Lines Association

Field Recorder: S. Emerson

Date Recorded: 2/23/2006

Owner's Name:

Owner Address:

City/State/Zip:
Washington

Classification: Structure

Resource Status
Survey/Inventory

Comments

Within a District? No

Contributing?

National Register Nomination:

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Current Use: Transportation - Rail-Related

Plan: Other

No. of Stories:

Structural System:

Changes to plan:

Changes to interior:

Changes to original cladding:

Changes to other:

Changes to windows:

Other (specify):

Style

Form/Type

View of South side of bridge

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA6-a

Comments: View to the northwest



Historic Property Inventory Report for

North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 3 at vicinity of Yakima, WA, Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Naches Branch
Line, M.P. 3

Cladding

Foundation

Roof Material

Roof Type

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Transportation

Other

Date Of Construction: 1920

Architect:

Builder: North Yakima and Valley Railway Company

Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance

This bridge is located at Mile Post 3 (three miles west of the line's beginning in Yakima) of the Naches Branch Rail Line, which has been out of use for a number of years. It passes over the Naches and Cowiche Ditch. The line is currently owned by the Yakima Interurban Lines Association, which is presently seeking to abandon its ownership and responsibility, to be turned over to Yakima County for future rehabilitation and reactivation. The Naches Branch Rail Line was constructed in 1905-1906 by the North Yakima and Valley Railway Company, a corporation that was established on July 24, 1905. The line was controlled by the Northwestern Improvement Company until June 24, 1914, when the line was sold to the Northern Pacific Railroad. The line continued to operate for many years, and was significant as the main transportation outlet for lumber and agricultural products from the Naches River Valley, connecting with major intercontinental railroad lines at Yakima. This bridge is a simple timber stringer structure with a central I-beam span. The I.D. plate indicates that the central span dates to 1920, meaning that it is not original, but an early replacement. This bridge is a common type and does not possess any particular engineering significance. It is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Description of Physical Appearance

This bridge consists of three short spans. The central span contains steel I-beam stringers, while the two outer spans contain timber stringers. The bridge deck is supported by four rectangular poured concrete piers. Timber curb pieces border the deck, which carries tracks, albeit disconnected. A steel plate is attached to the central I-beam on the south side. It contains the following words: American Bridge Company, U.S. A. 1920.

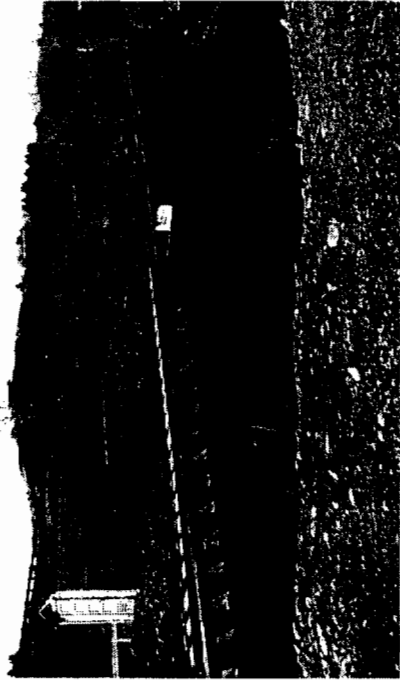
Major Bibliographic References

Bruce Cheever. The Development of Railroads in the State of Washington 1869 to 1948. MA thesis, Western Washington College of Education, 1949.

Kevin Jeffers. WSDOT Rail Bridge Inspection Report. North Yakima and Valley Railway Bridge No. 3, 1999.

Stephen Emerson. Naches Rail Corridor Railbanking Project: Abandonment Phase. AHS Lettter Report 2006-08.

Additional Photos for: North Yakima and Valley Railway, Bridge No. 3 at vicinity of Yakima, WA, Yakima Interurban Lines Association, Naches Branch
Line, M.P. 3



View of North side of bridge

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA6-b

Comments: View to the southwest



View of Bridge deck

taken 2/23/2006

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.): YILA6-c

Comments: View to east

View of

taken

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

View of

taken

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

DIANE WOOD
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
CASE CONTROL UNIT
WASHINGTON, DC 20423