

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Red Bridge

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number County Route S74 over South Skunk River  not for publication

city or town 4.5 miles northeast of Monroe  vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Jasper code 099 zip code 50170

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Patricia Churking DSHPD  
Signature of certifying official/Title

4-7-98  
Date

**STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA**

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
  - See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
  - See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other, (explain):

Edson H. Beal 5.15.98

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Highway Bridges of Iowa

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

other: pinned Warren through truss

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete and timber pile  
 walls \_\_\_\_\_  
 roof \_\_\_\_\_  
 other Steel

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Located 4.5 miles northeast of Monroe, the Red Bridge spans South Skunk River in a rural Jasper County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1                      construction date: 1892  
 span length: 120.0'              construction cost: \$3515.34  
 total length: 212.0'              current condition: fair  
 roadway wdt.: 16.1'              alterations: part of substructure rebuilt and pony truss added, 1947

superstructure: steel, 6-panel, pin/rigid-connected Warren through truss, with 5-panel, rigid-connected Warren pony truss

substructure: concrete and timber pile bent abutments; steel cylinder per on south side of through truss; concrete pier between trusses;

floor/decking: timber deck over steel/timber stringers

other features: upper chord/inclined end post: 2 channels with cover plate and lacing; lower chord: 2 looped rectangular eyebars; vertical: 2 angles with lacing; diagonal: 2 channels with lacing, 2 looped rectangular eyebars; lateral bracing; round rod with threaded ends; strut: 4 angles with lacing; floor beam: I-beam; guardrail: 2 angles

Other than maintenance-related repairs and alterations noted above, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Red Bridge today retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION

Period of Significance

1892

(The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)

Significant Dates

1892 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

designer: unknown

fabricator: unknown

builder: H.S. Efnor

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
other
name of repository:

**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property less than one acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 15 498270 4598620  
zone easting northing2 \_\_\_\_\_  
zone easting northing**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 18 feet by 212 feet, which is centered on the UTM point(s) listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure, substructure, approach spans and floor system.

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected)

The nominated structure includes the bridge's superstructure, substructure, floor system, any approach spans and the property on which they rest. These boundaries encompass, but do not exceed, all of the property that has been historically associated with the bridge.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Clayton B. Fraser  
 organization Fraserdesign date 31 August 1994  
 street & number 1269 Cleveland Avenue telephone 303-669-7969  
 city or town Loveland state Colorado zip code 80537

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets****Maps**

A USGS map (7½ or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name/title Jasper County  
 street & number P.O. Box 714 telephone 515-792-5862  
 city or town Newton state Iowa zip code 50208

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number   8   Page   1   Red Bridge Jasper County; Iowa

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Called the Red Bridge locally, this medium-span truss carries a gravel-surfaced county road across the South Skunk River south of Reasner in Fairview Township. Jasper County records indicate that the bridge was constructed at this location in 1892. Local bridge contractor H.S. Efnor held the county's annual bridge construction contract for that year, and he erected this bridge by September 1892 for \$3515.34. The bridge functioned as built until it was extensively damaged by flooding in 1947. The county then replaced one of the structure's original steel cylinder piers with concrete and added a pony truss approach span. The Red Bridge has functioned since in essentially unaltered condition.

The Pratt and Warren truss configurations were both developed in the 1840s, but it was the Pratt that received the most widespread use in the late 19th century. The reasons for this probably relate to the versatility of the pin-connected Pratt for different span lengths and its easier erection using timber falseworks. Although they later superseded the Pratts when the state highway commission developed its standard bridge designs in 1913, Warren trusses were rarely built in the 19th century; only a few pin-connected examples of this structural type were ever constructed in Iowa. All but a handful of these have subsequently been razed. The Red Bridge is thus technologically significant as an intact example of this exceedingly rare structural type. Although substantially altered by the addition of the pony truss approach span, the bridge is an important and uncommon remnant of early Iowa transportation.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number   9   Page   2   Red Bridge Jasper County; Iowa

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Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. 195700.

Jasper County Bridge Inspection Records, located at Jasper County Engineer's Office, Newton IA.

Jasper County Supervisors' Record, Book 5, page 425 (8 January 1892), page 477 (10 September 1892), located at Jasper County Courthouse, Newton IA.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 6 December 1989.