

PH0283045

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| RECEIVED JUL 11 1975 | |
| DATE ENTERED | MAR 26 1976 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Hillsboro Covered Bridge

AND/OR COMMON

Hillsboro-Grange City Covered Bridge

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Kentucky Route 111 at Fox Creek

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Hillsboro

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Seventh

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Fleming

CODE

069

3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY |
| | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: unused |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Fleming County

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Flemingsburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Fleming County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Flemingsburg

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1971

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hillsboro Covered Bridge stretches across Fox Creek in Fleming County adjacent to Kentucky Route 111, 13.6 miles outside of Flemingsburg. It is of the Burr truss design with a full top lateral system. Probably built in the late 1860s, it was last used in 1968 when it was replaced by a modern concrete bridge located fifty yards upstream.

The bridge's timbers are of yellow pine with double-shouldered braces. A single 94-foot span, it was probably built by the same people who constructed Ringos Mill Covered Bridge several miles up Fox Creek. Abutments of soapstone or "red stone" sit on each side of the creek and corrugated sheet metal covers the roof and sides. Originally it was double-sided with yellow poplar.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

Circa 1865-70

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Known locally as Hillsboro-Grange City Covered Bridge, it is a good example of Theodore Burr's truss employing multiple kingposts patented in 1814.

The cost of bridges was cheap in Burr's day when lumber was about one dollar per hundred feet, and labor was less than a dollar a day. In order for a contractor to use a patented design, he had to pay one dollar per linear foot to the patent holder. Patent bridges were the "bread and butter" of early engineers.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allen, Richard S. Covered Bridges of the South. New York: Bonanza Books, 1970, P. 47.
 Kentucky Covered Bridge Assn. Timbered Tunnel Talk. Newport, Kentucky; various issues.
 Interview with Louis "Stock" Bower (May 20, 1975).
 Brandenburg, Phyllis and David. Kentucky's Covered Bridges. Ohio: Ky, Writers Guild, Inc., 1968.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | 17 | 267840 | 42371200 |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| B | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John Johnson, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

June 5, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

401 Wapping Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-4476

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

SIGNATURE

Edmund W. Melton

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

7-9-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

[Signature]

DATE

3/26/98

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

[Signature]

DATE

7-25-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

[Signature]

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Hillsboro Covered Bridge

CONTINUATION SHEET

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The Hillsboro Covered Bridge in Fleming County was constructed using the Theodore Burr Truss design (or multiple kingpost design--the terms are interchangeable according to covered-bridge builder Louis Bower). The bridge is a single 86-foot span, as measured by the Kentucky Department of Transportation.

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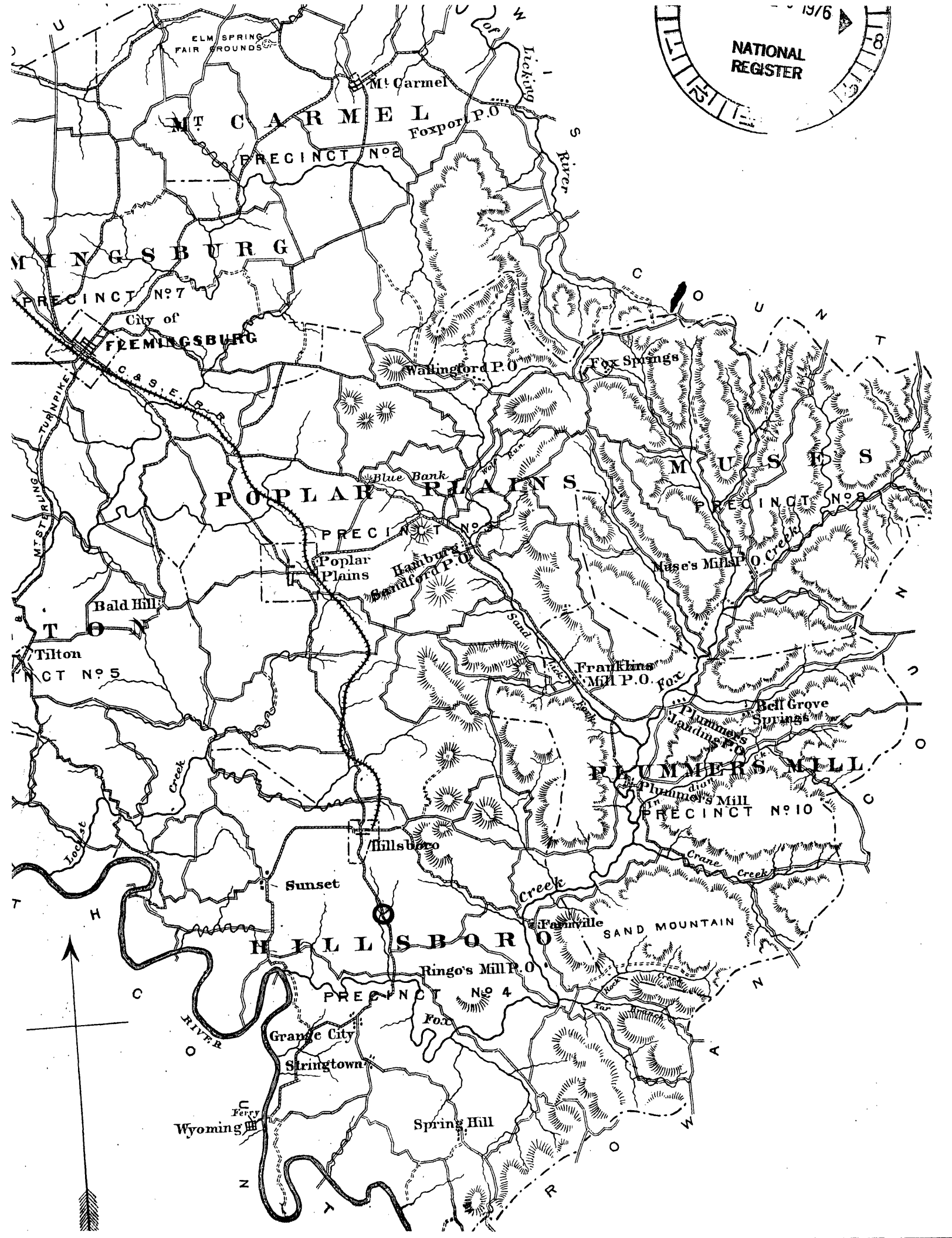
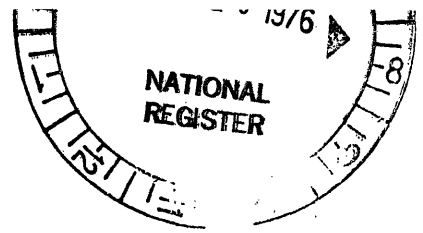
ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

At one time Kentucky had hundreds of covered bridges spanning her rivers. Just prior to World War II, sixty-five were still standing. By 1952, the numbers had shrunk to thirty-nine. Now only sixteen remain. These sixteen, which represent a variety of structural types, are concentrated in the central and northeast sections of the state in the small communities or rural areas of the state.

Many reasons have been offered to explain the construction of covered bridges in Kentucky during the 19th century. The road across the bridges were kept dry and free of snow in winter. Most important, however, was the protection the covering over the bridges provided against the deterioration of the wood. It permitted the timbered trusses and braces to season properly and kept water out of the joints. The life of the bridge was, therefore, significantly prolonged, averaging, generally seven to eight times that of one left uncovered.

Many of the covered bridges owe their present survival to modern spans constructed nearby that relieve the covered bridges of heavy traffic. Six are now closed to vehicular traffic although, like the others, they are visited by large numbers of tourists. All but one are publicly owned. Few are well maintained and most are in need of immediate repair or restoration if their preservation is to be secured.



Hillsboro Covered Bridge
Hillsboro, Fleming Co., Kentucky
Atlas of Bath and Fleming Counties,
Kentucky. Philadelphia: D. J. Lake
& Co., 1884.

sp. 27 "Outline Plan
of Fleming Co., 2 miles =
1" Atlas of Bath &
Fleming Co's, Kentucky,
D. J. Lake & Co., Phila.,
1884