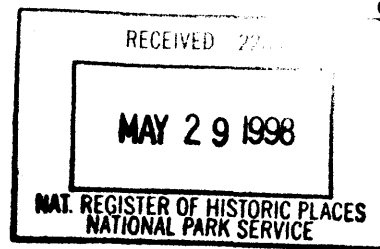


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 Monsrud Bridge

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

2. Location

street & number Swebakken road over Paint Creek  not for publication

city or town 1.1 miles northwest of Waterville  vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Allamakee code 005 zip code 52170

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 Christy DSMPO 5-6-98  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
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. Beall 6-25-98

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

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)

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing and rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, 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)

VACANT/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

other: bowstring pony arch-truss

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls

roof

other Wrought Iron

Narrative Description

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

Located 1.1 miles northwest of Waterville, the Monsrud Bridge spans Paint Creek in a rural Allamakee County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1, span length: 43.0', total length: 43.0', roadway wdt.: 13.6', construction date: 1887, construction cost: unknown, current condition: fair (bridge closed), alterations: substructural repairs

superstructure: wrought iron, 6-panel, bowstring pony arch-truss
substructure: stone abutments and wingwalls with concrete parging
floor/decking: timber deck over steel stringers
other features: arch ribs: 2 channels with cover plate; lower chord: 2 flat bars; vertical: star iron (middle vertical has outrider with double lacing); diagonal: round rod with threaded ends; lateral bracing: round rod with threaded ends; floor beam: large timbers (one I-beam in the middle)

Other than maintenance-related repairs and alterations noted above, the bridge remains essentially unaltered. Although now closed to vehicular traffic, the Monsrud 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)

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1887

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

Significant Dates

1887 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

designer:

King Iron Bridge and Manufacturing Co.

fabricator:

King Iron Bridge and Manufacturing Co.

builder:

King Iron Bridge and Manufacturing Co.

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 635920 4786300  
zone easting northing2 \_\_\_\_\_  
zone easting northing**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 16 feet by 43 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. Fraserorganization Fraserdesign date 31 August 1994street & number 1269 Cleveland Avenue telephone 303-669-7969city 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 locationA **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 Allamakee Countystreet & number P.O. Box 493 telephone 319-568-4574city or town Waukon state Iowa zip code 52172

**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 **Monsrud Bridge** Allamakee County; Iowa

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This small-scale bowstring arch-truss spans Paint Creek northwest of Waterville in Paint Creek Township. Allamakee County records indicate that the bridge was erected in 1887 by the King Iron Bridge and Manufacturing Company, based on an 1887 bridge patent. The iron structure features typical King detailing, with its square tubular arch ribs, star iron verticals and threaded rod diagonals and lateral bracing. The bridge once carried a county road, but has since been replaced with a low water crossing and abandoned in place. Other than this, the Monsrud Bridge remains in unaltered condition.

The bowstring arch-truss was the iron span of choice for Iowa counties in the late 1860s and 1870s. Marketed extensively throughout the Midwest by such industry giants as the King Iron Bridge and Manufacturing Company and the Wrought Iron Bridge Company, these often-patented bridge forms featured a wide range of span lengths, economical fabrication cost and relatively quick erection. The proliferation of the bowstring corresponded with the initial development of Iowa's road system; as a result, perhaps thousands of these prototypical iron spans were erected throughout the state. The bowstring had some rather severe structural flaws, however, relating primarily to lateral stability of the arches, and it was largely superseded by the pin-connected truss in the early 1880s. Despite this, some bowstrings were still erected in Iowa in the 1880s, although the number dwindled precipitously by the decade's end. Through subsequent attrition, almost all of Iowa's bowstrings have since been replaced and demolished. Now less than twenty remain in place. Although it no longer carries traffic, the Monsrud Bridge is historically and technologically significant as one of the last remaining examples in the state of what was once a mainstay structural type.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number   9   Page   2   Monsrud Bridge Allamakee County; Iowa

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Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. 061840.

Allamakee County Supervisors' Record B: page 556 (5 June 1876).

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 12 October 1990.