

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 11 1976
DATE ENTERED DEC 12 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC * * *
Clements Stone Arch Bridge

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

One-half mile southeast of Clements on the Cottonwood
river (NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 23, T 20 S, R 6 E)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Clements

VICINITY OF

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
no. 5, Joe Skubitz

STATE

Kansas

CODE 20

COUNTY Chase

CODE 017

CLASSIFICATION

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

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Chase County

STREET & NUMBER

Chase County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Cottonwood Falls --- VICINITY OF

STATE

Kansas 66845

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Chase County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Cottonwood Falls

STATE

Kansas 66845

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

Aug., 1971 and July, 1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kansas State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Topeka

STATE

Kansas 66612

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Clements stone bridge spans one hundred seventy-five feet over the Cottonwood river one-half mile south of Clements in western Chase county. It is located on a secondary road in a rural setting. The bridge rises forty feet above the water level and the road bed is ten feet wide. The bridge was built of native stone from nearby quarries.

The span is supported by twin stone arches which have been accented by voussoirs and keystones. The east and west faces of the bridge and the foundations have been finished in large blocks of squared rubble. The inner faces of the arches have been built up of coursed cut stone. A plaque bearing the date and the names of the construction company, its principals and the county commissioners has been inserted on the west face of the bridge in the spandrel. The approach to the bridge has a slight rise in both directions and the stone work has been stepped indicating the steepness of that rise.

The bridge is very gracefully proportioned, the double arches setting up a subtle rhythm connecting the banks. The local materials used are complemented by the setting, making the bridge seem visually very appropriate. The scale and design is also interesting as it reflects the needs and concerns of the century before modern transportation.

The only alteration is the asphalt surface now on the roadway.

and a peak of 11 feet. The bridge is also
comparable to the road bed of the river

bridge span is 175 feet long

to north side of

013.000

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 checked="" 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 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 1886

BUILDER/ARCHITECT L. P. Santy Company

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Clements Stone Arch Bridge was erected in 1886 across the Cottonwood river south of Clements. A masterpiece of design and stone construction, it continues to serve the people of the area.

Chase county had been organized in 1859 but its big settlement boom came in the 1870's. The county had only 1900 people in 1870 but more than 6000 by 1880. (Today the county's total is 3600.) The bridge was built during a period of growth and expansion, a time of great confidence in the state's seemingly unlimited potential for growth.

In April of 1886 the Chase county commissioners ordered that a stone arched bridge be built over the Cottonwood river at Clements and appointed William Jeffrey as a special bridge commissioner for the project. In August bids were received for the project. Evidently each company that bid was bidding on its own design. The commissioners were dissatisfied with the first bids and ordered the project re-advertised. Then in September the contract was awarded to L. P. Santy and Co. of Clements. As reported in the Chase County Leader of Sept. 9, 1886, Santy's prices were "Excavation -- below water, 90 cents per cubic yard; above water, 30 cents. Masonry, \$7.25 per cubic yard. Estimated cost of the bridge complete, \$12,000. The contractor furnishes everything."

The construction work soon began and the Leader told its readers on Oct. 7, 1886, that the excavation for the south abutment was underway, that a cofferdam for the center pier was being constructed and that an elevated tramway was being built to transport the large stones. By the end of October the bridge was taking shape, and apparently it was finished in a matter of months.

The principals of the construction company, L. P. Santy and D. Y. Hamill, also operated stone quarries near Clements. William Dawson was the carpenter who built the frame work or forms for the arches of the bridge. Others who worked on the project were William Butler and John Park.

The Clements Stone Arch Bridge is worthy of nomination to the National Register because it is such a fine example of craftsmanship and design. The bridge is more than a utilitarian structure; it reflects an understanding and sensitivity to the terrain and the local materials, and is one of the most handsome bridges in the state.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chase County Courant (Cottonwood Falls), Apr. 22, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, 1886.
 Chase County Leader (Cottonwood Falls), Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 21, 1886.
 "Clements Stone Arch Bridge," Chase County Centennial, 1872-1972 (n.p., 1972), p. 142.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY two one acre

UTM REFERENCES

Lebanon 11.9.76

A 14 | 698115 | 4240775
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B 15 | 70 | 19A | 11500 | 100 | 10
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | | | |

D | | | | |

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: Richard Pankratz, Director, Historic Sites Survey
Cornelia Wyma, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society DATE: July 29, 1976

STREET & NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street TELEPHONE: 913-296-3251

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka STATE: Kansas 66612

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Nyle H. Miller

TITLE Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society DATE July 29, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE 12/12/06

ATTEST: [Signature] DATE 12/6/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER