

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 96000746

Date Listed: 7/17/96

Property Name: Bridge at Iverson Crossing  
County: Minnehaha State: South Dakota

none  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

July 17, 1996  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 10

The verbal boundary description is hereby amended to read:

The property encompasses the entire bridge spanning the Big Sioux River at Iverson Crossing and consists of five trusses measuring a total of 370 feet in length with supporting piers and abutments.

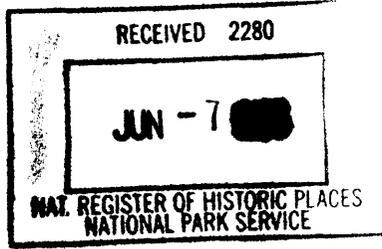
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Megan Dobbs, National Register coordinator for the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, was notified of this amendment on July 17, 1996.

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**DISTRIBUTION:**

National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

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 any 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 Bridge at Iverson Crossing

other names/site number East Sioux Falls Bridge

2. Location

street & number 48054 266th st not for publication       
city or town Brandon vicinity X  
state South Dakota code SD county Minnehaha code 099 zip code 57005

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

Jay D. Vogt 05-24-96  
Signature of certifying official 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 commenting or other official Date

name of property Bridge at Iverson Crossing county and state Minnehaha, SD

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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): \_\_\_\_\_

*Linda McAllister* 7/17/96

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

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

Contributing	Noncontributing
_____	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
<u>  1  </u>	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>  1  </u>	_____ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register   N/A  

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

name of property Bridge at Iverson Crossing county and state Minnehaha, SD

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Transportation Sub: road-related(Vehicular)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: not in use Sub:

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Parker Style PC with Pony trusses

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite roof N/A walls N/A other Metal/Iron

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

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.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation \_\_\_\_\_

Architecture \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

name of property Bridge at Iverson Crossing county and state Minnehaha, SD

Period of Significance 1868 to 1945  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates 1897  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder S.W. Hewitt & Co.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(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: Minnehaha County Courthouse

name of property Bridge at Iverson Crossing county and state Minnehaha, SD

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	693900	4822142	3		
2				4		

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wayne L. Fanebust President  
organization Minnehaha County Historical Society date May 1995  
street & number RR #1, Box 738 telephone (605)372-4139  
city or town Harrisburg state SD zip code 57032

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 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)

name of property Bridge at Iverson Crossing county and state Minnehaha, SD

Property Owner

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

name Aaron Munson
street & number 48054 266th ST telephone (605)336-2130 work
city or town Brandon state SD zip code 57005

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 roperties, 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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Description

The Bridge at Iverson Crossing of the Big Sioux River, built in 1897, consists of five connected structures: a main span camel-back truss; a west approach made up of three four-panel pony trusses; and an east approach made up of one three-panel pony truss. Architecturally, the bridge is a pin-connected Parker through truss. It is supported by two stone piers on each side of the river channel.

The main panel is 150 feet, no inches long. The east approach is 40 feet, no inches long, and the west approach is 180 feet, no inches long. The total structure length is 370 feet. The deck is made of heavy wood planks. The bridge crosses the Big Sioux River in Split Rock Township, Minnehaha County, South Dakota. The county road approaching both sides of the bridge has been abandoned, and the bridge is no longer in use.

The road was surveyed in 1871 by order of the Minnehaha County Commission. It was used by a stagecoach line that operated between Blue Earth City, Minnesota, and Sioux Falls, Dakota Territory. The stage trail followed the section line, as surveyed, and crossed the river at a point called "Iverson Crossing." The crossing was named for Ole B. Iverson who came to Dakota in 1868. Throughout the 1870s the stagecoach and other conveyances forded the Big Sioux River at Iverson Crossing.

According to county records, the first bridge at the crossing was constructed in 1889. The new structure served both the farm community and the new town of East Sioux Falls situated just to the west of the bridge. East Sioux Falls came into being during the Great Dakota Boom, as a direct consequence of the stone-quarrying industry. Stone from a local quarry was no doubt used to construct the bridge piers.

Severe flooding destroyed the original bridge in 1895. It was rebuilt in 1896 but went out again due to high water in the spring of 1897. The present bridge was built in the summer of 1897 by H. S. Hewitt and Company and served East Sioux Falls until the town faded out of existence. Continuing to serve the farm and rural community until 1983, the bridge was finally closed to traffic due to lack of use and disrepair.

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Statement of Significance

The Bridge at Iverson Crossing is historically significant under criterion A for its long association with the settlement of Split Rock Township in Minnehaha County, South Dakota. The bridge, first built in 1889, served the community until 1983. This Parker-style bridge, constructed in 1897, is significant under criterion C for its architecture. Only three or four pin-connected Parker through truss bridges built prior to 1920 are known to exist in South Dakota. This one is a strong and well-preserved example of a structure built during the transition phase from wrought iron to steel construction. With the rapid disappearance of old bridges, its historical and architectural importance will increase as the years pass.

Narrative:

In 1868, Ole B. Iverson, the first settler in Split Rock Township, claimed a homestead at the site of the bridge. Iverson was especially suited for life on the frontier and emerged as a leader, promoting settlement and serving in the territorial legislature. Long before bridges spanned the Big Sioux River, travelers and settlers forded the river at Iverson Crossing, for it was ideally suited for this purpose. Frequently mentioned in local newspapers, "Iverson Crossing" became a common point of reference and a landmark. People referred to it by name when describing the land or giving directions.

In 1871, by order of the Minnehaha County Commissioners, a road was surveyed along section lines, crossing the Big Sioux River at Iverson Crossing. This road, or trail, was thereafter used by the stagecoach, which carried passengers and mail from Blue Earth City, Minnesota, to Sioux Falls, Dakota Territory, on a regular basis--unless the water was too high--until the coming of the railroad. Thus the site served as an important artery of transportation during the frontier era, long before the first bridge was built there.

In 1887, the town of East Sioux Falls was founded near the west bank of the Big Sioux River. East Sioux Falls, a true boomtown, had quickly come into being due to the sudden popularity of local quartzite stone. As building and paving stone was shipped to major cities throughout the United States,

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Iverson Crossing and the county road became even more important to prairie travelers. In 1889, the first bridge was built there.

In the summer of 1896, it was replaced. The following spring that structure was in turn destroyed by flooding, and in the summer of 1897, the present bridge was constructed by S. W. Hewitt and Company.

The town of East Sioux Falls is gone; nearly all of its buildings are demolished or moved away. The bridge remains as a reminder of what was once a vibrant and promising community. Still in good condition and maintaining its historic architectural integrity, the bridge stands as a monument to the thousands of people who crossed the river at Iverson Crossing.

Bibliography

1. Records of the Minnehaha County Commissioners
2. Final Report on Historic Bridges of South Dakota, November, 1990.
3. General Laws, Memorials & Resolutions of the Territory of Dakota, Published by Authority, Yankton, D.T., Stone & Kingsbury, Public Printers, 1870-71, #14, P-600.
4. Resolution by the Minnehaha County Commission Enabling Minnehaha County to Transfer Certain Properties and Allow Reversion to Prior Landowners, April 14, 1992.  
Verbal Boundary Description
5. Petition for Vacation of Public Road, Oct. 7, 1991.
6. Agreement to Transfer County Property, April 14, 1992.

name of property Bridge at Iverson Crossing county and state Minnehaha, SD

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Verbal Boundary Description

Five separate structures, the east approach being a 3 panel pony truss, 40 feet, no inches long; the main span is a nine panel camel-back truss, 150 feet long, no inches; and the west approach consists of three four-panel pony trusses, each 60 feet, no inches long. Total structural length: 370 feet.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire bridge as described above and that portion of the river, which it crosses.

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Photographer: Aaron Munson  
Date: August 1995  
Location of original negatives: South Dakota State Historical  
Preservation Program, Pierre.

Photograph

Number	Description	of view
1	North elevation	S
2	East elevation	W
3	East elevation western approach	W
4	West elevation	E
5	Stone Pier	