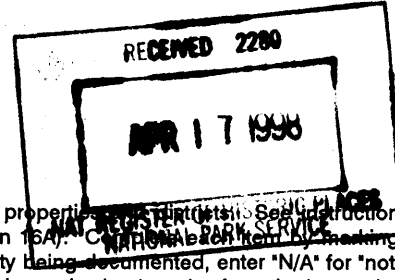


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**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 Morgan Bridge

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Maple Lane over branch of Clanton Creek not for publication

city or town 4.0 miles southeast of Peru vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Madison code 121 zip code 50222

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 Chlurkin DSHPO 4-7-98
Signature of certifying official/Title 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 A. Beall 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)

VACANT/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

other: pinned Pratt pony truss

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Timber pile

walls

roof

other Wrought iron

Narrative Description

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

Located 4.0 miles southeast of Peru, the Morgan Bridge spans a branch of the Clanton Creek in a rural Madison County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1 construction date: 1891
 span length: 30.0' construction cost: \$376.39 (erection cost)
 total length: 60.0' current condition: fair
 roadway wdt.: 13.6' alterations: substructure and approach spans replaced

superstructure: wrought iron or steel, 2-panel, pin-connected Pratt half-hip pony truss, with timber stringer approach spans

substructure: timber pile bent abutments, wingwalls and piers

floor/decking: timber deck over timber stringers

other features: upper chord and inclined end post: 2 angles with batten plates; lower chord: 2 looped rectangular eyebars; vertical: 2 angles with batten plates; diagonal: 2 looped rectangular eyebars; lateral bracing: round rod with threaded ends; floor beam: tapered, "fishtail" plate girder, U-bolted to lower chord pins; guardrail: timber

Other than maintenance-related repairs and alterations noted above, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Morgan 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.

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.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1891

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

Significant Dates

1891 (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:

Benton Jones, Winterset IA

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:

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 1 **Morgan Bridge** Madison County; Iowa

Located at the end of an unimproved county road, this short-span pony truss crosses a branch of Clanton Creek. The structure is comprised of a pinned Pratt truss, with timber stringer approach spans on both ends, all supported by a timber substructure. The truss web composition is unusually light, consisting of riveted angles for the upper chords and end posts and thin eyebars for the lower chords, and features both pinned and rigid connections. This is contrasted by the relatively heavy "fishtail" girder floor beam U-bolted to the lower chord pins at the center panel point. Known locally as the Morgan Bridge, the structure was built here in 1891 by Winterset contractor Benton Jones for \$376.39. Jones used a wrought iron or steel superstructure fabricated by the King Iron Bridge Company of Cleveland, erecting the truss on timber pile bents with 22 feet of timber approaches. The substructure has evidently been replaced subsequently, as have the approach spans, but the truss itself remains in essentially unaltered condition. Always a relatively remote crossing of this minor watercourse, the Morgan Bridge is now closed to traffic, its deck in deteriorating condition.

With their pinned connections and standardized fabrication, Pratt pony trusses were the iron bridge of choice for short-span applications in the late 19th century. Thousands of such trusses were fabricated by the major bridge firms such as King, WIBCo and, in Iowa, the Clinton Bridge and Iron Works. Many remain in place today. The Morgan Bridge is noteworthy among the remaining Pratts for its unusual web composition and its relatively early construction date. Although altered somewhat through the replacement and deterioration of its timber members, it is still a relatively well-preserved early wagon truss.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 2 **Morgan Bridge** Madison County; Iowa

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. 232150.

Madison County Board of Supervisors' Minutes, Book E: page 293 (18 November 1891), located at the Madison County Courthouse, Winterset IA.

Madison County Bridge Book No. 2, located at Madison County Engineer's Office, Winterset IA.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser and Sheila Bricher-Wade, 24 March 1990.