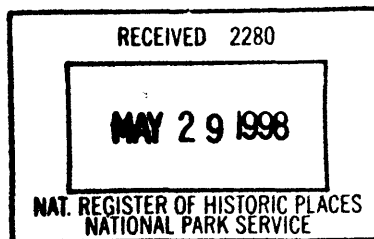


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



788

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 Washington Mill Bridge

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Creek Branch Lane over Lytle Creek not for publication

city or town 2.5 miles southeast of Bernard vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Dubuque code 061 zip code 52032

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 Director 5-16-98
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):

Elson A. Beall 6-25-88

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)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

other: bowstring through 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 2.5 miles southeast of Bernard, the Washington Mill Bridge spans Lytle Creek in a rural Dubuque County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1 construction date: 1877-78
 span length: 113.0' construction cost: \$2589.00
 total length: 114.0' current condition: fair
 roadway wdt.: 13.8' alterations: none

superstructure: wrought iron, 10-panel, bowstring through arch-truss
 substructure: stone masonry abutments and wingwalls
 floor/decking: timber deck over steel stringers
 other features: arch rib: 2 curved iron plates with lattice tubes; lower chord: iron bars bolted between alternating panel points; vertical: star bar bolted through arch-rib, with star bar out-
 rider; diagonal: round rod with holes in end bolted to lower chord; lateral bracing:
 round eyerod with turnbuckle; strut: 4 laced angles; floor beam: I-beam, U-bolted to
 lower chord

Other than maintenance-related repairs, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Washington Mill 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

1877-78

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

Significant Dates

1877-78 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

designer:

Massillon Bridge Company, Massillon OH

fabricator:

Massillon Bridge Company

builder:

Massillon Bridge Co.; T.J. Donahue

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 DataAcreage of Property less than one acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>682960</u>	<u>4685720</u>	2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	zone	easting	northing		zone	easting	northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 16 feet by 114 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	<u>Clayton B. Fraser</u>		
organization	<u>Fraserdesign</u>	date	<u>31 August 1994</u>
street & number	<u>1269 Cleveland Avenue</u>	telephone	<u>303-669-7969</u>
city or town	<u>Loveland</u>	state	<u>Colorado</u> zip code <u>80537</u>

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	<u>Dubuque County</u>		
street & number	<u>13063 Seipel Road</u>	telephone	<u>319-557-7283</u>
city or town	<u>Dubuque</u>	state	<u>Iowa</u> zip code <u>52002</u>

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 **Washington Mill Bridge** Dubuque County; Iowa

The Dubuque County Board of Supervisors first contracted for a timber bridge over Lytle Creek, next to the Washington Mill, in 1865. That August the board hired local contractors Ambrose and Joel Higgins to build a small-scale timber stringer structure for this crossing in Washington Township, along with a bridge at Higgins Ford, for \$295.00. Predictably short-lived, the first Washington Mill Bridge required frequent repairs to keep it serviceable. It was rebuilt in 1873 and again in 1876. Finally, in the fall of 1877 the board "ordered that a bridge be built at Washington Mill in Washington Township." The proposed new span would feature an all-iron superstructure in the hopes of eliminating the maintenance problems of its predecessors. In October the supervisors hired local mason T.J. Donahue to build new stone abutments for \$765.00. At that time they contracted with the Massillon Bridge Company to design, fabricate and erect a 113-foot bowstring arch-truss span for \$1824.00. Donahue began work on the substructure immediately, completing the massive abutments by January. Massillon fabricated the arch-truss using its standard, latticed double-plate design, completing the bridge in April 1878. The Washington Mill Bridge proved only slightly more durable than the structures it replaced; it required repairs in at least 17 of its first 32 years of service. Nevertheless, the bridge has continued to function in place, with only maintenance-related alterations. Once on a main road through the southern part of Dubuque County, it now services a single farm.

The bowstring arch-truss was the iron span of choice for Iowa counties in the late 1860s and 1870s. Marketed extensively by such Ohio-based industry giants as the Wrought Iron Bridge Company, the King Iron Bridge Company and the Massillon 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 coincided with the initial development of Iowa's road system, and as a result, perhaps thousands of these prototypical iron spans were erected throughout the state. The bowstring design had some rather severe structural flaws, however, and it was superseded by the pin-connected truss in the early 1880s. Through subsequent attrition, almost all of Iowa's bowstrings have since been replaced and demolished. The Washington Mill Bridge is distinguished among those that remain by its pristine state of preservation. One of the oldest originally placed roadway bridges in the state, it is an outstanding early transportation-related resource.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 2 **Washington Mill Bridge** Dubuque County; Iowa

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure Number 145870.

Dubuque County Board of Supervisors Minute Book E, page 179 (3 September 1877), page 183 (19 September 1877) - located at the Dubuque County Courthouse, Dubuque IA.

Dubuque County Bridge Book 1 - located at the Dubuque County Courthouse, Dubuque IA.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 15 October 1990.