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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 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 Mill Race Bridge

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Pheasant road over Turkey River not for publication

city or town 8.6 miles northwest of West Union vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Fayette code 065 zip code 52175

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 DSW 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):

Elsan A. 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)

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: pinned Warren through truss

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Timber

walls _____

roof _____

other Wrought Iron/Steel

Narrative Description

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

Located 8.6 miles northwest of West Union, the Mill Race Bridge spans Turkey River in a rural Fayette County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1 construction date: 1892
 span length: 120.0' construction cost: unknown
 total length: 121.0' current condition: fair
 roadway wdt.: 16.1' alterations: substructure replaced

superstructure: wrought iron or steel, 6-panel, pin-connected Warren through truss
 substructure: concrete abutments and wingwalls
 floor/decking: timber deck over steel stringers
 other features: upper chord and inclined end post: 2 channels with cover and batten plates; lower chord: 2 rectangular eyebars; vertical: 2 angles with lacing; diagonal: 2 channels with lacing, 2 rectangular eyebars; lateral bracing: round rod with threaded ends; strut: 2 angles; guardrails: 2 angles with steel pipe guardrails at approaches

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

1892

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

Significant Dates

1892 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Bullder

designer:

Horace E. Horton (probable)

fabricator:

Chicago Bridge and Iron Co. (probable)

builder:

Chicago Bridge and Iron Co. (probable)

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 590440 4679800
zone easting northing

2
zone easting northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 18 feet by 121 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. Fraser

organization Fraserdesign date 31 August 1994

street & number 1269 Cleveland Avenue telephone 303-669-7969

city or town Loveland state Colorado zip code 80537

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7 1/2 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)

Property Owner

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

name/title Fayette County

street & number P.O. Box 269 telephone 319-422-6061

city or town West Union state Iowa zip code 52175

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 Mill Race Bridge Fayette County; Iowa

This single-span truss crosses the Turkey River at the northern edge of Fayette County, in Section 3 of Auburn Township. Known locally as the Mill Race Bridge, presumably for its proximity to a riverside mill, the structure is configured as a six-panel Warren truss with pinned connections. The existing concrete abutments are evidently replacements of an earlier substructure. Although county records are somewhat sketchy, the Mill Race Bridge appears to have been erected in 1892. In January of that year the county board of supervisors received a citizens' petition for a permanent bridge at this location. The petition was referred, along with six others, to a committee of the whole, after which a contract was awarded to build the bridge. Fayette County had dealt almost exclusively with Horace E. Horton, a brilliant civil engineer from Minneapolis, for its wagon bridges in the 1880s. When Horton moved to the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company in the late 1880s, he brought the county with him as a client, and the latter firm was largely responsible for the county's bridges in the 1890s. The Mill Race Bridge was probably fabricated and erected by Chicago B&I for the county in 1892. Other than the subsequent replacement of its substructure, it remains in essentially unaltered condition today.

The Pratt and Warren truss configurations were both developed in the 1840s, but it was the Pratt that received the most widespread use in the late 19th century. The reasons for this probably relate to the versatility of the pin-connected Pratt for different span lengths and its easier erection using timber falseworks. Relatively few pinned Warren trusses were ever built in Iowa and only a handful remains in use today. The Mill Race Bridge is distinguished as a well-preserved example of this uncommon 19th century truss type.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 2 Mill Race Bridge Fayette County; Iowa

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure Number 153120.

Fayette County Supervisors' Minutes Book 6: page 8 (8 April 1890), page 369 (5 January 1892), located at the Fayette County Courthouse, West Union IA.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 10 July 1992.