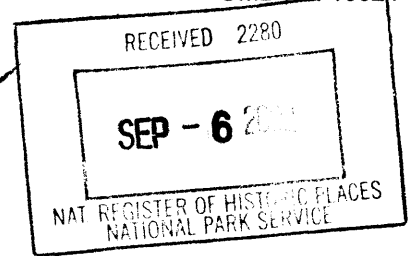


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction 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 Main Street Bridge

other names/site number CDOT No. K-16-X; 5FN1697

**2. Location**

street & number Colorado Highway 115 at milepost 8.90 [N/A] not for publication

city or town Florence [N/A] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Fremont code 043 zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [ ] nationally [ ] statewide [X] locally. ([ ] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Georgina Cortez State Historic Preservation Officer August 21, 2002  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office, Colorado Historical Society  
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 [ ] See continuation sheet.

Edson A. Beall Signature of the Keeper 10/15/02 Date of Action

Main Street Bridge  
Name of Property

Fremont County, Colorado  
County/State

**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 count previously listed resources.)

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 in Colorado

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Function**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Road-related  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Road-related  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Concrete filled spandrel arch  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation  
walls  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof  
other Concrete  
Asphalt  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

Main Street Bridge  
Name of Property

Fremont County, Colorado  
County/State

## 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 one or more continuation sheets.)

## 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  
# \_\_\_\_\_

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation

Engineering

### Periods of Significance

1921-1952

### Significant Dates

N/A

### Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

McFall, A.B.

Shields & Kimmell

### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Colorado Historical Society  
Colorado Dept. of Transportation

Main Street Bridge  
Name of Property

Fremont County, Colorado  
County/State

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreeage of Property** less than one

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 490110 4248800  
Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[ ] 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 Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and Clay Fraser, principal

organization Colorado Historical Society and Fraser Design date May 21, 2002

street & number 1300 Broadway telephone 303-866-4681

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80203

## 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)

## Property Owner

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

name Colorado Department of Transportation

street & number 4201 E. Arkansas Avenue telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80222

**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.*)

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Main Street Bridge  
Fremont County, Colorado  
Highway Bridges in Colorado, MPS

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**DESCRIPTION**

Location: Colorado Highway 115 at milepost 8.90 in Florence

Setting: Over Coal Creek

Structure length: 48 feet

Structure width: 68.70 feet

Roadway width: 55.90 feet

Main span number: 1

Main span length: 44 feet

Superstructure: Concrete filled spandrel arch

Substructure: Concrete abutments

Floor/decking: Asphalt roadway on earth fill

Other features: Solid concrete guardrails with recessed rectangular panels  
Bridge plate cast in concrete

Erected: 1921

Designer: A.B. McFall

Contractor: Shields & Kimmell

Alterations: None

**United States Department of the Interior  
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**SIGNIFICANCE**

The 1921 Main Street Bridge on Colorado Highway 115, in Florence, meets the registration requirements under Criterion A in the area of Transportation and under Criterion C in the area of Engineering as set forth in the *Highway Bridges in Colorado*, Multiple Property Documentation Form. The period of significance begins in 1921 with the completion of the bridge and extends through its historic use to 1952, a date fifty-years-of-age in keeping with National Register criteria.

Named after the daughter of town founder James McCandless, Florence was established in 1872 along the tracks of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad. The town eventually became an important supply point for the outlying region and a center for oil refining and ore reduction for the nearby drilling and mining districts. Its location on both Coal and Oak creeks meant that numerous small scale bridges were necessary to carry city streets over the two streams. Built of wood, these early structures required frequent repairs to keep them functional. When floods on both streams damaged or destroyed several of the bridges in 1908 and again in 1915, the city opted to replace them with more substantial concrete structures.

Although the existing Main Street Bridge over Coal Creek had weathered both the 1908 and 1915 floods, by 1921 it was deteriorating. In August, the Florence Board of Aldermen instructed City Engineer A.B. McFall to draft plans for a new concrete structure. Three weeks later, McFall presented plans for two different designs, one featuring a 45 foot deck width, the other an 80 foot width. The town solicited competitive bids for both, and on September 21 received proposals from eight bridge contractors: J.T. Westfall, H.M. Fox. Wood & Perkins, William Robbins. Shields & Kimmell, all of Florence; the Midland Bridge & Construction Company of Kansas City; the Monarch Engineering Company of Denver; and the Pueblo Bridge & Construction Company of Pueblo.

The aldermen wanted to award the contract to low bidders Shields & Kimmell, but they could not agree about the bridge's width. The issue became a source of considerable contention throughout Florence, and after deadlocking on several votes, the board put the question to an informal vote of the citizenry. In November, the townspeople approved a compromise 68 foot wide structure. Shields & Kimmell were hired to build it for \$9,452 plus 75 cents per foot of sub-structural piling. Completed early the following January, the Main Street Bridge continues to function in place, in essentially unaltered condition, as an important component of Colorado Highway 115 and the principal stream crossing in Florence .

**Engineering**

After the turn of the 20th century, the preferred alternative to the steel truss for short and medium span vehicular bridges was generally considered to be the concrete arch. More solid under traffic and better resistant to flooding, it was also valued as more aesthetically refined

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than the starkly functional steel truss. Although the Highway Commission formulated state standards for concrete arch bridges as early as the 1910s, the Colorado Highway Department never built many, preferring to use steel and concrete beam construction.

While the most prolific concrete bridge builder in Colorado was the Pueblo Bridge Company, and the most common arch type was the filled spandrel Luten arch, other contractors built non-Luten filled arches during the early years of the 20th century. A small number of these structures remain in use today. Locally designed, and built with local funds, the small scale Main Street Bridge in Florence is ornamented by the use of recessed rectangular panels in its solid concrete guardrails. Located in a prominent location, the intact structure remains in use as a well preserved example of a small scale concrete filled spandrel arch.

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Colorado Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. K-16-X. Located at CDOT, Denver, CO.

Fraser, Clayton B. Field inspection October 1998.

Fraser, Clayton B. "Main Street Bridge," Historic Bridge Inventory, 31 March 2000.

Plate on bridge: "1921 Geo. Wilson, Mayor Aldermen W. Rescorla, S. Hopkins, W. White, H. Hitchcock, M. Morganstein, G. Cox G. Wilkes, Atty. C.M. McCandless, Treas. A.B. McFall, Eng. Shields & Kimmell, Blds:'

Town of Florence Board of Aldermen Record. Located at City Hall, Florence, Colorado.



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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The bridge is located on Colorado Highway 115 at milepost 8.90. The boundaries of this nomination consist of a rectangle of land 10 feet out in each direction from the footprint of the bridge.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nomination includes all the land directly and historically associated with the bridge.

**PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-2:

Name of Property: Main Street Bridge  
Location: Fremont County, Colorado  
Photographer: Clayton Fraser  
Date of Photographs: October 1998  
Negatives: Colorado Department of Transportation

**Photo No.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Photographic Information** \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 View to north along roadway
- 2 View to southeast through bridge

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USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP  
Florence Quadrangle, Colorado  
7.5 Minute Series

