



770

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 Shellsburg Bridge

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Pearl Street over Bear Creek not for publication

city or town Shellsburg vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Benton code 011 zip code 52332

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 Osterking DSHPD 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):

Edson H. 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: concrete filled spandrel arch

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls

roof

other Concrete

Narrative Description

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

Located in Shellsburg, the Shellsburg Bridge spans Bear Creek in an small-town setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1 construction date: 1915
 span length: 60.0' construction cost: \$6081.06
 total length: 64.0' current condition: good
 roadway wdt.: 23.7' alterations: none

superstructure: concrete filled spandrel arch
 substructure: concrete abutments and wingwalls
 floor/decking: concrete over earth fill
 other features: guardrail: concrete balustrade with molded balusters; sidewalk on northwest side with Armco rail on roadway side; incised panels on spandrel walls

Other than maintenance-related repairs, the Shellsburg Bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. It 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1915

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

Significant Dates

1915 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

designer: Iowa State Highway Commission

fabricator: none

builder: Alfred Vinall

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on 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

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 **Shellsburg Bridge** Benton County; Iowa

Located in downtown Shellsburg, near the eastern edge of Benton County, this medium-span concrete bridge carries Pearl Street across Bear Creek. The Shellsburg Bridge dates to 1915. That March the Benton County Board of Supervisors passed a Resolution of Necessity for the construction of a new 60-foot concrete arch bridge at this crossing. Using a special design by the Iowa State Highway Commission, the county solicited proposals from bridge companies to build the structure. On April 24th, the county received bids from Alfred Vinall, the Miller-Hey Construction Company, the Waterloo Construction Company, N.M. Stark, the Iowa Bridge Company and the Missouri Ballast and Construction Company. The board awarded the contract to Vinall. He apparently complete the Shellsburg Bridge later that year for a total cost of \$6081.06. Since that time the structure has functioned in place, with no substantial alterations.

The state highway commission designed numerous concrete structures in the 1910s, both as standard plans and special designs. These consisted of concrete slabs and culverts for short-span crossings and girders and arches for medium spans; for long-span applications, ISHC typically delineated arches. The highway commission eschewed ornamentation on its rural bridges as an unnecessary expense. Located in an urban setting, on the other hand, the Shellsburg Bridge featured a more studied architectural expression, with bichrome concrete detailing, molded concrete balustrades and incised spandrel panels. In this it differed from the majority of concrete structures built in Iowa in the mid-1910s. With its handsomely detailed and proportioned 60-foot span, it is a well-preserved, relatively early example of urban bridge design by the state highway commission.

10. Geographical DataAcreage of Property less than one acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 15 593540 4640550
zone easting northing2 _____
zone easting northing**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 26 feet by 64 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 Fraser and Robert Hybben
 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** (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 City of Shellsburg
 street & number P.O. Box J telephone 319-436-2954
 city or town Shellsburg state Iowa zip code 52332

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 9 Page 2 Shellsburg Bridge Benton County; Iowa

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. 010310.

Benton County Supervisors' Record, Book I: page 132 (23 March 1915), page 174 (4 August 1915), and pages 209-210 (18 September 1915).

Iowa State Highway Commission, Report of the State Highway Commission, 1915, pages 56, 147.

Field inspection by Charlene K. Roise, 21 November 1991.