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							
nistoric name	Red Bridge						
other names/site number _							_
2. Location							
street & numberFue:	l Hollow Roa	ad <u>over</u>	Yellow River	<u> </u>		not for pu	ublication
city or town 7.3 miles northeast of Postville				vicinity			
stateIowa	codeIA	county .	Allamakee	code	005	zip code	45302
s. State/Federal Agency	Certification						
Signature of certifying office State or Federal agency are In my opinion, the property comments.)	ial/Title ind bureau	DSHT	Ø			eet for additional	
Signature of certifying offic	ial/Title				Date		
State or Federal agency an	nd bureau						
. National Park Service	Certification		~A	Ar n	1	Λ	
hereby certify that the pro- entered in the National See continuation sl determined eligible for	Register neet the National Regi	ister	Coson!	W. 13	egl)	6.5	25.9
☐ See continuation sl		Register					
granted rot eligible removed from the Nation							
other, (explain):							

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)			
□ private	☐ building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing		
public-local	☐ district ☐ site ■ structure ☐ object	0	0	buildings	
□ public-State		0	0	sites	
☐ public-Federal		1	0	structures	
		0	0	objects	
		11	0	Total	
Name of related multiple property is not part of	roperty listing f a multiple property listing)	Number of cont in the National	tributing resources pro Register	eviousiy listed	
Highway Bridges of Ic	owa	0			
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	100 m	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)			
TRANSPORTATION/re	oad-related	VACANT/not in use			
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from instructions)			
other: timber/iron Pra	att truss	foundationCon	crete filled st	ceel	
		walls			
		roof			
		other Timber iron			

Narrative Description

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

Located 7.3 miles northeast of Postville, the Red Bridge spans the Yellow River in a rural Allamakee County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1 construction date: 1920 span length: 98.0' construction cost: \$2304.74

total length: 128.0' current condition: poor (bridge closed)

roadway wdt.: 13.9' alterations: bridge closed and deck removed

superstructure: timber/iron, 7-panel, Pratt through truss, skewed

substructure: concrete-filled steel cylinder piers

floor/decking: timber deck removed

other features: upper chord/inclined end post: two timbers; lower chord: 2 looped round eyerods;

vertical: timber (2 looped round eyerods at the hip); diagonal: 2 looped round eyerods; counter: 1 looped round eyerod with turnbuckle; lateral bracing: round rod with thread-

ed ends; strut: timber with iron rod knee braces; floor beam: timber

Although it has lost a degree of structural integrity due to the removal of its floor stringers and deck and the partial collapse of one hip vertical, the Red Bridge retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, 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)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
□ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ENGINEERING
□ 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	Period of Significance
lack individual distinction.	1920
□ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield,	(The period of significance is derived
information important in prehistory or history.	from the original construction date.)
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)	Significant Dates
Property is:	1920 (construction date)
□ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	
☐ B removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
☐ C a birthplace or grave.	N/A
□ D a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	N/A
☐ F a commemorative property.	
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Architect/Builder
within the past 50 years.	designer: Allamakee County Engineer
	worden-Allen Company, Milwaukee WI
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on continuation sheets.)	builder: A.L. Powell
O. Molor Pibliographical Potoropeo	
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):	Primary location of additional data:
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested	■ State Historic Preservation Office □ other State agency
previously listed in the National Register	☐ Federal agency
previously determined eligible by the National	☐ Local government
Register designated a National Historic Landmark	☐ University ☐ other
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	name of repository:
□ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record	

Red	Bridge
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Allamakee County; Iowa

3. apino	al Data		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Acreage of Prop	erty less than one acre		
UTM References (Place additional UTM	3 M references on a continuation sheet)		
1 15 4776	320 628160 2		
zone eastin		zone easting	northing
Verbal Boundary	aries of the property)		
centered on th	d property is a rectangular-shaped pard e UTM point(s) listed above. Included substructure, approach spans and floor	within this re	
	ndaries were selected)		
proach spans a	d structure includes the bridge's supers and the property on which they rest. Th erty that has been historically associated	ese boundarie	es encompass, but do not exceed,
11. Form Prepa	red By		
name/title	Clayton B. Fraser	1207	
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 Docu	mentation		
Submit the following	items with the completed form:		
Continuation Sh	eets		
A Sketch Photographs	map (7½ or 15 minute series) indicating the promap for historic districts and properties having that ive black and white photographs of the promap is the promap of the pr	g large acreag	
Additional items (Check with the SHP)	O or FPO for any additional items)		
Property Owner			
(Complete this item a	t the request of SHPO or FPO)		
name/title	Allamakee County		
name na O na colo	P.O. Box 493	telephone	515-568-4574
street & number			

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 Red Bridge Allamakee County; Iowa

Now abandoned with its stringers and deck removed, the Red Bridge spans the Yellow River northeast of Postville, in Franklin Township. The structure dates to 1920. That year the Allamakee County Engineer designed this 98-foot timber truss - the first bridge at this crossing - estimated its cost at \$2500.00, and let a series of private contracts for its fabrication and erection. The Worden-Allen Company of Milwaukee provided the structural steel, City Lumber provided the timbers, a man named Ryerson provided the hardware, and local contractor A.L. Powell built the truss. Total cost: \$2304.74. Called the Red Bridge locally, this timber truss featured a Pratt configuration, with timber compression members and forged iron tension members. The upper-chord timbers are bolted to the timber verticals using iron plates; the iron eyerod lower chords are pinned to the verticals. From these pins the floor beams are hung using U-bolts. The Red Bridge carried traffic until its later closure (at an unknown date). The timber deck and stringers were subsequently removed, and the bridge now stands abandoned in deteriorating condition.

As Iowa's counties were in their formative stages between the 1850s and 1890s, they could ill-afford the expense of substantial iron or masonry bridges for their developing road systems. Instead they opted for wood construction - either in timber pile or timber truss configurations - willingly sacrificing longevity for economy. Without the protective sheathing of covered bridges, timber spans rarely lasted more than twenty years in service, and the worst of the early wood bridges required maintenance after virtually every flood. Although some counties continued to work with wood bridge construction, most eschewed timber stringer or truss spans in large part after the turn of the century. As a result, only a handful of timber covered bridges remains in place today, and no 19th century timber pile bridges have been documented by the statewide bridge inventory. Although not truly "old" by Iowa bridge standards, the Red Bridge in Allamakee County is distinguished as the last uncovered timber truss remaining in the state. It is unclear whether the existing timbers on the Red Bridge are original or whether some or all have been replaced - given the notoriously short-lived nature of timber structures in Iowa - but they do appear original. Nevertheless, the Red Bridge is today an important resource from what was once a large group of early timber roadway bridges in the state.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. 061360.

Allamakee County Bridge Record No. 1 (second book, up to 1940) - located at Allamakee County Courthouse, Waukon IA.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 12 October 1990.