

PH035091X

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED APR 27 1976
DATE ENTERED AUG 28 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
 Imes Covered Bridge
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
South Twp., Sect. 27, 3.5 mi. SW of St. Charles, Ia. NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN St. Charles VICINITY OF Fifth CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
STATE Iowa CODE 19 COUNTY Madison CODE 67 121

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Madison County
STREET & NUMBER
City Square
CITY, TOWN Winterset VICINITY OF STATE Iowa

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Courthouse -- Engineer's Office, Madison County
STREET & NUMBER
City Square
CITY, TOWN Winterset STATE Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>1887</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Imes Covered Bridge was built in 1870, and originally situated on the Middle River at Wilkins Ford. It was moved to its present location, Imes Crossing on the south branch of Clanton Creek in September, 1887.

This pitch-roof bridge covers a span of 65 feet and is 14 feet wide. It sits on steel pilings at each end. A Town lattice type of construction was used, a crisscross web of planks, fashioned to form a solid, durable truss, held together with wooden pins (Trunnell pins or treenails). The skeleton structure is of native lumber, hewn and shaped to fit the purpose. Outside is of regular barn boards, with tar-metal roofing. The structure is painted red, with white trim. There have been no structural changes since construction.

The bridge is on a north-south, infrequently-traveled road, a short distance south of a railroad track. However, due to proposed new road construction, the bridge may be moved once again, to the town park in St. Charles, Iowa, to ensure its preservation.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT J.P. Clark

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Imes Bridge is one of two in the Winterset region built by J.P. Clark. It is also the oldest covered bridge in the area. Beyond this, however, the Imes Bridge, like all 19th-century covered bridges, is a valuable cultural artifact. It is a wedding of 19th-century engineering techniques to the problem of transportation across new lands. As one of the very few covered bridges remaining in Iowa, the Imes Covered Bridge is eminently deserving of preservation and protection.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Smith, Lloyd. Scenic Madison County. Winterset, Ia.: Joe Graham & Co., 1961.
 Swanson, Leslie. Covered Bridges in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. Moline, Illinois, 1970.
 Cheever, L.O. "Covered Bridges of Iowa," The Palimpsest. Iowa City: State Historical Society, 1970.
 Allen, R.S. Covered Bridges of the Middle West. New York: Bonanza Books, 1972.
 Madison County Engineer's Office, Winterset, Iowa

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	15	429	010	456	907	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C						D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Henry C. Miller, Madison County Liaison Officer, Historic Preservation

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Madison County Historical Society, Inc.

10 April 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

515 W. Fremont St.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Winterset,

Iowa

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Adrian D. Anderson

TITLE

Director, Div. of Historic Preservation

DATE

4/22/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

8/28/76

ATTEST:

Charles Adams

DATE

8.27.76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0693405

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

FEB 9 1979

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Times Covered Bridge

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

IA 251

STREET & NUMBER

Iowa Highway 251

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

St. Charles

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fifth

STATE

Iowa

VICINITY OF
CODE

COUNTY
Madison

CODE

121

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Board of Supervisors, Madison County

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Winterset

VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Madison County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Winterset

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE 1887; 1977

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Imes Covered Bridge was built in 1870. It has a span of 65 feet and is 14 feet wide. Native lumber was used in the Towne lattice construction. The pitched roof is covered with metal, with shingling beneath. The exterior walls are board-and-batten.

The bridge was originally situated on the Middle River, at Wilkin's Ford in southeast Union Twp. In 1887, it was moved southeast to South Twp., and spanned a branch of Clanton's Creek in Section 27. The Clanton Creek branch is a narrow, shallow stream, edged with trees and brush, flowing through a rural, semi-cultivated area. In October 1977, the bridge was moved once more, to a proposed park area on the eastern edge of St. Charles. This area, triangular in shape and approximately 5 acres, is on the south side of Iowa Highway 251. The bridge spans a culvert which carries a slender stream of water, and which has been faced with limestone to cover the concrete. The area was graded before the bridge was relocated, and now presents an open, treeless environment of scrub grass and weeds. The area beneath the bridge and to the south will be left to grow wild, eventually providing a more natural setting for the bridge. The land north of the bridge will be developed as a public park.

The Imes Covered Bridge (then located on the Clanton Creek branch) was listed in the National Register on August 28, 1976. On December 15, 1977, the Division of Historic Preservation requested the deletion of the bridge from the Register (due to the relocation) with the notation that a renomination might be entertained at a later date.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT J.P. Clark

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Imes Covered Bridge is one of 8 such bridges presently known to exist in Iowa, and one of the seven located in Madison County. Built in 1870, it is the county's oldest covered bridge, and one of two built by J.P. Clark. Although it is no longer suitable for modern transportation, the bridge is significant as a cultural artifact and an example of now obsolete engineering and construction methods. These elements remain in spite of the bridge's relocation.

Of the seven covered bridges in the county, two (at Winterset and St. Charles) have been removed from their natural settings and are now located in public parks. There is a high probability that the remaining five will also be moved, eventually, from public roads. The bridges, constructed in the days of horse and wagon, will accommodate automobiles (one lane at a time), but the school buses and farm machinery which also use the county roads are too heavy, high, or wide -- a problem that has resulted in constant rural pressure for their replacement. Furthermore, federal and state bridge programs militate against the continuation of the bridges at their present locations. It is very unlikely, however, that any of the bridges will be destroyed. Madison County has created a substantial tourist industry around the bridges which may effectively guarantee their survival, although not in their natural settings.

8 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Register Nomination Form (10-300) for Imes Covered Bridge, approved 28 August 1976.

Interview with Alice Mae Hulbert, by M.H. Bowers, August, 1978. Ms. Hulbert is a member of the Imes Covered Bridge Committee, St. Charles, Iowa.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one (structure only)

QUADRANGLE NAME St. Charles, Iowa

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62,500

UTM REFERENCES 160

A 15 433010 45701085

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Structure is located on property roughly triangular in shape, bounded on the NW by Iowa Highway 251 and on NE by an unmarked county road. Property is located in the northeast corner of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 24, T75N R26W.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE

M.H. Bowers, National Register Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

November 1978

STREET & NUMBER

26 East Market Street

TELEPHONE

319/353-6949

CITY OR TOWN

Iowa City

STATE

Iowa 52240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Adrian A. Anderson

TITLE

Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

11/13/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

John Charles Utter

DATE 2.9.79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *William H. Abraham*

1.22.79

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION