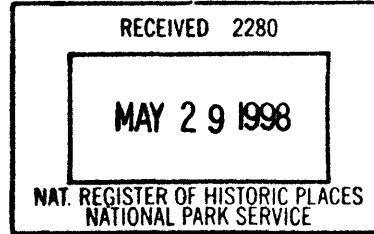


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



786

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 West Auburn Bridge

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Near Neon road over Turkey River not for publication

city or town 5.0 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 Chilton D 51720 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): _____

Elson J. Beal 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 Whipple through truss

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls

roof

other Wrought Iron

Narrative Description

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

Located 5.0 miles northwest of West Union, the West Auburn 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: 1880-81
 span length: 165.0' construction cost: \$7598.79
 total length: 181.0' current condition: fair
 roadway wdt.: 15.7' alterations: none

superstructure: wrought iron, 9-panel, pin-connected Whipple through truss
 substructure: stone abutments and concrete-filled steel cylinder piers
 floor/decking: asphalt-covered timber deck over steel stringers
 other features: upper chord and inclined end post: 2 channels with double lacing; lower chord: 2 punched rectangular eyebars; vertical: 2 channels with lacing (2 channels with batten plates at hips); diagonal: 2 punched rectangular eyebars; counter: round eyerod with unslotted turnbuckle; lateral bracing: round eyerod with unslotted turnbuckle; strut: 2 channels with lacing; floor beam: I-beam, field-bolted to verticals; guardrail: chain-link with wire rope at top

Other than maintenance-related repairs, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The West Auburn 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

1880-81

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

Significant Dates

1880-81 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

designer:

Horace E. Horton, Minneapolis MN

fabricator:

Horace E. Horton, Minneapolis MN

builder:

Horace E. Horton, Minneapolis MN

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 DataAcreage of Property less than one acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 15 591380 4763020
zone easting northing2 _____
zone easting northing**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 18 feet by 181 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** (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 Fayette County
 street & number P.O. Box 269 telephone 319-422-6061
 city or town West Auburn 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 West Auburn Bridge Fayette County; Iowa

In June 1880 the Fayette County Board of Supervisors advertised for a contractor to build the stone substructure for a bridge over the Turkey River in Auburn Township. The structure was called the West Auburn Bridge to differentiate it from another township structure in the area. In September the county solicited proposals for the bridge's superstructure, awarding a contract to design, fabricate and erect the 165-foot all-iron span to Minneapolis engineer Horace E. Horton. Horton completed the West Auburn Bridge in 1881 for a total cost of \$7598.79. Since that time the structure has functioned in place, in essentially unaltered condition.

Configured as a pin-connected Whipple (or double-intersection Pratt) through truss, the West Auburn Bridge is one of only eight such structures known to exist in Iowa. First patented by Squire Whipple, bridge engineer and builder from New York, the Whipple truss was a popular choice for long-span crossings - generally in excess of 150 feet - between 1850 and 1890. The Whipple truss differed from the more common Pratt truss in that its diagonal members extended across, not one, but two panels. By the turn of the century, Parker and Camelback trusses (Pratt trusses with polygonal upper chords) had supplanted the Whipple as the truss of choice for long-span crossings. Accordingly, all of Iowa's Whipple trusses date from before the turn of the century. Two of them - the West Auburn Bridge and the Hansen's Ford Bridge [ALLA24] - were designed and built by Horace Horton in 1880. Based in Minneapolis in the 1880s, Horton was a brilliant civil engineer whose imaginative and often eccentric bridge designs were well known in the Midwest. Never overly prolific, he designed a number of Iowa's most distinctive structures during this period, and handful of which remain in use today. With its superstructure, substructure and setting all intact, the West Auburn Bridge is an outstanding early example of wagon truss construction in Iowa.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 2 West Auburn Bridge Fayette County; Iowa

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. 153270.

Fayette County Supervisors' Minutes, Book 6: page 100 (7 June 1880), page 111 (15 September 1880), page 229 (6 January 1882), located at the Fayette County Courthouse, West Union IA.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 10 July 1992.