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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 Berkhimer Bridge

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 245th Street over Des Moines River  not for publication

city or town 1.0 mile west of Humboldt  vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Humboldt code 091 zip code 50548

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 Chienking DSITPD 4-7-98  
 Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
**STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA**

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 5-15-98

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Choose as many boxes as apply)

- private
public-local
public-State
public-Federal

Category of Property
(Choose only one box)

- building(s)
district
site
structure
object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Table with 3 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing, and Resource Type (buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total). Values range from 0 to 1.

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: Pennsylvania through truss

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete filled steel
walls
roof Steel
other

Narrative Description

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

Located west of Humboldt, the Berkhimer Bridge spans Des Moines River in a setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1 construction date: 1899
span length: 170.0' construction cost: \$2836.00
total length: 253.0' current condition: good
roadway wdt.: 15.1' alterations: none

superstructure: steel, 10-panel, pin-connected Pennsylvania through truss, with steel stringer approaches
substructure: main span: concrete-filled steel cylinder piers; approach spans: timber pile bents and concrete abutment with concrete back and wingwalls

floor/decking: timber deck over steel stringers

other features: upper chord and inclined end post: 2 channels with cover plate and lacing; lower chord: 2 punched rectangular eyebars; vertical: 2 channels with lacing; upper sub-vertical: 4 angles with lacing; lower sub-vertical: 2 looped square eyebars; hip vertical: 2 looped square eyebars; diagonal: 2 punched rectangular eyebars; counter: 2 looped square eyebars; sub-diagonal: 1 looped square eyebar; top and bottom lateral bracing: round rod with threaded ends; floor beam: I-beam, U-bolted to lower chord pins; portal bracing: angles; sway bracing: angle struts cross-braced with round-section rods; portal builder's plate: 1899 / Clinton Bridge & Iron Works / Builders / Clinton, Iowa

Other than maintenance-related repairs and alterations noted above, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Berkhimer 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

1899

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

Significant Dates

1899 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

designer:

Clinton Bridge and Iron Works, Clinton IA

fabricator:

Clinton Bridge/Iron Wks; Carnegie Steel Co.

builder:

Clinton Bridge and Iron Works, Clinton IA

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 Data**Acreage of Property less than one acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>397430</u>	<u>4732390</u>	2	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	zone	easting	northing		zone	easting	northing

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 17 feet by 253 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 Danielle Johnson and Demian Hess  
 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 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/title Humboldt County  
 street & number 203 Main Street telephone 515-332-2366  
 city or town Dakota City state Iowa zip code 50529

**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 Berkhimer Bridge Humboldt County; Iowa

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According to county records, Mark Berkhimer and others petitioned the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors for a bridge at this site in 1892, but the petition was not granted. In 1898 a report recommending a bridge at this site was approved. Bids for construction of the bridge were received on June 6, 1899, with eight companies submitting proposals. Most of the bidders offered more than one design. The contract was awarded to the Clinton Bridge and Iron Works for \$2836 for their Plan #4, which called for a 170-foot truss with two 32-foot approaches. Apparently the bridge was finished later in the year. The Berkhimer Bridge is one of six through-truss bridges in the county and the only one with the Pennsylvania design. Pennsylvania through trusses are relatively rare in the state, and this particular bridge retains very good design integrity.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. 184870.

Proceedings of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, Book 3: page 69 (6 June 1892), page 280 (14 November 1898), page 293 (6 June 1898), n.p. (8 June 1898), located at Humboldt County Courthouse, Dakota City IA.

Field inspection by Danielle Johnson, 13 July 1991.

