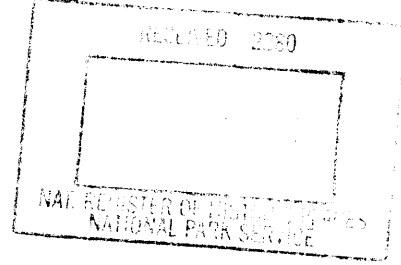


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



1379

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

## 1. Name of Property

historic name: Mahned Bridge  
other names/site number: Leaf River Bridge

## 2. Location

street & number: Mahned Road not for publication \_\_\_  
city or town: New Augusta vicinity X  
state: Mississippi code MS county: Perry code 111 zip code: 39462

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. P. R. SEPT. 30, 1997  
Signature of certifying official Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:  
X 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): \_\_\_\_\_

for Signature of the Keeper  
Me J. M. Woz

Date of Action  
11/24/97

**5. Classification**

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**Ownership of Property:** PUBLIC: local

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

**Category of Property:** Structure

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

1

0

buildings  
sites  
structures  
objects  
Total

**Name of related multiple  
property listing:** Historic Bridges of Mississippi

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in  
the National Register:** 0

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions:**

TRANSPORTATION: road-related

**Current Functions:**

VACANT/NOT IN USE

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification(s):**

**OTHER: Pratt Through Truss**

**OTHER: Camelback Through Truss**

**Materials:**

Foundation: N/A

roof: N/A

walls: N/A

other: METAL: Iron  
CONCRETE

**Narrative Description:**

See Continuation Sheets

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section: 7

Page: 1

Mahned Bridge  
New Augusta vicinity, Perry County, MS

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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

The Mahned Bridge (also called the Leaf River Bridge) was constructed in 1903 by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company and exemplifies the prefabricated iron truss bridge construction methods of that time. The bridge was one of the first bridges to cross the Leaf River in southern Mississippi, and it served to connect the rural community of Mahned with the roads to Hattiesburg to the northwest and other surrounding towns. The Bonhomie and Hattiesburg Southern Railroad crosses the road just south of the bridge and eventually connects with the Gulf, Mobile, and Ohio to the east.

The main span of the Mahned Bridge is supported by metal caissons filled with concrete, while the approach trestle is supported by 41 timber spans. The superstructure is composed of two iron trusses: a Camelback Through Truss on the north side, and a Pratt Through Truss on the south side. The northern span is the main support for the bridge and measures 218 feet (66.4 meters), while the southern span is secondary and is 117 feet (35.66 meters) long, making the overall length of both spans 335 feet (102.04 meters). The long approach deck has simple metal railing. The deck is composed of wooden planking and is 18 feet (5.5 meters) wide.

The Camelback Through Truss top chords are composed of 2 channel beams and one eye-bar latticed underneath, while the Pratt Through Truss top chords are two channel beams and one eye-bar connected underneath by small rectangular plates. The end posts for both spans have the same characteristics as their respective top chords. The bottom chords for both spans are two rectilinear eye-bars. The intermediate posts for the Camelback (north) Truss are two channel beams latticed together, and for the Pratt (south) are four angle bars latticed together to form an I-beam. Each span has two rectilinear eye-bars acting as hip verticals. The diagonals for each are 2 rectilinear eye bars, except in the middle panel of the Pratt (south) span--here there are two cylindrical eye-bars instead. One cylindrical eye-bar acts as the counter. All connections in the trusses are made with pins.

Only minor alterations have been made to the bridge in its long history. After a flood in 1974, the southernmost pier was replaced with a double-pile bent of steel piles. And around 1980, the approach deck was burned by vandals, making the bridge impassable without major repair. Since then, the road to the bridge has been closed and the bridge has stood unused. However, the Perry County Board of Supervisors has expressed interest in repairing the bridge and reopening it to traffic with funds available only to bridges listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

- X **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.
- X **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**

ENGINEERING  
TRANSPORTATION

**Period of Significance**

1903

**Significant Dates**

1903

**Criteria Considerations:**

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a 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.

**Significant Person(s)**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation(s)**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Chicago Bridge and Iron Company

**Narrative Statement of Significance:**

See continuation sheets.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

See continuation sheet.

**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:

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section: 8

Page: 2

Mahned Bridge

New Augusta vicinity, Perry County, MS

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Mahned Bridge derives its significance from its type and method of construction (Criterion C), as a good example of the prefabricated bridge construction of the early twentieth century. It also dates to a period during which wooden bridges were being replaced with metal truss bridges, and thus demonstrates an important transformation in engineering and transportation both nationally and statewide (Criterion A). The bridge, built in 1903 by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company, has two different types of spans: Camelback Through Truss, and Pratt Through Truss. Findings from a historic bridges survey in 1986 (discussed in the Thematic Resources cover document entitled "Historic Bridges of Mississippi") indicate that forty-six Pratt Through Truss spans still exist in Mississippi, while only nine Camelback Through Truss spans are still extant.

The Mahned Bridge, composed of both Camelback and Pratt Through Truss spans, is very similar to the Ediceton Bridge over the Homochitto River in Franklin County in southwest Mississippi. The Ediceton Bridge was listed on the National Register under the "Historic Bridges of Mississippi" cover document on November 16, 1988.

The Mahned Bridge was not included in the original group of bridges listed under the "Historic Bridges of Mississippi" thematic document because only a sampling of the bridges most likely to continue to be preserved was selected from the 182 surveyed bridges. Since the Mahned Bridge was in a state of disuse due to vandalism, it was assumed that it would continue to fall into disrepair and eventually rust away. However, recently the Perry County Board of Supervisors and the Perry County Engineer have expressed an interest in preserving the bridge, and toward this end requested that it be designated a Mississippi Landmark in February 1996, bringing it under the protection of the Mississippi Antiquities Act. As a further step, in order to be eligible for funding for historic bridges, they have asked to have the bridge nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Mahned Bridge  
Name of Property

Perry County, Mississippi  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

|                 |      |         |          |         |         |          |
|-----------------|------|---------|----------|---------|---------|----------|
| UTM References: | Zone | Easting | Northing | Zone    | Easting | Northing |
|                 | A    | 16      | 301390   | 3456180 | C       |          |
|                 | B    |         |          | D       |         |          |

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description** See continuation sheet.

**Boundary Justification:** See continuation sheet.

**11. Form Prepared By**

|                  |  |            |                |
|------------------|--|------------|----------------|
| name/title:      | Jennifer Opager, Architectural Historian | date:      | June 11, 1997  |
| organization:    | MS Department of Archives and History    | telephone: | (601) 359-6940 |
| street & number: | 618 Pearl Street                         | zip code:  | 39205          |
| city or town:    | Jackson                                  | state:     | MS             |

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 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(s)**

|                  |                                   |            |                |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| name:            | Perry County Board of Supervisors | telephone: | (601) 788-6563 |
| street & number: | P.O. Box 345                      | zip code:  | 39462          |
| city or town:    | New Augusta                       | state:     | MS             |

**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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section: 9, 10, Photos

Page: 3

Mahned Bridge

New Augusta vicinity, Perry County, MS

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

"Mississippi Bridge Survey and Inventory." Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Survey conducted by Jack D. Elliott, 1986.

Conguista, Paul. Written description of Mahned Bridge

**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**Boundary Description:** The structure of the bridge itself, which consists of two spans--one of 117 feet, another of 218 feet--and a 41-timber approach span. The bridge is centered on UTM coordinate: Zone: 16, Easting: 301390, Northing: 3456180.

**Boundary Justification:** The boundary of the Mahned Bridge encompasses the structure of the bridge, including both main spans and the approach tressle.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Mahned Bridge

Mahned, Perry County, MS

Jack D. Elliott

January 1981 (site checked by Jennifer Opager, Architectural Historian, MDAH, April 1997)

Negatives located at MDAH, Historic Preservation Division

1. View to northwest, both main spans (Pratt Through Truss, Camelback Through Truss)
2. View to northwest, Camelback Through Truss.
3. View to northwest, Pratt Through Truss
4. View to north, approach tressle
5. View to north northeast, looking through both spans