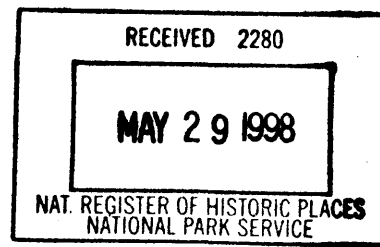


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



810

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 Little Sioux River Bridge

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 210 Avenue over Little Sioux River not for publication

city or town 2.4 miles northwest of Spencer vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Clay code 041 zip code 51301

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.)

Patticia Churkey DSHPD 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):

Edan H. Beall 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: Pennsylvania through truss

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
 walls _____
 roof _____
 other Steel

Narrative Description

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

Located 2.4 miles northwest of Spencer, the Little Sioux River Bridge spans the Little Sioux River in a rural Clay County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1 construction date: 1900-01; moved 1915
 span length: 180.0' construction cost: unknown
 total length: 180.0' current condition: good
 roadway wdt.: 17.8' alterations: truss moved, 1915

superstructure: steel, 12-panel, pin-connected Pennsylvania through truss
 substructure: concrete abutments and wingwalls
 floor/decking: timber deck over timber stringers
 other features: upper chord and inclined end post: 2 channels with cover and batten plates; lower chord: 2 rectangular eyebars; vertical: 2 looped square eyebars, 2 channels with lacing; diagonal: 2 punched rectangular eyebars; floor beam: I-beam, bolted to superstructure; top and bottom lateral bracing: single round rod; portal bracing: angles; sway bracing: angles with lacing; railing: 2 angles with lacing, pipe; builder's plate: **Clinton Bridge and Iron Works / Builders**

The Little Sioux River Bridge has been moved to its present location, but it remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The 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

1900-01

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

Significant Dates

1900-01 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Bulider

designer:

Clinton Bridge and Iron Works, Clinton IA

fabricator:

Clinton Bridge and Iron Works, Clinton IA

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

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 15 323580 4780980 2 _____
zone easting northing zone easting northing**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 20 feet by 180 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 Byname/title Deanne Zibell, Charlene Roise and Clayton Fraserorganization Fraserdesign date 31 August 1994street & number 1269 Cleveland Avenue telephone 303-669-7969city 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 Clay Countystreet & number P.O. Box 3166 telephone 712-262-2825city or town Spencer state Iowa zip code 51301

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 Little Sioux River Bridge Clay County; Iowa

This long-span through truss carries a county road over the Little Sioux River near the northwestern city limits of Spencer. Now located at a rural crossing in Riverton Township, the structure was originally located on Main Street, south of downtown Spencer over the Little Sioux River. The first bridge at this heavily trafficked crossing was built in 1875 by J. Olson for \$3200. A timber pile structure, it lasted only six years before it was destroyed by an ice floe. The bridge was rebuilt, and then rebuilt again in 1889. Ten years later, the bridge needed a major rehabilitation, as the river had shifted its channel from under the truss. This time the Clay County Board of Supervisors opted to build a long-span steel truss, separated from the original truss by a series of timber pile spans. In the spring of 1900 the county contracted for its fabrication and erection with the Clinton Bridge and Iron Works. The Clinton, Iowa, company was a prominent early twentieth-century Iowa bridge builder, responsible for constructing most of the major bridges in Clay County into the 1910s. Clinton B&I completed the pinned Pennsylvania span in 1901. The Main Street Bridge served this important route until 1915, when a new concrete arch bridge [CLAY01] was erected. The 1901 truss was moved to this site and placed on concrete abutments prepared by the Thor Construction Company of Cedar Falls, Iowa. Here it remains today in essentially unaltered condition.

Serving as a major crossing of the Little Sioux River, the Main Street Bridge was important to transportation and commerce in Spencer, the Clay County seat. The structure's 1901 span is technologically noteworthy as a relatively well-preserved example of a Pratt truss subtype - the Pennsylvania truss. With its polygonal upper chords and subdivided panels, the truss exemplifies this relatively uncommon type, which was used primarily for long-span applications around the turn of the century. Few Pennsylvania trusses were ever built in Iowa, and only a handful remains today. The two spans in Clay County [other: CLAY25] are important representatives of this uncommon early wagon truss configuration.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 2 Little Sioux River Bridge Clay County; Iowa

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure Number 116790.

Centennial Book: Spencer, Iowa 1871-1971 (n.p., 1971), pages 23-24.

Clay County Engineer's Bridge Files - located at Clay County Engineer's Office, Spencer IA.

Field inspection by Danielle Johnson, 11 July 1991.