

5-21-73

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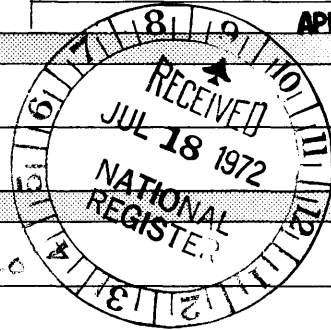
Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Alabama	
COUNTY: Talladega/Calhoun	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 11 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:
Coldwater Creek Covered Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Spans Coldwater Creek 0.5 mile from 220

CITY OR TOWN:
Coldwater Community

STATE: Alabama CODE: 01 COUNTY: Talladega/Calhoun CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments Present level of use is severe strain on structure

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Talladega and Calhoun Counties

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Talladega-Calhoun Counties' Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Talladega County Courthouse, Talladega/Calhoun County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Talladega/Anniston STATE: Alabama CODE:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Alabama

COUNTY: Talladega/Calhoun

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Coldwater Covered Bridge is a one-span structure with a modified kingpost type truss. It is sixty feet long and has a vertical and horizontal clearance of 10 feet.

The bridge abutment is of wooden construction as are the floor and truss, but a tin roof now replaces the original wooden shingles. The bridge which was repaired in 1920 has been maintained and is in appearance substantially as it was when it was built.

The bridge which spans Coldwater Creek, is situated just down stream from the substantial ruins of a large concrete mill dam and old mill. Located approximately one-half mile from a major interstate interchange, it is clearly visible from all four lanes of Interstate Highway 20.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

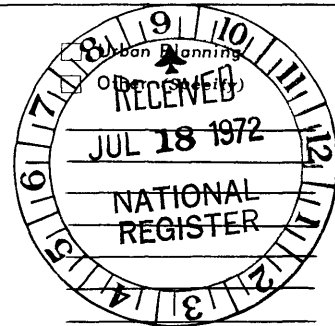
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Coldwater Covered Bridge is one of 16 remaining covered bridges in Alabama, a state which as recently as 1930 had approximately 200 of these rustic relics. By 1958 there were only 46 left and the destruction from arson and neglect continued to take its toll.

This transportation landmark, which was built prior to 1850 and possibly as early as 1839, is one of three surviving bridges in the state built in the modified kingpost style.

In 1920 the structure was partially burned after a hunter dropped his torch on the bridge, but it was immediately repaired and rebuilt by Frank Morris, E. A. Walker, and Eli Bynum, as the bridge was the only available transportation across Coldwater Creek.

Covered bridges were first built in the late eighteenth century in the northeastern United States. The bridges were covered chiefly to protect the wooden floor so it would have to be replaced less often. The covering in mountainous areas also prevented easily frightened horses from seeing the rushing water beneath them and provided a haven for weary travelers.

In addition to filling a vital role in transportation many of the covered bridges were toll bridges, providing additional revenue for an area.

The local covered bridge also doubled as a community social center. It was an ideal gathering place for political discussions, gossip or a friendly game of checkers. The beams and rafters were perfect substitutes for the modern "jungle gyms" to occupy the rambunctious children while their parents visited.

The covered bridge often provided a drill for the local militia. Even revival meetings were held at the bridges, and the sidewalls were often plastered with local advertisements. For the romantically inclined, the bridges seemed designed for courting; they were so popular as "sparking" places that they earned the nickname "kissing bridges."

Except for the brief period while the Coldwater Bridge was being repaired it has been in continuous use since its construction, serving as a main transportation artery in Calhoun and Talladega Counties.

The Coldwater Community is making a strong effort to have

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Alabama Covered Bridges" - Alabama Historical Commission
 Personal Accounts: Mrs. Robert Grace, Eastaboga, Alabama

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		33 35 09.42	85 54 47.58	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

16/660866
 3716590
 CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1 acre (only bridge)

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Alabama	01	Talladega	121
Alabama	01	Calhoun	015

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION: Alabama Historical Commission DATE: July 12, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
 305 South Lawrence Street

CITY OR TOWN: Montgomery STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Milo B. Howard, Jr.

Title SLC

Date July 13, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert H. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/11/73

ATTEST:
W.D. Smith
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 4 4 73

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Alabama	
COUNTY Talladega/Calhoun	
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(Number all entries)

No. 8 SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

the County Commission construct a new bridge, allowing Coldwater easily accesible from I-20 to be used as a historic and re-creational facility.

