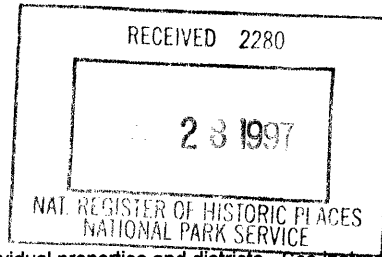


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Elliott Bridge

Other names/site number: Souris River Bridge; 32MH131

2. Location

Street & number: unnamed county road not for publication

City or town: Towner vicinity

State: North Dakota Code: ND County: McHenry Code: 049 Zip code: 58788

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James E. Sperry Signature and title of certifying official
James E. Sperry State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)
January 8, 1997 Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

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 Signature of the Keeper
Edson H. Beall Date of Action 2/27/97

Elliott Bridge
Name of Property

McHenry, North Dakota
County and State

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	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>1</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic Roadway Bridges of N.D.

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: Pratt through truss bridge

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.)

Elliott Bridge
Name of Property

McHenry, North Dakota
County and State

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 one or more continuation sheets.)

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 Name of repository: # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1902-1946

Significant Dates

1902

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Builder: Fargo Bridge & Iron Co.

Elliott Bridge
Name of Property

McHenry, North Dakota
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 4	3 9 6 7 0 0	5 3 6 2 3 1 0	2	_ _	_ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3	_ _	_ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _	4	_ _	_ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared by

Name/Title: Mark Hufstetler / Historian
Organization: Renewable Technologies, Incorporated Date: December 10, 1996
Street & Number: 511 Metals Bank Building Telephone: (406) 782-0494
City or Town: Butte State: Montana Zip code: 59701

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

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Name: McHenry County
Street & Number: Courthouse; P.O. Box 57 Telephone: (701) 537-5634
City or Town: Towner State: North Dakota Zip code: 58788

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

ELLIOTT BRIDGE
McHENRY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Narrative Description:

The Elliott Bridge is located on an unpaved county road in rural McHenry County, North Dakota. The site is located approximately four miles north of Towner, North Dakota. The bridge, constructed on an east-west axis, carries a gravel "section-line" road through a rural portion of the county. The surrounding land is largely cultivated, and scattered groups of farmstead buildings exist in the vicinity. The bridge crosses the Souris River, a major watercourse in the area. Here, the River meanders through a wide, deep valley dotted with trees and wetlands. While the bridge may have once served as part of an important east-west travel route in the county, its primary purpose today is to provide access to a cluster of farmstead buildings located just west of the bridge.

The bridge itself is a pin-connected Pratt through truss, with a steel superstructure. The Pratt design, which saw widespread use nationally and in North Dakota during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, is characterized by the presence of relatively-heavy vertical members designed to handle the compressive stress of a bridge load. The use of pinned rather than riveted connections dates the Romness Bridge as a relatively early Pratt design. The bridge contains a single truss span, seven panels in length; there is a single-span steel-stringer approach at the bridge's east end. Overall, the bridge is approximately 177 feet long, with a vehicle deck 16 feet wide.

Design details of the bridge's substructure and superstructure are outlined below:

Substructure: concrete abutments and wingwalls; tubular piers under main span

Superstructure:

upper chords: two channel sections with continuous cover plate along upper flanges and batten plates along lower flanges

lower chords: paired punched eyebars

verticals: two channel sections joined with lacing bars; square rods at hips

diagonals: paired punched eyebars

counters: looped square rods

portal: paired angle sections

sway bracing: paired angle sections joined with lacing bars

laterals (bottom): round rods

floor system: I-beam stringers with outside channels; I-beam floor beams hung from the verticals with U-bolts

decking: single-layer wood; wood curbs

railing: 2 angle sections

steelmaker's marks: CARNEGIE Steel Company, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

ELLIOTT BRIDGE
McHENRY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Metal plaques centered above both portals contain the following lettering:
"FARGO BRIDGE & IRON CO. / 1902 / BUILDERS -- FARGO N.D."

The bridge retains a very high level of integrity; it remains in its original location, and all major structural components appear to retain their as-built appearance.

The Elliott Bridge is owned and maintained by Mchenry County. It carries the state numerical designation 25-131-16.0.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

ELLIOTT BRIDGE
McHENRY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Narrative Statement of Significance:

In accordance with the guidelines established in the Multiple Property Documentation form for "Historic Roadway Bridges in North Dakota," the Elliott Bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criteria "A" and "C." The bridge is significant under Criterion A for its association with an important pattern of bridge construction in a number of counties in the state, in which one or two bridge companies received most of the contracts over a successive period of years, even with, or under the pretense of, competitive bidding. This pattern emerged in the late nineteenth century and, in some counties, continued into the 1930s. This bridge serves as a representative example of the pattern; it is the one of two oldest bridges documented in McHenry County constructed by a long-term county bridge builder, the Fargo Bridge and Iron Company.

The bridge also derives significance under Criterion A for its association with attempts by North Dakota counties to expand and improve transportation networks prior to 1926 by construction of through truss bridges, relatively costly structures. Through truss bridges with documented construction dates and builders, such as this one, best illustrate this important trend in North Dakota bridge construction. Finally, the bridge has local significance under Criterion C because it is one of two bridges documented as the oldest surviving bridges in the county.

Historical information: On April 9, 1902, the County Commissioners reviewed plans and specifications submitted by F.E. Dibley of the Fargo Bridge and Iron Company for this bridge. The bridge was designed to replace a county-owned ferry boat that had been operating across the Souris River at "the Elliott Place." Construction of the bridge was apparently completed by May 12 of that year when the County Commissioners adopted a resolution withdrawing county liability for persons using the ferry.

Bridge plaques affixed to the bridge supplement county records, reading:

FARGO BRIDGE & IRON CO
1902
BUILDER - FARGO ND

From 1902, the Fargo Bridge and Iron Company continued to dominate bridge work in the county until at least the early-1920s. Fargo Bridge & Iron was easily the most prolific in-state bridge builder in North Dakota during the first two decades of the twentieth century. At least fifty historic bridges constructed by Fargo Bridge & Iron are known to survive today.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 4

ELLIOTT BRIDGE
McHENRY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Bibliography:

Bridge plaques.

Johnson, Lon, et.al. "Historic Bridges in North Dakota." Bismarck: North Dakota Department of Transportation, 1992.

McHenry County Commission, "Minute Book 2," p. 69 (April 9, 1902), and pp. 74-75 (May 12, 1902).

North Dakota State Highway Department, "Structure Inventory & Appraisal Sheet," Bridge No. 25-131-16.0, January 24, 1989.

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 5

ELLIOTT BRIDGE
McHENRY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Verbal Boundary Description:

The bridge is located in the Southwest quarter of Section 19, Township 157 North, Range 75 West. The boundary consists of a rectangle, measuring 227 feet north-south and 66 feet east-west, and centered on the bridge superstructure.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary is constructed to include the area occupied by the bridge superstructure and substructure, as well as a 25-foot buffer of land immediately surrounding the structure.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photographs Page 6

ELLIOTT BRIDGE
McHENRY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Index to Photographs

Photographer: Mark Hufstetler

Date: April 1996

Location of original negatives: State Historical Society, of North Dakota,
Bismarck.

Photograph Number	Description	Direction of View
1	east portal and north elevation	WSW
2	east portal	W