

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



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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 Shell Rock Bridge

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Cherry Street over Shell Rock River not for publication

city or town Shell Rock vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Butler code 023 zip code 50670

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 Dinter Kim 05/17/99 2-3-99
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 M. Beall 3/12/99

Bar Keeper

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: concrete filled spandrel arch

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A
walls N/A
roof N/A
other N/A

Narrative Description

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

Located in Shell Rock, the Shell Rock Bridge spans Shell Rock River in a rural Butler County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 3 construction date: 1915
span length: 88.0' construction cost: \$16,500.00 (contract amount)
total length: 266.0' current condition: good
roadway wdt.: 24.0' alterations: none

superstructure: concrete filled spandrel arch
substructure: concrete abutments, wingwalls and piers
floor/decking: asphalt over concrete deck
other features: ISHC standard concrete guardrail with slotted cutouts; "1915" is cast into concrete in the keystone of each arch; builder's plate: BUILT 1915 BY MILLER - HEY CONST. CO. WATERLOO, IOWA.; bridge plate: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 1915 R.H. WAUGH CHAIRMAN W.M. DAWSON - A.W. JOHNSON

Other than minor maintenance-related repairs, the Shell Rock Bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. It 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

1915

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

Significant Dates

1915 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

designer:

Iowa State Highway Commission

fabricator:

none

builder:

Miller-Hey Construction Co., Waterloo 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 534280 4728620
zone easting northing2 15 534280 4728700
zone easting northing**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 26 feet by 266 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 Clayton B. 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 City of Shell Rockstreet & number P.O. Box 522 telephone 319-885-6555city or town Shell Rock state Iowa zip code 50670

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 Shell Rock Bridge Butler County; Iowa

On May 11, 1915, the Butler County Board of Supervisors let a contract for the erection of three bridges to the Miller-Hey Construction Company of Waterloo. Two of the bridges were located respectively in Coldwater and West Point Townships, while the third was this three-span structure in the town of Shell Rock. Also on May 11th, the Board awarded a contract to the Bement-Witt Lumber Company of Shell Rock to supply cement for the bridge. Miller-Hey erected the structure during the summer and fall of 1915, using special plans delineated in April of that year by the Iowa State Highway Commission. The commission's plans - ISHC Butler County Design No. 1 - called for a three-span, filled spandrel concrete arch, with a 24-foot roadway flanked on both sides by sidewalks. Miller-Hey built the bridge for \$16,500.00, while Bement-Witt was paid \$1.23 per 100 pounds of cement delivered to the site. Work on the structure was completed by November 20, 1915. On that date, the board met with representatives of Miller-Hey and the state highway commission to inspect the newly completed bridge. The new structure was accepted, and Miller-Hey was issued an \$8,435.00 warrant for the balance due on the project. Today, the Sheel Rock Bridge retains a high degree of physical integrity, including builder's plates and the year "1915" cast into the concrete in the keystone of each span.

"Residents of the little Butler county metropolis [of Shell Rock] are proud of the handsome new concrete arch bridge which now spans the [Shell Rock] River in the heart of the town," the state highway commission reported in its January 1916 **Service Bulletin**. "It is a beautiful design with curved wingwalls and hand rails which flare to the full width of the street to form the approach to the bridge. The new bridge... forms a picture of which Shell Rock people are justly proud." As one of the major bridges designed by ISHC in 1915, the Shell Rock Bridge is important for its association with the agency in its formative years. During that year ISHC prepared special designs for some 472 bridges, totalling \$1.5 million in construction costs. Most of these were relatively small-scale structures, but a handful like the Parkersburg Bridge and Shell Rock Bridge in Butler County or the Burlington Street Bridge in Iowa City featured multiple-span concrete arches. As a well-preserved, early example of large-scale concrete arch design, the Sheel Rock Bridge is an important highway-related resource.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 2 Shell Rock Bridge Butler County; Iowa

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure Number 010280.

Butler County Supervisors' Record, Book D: page 58 (11 May 1914), page 81 (18 September 1915), page 89 (12 November 1915), page 92 (20 November 1915), page 154 (18 December 1916).

Butler County Warrant Book F: n.p., 14 September 1915, 12 November 1915, 20 November 1915, 23 December 1915.

Original drawings, dated April 1915, by the Iowa State Highway Commission, Butler County Design No. 1.

Iowa State Highway Commission, **Service Bulletin** 4:1-2 (January-February 1916), page 1.

Report of the State Highway Commission, 1915, page 56.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 14 July 1990.