

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 26 1979
DATE ENTERED	MAR 7 1979

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Ely's Stone Bridge

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

NW of Monticello at Hardscrabble Road

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Monticello

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

STATE

Iowa

CODE

COUNTY
Jones

CODE

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Jones County Board of Supervisors

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Anamosa

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 52205

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jones County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Anamosa

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Ely's Stone Bridge is 60 feet long and 20 feet wide, spanning a shallow stream which runs through wooded pastureland. It has three arches, each elliptical in form. The arches are formed by double rows of voussoirs and do not have keystones. Stone used for the spandrel walls and piers was obtained from the stream bed; the dressed stone of the voussoirs was obtained from limestone quarries at Anamosa. Concrete has been set around the base of the piers for further support, and there are two icebreakers on the north side of the bridge.

The bridge was tuckpointed in 1933 and again in 1957. It is in excellent condition.

and the bridge is well maintained. It has been on the National
Historic Register since 1970.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1893

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Reuben Ely, Sr., Monticello

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Ely's Stone Bridge is locally significant as an example of a form of bridge construction which is quite unusual in Iowa. The vast majority of Iowa's extant bridges are wood trestle, metal truss, or concrete. There are a few single-arch stone bridges in northeast Iowa, and, also in this area, is the double-arched keystone bridge at Elkader. Ely's bridge, with its three elliptical arches, may be considered an unusual variant of a relatively rare form of bridge architecture in the state.

The bridge features direct use of local materials: Stone City, once a principal supplier of limestone in the state, is only 12 miles to the southwest. However, no other stone bridges are known to exist in Jones County, which suggest that the construction of this particular bridge, though funded with public money, may have been a personal expression on the part of the builders, Reuben Ely Sr. and Jr. The subsequent history of the bridge substantiates this supposition: four generations of Ely, Sr.'s descendants, all stonemasons, have been responsible for its repair and maintenance.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Board of Supervisors' Minutes, January, 1893. Minute Book E, pp. 566-7.
 Jones County Yearbook, 1879, 1910.
 Monticello Express, Centennial Issue, July 10, 1965.
 Condit, Carl W. American Building. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1968,
 pp. 32-3, 71-5.
 Interviews: Hub and George Bader, Monticello, Iowa.
 Telephone Conversation, 1 Feb. 79 with Prof. James Hippen, Luther College, Decorah IA

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one (structure only)

QUADRANGLE NAME Dubuque, Iowa; Wisc., Illinois

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:250,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 646400 4679600
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Bridge is located on Wet Creek, on a county road in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 17, T86N R3W, Jones County, Iowa

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.H. Bowers, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

January 1979

STREET & NUMBER

26 East Market St.

TELEPHONE

319/353-6949

CITY OR TOWN

Iowa City

STATE

Iowa 52240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Alden D. Anderson

TITLE

Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

2/12/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles Adams
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

3-7-79

ATTEST: *William H. Bralman*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

3.2.79

DATE