

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

FEB 18 1993

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 The Lincoln Highway: West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment

other names/site number none

2. Location

street & number Leon Frantz Farm
approximately 1 mile east of Grand Junction not for publication

city or town Grand Junction vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Greene code 073 zip code 50107

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.)

[Signature] 1/25/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historical Society of Iowa
State of 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): _____

Signature of the Keeper

[Signature]

entered in the
National Register

Date of Action

3/29/93

Lincoln Highway: West Beaver Creek
Name of Property

Greene County, Iowa
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
1	_____	sites
2	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
3	_____	Total

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

The Lincoln Highway in Greene County, Iowa

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/highway

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/highway

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other/Lincoln Highway

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation n/a
walls n/a
roof n/a
other dirt road
concrete bridge

Narrative Description

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

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation

Period of Significance

1913-1922

Significant Dates

1913

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Greene County

Iowa Bridge Co.

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 # _____
- 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:

Greene County Lincoln Highway Preservation
Group, Inc.

Lincoln Highway, West Beaver Creek
Name of Property

Greene County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .8 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

115	399540	46539510
Zone	Easting	Northing

3

Zone	Easting	Northing

4

Zone	Easting	Northing

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 Rebecca Conard

organization PHR Associates date June 30, 1992

street & number 275 Crescent Park Drive telephone 712/657-3347

city or town Lake View state IA zip code 51450

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 Leon J. & Margaret Frantz Trust

c/o Sharon Stoline

street & number 218 7th Ave., S.W. telephone _____

city or town Clarion state Iowa zip code 50525

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 7 Page 1

West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment, Lincoln Highway, Greene County, Iowa

Physical Description

The West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment is located east of Grand Junction approximately one mile. It lies north of the traveled West Beaver Creek bridge and immediately north of the Chicago and North Western Railroad tracks, running parallel to them. This segment contains .1 mile of abandoned dirt road with a 66' right-of-way, a concrete slab bridge constructed in 1915, and one partially buried concrete driveway culvert.

The old road grade and fill slopes are clearly visible, and the road is still in use as a farm lane. At one time it would have been graveled, but there is little or no evidence of surfacing material left. The bridge measures 18'x24' and it has a concrete balustered guardrail. The balusters on the guardrail are beginning to spall, but the deck still carries farm machinery and equipment. Greene County Board of Supervisors' minutes show that on March 22, 1915, Iowa Bridge Company was awarded the contract for constructing the bridge at an estimated cost of \$1,339.¹ Wooden pilings still visible in the creek just south of the 1915 bridge indicate that it replaced a wooden bridge of some type. The partially buried concrete driveway culvert has 6' angled headwalls, similar to other driveway culverts found along the historic highway. It is located on the north side of the abandoned segment, within the right-of-way, near the eastern end. A few inches of each headwall are visible above the ground surface.

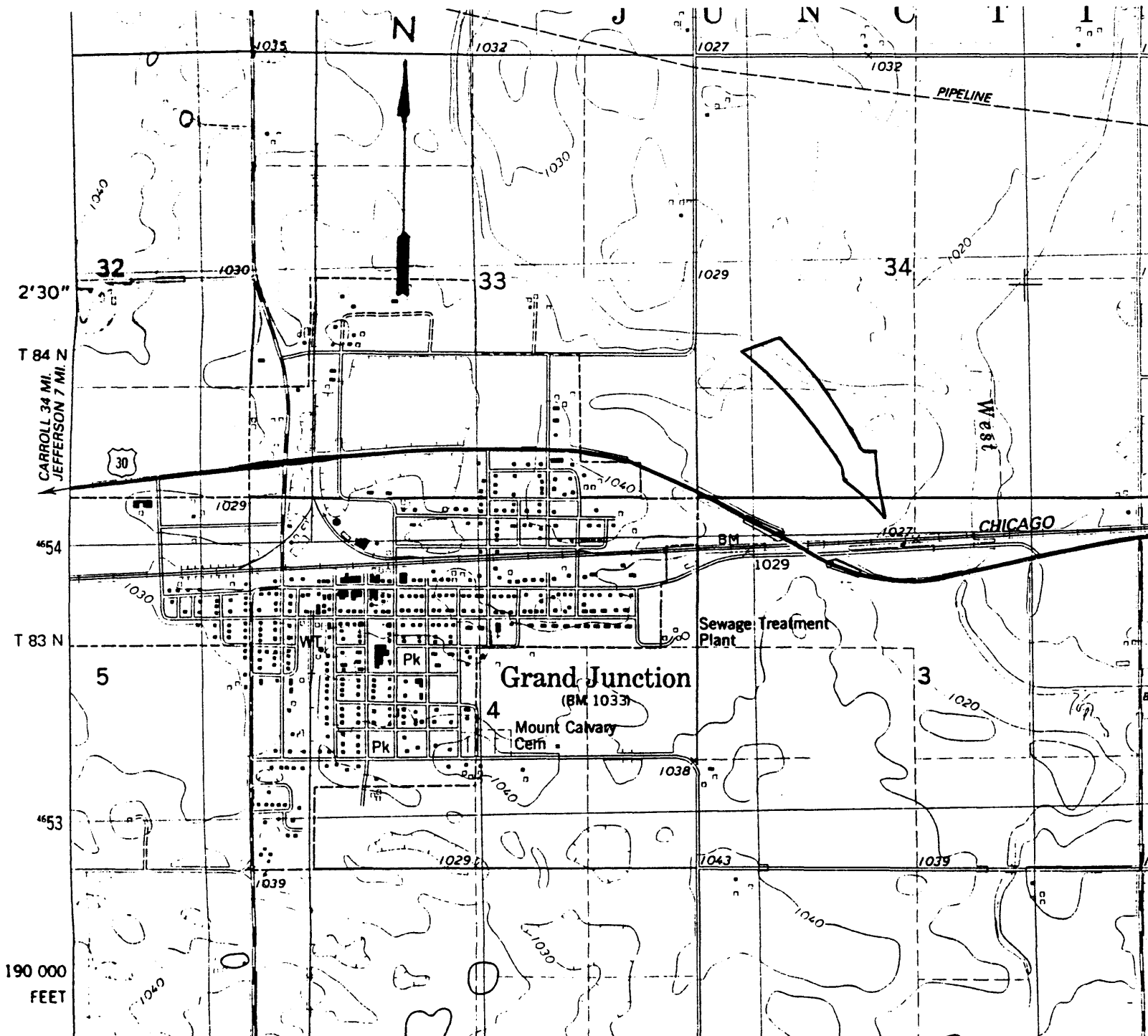
1 Greene County Board of Supervisors' Minute Book I:128, 22 March 1915.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment, Lincoln Highway, Greene County, Iowa
Resource Location (U.S.G.S. Grand Junction Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute, 1982)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

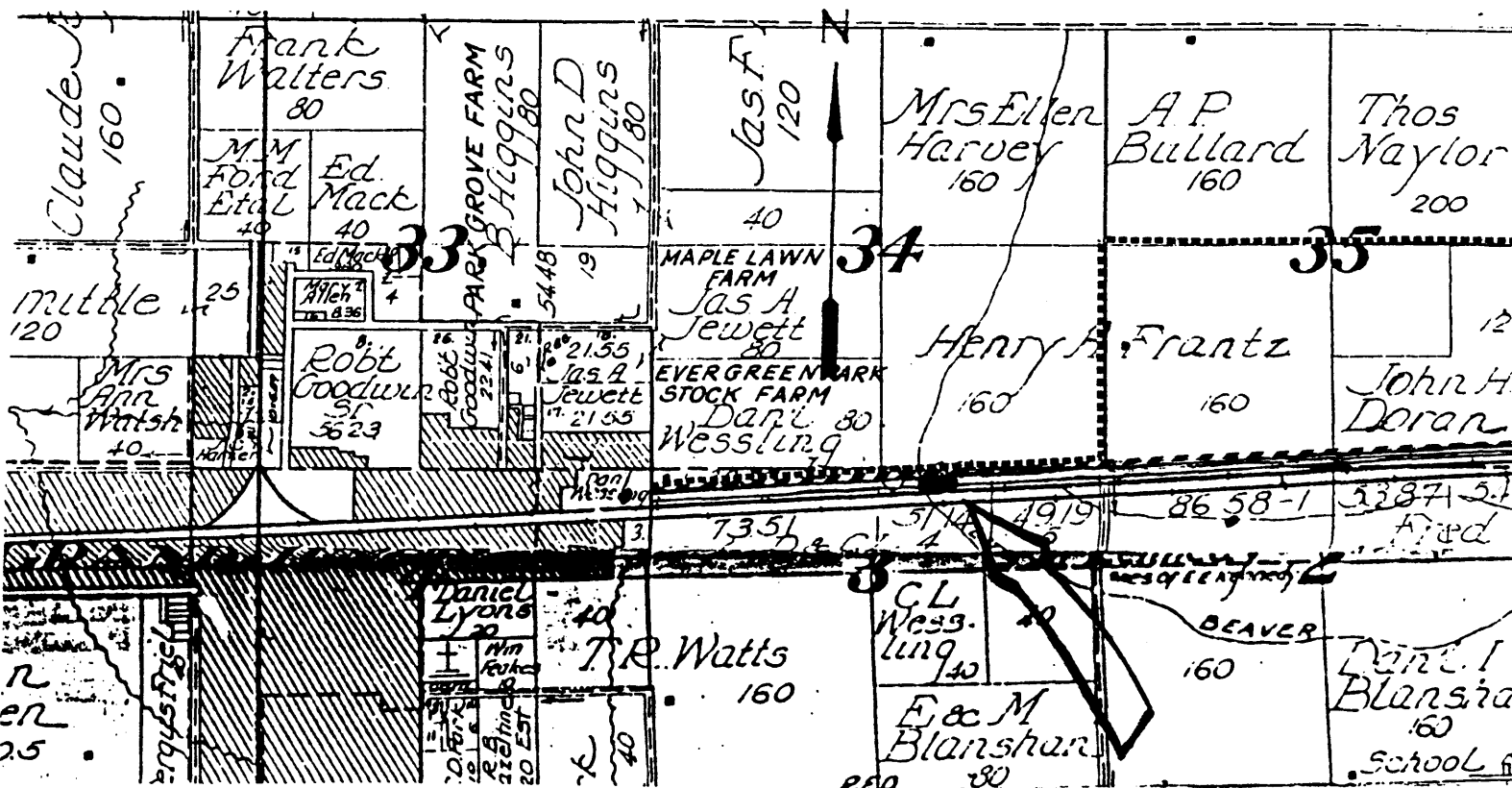
West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment, Lincoln Highway, Greene County, Iowa

Lincoln Highway Route Prior to 1922 (Standard Atlas of Greene County, 1917, Junction
Township)

Original 1913 route -----

Adjusted route 1914-1922

Abandoned Segment **—————**

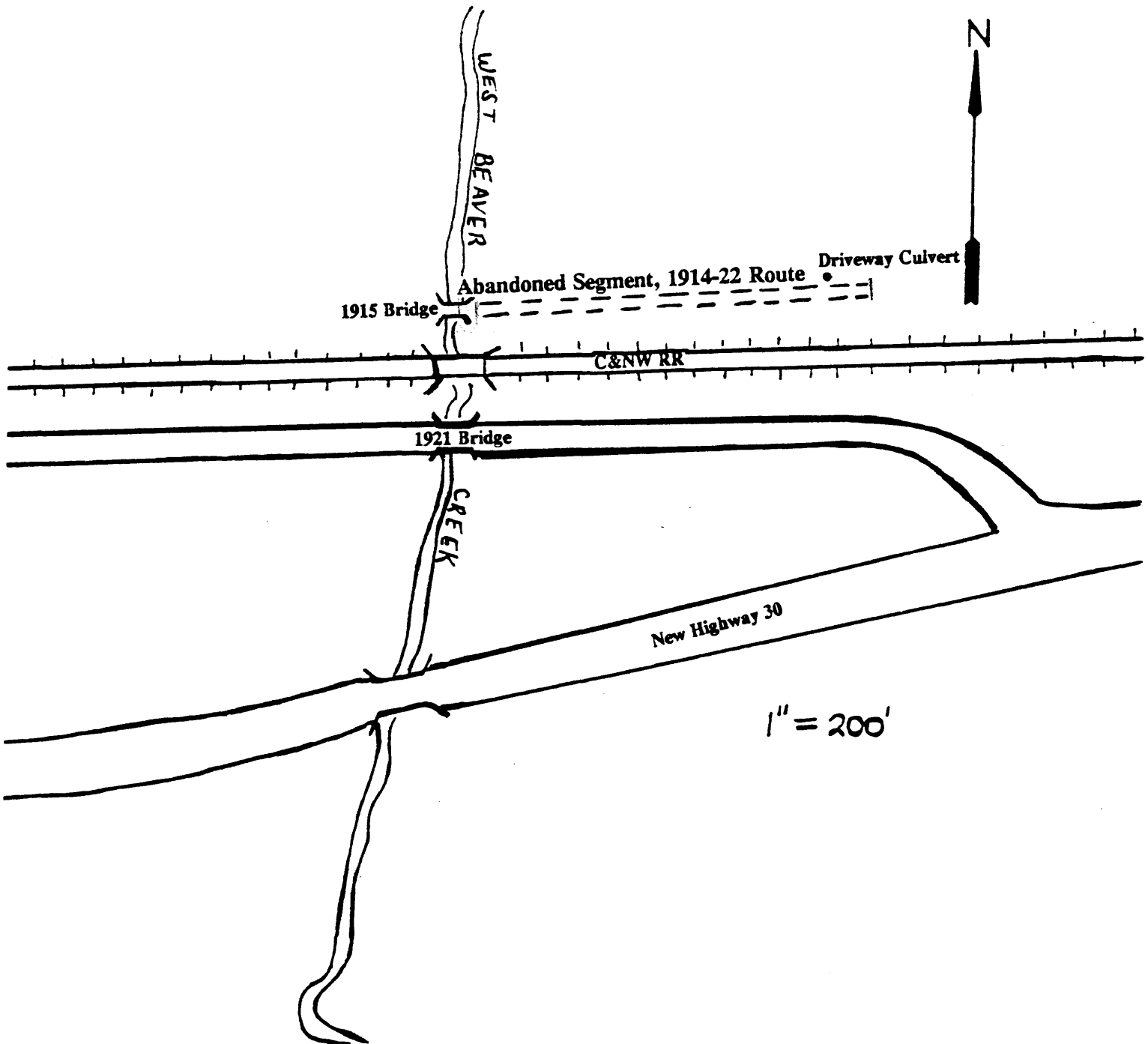


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment, Lincoln Highway, Greene County, Iowa
Sketch Map



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1*West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment, Lincoln Highway, Greene County, Iowa**Statement of Significance*

The West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment is significant under NRHP criterion A as a surviving remnant of the original Lincoln Highway route through east Greene County; this segment was in service from 1913 through 1922. Prior to 1920, the road east from Grand Junction to Beaver paralleled the Chicago and North Western Railroad tracks on the north side. When the Lincoln Highway route was announced in 1913, it therefore followed this road, since it was the most direct route between the two towns.² The route was not perfectly direct, however. West of Beaver, the road jogged south and crossed the railroad tracks twice before continuing west into Grand Junction. Inside the city limits of Grand Junction, the road then crossed the tracks a third time in order to link up with Main Street, located on the south side of the tracks.

In 1914, the eastern two miles of the Lincoln Highway route through east Greene County were shifted to the north so that the Greene and Boone county routes would meet squarely at the county line.³ This left the town of Beaver off the route, but eliminated two railroad crossings. Grand Junction remained on the route, which meant that the road still had to come south at some point. Consequently, the route for the first mile east of Grand Junction remained unchanged. It is on this mile that the abandoned segment is located.

Steadily increasing vehicle traffic on all roads and highways caused railroad companies considerable concern because motorists did not automatically adopt the habit of stopping – or even slowing down – at rail crossings. A rash of fatalities finally prompted railroad companies to enlist the support of newspapers to remind motorists to "Stop, Look, and Listen." In October 1916 the Illinois Central Railroad issued a letter to the public through local newspapers alerting people to the fact that in a three-month period eighteen people had been killed, 36 injured, at rail crossings in Iowa and Illinois. Calculating that it would cost the company in excess of \$215 million dollars to separate the grade at its 8000 crossings on the system, "nearly twice the capital stock of the company," Illinois Central urged the motoring public to exercise

2 1909 Atlas of Greene County; 1913 Official Map of Greene County; 1917 Standard Atlas of Greene County.

3 *Bee*, 25 February 1914

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2*West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment, Lincoln Highway, Greene County, Iowa*

caution before passing over any railway crossing and especially to heed crossing gates, warning bells, and engine signals.⁴

After "a large number of Grand Junction residents" petitioned to have the route changed in 1920, supervisors agreed to route the highway south of the railroad tracks all the way from Grand Junction to the county line. A year later, supervisors from both Greene and Boone counties agreed to route the highway on the south side of the tracks all the way from Grand Junction east to Boone.⁵ These actions, which meant construction of a new road, incorporated all of Grand Junction's main street into the Lincoln Highway and, equally important, eliminated the remaining railroad crossing in Grand Junction. After 1921, only one rail crossing was left in all of Greene County, at Scranton. During 1921 and 1922, the new road south of the railroad tracks was constructed. The road north of the tracks was formally abandoned by action of the Greene County Board of Supervisors on October 23, 1922 and returned to the township road system.⁶ At some undetermined date after that, Junction Township abandoned the road to the owners of Frantz farm.

This West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment is associated with the original Lincoln Highway through Greene County. Its existence serves as a reminder that the roads which made up the original Lincoln Highway route frequently followed railroad lines, and that, as an amalgam of existing roads, the highway was pieced together with little thought of the inherent danger of frequent railroad crossings.

4 "Notice to Motorists," *Bee*, 4 October 1916.

5 "A Lincolnway Change," *Bee*, 1 September 1920; "New Route to Boone," *Bee*, 5 January 1921; Greene County Board of Supervisors Minute Book I:16, 23 September 1920.

6 Greene County Board of Supervisors Minute Book I:332, 23 October 1922.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment, Lincoln Highway, Greene County, Iowa

Bibliographical References

See footnotes for sources cited in this nomination. Refer to Section I of the Multiple Property Documentation Form for complete bibliography and source location information.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

West Beaver Creek Abandoned Segment, Lincoln Highway, Greene County, Iowa

Boundary Description

From the west edge of the West Beaver Creek bridge, the boundaries of the district extend .1 mile east along a 66' corridor, measuring 33' on either side of the approximate centerline.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries represent the legal right-of-way during the time the road was in service as a part of the Lincoln Highway and the distance for which the abandoned road is clearly discernible.