

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

COPY

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Turkey River Bridge

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Little Church road over Turkey River not for publication

city or town 2.5 miles south of Festina vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Winneshiek code 191 zip code 52143

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 O'Leary King OSHPD
Signature of certifying official/Title

4-7-98
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): _____

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: Bowstring through arch-truss

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Timber pile

walls

roof

other Wrought iron

Narrative Description

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

Located 2.5 miles south of Festina, the Turkey River Bridge spans Turkey River in a rural Winneshiek County setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1	construction date: 1873
span length: 160.0'	construction cost: unknown
total length: 177.0'	current condition: fair
roadway wdt.: 16.0'	alterations: substructure, approach spans, deck replaced, 1978

superstructure: wrought iron, 12-panel, Bowstring through arch-truss, with steel stringer approach spans
 substructure: timber pile abutments; concrete piers; concrete-filled galvanized steel cylinder piers
 floor/decking: timber deck over steel stringers
 other features: arch rib: 4 hexagonals, 2 channels with a continuous plate; lower chord: 2 punched eyebars, forked at the end; vertical: 2 Tees with double lacing, 4 angles, and 2 star beams; diagonal: looped square or round eyebars with octagonal plates at alternating verticals; lateral bracing: round rod with unslotted turnbuckles; strut: Tees and 2 angles with double lacing; floor beam: tapered, "fishtail" I-beam, U-bolted to vertical

Other than maintenance-related repairs and alterations noted above, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Turkey River Bridge today 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

1873

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

Significant Dates

1873 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

designer:

Wrought Iron Bridge Company, Canton OH

fabricator:

Wrought Iron Bridge Company, Canton OH

builder:

Wrought Iron Bridge Company, Canton OH

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 589440 4761710
zone easting northing2 _____
zone easting northing**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 18 feet by 177 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 By

name/title Michelle Crow-Dolby
 organization Fraserdesign date 31 August 1994
 street & number 1269 Cleveland Avenue telephone 303-669-7969
 city 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 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/title Winneshiek County
 street & number 201 West Main Street telephone 319-382-2951
 city or town Decorah state Iowa zip code 52101

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 Turkey River Bridge Winneshiek County; Iowa

Among the Winneshiek County bridges included in Iowa's historic bridge inventory is this 12-panel Bowstring through arch. The structure crosses Turkey River south of Festina in southern Winneshiek County. The wrought iron arch dates to 1873. In the spring of that year Washington Township citizens presented the county bridge commissioner with a request for a permanent bridge over the Turkey River. The commissioner, after reviewing the petition, agreed that there was a justifiable need for a crossing at this location, but decided to delay action owing to the county schedule, already replete with new bridge construction. Soon thereafter the bridge over the Turkey River was evidently approved by county officials and let out to bid. The structure was fabricated and erected by the Ohio-based Wrought Iron Bridge Company, often contracted by Winneshiek County, for an undisclosed amount of money. The truss's bridge plate reveals that the firm completed the bridge the same year. Excluding a deck replacement in 1978, the Turkey River Bridge continues to carry local traffic in virtually unchanged condition.

In its extensive dealings with the Wrought Iron Bridge Company, Winneshiek County was simply following a regional trend. As this county and hundreds of others in the Midwest contracted with the Ohio-based bridge company in the 1870s, Wrought Iron quickly became one of the largest fabricators in America. In addition, its president, David Hammond, distinguished himself as one of the country's most prolific bridge innovators. Documentation shows that the primary superstructural type marketed by the Wrought Iron Bridge Company in the 1870s was the bowstring arch-truss made up of wrought and cast iron components. The bowstring was the most commonly erected all-metal bridge of the 1870s, owing in large part to Wrought Iron and its main competitor, the King Bridge and Manufacturing Company of Cleveland, Ohio. The first and second largest bridge manufacturers in the county during the decade, both companies fabricated standardized versions of their own patented bowstring designs. The Turkey River Bridge is thus both technologically significant because it is an early example of a once prevalent bridge design, the bowstring arch-truss, and it is historically notable since it was erected by one of the most prolific bridge builders in the Midwest during this decade, the Wrought Iron Bridge Company.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 2 Turkey River Bridge Winneshiek County, Iowa

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. 346440.

W.E. Alexander, **History of Winneshiek and Allamakee Counties, Iowa** (Sioux City IA: Western Publishing Company, 1875).

W.J. Sparks, **History of Winneshiek County with Biographical Sketches of its Eminent Men** (Decorah, IA, 1877).

Historic American Engineering Record, "Freeport and Lower Plymouth Rock Bridges," prepared by Clayton B. Fraser of Fraserdesign for Winneshiek County, January 1986, Decorah IA.

Winneshiek County Supervisors' Record, Book B: page 140 (7 April 1873), located at the Winneshiek County Courthouse, Decorah IA.

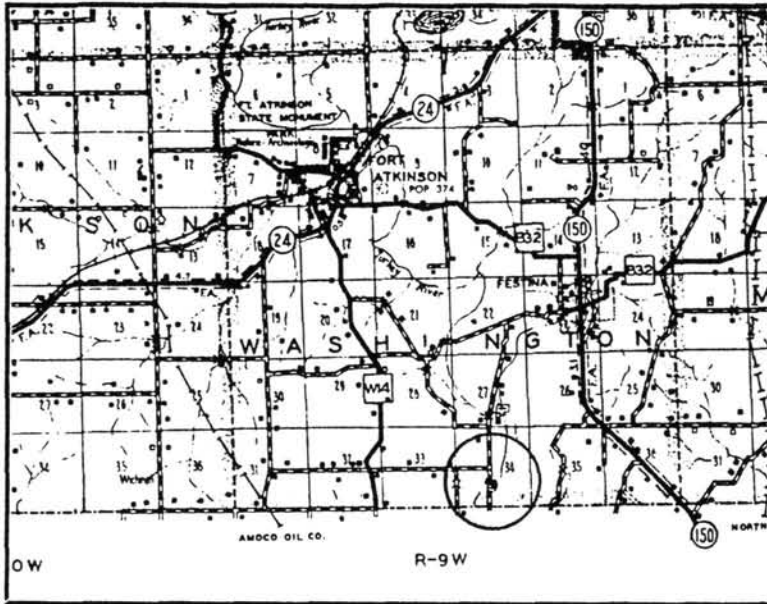
Winneshiek County Bridge Book Number 1, located at the Winneshiek County Engineer's Office, Decorah IA.

James Hippen, ed., "Preliminary Report on 'Historic' Bridges in Winneshiek County, Iowa," unpublished paper, January 1971.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 10 October 1990.

NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

Turkey River Bridge

PHOTOS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION**LOCATION MAP**TAKEN FROM IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION MAP**SOURCES**

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure Number 346440; *History of Winneshiek and Allamakee Counties, Iowa*, by W.E. Alexander, Western Publishing Company, 1875, Sioux City IA; *History of Winneshiek County with Biographical Sketches of its Eminent Men*, by W.J. Sparks, 1877, Decorah IA; *Historic American Engineering Record, Freeport and Lower Plymouth Rock Bridges*, prepared by Clayton B. Fraser of Fraserdesign for Winneshiek County, January 1986, Decorah IA; *Winneshiek County Supervisors' Record, Book B: page 140 (7 April 1873)* - located at the Winneshiek County Courthouse, Decorah IA; *Winneshiek County Bridge Book Number 1*, located at the Winneshiek County Engineer's Office, Decorah IA; James Hippen, ed., "Preliminary Report on 'Historic' Bridges in Winneshiek County, Iowa," unpublished paper, January 1971; field inspection by Clayton Fraser, 10 October 1990.

INVENTORIED BY

Michelle Crow-Dolby and Clayton Fraser

AFFILIATION

Fraserdesign, Loveland CO

DATE

18 March 1992

