

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

14TH STREET BRIDGE

HAER NO. AR-42

LOCATION: Spanning the Missouri-Pacific Railroad lines on 14th Street, in the town of North Little Rock, Arkansas.

UTM: 15/3847275/566840

Quad: North Little Rock

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1925

**MAJOR ALTERATIONS
AND ADDITIONS:**

The main span of the 14th Street Bridge was removed by the Missouri-Pacific Railroad Company in late May 1988. The reason behind this decision was based on the fact that the bridge did not meet the minimum vertical clearance requirements by one inch. The main span was replaced with a steel stringer span. No large format photography was taken.

**PRESENT CONDITION
AND USE:**

The approach spans are still in use for vehicular traffic.

STYLE:

Single-span, pony Kingpost timber truss bridge.

BUILDER:

It is assumed that the 14th Street Bridge was designed and built by the Missouri-Pacific Railroad Company.

**ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION:**

AHTD Bridge No. 19417, AHPP Resource No. PU2027.

SIGNIFICANCE:

This bridge is the only identified timber Kingpost bridge in the Arkansas.

HISTORIAN:

Michael Swanda
Survey Coordinator
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
August 26, 1988.

STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

This bridge uses modified Kingpost timber trusses. All timber truss members are square in section. The top chord timbers are attached to the bottom chord with a butt joint and joined at the top of the peak with steel straps. Two timber vertical members are placed in the truss on either side of the center peak and are attached to the top and bottom chords with steel straps (the addition of these verticals modifies the basic kingpost design). A round steel rod center vertical is bolted to a steel plate at the peak of the top chord. This vertical extends through the bottom chord from which a timber floor beam is suspended by a steel plate bolted to the vertical. Timber stringers support a timber planked roadway. The bottom chord rests on a timber beam that is supported by vertical timber piles. Timber pile trestle spans are used on both approaches to the main span. A timber post and plank guardrail runs the entire length of the bridge.

DIMENSIONS

The 14th Street Bridge has a total length of 140 feet. The main span is 32 feet long with a 22 foot wide roadway.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Bridge Division Files, Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, Little Rock. Historic Bridge File, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Little Rock.

McClurkan, Burney B. Arkansas' Historic Bridge Inventory, Evaluation Procedures 1987 and Preservation Plan. Manuscript of file, Environmental Division, Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, Little Rock.