



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

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February 1, 2021

RE: Historic Bridge M2381  
Job Number 050422  
Shipman & Big Creeks Strs. & Apprs. (S)  
Fulton County  
Historic Bridge Marketing Request

To Whom It May Concern:

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) is planning to replace Bridge Number M2381 (Big Creek Bridge) on Highway 223 in Fulton County. This bridge was determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) through consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer's staff in November 2020. A location map and further information about the bridge is enclosed.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, 23 USC § 144 (g)(5) states: "Any State which proposes to demolish a historic bridge for a replacement project ... shall first make the bridge available for donation to a State, locality, or responsible private entity..." As part of the mitigation process, the ARDOT offers to donate Bridge Number M2381 to any government or entity that demonstrates a willingness to accept title for, maintain in place, preserve the historic features of, and assume the financial responsibility for the continued maintenance on the structure.

The ARDOT, through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), can reimburse costs associated with preservation up to the demolition estimate expense for bridges preserved in place. The demolition estimated reimbursement will be determined by the FHWA, not to exceed 100% of the costs of demolition of the bridge, which will be based on the estimate by ARDOT. The costs associated with preservation could include rehabilitation of the bridge or minor modifications for recreational use.

If you are interested in acquiring this bridge, please respond with a letter of interest addressed to me within 45 days from this letter's date. Such letter submission does not commit an entity to accept the bridge.

Following its receipt, the ARDOT Historic Bridge Analysis Committee will request a preservation plan, including required information for consideration, before a preferred recipient is selected. For further information, contact Nikki Senn at (501) 569-2979 or at [Nikki.Senn@ardot.gov](mailto:Nikki.Senn@ardot.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Fleming".

John Fleming  
Division Head  
Environmental Division

JF:NS:cb

Enclosures

c: Assistant Chief Engineer - Planning  
Bridge Division  
District 5 Engineer

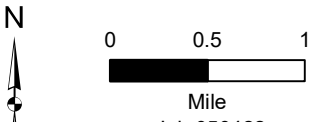
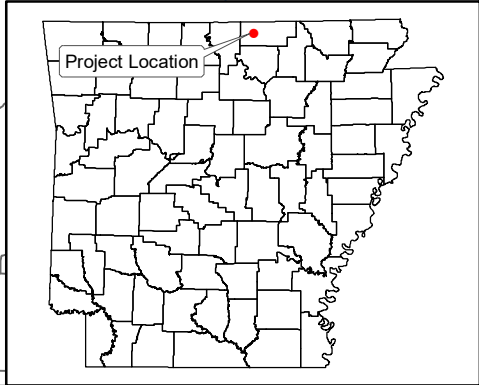
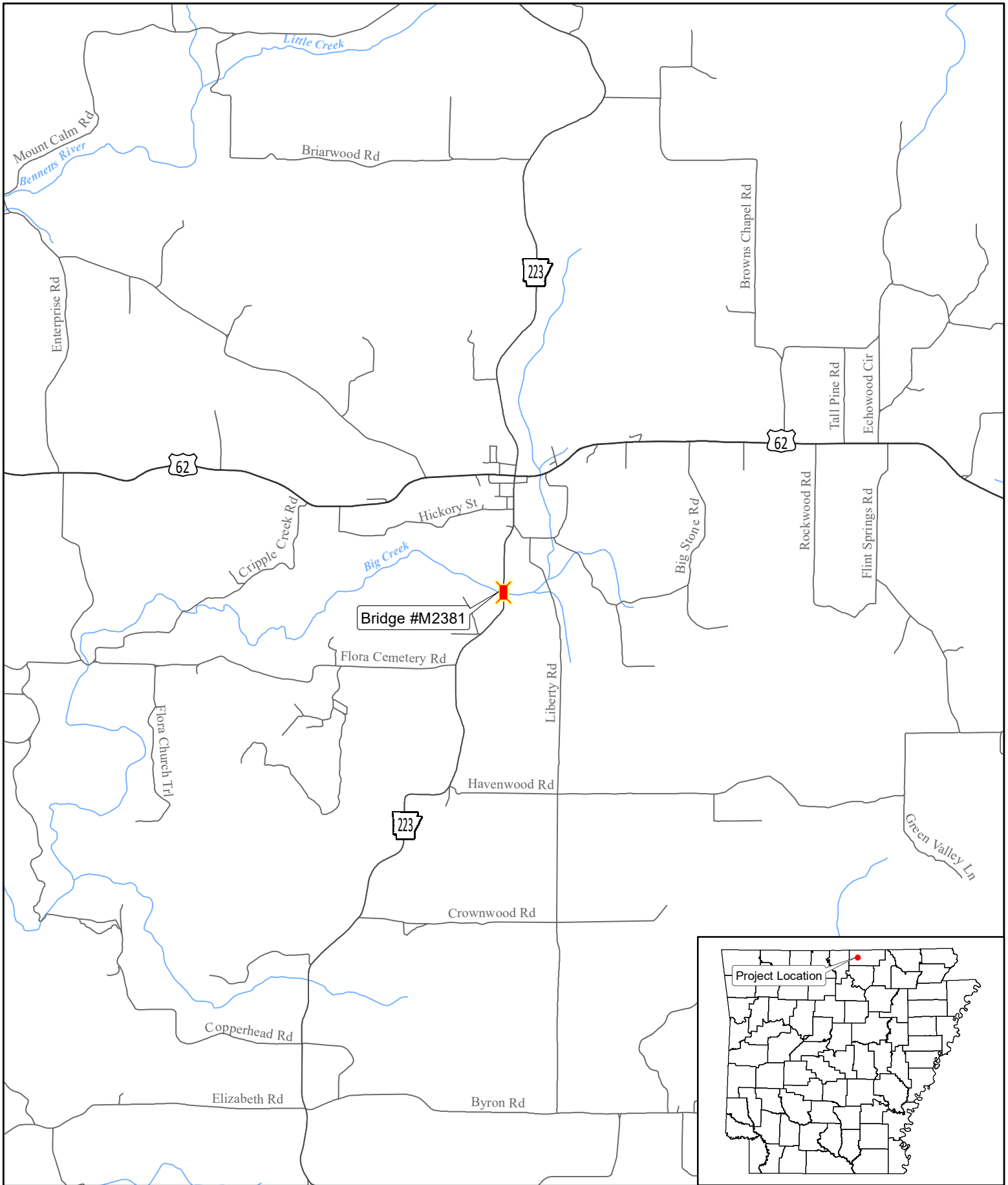
ARDOT Job Number 050422  
Historic Bridge Marketing Description




The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) Bridge Number M2381 is on State Highway 223 in Fulton County. Through consultation, the State Historic Preservation Office and the ARDOT determined the bridge as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in 2020. The bridge was built over Big Creek in 1919.

The Works Progress Administration (WPA), part of President Roosevelt's New Deal programs, reconstructed the bridge in 1937-1938. The WPA workers stamped the concrete bridge end marking that project. Original plans for the bridge are not on file. However, the reconstruction, likely included the addition of the reinforced concrete curb and the concrete posts and rails on either side of the roadway. This type of curb-integrated railing does not appear on similar bridges until 1927. From 1919 and 1920, other bridges display a thin metal rail system or no rail at all.

This steel stringer/multi-beam bridge measures 78 feet long and approximately 21 feet wide. Bridge M2381 retains significance under Criterion A for its association with the WPA and under Criterion C as one of the early versions of this bridge type still in service in Arkansas.



**Historic Bridge  
Fulton County**

 Project Location