



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name: Fairchild's Creek Bridge
other names/site number:

2. Location

street & number: County Road 555
city or town: Natchez
state: Mississippi code: MS county: Adams code: 1 vicinity x
zip code: 39121

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. Paul APRIL 22, 2005
Signature of certifying official Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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):

for Edson Beall 6/8/05
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:

Public-local

Number of Resources within Property:

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Category of Property:

Structure

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

1

buildings
sites
structures
objects
Total**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

Historic Bridges of Mississippi

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

TRANSPORTATION/road-related (vehicular)

Current Functions:

TRANSPORTATION/road-related (vehicular)

7. Description

Architectural Classification(s):

N/A

Materials:

foundation:

roof:

walls:

other

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

- 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.
- x **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

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1930

Significant Dates

1930

Criteria Considerations:

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or a 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.

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation(s)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Virginia Bridge & Iron Company

Narrative Statement of Significance: see continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

Bridge Inventory, Office of State Aid Road Construction, Mississippi Department of Transportation

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 Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing
 15 659780 3511040

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification:

See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jack D. Elliott, Jr., Historical Archaeologist
 Richard J. Cawthon, Chief Architectural Historian
organization: Mississippi Department of Archives and History date: July 2004
street & number: Box 571 telephone: 601-576-6940
city or town: Jackson state: Mississippi zip code: 39205

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(s)

name: Adams County Board of Supervisors telephone: 601-442-2431
street & number: POB 1008
city or town: Natchez state: Mississippi zip code: 39121

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 the 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**

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Fairchild's Creek Bridge
Natchez vicinity, Adams County, Mississippi

Narrative Description:

The Fairchild's Creek Bridge is located on County Road 555 in Adams County.

Built in 1930, it is a single-lane, single-span Parker through-truss bridge of steel construction, 151 feet in length and 18 feet in width, with a wooden deck.

The top chords of the structural truss consist of two channels and one plate connected underneath by small rectangular plates. The posts consist of two channels connected underneath by small rectangular plates, while the hip verticals consist of two angle bars. The bottom chords consist of two angle bars. The diagonals and the counters also consist of two angle bars. The metal truss span is supported beneath by wooden posts.

Although not regularly maintained, this bridge has not been altered nor has it been damaged.

Narrative Statement of Significance:

The Fairchild's Creek Bridge, built in 1930 by the Virginia Bridge & Iron Company, is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Engineering, because it is one of only two surviving examples in Mississippi of a one-lane, single-span, wood-deck Parker through-truss bridge.

A comprehensive survey, conducted in 1986, of all known truss bridges in the state of Mississippi built before 1953 identified 10 surviving examples of the single-span Parker through-truss type built between about 1925 and 1930. Eight of these bridges were two-lane paved-deck bridges constructed for the earliest federal highways in Mississippi, while the other two were one-lane, wood-deck bridges built on rural roads. By the time these bridges were re-surveyed in 2002, six had been demolished or abandoned.

The Fairchild's Creek Bridge and the almost identical Valley of the Moon Bridge in Claiborne County are the only two surviving one-lane, single-span, wood-deck Parker through-truss bridges in Mississippi. Fairchild's Creek Bridge survives today as a well preserved example of its type of construction.

Verbal Boundary Description

This structure is located in the northwest quarter of Section 20, Township 9 North, Range 2 West, on County Road 555 in Adams County, Mississippi. It consists of an 18-foot by 151-foot truss bridge located at UTM coordinates 15-659780-3511040.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property consists only of the steel truss bridge itself, which is significant as a representative example of its type of bridge construction.



Fairchild's Creek Bridge
Adams County, Mississippi
photo by Jack Elliott

February 1986, field checked in 2002

Negative: Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

view toward east

photo 1 of 3



Fairchild's Creek Bridge

Adams County, Miss.

photo by Jack Elliott

February 1986; field checked in 2002

Negative: Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

view from southwest, looking toward northeast

photo 2 of 3

BUILT BY
VIRGINIA BRIDGE
& IRON CO. OF TENN.
ROANOKE VA.
1930

Fairchild's Creek Bridge

Adams County, Miss.

photo by Jack Elliott

Feb. 1986; field checked in 2002

Negative: Miss. Dept. of Archives & History

Plaque identifying builder and date

photo 3 of 3