

Arkansas State Highway and
Transportation Department

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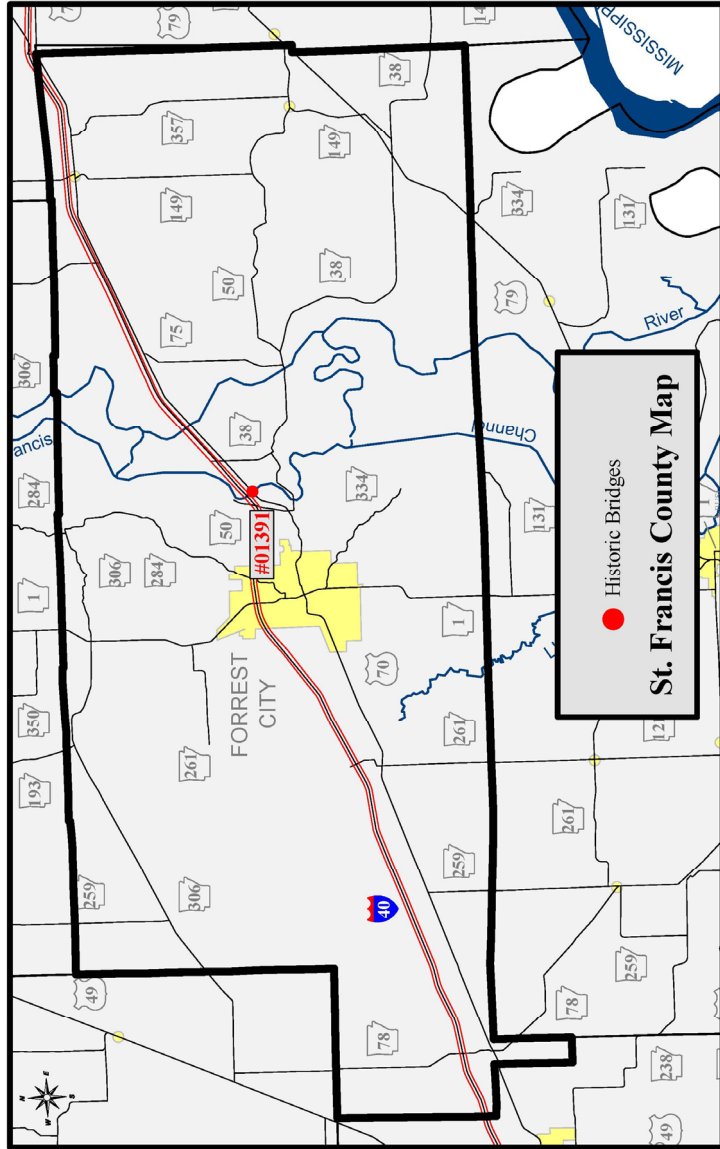


Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department

HISTORIC BRIDGES IN ST. FRANCIS COUNTY

*Bridges Listed on the National Register of Historic
Places in St. Francis County*





Notes

St. Francis River Bridge #01391

The St. Francis River Bridge (Madison Bridge) was constructed by the Wisconsin Bridge and Iron Company in 1933. The bridge is a Parker through steel truss with 4 truss spans and is 921 feet in length. The center span of the bridge is a swing truss. This span would swing 90 degrees to allow barge traffic to pass. The St. Francis River Bridge is one of four Parker truss bridges in the state and one of three swing span bridges in Arkansas. The bridge is located on US Highway 70 as it crosses the St. Francis River.

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Introduction

This pamphlet was created by the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) to inform local governments and the general public of the Historic Bridges located in their County.

The AHTD Historic Bridge Program is designed to balance historic preservation needs with the traffic and safety needs of the public. This program was begun in 1987 by the enactment of the Surface Transportation & Uniform Relocation Assistance Act . This requires Departments of Transportation to inventory all bridges in their state for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places and encourages states to preserve, rehabilitate or reuse historic bridges.

To comply with this law, AHTD conducts historic bridge surveys every five years and will periodically reevaluate previous surveys. This means that the inventory of historic bridges will periodically change with new additions and deletions. This pamphlet contains all historic bridges currently located in this county.

When a bridge no longer meets the requirements for safety and engineering, it is programmed for replacement by AHTD and a review of alternatives to the demolition of the bridge is conducted. These alternatives can include leaving the bridge in place in a non-vehicular capacity with a new bridge constructed next to it, making the bridge a one-way couplet, or the bridge could be rehabilitated for either vehicular, pedestrian or bicycle traffic use. If an appropriate alternative cannot be found, the bridge may be marketed. Marketing is aimed at finding an agency or individual willing to assume responsibility for the bridge, whether the bridge remains in place or is moved to a new location.

In the past some historic bridges have been rehabilitated by the county in which it resides or by the city it serves. When this happens the funding used for these projects has come from Transportation Enhancement Funds distributed by AHTD for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

For more information on the Historic Bridge Program contact Robert Scoggin at 501-569-2077 or email Robert.Scoggin@ahtd.state.ar.us.