

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Illinois
COUNTY: Sangamon
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: **Sugar Creek Covered Bridge**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Old Covered Bridge over Sugar Creek**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Southwest part of Section 21 in Ball Township, T 14 N, R 5 W, 3rd P.M.

CITY OR TOWN: **3/4 mile west of I-55 and 3 miles south of Lake Springfield Bridge** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: **20th District - Congressman Firdley**

STATE: **Illinois** CODE: **17** COUNTY: **Sangamon** CODE: **167**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **State of Illinois**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Department of Transportation**

CITY OR TOWN: **Springfield** STATE: **Illinois** CODE: **17**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Sangamon County Court House**

STREET AND NUMBER: **County Building**

CITY OR TOWN: **Springfield** STATE: **Illinois** CODE: **17**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This structure is a sixty foot clear span covered bridge over Sugar Creek. It was constructed in 1827 and rehabilitated in 1965 by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

The enclosed plan drawing illustrates the details of the bridge's construction. Major repairs were undertaken in 1965. They included jacking the bridge in approximately ten locations to straighten and repair the lower chord; replacing two steel rods with turnbuckle assemblies on each side of the structure beneath the lower chords with spacer blocks to relieve tension on the lower chord; fabrication and installation of steel assemblies at each end of the lower chord to support the steel tensile rod; replacement of approximately 50% of the bracing and 50% of the deck and tread plates; patchwork of the wood shingle roof; erection of handrails on approaches and the treatment of the structure with a wood preservative. To maintain the original appearance of the bridge, all materials used in the restoration were the same type and grade as used in the original structure.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DESCRIPTION

The Sugar Creek Covered Bridge is a wooden trussed bridge with 8 panels of a modified Burr variety and assisted by an arch. The basic Burr truss was modified when constructed by the use of "X" diagonals within each panel rather than the simple diagonal compression member patented by Burr in 1840. The truss span is 60 feet and has 24 foot approaches leading to both the east and west portals. The portal height (deck to strut) is 8 feet 3 inches and the portal width (distance between end posts) is the same. The lower chords rest at each end on large metal piers. The arch no longer rests on the abutments and instead was cut at each end of the lower chord when reconstructed in 1965.

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sangamon County's oldest covered bridge (only two remain in Sangamon County) with a 60 foot clear span over Sugar Creek was constructed in 1827 by Thomas Black and served the first settlers of Sangamon County who located in this area in 1817. The bridge has become a tourist attraction associated with the Lincoln era in and around Springfield.

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SIGNIFICANCE

The Sugar Creek Covered Bridge is one of Illinois' seven wooden trussed bridges which remain in service at their original location. There were over 200 bridges at one time in Illinois. Between the 1830's and the 1880's such wooden trussed structures were preferred for bridges in Illinois. The Bridge is not a unique example of the wooden trussed bridge type, but it is important as a representative example. The wooden trussed bridge type was one of the United States' major contributions to the advancement of structural types in the nineteenth century and the Sugar Creek Covered Bridge typifies the more common use of the type, that is, as a short span serving highway traffic. Regarding its contribution to transportation, its significance is purely local.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blank area for major bibliographical references.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		39 38 20	89 39 50	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
H. W. Monroney, District Engineer

ORGANIZATION: Illinois Department of Transportation

DATE: August 28, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
126 East Ash Street

CITY OR TOWN: Springfield

STATE: Illinois

CODE: 17

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Anthony T. Dean

Title: Director - Illinois Department of Conservation - State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Condit, Carl W. American Building Art: The Nineteenth Century.
New York: Oxford University Press, 1960.

Eaton, Thelma. The Covered Bridges of Illinois. Ann Arbor,
Michigan: Edwards Brothers, Inc., 1968.

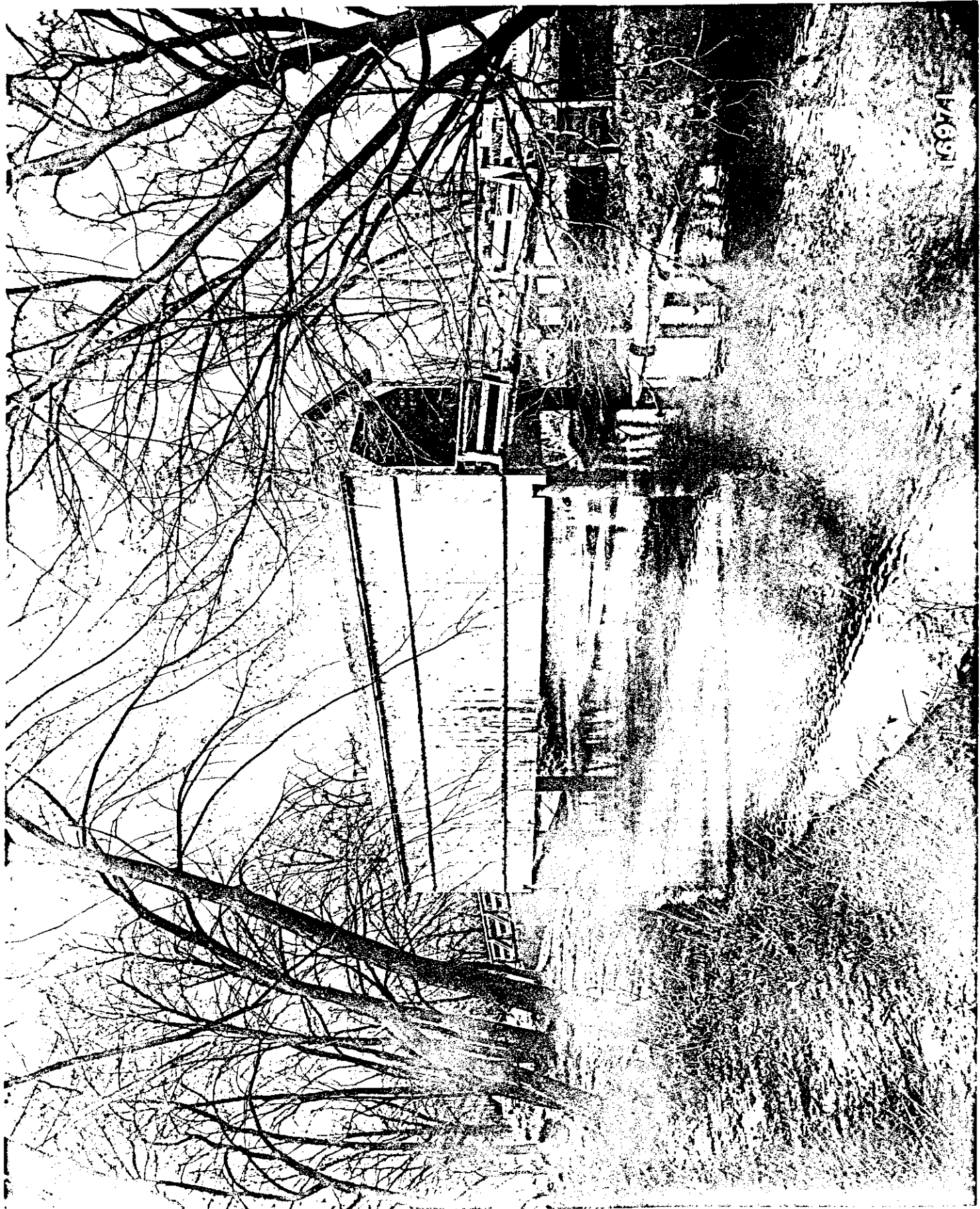
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
COUNTY	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Sugar Creek Bridge			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Old Covered Bridge over Sugar Creek			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Southwest part of Section 21, T 14 N, R 5 W, 3rd P.M.			
CITY OR TOWN:			
3/4 mile west of I-55 and 3 miles south of Lake Springfield Bridge			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Illinois	17	Sangamon	167
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: A. G. Kistler			
DATE OF PHOTO: 11/3/1969			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: State of Illinois - Department of Transportation - Bureau of Materials - 126 East Ash Street - Springfield, Illinois 62706			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
View looking downstream in a northwesterly direction. This bridge with a clear span of 60 feet was rehabilitated in 1965 by State Maintenance forces and is located immediately west of Pioneer Park, site of the first settlers to Sangamon County. The first settlers' home was built by Robert Pulliam October 20, 1817. This bridge is visited by many tourists each year who travel the area visiting various Lincoln sites.			



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