

AUG 25 1980

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Welty's Mill Bridge

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number Pennsylvania Route 997 N/A not for publication

city, town Washington Township N/A vicinity of congressional district 9

state Pennsylvania code county Franklin code 055

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

street & number 619 N. Franklin Street, Dist. Office # 83, Franklin County

city, town Chambersburg N/A vicinity of state Pennsylvania 17201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Franklin County Court House

street & number Memorial Street

city, town Chambersburg state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A N/A federal N/A state N/A county N/A local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Welty's Mill Bridge is a two-arched limestone span across the East Branch of the Little Antietam Creek on Pennsylvania Route 997, just south of Waynesboro in Washington Township, Franklin County. Built in 1856 by David Snively Stoner, a native of Waynesboro, the bridge is 137 feet long and 13 feet wide.

The bridge is built of coursed local limestone. Its two segmental arches are formed by carefully cut radiating voussoirs. Of the two arches, the south one is higher and wider than its counterpart. Between the arches on both sides of the bridge are pointed semi pyramidal piers. At each end of the bridge, the abutments flair outward funneling traffic onto and off of the bridge. For coping, the top of the bridge has thin, flat cut limestone pieces which fit over the upper surface of the walls. The entire bridge takes on the form of a low, slightly uneven arc as it rises from ground level at either end to a high point over the water just south of its center. On the west surface of the east wall of the bridge near its center is a rectangular stone tablet which records the builder's name, D.S. Stoner, the date, 1856, and the County Commissioners, Joseph Johnston, Robert McIlvany, and Samuel Myers.

The bridge appears to be in good condition. Recently it was repaired by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation after a motorist ran into its east wall.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1856

Builder/Architect David Snively Stoner

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Welty's Mill Bridge is primarily significant in the areas of architecture and engineering. Built in 1856, it is an excellent example of the more substantial type of bridge architecture of the period. Since it remains in use today, more than 125 years later, carrying traffic more frequent and heavier than it was designed to hold, it is a monument to the engineering skills of its builder. Adding to the significance of the Welty's Mill Bridge is the fact that while stone arched bridges were once typical of southern Pennsylvania, few remain today. Of 23 stone bridges which once stood in Franklin County, only four are still in existence. Three of the remaining four bridges are located in the western half of the county while the Welty's Mill Bridge is located in the eastern half. One of the other bridges is already listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Hays Bridge Historic District.

Built in 1856, the bridge was constructed relatively late among stone spans in the lower Cumberland Valley. Most of the bridges were built between 1820 and 1850. Certain architectural elements such as the pyramidal piers are associated with mid 19th century bridge construction in the area.

The bridge is also associated with the Civil War in Pennsylvania since Confederate troops under Jubal A. Early crossed the Little Antietam here on their way to Gettysburg in 1863.

David Snively Stoner, builder of the bridge, was a local builder and contractor. Only one other structure built by him is known to remain standing, the Adams County Jail which is now the Library in Gettysburg, Pa. The Welty's Mill Bridge is the only remaining known work of D.S. Stoner in Franklin County. One important structure built by him, also in 1856 was Franklin Hall, located on the square in Chambersburg, Pa. This extensive three story brick building contained a large auditorium, theatre and offices for lodges and legal affairs. This building was destroyed by Confederate forces during the burning of Chambersburg on July 30, 1864.

(See Continuation Sheet)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Welty's Mill Bridge, Franklin County

Continuation sheet

Item number 8 & 10

Page 1

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#8 Significance:

D.S.Stoner was a member of a prominent family that settled in the Pennsylvania-Maryland border area near Waynesboro prior to 1750. Descendants of the family still own property in the vicinity of the Welty's Mill Bridge. In the 18th century the Stoner family was involved with milling and operated a grist mill on the Little Antietam Creek. The mill which later became known as Welty's Mill was demolished about 1970.

#10 Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The nominated area consists of only the bridge and the ground upon which and over which it stands or approximately 2,050 square feet. Beginning at a point at the edge of the southwest end of the bridge wall and extending north along the west surface of the west wall of the bridge approximately 137 feet to a point at the edge of the northwest end of the bridge wall; then east across Pa. Route 997 to the east side of the northeast edge of the bridge wall; then south along the east surface of the east wall of the bridge to a point at the edge of the southeast end of the bridge wall; then west to the point of beginning.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Nead, Dr. Benjamin Mathias. Waynesboro. Harrisburg, Pa.: Harrisburg Publishing Co., 1897.
 Stoner, Charles J. Historical and Geneological information on the Stoner family.
 Stoner, J.H. Historical Papers. Waynesboro, Pa.: Lou Cole Stoner 1947.
 Unger, Frederick Fleming. Old Bridges of Franklin County. Mercersburg, Pa.: Mercersburg Journal. 1947.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately .05 acre or 2050 sq. ft.
 Quadrangle name Smithsburg, Md. Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	18	79580	4401600	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

(See Continuation Sheet)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula Stoner Reed, Architectural Historian
 organization Preservation Associates, Inc. date August 1982
 street & number P.O. Box 202 telephone 301-791-7880
 city or town Sharpsburg state Maryland 21782

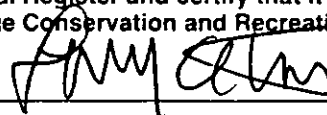
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Larry E. Tise, State Historic Preservation Officer date 11/12/82

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

9. Major Bibliographical Reference.

Nead, Dr. Benjamin Mathias. Waynesboro. Harrisburg, Pa.: Harrisburg Publishing Co., 1897.

Stoner, Charles J. Historical and Geneological information on the Stoner family.

Stoner, J.H. Historical Papers. Waynesboro, Pa.: Lou Cole Stoner 1947.

Unger, Frederick Fleming. Old Bridges of Franklin County. Mercersburg, Pa.: Mercersburg Journal.

10. Geographical Data 1947.

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately .05 acre or 2050 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name Smithsburg, Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

18	2791580	4401600
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

Zone	Easting	Northing

C

--	--	--

D

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E

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F

--	--	--

G

--	--	--

H

--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

(See Continuation Sheet)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

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date _____

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date _____

Chief of Registration

0.5 MI. TO PA. 16

WAYNESBORO 1 MI.

316

35

997



WAYNESBORO

Eastland Hills

Wayne Heights

WELTY'S MILK BRIDGE

WESTERN Red Cross

WASHINGTON

MASON AND DIXON LINE FRANKLIN WASHINGTON CO

Rocky Forge

Ringgold

Smithsburg, Md. - Pa.

NE 1/4 Hagerstown 15' Quadrangle

N 39 37.5 - W 77 30/7.5

1953