

# 38-15-06

Name: Speakman No. 2, Mary Ann Pyle Bridge

Location: Off T371, East Fallowfield Township

UTM: Zone 18 N4419180 E431610

Owner: Private

Stream: Buck Run

Truss Type: Queenpost

Builder: Meanander and Ferdinand Wood

Year: 1881

Length: 75'

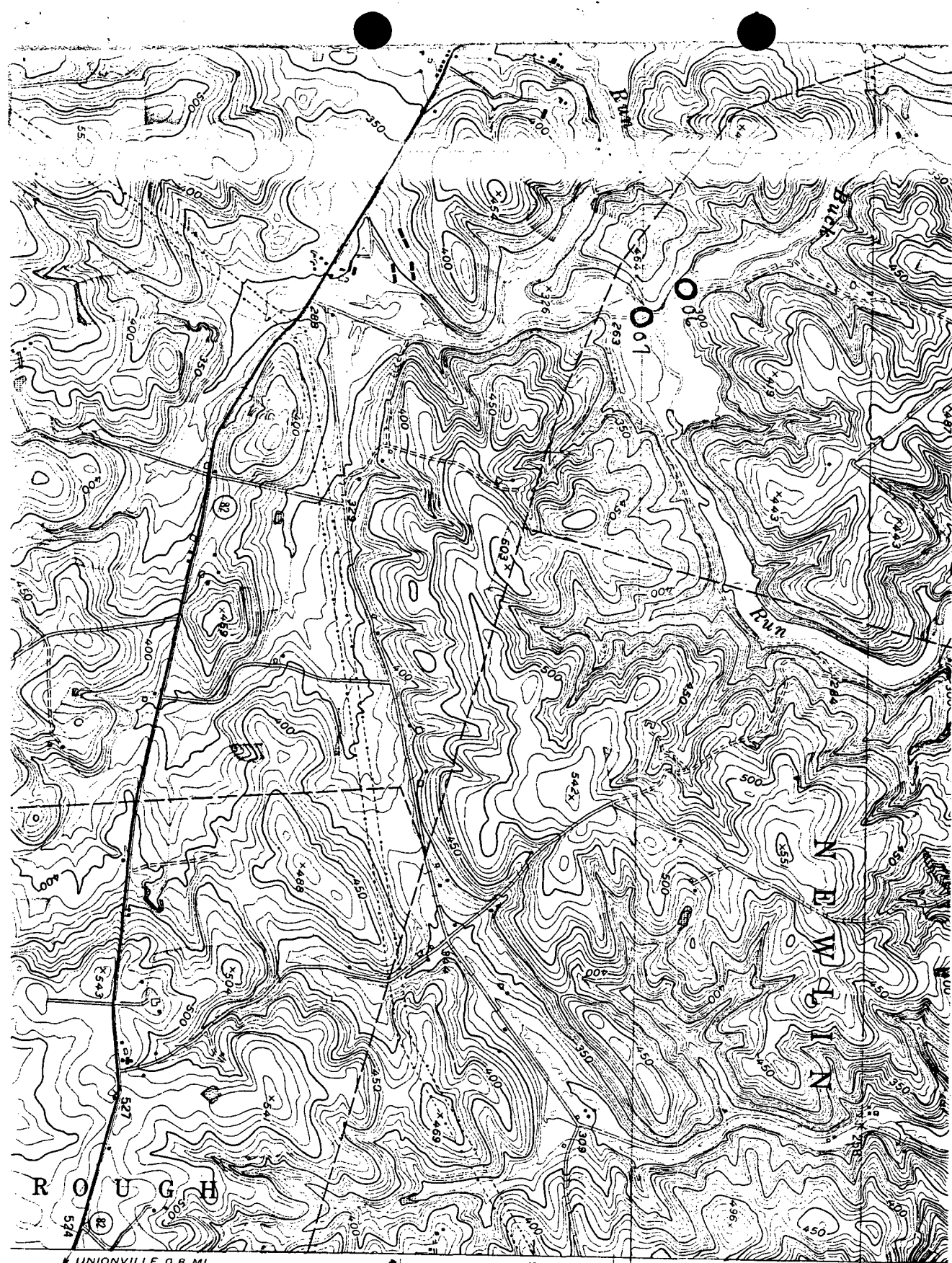
Width: 15'

Load:

Condition: Good

#### Distinguishing Features:

One of the "twin bridges" as this and the Hayes-Clark Bridge, only one fourth of a mile away, this bridge was named for the daughter of James B. Pyle, a local land owner. The cost of this bridge was \$1,183 for woodwork and \$755 for stonework. Located on private land this bridge and the Hayes Clark Bridge are closed to traffic.



UNIONVILLE 0.8 MI.  
KENNETT SQUARE 4.7 MI.

Covered Bridges of Chester County  
Chester County  
Zone 18 E431730 N4419000  
Hayes-Clark Bridge  
(38-15-07)

*Sakmar*  
#2

Part of  
Covered Bridges of Chester County TR

Available at the National Park Service website  
<http://www.nr.nps.gov/nrcover.htm>

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

# 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 Covered Bridges of Chester County Thematic Resources

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district \_\_\_\_\_

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Chester code 029

## 3. Classification

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

## 4. Owner of Property

name Multiple

street & number

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Chester County Courthouse

street & number Market & High Street

city, town West Chester state Pennsylvania

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title of Historic Places Pennsylvania Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1980  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg state Pennsylvania

# 7. Description

**Condition**  
 excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair              unexposed

**Check one**  
 unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**  
 original site  
 moved      date 1972, Larkin (38-15-11)

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Only 15 of the original 85 Chester County covered bridges remain today, two of the remaining bridges are shared with Lancaster County and one with Delaware County. Four of the bridges are already listed on the National Register (3 individually, 1 as part of Valley Forge National Military Park), they will be mentioned here for comparison.

<u>Bridge Name &amp; Number</u>	<u>Truss</u>	<u>Year</u>
Rudolph & Arthur (38-15-01)	Burr	1880
Glen Hope (38-15-02)	Burr	1889
Linton Stevens (38-15-03)	Burr	1886
Speakman #1 (38-15-05)	Burr	1881
Speakman #2, Mary Ann Pyle (38-15-06)	Queenpost	1881
Hayes Clark (38-15-07)	Kingpost	1971 not being nominated
Gibson's (38-15-10)	Burr	1872
Larkin (38-15-11)	Burr	1881
Hall's, Sheeder (38-15-12)	Burr	1850 (NR 4-23-73)
Kennedy (38-15-13)	Burr	1856 (NR 1-21-74)
Rapp's (38-15-14)	Burr	1866 (NR 6-18-73)
Knox (38-15-15)	Burr	1865 (NHL 1-20-61)
Mercer's Mill (38-15-15, 38-36-38)	Burr	1880 (share w/Lancaster Co)
Pine Grove (38-15-21, 38-36-40)	Burr	1884 (share w/Lancaster Co)
Bartram's (38-15-17, 38-23-02)	Burr	1860 (share w/Lancaster Co)

# 9. Major Bibliographical Reference

Allen, R. S. Covered Bridges of the Middle Atlantic States. Brattleboro, Vt: Stephen Greene Press, 1959, p. 59-60.  
James, Arthur P. Covered Bridges of Chester County, Pennsylvania. West Chester: Chester County Historical Society, 1976.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .4

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

See Continuation Sheet

A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
H	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan M. Zacher

organization Pa. Historical & Museum Comm.

date July 1980

street & number Box 1026

telephone 717-783-9926

city or town Harrisburg

state Pennsylvania

# 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

Ed Weintraub, Director  
title Office of Historic Preservation

date 11/2/80

For HCERS use only

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

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

# 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

According to county records, Chester County once had 85 covered bridges, 21 of which were shared with other counties. The earliest recorded covered bridge in Chester County was built in 1807 and the most recent in 1899. Only 15 covered bridges remain today, the oldest being the Hall's, Sheeder Bridge built in 1850. The covered bridge played an important part in the transportation system of the County throughout the 19th century. Many of the bridges were built to serve local mills and the transportation of agricultural produce to market.

Because Chester's bridges were built under the control of the county very good records of the builders and the cost of construction exist. Before a bridge could be built petitions and competitive bidding were required as well as the overseeing of bridge construction were conducted by the County.

The covered bridge was an important transportation resource in Chester County, the remaining bridges are fine examples of this period in Pennsylvania Bridge technology.