

F-6-9

Harney Road Bridge  
Emmitsburg  
Public

C. 1890

Harney Road Bridge is a large late nineteenth century iron truss bridge which spans the Monocacy River in the extreme northwest corner of Frederick County.

The western most section of the bridge consists of three small pony pratt truss bridges each fifty-six feet in length with pinned connections which were built by the King Iron Bridge Company of Cleveland, Ohio.

The eastern section of the bridge is a large double intersection pratt through truss bridge one hundred ninety-five feet in length, possibly built by the Wrought Iron Bridge Company. The Poffenberger Road bridge is the only other double intersection pratt bridge located in Frederick County. Unusual large round rubble stone abutments with cast iron collars support the bridge.

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

DESTROYED  
F-6-9  
1100943617

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Harney Road Bridge

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Harney Road Across the Monocacy River

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Frederick

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input 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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 Frederick County Board of County Commissioners  
c/o William Fout

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Montevue Lane

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21701

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Frederick County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

North Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

STATE

Maryland 21701

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Harney Road Bridge is a large late nineteenth century iron truss bridge which spans the Monocacy River bridge at Harney Road in the extreme northwest corner of Frederick County.

The bridge consists of two types of truss structures which extend in four spans across the river and is a total length of 380 feet.

The western most section of the bridge consists of three small pony pratt truss bridges each 56 feet in length with pinned connections, wood plan flooring and replaced or missing guardrails. These bridges were built by the King Iron Bridge Company of Cleveland, Ohio as indicated by a broken plaque located on the west hip of the third span.

The second type of truss used in the bridge construction is a larger double intersection pratt through truss bridge 195 feet in length, not documented but possibly built by the Wrought Iron Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio. Only one other double intersection pratt bridge is located in Frederick County; the Poffenberger Bridge.

Walled coursed rubble stone approaches are located on either side of the structure. Unusual large round rubble stone abutments with cast iron collars support the bridge.

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/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES \_\_\_\_\_ BUILDER/ARCHITECT King Iron Bridge Company

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Harney Road Bridge is one of the most unusual iron truss bridges still standing in Frederick County because of the combination of pony pratt and double intersection pratt trusses.

The manufacturers of the pony pratt trusses, the King Iron Bridge And Manufacturing Company of Cleveland, Ohio began in 1858 assuming the King company name in 1871. Its founder, Zenas King had patented the Tubular Arch bridge in 1858 and built numerous arch and swing bridges in northern Ohio.

By 1874 over 2700 bridges had been built by the company.<sup>1</sup> Three "King" bridges are still in existence in Frederick County.

In 1854 the weekly Frederick Examiner announced that wrought iron was being used as a bridge material and proved to be stronger than the wood truss construction that had been in general use. At that time it was hoped that such an iron bridge would soon be constructed in Frederick County.

It appears from the Frederick County Commissioners Minutes that iron truss bridges became popular in the area during the 1870's. Records show that a variety of companies, including Groton Manufacturing Company Groton, New York; Wrought Iron Bridge Company, Canton, Ohio; King Iron Bridge Company, Cleveland, Ohio; and the Pittsburg Bridge Company, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, constructed bridges throughout the county. Iron truss bridges were an innovative step toward good bridge engineering design in the nineteenth century and were the pride of every community.

<sup>1</sup>Dan Deibler, Metal Truss Bridges in Virginia, 1865-1932 Vol. I, p. 35

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

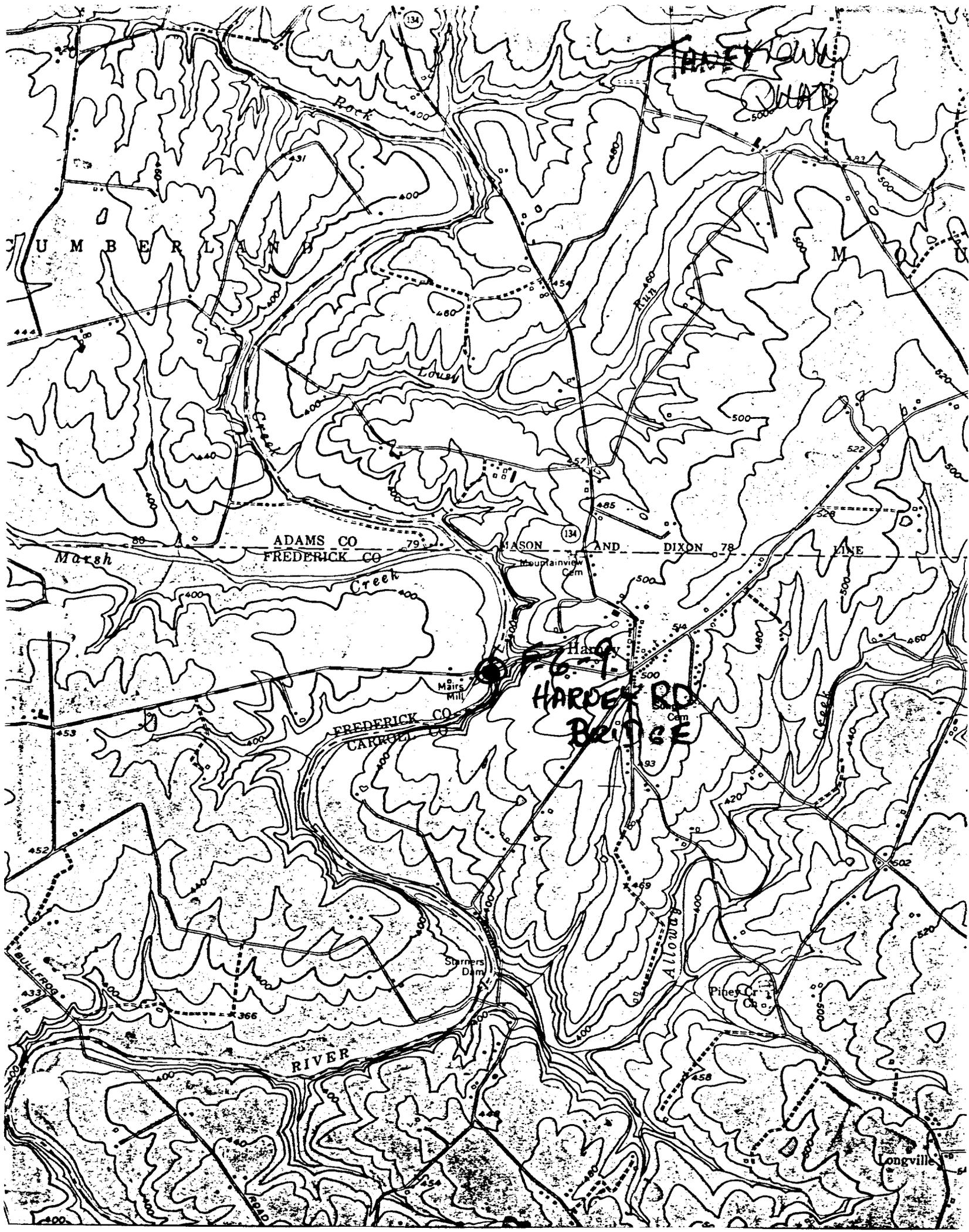
NAME / TITLE Cherilyn Widell, Sites Analyst

ORGANIZATION	DATE
Frederick County Office of Historic Preservation	6/19/78
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
12 East Church St., Winchester Hall	663-8300
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Frederick	Maryland 21701

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



PINEY TOWN  
SQUARE

U M B E R L A N

ADAMS CO  
FREDERICK CO

MASON AND DIXON LINE

HARDEN RD  
BRIDGE

FREDERICK CO  
CARROLL CO

RIVER

Longville

Rock

Lough

Marsh

Creek

Creek

Mills Mill

Mountainview Cem

Starners Dam

Pines Cr  
Ch

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HARNEY ROAD BRIDGE

HARNEY ROAD ACROSS MONROE RIVER

CENTER OF BRIDGE

C.E.W. 2/78

F-6-9



HARNEY ROAD BRIDGE

HARNEY ROAD ACROSS MONOCACY RIVER

WEST APPROACH

CEW.

2/78

F-6-9