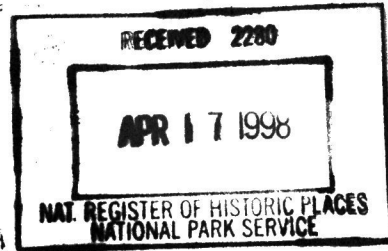


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



516

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Iowa Falls Bridge

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number U.S. Highway 65 over Iowa River not for publication

city or town Iowa Falls vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Hardin code 083 zip code 45302

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Patricia Whiting DSHPO 4-7-98
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
 - See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other, (explain): _____

Edson H. Boall 5-15-98

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter 'N/A' if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Highway Bridges of Iowa

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

other: concrete open spandrel arch

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls

roof

other Concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Located in Iowa Falls, the Iowa Falls Bridge spans Iowa River in an urban setting that has changed little since the structure's period of significance. A description of the structure follows:

span number: 1, span length: 235.0', total length: 255.0', roadway wdt.: 24.0', construction date: 1928, construction cost: \$51,374.98, current condition: good, alterations: roadway reconfigured, original concrete guardrails replaced

superstructure: concrete open spandrel arch, substructure: concrete abutments and wingwalls, floor/decking: concrete deck, other features: steel guardrails

Other than maintenance-related repairs and alterations noted above, the bridge remains essentially unaltered as it continues to carry vehicular traffic. The Iowa Falls Bridge today retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1928

(The period of significance is derived from the original construction date.)

Significant Dates

1928 (construction date)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

designer:

Iowa State Highway Commission

fabricator:

none

builder:

Weldon Brothers Constr. Co., Iowa Falls IA

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
other
name of repository:

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 8 Page 1 Iowa Falls Bridge Hardin County; Iowa

This long-span concrete structure spans the Iowa River in Iowa Falls. Carrying U.S. Highway 65 (Oak Street) in this mildly urban setting, this open spandrel arch features two massive ribs, upon which bear a series of paneled concrete columns. The Iowa State Highway Commission described the bridge as the "longest arch span either concrete or steel in the state of Iowa." The 255-foot long Iowa Falls Bridge, dating to 1928, was built by the Weldon Brothers Construction Company at a total cost of \$51,374.98. The construction contract was awarded to the Iowa Falls firm on 9 July 1927 by the Iowa Department of Transportation. The state highway commission used this banner headline to depict the concrete landmark: "Nature Gives Scenic Beauty Touch to New Jefferson Highway Bridge at Iowa Falls." Since its completion, the Iowa Falls Bridge has carried a steady stream of urban traffic for sixty-five years with minimal alterations.

"Iowa Falls residents are fortunate in having the most beautiful and most picturesque section of the Iowa River thru the heart of the town," the state highway commission stated in 1927. Although highway commission engineers typically used riveted steel trusses for medium-span river crossings in rural settings, they used concrete open spandrel arches for a number of urban and small town structures in the 1920s. The Mederville Bridge [CLAT15], built in 1918, was apparently the first of these, designed as an alternate to a steel truss bridge. This was followed by the Adair Viaduct [ADAI01] in 1923 and the Iowa Falls Bridge in 1928. By using open spandrel arches, ISHC could achieve a relatively long span at a reasonable cost, while contributing aesthetically to the urban settings in which the bridges stood. But given the restrictive parameters of the arches' use - urban setting, long-span crossing, sufficient vertical clearance - only a few were built during this period. The Iowa Falls Bridge is distinguished as a well-preserved example of this application of urban bridge design. A centerpiece for this small city, it is a local landmark and an important transportation-related resource.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 2 Iowa Falls Bridge Hardin County; Iowa

Iowa Department of Transportation, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. 027140.

"Nature Gives Scenic Beauty Touch to New Jefferson Highway Bridge at Iowa Falls," Iowa State Highway Commission, **Service Bulletin**, 15:7-8-9 (July, August, September 1927), page 1.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser and Sheila Bricher-Wade, 10 March 1991.

10. Geographical DataAcreage of Property less than one acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 15 478410 4707140
zone easting northing2 _____
zone easting northing**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The nominated property is a rectangular-shaped parcel measuring 26 feet by 255 feet, which is centered on the UTM point(s) listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure, substructure, approach spans and floor system.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected)

The nominated structure includes the bridge's superstructure, substructure, floor system, any approach spans and the property on which they rest. These boundaries encompass, but do not exceed, all of the property that has been historically associated with the bridge.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michelle Crow-Dolby and Clayton Fraser
 organization Fraserdesign date 31 August 1994
 street & number 1269 Cleveland Avenue telephone 303-669-7969
 city or town Loveland state Colorado zip code 80537

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**A **USGS map** (7½ or 15 minute series) indicating the property's locationA **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name/title Iowa Department of Transportation
 street & number 800 Lincoln Way telephone 515-239-1251
 city or town Ames state Iowa zip code 50010

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**Attachment to the Iowa Falls Bridge
National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

The Iowa Falls Bridge is now known as the Oak Street Bridge. The street would now be U.S. Highway 65/20. The builder of the bridge was Welden Brothers Construction Co., Iowa Falls, Iowa.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Iowa Falls Bridge
NAME:

MULTIPLE Highway Bridges of Iowa MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Hardin

DATE RECEIVED: 4/17/98 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/28/98
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/14/98 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/01/98
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 98000516

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5-15-98 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

~~Entered~~ in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLG NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

CLG Name City of Iowa Falls Date of Public Meeting January 16, 1996

Property Name Iowa Falls Bridge Address Oak Street

1. For Historic Preservation Commission:

- Recommendation of National Register eligibility
 Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Warren E. Bress Date 1-18-1996

Reason(s) for recommendation:

2. For Chief Elected Local Official:

- Recommendation of National Register eligibility
 Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Daniel J. Brown Date 1-31-96

Reason(s) for recommendation:

3. Professional Evaluation Name Lowell J. Soike, Ph.D.

- Recommendation of National Register eligibility
 Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Lowell J. Soike Date 2-5-96

Reason(s) for recommendation:

The reasons stated in the nomination.

RETURN TO:

KERRY C MCGRATH, STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA, NEW HISTORICAL BUILDING,
600 EAST LOCUST, DES MOINES IA 50319-0290



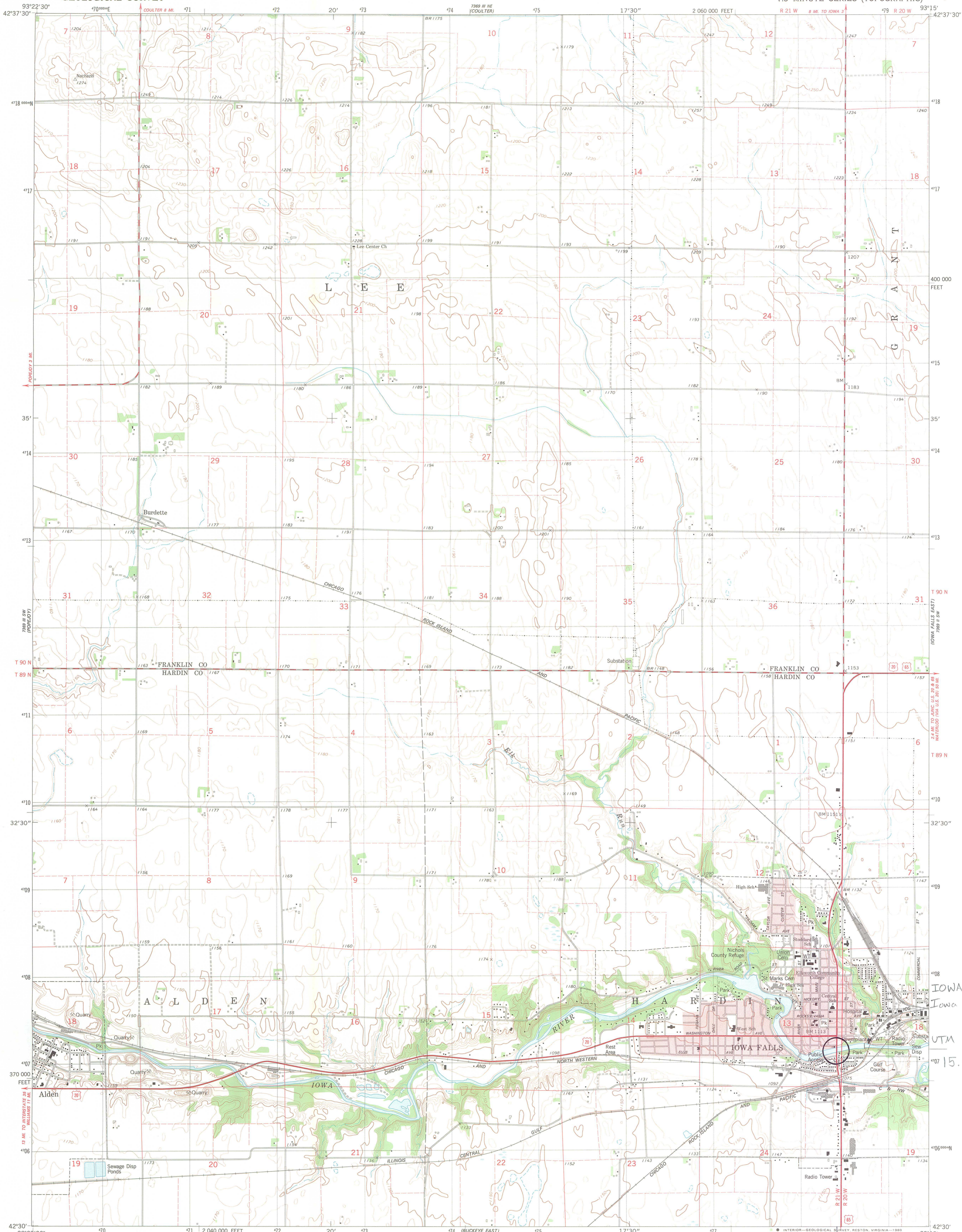
IOWA FALLS BRIDGE
(FHWA No. 027140)

HARLOW COUNTY, IOWA

CLAYTON FRASER, FRASER DESIGN

10 MARCH 1991

100004



IOWA FALLS BRIDGE
Iowa Falls, Hardin
County, IA
UTM Reference:
15.478410 - 4707190

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs

taken 1973. Field checked 1974. Map edited 1979

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Iowa coordinate

system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15

1927 North American datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983

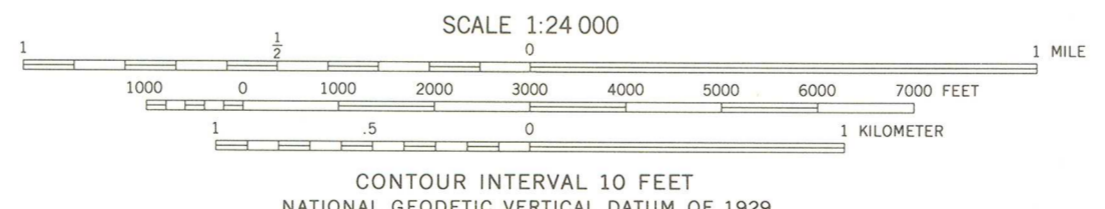
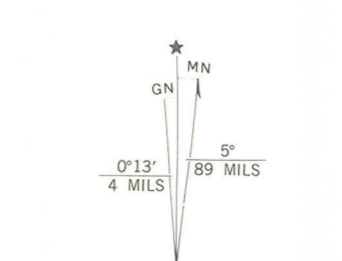
move the projection lines 5 meters north and

18 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where

generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND BY THE IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

IOWA FALLS WEST, IOWA
N4230-W9315/7.5

1979

DMA 7369 III SE-SERIES V876

HARDIN