

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC  
Clements Stone Arch Bridge  
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

One-half mile southeast of Clements on the Cottonwood  
river (NW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 23, T 20 S, R 6 E)  
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN  
Clements  
STATE Kansas  
VICINITY OF CODE 20  
COUNTY Chase CODE 017  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT no. 5, Joe Skubitz  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<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  
Chase County  
STREET & NUMBER  
Chase County Courthouse  
CITY, TOWN  
Cottonwood Falls VICINITY OF  
STATE Kansas 66845

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Register of Deeds  
STREET & NUMBER  
Chase County Courthouse  
CITY, TOWN  
Cottonwood Falls  
STATE Kansas 66845

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
Historic-Sites Survey  
DATE  
Aug., 1971 and July, 1975  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
Kansas State Historical Society  
CITY, TOWN  
Topeka  
STATE Kansas 66612

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Clements stone bridge spans one hundred seventy-five feet over the Cottonwood river one-half mile south of Clements in western Chase county. It is located on a secondary road in a rural setting. The bridge rises forty feet above the water level and the road bed is ten feet wide. The bridge was built of native stone from nearby quarries.

The span is supported by twin stone arches which have been accented by voussoirs and keystones. The east and west faces of the bridge and the foundations have been finished in large blocks of squared rubble. The inner faces of the arches have been built up of coursed cut stone. A plaque bearing the date and the names of the construction company, its principals and the county commissioners has been inserted on the west face of the bridge in the spandrel. The approach to the bridge has a slight rise in both directions and the stone work has been stepped indicating the steepness of that rise.

The bridge is very gracefully proportioned, the double arches setting up a subtle rhythm connecting the banks. The local materials used are complemented by the setting, making the bridge seem visually very appropriate. The scale and design is also interesting as it reflects the needs and concerns of the century before modern transportation.

The only alteration is the asphalt surface now on the roadway.

and a distance of 1/2 mile from the town of ...

bridge span ...

...

...

# B 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 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 checked="" 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 1886

BUILDER/ARCHITECT L. P. Santy Company

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Clements Stone Arch Bridge was erected in 1886 across the Cottonwood river south of Clements. A masterpiece of design and stone construction, it continues to serve the people of the area.

Chase county had been organized in 1859 but its big settlement boom came in the 1870's. The county had only 1900 people in 1870 but more than 6000 by 1880. (Today the county's total is 3600.) The bridge was built during a period of growth and expansion, a time of great confidence in the state's seemingly unlimited potential for growth.

In April of 1886 the Chase county commissioners ordered that a stone arched bridge be built over the Cottonwood river at Clements and appointed William Jeffrey as a special bridge commissioner for the project. In August bids were received for the project. Evidently each company that bid was bidding on its own design. The commissioners were dissatisfied with the first bids and ordered the project re-advertised. Then in September the contract was awarded to L. P. Santy and Co. of Clements. As reported in the Chase County Leader of Sept. 9, 1886, Santy's prices were "Excavation -- below water, 90 cents per cubic yard; above water, 30 cents. Masonry, \$7.25 per cubic yard. Estimated cost of the bridge complete, \$12,000. The contractor furnishes everything."

The construction work soon began and the Leader told its readers on Oct. 7, 1886, that the excavation for the south abutment was underway, that a cofferdam for the center pier was being constructed and that an elevated tramway was being built to transport the large stones. By the end of October the bridge was taking shape, and apparently it was finished in a matter of months.

The principals of the construction company, L. P. Santy and D. Y. Hamill, also operated stone quarries near Clements. William Dawson was the carpenter who built the frame work or forms for the arches of the bridge. Others who worked on the project were William Butler and John Park.

The Clements Stone Arch Bridge is worthy of nomination to the National Register because it is such a fine example of craftsmanship and design. The bridge is more than a utilitarian structure; it reflects an understanding and sensitivity to the terrain and the local materials, and is one of the most handsome bridges in the state.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chase County Courant (Cottonwood Falls), Apr. 22, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, 1886.  
 Chase County Leader (Cottonwood Falls), Sept. 9, Oct. 7, 21, 1886.  
 "Clements Stone Arch Bridge," Chase County Centennial, 1872-1972 (n.p., 1972), p. 142.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 4	6, 9, 8	1, 1, 5	4, 2	4, 0	7, 7, 5	B						
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING			
C				D									

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE: Richard Pankratz, Director, Historic Sites Survey  
 Cornelia Wyma, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION	Kansas State Historical Society	DATE	July 29, 1976
STREET & NUMBER	120 West Tenth Street	TELEPHONE	913-296-3251
CITY OR TOWN	Topeka	STATE	Kansas 66612

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

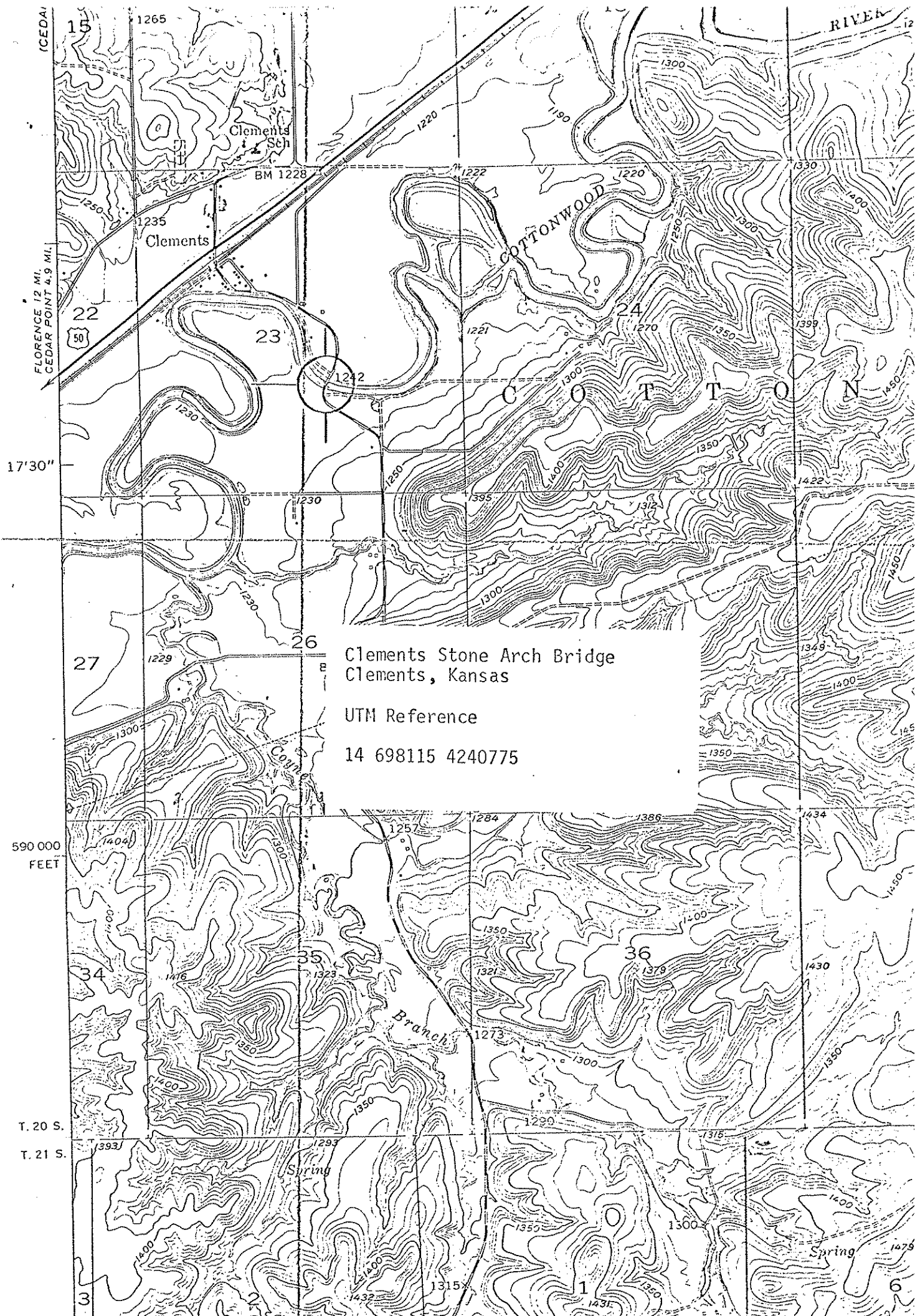
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *Nyle H. Miller*  
 TITLE Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society DATE July 29, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE
ATTEST:	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	



(CEDAR)

15

1265

Clements Sch

BM 1228

COTTONWOOD

Clements

FLORENCE 12 MI.  
CEDAR POINT 4.9 MI.

22

58

23

24

C O T T O N W O O D R I V E R

17'30"

27

26

Clements Stone Arch Bridge  
Clements, Kansas

UTM Reference

14 698115 4240775

590 000  
FEET

34

36

Branch

T. 20 S.

T. 21 S.

Spring

Spring

3

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