

BEDFORD COUNTY BRIDGE NO. 32
(Hyndman Bridge)
Schellsburg Street (TR 350)
spanning Little Wills Creek
Hyndman
Bedford County
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-357

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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(Hyndman Bridge)
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Location: Schellsburg Street (TR 350) spanning Little Wills Creek, Hyndman, Bedford County, Pennsylvania

Date of Construction: 1882

Present Owner: Bedford County

Present Use: Vehicular bridge

Significance: This wrought-iron Pratt through truss is typical of iron truss spans of the 1870s and 1880s, prior to the ascendancy of all-steel constructed bridges. The Hyndman Iron Bridge is one of the oldest surviving metal truss bridges in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Historian: Elaine J. Will, 1991

Project Information: The results of the study of Bedford County were published in 1994: Kim E. Wallace (ed), Bedford County and Fulton County, Pennsylvania: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service). The contents of the publication were transmitted to the Library of Congress as individual reports. Research notes, field photos and copies of historic photos collected during the project were transmitted to the AIHP Collection, Special Collections, Stapleton Library, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15705.

Also called the Hyndman Iron Bridge, this single span across Little Wills Creek, in Hyndman Borough, is a wrought-iron, Pratt through truss. It measures 88'-3" long, has a clear width of 13'-3" and a 13' vertical clearance. The single-lane bridge has an open-steel-deck roadway and a pedestrian walkway. The bridge rests on masonry abutments with concrete wingwalls.

A plaque on this wrought-iron truss structure identifies it as the work of the Columbia Bridge Works of Dayton, Ohio, a company formed in about 1868 by D. H. Morrison. Morrison began building wood bridges as early as 1848, and opened his Dayton fabricating shop after receiving a patent for an iron bridge in 1867. He was later joined by his son, C. C. Morrison; the plaque on the Hyndman bridge bears the names of both men. Built in 1882, this is one of the few iron bridges remaining in Bedford County.

Sources:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation.

"Federal Bridge Inspection Report for Bedford County
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Skillington, Lyn. "Hyndman's Iron Bridge Will Come Down." Bedford
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