

# Leeper Bridge

WAYN02

## GENERAL DATA

structure no.:	J 935	city/town:	0.3 mile northwest of Leeper
county:	Wayne	feature inters.:	Black River
		cadastral grid:	S22/27, T28N, R3E
		highway route:	Missouri State Highway 34
		highway distr.:	10
		current owner:	Missouri Highway and Transportation Department

## STRUCTURAL DATA

**superstructure:** two steel, 9-panel, rigid-connected Parker through trusses; two steel, 6-panel rigid-connected Pratt through trusses; steel stringer approach spans

**substructure:** concrete abutments, wingwalls and piers; steel pile bent piers under approach spans

span number:	2; 2	condition:	good
span length:	180.0'; 120.0'	alterations:	none
total length:	988.0'	floor/decking :	concrete deck over steel stringers
roadway width:	22.0'	other features:	upper chord / inclined end post: 2 channels with cover plate and lacing; lower chord: 2 channels with batten plates; vertical: 4 angles with lacing; diagonal: 2 angles with batten plates; lateral bracing: 1 angle; strut: 4 angles with X-bracing; portal strut: wide flange; floor beam: I-beam; guardrail: 2 channels; end post-mounted bridge plate: Missouri Highway Dept Bridge N° J 935 1933

## HISTORICAL DATA

**erection date:** 1933  
**erection cost:** \$73,397.92  
**designer:** Missouri State Highway Department  
**fabricator :** Inland Steel Company, East Chicago IN  
**contractor:** List and Clark Construction Company

**references:** Missouri Highway and Transportation Department, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. J 935; Missouri Highway and Transportation Department, Primary System Bridge Record, located at the Bridge Division, MHTD, Jefferson City MO; Wayne County Court Record 8: page 185 (20 December 1911), page 224 (27 February 1912), page 279 (24 May 1912), page 292 (31 May 1912), page 600 (22 May 1913), located at the Wayne County Courthouse, Greenville MO; Missouri State Highway Commission, **Ninth Biennial Report: 1933-34**, pages 185-87; field inspection by Richard Collier, 31 March 1992.

# HAER INVENTORY

Missouri Historic Bridge Inventory

**NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE**

Leeper Bridge (Black River Bridge)

MHTD: J 935

WAYN02

**DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION**

1933

**LOCATION**

Missouri State Highway 34 over Black River; S22/27, T28N, R3E  
0.3 mile northwest of Leeper; Wayne County, Missouri

**USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)**

highway bridge / highway bridge

**RATING** NRHP potentially eligible (score: 52)**CONDITION**

good

**OWNER**

Missouri Highway and Transportation Department

span number: 2; 2  
span length: 180.0'; 120.0'  
total length: 988.0'  
roadway wdt.: 22.0'

superstructure: two steel, 9-panel, rigid-connected Parker through trusses; two steel, 6-panel rigid-span connected Pratt through trusses; steel stringer approach spans  
substructure: concrete abutments, wingwalls and piers; steel pile bent piers under approach spans  
floor/decking: concrete deck over steel stringers  
other features: upper chord / inclined end post: 2 channels with cover plate and lacing; lower chord: 2 channels with batten plates; vertical: 4 angles with lacing; diagonal: 2 angles with batten plates; lateral bracing: 1 angle; strut: 4 angles with X-bracing; portal strut: wide flange; floor beam: I-beam; guardrail: 2 channels; end post-mounted bridge plate:  
**Missouri Highway Dept Bridge No J 935 1933**

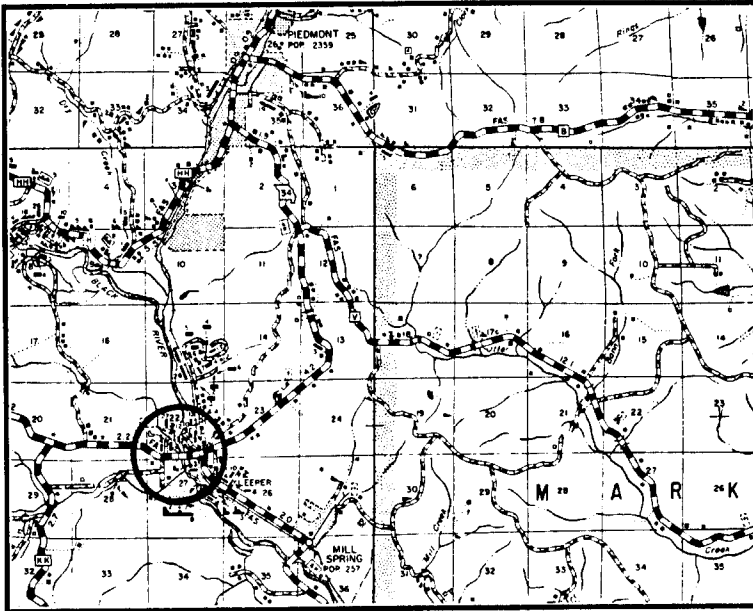
This crossing of the Black River is located on Missouri Highway 34, just northwest of the small town of Leeper. The two Parker truss channel spans are flanked by two Pratt through trusses, with eight steel stringer approach spans on the north end. Support for the superstructure is provided by concrete abutments and piers, with steel pile bent piers under the steel stringer spans. Design work was prepared by the Missouri State Highway Department in early 1933. On March 4th, the List and Clark Construction Company received a \$73,397.92 contract for the bridge's erection. Completed later that year, the structure has since carried moderate to heavy traffic loads on State Highway 34, a main route between western Wayne County and southeastern Reynolds County. List and Clark's bridge replaced an earlier structure that had been built in 1913. A steel truss of unknown configuration, the 1913 bridge at the site was erected by the Vincennes Bridge Company for \$4993.00. The current Leeper Bridge appears largely unchanged from its original construction.

Many of the large-scale bridges designed by the Missouri State Highway Department in the 1920s and 1930s were replacements for earlier county-built structures. The Leeper Bridge ranks among the longest of these multiple-span steel truss bridges built during this period. The rigid-connected Parker and Pratt trusses that comprise the bridge feature standard MSHD design, but this bridge is distinguished by its multiplicity and diversity of spans, overall structure length and its high degree of physical integrity.

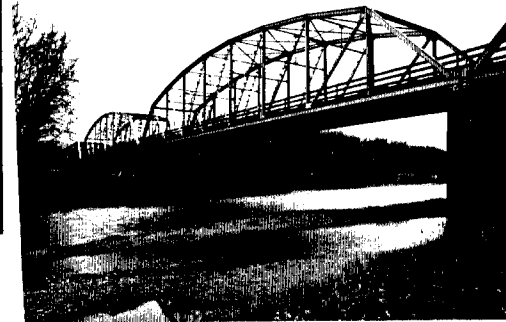
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**NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE**

Leeper Bridge (Black River Bridge)

**PHOTOS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION****LOCATION MAP**

TAKEN FROM MISSOURI HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP



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**SOURCES**

Missouri Highway and Transportation Department, Structure Inventory and Appraisal: Structure No. J 935; Missouri Highway and Transportation Department, Primary System Bridge Record, located at the Bridge Division, MHTD, Jefferson City MO; Wayne County Court Record 8: page 185 (20 December 1911), page 224 (27 February 1912), page 279 (24 May 1912), page 292 (31 May 1912), page 600 (22 May 1913), located at the Wayne County Courthouse, Greenville MO; Missouri State Highway Commission, Ninth Biennial Report: 1933-34, pages 185-87; field inspection by Richard Collier and Carl McWilliams, 31 March 1992.

**INVENTORIED BY**

Carl McWilliams

**AFFILIATION**

Fraserdesign, Loveland CO

**DATE**

11 May 1992

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