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STATE	Ohio	CODE 039		DUNTY	CODE Summit (157
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CATEGORY DISTRICT BUILDING(S) X_STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT	OWNERSHIP XPUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH PUBLIC ACQUISITION IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED	STATUS XOCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROG ACCESSIBL YES: RESTRICTE XYES: UNRESTRICTE NO	<b>.E</b> :D	PRESI _AGRICULTURE _COMMERCIAL _EDUCATIONAL _ENTERTAINMENT _GOVERNMENT _INDUSTRIAL _MILITARY	MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:
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5 LOCATION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER	Cuyahoga Count Euilding 1219 Ontario			Ohio Summit Coun Courthous	e
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DATE 3/70	6	FEI	DERAL XSTATE	_COUNTY _LOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	Ohio Historic Pre	servation Of	fice, Ohi	o Historica	l Center
CITY, TOWN	Columbus			STATE Ohio	

### 7 DESCRIPTION

CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	<b>X</b> UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Station Road Bridge spans the Cuyahoga River between Cuyahoga and Summit Counties. The bridge is a metal through truss of the double-intersection Pratt (Whipple) type. The essential features of the type are inclined end posts and diagonal (tension) members that extend across two panels. The bridge features an ornamental plate at the top chord at each approach which reads:

> "Massillon Bridge Company 82 Builders, Massillon, Ohio"

The bridge is 128.6 feet long and 18.7 feet wide.<sup>1</sup> It consists of a single span of nine panels equalling 124 feet. The bridge carries a roadway 14.95 feet wide. There are no sidewalks. The bridge is supported on rock-faced stone abutments. It is painted grey. There is a ten-ton load limit posted.

The Station Road Bridge is located in a semi-rural river valley approximately five hundred feet upstream from the Brecksville-Northfield High Level Bridge, a concrete arch span completed in 1931. The Ohio and Erie Canal is nearby.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Dimensions for the bridge are taken from "Cuyahoga County Bridges--20' span & greater--within the limits of the proposed Cuyahoga Valley National Park," prepared by Eugene A. Halupnik, P.E., Bridge Engineer, Office of the Cuyahoga County Engineer, Cleveland, Ohio, 17 March 1976.

## **8 SIGNIFICANCE**

SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1882	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT Massillon B	ridge Company
		_INVENTION		
_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
<b>X</b> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
_1700-1799	ART	<b>X</b> ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
_1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
_PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
PERIOD	AF	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Station Road Bridge is significant as the oldest remaining metal truss bridge in the Cuyahoga Valley. The bridge spans the Cuyahoga River, linking Brecksville (Cuyahoga County) with Sagamore Hills (Summit County). The bridge is a double-intersection Pratt type and bears the date "1882." It was built by the Massillon Bridge Company of Massillon, Ohio.

1417 10.1014

### History

At a joint session of the Commissioners of Summit and Cuyahoga Counties held on March 31, 1881, bids were received and opened for "the construction of the superstructure of an iron bridge over the Cuyahoga River on the County line near Brecksville Station." Six bridge companies submitted bids for the job. The bids were referred to Alex E. Brown, a civil engineer, for examination. An April 5, 1881, another joint session of County Commissioners was convened. Alex Brown made his report on the bids and the Commissioners unanimously awarded the contract to the Massillon Bridge Company of Massillon, Ohio.<sup>1</sup>

A notation in the <u>Commissioners' Journal Record</u> for August 13, 1881, shows that on that date N. J. Colson was paid \$153.51 for "material furnished for Brecksville Bridge" by the Massillon Bridge Company. On September 3, 1881, Colson was paid \$3488.00. Presumably the bridge was completed by this date, although the bridge itself bears the date "1882." There is no subsequent reference to the bridge in the county records. Records show that Cuyahoga County and Summit County each paid half the cost of the bridge.<sup>2</sup>

The period from 1855 to 1875 saw the rise of specialized bridge companies which sought to adapt the pioneering work of the railroads to the fabrication of highway bridges. The Massillon Bridge

<sup>1</sup>(Cuyahoga County) <u>Commissioners' Journal Record</u>, Vol. 5 (1881-1883), Cuyahoga County Archives, Cleveland, Ohio, pp. 9, 10.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., pp. 32, 33.

## **9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Cleveland, Ohio. Cuyahoga County Archives. (Cuyahoga County) Commissioners' Journal Record, Vol. 5 (1881-1883).

Heald, Edward Thornton. <u>The Stark County Story</u>. 4 vols. Canton, 0.: The Stark County Historical Society, 1949.

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12 STATE HISTORIC	PRESERVATIO			DN
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As the designated State Historic Pr hereby nominate this property for criteria and procedures set forth by	inclusion in the Nationa the National Park Servic	I Register and certify th	ervation Act of 1966 (Protect of 1966) (Protect	ublic Law 89-665), I ed according to the
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CHIEF OF RECISTRATION	770-70			

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

CONTINUATION SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY		
RECEIVEDAN 8 1979		
DATE ENTERED	MAR 7	1979

Station Road Bridge, Cuyahoga and Summit Counties, Ohio

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Company was one of them. It was founded in 1869 by a group of Massillon men, among them Joseph Davenport. Davenport was an important figure in Massillon's industrial history, although by 1875 he had withdrawn from the bridge company.<sup>3</sup> A company listing in the <u>Massillon City Directory</u> of 1884-86 reads: "Massillon Bridge Co., H. A. Williams, E. W. Eckert, Massillon, O.; J. C. Darst, A. J. Sprague, Toledo, O.; manufacturers of all kinds of wrought iron, combination and wood bridges. Office and works, on the /Fittsburgh, Ft. Wayne & Chicago/ R. R., east of depot." The company incorporated in 1909 as The Bridge and Structural Co. and continued in business until the Depression caused its liquidation in 1933. It then became a plant of the Fort Pitt Bridge Works of Pittsburgh, but the plant was sold in 1943, "since which time there has been no bridge building in Massillon."<sup>5</sup>

The Station Road Bridge is an iron pin-connected truss of the double-intersection Pratt type. The basic Pratt truss was patented in 1844 by Thomas and Caleb Pratt. It is distinguished by vertical members acting in compression and diagonals acting in tension. In 1847, the famous bridge engineer Squire Whipple patented a truss which utilized the basic form of the Pratt, but lengthened the diagonals to extend across two panels, thus allowing longer spans. The bridge type is now referred to as a doubleintersection Pratt, though it also has been called the Whipple, the Whipple-Murphy, or the Linville. This truss type was commonly constructed from 1847 into the twentieth century. Usually such truss bridges were manufactured and sent, in pieces, to the site, where they were erected by local laborers under the supervision of a representative of the bridge company. The Station Road Bridge is the only metal truss bridge of its type in the Cuyahoga Valley.

<sup>3</sup>Edward Thornton Heald, <u>The Stark County Story</u>, 4 vols. (Canton, O.: The Stark County Historical Society, 1949), 1:632-633.

<sup>4</sup><u>Massillon City Directory, 1884-'85-'86</u> (Akron, O.: N. H. Burch & Co., Publishers, 1884), p. 109.

<sup>5</sup>Heald, <u>Stark County Story</u>, 1:633-634.

Property Station Koad State Working Number TECHNICAL CONTROI Photos \_\_\_\_ Maps HIS accep frank 3.5. Last remaining of type in Cuyahoga Valley, mfg. by ARCHITECTURAL early bridge bldg. co., OHI '76, forward to HAER HISTORIAN Pubanic 2-21-79 ARCHEOLOGIST **OTHER** Significant example of a Double Intersection Pratt truss built by the Masillon Bridge to this the oldest metal truss bridge in the county. HAER Inventory X Review 3/1/18 a good nomination accept REVIEW Statten of marked a bout This property is significant as the Kmetal Muss Middle Jank example of a a significant 3,5,79 Maxillon B **BRANCH CHIEF** Company **KEEPER** MAR 7 1979 National Register Write-up Send-back \_\_\_\_\_ Entered 4-3-19 Federal Register Entry Re-submit \_ United States Department of the Interior - Heritage Onservation and Recreation Service

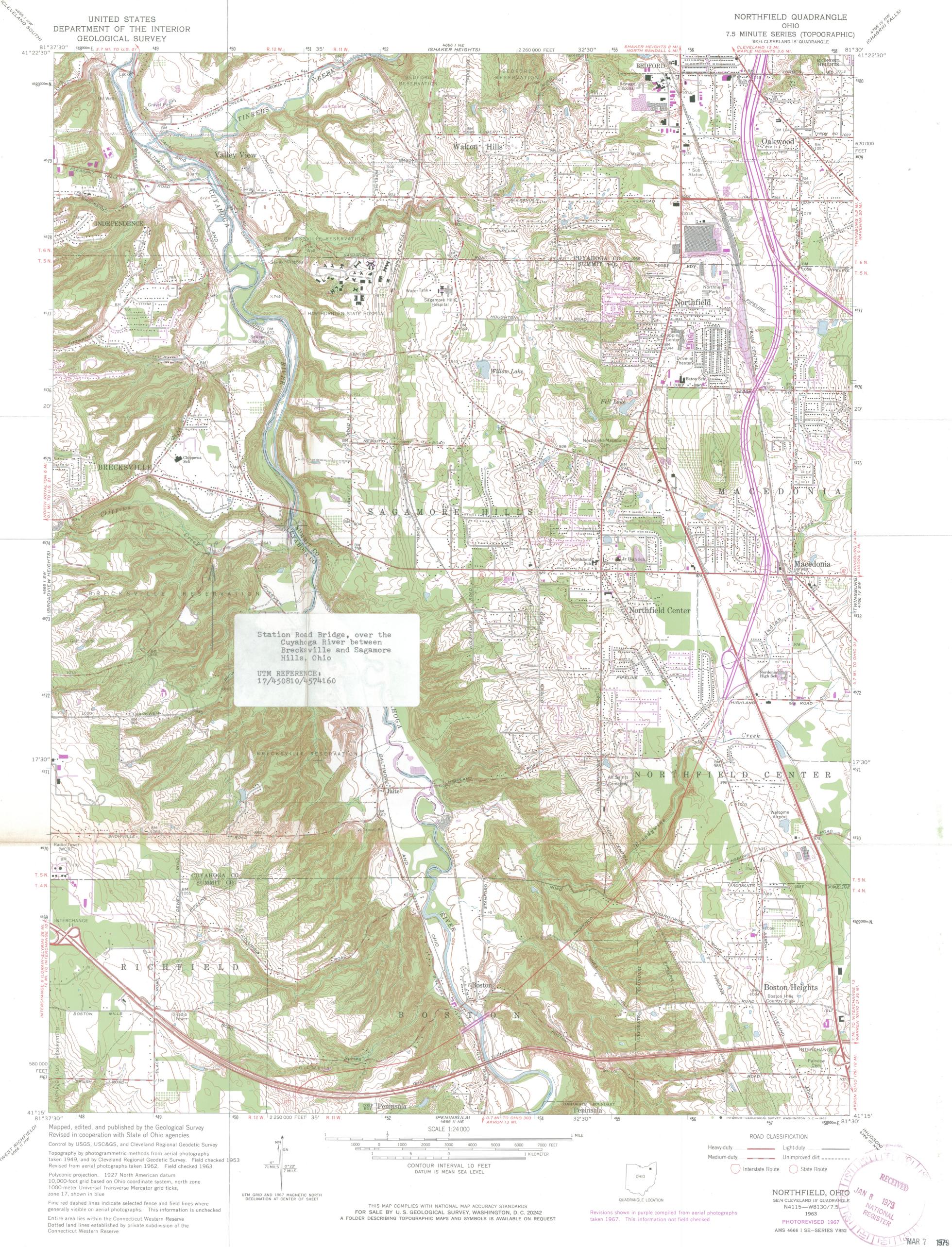


Station Road Bridge, over the Cuyahoga River between Brecksville and Sagamore Hills, Ohio MAR 7 1979 Photo by Carol Poh Miller, February 1978 CuyAhogas SumMist Counties Negative property of Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society JAN 8 1979 View looking northeast Station Road Bridge photo #1 of 2



Station Road Bridge, over the Cuyahoga River between Brecksville and Sagamore Hills, Ohio MAR 7 1979 Photo by Carol Poh Miller, February 1978 Cuyahogat Summ<sup>2</sup> Negative property of Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society Detail of top chord JAN 8 1979 Station Road Bridge photo #2 of 2

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#### ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE OHIO

Date Entered MAR 7 1979

Name

Location

East Second Street District

Dayton Montgomery County

Burrell-King House

Station Road Bridge

Oberlin Lorain County

Brecksville vicinity Cuyahoga and Summit Counties

#### Also Notified

Honorable Howard M. Metzenbaum Honorable John H. Glenn, Jr. Honorable Tony P. Hall Honorable Donald J. Pease Honorable Charles A. Vanik Honorable Ronald M. Mottl

NR

State Historic Preservation Officer Dr. Thomas H. Smith Director The Ohio Historical Society Interstate 71 at 17th Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43211

### Byers/bjr 3/8/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

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<b>5 LOCATION</b> street & number E of Brecksville at Cuyahoga River	city / town	vicinity of Brecksville		ga (also in	Lake Central
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WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:		dates of initial construction: major alterations : historic events :			ASSOCIATION
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<ul> <li>andscape architect/garden designer:</li> <li>NAMES give role &amp; date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:</li> <li>NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP</li> </ul>	Minerior decorator:				

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