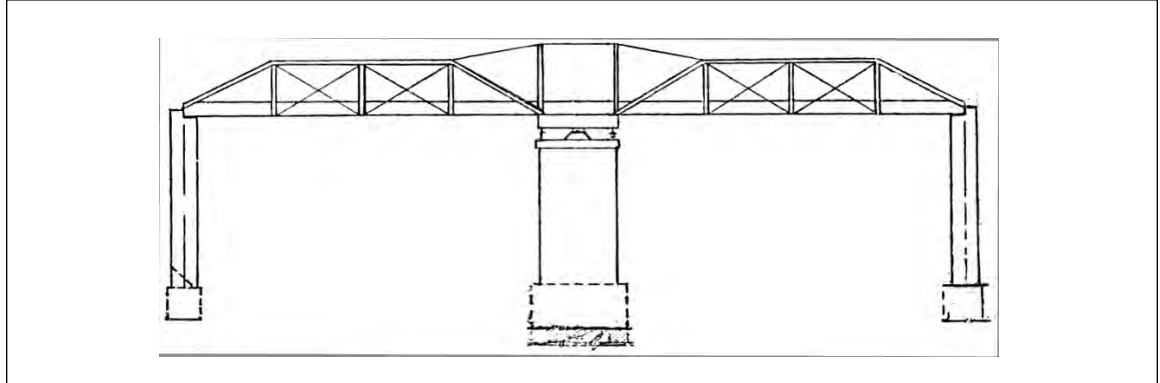


(#92) 23-NonHighway-1: Lenox Bridge spanning Canal in Lakewood Subdivision northwest of Dyersburg in Dyer County (Dyersburg Quad, 420 SW).



Significant under Criterion C as rare movable truss bridge for vehicular traffic and as example of work by the Vincennes Bridge Company.

In April 1916 the Dyer County Court appointed a committee to investigate building a bridge southwest of Dyersburg across the Obion River at the site of the McClure Ferry. This committee included W. N. Pollard, A. A. Kirk, J. W. Little, J. E. Redd, and C. W. King. The committee subsequently awarded a contract for a new bridge costing \$28,350 to the Vincennes Bridge Company in January 1917. The company finished by December of that year (Dyer County Court Minutes Volume O:78; Volume R:20, 191, 249-250, 610; *Dyersburg State Gazette*, 4 July, 29 August 1916; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1986).

For many years the bridge was a vital component of the local transportation system, but it had become substantially deteriorated by the 1970s. At the state's recommendation, the county

barricaded the bridge in 1973, but residents moved the barriers and continued to use the bridge. The bridge continued to deteriorate and partially collapsed in 1977 when a tractor-trailer loaded with farm tractors became lost, missed the I-55 bridge, and attempted to cross this bridge. After that, the county and state barricaded the bridge and rerouted traffic to I-55. In the early 1970s, the U.S. Corps of Engineers proposed to remove the bridge as part of a dredging project. However, the Corps did not implement the project until 1985, at which time the Corps placed the main span of the bridge on the bank until it could be relocated. In 1987 the Corps relocated this span to its current site northwest of Dyersburg for pedestrian use in a subdivision. Dedication ceremonies were held 27 June 1988.

Originally fourteen feet wide and 957 feet long, the Lenox Bridge contained four pin-connected 66-foot Pratt pony trusses, one pin-connected 165-foot Pratt pony swing span, and 27 steel I-beam spans. The hand-operated swing span is the only span that the Corps relocated to the new site. Composition of the members is relatively typical. Top chords and end posts are channels with lacing top and bottom, and bottom chords are channels with lacing. Verticals are small channels with lacing. Diagonals are paired rectilinear eyebars, and counters are paired cylindrical tie rods. Paired rectilinear eyebars form the polygonal top chord on the center section.