

## **General Bridge Information:**

*TXDOT District: San Antonio*  
*County: Bexar*  
*Structure ID: 150150B28000001*  
*Facility Carried: S Presa St*  
*Feature Crossed: San Antonio River*  
*Bridge Owner: City or Municipal Highway Agency*

## **Statement of Eligibility:**

This evaluation does not reflect potential significance under Criterion A. Criterion A evaluations must be conducted at the local level of significance in the area of Transportation, per the registration requirements established in the "Historic Road Infrastructure of Texas" MPS. This evaluation would typically be conducted in conjunction with project planning for future projects prior to Section 106 consultation.

Bridge 150150B28000001 carries South Presa Street over the San Antonio River in San Antonio, Bexar County. It is a simple span, pin-connected, lenticular pony truss with polygonal top and bottom chords, a main span length of 100 feet, and an overall structure length of 100 feet. TxDOT bridge inspection records incorrectly list the bridge's construction date as 1900. However, the bridge was built in 1890 by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company. The bridge is significant as one of three known examples in the state of the lenticular truss type. As a design by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company, this truss is more accurately described as a Pauli variant of a lenticular truss, with the shape of the top chords designed for a constant maximum force along the full length of the truss. It is among a small group of Texas lenticular trusses that are the only lenticular trusses west of the Mississippi River. It is additionally significant for its use of pin connections before 1900 and riveted connections before 1917, and its use of both cast and wrought iron. It is significant for its ornamental iron railing posts, and lattice railing with four-leaf flower detail.

The bridge remains in its original location and therefore retains integrity of location. The only alterations involve the abutments and pathway with added path lighting under the bridge as part of the San Antonio Riverwalk, and occasional replacement of some rivets with bolts, with no impact to the character-defining features. These alterations do not affect the truss span's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling, and association.

Based on the registration requirements established in the "Historic Road Infrastructure of Texas" MPS, Bridge 150150B28000001 possesses significance as a survivor of a rare truss type and for high artistic value expressed in the ornamentation of the prominent truss end posts and the railing. The bridge retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance, and is recommended eligible for National Register of Historic Places listing under Criterion C.

In addition, per a policy decision by the Texas SHPO, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission in 2014, all metal trusses constructed before 1946 are significant at the local level as embodying distinctive characteristics of a type. Determination as to whether this particular metal truss bridge possesses sufficient integrity to warrant eligibility for listing in the NRHP requires consultation with the Texas SHPO.

# Statewide Vehicular Truss Bridge Reevaluation

## GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION

<b>District:</b>	San Antonio	<b>Structure ID:</b>	150150B28000001
<b>County:</b>	Bexar	<b>Location:</b>	0.1 MI S OF E COMMERCE
<b>Feature Crossed:</b>	SAN ANTONIO RIVER	<b>Facility Carried:</b>	S PRESA ST
<b>Bridge Owner:</b>	City or Municipal Highway Agency		
<b>Latitude:</b>	29.42275357	<b>Longitude:</b>	-98.48965075



Photo 1: North elevation, facing south, showing the lenticular design of the top and bottom chords that comprise the significant truss type; this is one of the few known examples in the state



Photo 2: East elevation, facing southwest

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Photo 3: Detail of pin connection joining top chord, bottom chord, and lenticular end post



Photo 4: Detail of ornamental railing

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Photo 5: View of underside of truss, facing east, showing built-up floor beams, stringers, and bottom chord with pin connections



Photo 6: Detail of builder's plate