

## **General Bridge Information:**

*TXDOT District: Bryan*  
*County: Milam*  
*Structure ID: 171660AA0355001*  
*Facility Carried: CR 428*  
*Feature Crossed: San Gabriel River*  
*Bridge Owner: County 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 171660AA0355001 carries County Road 428 over the San Gabriel River in Milam County. TxDOT bridge inspection records list the bridge's construction date as 1911. However, according to the Texas Department of Transportation Historic Bridge File, it was constructed in 1913 by C. Q. Horton, agent for the Chicago Bridge & Iron Company. It is a one-span, pin-connected Pratt through truss with a main span length of 138 feet and an overall structure length of 272 feet. A notable fabrication detail is the use of U-bolts at the floor beam and bottom chord connections. As of late 2012 the road and bridge were closed to vehicular traffic. The bridge is significant as one of 18 remaining examples of Pratt through truss bridges originally designed as vehicular bridges in Texas.

It does not meet any other thresholds for engineering significance. For example it does not meet the threshold for early use of pin connections because it was constructed after 1900. In addition, it does not meet the thresholds for work of a master or possess high artistic value.

The bridge retains integrity of location as it remains in its historic location. The only apparent alterations to the bridge are the new welded I-beam substructure elements, the replacement metal grate deck, and the replacement railing. While the replacement deck and substructure do not impact character-defining features of the bridge, the replacement railing constitutes a minor loss of design integrity. Otherwise, the bridge retains integrity of materials, workmanship, setting, feeling, and association.

Based on the registration requirements established in the "Historic Road Infrastructure of Texas" MPS, Bridge 171660AA0355001 possesses significance as a rare surviving example of a once-common type, the Pratt through truss, in the state. The bridge retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance for National Register of Historic Places listing and is recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of Engineering.

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

**District:** Bryan  
**County:** Milam  
**Feature Crossed:** SAN GABRIEL RIVER  
**Bridge Owner:** County Highway Agency  
**Latitude:** 30.69165267

**Structure ID:** 171660AA0355001  
**Location:** 0.2 MI N OF FM 908  
**Facility Carried:** CR 428  
**Longitude:** -97.13806031

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**Photo 1: Elevation of one-span, pin-connected Pratt through truss, a rare survivor of a once-common truss type; view facing southeast**



**Photo 2: Overview of truss and approach roadway; view facing north**

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**Photo 3: Detail of primary connection at top chord and end post**



**Photo 4: Detail of primary connection at the bottom chord, including the U-bolt connection at the floor beam**

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Photo 5: Overview of truss panels, including replacement railing



Photo 6: Underside of truss; view facing south