

## what **Historical Services Unit** does

- Research and Write Historic Reports
- Determine National Register Eligibility
- Determine Historic Boundaries
- Determine Effects to Historic Properties
- Mitigate Adverse Effects to Historic Properties
- Complete Historic Documentations for Specific Historic Properties
- Historic Turnpike Research and Analysis
- Coordinate with Federal, State, and Local Resource Agencies
- Conduct Public Workshops for Specific Bridge and Highway Projects

## contact us

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independence street  
**bridge**  
*morgan county*



# Independence Street Bridge History

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Independence Street Bridge was built in 1927 by Victor Funderburg of Martinsburg, WV. It is located within the Town of Bath which was established 1776 per act of Virginia General Assembly. The local post office, est. 1802, was named "Berkeley Springs PO" and resulted in the town being more popularly called Berkeley Springs. The town became well-known as a health resort due to its purportedly curative mineral spring waters. The railroad came into Berkeley Springs in the late 1880s and was a boon for tourism and local industry into the early 20th-century.

Independence Street Bridge is a two-lane span with overall measurements of 27 feet, 3 inches long by 29 feet wide. It has a single-span reinforced concrete slab superstructure that is supported on full-height reinforced concrete abutments. The deck width includes a sidewalk on the downstream (north) side and concrete parapet wall railings (with decorative rectangular motif) on each side.

Victor Funderburg was a local contractor, appearing to have mainly worked in Berkeley and Morgan counties. Along with Independence St Bridge, he built the Mercer Street Bridge in Berkeley Springs, also in 1927. Other projects include the North Martinsburg Interchange (1959) and Railroad Underpass (1962), Cumbo Yard Access Bridge (1960) and Railroad Bridge (1960), and Bessemer Overhead (1958), all in Berkeley County.

Independence Street Bridge has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places since 2009 as a contributing resource of the Town of Bath Historic District. This span is historically important at a local level for its association with infrastructure development and with bridge architecture during the town's period of significance (1776-1959).



**Location:** County Route 2 (Independence St), spanning Warm Spring Run

**Type:** Reinforced Concrete Slab Span

**Length:** 57 feet, 3 inches

**Year constructed:** 1927

**Contractor:** Victor Funderburg of Martinsburg, WV