

MILAM ARCH BRIDGE HISTORY

Milam Arch Bridge was built in 1925 by the Concrete Steel Bridge Company of Clarksburg, WV. It is located at the south end of Ravenciff, a community that largely developed in the early decades of the 20th century due to nearby lumber, coal and gas industries.

This bridge is a single-span reinforced concrete closed spandrel deck arch structure with two full-height reinforced concrete abutments. The overall measurements of the bridge are 54 feet long by 20 feet, 6 inches wide, and its roadway width (between railings) is 18 feet, 10 inches. The structure has an earth fill deck and an asphalt wearing surface. The concrete parapet railings have an impressed rectangular motif. The arch proper is called a ring and the area between the ring and the deck is called the spandrel. The walls along the sides of the span retain the earth fill within the spandrel. Traffic loads over the arch are distributed through the fill. Of the early 20th century concrete arch bridge types, the closed spandrel was an economical choice for relatively short spans.

The Concrete Steel Bridge Company (1914-1931) was based in Clarksburg and eventually had branches in Knoxville, TN, Pittsburgh, PA and Harrisburg, PA. The firm designed and/or built structures in 11 states and was a significant builder of reinforced concrete structures in WV. By 2013 there were just over 40 concrete arch bridges known to still exist in WV that were attributed to this company.

Milam Arch Bridge has been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for its engineering significance as a notable example of a closed spandrel elliptical concrete arch bridge at county and state levels, and for its association with a bridge designer and builder distinguishable at a state and regional level.



Location: County Route 5, east of County Route 1, spanning Laurel Fork

Type: Reinforced Concrete Closed Spandrel Elliptical Arch Span

Year constructed: 1925

Length: 54 feet

Contractor: Concrete Steel Bridge Company of Clarksburg, WV

whatHistoricalServicesUnitdoes

- Research and Write History 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



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**milam arch
bridge**
wyoming county