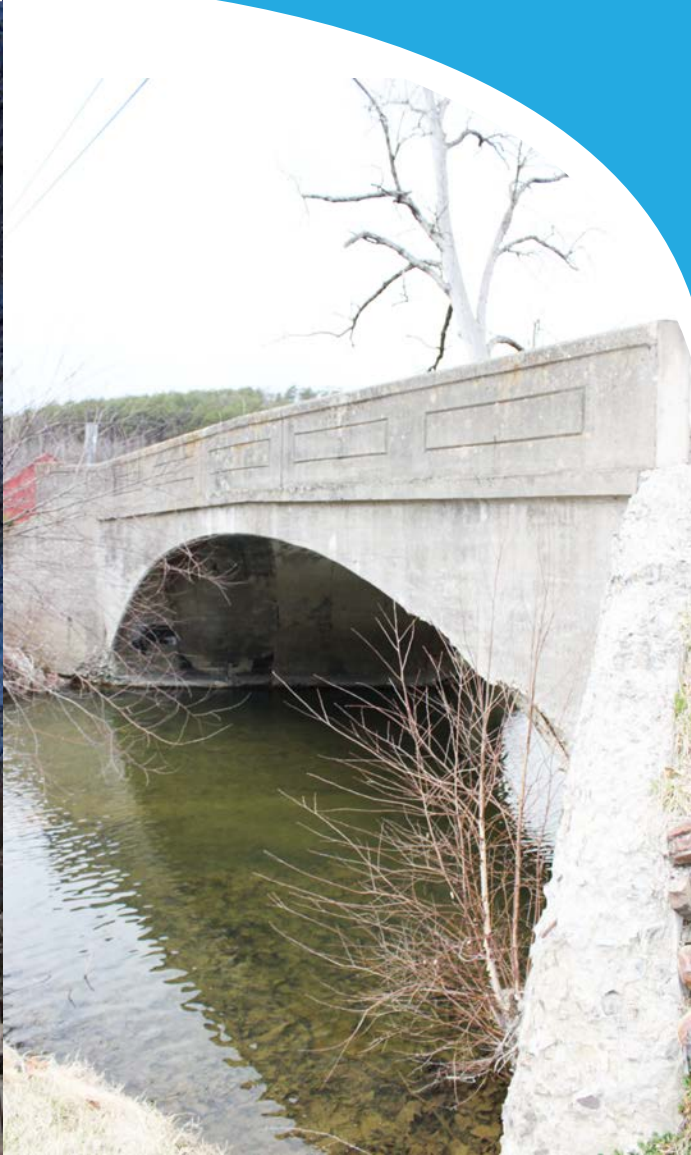


what **Historical Services Unit** does

- 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

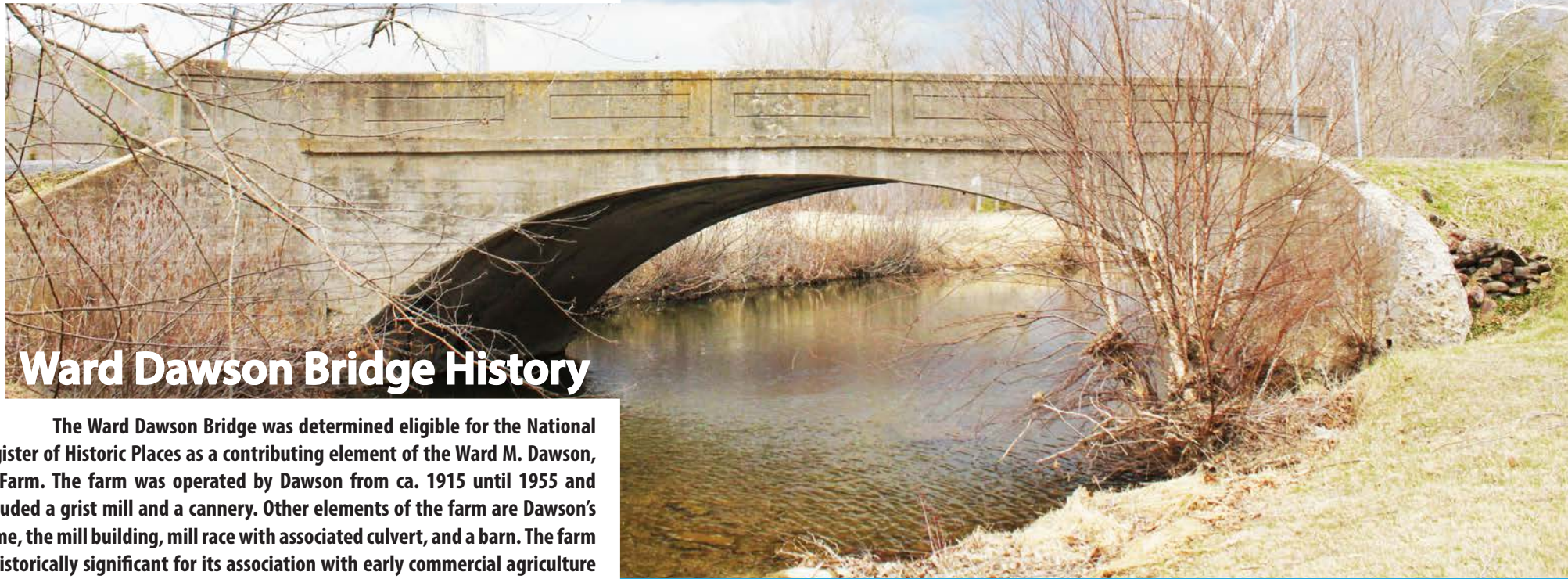
contact us

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ward dawson
bridge
morgan county

The Ward Dawson Bridge was built in 1920 by contractor H. F. Ringeling. The structure was a single-span concrete arch deck bridge that included parapet railings (with incised rectangular decoration) and abutments with wing walls. The overall measurements of the bridge were 43'-9" long by 18'-3" wide. The width between railings was 16'-8". This span was one of numerous concrete arch bridges consistently built in West Virginia between 1918 and 1940. The contractor for this bridge was H. F. Ringeling. Ringeling was an engineer, serving as an inspector with Maryland State Road Commission prior to military duty in WWI. After the war, he lived in Baltimore until at least 1920, after which he moved southward working on engineering projects in Alabama, Georgia and Florida.



Ward Dawson Bridge History

The Ward Dawson Bridge was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing element of the Ward M. Dawson, Sr. Farm. The farm was operated by Dawson from ca. 1915 until 1955 and included a grist mill and a cannery. Other elements of the farm are Dawson's home, the mill building, mill race with associated culvert, and a barn. The farm is historically significant for its association with early commercial agriculture in Morgan County and for Ward Dawson, Sr.'s noteworthy involvement in local business and politics. Dawson also had a successful hardware store in Berkeley Springs and served several terms as a county commissioner and as a county representative in the WV House of Delegates. He was a member of several local educational, social and professional organizations as well. Ward Dawson's cousin, B.E. Dawson, was a county commissioner from 1916 to 1920 and his name was listed on one of the Dawson Bridge's plaques. The Ward Dawson Bridge was demolished in 2015.

Location: County Route 28, 1.2 miles east of US 522, spanning Sleepy Creek

Type: Single-Span Concrete Arch

Length: 43 feet 9 inches

Year constructed: 1920

Contractor: H.F. Ringeling