



HONEYDEW BRIDGE

Humboldt County, California

Humboldt County is pleased to announce the availability of the Historic Honeydew Bridge. We invite qualified public agencies and nonprofits who are interested in relocating or preserving the bridge to submit a proposal.

[NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY](#)

[FACT SHEET](#)

TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

The proposal checklist can be found here:

[PROPOSAL CHECKLIST](#)

Please email your proposal and any questions to **Tony Seghetti** at tseghetti@co.humboldt.ca.us by February 1, 2024.

OWNER

Humboldt County

TYPE

Camelback through truss

LENGTH

386 feet

YEAR BUILT

1920

BUILDER

Mercer-Fraser Company

PROPOSAL DUE

February 1, 2024

HISTORY

The Honeydew Bridge is a single-lane, two-span, 386-foot-long structure in Humboldt County where Mattole Road crosses over Mattole River approximately 13 miles west of Highway 101 in the town of Honeydew. Built in 1920, the existing bridge is a timber decked, single-lane, two-span, 386-foot-long structure consisting of two 190-foot-long riveted steel curved chord (Camelback) Pratt truss spans. The bridge's period of significance is 1920 (the year of construction) and, although contemporary repairs to the structure are evident like welded members in the portal cross frame, the structure retains sufficient historic integrity to convey its historic significance. The bridge has two, steel Camelback through truss spans and a single, wood-deck lane. Each span is 187 feet in length (center to center of supports). The structure's character-defining features are the two camelback trusses and substructure, along with the concrete seat abutments, single concrete pier, and timber deck and railings. The extant pressure treated timber deck and railings replaced an earlier deck and railings, some of which occurred in the 1990s (as noted in Caltrans bridge inspection reports). Records indicate that new decking and railings can be considered as in-kind replacements and as such they contribute to the bridge's character.

SUMMARY OF ELIGIBILITY

In 2003, Caltrans determined that the Honeydew Bridge was eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, which specifies structures that “embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.” Caltrans identified the bridge as an “excellent example” of a rare and significant bridge type from the early 20th century. The Camelback truss design was an innovation that allowed for longer spans with less material to reduce overall construction costs. The 2003 report stated that three bridges of this type currently exist, and the Honeydew Bridge has a substantially longer span than the other two remaining examples. The bridge had previously been evaluated in 1986 and had been rated as not eligible for National Register listing.

Members of the Honeydew community have expressed appreciation for the aesthetic and historic character of the bridge. The geometric patterns of the truss structure and the bridge's rustic nature contribute to its representation of an earlier era. While the basis for the bridge's eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places is tied specifically to the engineering design aspects of the bridge within a state context, the community's attachment to the bridge is primarily based on aesthetics and general historical character.



RESOURCES

- Honeydew Bridge Historic Resources Evaluation Report
- Honeydew Bridge SHPO Concurrence & Finding of Adverse Effect
- Honeydew Bridge Hazardous Waste Initial Site Assessment/Preliminary Site Investigation
- Honeydew Bridge Preliminary Site Assessment



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**
MAILING ADDRESS: 1106 SECOND STREET, EUREKA, CA 95501-0579
AREA CODE 707

On-line
Web: humboldt.gov.org

Public Works Building Second & L St., Eureka Fax 445-7409		Clark Complex Harris & H St., Eureka Fax 445-7388	
Administration	445-7491	Natural Resources	445-7741
Business	445-7652	Natural Resource Planning	267-9542
Engineering	445-7377	Parks	445-7651
Facility Management	445-7621	Roads	445-7421

Clark Complex
Harris & H St., Eureka
Fax 445-7388
Land Use 445-7205

August 1, 2023

Tony Seghetti, PE
Deputy Director
Humboldt County Department of Public Works
1106 2nd Street
Eureka, CA 95501

This letter is to give your agency notice that The Federal Highway Administration, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Humboldt County Public Works announce the availability of the historic Honeydew Bridge.

The bridge is located approximately 13 miles west of Highway 101 in the town of Honeydew where Mattole Road crosses over Mattole River, between the Intersections of Mattole Road with Burrell Road and Mattole Road with Wilder Ridge Road. The project is depicted within the Honeydew and Shubrick Peak, California 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangles (Township 2 South, Range 1 West, Section 36 and Township 3 South, Range 1 West, Section 1, respectively).

The Honeydew Bridge is a single-lane, two-span structure that is an excellent example of its type and construction method which are both rare and significant - two riveted steel, curved (Camelback) truss spans. Constructed In 1920, the bridge measures 386 feet long and has a 14.8-foot clear width.

This bridge is available to qualified public agencies and nonprofits for relocation and preservation in compliance with the U.S. Secretary of Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties. Technical difficulties, substantial costs, and removal by a specific date associated with relocating and reconstructing the bridge should be anticipated. Humboldt County Public Works will be accepting proposals until February 1, 2024. For more information, please contact Tony Seghetti at (707) 445-7377 or tseghetti@co.humboldt.ca.us. Marketing this historic bridge to a responsible party is required under Title 23, U.S. Code Section 144.

The proposals shall include:

- An outline of transportation and reassembly of the bridge, including a description of the property to which the recipient will relocate and reassemble the bridge.
- The intended use of the bridge at the relocation and reassembly site.
- A proposed timetable for the work, the duration of which shall not exceed two years from removal of the original structure to completion of the relocation and reassembly.
- The applicant must be able to provide a bond and prove that it has the wherewithal to accomplish transportation and reconstruction at a new location.

- Agree to reassemble, rehabilitate, and maintain the whole or partial structure in accordance with recommended approaches in The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitation Historic Buildings (US. Department of Interior, National Park Service, 1983).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Seghetti". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Tony Seghetti, PE
Humboldt County Public Works

Attachments



Honeydew Bridge

Humboldt County, California

The existing Honeydew Bridge was built in 1920 and consists of a single-lane, two-span steel truss bridge measuring 386 feet long by 17 feet wide, with a minimum overhead clearance of 14 feet. The decking and rails are composed of timber. The bridge's period of significance is 1920 (the year of construction) and, although contemporary repairs to the structure are evident like welded members in the portal cross frame, the structure retains sufficient historic integrity to convey its historic significance.

The bridge has two, steel Camelback through truss spans and a single, wood-deck lane. Each span is 187 feet in length (center to center of supports). The structure's character-defining features are the two camelback trusses and substructure, along with the concrete seat abutments, single concrete pier, and timber deck and railings. Records indicate that new decking and railings can be considered as in-kind replacements and as such they contribute to the bridge's character.

Owner
Humboldt County

Type
Camelback through truss

Length
386 feet

Year built
1920

Builder
Mercer-Fraser Company

To submit a proposal
Please email your proposal and any questions to Tony Seghetti at tseggetti@co.humboldt.ca.us

Proposal due
February 1, 2024

Humboldt County Honeydew Bridge over Mattole River Relocation and Reuse Proposals

The Federal Highway Administration, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Humboldt County Public Works announce the availability of the historic Honeydew Bridge. The Honeydew Bridge is a single-lane, two-span, 386-foot-long structure in Humboldt County. Constructed in 1920, the bridge is an excellent example of its type and construction method which are both rare and significant - two riveted steel, Camelback truss spans. This bridge is available to qualified public agencies and nonprofits for relocation and preservation in compliance with the U.S. Secretary of Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.

The bridge is located approximately 13 miles west of Highway 101 in the town of Honeydew where Mattole Road crosses over Mattole River, between the Intersections of Mattole Road with Burrel Road and Mattole Road with Wilder Ridge Road. The project is depicted within the Honeydew and Shubrick Peak, California 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangles (Township 2 South, Range 1 West, Section 36 and Township 3 South, Range 1 West, Section 1, respectively. Technical difficulties, substantial costs, and removal by a specific date associated with relocating and reconstructing the bridge should be anticipated. Humboldt County Public Works will be accepting proposals until February 1, 2024. For more information, please contact Tony Seghetti at (707) 445-7377 or tseghetti@co.humboldt.ca.us. Marketing this historic bridge to a responsible party is required under Title 23, U.S. Code Section 144.

The proposals shall include:

- An outline of transportation and reassembly of the bridge, including a description of the property to which the recipient will relocate and reassemble the bridge.
- The intended use of the bridge at the relocation and reassembly site
- A proposed timetable for the work, the duration of which shall not exceed two years from removal of the original structure to completion of the relocation and re-assembly.
- The applicant must be able to provide a bond and prove that it has the wherewithal to accomplish transportation and reconstruction at a new location.

Agree to reassemble, rehabilitate, and maintain the whole or partial structure in accordance with recommended approaches in The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitation Historic Buildings (U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, 1983).