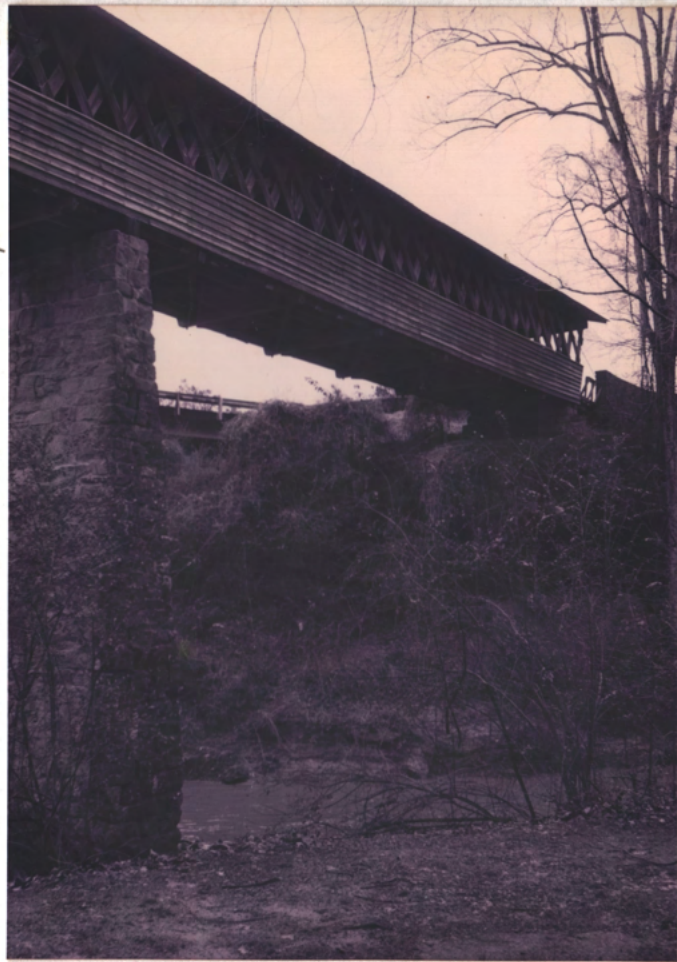


1044



N
N



1974 pier
in streambed

photos 28 Feb. 1997
Harvie P. Jones FPH - Huntsville AL
Clarkson Cov. Bridge - Cullman Co., AL., H.W. N. Cullman
1904, rebuilt 1921, 2 outer piers added 1974

WEST SIDE

N ←

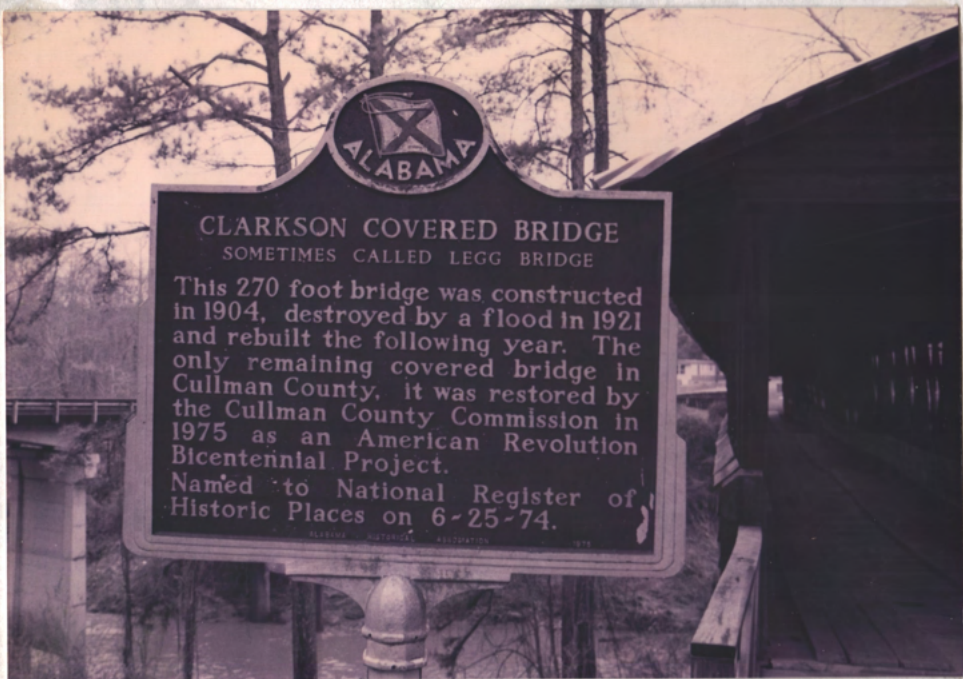


1974 pier

N ←

1904 pier

1974 pier



Roofing is
1997
alum.
5-rib



XH

XH



2

XH



XH

3 of 4



SIDEWALL TRUSS



ROOF

← bolted jts

SIDEWALL



1974
S. Pier



4



1904 Cent. Pier

N

2

1904 Cent. Pier



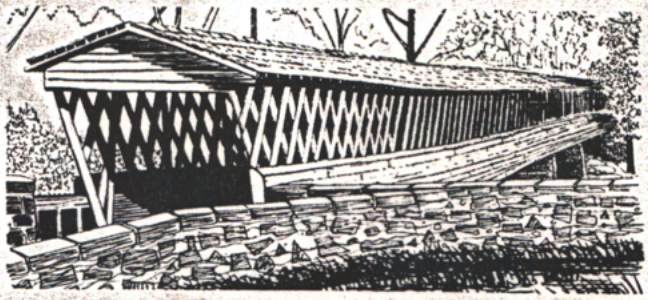
Built in 1861 from hand-hewn heart pine, this Town-truss span was originally over Surcarnoochee River near Livingston. It was moved to the Alamuchee River in 1924 and to Livingston University in 1969. The bridge can be seen today on the university campus.



Only the skeleton remains of this one-span, 119-foot bridge, the only example of steel construction in a covered bridge in Alabama. It is one of few remaining in America. Built in 1889, it crosses Duck Creek.

Duck Springs is located at Keener, just off I-59, about 10 miles from the interchange. A gravel road leads up to the bridge, which is recommended for driving.

Clarkson-Legg Covered Bridge—Cullman County

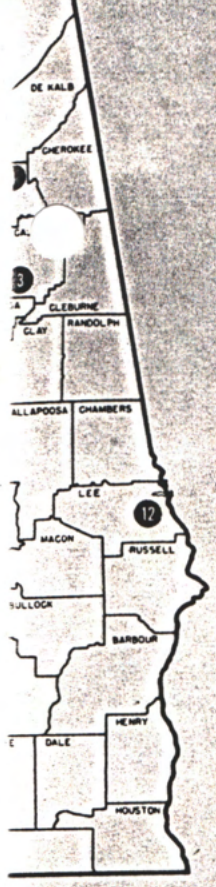


This bridge was built in 1904 to span a deep gorge on Crooked Creek. It is now the focal point of a recreational park and grist mill. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The bridge is located on Cullman County 11, north of U.S. 278 near Cullman.

Gilliland-Reese Covered Bridge—Etowah County



Located since 1967 at Nocalula Falls Park in Gadsden County, this one-span, Town-style bridge was the first completely restored covered bridge in Alabama.



Crooked Creek. To reach Clarkson Bridge from Addison, take U.S. 278 east to Bethel (about 15 miles), then proceed on county road 11 for about one-half mile and then turn left on another paved road.

Clarkson is a two-span, Town bridge of 250 feet. The bridge is about 50 years old and has been closed to traffic for several years. Some of its side boards are missing and part of its roof is gone, but it is still quite impressive. Clarkson spans a gorge parallel to a modern highway offering an excellent contrast of the past and present.

The bridge is county-owned and also under the jurisdiction of the State Highway Department which has promised full cooperation in maintaining and preserving the bridge. The Cullman County Board of Revenue wants to use the Clarkson Bridge and the surrounding acreage as a recreational "mini park."

ETOWAH COUNTY

Etowah County has two covered bridges: Gilliland Bridge at Nocalula Falls, Gadsden; and Duck Springs Bridge, north of Gadsden.

Gadsden and Etowah County have been leaders in the preservation and restoration of covered bridges in Alabama. The City of Gadsden moved and completely restored the Gilliland Bridge (Old Reece City Bridge) as part of the Pioneer Complex at Nocalula Falls. The Etowah County Historical Society has secured a ninety-nine year lease on the property surrounding the Duck Springs Bridge and has plans for preserving this unusual iron-braced covered bridge.

DUCK SPRINGS BRIDGE

Ten miles north of Gadsden between Kenner and Duck Springs is the Duck Springs Bridge, a one-span, 119-foot structure. Fourteen feet wide, the bridge has an unusual design, somewhat resembling the...

GILLILAND BRIDGE

Gilliland Bridge, the oldest covered bridge in Alabama, is located on U.S. 227, just off of I-59 and Nocalula Falls. The bridge crosses a small lake with a gorge on the other side.



The bridge was built by county commissioners and the city of Gadsden, on the site of the original construction of the bridge.

COVERED BRIDGE PARK

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

*Clarkson Cov. Br.
Cullman Co.*

except copy M 4 97

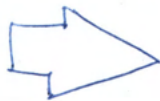
*(no other useful info. in
this booklet report.)*

prepared for
Cullman County Commission
Cullman, Alabama

by
Urban Consultants, Incorporated
908 South Hull
Montgomery, Alabama
November, 1974

WALDO BRIDGE

The Waldo Bridge is a one span Town truss bridge located four miles southwest of Talladega, off Alabama Highway 77. Like most of the covered bridges in Alabama, Waldo Covered Bridge was built of pine and had a wooden shingle roof. The bridge is supported by masonry piers and is one hundred fifteen feet long and ten feet wide.¹²



THE CLARKSON COVERED BRIDGE

The Clarkson Covered Bridge is located in Cullman County off Highway 278 west near Bethel. The two hundred and fifty foot two-span Town bridge stretches high across Crooked Creek. Clarkson Bridge, built in 1904, was once well traveled by West Cullman County people to visit neighbors or to journey to Cullman for weekly supplies. "Sitting on a buckboard wagon, riding a saddle horse or walking to a destination, the traveler was treated to the perfume of wild honey suckle blossoms when he approached the bridge."¹³

In 1904, the broad-spanning new bridge was the pride of Bethel and other area landowners who had had to make do with a small flat wooden bridge up until the time the new one was built. Often the old bridge was covered with water when rain made the creek rise.¹⁴

The Clarkson bridge was built upon land that originally was owned by J. W. Legg. Mr. Legg sold his land to the county and the bridge cost approximately \$1,500 to construct. The bridge is constructed

of rough pine with the exception of the roof which was wood shingles. The bridge is 12 feet wide. Bracings measure 2" x 12" while the cross-bracing and studs of the siding are 2" x 4". The flooring is 2" x 6" rough pine. In 1923 a storm blew half of the bridge downstream. Fortunately the part that fell into the creek got hung up farther down stream and the citizens of the Cullman area got together and fished it out, took it apart, and hauled the lumber back up to the bridge site. The county then hired a contractor from Cullman to put the bridge back together at a cost of \$1,500.00.

The bridge which now resembles a dilapidated roller-coaster must have been a major engineering feat for its day. On the north side of the creek the bridge lurches from a gentle slope that quickly becomes a gorge. It spans 200 feet of forest floor at a height of fifty feet. Finally it lands safely on a steep rock cliff above the creek on the south side. The bridge's only support is a massive stone pyramid by the north bank of the creek. Like the bridge, the support is made of materials found at the ~~sight~~.¹⁵

site