#### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

### 1. Name

historic MAYSVILLE-ABERDEEN BRIDGE

and/or common Maysville Bridge/Simon Kenton Memorial Bridge

# 2. Location

Spans RY street & number Ohio River between Maysville, and Aberdeen, 0H not for publication Aberdeen, Ohio city, town vicinity of Maysville, Kentucky Brown County, Ohio Ohio 039 015 code 021 Mason County, Kentucky state county code Kentucky 161

# 3. Classification

Category district building(s) X structure site object	Ownership _X public private both Public Acquisition NA_ in process	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government	museum park private residence religious scientific
	NA_ being considered	_X yes: unrestricted no	industrial military	<u>X</u> transportation other:

### 4. Owner of Property

name The Commonwealth of Kentucky, Department of Highways

street & number State Office Building

city, t	own	Frankfort	2-	_ vicinity of	State of the	state	Kentucky	
5.	Loca	tion o	f Legal De	escription				
court	house, regis	try of deeds, e	etc. Commonwealth	of Kentucky, Depa	artment	of High	ways	
street	& number	_	State Office	Building				
city, t	own		Frankfort			state	Kentucky	1.00
6.	Repr	esenta	ation in Ex	kisting Su	rveys	;		
title p	(Y Histor		S-M-196) es Inventory	has this property	been deter	mined el	igible?	yes <u>X</u> no
date	June 1	981			federal	_X_stat	te count	y local
depos	sitory for su	rvey records	Kentucky Herita	age Council				
city, t	own	2	Frankfort			state	Kentucky	40601

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

For NPS use only received JUN 3 1983 date entered

### 7. Description

Condition _X_excellent good fair	deteriorated	Check one _X_ unaltered altered	Check one X_ original site moved date	
fair	unexposed			

#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Simon Kenton Memorial Bridge, spanning the Ohio River between Maysville, Kentucky, and Aberdeen, Ohio, is located 55 miles down river from Portsmouth, Ohio, and 60 miles up river from Newport, Kentucky. It is the only bridge spanning the Ohio River between Portsmouth and Silver Grove, Kentucky, a distance of 110 miles.

Constructed in 1930-1931, the Maysville Bridge is a single deck, steel suspension bridge with Warren deck trusses. The bridge consists of a main through span 1060' tower to tower, and two anchor spans of 465'. There are a total of 12 approach spans, five on the Kentucky shore and six on the Ohio. Including the approaches, the total length of the bridge is 2,865', making it the longest suspension bridge in Kentucky and one of the longest on the entire Ohio River waterway.

Two diagonally braced, riveted steel towers, constructed on reinforced concrete and ashlar limestone piers act in compression. The slightly arched deck is supported by tension hangers suspended from the main cables. A stiffening truss is located on the deck to evenly distribute moving loads along the length of the bridge. The 20' wide roadway is constructed of reinforced concrete.

As either end of the bridge stands a massive concrete anchorage. Designed in a style reminiscent of the Art Deco, these imposing anchorages are used to hold the cables in tension. Bronze commemorative plaques are located on both anchorages.

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance_C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications		ning landscape architectur law literature military music	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1930-1931	Buildon Architoot	Kentucky Highway Commis Modjeski and Masters, E	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Maysville-Aberdeen Bridge, built in 1930-1931 by the Kentucky Highway Commission, is significant as an important example of a twentieth century steel suspension bridge designed and engineered by the firm of Modjeski and Masters. During the period from 1925 to 1940, Ralph Modjeski and F. M. Masters ranked among the nation's foremost bridge consultant engineers. This Harrisburg, Pennsylvania based firm was active during a decade that witnessed construction of some of the nation's most famous bridges. Modjeski and Master's bold plan for a steel cable suspension bridge between Maysville and Aberdeen represented a major departure from earlier bridge design. Rather than construct a cantilever or Warren truss span, Modjeski and Masters utilized the cable suspension type that had been successfully engineered by John Roebling nearly a century earlier. The Maysville bridge, in contrast to many of its predecessors, utilized the riveted tower and concrete anchorage in its constructural design. The aesthetic handling of the anchorage abutments was inspired by Louis Kahn, an associate of Paul Cret and the younger brother of Albert Kahn. Because of its strength and aesthetic simplicity the Maysville-Aberdeen bridge became a prototype for some of Modjeski and Masters most important later works, including the Huey P. Long (1933-1936) and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay (1933-1937) Bridges. Even the Golden Gate Bridge (1933-1936) had associations with Modjeski and Masters, as Joseph B. Strauss, its chief engineer, was an early assistant to Ralph Modjeski.2

For fifty years the Maysville-Aberdeen Bridge has provided a strategic link between southern Ohio and northeastern Kentucky. Beginning with its founding in 1784, Maysville, Kentucky, has been a focal point for interstate commerce and transportation. Aberdeen, settled only slightly later, was the terminus of Zane's Trace, an early Ohio trade route that linked the Ohio River with the National Road at Zanesville.

In 1798 ferry service between Aberdeen and Maysville was begun by Nathan Ellis, and it wasn't until the Kentucky State Highway Department began building the bridge in 1930 that the ferry was closed. Construction of the span was made economically feasible by passage of the Murphy Toll Bridge Act of 1928, which was subsequently amended and approved by Congress in 1930. The bridge, completed in 1931 at a cost 1.57 million dollars, was financed through the sale of Bridge Revenue Bonds. The bonds were redeemed in 1945 through the collection of tolls. In 1949 the Commonwealth of Kentucky renamed the bridge the Simon Kenton Memorial Bridge, in honor of one of Mason County's earliest and most famous settlers. By 1982 the bridge had an average daily traffic count of 13,173 vehicles, still being the only bridge crossing the Ohio River between Cincinnati and Portsmouth.

<sup>1</sup>In 1928 Paul Cret had designed the Art Deco pylons for the Louisville Municipal Bridge, a cantilever span engineered by Modjeski and Masters.

<sup>2</sup>It is not known whether Strauss collaborated in engineering the Maysville Bridge.

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Collins, Lewis. Historical Sketches of Kentucky (Maysville, By the Author, 1847).

Program of Celebration Freeing of Maysville Toll Bridge. Project Number 2, KY Dept. of Highways, Maysville, Kentucky, October 1, 1945.

# **10. Geographical Data**

0/4/2 5/4/83

W. Ray Le

Acreage of nominated property <u>app. 1.5</u> acre Quadrangle name <u>Maysville West</u> UTM References	Quadrangle scale 1:24000
A 1,6 2 6 0 0 2 0 4 2 8 1 7 0 0 Zone Easting Northing	B 1 6 2 5 9 6 0 0 4 2 8 0 9 1 0 Zone Easting Northing
	$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \\ \downarrow \downarrow$
Aberdeen Bridge, which is between Sec to the Ohio-Kentucky state line. The	Beginning at the south terminus of the Maysville cond and Third Streets, proceed N-NE approx. 2,000' en proceed in the same direction approx. 900' to the ncludes the approach spans, anchorage abutments, piers
이야 한 것 같은 것을 다 가지 않는 것을 하는 것 같아요.	erlapping state or county boundaries and the three primary 39 county BROWN code 015 spans
	21 county MASON code 161
organization City Maysville street & number Third & Bridge Streets	date February 1985 telephone 606/564-9411
city or town Maysville	state Kentucky 41056
	servation Officer Certification
	Iocal In for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated
title State Historic Promoto	a Allici date 3-22-83
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in Actors Bytes Reeper of the National Register	n the National Register Entered in the National Register date 6/30/83
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	For NPS use only
National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form MAYSVILLE-ABERDEEN BRIDGE	received date entered
Continuation sheet Brown Co., Ohio; Mason Co., KY Item number 9	Page 2

The History of Brown County, Ohio. Chicago: W. H. Beers & Co., 1883.

Wilkey, Henry and Elsie. <u>Biographical Dictionary of American Architects</u>. Los Angeles: Hennessey and Ingalls, 1970.

Information provided by Marty Hedgepeth, Louisville Landmarks Commission, containing communication from John Harbeson; Harbeson, Hough, Livingston, and Larson, Architects, Philadelphia. October 1976.

### ATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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### EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

ited States	Department	-	Interior
tional Park S	ervice		

\_\_\_\_ dates

boundary selection

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Maysville-Aberdeen Bridge	
Mason County (Also in Brown County, OHIO)	(0) ×+
KENTUCKY	
A	Working No. JUN 3 1983
A second s	Fed. Reg. Date: 2-1-84
	Date Due: 6/30/83 - 7/18/8
	Action:ACCEPT_6/30/8
resubmission	BETURN
nomination by person or local governmen	t Entered in the REJECT
owner objection	National Rectionagency:
appeal	
ubstantive Review: sample reques	t appeal NR decision
eviewer's comments:	
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	Basan (Calibratia
	Recom. / Criteria
· · · · ·	Reviewer
	Discipline Date
	see continuation sheet
1. Name	
2. Location	
2 Classification	
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Antiquery Senserable Manue Menue Une Preside Angeletion Accounties 4. Owner of Property	
A. Owner of Property 5. Location of Legal Description	
And Annual View Present View Pr	
An Owner of Property 5. Location of Legal Description 6. Representation in Existing Surveys her the property Seen desmand display?	
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Peakle Acquisition Accessible   4. Owner of Property   5. Location of Legal Description   6. Representation in Existing Surveys   bis this property been determined alighter?   7. Description   Ownedther   Standard and Check an	

#### 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance. Check and justify b
Specific	dates Builder Architect
Statemer	nt of Significance (in one paragraph)
200	1.E M.L. 3.1
	summary paragraph
	completeness
	clarity
	applicable criteria
	justification of areas checked
-	relating significance to the resource
	context
	to significance
	justification of exception
	other

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### 10. Geographical Data

Aanaaga of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_ Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_ UBIT References

Verbai boundary description and justification

### 11. Form Prepared By

### 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ netional \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_ local

dete

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

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13. Other

\_\_\_\_ Maps

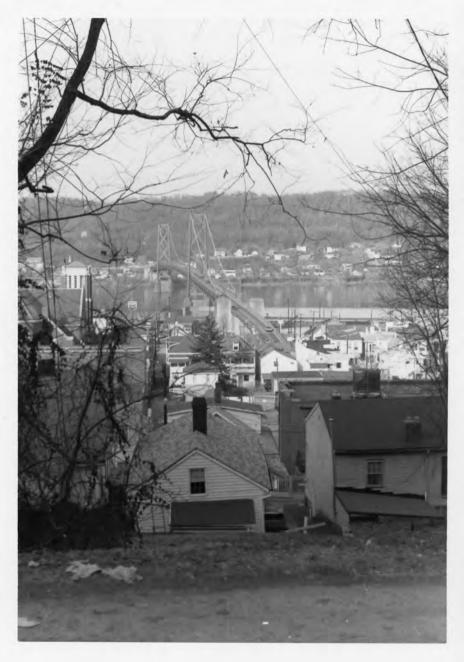
\_\_\_\_ Photographs

\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_

Signed	Date	Phone:	202	272 - 3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet









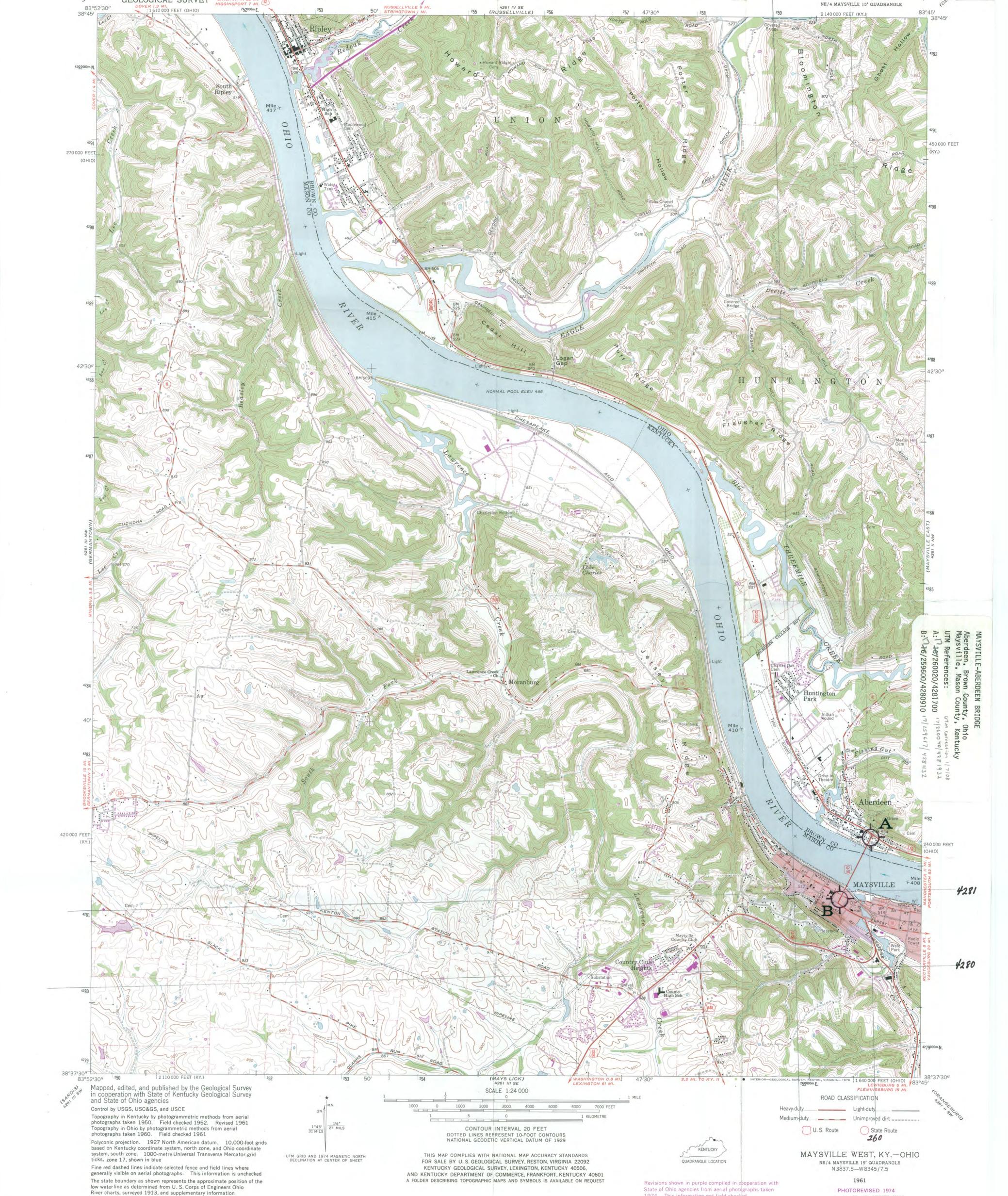














# CITY OF MAYSVILLE

THIRD & BRIDGE STREET

MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY 41056 (606) 564-9411

WM. M. BOGGS Mayor DENNIS D. REDMOND City Manager

February 22, 1983

Robert M. Polsgrove Historic Sites Program Manager Kentucky Heritage Council Capital Plaza Tower Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Subject: Kentucky National Register Nomination for the Simon Kenton Memorial Bridge.

To: The Review Board:

The City of Maysville, in recognition of the historical role the Simon Kenton Memorial Bridge has played in the development of this city, recommends the designation of said bridge as a state and national landmark.

We believe the bridge to have historical and architectural significance both within the community and regionally. Opening of the bridge marked the beginning of the new transportation age in Maysville the unique style of the bridge---an inspiration for San Fransico's Golden Gate Bridge---is a product of the most prolific bridge building eras in our history.

This suspension bridge, designed by well known civil engineers Modjeski and Associates, remains important in the memory of Maysville's Citizens for the opportunities it has helped realize. We feel that historic designation would help protect this important landmark while according proper recognition for its architectural and historical value.

Sincerely,

William M. B

William M. Boggs, Mayor City of Maysville

WMB:dwh



KY. HERITAGE

NECEI 27 1983

### WAIVER

(by Property Owner)

KY. HERITAGE

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Mrs. Mary Cronan Oppel, Director Kentucky Heritage Council and State Historic Preservation Officer Education and Humanities Cabinet Ninth Floor, Capital Plaza Tower Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Mrs. Oppel:

This will confirm that I am fully aware of the effects of listing a property in the National Register of Historic Places. I recognize that, under the National Historic Preservation Act, I am entitled to object to the proposed listing of my property by a notarized, written statement. If I am the sole owner and I object, my property will not be listed. If there are multiple owners of this property and a majority of the owners object, the property will not be listed.

Following is the name and address of my property.

SIMON KENTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE Historic Name of Property Across from East Third Street, parallel to Casto Allay Street Maysville Kentucky Zip

I hereby waive my right to object to the proposed listing and notify you that I request that my property be listed in the National Register at the earliest possible date.

ammissioner Sincerely, Man Au DEPARTMENT OF MORNARYS.

KY. TRANNER RETATION CASINEY

Owner's Name

State Office Bisa. Mailing Address

Frankfort, Ky. 40622 City State Zip

RECEIVED DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS FEB 22 10 18 AM '82

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× \* \* \*



Ohio Historical Center 1-71 & 17th Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43211 (614) 466-1500

April 22, 1983

The Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Highways State Office Building Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

#### RE: Maysville-Aberdeen Bridge

Dear Sirs:

I am pleased to inform you that your property, listed above, has been given approval by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board as qualified for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places of the National Parks Service, United States Department of the Interior. The program was created by Congress in 1966 by the National Historic Preservation Act (P.L. 89-665). A sheet explaining the National Register of Historic Places has been enclosed.

Normally a 60-day period is provided for public comment on the nomination; but this has been omitted in your case since public officials in your area have already had an opportunity to comment. The nomination forms and written comments under the National Register criteria are now being sent to Washington, D.C. for federal evaluation. You will be notified when a final decision has been made in Washington regarding placement of your property on the National Register.

Registration in the National Register does not diminish or alter title to the land. However, it does help protect listed property from demolition or harm from any federally funded or licensed program by providing for a federal-level hearing in the event of such jeopardy. Owners of listed property are eligible to apply for 50% matching grants-in-aid for historic preservation when these funds are appropriated by Congress. Currently none are available. Certain Federal Tax consequences may result for income-producing (depreciable) properties pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976. Provisions of this section of the Act are explained on the enclosed sheet entitled 'Tax Incentives to Encourage the Preservation of Historic Structures" as amended by the Revenue Act of 1978, the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980, and the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981. The provisions of these Acts are explained on the enclosed sheet.

Sincerely,

and of monimo

David A. Simmons Inventory and Registration

IAS:dd

Encl.

X.c: Senator H. Cooper Snyder Byrd Findlay-ODOT Mary Ann Brown

Representative Harry C. Malott OVRDC



**Ohio Senate** Statehouse Columbus, Ohio 43216 614/466-8082

Committees:

Agriculture, Small Business and Economic Development Education and Retirement Transportation and Public Improvements

**Cooper Snyder** 14th District

May 2, 1983

Department of Evaluation National Register of Historic Places National Park Service U. S. Department of the Interior 440 G Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20240

#### Re: Aberdeen-Maysville Bridge

Gentlemen:

Please accept this as our endorsement and support for the identification of the bridge between Aberdeen, Ohio and Maysville, Kentucky as a national historic place.

I encourage recognition of this bridge of transportation and communication for the true historic significance it represents.

Sincerely, Cooper Snyder

State Senator

CS/aja

cc: Mayor Joseph Jensen, Box 264, Aberdeen, Ohio 45101

Mr. Warren J Smith, Director, ODOT Mr. Byrd Findlay, ODOT

Ms. Mary Ann Brown, Wright State University, Dayton Mr. David A. Simmons, Ohio Historic Preservation Office Ent to MPS 5/17/83 Wanpuille, Kentucky The Brown Wanpuille, Abendaen - Brown

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Sent to NPS 5/17/83

	ACTD MAY	9 1983
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INITIALS		

Mason/Kentucky

H32(413)

MAY 26 1983

Honorable Cooper Snyder State Senator Statehouse Columbus, Ohio 43216

Dear Senator Snyder:

Thank you for your letter of May 2 supporting the nomination of the <u>Aberdeen-Maysville</u> Bridge, located between Aberdeen, Ohio, and Maysville, Kentucky, to the National Register of Historic Places.

We were informed by the Ohio State Historic Preservation Officer's staff that the nomination was forwarded to the National Park Service on May 17, 1983. Our procedures for reviewing nominations require that a decision be made on the eligibility of a property within 45 days of receipt of a complete and fully documented nomination.

We appreciate your support of the historic preservation programs of the National Park Service.

Sincerely,

Garol D. Shull (Sgd.)

Carol D. Shull Chief of Registration National Register of Historic Places Interagency Resources Division

bcc: Dr. W. Ray Luce, SHPO, Ohio

cc: Mid-Atlantic Regional Office 413 FNP:B Savage:lw:343-9536:5-25-83

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN NR

Sys.8(nom)#7096