



New home wanted for Muskogee County bridge

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free, to a good home. County bridge.

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Muskogee County and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office are seeking a new location for the Cloud Creek Bridge currently near Boynton in western Muskogee County.

The county bridge is scheduled for replacement this fall with a modern two-lane structure. If no new owner is found for the original bridge, it will be demolished. Any use that retains the historic character of the bridge and provides public access is potentially acceptable. Possibilities include pedestrian or bicycle use in parks, golf courses and other recreation areas.

Built in 1911, the Cloud Creek Bridge is an 80-foot-long pony truss structure erected by one of the most important bridge builders in early-day Oklahoma: the Indiana-based Vincennes Bridge Co. Because of its construction by the company and the fact that it is one of the few surviving examples of "curve-top" Warren pony truss design, it is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Muskogee County will donate the bridge but the new owner will be responsible for moving and rebuilding the structure.

Parties interested in preserving the bridge should submit a brief written statement of interest to the ODOT Environmental Programs Division, 200 N.E. 21st St., Oklahoma City 73105, by August 9. More information is available from Robert Bartlett, director of ODOT's Cultural Resources Program at 405-325-7201, or at www.okladot.state.ok.us/env/toagoodhome/index.htm.

Detailed proposals will be requested from those whose statements of interest show that they have the ability to relocate the bridge in a reasonably short time span.

- www.okladot.state.ok.us -

(Editors and News Directors: For media inquiries, contact ODOT Media and Public Relations Division at 405-521-6000.)

INFORMATION RELEASE

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MEDIA & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION
200 N.E. 21ST ST. OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105-3204 PHONE 405-521-6000



Built in 1911, this truss bridge would make a great addition to a golf course, park or recreational area. Scheduled for replacement this fall, the structure is included in an Oklahoma Department of Transportation program to preserve historic bridges.