



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Bureau for Historic Preservation
Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093
www.phmc.state.pa.us

April 1, 2010

Bob Norris
Chair, Board of Supervisors
New Garden Twp
299 Starr Road
Landenberg, PA 19350

Re: Landenberg Bridge, New Garden Twp, Chester County

Dear Mr. Norris:

Your inquiry to the Governor's office regarding the National Register status of the Landenberg bridge has been forwarded to me.

The Landenberg Bridge was removed from the National Register on March 23, 2010. The Bureau for Historic Preservation (BHP) notified the Keeper of the National Register that the bridge had been removed in October 2009 and provided photographs of the status of the construction site as of February 2010.

When the Landenberg bridge was dismantled it was, in effect, automatically delisted from the National Register; our action fulfills our responsibilities to inform the Keeper of the National Register of changes in status to listed properties. The Landenberg Bridge was originally listed under Criterion C for Engineering as a pin-connected Pratt pony truss bridge.

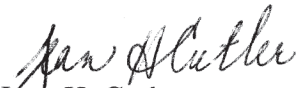
In some cases it is possible to re-list a bridge if it has been dismantled and rebuilt according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. According to the construction documents, the current project is not a rehabilitation; it is a new bridge with new abutments and a new steel girder superstructure that will look like the old bridge. The original trusses will be reconditioned and attached to the fascia girders as ornamentation so that the look of the new bridge will be similar to the original pony truss. However, the bridge will not be a pin-connected truss bridge and thus cannot be significant for Engineering.

I'm not sure what part of the project would be considered as being guided by the Secretary's Standards since the bridge is not being rehabilitated. If it were a rehabilitation project, it might not have been an adverse effect. BHP made its adverse effect finding when the decision was made to replace the bridge rather than rehabilitate it; we could not comment before knowing what the plans were for dealing with the bridge.

Whatever the new bridge will look like, the listed bridge is not extant on the site. Our office was notified by a local citizen that the bridge had been removed. We were required to notify the Keeper's office.

I understand that you and other members of the community consider that the project is in fact a rehabilitation rather than new bridge construction. When we forwarded the request to remove the bridge from the Register we also requested the Keeper's advice about re-nominating the bridge. Once the project is complete if it can be demonstrated that the new bridge meets the National Register Criteria we will be glad to work with you to re-nominate it.

Sincerely,


Jean H. Cutler
Director