

Driving Directions

To #1 Engle Mill Road

From Xenia Station (about a mile south of the Greene County Court House on South Detroit Street (U.S. Route 68), by auto go south on U.S. 42 to the blinking light at Spring Valley-Paintersville Rd. Turn left (east) on Spring Valley-Paintersville Rd. and go approximately 3 miles (you will cross route 380). Turn right (south) on Engle Mill Rd. (The bridge is approximately a half mile south.) By bike ride south on the Little Miami Scenic Trail to Spring Valley. Turn left onto Bellbrook St. Turn right onto Main Street and then right on Spring Valley-Spring Valley-Paintersville Rd.

To #2 Ballard Road

North on Engle Mill Rd.
Right on Spring Valley-Paintersville Road until it ends at U.S. Route 68.
Right on U.S. 68. Left (almost immediately) on Paintersville-New Jasper Rd. until you come to Jasper Rd. (You will come to the Village of Paintersville. Ignore Bone Rd. and bear to the right.)
On the other side of Jasper Rd., Paintersville-New Jasper Rd. becomes New Jasper Station Rd.
North on New Jasper Station Rd. until it ends at Old U.S. Route 35. (You will cross Ballard Rd. Ignore it. Ballard is divided by U.S. Route 35.)
Left on Old 35 approximately one mile.
Left on Ballard Rd.
The bridge is approximately one half mile south.

To #3 Charleton Mill

Return to Old 35 and turn left.
Approximately 1 1/2 miles is a very sharp curve.
Right on Nash Rd. (Ignore Federal Rd. which also runs into Old 35 at this point.) to the stop sign at U.S. Route 42. On the other side of U.S. 42, Nash Rd. becomes Charlton Mill Rd.
Follow Charlton Mill Rd. to the bridge.

To #4 Stevenson Road

Continue on Charlton Mill Rd. until it ends. Left on Wilberforce Clifton Rd. Right onto Jones Rd. to stop sign. Bridge is to the left off Stevenson Rd.

To #5 Grinnell Road

North on Stevenson Rd. (straight across from the stop sign on Jones Rd.) until it ends at Clark Run Rd. Left on Clark Run Rd. until it ends at Clifton Rd. Right on Clifton Rd. for approximately two miles. Left on Grinnell Rd. for approximately one mile. After crossing the Little Miami River watch for a pull off for parking on the left. A foot path leads to the bridge.

To Yellow Springs

Follow Grinnell Road until it ends. Right on Corry St. to downtown Yellow Springs. You will pass the parking lot for Glen Helen on the right. Yellow Springs Station is on the bike path at the first traffic light.

Mileages

Xenia Station to Engle Mill Bridge by U.S. 42. (by Little Miami Scenic Trail bike path: 12.9 miles)	11.8 miles
Engle Mill Bridge to Ballard Road Bridge:	16.1 miles
Ballard Road Bridge to Charleton Mill Bridge:	5.8 miles
Charleton Mill Bridge to Stevenson Road Bridge:	1.8 miles
Stevenson Road Bridge to Glen Helen Bridge:	4.8 miles
Glen Helen to Yellow Springs Station:	1.7 miles
Yellow Springs Station to Xenia Station by U.S. 68: (by Little Miami Scenic Trail bike path: 10.3 miles)	9 miles
Total (by bike paths: 53.4 miles)	51 miles



Ballard Road Bridge



Engle Mill Road Bridge

The Old Covered Bridge

by Carl E. Smith

So it stands, in its beauty, bridging over the creek,
Like a thing that is doomed, waiting, patient and meek,
For the day of destruction of body and frame,
Like the passing of woodlands, from which it once came:
Quaint relic of yesterday, ~ lest we forget
Is the old covered bridge, as it stands with us, ~ yet.

**Greene
County
Historical
Society, Inc.**

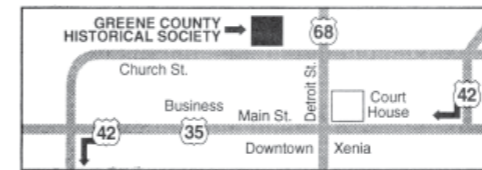
*Discover Our
Heritage*



**Tuesday - Friday
9:00am to Noon; 1:00pm to 3:30pm**

**Saturday (June, July, August)
1:30pm - 4:00pm**

Explore the three handicap-accessible floors of the Brantley Carriage House Museum. Visit the authentically restored 1877 Victorian Town House and the 1799 Galloway Log House. If you want to read more about our covered bridges stop in at the gift shop and ask for *Covered Wooden Truss Bridges of Greene County, Ohio* by James H. Shell.



Greene County Historical Society, Inc.
74 West Church Street, Xenia, OH 45385
(937) 372-4606

Covered Bridges

OF GREENE COUNTY, OHIO

*A Self-Guided 50-Mile
Bicycle and Automobile Tour*



Greene County
CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU
Ohio

(800) 733-9109 ~ greenecountyohio.org

The Inside Story

Although the roof over a covered bridge is what sets it apart from other bridges, the trusses are what distinguish one covered bridge from another. A truss is a frame containing beams and braces arranged in triangular shapes. This arrangement of triangles allows each brace to support the other and working together they support whatever weight is placed upon the bridge.

The Greene County Commission Journals give references to nine different types of trusses used in Greene County bridges. Of these, only Howe, Smith and Warren trusses are represented in existing bridges. The Warren trusses are on the two Greene County's covered bridges that were moved to Montgomery County. The Feedwire Road Bridge was moved to the Carillon Historical Park in 1948, where the arches and the overhang were added. The Jasper Road Bridge was moved in 1964 to the Mudlick Museum in Germantown.

Howe trusses are found in the Ballard Road, the Charleton Mill Road and the Glen Helen Bridges. Smith trusses are found in the Engle Mill Road and the Stephenson Road Bridges.



Howe Truss, 1840



Smith Truss, 1869



Warren Truss, 1848



Stephenson Road Bridge



Charleton Mill Road Bridge



Glen Helen Bridge

The Stephenson Road Bridge

(# 35-29-15) Also been known as Whiteman's Bridge and the Wright Bridge, it spans Massie's Creek. It was built in 1877 by Smith Bridge Co. using Smith double trusses. The overall length is 99 feet with a clear span of 95 feet.

The Ballard Road Bridge

(# 35-29-18) Spanning Caesar Creek north branch, it was built in 1883 by J.C. Brown using Howe trusses. The overall length is 80 feet with a clear span of 73.8 feet. H.E. Hebble was the mason on this job and Brown did the superstructure. This is one of the loveliest covered bridges in Ohio and it is located near the historic Dean Farm, which has been in the same family for generations.

The West Engle Mill Bridge

(# 35-29-03) Spanning Anderson's Fork, it was built in 1887 by the Smith Bridge Co. with Smith Trusses. The overall length is 148 feet with a clear span of 136 feet 3 inches.

The numbering system for covered bridges developed by John Diehl of Cincinnati in the 1940s is now used worldwide. The first number stands for Ohio. The second number for Greene County. The third number refers to the bridge.

The Charleton Mill Bridge

(# 35-29-16) Spanning Massies Creek, it was built in 1883 by Henry E. Hebble using Howe trusses. The overall length is 128 feet with a clear span of 120 feet. Major repairs were required in 1969 when a truck loaded with gravel attempted to cross the bridge and caused the floor to give way. There are now steel I-beams under the floor.

The Glen Helen Bridge

(# 35-29-01) Also called the Cemetery Rd. Bridge, it originally spanned Anderson's Fork. It was built in 1886 by Henry E. Hebble using Howe trusses with turnbuckles on the iron rods that could be tightened. The overall length was 130' 8" with a clear span of 126' 4". The sixty foot center section was moved from Cemetery Rd. to Glen Helen in 1979.

