

HISTORIC BRIDGES



Length: 94 feet
Year: 1868
Builder: Partridge
Spans: Treacle Creek
Historical Marker

CULBERTSON BRIDGE

The bridge was originally located on State Route 4 and was moved prior to 1922. In 1977 a runaround was constructed for farm equipment and other large, heavy vehicles to bypass the covered bridge. The original cost of the bridge was \$1,375.



Length: 94 feet
Year: 1868
Builder: Partridge
Spans: Old Rail Bed
Historical Marker

POTTERSBURG BRIDGE

This bridge was formerly in the location of the North Lewisburg Road Covered Bridge. In 1949 extensive repairs were made. Three 6 feet by 10 feet I-beams were placed under each corner span. The full-length canopy and side windows were added in 1937. In 2006 it was moved and now sits on the 1.9 mile North Lewisburg Multi-Purpose Trail. This bridge is the site of the family-friendly Covered Bridge Bluegrass Festival that is held every September.



Length: 102 feet
Year: 1873
Builder: Partridge
Spans: Little Darby Creek
Historical Marker

BIGELOW BRIDGE

The bridge was named in honor of Eliphas Bigelow, a nearby resident whose family founded Plain City. In 1990 the bridge underwent an extensive renovation. Massive nail-laminated arches were seated into new concrete foundations. The arch system now carries the weight of traffic on the bridge.



Length: 64 feet
Year: 1870's
Builder: Partridge
Spans: Spain Creek
Historical Marker

SPAIN CREEK BRIDGE

This quaint bridge is Union County's smallest covered bridge. In 2008 and 2016, the bridge was rehabilitated after heavy machinery damaged the overhead braces. Notice the "bridge-within-a-bridge" concept. This design allows the covered bridge to rest, while the bridge inside carries the weight of traffic. Spain Creek is designated an Exceptional Warm Water Habitat and Cold Water Habitat by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.



Length: 200 feet
Year: 1914
Builder: Central Concrete & Construction Co.
Spans: Big Darby Creek
Historical Marker

STRENG ROAD BRIDGE

This steel Pratt truss bridge was built in 1914 to replace a covered bridge that was destroyed in the flood of 1913. Union County received special recognition for the renovation of this bridge in 1993. All of the original ornamentation and decorative elements are still in place. This is the only non-covered bridge to be officially listed as an Ohio Historic Bridge.

BIG DARBY PLAINS SCENIC BYWAY

The Big Darby Creek and Plains Scenic Byway, offer more than 40 miles of spectacular views. The route has access to the scenic river, nature preserves, parks, covered bridges, century farms, pioneer cemeteries and historic homes.

The beautiful Big Darby Plains Scenic Byway truly lives up to its name. Considered one of the most scenic views in the area, the byway gives travelers the chance to see not only the Big Darby Creek and farmland, but also historic sites.

The Big Darby Plains Scenic Byway is a wonderful place to snap photos, eat a picnic lunch, and learn about the history of Union County and surrounding areas.

BRIDGE RESTORATION FUND

The historic Pottersburg Bridge, built in 1868, was moved to its current home on a multi-use trail just off Inskeep-Cratty Road in 2006. There are no dedicated public funds for the continued maintenance and preservation of the bridge.

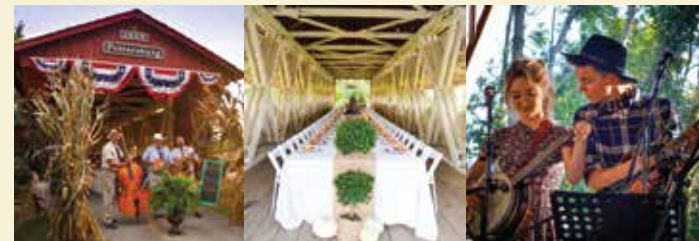
Your tax-deductible donation to the Pottersburg Bridge Preservation Fund is a gift that helps to preserve this landmark for years to come. Every dollar you can donate will help!

Donations to the Pottersburg Bridge Preservation Fund are accepted through the Union County Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization serving Union County, Ohio.

Donations can be made by check or online at www.unioncountyfoundation.org.

COVERED BRIDGE BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

Each year the Union County Convention & Visitors Bureau hosts the Union County Covered Bridge Bluegrass Festival in September at the Pottersburg Bridge. Featured during this family friendly event are bridge tours, bluegrass bands, horse drawn wagons, country marketplace, kids zone, a dinner and breakfast on the bridge, community worship service and more visit www.coveredbridgefestival.com to learn more.



UNION COUNTY COVERED BRIDGE & SCENIC BYWAY MAP



Union County Convention & Visitors Bureau
227 E. 5th St. Marysville, Ohio 43040
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UNION COUNTY BRIDGES

HISTORIC BRIDGES

Union County has five historic bridges. Four of these five are still in use on the county highway system and are well-maintained by the Union County Engineer. The historic covered bridges were designed and built by Marysville resident, Reuben L. Partridge. The Union County bridges as well as one in adjoining Franklin County are the only remaining bridges built with Partridge's patented truss design.

MODERN BRIDGES

Union County is ranked 6th in Ohio with the most covered bridges. Three of the seven bridges have been built in the 21st century.

MODERN BRIDGES



**FOR DIRECTIONS
SEARCH FOR BRIDGES ON GOOGLE MAPS.**



Length: 160 feet
Year: 2006
Builder: Righter Company
Spans: Big Darby Creek

BUCK RUN ROAD BRIDGE

This is the third bridge to be on this site, first a covered bridge, second a steel truss bridge and now this modern two lane covered bridge. This bridge is currently the longest single-span wooden bridge in Ohio. At the request of the Federal Highway Administration and Ohio Department of Transportation, the Union County Engineer was challenged to prove that building a covered bridge is more economical than other bridge types.



Length: 135 feet
Year: 2006
Builder: Righter Company
Spans: Big Darby Creek

NORTH LEWISBURG ROAD BRIDGE

This new bridge has a modified Pratt truss with substructures built out of the creek at a cost of \$1.6 million. This is the original site of the Pottersburg Bridge. When the one lane Pottersburg Bridge could no longer handle the growing volume of traffic, it was decided to move the Pottersburg Bridge to a nearby multi-purpose trail. Once the original bridge was safely moved, it was promptly replaced with this modern covered bridge.




Length: 125 feet
Year: 2010
Builder: Righter Company
Spans: Mill Creek

THOMPSON ROAD BRIDGE

This modern covered bridge was built on Thompson Road in Millcreek Township near the Delaware County line. In 1881 a covered bridge was built on this location but was destroyed by a devastating flood in 1913. This modern day covered bridge is much different from its predecessor, in that it has two lanes and can carry all modern-day traffic loads. Local farm buildings inspired the architecture of this lovely bridge.

BRIDGES & BYWAY

ICON KEY

1. The Honda Heritage Center showcases Honda's history, featuring vintage and state of the art machines.
 2. The Big Darby Creek were named for Wyandot Indian Chief Darby who once lived along the banks of the creek.
 3. Milford Center was Union County's first county seat. A replica of the first courthouse is located just north of town.
 4. Reuben Partridge's impressive Victorian-style home still stands at 245 W. 7th Street in Marysville.
 5. The Pony Express ran along State Route 161 (Post Road) from Worthington to Urbana.
 6. U.S. 26th Vice President Charles W. Fairbanks served under Teddy Roosevelt and was born in the quaint village of Unionville Center.
 7. The famous Plain City Clock Tower was donated to the town in 1902. Presently, this Seth Thomas clock is one of two remaining in the country.
 8. The Chinkapin Oak Tree located in the pre-Civil War Milford Center Cemetery has been nominated as an Ohio Champion Tree.
 9. Bigelow Pioneer Cemetery Nature Preserve.
 10. Smith Cemetery Prairie Nature Preserve.
 11. Mitchell Cemetery is where Mary Hawn, the first white (nonIndian) female born in Ohio, is buried.
 12. The Hathaway House built in 1839 has a secret room believed to be used as part of the Underground Railroad.
 13. Plain City United Methodist Church built in 1902.
 14. The Old Indian Trail was first blazed by Chief Tecumseh and was later used by the Pony Express.
 15. Darby United Methodist Church built in 1895.
 16. Milford Center United Methodist Church founded in 1831.
 17. The Bigelow House built in 1846 by Russell Bigelow, one of the first pioneers to settle the Darby Plains.
 18. The Farmers National Bank Building was built in 1902 and is on the National Register of Historic Places.
-  The Big Darby Plains Scenic Byway.

REUBEN PARTRIDGE



Reuben L. Partridge was born in Wilmington, NY in 1823. In 1836 Partridge moved to Marysville and began to learn the carpentry craft while building carriages with his brother. In 1855 Reuben accepted his first contract to build the first self-supporting bridge in Union County. By 1866 Partridge was building bridges full-time. In 1872 he received a patent for his truss design. By 1883 Partridge had built over 125 bridges, most of them in Union County and nearby counties. Over the course of his life, Partridge served as a member of the Marysville City Council, as the Paris Township Clerk, and as a Paris Township Trustee. He was a part of the first militia formed in Union County. He also was very active in raising money and support for service groups from Union County who served in both the Mexican War and the Civil War. In 1896 he designed a Victorian-style home in Marysville as a 50th wedding anniversary gift for his wife. Partridge died in August 1900, as a result of injuries he sustained while removing a covered bridge.

