

Second National Covered Bridge Conference
Crowne Plaza Dayton Hotel, Dayton, Ohio
June 5-8, 2013

The [Federal Highway Administration's National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation Program \(NHCBP\)](#) will be sponsoring the [Second National Historic Covered Bridge Conference](#) in Dayton, Ohio, June 5-8, 2013. Co-Sponsored by the National Park Service's [Historic American Engineering Record](#) and the USDA Forest Service, [Forest Products Laboratory](#), this event will be held ten years after the [First National Covered Bridge conference in Burlington, Vermont](#).



Eldean Bridge, an 1860 Long Truss, will be a featured site at the conference. HAER photo by Jet Lowe.

The second national conference will follow up on several themes: reviewing several of the NHCBP-funded research and rehabilitation projects, best practices for rehabilitation, and revisit the [Burlington Charter for the Preservation of Covered Bridges](#). We will also discuss the continuing threats and challenges to covered bridges, most recently illustrated by the flooding in New England from tropical storms Irene and Lee in 2011. These natural disasters resulted in the loss of the Blenheim Bridge, a National Historic Landmark, and damage to several others.

The Dayton Conference will feature presentations from some of the leading covered bridge engineers, scholars, and builders from across the country. Held in historic downtown Dayton, with additional events at the historic Engineers Club of Dayton, participants will also have the opportunity to tour several nearby historic covered bridges and local historic sites, such as the [National Museum of the US Air Force](#).

The conference will offer the opportunity for exchange between a diverse audience of civil engineers, public transportation officials, academics, trades people, historians, architects, and covered bridge enthusiasts. Proceedings of the event will be published online. More information will be made available on the conference website, <http://www.woodcenter.org>. Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

Call for Papers: Second National Covered Bridge Conference

The organizers of the Second National Covered Bridge Conference are seeking presentations on the latest developments in covered bridge research, preservation, and rehabilitation. Topics to be considered include: purist versus pragmatist rehabilitation strategies; documentation and assessment technologies; the performance of new materials such as adhesives, fiber-wraps, or specialized fasteners; fire protection systems; low-cost maintenance strategies; new covered bridge designs; covered bridges as cultural artifact; and the historical analysis of builders, designs, and construction techniques. Presenters should focus on explaining new discoveries with wide applicability and less on describing entire projects or the complete life's work of a builder and designer.

Proposals may be for individual papers, not to exceed 30 minutes in length, or a group of themed papers. Proposals should be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word, or PDF, and should include: 1) title; 2) a 300 to 500-word abstract with a detailed discussion of points, findings, or conclusions; 3) a brief resume of the presenter(s), including postal addresses, telephone/fax numbers, and e-mail.

Deadline for proposals: Monday, January 7, 2013

Send all proposals to dsimmons@ohiohistory.org or by mail to David A. Simmons, Ohio Historical Society, 800 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2474; 614-297-2365.