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February 18, 2020

Friends of the Sheepford Road Bridge
Mechanicsburg, PA

RE: SHEEPFORD ROAD BRIDGE

To Whom it May Concern:

As the statewide historic preservation non-profit, Preservation Pennsylvania's core mission is "to help people protect and preserve the historic places that matter to them." To that end, we'd like to state our support for the Friends of the Sheepford Road Bridge, who are hoping to negotiate with York and Cumberland Counties for the preservation of the bridge. Deemed eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, the bridge is one of six historical bridge crossings over the Yellow Breeches Creek in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. It is a single-span Pratt thru truss type, built in 1887 by the Phoenix Bridge Company. The Phoenix Bridge Company was established as a division of the Phoenix Iron Company in 1862 following the invention of the Phoenix Column, an important innovation in construction technology.

While the bridge ticks many of the value marks on PennDot's bridge evaluation criteria (early example, rare example, decorative example, notable manufacturer and example of engineering innovation), the local residents supporting its preservation most value the structure as an integral part of the landscape where they live, a fixture in the community since 1887.

We hope you too can support the efforts to preserve this bridge and community landmark. I can be reached for further discussion at jchain@preservationpa.org or 717-234-2310.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julia Chain".

Julia Chain
Associate Director
Preservation Pennsylvania
www.preservationpa.org