

Brief Descriptions of Beisman Documents in NMplates.com Archives

1910 New Mexico State Highway Commission, *Instructions to Bidders, General Specifications, Contract Form, and Bond for Bridge Work*. This is a standardized, offset printed, double spaced, fill-in-the-blanks form of sixteen 8½ x 11 pages, for use by the New Mexico State Highway Commission for bridge contracts on state highways. The form has been partially filled in with pen and ink to solicit bids and contract for a bridge to be built “about ½ mile from the town of Reserve, Socorro [now Catron] County, New Mexico. The date has not been filled in but the space for it is partially printed as “191_” thereby indicating that the year would fall between 1910 and 1919.

1912 A fill-in-the-blanks form for submission of bids for repairs on the San Miguel County Court House. One 8½ x 13 typewritten page, a mix of single- and double-spacing, not signed. Dated 1912 with a space to fill in the month and day.

1912 *Instructions to Bidders & General Specifications for the Steel Highway Bridges for San Miguel County, New Mexico*. Twelve 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages. Appears to be a standardized document, partially filled in with pencil for an unnamed bridge project, giving payment dates of February 1913 and August 1913, from which we can surmise that the project start date would have been in the latter half of 1912. Additional notes in pencil refer to “Pecos Town Bridge,” “Villanueva” and “Azul” (the last of which is now a ghost town) in San Miguel County.

1913 *Specifications for Bridge to be Built at Kearney’s Gap, and Bridge to be Built at Foot of Prince Street on the Gallinas River, East Las Vegas, San Miguel County, New Mexico*. Twelve 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages, providing detailed specifications, and soliciting bids for construction of the aforementioned two bridges. Several pages are mysteriously cut off on the bottom with some loss of text. Dated September 30, 1913.

1913 Letter dated November 28, 1913 from George E. Morrison, Civil Engineer, to Lorenzo Delgado, Mayor, on the estimated cost of improving Bridge Street in Las Vegas. Details work to be done at a cost of \$9,048.20 for labor, earth work, paving, cement sidewalks and curbs, etc., for a length of 670 feet. Four 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages.

1914 *Call for Bids*. To be published (presumably in local and other newspapers) once a week for four consecutive weeks. Bids are solicited for bridges to be built over the Sapello River at Watrous, over the Mora River at Weber Crossing, Over Ocate Creek near Colmor. Undated, but appears to be the bid solicitation that resulted in the contract described immediately below. One 8½ x 13 single-spaced typewritten page, not signed.

1914 *Contract*. A contract between the Missouri Valley Bridge and Iron Company and the Board of County Commissioners of Mora County for the construction of bridges at Watrous over the Sapello river, at Weber Crossing over the Mora River, at Sweetwater over Ocate Creek, and at Lucero over Coyote Creek. The amount to be paid for the four bridges was \$14,170.00. One 8½ x 13 single-spaced typewritten page. Signed by company representative but not by any county official. Dated August 14, 1914.

1914 Letter from The Engineering Service Company, Highway Bridge Department, Denver Colorado, to the County Surveyor, Las Vegas, New Mexico. This company proposes in its letter to supply standardized bridge specifications, plans, and blueprints for any and all bridges to be built for San Miguel County. The advantage stated is that rather than the county receiving a different bridge design from each bidder on a project, all bidders would be bidding on exactly the same design and specifications, thereby greatly simplifying evaluation of bids. A sample bridge plan and diagram is attached. The cost to the county would be \$25.00 for the plans and complete engineering data for a single span bridge. A definite price will be quoted upon receipt from the county its recommendations and a rough profile sketch of the bridge site. Dated March 10, 1914.

1914 *Specifications for Bridge at Webers Crossing, Mora River, and Bridge at Sweetwater Crossing, Ocate River*. Ten 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages, providing detailed specifications, and soliciting bids for construction of the aforementioned two bridges. Dated May 1, 1914.

1914 *Specifications for Bridge at Webers Crossing, Mora River, and Bridge at Sweetwater Crossing, Ocate River*. Ten 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages, providing detailed specifications, and soliciting bids for construction of the aforementioned two bridges. Dated May 1, 1914. Copy of the document described immediately above.

1914 *Instructions to Bidders & Specifications for a Steel Bridge Over the Sapello River near Watrous, Mora County, New Mexico*. Sixteen 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages, soliciting bids for construction of a bridge of four spans totaling 204' 6". Provides detailed specifications for materials, method of construction, etc. Dated July 1914.

1914 *Instructions to Bidders & Specifications for a Steel Bridge Over the Sapello River near Watrous, Mora County, New Mexico*. Sixteen 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages, essentially a copy of the document described immediately above.

1915 *Contract for the Construction of a 110' Steel Bridge, on Tubes, with Approaches, to be Erected at Ribera, New Mexico, Over the Rio Pecos*. Detailed instructions and specifications for the named bridge. Fourteen 8½ x 11 typewritten pages, a mix of single- and double-spacing. Bids to be received by 2:00 o'clock p.m. on Friday, June 21, 1915.

1915 True Copy of a lawsuit filed against Weld County (Greeley), Colorado alleging infringement of seven patents held by the Complainant, in the construction of a bridge across Sheep Draw in that county, and ruling against the complainant by the Court. Filed November 13, 1915. Five 8½ x 11 single-spaced typewritten pages. (Perhaps Beisman kept this Colorado document in case the Complainant should file a similar lawsuit against San Miguel County.)

1915 *Instructions to Bidders & Specifications for Construction of a steel bridge over the Rio Pecos at Ribera, San Miguel County, New Mexico.* Twelve mostly single-spaced 8½ x 13 typewritten pages with detailed instructions and specifications for construction of the named bridge. Dated 1915. This is a rather fuzzy carbon copy, difficult to read in places.

1916 *Proposed Bridge Over the Gallinas River, Near Chaperito, San Miguel County, New Mexico.* Fourteen 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages. Includes *Information for Bidders* and *Specifications* for the aforementioned bridge. Dated 1916.

1916 *Proposed Bridge Over the Gallinas River, Near Chaperito, San Miguel County, New Mexico.* Nine 8½ x 13 single-spaced typewritten pages. Includes *Information for Bidders* and *Specifications* for the aforementioned bridge. Dated 1916. Appears to be an early draft of the document described immediately above, marked up in pencil with corrections, changes, additions, etc.

1916 *Proposed Bridge Over the Gallinas River, Near Chaperito, San Miguel County, New Mexico.* Nine 8½ x 13 single-spaced typewritten pages. Includes *Information for Bidders* and *Specifications* for the aforementioned bridge. Dated 1916. Another early draft of the document with this title, described above.

1917 *Instructions to Bidders on San Miguel County Bridges, New Mexico, and Proposal for Construction of School Building, Chappelle, New Mexico, San Miguel County.* Sixteen 8½ x 13 single-spaced typewritten pages. This document appears to be a template, partially (and incompletely) filled in by pencil, with references to six different bridges to be built, plus a school house at Chappelle. Payments to the contractor are to be made in six installments, from January 1, 1918 to July 1, 1920. Based on the date of the first installment, we can deduce that the contract would have been let in the latter half of 1917.

1923 *Workmen's Time Book.* A preprinted notebook for recording the names of workers and the amount of time they worked each day in a given week. Each of the notebook's forty-two 4" x 6¾" pages covers one week and has lines for recording the information for 22 workers. Only 12 of the 42 pages have been used. The first page of the book is a preprinted *Table of Wages* showing the hourly pay for pay rates ranging from 25 cents per day to \$6 per day, for 10-hour days, 9-hour days, and 8-hour days. (This was still a time when a 10 hours per day, 6-days work week was common.) Those

unfortunate enough to be at the bottom of the pay scale, and working a 10-hour day, received only 2½ cents per hour for what was probably very hard labor. Written in are the full names of numerous workers for various jobs and dates, along with their pay rates and total amount earned per week. (Persons who supplied teams (of horses or mules) were paid significantly more than others.) Included are Telephone Line job, week ending May 5, 1923 through May 1, 1923; Water Works job, week ending May 25, 1925 through June 30, 1923; and an unspecified job week ending July 6, 1923 through July 14, 1923. Written in ink on the cover of the notebook is “El Porvenir Job,” and “If found return to H.P. Henning, East Las Vegas, N. Mex.”

1926 *Instructions to Bidders, Specifications, Contract and Contractors Proposal for the Construction of County Bridge over the Pecos River at Sena, San Miguel County, New Mexico.* Dated October 11, 1926. Eleven 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages.

1933 *The Plaza Trust and Savings Bank, Las Vegas, New Mexico.* This is a 60 page book intended for recording a person’s deposits and withdrawals to and from his/her account at the aforementioned bank, but which was repurposed to be a timekeeping book for various jobs. All but a few pages have information recorded. Its use was very similar to the 1923 *Workmen’s Time Book* described above. Lists the following projects (in the order recorded), all of which appear to be road work projects between the points named, and all of which were undertaken in November and December of 1933:

Proj. #

- 137 Villanueva – Leyba
- 136 Bernal – El Cerito
- 140 San Jose – San Isidro
- 138 Hwy 85 – El Pueblo
- 341 Los Alamos – Sapello
- 134 Sapello – Buelah
- 135 Porvenir
- 350 Doretta – El Pueblo
- 342 Chapelle – Lagunita
- 344 Ojitos Frios – Lurdes
- 343 San Geronimo – Mineral Hill
- 352 Chaperito – Lourdes

Contains the names of numerous workers on each of the above listed projects, further indicating persons who supplied teams (of horses or mules). Days worked are recorded, but not hours or pay rates.

1934 Royal Blue School Series No. 332 Note Book. Approximately 100 lined 4" x 6½" pages, not all used. Contains many seemingly unrelated notes about projects, events, lists of construction supplies, etc. Includes many names of workers, including indication of those who supplied and/or operated teams (of horses or mules), trucks, tractors, blades

(road graders), fresnos, etc. Among many other things, recounts an April 14, 1934 incident wherein one Julian Trujillo describes how he was struck in the head and injured by the uncontrolled descent of the dump body on a truck, as well as witness statements describing the same incident. Several trip logs in and near San Miguel County with detailed mileages given for waypoints. Various survey notes. One note says, "Jose Gallegos, La Frava, Box 1G, Ribera, N.M., has wife & 3 children. Needs help bad." (La Frava is most likely a misspelling of La Fragua, a small former settlement on State Road 3, about 4 miles south of Ribera.)

Undated *General Specifications for Bridges.* Twenty 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages. These are general specifications and instructions for all bridges to be built under contract in San Miguel County. Undated, but appears to be contemporary with the 1910 - 1920 documents described above.

Undated *Specifications.* Eighteen 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages. These are general specifications and instructions for all steelwork in the construction of bridges to be built under contract in San Miguel County. To be supplemented by specific requirements for given bridges to be constructed. Undated, but appears to be contemporary with the 1910 - 1920 documents described above.

Undated *Specifications for Five Panel Pratt Riveted Span Bridge over Chino Creek, 4th Road District, San Bernadino, California.* Five 8½ x 13 double-spaced typewritten pages. Why this out-of-state document is among Beisman's papers is unknown, but perhaps it was kept for reference for the particular type of bridge specified therein. Undated, but appears to be contemporary with the 1910 - 1920 documents described above.

Undated *Village of Springer, New Mexico, Specifications for a Reservoir Dam.* Detailed specifications for a reservoir dam to be built 2½ miles north of Springer, to include the dam, puddle core, outlet, gate house, spillway, pipeline, filter, wash pump, bypass, pump house, water supply distribution system, fire hydrants, gates, gate boxes, air cock, sewer system, manholes, flush tank, septic tank, etc. Seven 8½ x 13 single-spaced typewritten pages. This is a rather fuzzy carbon copy, difficult to read in places. Undated, but appears to be contemporary with the 1910 - 1920 documents described above.