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Mooreville's Treasure Trove #1 (April 2015)

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Then . . . and Now

Historic Mooreville, IN Scenes and Places

Taken from the Past and Brought into the Present

**Then... Old Red Covered Bridge Across East Fork of
White Lick Creek on the Waverly Road**



Around 1910 photographer J. P. Calvert captured a horse and buggy making its way across the old red covered bridge spanning the East Fork of White Lick Creek, heading northwest into Mooreville. The Mooreville cemetery appears in the background on the right. It has been suggested that the covered bridge was built in 1870. One source listed its demolition date as 1936.

Calvert took this photo (below) *circa* 1910 from atop Day's Hill (see also photo at bottom of this page). Calvert was looking northwest toward Mooresville. This photo was reproduced by Frank M. Hohenberger in the Alco-Gravure Section (Vol. 8, No. 19) of *The Indianapolis Sunday Star*, March 4, 1928) ([click here](#) to see Hohenberger's reprint).



In 1911 the M. L. Photo Company photographed the old red covered bridge (above) looking east toward Day's Hill, which was named after Richard and Hannah Day, who homesteaded the land upon which the house in the

background was situated. The bridge was located on the Waverly Road, which is now State Road 144.



J. P. Calvert captured the flooding resulting from heavy rains that fell on March 25, 1913 (above). The Waverly Road was nearly impassable, and the water almost reached the bottom of the old red covered bridge.



*"Old Red Bridge" Across the East Fork of White Lick Creek (circa 1910-1915)
(photo by J. P. Calvert)*



*“Old Red Bridge” Across the East Fork of White Lick Creek (circa 1910-1915)
(photographer unknown)*

In September, 1915, the Morgan County Council appropriated \$1,025 for a new bridge “on the Mooresville & Waverly road in Brown Township, known as the Red Bridge.” No construction proposals were received at the October, 1915 meeting, and nothing further appears to have been done during the next couple of years.

**Now... Bridge Across East Fork of White Lick Creek
on East High Street, Near S.R. 67 & S.R. 144
Intersection (October 2007)**



The modern High Street bridge (above) across the East Fork of White Lick Creek is northwest of the intersection of State Road 67 and State Road 144 on East High Street. The view is toward the Mooresville cemetery, which is obscured by trees (above photo, slightly to the right of center). The creek (see top of next page) meanders much as it did a century ago.



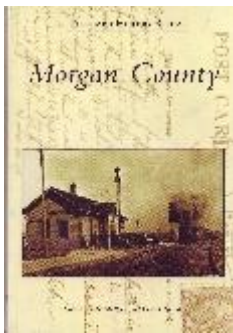
East Fork of White Lick Creek at the East High Street Bridge, Mooresville, IN

(See photo at the top of the next page.) Looking east across the bridge, one sees a Wendy's restaurant close to where Day's Hill (and homestead) once stood. The hill was bulldozed, and the dirt was removed to fill the lowland adjacent to the East Fork of White Lick Creek, where a bank, realtor, and gas station now stand, on the southwesterly side of State Road 144.



Looking East Across the East High Street Bridge at the Intersection of State Roads 67 and 144, Mooresville, IN

PHOTO CREDITS:



A RECOMMENDED "READ!"

Stuttgen, Joanne Raetz, & Tomak, Curtis, *Morgan County* pp. 50-51 (Postcard History Series) (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2007)(ISBN 0-7385-5120-1). All black and white photographs appearing on this page were used in this book and are reprinted by permission.

J. P. Calvert, Red Covered Bridge over East Fork of White Lick Creek, looking toward Day's Hill, outside Mooresville, 1911 (*photo furnished courtesy of the Academy of Hoosier Heritage, Mooresville, IN*).

J. P. Calvert, Red Covered Bridge over East Fork of White Lick Creek, looking toward Mooresville, circa 1910 (*photo furnished courtesy of Dianna Atkins*).

J. P. Calvert, Red Covered Bridge over East Fork of White Lick Creek, looking southwest, during 1913 flood (*photo furnished courtesy of Joe Seiter*).

J.P. Calvert, Mooresville Covered Bridge, circa 1910 (*private collection*), reprinted in Hohenberger, Frank M., Alco-Gravure Section (Vol. 8, No. 19), *The Indianapolis Sunday Star*, March 4, 1928).

"Now" color photographs of modern bridge across East Fork of White Lick Creek on High Street, Mooresville, taken by William R. Buckley, October, 2007.

SOURCES:

Bridgehunter.com website: <http://bridgehunter.com/in/morgan/old-red-covered/>

Cooper, James L., email communication, April 28, 2015.

Gould, George E., *Indiana Covered Bridges Thru the Years* (Indianapolis: Indiana Covered Bridge Society, 1977).

Morgan County Council Records (September, 1915).

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Last revised on 4/28/2015 by wrb.