



THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY BRIDGE RAILS

These are the first Lincoln Highway bridge railings ever built on the nation's first transcontinental highway. The Abraham Lincoln Memorial Highway ran from Times Square, New York, to Lincoln Park in San Francisco during 1913-1927.



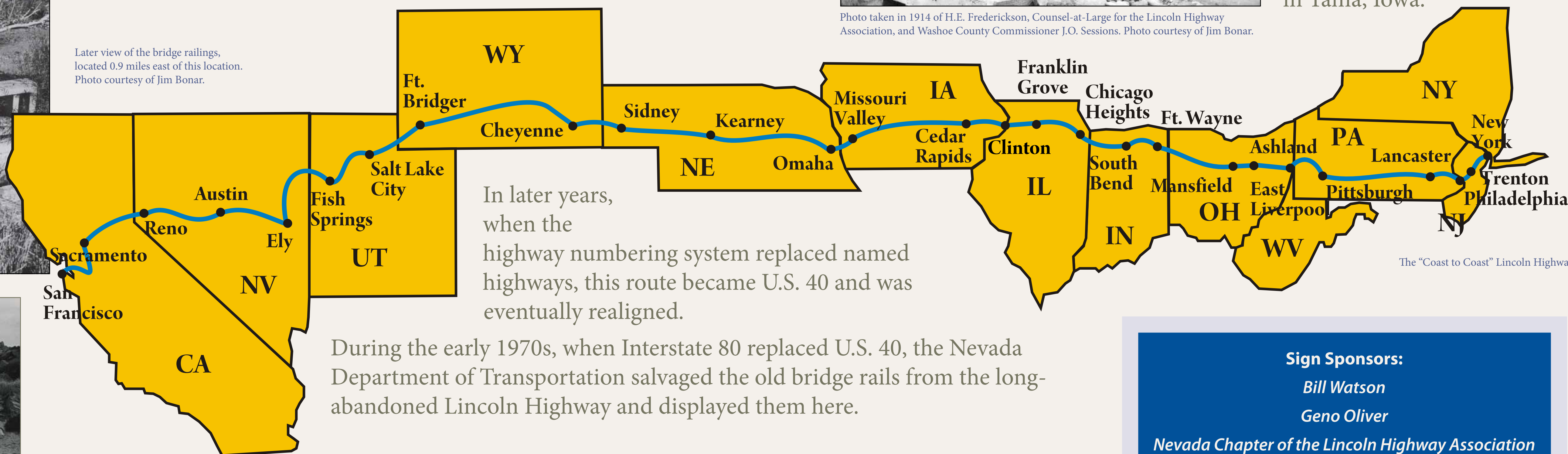
A Reno postcard ca. 1915 highlights prominent local landmarks. At the center is the Lincoln Highway bridge with its unique carved concrete railings. Photo courtesy of the 4th Street/Prater Way History Project.



Later view of the bridge railings, located 0.9 miles east of this location. Photo courtesy of Jim Bonar.



Lincoln Highway mileage sign west of Hazen, Nevada, 1915. Photo courtesy of University of Michigan Lincoln Highway Digital Image Collection, accession no. —lhc0697.



The "Coast to Coast" Lincoln Highway.

Towns all across the nation were anxious to have the "Main Street of America" pass their way and went all out to advertise the route. Washoe County, Nevada, had been criticized for not marking their part of the route. So in 1914, while building a new culvert about 0.9 miles east of this location, contractor A.F. Niedt took it upon himself to mark the highway with these unique bridge rails.

H.E. Frederickson (pictured), Counsel-at-Large of the Lincoln Highway Association, was so

impressed with the rails that he proposed this design for all Lincoln Highway bridges across the country. Only one other such set of bridge rails were ever built in 1915 in Tama, Iowa.



Photo taken in 1914 of H.E. Frederickson, Counsel-at-Large for the Lincoln Highway Association, and Washoe County Commissioner J.O. Sessions. Photo courtesy of Jim Bonar.

Sign Sponsors:

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