The Springfield-Des Arc Bridge spanning the Cabot Creek is the oldest remaining iron bowstring arch bridge in the state. The bridge was built on the road linking Springfield, the Conway County seat from 1852-1873, with Des Arc, an important steamboat landing on the White River.

The bridge, completed in 1874, is an unaltered example of an iron truss. Its design was presented by Zena B. King in 1861 and 1866. King is a significant nineteenth-century bridge designer credited with being one of the first to develop a structural system for masonry bowstring arch bridges. His 1864 and 1866 bridge company was the largest highway bridge works in the United States.

The Springfield-Des Arc Bridge was one of a very few known bridges manufactured by the King Iron Bridge Company, one of the largest iron bridge manufacturers in the United States. The bridge was built during the summer of 1874, as part of the Arkansas Historic Bridge Recording Project by the American Iron Bridge Society, the National Park Service, and the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. The project was co-sponsored by the Arkansas Historical Highway and Transportation Department and the Department of Public Works.

The recording team consisted of: Lisa Bennett (University of Texas), Project Historian; Michael Shewalter, Historic Engineering Preservation Program Administrator; Julie Ladd (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville), Historian; Robert Arnold (Texas Tech University) and Teresa Carrington (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville), Architectural Photographers; Corrine Smith (Cornell University), Engineer, and Louise Taft (University of Arkansas), Historian.