

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received DEC 27 1982
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge

and/or common Same

2. Location

W of Colrain on

street & number Lyonsville Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Colrain vicinity N/A vicinity of

state Massachusetts code 025 county Franklin code 011

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Closed

4. Owner of Property

name Town of Colrain, Board of Selectmen

street & number Town Office

city, town Colrain N/A vicinity of state Massachusetts 01340

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Colrain Town Records

street & number Town Office, Water Street

city, town Colrain state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of the Historic Assets
title of the Commonwealth, #902

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state Massachusetts

7. Description

Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge, Colrain, Massachusetts

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date 1896

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge spans the North River at Lyonsville, about five miles north of Shelburne Falls. It is approached on a short stretch of secondary road leading west off Route 112. The setting is rural and picturesque with rocks and ledges bordering the river and a steep, wooded hill crowned by the First Baptist Church rising from the west bank. Fields of corn and grass line the east bank adjacent to the bridge.

The bridge measures 100 feet in length, with an outside width of 17 feet, and an inside width of 12 feet. Its wooden structural design features the original multiple king post truss construction with added laminated Burr arches. The gable pitched roof is covered with slate shingles; exterior sheathing is vertical boards.

Originally, the bridge was constructed in 1869-70 farther down the river in Shattuckville, a Colrain village south of Lyonsville and Colrain Center. It was known as the Fox Bridge, in reference to the nearby Fox Tavern (now gone). Damaged by flood waters in 1878, the bridge was abandoned until 1896, when the Colrain selectmen had it re-erected on the "Arthur A. Smith Flats." It may have replaced an earlier plank bridge at this location. In 1920, laminated Burr arches were added to strengthen the bridge so that the Carey Cider and Vinegar Company could transport heavier loads across it. At present, it is uncertain whether Burr arches were present prior to this date.

The bridge is presently in need of repair and has been closed to traffic for the past year. Restoration efforts have been initiated by the town, but have not been completed due to lack of funds. In 1980, the original two-inch oak floor boards were replaced with four-inch hemlock boards. Future plans include replacing damaged boards on the south side of the bridge.

8. Significance

Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge, Colrain, Massachusetts

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Built 1868-70; moved 1896 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge retains integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. One of four extant covered bridges in the Commonwealth, it is unique in employing Burr truss construction. Although moved from its original location in 1896, the bridge has kept its essential physical characteristics and sits in a similar setting. It remains historically significant for its association with the development of the town of Colrain and, when moved, was renamed for a locally prominent citizen. The bridge thus meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

The town of Colrain was initially settled in 1732 by members of the Smith family, possibly ancestors of Arthur A. Smith, and incorporated in 1761. The predominantly hilly terrain in the town proved suitable for grazing and dairy farming; the North River, which flows almost directly south through Colrain from the Vermont border to Shelburne, Massachusetts, provided abundant waterpower for sawmills, gristmills, fulling mills and - in the 19th century - large textile mills. One such cotton manufacturing firm was established in 1832 at Shattuckville, the site of the first cotton yarn mill in Franklin County (1814). Following a major flood in 1869, which destroyed or damaged this and many other industries and bridges on the river, restorative work included reconstruction of the Shattuck Mills at double the previous capacity and erection of a new "Fox Bridge."

In 1878, the waters of the North River again rose seriously high, leaving the bridge unsafe for travel and it sat, deteriorating, until moved to its present site in 1896. In the village of Lyonsville, as in Shattuckville, it provided access across the North River; here it was used extensively for transporting kegs of vinegar from the cider mill to the railroad, provided a crossing to the First Baptist Church and homes in the vicinity, and formed part of the road to the town of Heath.

The bridge's use as a transport route was partially responsible for the introduction of additional support members, resulting in this once common wood engineering design. The composite of king post truss and strengthening arch, first introduced in America in 1803-04 by Theodore Burr of Pennsylvania, was used throughout the 19th century. This bridge is the only surviving example in Massachusetts. Of the three other 19th century covered bridges remaining in the Commonwealth, only one, the Upper Sheffield Bridge (1835;NR), predates the Colrain Bridge. The others are: the Burkville Bridge, Conway (1873); and the Ware-Hardwick Bridge (1886).

Arthur Alan Smith, for whom the bridge was renamed in 1896, was of Colrain heritage and born there on December 19, 1841, in the family farmstead adjacent to the North River. After serving in the Civil War, where he attained the rank of captain, he moved to Alabama and became active in community affairs. Returning to Colrain and the family house in the 1870s, he was elected to several offices, including: school board member; tax assessor; and Commander of the G.A.R. in Massachusetts. He died in Colrain on March 21, 1907.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Comp, T. Allan and Daonal Jackson, "Bridge Truss Types: A Guide to Dating and Identifying." American Assoc. for State and Local History Technical Leaflet 95, History News, Vol. 32 No. 5, May 1977.

Patrie, Lois McClellan, A History of Colrain, Massachusetts. Colrain (?), 1974.

(Continued)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Colrain, Massachusetts-Vermont

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UTM References

A

1	8	6	8	6	9	0	0	4	7	2	6	4	8	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property consists of the Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge, which spans the North River on Lyonsville Road.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

Virginia A. Fitch, Preservation Planner, with Alfred E. Hillman, Colrain Selectman name/title and Louise B. O'Brien, Colrain Historical Society

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date September 20, 1982

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Valerie Ann Talmage

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date December 15, 1982

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 2/3/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Arthur A. Smith Covered
Bridge, Colrain, Mass.

Item number 9

Page 1

Sylvester, N. B., et al., History of the Connecticut Valley, in Massachusetts, Vol. II.
Louis H. Everts, Philadelphia, 1979, pp.746-753.

Town Records, Town of Colrain, Massachusetts

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Smith, Arthur A., Covered Bridge
Franklin County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 12/27/82-3294
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84
Date Due: 1/27/83 - 2/10/83
Action: ACCEPT 2/3/83
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom. / Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below _____

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

ARTHUR A SMITH
BRIDGE

LOAD LIMIT
TOTAL 3 TON



Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge
Lyonsville Road
Colrain, Mass.

by Debbie Volvo, August 19, 1982.
negatives at Shelburne Falls and West County
News office, Shelburne Falls, Mass.

End view

Photo 1 of 2

*Arthur A. Smith Bridge
Colrain, Mass.*



Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge
Lyonsville Road
Colrain, Mass.

by Debbie Volvo, August 19, 1982.
negatives at Shelburne Falls and West County
News office, Shelburne Falls, Mass.

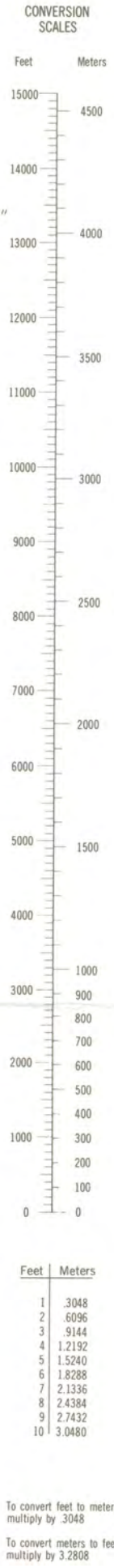
Interior view

Photo 2 of 2

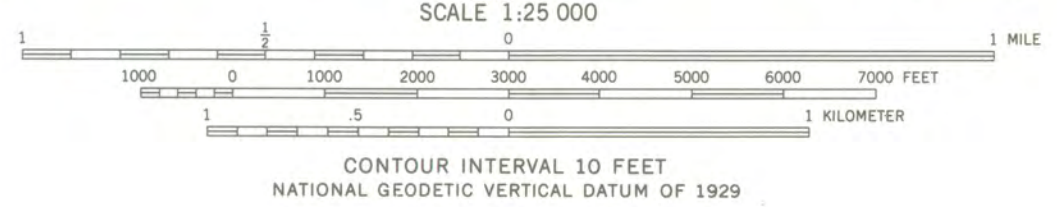
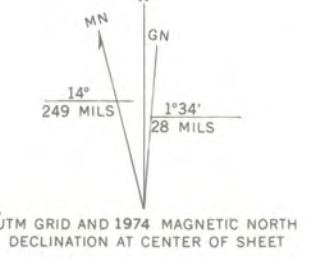


COLRAIN, MASS.
ARTHUR A. SMITH COVERED
BRIDGE

UTM Reference:
18/686900/4726480

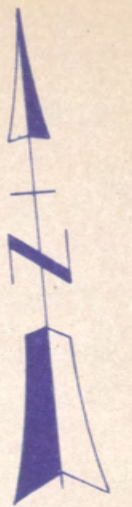


Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1937 and 1944
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1974
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone, and Vermont coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 18
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



COLRAIN, MASS.—VT.
N4237.5—W7237.5/7.5
1977
AMS 6469 II NW—SERIES V814

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



125

125

121

NORTH RIVER

MAIN ROAD

LYONSVILLE

ROUTE 112

LYONSVILLE ROAD

NEW ENGLAND POWER COMPANY EASEMENT

410

410

123

122

DATE FLIGHT
MAY 3, 1981
DATE DELIVERY
MARCH 1, 1982

THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION NOR CONVEYANCE.

GORDON E. AINSWORTH & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Engineers, Surveyors, Planners and Mappers
20 SUGARLOAF ST. SOUTH DEERFIELD, MASS. 01373
40 UNION ST. LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561



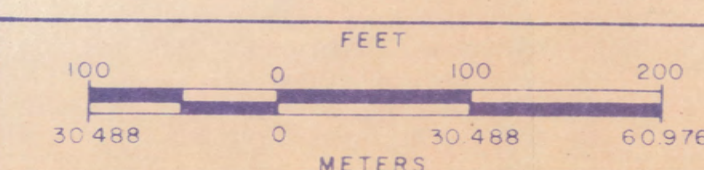
LEGEND

ADJACENT SHEET NO 7
BLOCK NUMBER 3
CALCULATED AREA (C)
COMMON OWNERSHIP / OR 1

DEVELOPMENT LOT NO 4
MATCH LINE M.L.
RIGHT OF WAY R/W
SCALED DIMENSION (S)

SCALE

1 INCH = 100 FEET



TOWN OF

COLRAIN

MAP NO.

124

REVISED THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1981

ATHOL PUBLIC LIBRARY

568 MAIN STREET

ATHOL, MASS. 01331

Nov. 8, 1982

Mass. Historical Commission
294 Washington St.
Boston, MA 02108

RECEIVED

NOV - 4 1982

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Dear Members of the Historical Commission,
I am writing to urge you to declare the Arthur A. Smith bridge in Colrain a nominee to the National Register of Historic Places. This old covered bridge is worthy of preservation because of its beauty, its appropriateness to its lovely rural surroundings, and also because it is a useful and needed means for crossing the North River.

I am a Colrain native presently living in Orange and working in Athol. All citizens of Massachusetts and of this nation deserve to have such lovely sites as the Arthur A. Smith bridge saved; it will be as wise a decision as it is sensible and efficient.

Thank you —

Mary Cross
Director, Athol Library

Mrs. Barbara S. Compton
111 Main Street
Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts 01370

MASS HIST COMM.

Nov. 11, 1982

Mass. Historical Commission
294 Washington St.
Boston, Mass.

(ARTHUR A. SMITH BRIDGE
COLRAIN, MASS.)

Gentlemen:

The "S" in my name stands for Smith and Arthur A. was my Grandfather. Naturally, my interest in preserving the old Arthur Smith bridge is quite personal, only slightly more, however, than my interest as a history "buff."

My Mother brought me up on tales of that bridge, of how she learned her "tables" in the barn as my father hand milked his herd, how she later helped drive his cattle across the bridge to pasturage on the far side. It was across this bridge that she and her brothers traveled to their little one room school at the top of the hill. It was across this bridge that courting couples drove, sometimes with a short stop in the middle for a stolen kiss, I am told.

Mostly, however, it is its history and antiquity which makes it worthy of preservation, methinks. Moved from a site farther downstream many years ago, it has been battered by storms and other ravages of time and deserves a place in our history.

Please add my plea for the preservation of this bridge and a place on the National Register of Historic Places.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Barbara S. Compton

I am also told, although this I cannot authenticate, that the archway construction of the interior of the bridge is quite rare.

Colrain, Mass.
Nov. 13, 1982

Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington St.
Boston, Mass. 02108

Gentlemen:

Please permit us to give our comments on the restoration of the Arthur Smith covered bridge in the Town of Colrain scheduled for a review on Dec. 8th.

We strongly recommend that this landmark be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for several reasons:

1. Its lengthy and historical background
2. The only covered bridge left in this area when formerly there were many
3. The ingenious method used by our forebears in its construction
4. Its convenience for vehicular traffic

To detour around this edifice involves a narrow, crooked road populated by many small children--hard to see when snowbanks are high. Even though this bridge could not be restored for limited traffic, we would recommend that it at least be restored as a historical site.

Thank you for your consideration on Dec. 8th.

Very truly yours,

Velma B. Aiken
Robert E. Aiken

Velma B. Aiken
Robert E. Aiken
& many other residents of
West Colrain



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

November 15, 1982

Ms. Mary Cross
Director
Athol Public Library
568 Main Street
Athol, MA 01331

Dear Ms. Cross:

The Massachusetts Historical Commission would like to thank you for your support of the Arthur A. Smith bridge National Register nomination. A copy of your letter will be forwarded along with the nomination to the State Review Board and, if voted eligible, to the Keeper of the National Register.

Sincerely,

Virginia Fitch
Preservation Planner
Massachusetts Historical Commission

VF/pg



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133
722-1532

HON. JOHN W. OLVER
FRANKLIN AND HAMPSHIRE
DISTRICT

(RES.) P. O. Box 855
AMHERST, MA 01002
256-6643

COMMITTEES:
TAXATION (CHAIRMAN)
WAYS AND MEANS
STATE ADMINISTRATION
ENERGY
COUNTIES
TRANSPORTATION

November 17, 1982

Ms. Valerie Talmage, Acting Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington St.
Boston, MA 02108

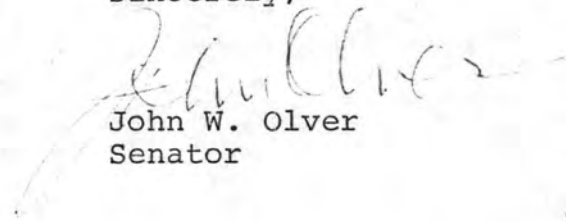
Dear Ms. Talmage:

It has come to my attention that on December 8, 1982 the Arthur A. Smith covered bridge will be considered for nomination to the National Register of Historical Places. I urge the state review board to take favorable action so that this bridge can be listed on the federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation.

The Arthur A. Smith Bridge, built in 1869 serves as one of Massachusetts few remaining covered bridges. Aside from its unique architectural qualities, it is also an integral part of the character and community of this small and traditional New England town.

This structure is certainly worthy of special note and preservation and, again, I urge the review board to take favorable action.

Sincerely,


John W. Olver
Senator

JWO/mn

NOV 27 1932

MASS. HIST. COMM

Has an residence of the Town of
Lynn, Mass., respectfully request that
the Commission nominate the Arthur A
Smith covered bridge, in said Town,
to the National Register of Historic
Places at your hearing on December 1st

Wilma B. Curran
 Robert C. Calken
 Harry F. Bessie
 Leopold A. Carey
 Charles C. Carey
 Lynda Dennis
 Agnes C. Prington
 Madeline Gray
 Frank Cutler
 Evelyn B. Cutting
 Thelma M. Cutting
 Danell Bird
 Ralph Street
 Margaret Boyd
 Euphemia R. Suzzley
 Fort Street
 Gladys Bird
 John R. Curran

Estelle M. Street
 Marie C. Odette
 John Thibodeau
 Wilma L. Galipe
 Estelle M. Street
 Beatrice K. Curasco
 Pat W. Sheridan
 Norrick L. Sively
 Mildred C. Berzger
 Randa Sallard
 Carl W. Galand
 Sophia Baggio
 Kathryn M. Patterson
 Doris L. Wells
 Albert A. Galipeault
 Margaret P. Thibodeau



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Rome, Italy

November 24, 1982

RECEIVED

DEC - 6 1982

Dear Members:

MASS. HIST. COMM.

It has come to my attention that you are considering nominating the Arthur A. Smith covered bridge in Colrain to the National Register of Historic Places.

As a home-owner in Colrain, I am delighted that you are aware of the vast importance of this bridge. It is one of the very few remaining covered bridges in New England, and all of us have been most concerned that we might lose it. It is of great significance both from an historical point of view and also from the great beauty that it contributes to the landscape.

Thank you for your interest,

Sincerely yours,

Maxwell M. Rabb

Maxwell M. Rabb
Ambassador

To the Members

Massachusetts Historical Commission

294 Washington Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02108



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

December 15, 1982

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20243

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Boston - Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (national)

✓ Colrain - Arthur A. Smith Covered Bridge (state)

Concord - Colonel Roger Brown House (local)

Tisbury - William Street Historic District (local)

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Registration Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CJ/pg





**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

February 25, 1983

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief
National Register of
Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter of support for the Arthur
Smith Covered Bridge (Colrain, Ma.) National Register nomination.

The nomination was sent to you on December 15, 1982.

Sincerely,

Virginia Fitch

Virginia Fitch
Preservation Planner

Enclosure

VF:jbm



CONN. RIVER VALLEY COVERED
BRIDGE SOCIETY

February 22, 1983

Massachusetts Historic Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Arthur Smith Covered Bridge, Colrain, Mass.
The Connecticut River Valley Covered Bridge Society has long been concerned with the preservation of the Arthur Smith Covered Bridge in Colrain, Mass. Tirzan Lincoln, President Emeritus of our Society, has been urging the Selectmen of Colrain for several years to take the necessary steps to have their last covered wooden bridge placed on the National Register. Last November our Society was informed that Colrain has filed their application with your office. One of only four historic highway covered wooden bridges left in Massachusetts, the Arthur Smith Bridge ought to be preserved as the only Burr truss bridge left in Massachusetts.

The Connecticut River Valley Covered Bridge Society wants to have its endorsement of the Arthur Smith Bridge application placed on file in your office.

Sincerely,

Edward D. Thomas
Edward D. Thomas
Secretart