

PH 000477

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Oxford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.2.18.0017	DATE 2/16/70

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Lovejoy Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Over Ellis River off Rt. #5 9 miles north of Rumford Point

CITY OR TOWN:  
Andover 04216 (2nd District Hon. William D. Hathaway)

STATE Maine	CODE 23	COUNTY: Oxford	CODE 017
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Town of Andover and State Highway Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Andover 04216	STATE: Maine	CODE 23
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Oxford County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: South Paris	STATE: Maine	CODE 23
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

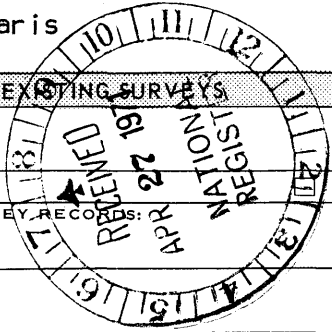
TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Federal  State  County  Local

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maine  
COUNTY: Oxford  
ENTRY NUMBER: 70.2.18.0017  
DATE: 2/16/70  
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**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

LOCATION AND SETTING:

This wooden covered bridge spans the Ellis River as it passes through the Town of Andover and in the South Andover section there of. Once the traveler is oriented in the village of Rumford Point (U.S. Rt. #2) he leaves U.S.Rt. #2 and proceeds north on Maine Rt. #5 for nine miles. At this point he would find a side road going East and entering it, he would immediately face this bridge. The local is rural. The Ellis River flows down slowly through broadening valley, between rugged mountains, until it reaches the Androscoggin River at Rumford Point. The river bottom land is fertile and, even in these modern times, it supports several productive farms.

CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIALS:

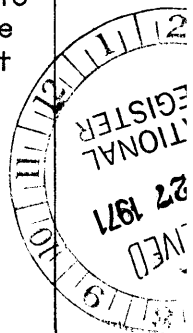
This wooden structure is about 70' long, 20' wide and 22' high from the floor to the peak of the gable roof. The overhead clearance is 14' and the bridge is rated to support a load limited to 5 tons. The bridge is built on granite block abutments set 65' apart at a narrow point in the River's width. It is Maine's shortest covered bridge.

The basic engineering concept employed in the span of this bridge is best described as being Paddleford Truss construction or a modification of a Long Truss System. The system consists of a series of crossed beams and King posts. One of the beams being morticed first into the King post near the bottom end while this beam's other end is morticed into the top of the next King post. Two smaller beams, parallel with each other, then cross the first beam and runs by King posts to anchor on the top and bottom chords. The King posts are morticed into the chords. In this manner King posts and cross beams run the length of the truss strengthening the bottom chord. The bottom chords of the two trusses are tied with cross beams which provide the base of the flooring planks which run down the length of the bridge. The top chords provide the plates for roof rafters which end in the peak of the gable. Rafters support purlins to which cedar shingles are nailed completing the cover of the gable roof. The sides of the bridge are boarded in. Boards run up and down. The ends of the gable are boarded in down to the clearance and covered with clapboards. Trim boards are added at the ends of the gable. The gable ends and trim are painted. The balance of the bridge is not painted. The side to side clearance is about 17'.

POTENTIAL THREAT: Forces of Nature and neglect

This bridge needs repairs but these are not serious, only the roof and boarded sides would be involved. It would appear that some of the roof rafters have broken away from the plate bulging the sides and creating the effect that the bridge is leaning. The structural members do not appear to be altered. It is the responsibility of the Town of Andover and the State Highway Commission to attend to these needed repairs and there is no doubt but what the repairs will be made in the near future. The balance of the fabric is good.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) | 1868

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

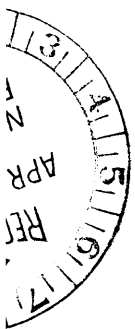
BACKGROUND:

Andover is situated midway of the length of Oxford County and is bounded on the east by Roxbury, on the North and West by Newry and by Rumford. The town is surrounded by mountains and is a region of grand and beautiful scenery. The surface of the town in the broad valley between the mountains is quite smooth. The Ellis River runs on a southerly course through this town. The township was purchased in 1791 of Massachusetts, by Samuel Johnson and others of Old Andover. It was incorporated in 1804 under the name of East Andover, but in 1821 became Andover. The first settler was Ezekiel Merrill, who in 1789, came with his wife and six children. In 1792 several families came in from Andover Massachusetts. Over time the forest cover was rolled back and the soil was cultivated. The manufacturers of the town have included lumber, doors sash and blinds, starch, cheese (factory), boots and shoes, edge-tools, carriages and harnesses. The first lumber mills were erected in 1791 by Colonel Thomas Poor. In 1870 the population was 757. Today, 1971, the population is 762. Most of the old factories have gone. Andover is today a quiet bedroom town for paper mill workers in industrial Rumford 20 miles south.

LOVEJOY BRIDGE:

This bridge was built in 1868, to serve as a connector between the West River Road from Rumford Point to Andover and the East River Road from Rumford Center. A small village grew up at this point on the Ellis River-- the South Andover Village. There have been no records available which can establish whether or not this was the first bridge at this point. Owing to the fact that the South Andover Village predates the known bridge's building date, 1868, it would be assumed that some mode of river crossing at this point was as necessary prior to 1868 as after and even today. The river narrows as this point and due to this short span between the banks could well have precluded a ferry and warranted a bridge or bridges prior to 1868.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. Newspaper article, Portland Press Herald, April 18, 1957, Maine's Covered Bridges.
2. Brochure, Maine State Highway Commission, Covered Bridges in Maine.
3. Magazine Article, Down East, May 1955, Trending into Maine - The Covered Bridges.
4. Allen, Richard Sanders, Covered Bridges of the Northeast, Brattleboro, 1957.

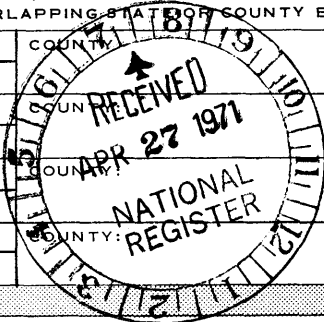
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0		"	0		"	44	35	37
NE	0		"	0		"	70	44	02
SE	0		"	0		"			
SW	0		"	0		"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/4 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
John W. Briggs Historian

ORGANIZATION: State Park and Recreation Commission DATE: Dec. 24, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:  
State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta 04330 STATE: Maine CODE: 23

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**      **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Lawrence Stuart  
Title Director  
Date December 24, 1969

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

James A. Connolly  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
2/16/70

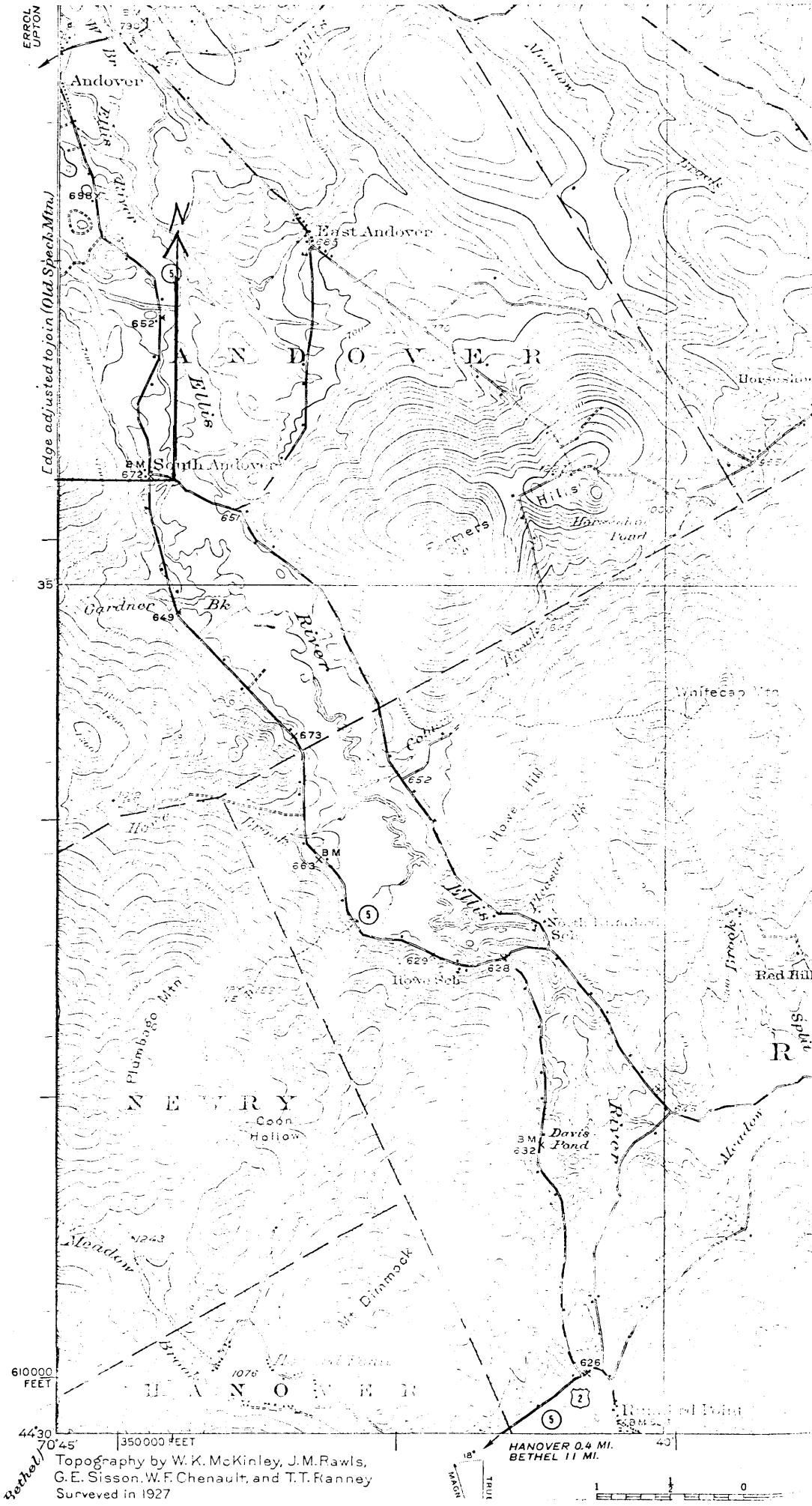
Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:  
William J. Smyth  
Keeper of The National Register  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

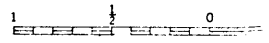
Lovejoy Bridge  
South Andover

44° 35' 37"  
70° 44' 02"



Topography by W. K. McKinley, J.M. Rawls,  
G.E. Sisson, W.F. Chenault, and T.T. Ranney  
Surveyed in 1927

HANOVER 0.4 MI.  
BETHEL 1.1 MI.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Maine	
COUNTY	
Oxford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
10.2.18.0017	2/16/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Lovejoy Bridge  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Over Ellis River off Rt. #5 9 miles north of Rumford Point

CITY OR TOWN:

Andover 04216 (2nd District Hon. William D. Hathaway)

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maine	23	Oxford	017

**3. MAP REFERENCE**

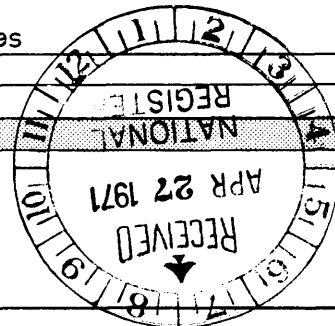
SOURCE:  
U. S. G.S. Rumford Quadrangle 15 minute series  
SCALE: 1:62500  
DATE: 1927

**4. REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- Property boundaries where required.
- North arrow.
- Latitude and longitude reference.

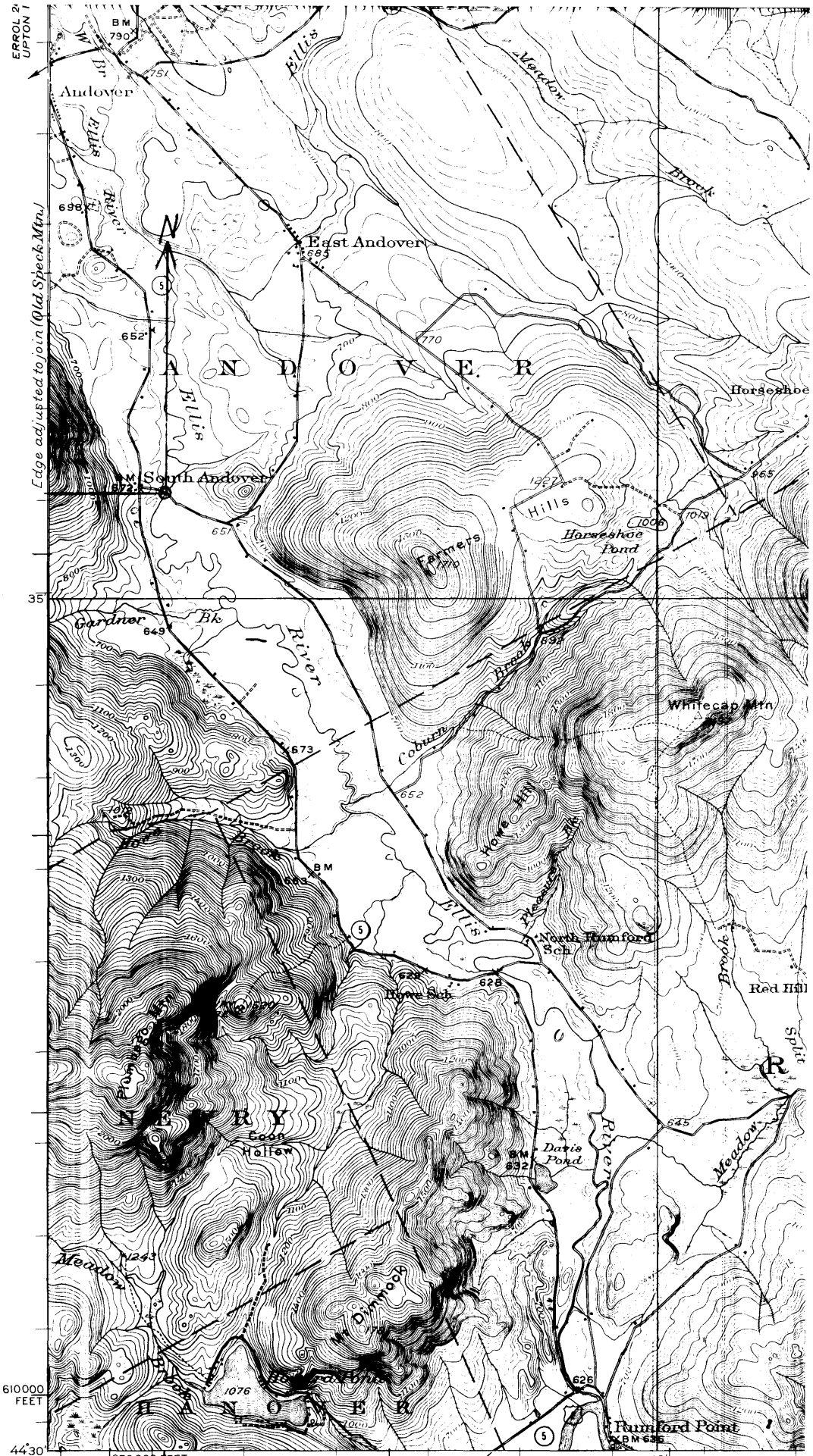
*Ant. L. Jones*



PH 0004499

Lovejoy Bridge  
South Andover

44° 35' 37"  
70° 44' 02"



Edge adjusted to join (Old Speck Mtn.)

Topography by W. K. McKinley, J. M. Rawls,  
G. E. Sisson, W. F. Chenault, and T. T. Ranney  
Surveyed in 1927

HANOVER 0.4 MI.  
BETHEL 11 MI.

