

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Vermont
COUNTY:	Windsor
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	AUG 28 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Upper Falls Covered Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Town road across Black River immediately south of
Vermont Route 131, 0.5 mile west of Downer's Corners

CITY OR TOWN: Weathersfield CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: Vermont CODE: 50 COUNTY: Windsor CODE: 027

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input 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)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Town of Weathersfield

STREET AND NUMBER: (no street number)

CITY OR TOWN: Weathersfield STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Office of Town Clerk

STREET AND NUMBER: (no street number)

CITY OR TOWN: Weathersfield STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

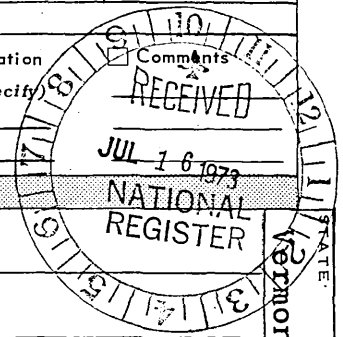
TITLE OF SURVEY: Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1973 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Vermont Division of Historic Sites

STREET AND NUMBER: Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier STATE: Vermont CODE: 50



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Vermont

COUNTY: Windsor

ENTRY NUMBER: AUG 28 1973

DATE: 1973

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

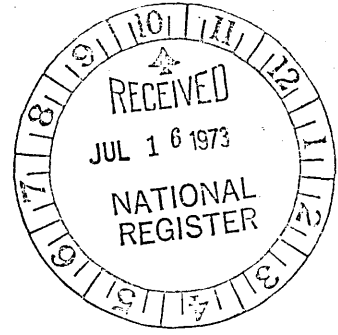
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Upper Falls Covered Bridge consists of a single span supported by two flanking timber Town lattice trusses. At each corner of the bridge, a wood buttress inclines inward from an extended floor beam to the upper side of the truss. Intended to give lateral support to the superstructure, these buttresses have largely rotted away, and the superstructure leans eastward, especially toward the north end. The southern end of the bridge rests on its original abutment of stone slabs; the northern abutment has been either rebuilt or faced with concrete.

The Upper Falls bridge is 120 feet long at the bottom of the trusses, with a gable overhang of 4 feet at each end. The bridge is 18.5 feet wide, with a 15-foot roadway.

On the exterior, the large planks pegged together diagonally to form the trusses (and side walls) of the bridge are sheathed with flush boards hung vertically. Many of these boards are missing, especially on the east side and near the portals. There are no windows or intentional openings in the siding. The gables are pedimented with a partial cornice return, several components of which are missing. The gables are sheathed with flush horizontal boards. The roof is covered with corrugated metal sheeting.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **not known**

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

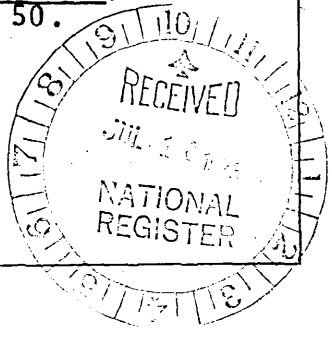
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Upper Falls Covered Bridge, with its pedimented gables, represents the pervasive influence of the Greek Revival style on rural Vermont building art in the latter 19th century. The style arrived later and remained fashionable longer in Vermont than in most other parts of the country. It appeared in many structures other than houses, with the Upper Falls bridge (which probably dates from about 1870) demonstrating its application to bridge design.

The southern abutment of the Upper Falls bridge is an outstanding example of massive dry laid stonework. The stone slabs are laid up into smooth faces with precise corners. The abutment is unusually long and high, intended to carry the bridge well above flood stage of the Black River.

The covered bridges of Vermont are among its most cherished and symbolic historic resources. About one hundred bridges still stand in the state, the greatest concentration by area of covered bridges in the country.¹ Many of these bridges are integral parts of unique architectural environments whose physical setting and cultural context have been little altered until recently. However, extensive highway construction programs are now drastically changing the historic environment of the state. The Vermont Division of Historic Sites wishes to extend the recognition and protection of the National Register to the majority of the surviving covered bridges, including the Upper Falls bridge.

 1. R. S. Allen, Covered Bridges of the Northeast, The Stephen Greene Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1957. p. 50.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allen, Richard Sanders, Rare Old Covered Bridges of Windsor County, The Stephen Greene Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1962.

Allen, Richard Sanders, Covered Bridges of the Northeast, The Stephen Greene Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1957.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

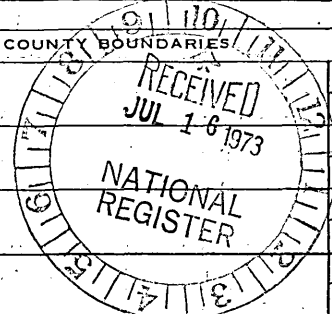
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		43° 23' 55"	72° 31' 20"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
18/700640
4807850
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Hugh H. Henry, Researcher

ORGANIZATION: Vermont Division of Historic Sites DATE: June 8, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

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: William B. Priney Title: Director of Historic Sites State Historic Preservation Officer Date: July 11, 1973

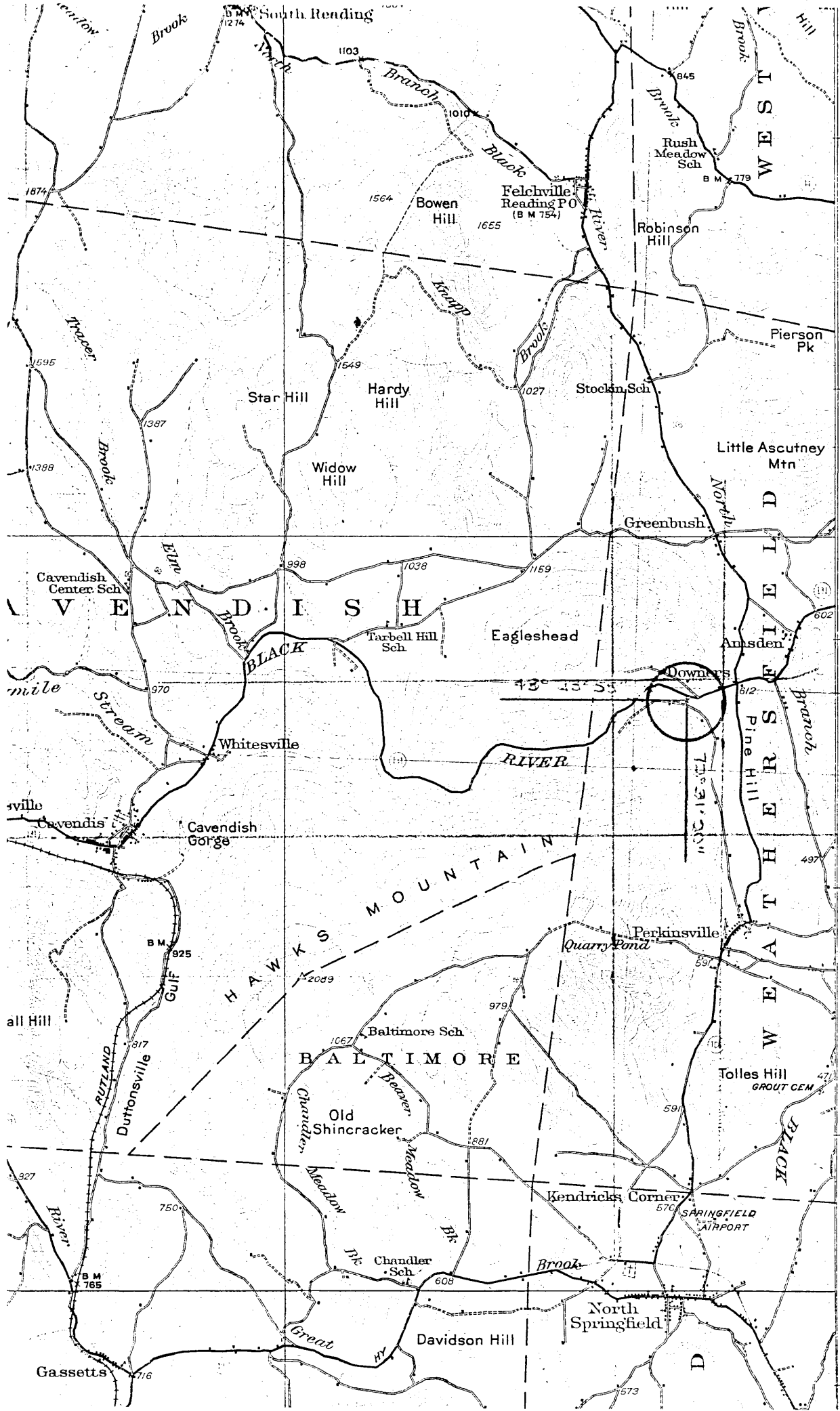
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert Van Arley
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 8/28/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: [Signature]



VERTICAL SCALE
 1" = 1000'

ACCURACY 5 MI
 CLARENCE 5.8 MI

(Clarendon)

11/750640
 11/7850

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

STATE	Vermont	
COUNTY	Windsor	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	AUG 28 1973	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:		Upper Falls Covered Bridge	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Town road across Black River immediately south of Vermont Route 131, 0.5 mile west of Downer's Corners			
CITY OR TOWN: Weathersfield			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Vermont	50	Windsor	027
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 15 minute series (topographic) - Ludlow, Vt.			
SCALE: 1:62,500			
DATE: 1929			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

