

2-4-74

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Vermont	
COUNTY: Windsor	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUL 2 1973	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Best's Covered Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

about 1/2 mile off of Windsor off vt. 104

STREET AND NUMBER: **Town road across Mill Brook 0.1 mile south of Vermont Route 44, 2.7 miles southwest of Brownsville village**

CITY OR TOWN:
West Windsor

STATE: Vermont	CODE: 50	COUNTY: Windsor	CODE: 027
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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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Town of West Windsor

STREET AND NUMBER:
(no street number)

CITY OR TOWN:
West Windsor

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:
West Windsor

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

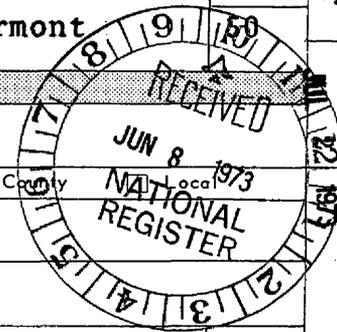
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Vermont Division of Historic Sites

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Montpelier

STATE:
Vermont

CODE:
50



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Vermont**

COUNTY: **Windsor**

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input 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

Best's Covered Bridge consists of a single span supported by two flanking arches of laminated planks. Each arch is made of five layers bolted together. Iron suspension rods through the arches, complemented by enclosed wood uprights, support the principal floor stringers. The abutments are built of stone slabs without mortar. The bridge is 37 feet long and 15 feet wide, with a 12.5-foot roadway.

A shed (cover) of post-and-beam construction stands on the arch span, protecting its wood members from weathering. On the exterior, the side walls and gable ends are sheathed with flush boards hung vertically. There are no windows or openings in the siding. The roof is covered with standing seam metal sheeting painted green.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

X

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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

One of two similar covered bridges remaining in the town of West Windsor, Best's bridge has an unusual structure for covered bridges in Vermont. Low, simple arches of laminated planks carry the deck of the bridge; the post-and-beam shed above them simply stands on the deck. Although technically unsophisticated, the structure serves quite adequately the need for an economic, durable span to carry a lightly traveled country road over a small brook.

Vermont's covered bridges are among the state's 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 Best's 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

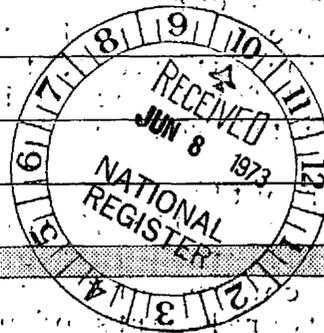
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		43° 27' 19"	72° 30' 58"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

NO
UTM
ED

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Hugh H. Henry, Researcher**

ORGANIZATION: **Vermont Division of Historic Sites** DATE: **May 10, 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 D. Fenney

Title: **Director of Historic Sites
State Historic Preservation
Officer**

Date: **June 1, 1973**

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

Richard K. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/2/73

ATTEST:

W. D. Fenney
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 6 25 73

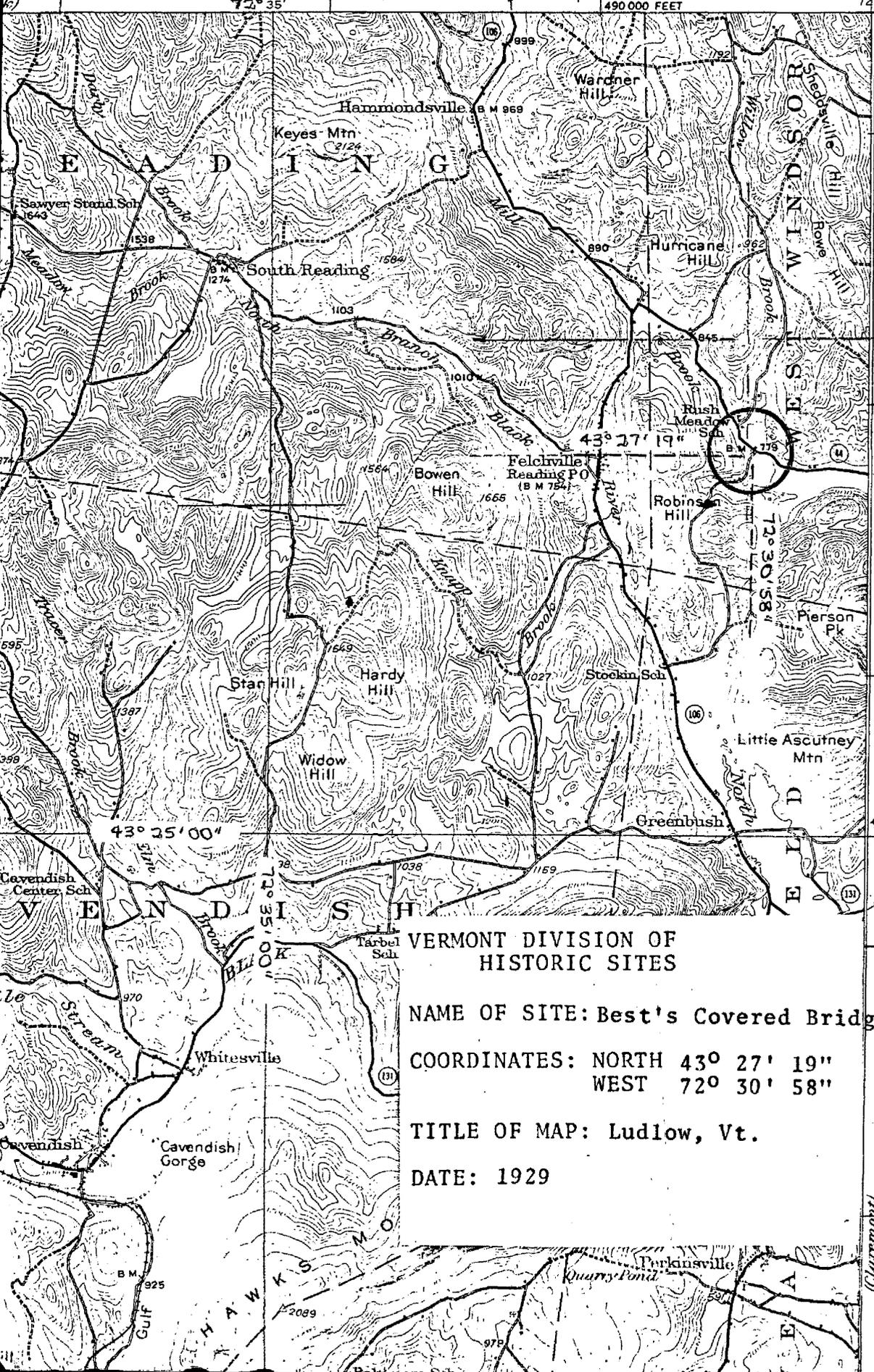
VERMONT
BY THE
TOPOLOGIST

WOODSTOCK (JUNC. U.S. 4) 10 MI.
SOUTH WOODSTOCK 5.3 MI.

VERMONT

LUDLOW QUADRANGLE

72° 30' (Harover)
43° 30'



360 000
FEET

BROWNSVILLE 1.9 MI.
WINDSOR 7.7 MI.

43° 25' 00"

ASCUTNEY 5 MI.
CLAREMONT 9.8 MI.



VERMONT DIVISION OF
HISTORIC SITES

NAME OF SITE: Best's Covered Bridge

COORDINATES: NORTH 43° 27' 19"
WEST 72° 30' 58"

TITLE OF MAP: Ludlow, Vt.

DATE: 1929

(Claremont)

**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	DATE
JUL 2	1973

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: **Best's Covered Bridge**
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **Town road across Mill Brook 0.1 mile south of
Vermont Route 44, 2.7 miles southwest of Brownsville village**

CITY OR TOWN:
West Windsor

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.

