

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Vermont
COUNTY:	Lamoille
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	OCT 9 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:	Poland Covered Bridge
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Town road across Lamoille River at north edge of Cambridge Junction village VT 157-1			
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge Junction		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Vt. District	
STATE: Vermont	CODE: 50	COUNTY: Lamoille	CODE: 015

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"/> 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

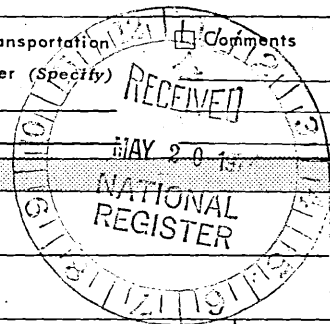
OWNER'S NAME: Town of Cambridge
STREET AND NUMBER: (no street number)
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge
STATE: Vermont
CODE: 50

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Office of Town Clerk
STREET AND NUMBER: (no street number)
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge
STATE: Vermont
CODE: 50

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Vermont Historic Sites & Structures Survey
DATE OF SURVEY: 1974 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Vermont Division of Historic Sites
STREET AND NUMBER: Pavilion Building
CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier
STATE: Vermont
CODE: 50



STATE: Vermont
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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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

The Poland Covered Bridge consists of a single span supported by two flanking timber Burr arch trusses. Each truss incorporates an arch built of two parallel arcs of single timbers, one mounted on each side of the vertical posts and diagonal braces, and bolted together through the posts. Some iron suspension rods connect the top and bottom chords for reinforcement. A central laminated stringer has been tie-bolted to the underside of the deck beams for additional support. The structure rests on abutments built of irregular stone which have been partly mortared together and capped with concrete.

The Poland Bridge is 152.5 feet long at floor level, and has a clear span of 138.5 feet. The ends of the side walls flare outward to meet the gable ends, which overhang the floor 4.5 feet at each portal. The bridge is 19.5 feet wide and has a 15.5-foot roadway. The wood floor consists of planks laid on edge and parallel to the trusses, and is paved.

On the exterior, the timbers pegged and bolted together to form the trusses (and side walls) of the bridge are sheathed with unpainted flush boards hung vertically. The siding stops short of the eaves to leave strip openings along the tops of the walls; near the center of the span, the siding rises with the curvature of the arches nearly to the eaves. There are five rectangular windows spaced irregularly along the west wall; the east wall has one window near each end.

The gable ends are also sheathed with unpainted flush boards hung vertically. The portal openings are rectangular with diagonal upper corners, which cover the first interior struts. The medium-pitch gable roof is covered with corrugated metal sheeting.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. 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) **1887**

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 Poland Covered Bridge crosses the Lamoille River at the former railroad interchange and station of Cambridge Junction. The bridge stands a short distance northeast of the junction between the Saint Johnsbury and Lamoille County Railroad (originally the Vermont Division of the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad) and the abandoned Burlington and Lamoille Railroad, which were opened to traffic in 1877.¹ The Poland Bridge, which is the first bridge at the site, was constructed to provide direct access to the Cambridge Junction depot for residents of towns north of the river. George W. Holmes completed the bridge during the autumn of 1887; Luther A. Wheelock laid the abutments under contract. The Poland Bridge derives its name from the resident of the adjoining town of Waterville, Luke P. Poland, who instigated construction of the bridge by means of legal suit against the Town of Cambridge.²

The Poland Bridge has the longest clear span (138.5 feet) of the nine remaining covered bridges in Vermont which are supported by timber Burr arch trusses. Its span ranks second in length among all the covered bridges in the state; only the Scott Bridge in Townshend has a longer original clear span (155 feet). However, owing to structural deterioration, the Scott Bridge has been closed to vehicular traffic, and a temporary bent has been placed under its main span. The Poland Bridge, therefore, now has the longest clear span of the covered bridges which still carry vehicular traffic in Vermont. The bridge remains essentially unaltered in structure.

The covered bridges of Vermont are among its most cherished and symbolic historic resources. About one hundred of the bridges still stand in the state, the highest concentration by area of covered bridges in the United States.³ Many of these bridges have been altered only slightly, and many relate to other structures and villagescapes to form a unique historic environment. Recently, however, various forces have caused drastic changes in the state. The covered bridges have become subject to increasingly intense and detrimental effects of those changes. The Vermont Division of Historic Sites, there-

(continued on continuation sheet)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

Hagerman, Robert L., Covered Bridges of Lamoille County, Robert L. Hagerman, Morrisville, Vt., 1972.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

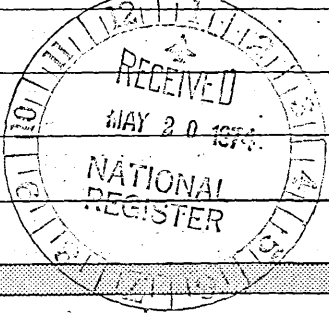
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		44°	39'	05"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		72°	48'	53"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

18/073260
4946290
60

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, Historic Sites Researcher

ORGANIZATION: **Vermont Division of Historic Sites** DATE: **5/2/74**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pavilion Building

CITY OR TOWN: **Montpelier** STATE: **Vermont** CODE: **50**

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

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>William B. Purney</u></p> <p>Title: <u>Director of Historic Sites</u> <u>State Historic Preservation Officer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>5/14/74</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>A. R. Werten</u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date: <u>10/9/74</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>Charles A. Bennett</u> acting Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: <u>10-7-74</u></p>
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STATE	
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COUNTY	
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OCT 9	1974

Section 8

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

fore, wishes to extend the recognition and protection of the National Register of Historic Places to a majority of the remaining covered bridges.

1. Robert L. Hagerman, Covered Bridges of Lamoille County, Robert L. Hagerman, Morrisville, Vt., 1972, p. 11.
2. Ibid., p. 12.
3. R. S. Allen, Covered Bridges of the Northeast, The Stephen Greene Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1957, p. 50.

