UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: REMOVAL

PROPERTY NAME: Morse Bridge

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MAINE, Penobscot

DATE RECEIVED: 8/14/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/29/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 70000060

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 9.29.15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

REMOVED
from
National Register

REMOVED
from
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA Remove/ —

REVIEWER Edson Beall DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 9.29.15

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

PH0004634

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
Maine	
COUNTY:	
Penobscot	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
10.2.18.0019	2/16/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Morse Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Coe Park - Kenduskeag Stream

CITY OR TOWN: Bangor 04401 (2nd District Hon. William Hathaway)

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maine	23	Penobscot	019

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Building ☐ Site ☒ Structure ☐ Object	☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☒ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☒ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☒ Park	☒ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other *(Specify)*	
☒ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: City of Bangor

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Bangor

STATE: Maine CODE: 23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Penobscot County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Bangor

STATE: Maine CODE: 23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

RECEIVED APR 27 1971 NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE: Maine
COUNTY: Penobscot

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER: 10.2.18.0019
DATE: 2/16/70

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☒ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)			
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☒ Moved	☐ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(If known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old Morse Covered Bridge in Bangor, 212 feet in length, is the longest such structure in Maine and the only covered bridge in the northeastern United States located within the limits of a city.

Today, through a five-year volunteer project, the old bridge has been saved and preserved and is in use as a pedestrian crossing downstream from its former site. Put to its present use in 1965, the bridge has proven to be a tremendous tourist attraction for bridge "collectors" and children who have never seen one like it before.

The bridge almost met an untimely end when a new bridge was erected to replace it. The covered bridge was moved downstream for use while its successor was being built. It was considered a fire hazard to the new span and the decision was made that it had to be moved again or demolished. At this point, civic minded citizens in the Queen City began to raise necessary funds, aided by contributions from individuals, organizations and the City of Bangor herself. The city now maintains the bridge.

The roof of the bridge is all slate, mostly from London. The blocks of granite in the pier and abutments number more than 300 and weigh two to four tons. Its truss, unique in its use of iron rods for support, was designed by William Howe. (See example on continuation page.) - ?

The Morse Bridge now occupies the central position in Coe Park, a municipal park on both the East and West sides of Kenduskeag Stream in the heart of Bangor.

Structurally, the bridge and abutments are sound. The cover, of boards, clapboards, and trim, are nearly all now restored.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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)* 1882

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Aboriginal	☐ Education	☐ Political	☐ Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	☒ Engineering	☐ Religion/Philosophy	☐ Other *(Specify)*
☐ Historic	☐ Industry		
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	☐ Science	
☐ Architecture	☐ Landscape Architecture	☐ Sculpture	
☐ Art	☐ Literature	☐ Social/Humanitarian	
☐ Commerce	☐ Military	☐ Theater	
☐ Communications	☐ Music	☒ Transportation	
☐ Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bangor, the third largest city in Maine, is located on the west side of the Penobscot River at the head of the tide, some 23 miles from Penobscot Bay on the Atlantic. The city is bisected by the Kenduskeag Stream.

The nomination of the Morse Bridge should, in no way, develop an overview of the City of Bangor's place in history. However, the Kenduskeag Stream, itself, played a primary role in the settlement of what became Bangor, as it provided the power sites of a great many water driven saw mills.

Bangor, of the 19th Century, was synonymous with lumber, for in the 1850's, Bangor was the leading lumber port in the world and later second only to Chicago in the 1870's. Throughout the history of Bangor, many bridges have spanned the Kenduskeag Stream, but now the oldest remaining is the Morse Bridge.

Morse Covered Bridge was first erected in 1882. Its truss, unique in its use of iron rods for support, was designed by William Howe, a relative of the inventor of the sewing machine. The span was at one time known as the Bridge of Sighs--sheep were driven through it to the slaughter house, bleating as if they sensed their fate. The bridge once served horses and buggies, the trolly to Kenduskeag and cars and trucks, all of which needed to use it to cross over a portion of Kenduskeag Stream at its initial location by the Old Morse's Mill on Valley Avenue in Bangor.

The present location of the span is said to be near one of the underground tunnels used to help slaves escape during the Civil War era. The Morse Bridge, by its continuing existance, provides an association with the past and the historic scene about the Kenduskeag Stream's section of Bangor.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Newspaper Article, Covered Bridge at Bangor is Maine's Longest, the Courier Gazette, Rockland, Maine, August 24, 1969, pg. 31.

2. Newspaper Article, Maine's Covered Bridges, No. 7 of a series, Portland Press Herald, June 12, 1957, pg. 11.

3. Sloane, Eric, American Barns and Covered Bridges, New York, Funk and Wagnalls, 1954.

19/517500/4961400

OTM Ref-wm
1-23-76

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			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	44°	48'	27"	68°	46'	44"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

RECEIVED APR 27 1971 NATIONAL REGISTER

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: John W. Briggs, Historian

ORGANIZATION: State Park and Recreation Commission

DATE: December 24, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER: State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta

STATE: Maine

CODE: 23

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connally

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

2/16/70

Date

ATTEST:

William J. Murtagh

Keeper of The National Register

Date

PASS
AT
YOUR
RISK

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE	
Maine	
COUNTY	
Penobscot	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.2.18.0019	2/16/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Morse Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Coe Park - Kenduskeag Stream

CITY OR TOWN:
Bangor 04401

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maine	23	Penobscot	019

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: State Park and Recreation Commission

DATE OF PHOTO: 1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT:
State Office Building - Augusta, Maine

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Looking to East.

RECEIVED APR 27 1971 NATIONAL REGISTER

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

STATE	
Maine	
COUNTY	
Penobscot	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.2.18.0019	2/16/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Morse Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Coe Park - Kenduskeag Stream

CITY OR TOWN:

Bangor 04401 (2nd District Hon. William D. Hathaway)

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maine	23	Penobscot	019

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: U. S. G. S. Bangor Quadrangle, 15 minute series

SCALE: 1:62500

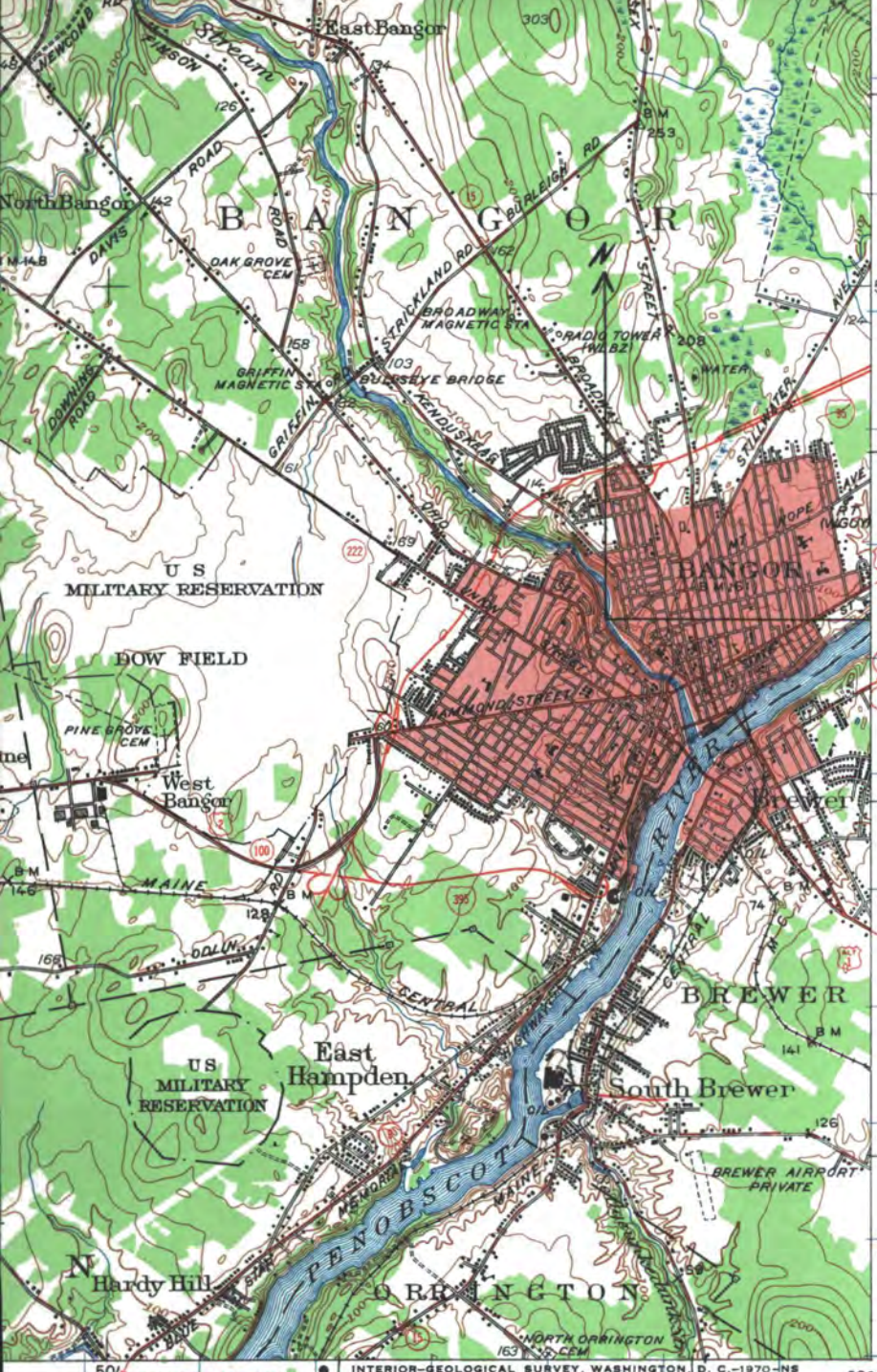
DATE: 1955

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property broundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

RECEIVED
APR 27 1971
NATIONAL REGISTER



INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.-1970-NS

4 MILES

18000 21000 FEET

5 KILOMETERS

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty — Light-duty

Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt

Interstate Route · U.S. Route · State Route

MAINE

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ATER

0242

N REQUEST

BANGOR, ME.

N4445—W6845/15

1955

AMS 7273 IV—SERIES V711

MORSE BRIDGE
pit0004634

UTM REF-WM
1-22-76

19/517500
4961400

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

BANGOR QUADRANGLE
MAINE—PENOBSCOT CO.
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

7174 II (DOVER-FOXCROFT)
7274 II (PASSADUMKEAG)
7274 III (BOYD LAKE)
7173 I (STETSON)
7273 I (ORONO)
7273 III (BUCKSPORT)
7173 II (BROOKS)
7273 II (ORLAND)

MILO 19 MI.
BRADFORD 5.7 MI.
DOVER-FOXCROFT 21 MI.
EAST CORINTH 2 MI.
OLD TOWN 6.5 MI.
BANGOR 16 MI.
CORINNA (JUNC. ME. 7) 15 MI.
WEST LEVANT 0.8 MI.
NEWPORT 15 MI.
CARMEL 2.7 MI.
NEWBURGH CENTER 4.4 MI.
AUGUSTA 57 MI.
HAMPDEN 0.6 MI.
BELFAST 30 MI.
ORRINGTON 1.7 MI.
BUCKSPORT 15 MI
ORONO (JUNC. ME. 155) 6.5 MI.
OLD TOWN 11 MI.
EDDINGTON 3.5 MI.
AURORA 26 MI.
EAST HOLDEN 7 MI.
ELLSWORTH 25 MI.

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs taken 1942. Topography by planetable surveys 1944. Revised 1955

Hydrography compiled from USC&GS chart 1227 (1956)

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maine coordinate system, east zone
1,000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 19, shown in blue

To join Boyd Lake and Stetson maps use dotted projection corners

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

UTM GRID AND 1955 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:62 500

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 13 FEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route — U. S. Route — State Route

BANGOR, ME.
N4445—W6845/15

1955

AMS 7273 IV—SERIES V711

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.
Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

FEB 16 1970

H34-NR

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

Hon. Margaret Chase Smith
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Smith:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Maine and have been entered into the "National Register of Historic Places." Senator Edmund S. Muskie and appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ Ernest Allen Connally

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology
and Historic Preservation

2/12/70

cc:
Regional Director, Northeast Region
LL-Mr. Melvin
T-Mr. Butterfield
HR
RGamble:mm

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register FEB 16 1970

cc:
Mr. Lawrence Stuart, Director, State Park and Recreation Commission,
State Office Building, Augusta, Maine 04330

Duplicate letters sent to:
Hon. Edmund S. Muskie
Hon. William Dodd Hathaway
Hon. Peter N. Kyros

H34-HR

Properties added to the National Register of Historical Places

MAINE

Montpelier	Knox County, Maine
Eagle Island	Cumberland County, Maine
Songo Lock	Cumberland County, Maine
Popham Colony	Sagadahoc County, Maine
Babb's Bridge	Cumberland County, Maine
Bennett Bridge	Oxford County, Maine
Hemlock Bridge	Oxford County, Maine
Robyville Bridge	Penobscot County, Maine
Lovejoy Bridge	Oxford County, Maine
Lowe's Bridge	Piscataquis County, Maine
Morse Bridge	Penobscot County, Maine
Porter-Parsonfield Bridge	York County and Oxford County, Maine
Sunday River Bridge	Oxford County
Watson Settlement Bridge	Aroostook County, Maine

8. Robyville Bridge - Corinth, Penobscot County (019) Maine (18). Built in 1876, it crosses the Kenduskeag Stream.

9. Lovejoy Bridge - South Andover, Oxford County (017) Maine (18). Built in 1868 it crosses the Ellis River.

10. Lowe's Bridge - Routes 15 and 16 Sangerville and Guilford, Piscataquis County (021) Maine (18). Built in 1857 it crosses the Piscataquis River.

11. Morse Bridge - once located on Valley Avenue in Bangor over the Kenduskeag stream was dismantled in 1961. It has since been re-assembled down stream at Coe Park. Bangor, Penobscot County (019) Maine (18). It is the largest covered bridge in Maine (212 feet in length) and was built in 1882.

12. Porter-Parsonfield Bridge - Porter, York County (031) and Parsonfield, Oxford County (017) Maine (18). Built in 1858 it crosses the Ossipee River.

13. Sunday River Bridge - Newry, Oxford County (017) Maine (18). Built in 1872 it crosses the Sunday River.

14. Watson Settlement Bridge - Littleton, Aroostook County (003) Maine (18). Built in 1911 it crosses the Meduxnekeag Stream.

We are most mindful of your need for original maps which should accompany nomination forms. May we please take a liberty at this time in respect to maps for the locations of the above listed properties on these advance nominations. We have prepared the actual U.S.G.S. topographic maps. We wish to retain them in our files until the actual separate nominations for the properties are completed for your review and/or not approval. We are then making Xerox copies of our maps which are enclosed for each property location. The original maps will accompany the actual nomination forms at a later date.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John W. Briggs

John W. Briggs
Historian

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

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

FEB 16 1970
Date

properties have been reviewed and approved for Committee for Historic Sites of the State Park and this is certified by me.

Lawrence Stuart
Lawrence Stuart, Director
State Liaison Officer

ATTEST:

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of The National Register
FEB 11 1970
Date

6. Bennett Bridge - Lincoln Plantation, Oxford County (017) crosses the Magalloway River 1 1/4 miles south of Wilson Mills and 5 1/2 miles north of Wentworth Location, New Hampshire. The bridge is on a country road 1/8 of a mile due west from Route 16.

7. Hemlock Bridge - Fryeburg, Oxford County (017). This bridge crosses the Saco River 6 miles northeast of Fryeburg proper, at the mid point the third mile of a 6 mile country road which lies between U. S. Route 302 and Maine Route 5.

8. Robyville Bridge - Corinth, Penobscot County (019) crosses the Kenduskeag River 2 1/2 miles northwest of Kenduskeag Village. It is located on a country road which lies between Maine Route 15 and Maine Route 222. This bridge is 6 miles northwest of Bangor.

9. Lovejoy Bridge - South Andover, Oxford County (017). This bridge crosses the Ellis River at South Andover which is three miles south of Andover and 6 1/2 miles northwest of Rumford Point. It lies on a short cross road between Maine Route 5 and a country road which connects Andover with Rumford Point.

10. Lowe's Bridge - Route 15 and 16 Sangerville and Guilford, Piscataquis County (201). This bridge crosses the Piscataquis River 4 1/4 miles west of Dover-Foxcroft proper, and 25 miles due north of Newport, Maine.

11. Morse Bridge - Bangor, Penobscot County (019) today lies on a new site only a few yards downstream from its original location on the Kenduskeag River within the city limits of Bangor, Maine, a Valley Avenue.

12. Porter-Parsonfield Bridge, Porter, York County (031). This bridge crosses the Ossipee River 1/2 mile southwest of Porter Village proper. This point in Maine is located some 35 miles W.N.W. of Portland, Maine.

13. Sunday River - Newry, Oxford County (017). This bridge crosses the Sunday River on a road which is now closed. A country road leads by this bridge and continues up the Sunday River for 6 miles. This road leaves U. S. Route 2 five miles north of Bethel, Maine.

14. Watson Settlement Bridge - Littleton, Aroostook County (003). This bridge crosses the Meduxnekeag Stream 1 mile due west of the border between Maine U. S. and New Brunswick, Canada. It is at a point two miles off and east of U. S. Route 1 nine miles due north of Houlton, Maine.

We are enclosing an official Highway map of Maine. On this map we have designated the location of the 14 advance nominations named above.

STATE PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION
State Office Building
Augusta, Maine 04330

LAWRENCE STUART
DIRECTOR

AREA CODE 207
289-3821

July 6, 1971

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
United States Dept. of Interior
National Park Service
Office of Archeology & Historic Preservation
801 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

You have returned the nomination for the Morse Bridge in Bangor, Maine. The longitude coordinate as recorded in our nomination was indeed incorrect. The proper correction has been made and we are returning nomination. We have corrected our records accordingly.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

John W. Briggs
Historian

JWB/rhs
Enc.

70000060

March 28, 1983

Mr. Jerry L. Rogers, Associate Director
National Register Programs
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Jerry:

I regret to inform you that the wooden Morse Covered Bridge in Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine (N.R. 2/16/70) was destroyed by arson on March 26, 1983. Because the fire left only the stone piers intact, I recommend that this structure be removed from the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer

EGS/slm

CONTROL SHEET
National Register
Inventory-Nomination Forms

Penobscot
Morse Bridge - 70-218 ~~[illegible]~~ 0019

Me.
NPS Number

RECEIPT — ADVANCE NOMINATIONS FROM MAINE OF 14 PROPERTIES — SIGN OFF

Date of Receipt 12/29/69

	Yes	No	Number
Data Page	/ /	/ /	
Photo(s)	/ /	/ /	
Photo Description(s)	/ /	/ /	
Map(s)	/ /	/ /	
Map Description(s)	/ /	/ /	
Logged	/ /	/ /	
Acknowledged 12/31/69	/ /	/ /	

RG 12/31/69

REVIEW — These need location, & boundary designations — suggest hold
Also # 4 - site (archeological? what?)

Historian — Comments
Ok — BL 1/7/70

Architect — Comments
Ok — Chambers 1/2/69

If checked ret. to Clerk — / / Chief Architect / / Chief Archeologist / / Chief Historian

Keeper — Comments
OK — [illegible] 2/11/70

ENTRY

Chief, OAHP — Comments

Date of Entry

Registry Clerk

	Yes	No	Date
Assign NPS No.	/ /	/ /	
Acknowledgement Sent	/ /	/ /	

EDITORIAL PROCESSING

Editor — Date
Federal Register Entry
Annual Edition Entry

Ok
Does Dr. C [illegible]

FILE FILE FILE

WORKING NO.

advance nomination

Morse Bridge Maine

70.2.18.0019 2/16/70

4/27/71

8/18/71

7/7/71 4/28/71

Penobscot Co.

OK Hunt 7/12/71

OK S Marcus 6/30/71

ok Levy 7/26/71

Chambers

Ok 7-23-71

OK Cox 7/29/71

SEK 8-5

ok

ED 7/23/71

12.29.69.11

Return 6/30/71 RH

- long coord inaccurate

RECEIVED
APR 27 1971
NATIONAL REGISTER

→ PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE PROPERTY IS RESUBMITTED. DATE June 30, 1971

NAME OF PROPERTY Morse Bridge

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned [illegible] for clarification of the information indicated below.

Insufficient locational information.
Comments:

Geographical location codes missing or incorrect.

Classification (Item #3) incomplete.
Comments:

Name of property/location of legal description necessary.
Comments:

[illegible]

Arrange of nomination not provided.
Comments:

XXX Longitude and latitude coordinates.
Comments: Longitude coordinate looks inaccurate. It should fall in the approximate vicinity of 45" rather than 14". Please recompute and adjust form (Part 10) as necessary.

Form is not signed by the State Liaison Officer (Item #12).

Photographic forms (Form 10-301) required for each photograph/map.

Insufficient map coverage of property.
Comments:

Description (Item #7).
Comments:

Statement of Significance (Item #8).
Comments:

Name forms unacceptable.

Other.
Comments:

[illegible] of correction of the items noted above must be [illegible] professional review. Correction of these [illegible] not necessarily insure that the nomination [illegible] criteria in full.

RECEIVED JUL 7 1971 NATIONAL REGISTER

Thank you.

Wm Brinitzgh

AUGUSTA, MAINE
JUL 2 1971
AM

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

2015 - Correspondence related to removal

MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
55 CAPITOL STREET
65 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

KIRK F. MOHNEY
DIRECTOR

6 October 2015

J. Paul Loether
National Register Chief
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)
Washington , DC 20005

Dear Chief Loether:

On March 26, 1983 the Morse Covered Bridge in Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine (NR: 70000060, listed 2/16/1970) was destroyed by arson. Because the fire left only the stone piers intact, I request that this structure be removed from the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Christi A. Mitchell
National Register Coordinator

PHONE: (207) 287-2132

FAX: (207) 287-2335

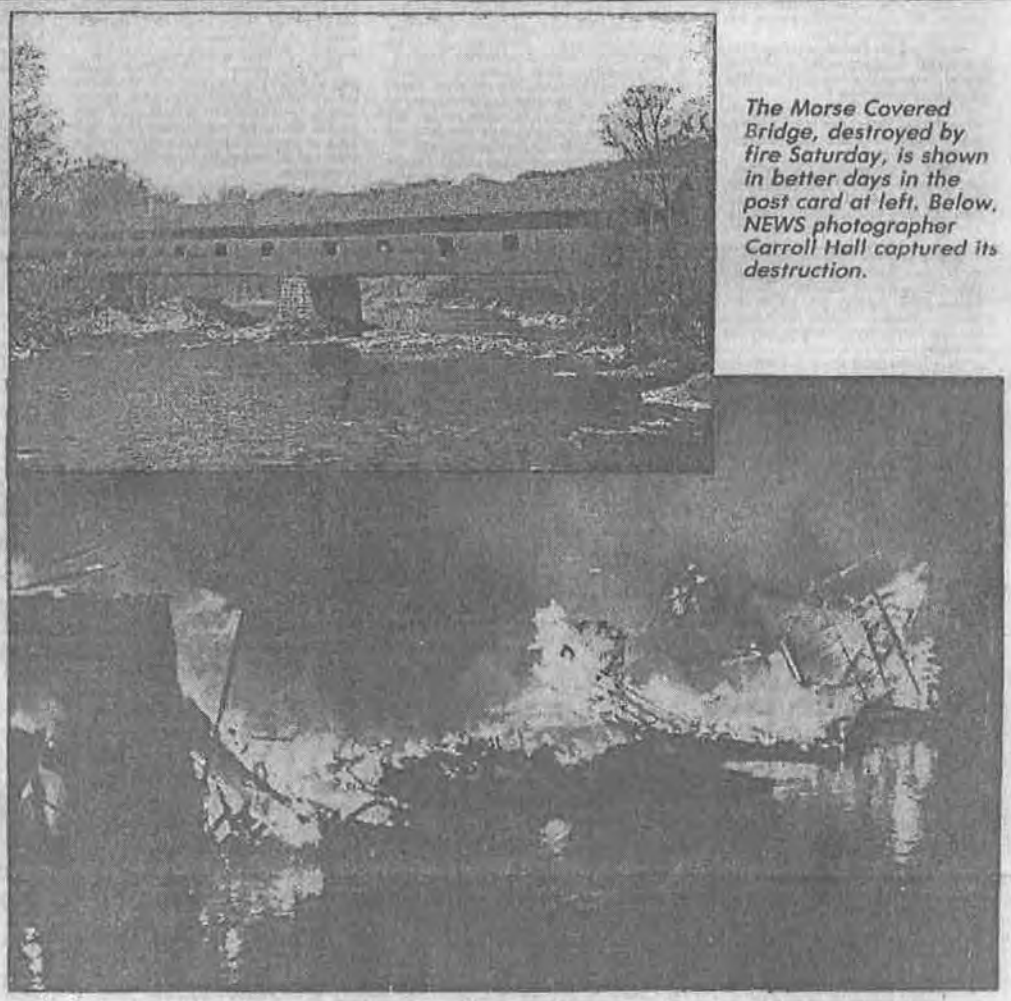
Area Scouts conduct skills show at Caribou and Orono. Page 21

Maine Lumberjacks to move, become Bay State Bombardiers

Bangor Daily News

BANGOR, MAINE, MONDAY, MARCH 28, 1983 — 36 PAGES—30 CENTS

eek
vith
vish



The Morse Covered Bridge, destroyed by fire Saturday, is shown in better days in the post card at left. Below, NEWS photographer Carroll Hall captured its destruction.

Cause of bridge fire unknown

By Nancy Remsen
Of the NEWS Staff

A steady stream of people Sunday paid their final respects to the smoldering, charred remains of Bangor's historic covered bridge which was destroyed by fire on Saturday evening.

The cause of the fire at the Morse Covered Bridge remained undetermined Sunday.

"It had to be man," Assistant Fire Chief Bruce Kigas said Sunday afternoon. "There is no other reason for it to burn."

The bridge, located behind the commercial development on Harlow Street, linked a pathway which runs along the Kenduskeag Stream.

Police and fire investigators Sunday took samples of wood and dirt at the scene for testing, the assistant chief said. They also are interested in information which any spectators to the start of the fire might have, he said.

The bridge was "totally involved when we got here," Kigas said Saturday night at the scene. "There wasn't anything that wasn't burning."

The call saying the bridge was on fire came in shortly before 7 p.m., he said.

"We were only here two to three minutes when it collapsed," Kigas said. There wasn't any way to save the bridge, he said. Firefighters concentrated on preventing grass fires at each end of the bridge from spreading to three adjacent propane tanks, some buildings and a wooded area, he said.

See CAUSE on Page 2

Landmark's past baffles historians

By Dick Shaw
Of the NEWS Staff

Writing an obituary for a landmark that had three birth dates isn't easy.

Published literature on the Morse Covered Bridge in Bangor has long baffled historians with conflicting construction dates, one of many controversial points which dogged the landmark up to its destruction by fire Saturday evening.

The first Morse Bridge was actually constructed in the fall of 1873 some 1,000 feet up the Kenduskeag Stream from its most recent location.

A spring freshet in 1884 carried the bridge off its abutments, slamming it onto the stream's western shore and into oblivion.

It was reconstructed late in the year and was the same bridge dismantled by the Maine State Highway Commission in 1962 and reassembled downstream three years later.

The second bridge, painted a dark green, was the one most older Bangor residents will

See THREE on Page 2