

PH 0007967

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:	Oxford
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.2.18.0014	2/16/70

1. NAME

COMMON: Bennett Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Over Magalloway River, 1 1/2 miles south of Wilson's Mills, off
Maine Rte. #16.

CITY OR TOWN: (04293 - Wilson's Mills)
Lincoln Plantation, T5-R2 (2nd District Hon, William D. Hathaway)

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maine	23	Oxford	017

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" 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: Maine State Highway Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta

STATE:	CODE
Maine	23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: South Paris

STATE:	CODE
Maine	23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

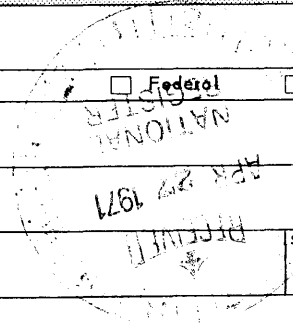
CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maine
COUNTY: Oxford
ENTRY NUMBER: 70.2.18.0014
DATE: 2/16/70

FOR NPS USE ONLY



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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

LOCATION AND SETTING:

This wooden covered bridge spans the Magalloway River as it passes near Wilson's Mills, a section of Lincoln Plantation (T5,R2) in Oxford County. Once the traveler is oriented on U.S.Rte #2, West of Rumford, or East of Bethel, he will find the village of Newry. From this village he will proceed north on Maine Rt. #26 through Upton into Errol, New Hampshire and then back into Maine on Rte. #16, arriving in the village of Wilson Mills--a distance traveled of 40 miles. The Magalloway River at this point is fast moving. The setting is rural. The site of this bridge in this Northwestern section of Oxford County lies within 1/2 mile of the New Hampshire border. This is a mountainous region divided by a narrow valley which has been carved by the south flowing Magalloway.

CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIALS:

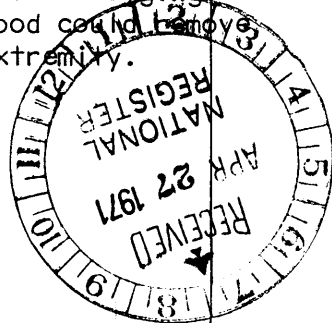
This wooden, single span, covered bridge is about 92' long 16'8" wide and 23' high from the flooring to the peak of the gable roof. The overhead clearance at the portals is 15' and the side clearance is 14'8". The bridge is built on granite block shore abutments. The basic engineering concept employed is Paddleford Truss construction, a modification of a Long Truss system. This system consists of a series of crossed braces between King posts. One brace being morticed, first into the King post near the bottom end, while this brace's other end is morticed into the top of the next king post. The King posts are morticed into the top and bottom chords and secured with iron bolts. In this manner, posts and crossed braces run the length of 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 for a plank floor which runs down the length of the bridge. The top chord provides a plate for roof rafters which end in the peak of the gable. Rafters support purlins to which corrugated iron roofing sections are attached completing the cover of the gable roof. The sides are boarded in up 2/3 of the height of the King posts. Boards run up and down. The ends of the gable roof, or portals, are boarded in down to the clearance, boards again run up and down.

The bridge is not painted. Wire cables, attached to the top chords and anchored to deadmen sunk in the ground 25' from the four corners of the bridge, provide additional support for this bridge. The bridge is in active use. The structural members are sound. The fabric of the side boards is good with the exception of the portals which have been battered by high log loads on logging trucks. The bridge is tested to support a 4 ton load. The present appearance equates the original appearance.

POTENTIAL THREAT:

Forces of Nature and neglect. This bridge is maintained by the State Highway Commission. It will need attention in respect to the reboarding of portals. This will be done in the near future following the end of a logging operation west of the bridge. It is conceivable that a flash flood could destroy this bridge. The cable supports were provided to counter this extremely.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



5. 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) | 1901

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 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:

Lincoln Plantation, in Oxford County, has the New Hampshire line for its west boundary, with Parkertown on the northeast and Magalloway on the south. It is about 40 miles N.N.W. of Bethel, and 20 miles east of Colebrook, New Hampshire, the Magalloway River runs through the midst of the township southward to its junction with the Androscoggin, near Umbagog Lake. In the eastern part is Lincoln Pond, whose outlet with Abbott Brook on the western side of tributaries of the Magalloway, and the principal streams of the township. The mountains are quite numerous, and consist of Aziscoos, Observatory, Half Moon and Deer mountains, ranging from 1,000 to 5,000 feet in height. The rock is chiefly granite. The soil is loam, with hard pan below. Maple, birch, spruce and fir constitute the forests. Hay was the crop chiefly raised, finding a ready sale with the lumbermen.

This town is the principal line of summer travel for Parmachene Lake, a great hunting and fishing resort. The Aziscoos Falls on the Magalloway have been damed to create Aziscoos Lake.

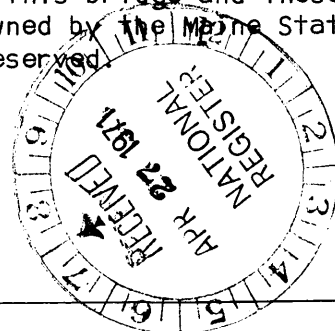
This plantation was formerly No. 5 Range 2. It was organized under its present name in 1875. The first settlements were started in about 1830. In 1860 the plantation constituted a thriving farming community, but by the depression of lumber business since 1870, the population became reduced in 1875 to four families. Lincoln plantation furnished 8 men for the Union cause during the War of the Rebellion.

The population in 1870 was 258, in 1880 but 42 and today, 1971, it is 99 people.

BENNETT BRIDGE:

This bridge was built in 1901 to serve the needs of several small farms on the west side of the Magalloway which snuggle close to the New Hampshire border. A few of these farms are still occupied, but they no longer produce. Until recent years crops of hay were raised for the feeding of horses used in winter pulp cutting and logging operations. Tractors, trucks and skidders have replaced the horse and it follows that these fields are reverting to a forest's cover. Loads of pulp and logs pass over this bridge and these cause some damage to the portals. The bridge is now owned by the Maine State Highway Commission and it will be repaired and preserved.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Allen, Richard Sanders, Covered Bridges of the Northeast, Brattleboro
2. Newspaper Article, Maine's Covered Bridges, No.6 of a series, Portland Press Herald, May 29, 1957
3. Brochure, Maine State Highway Commission, Covered Bridges in Maine.
4. Magazine Article, Down East, May 1955, Trending into Maine - The Covered Bridges.

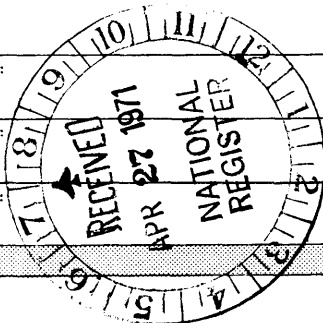
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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°	55'	07"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	71°	02'	22"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: LESS THAN 1.0

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



17/30100/01005000
1-19-70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: John W. Briggs

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
Lawrence Stuart

Title Director

Date December 24, 1969

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

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

Date _____

ATTEST:
William M. ...
Keeper of The National Register

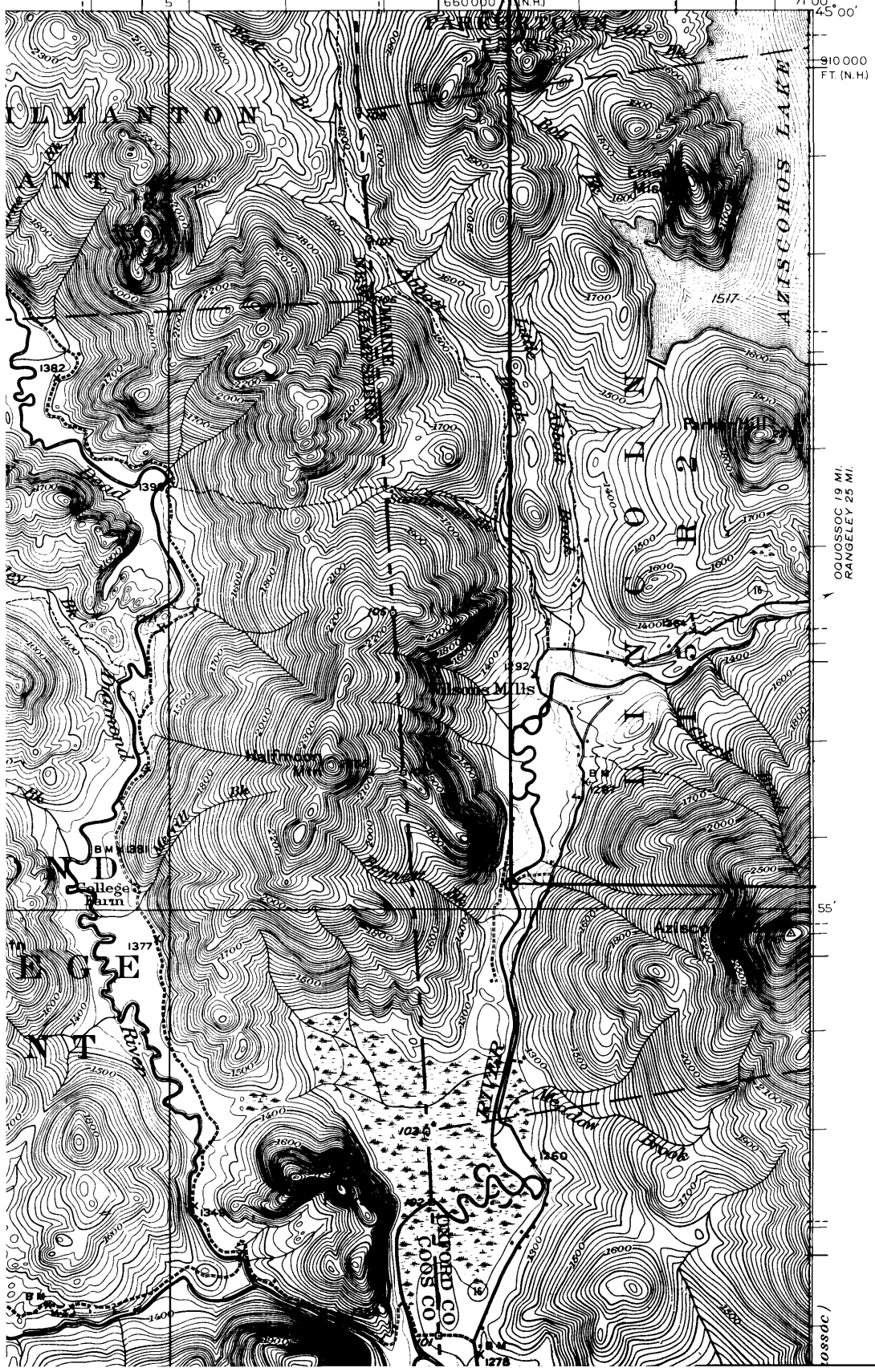
Date _____

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

NEW HAMPSHIRE-MAINE
ERROL QUADRANGLE

Bennett Bridge
Lincoln Plantation

44° 55' 07"
71° 02' 22"



(Cassidy)

OGUOSSOC 19 MI.
RANGELEY 25 MI.

10555C