

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:	Power House Covered Bridge
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Town road across Gihon River at east edge of Johnson village off VT 100			
CITY OR TOWN: Johnson		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 Johnson	STATE: Vermont COUNTY: Lamoille CODE: 50
STREET AND NUMBER: (no street number)	
CITY OR TOWN: Johnson	

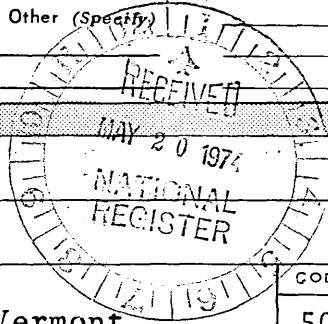
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Vermont Historic Sites & Structures Survey	STATE: Vermont COUNTY: Lamoille CODE: 50
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 COUNTY: Lamoille CODE: 50

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Vermont  
 COUNTY: Lamoille  
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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	

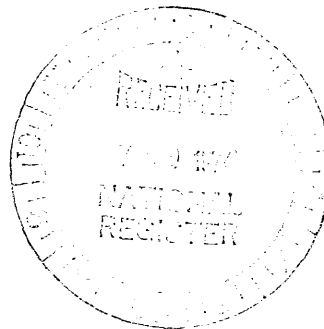
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Power House Covered Bridge consists of a single span supported by two flanking timber queenpost trusses. Each truss incorporates five iron suspension rods which extend from the upper apexes of the diagonal braces to the bottom chords. Triangular steel plates have been added to reinforce the joints between the lower ends of the principal diagonal members and the bottom chords at the ends of the trusses. The structure rests on abutments which have been either faced or rebuilt with concrete.

The Power House bridge is 63.5 feet long at floor level. 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 feet wide and has a 16-foot roadway. The wood floor, which consists of planks laid flat and perpendicular to the trusses, is 57 feet long; it begins 2.5 feet inside the west portal and four feet inside the east portal. The approaches are paved.

On the exterior, the timbers pegged together to form the trusses (and side walls) of the bridge are sheathed with unpainted boards and battens hung vertically. Unpainted flush boards hung vertically protect the lower ends of the trusses immediately inside the portals. The siding stops short of the eaves to leave strip openings along the tops of the walls. There are three large rectangular windows spaced regularly along each upper wall.

The gable ends are sheathed with unpainted flush boards hung vertically. The portal openings are rectangular. The medium-pitch gable roof, which does not overhang the gable ends, is covered with wood shingles.



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**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) 1870

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			_____

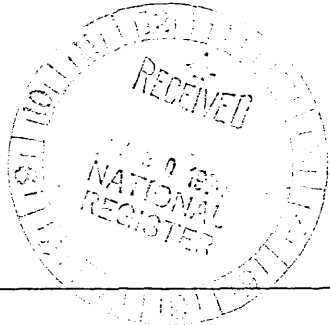
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Power House Covered Bridge stands a short distance downstream from a former municipal hydro-electric generating station at cascades of the Gihon River. The bridge was built in 1870, twenty-five years before the generating station from which it derives its present name.<sup>1</sup> The Power House bridge is one of three covered wood bridges remaining in the town of Johnson.

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.<sup>2</sup> 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, therefore, 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. 21.

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



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**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.

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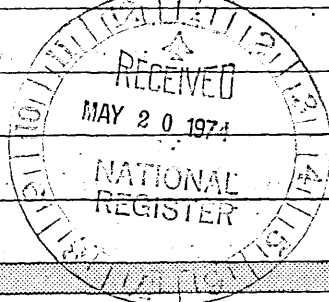
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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°	38'	09"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		72°	40'	18"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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**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**

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. Prineas

Title Director of Historic Sites  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 5/14/74

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

AK Neartensen  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 10/9/74

ATTEST:

Charles R. ...  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 10.8.79