

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Vermont
COUNTY:	Orange
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JUL 30 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:	Gifford Covered Bridge
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Town road across Second Branch of White River, 1.6 miles south of East Randolph village off VT 14			
CITY OR TOWN: East Randolph vic.		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Vt. District Rep. Richard Mallary	
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Vermont	50	Orange	17

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

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

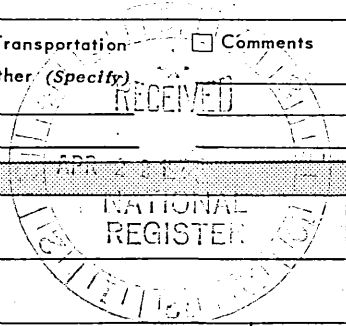
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:	Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey
DATE OF SURVEY:	1973 <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

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

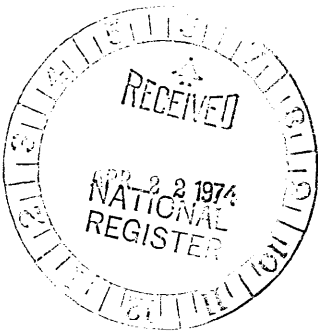
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Gifford Covered Bridge consists of a single span supported by two flanking timber multiple kingpost trusses. The trusses rise only half the height of the side walls; the upper walls are framed in post-and-beam construction with diagonal braces. Iron tie rods extend between the top chords for lateral bracing, and iron rods have also been added to the south truss for supplemental bracing.

Several steel beams have been added to the structure for reinforcement. Two large beams have been laid on the deck, one next to the inner side of each truss. Those beams support by means of tie rods smaller steel beams suspended under the timber floor beams to reinforce the latter. The entire structure rests on abutments built of irregular stone slabs laid dry.

The Gifford bridge is 51.5 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 17 feet wide and has a 14.5-foot roadway. The wood floor, which is 48.5 feet long, consists of planks laid flat and perpendicular to the trusses.

On the exterior, the heavy timbers pegged together to form the trusses (and side walls) of the bridge are sheathed with flush boards hung vertically and painted red. There are no windows or openings in the side walls. The gable ends are also sheathed with flush boards hung vertically and mostly painted red. The portal openings are rectangular except for rounded upper corners. The medium-pitch gable roof is covered with corrugated metal sheeting.



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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) **unknown**

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			

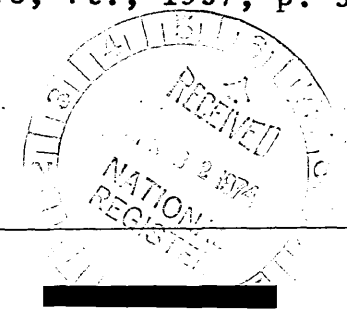
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gifford Covered Bridge is one of three covered wood bridges remaining in the town of Randolph. The Gifford bridge and the nearby Braley bridge are unique among the covered bridges in Vermont: their multiple kingpost trusses rise only half the height of the side walls in contrast to the full height of that truss type in applications to other bridges. The half-size trusses suggest that the bridges were built originally without roofs and were covered later, possibly during the first decade of the current century.

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 country.¹ 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, including the Gifford bridge.

1. 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.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

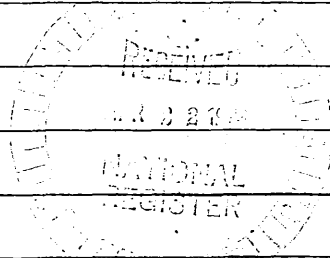
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		43° 55' 01"	72° 33' 26"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

17/696150
4865300
GD

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: **3/29/74**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pavilion Building

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

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 William B. Pinney

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

Date 4/10/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

A. B. Montross
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 7/30/74

ATTEST:

W. J. [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date 7-26-74