

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Vermont
 COUNTY: Orleans
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: NOV 19 1974

1. NAME
 COMMON: River Road Covered Bridge
 AND/OR HISTORIC: Upper Bridge

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: Town road across Missisquoi River, 3.4 miles south of North Troy village S of North Troy off VT 101
 CITY OR TOWN: North Troy vicinity CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Vt. District
 STATE: Vermont CODE: 50 COUNTY: Orleans CODE: 019

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	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)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: Town of Troy
 STREET AND NUMBER: (no street number)
 CITY OR TOWN: Troy 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: Troy STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE OF SURVEY: Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1974 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Vermont Division of Historic Sites
 STREET AND NUMBER: Pavilion Building
 CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier STATE: Vermont CODE: 50

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 COUNTY: Orleans
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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 River Road Covered Bridge consists of a single span supported by two flanking timber Town lattice trusses. Each truss has three chords, lacking the upper intermediate chord used in most other applications of the Town truss to covered bridges. Also, in contrast to the usual use of double pegs at the intersections of the lattice planks, the River Road Bridge has only single pegs. There are three timber buttresses (now mostly rotted) attached to the exterior of each truss, one at each end and at the center. Iron tie-rods extend between both the top chords and the bottom chords to increase the lateral rigidity of the structure. Despite the reinforcement, the superstructure of the bridge leans slightly to the south.

The River Road Bridge is 94 feet long overall and 14.5 feet wide, and has a 12-foot roadway. The wood floor consists of planks laid flat and perpendicular to the trusses, overlaid with two transverse strips of planks for driving surfaces. The structure rests on abutments which have been either faced or rebuilt with concrete.

On the exterior, the heavy planks pegged together diagonally to form the trusses (and side walls) of the bridge are sheathed with novelty siding hung horizontally and painted red. The siding rises only about two-thirds the height of the walls, leaving the trusses exposed on the upper third of each wall.

The west gable end is also sheathed with novelty siding hung horizontally and painted red; the east gable end is sheathed with clapboards treated in the same manner. The portal openings are rectangular. The steep-pitch gable roof, which has extraordinarily wide overhangs at the eaves, 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

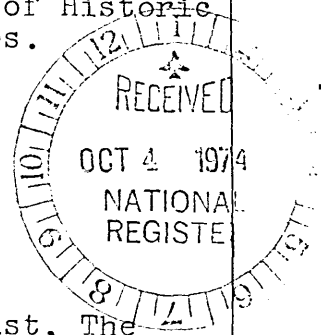
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<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 River Road Covered Bridge across the Missisquoi River is the only covered wood bridge remaining in the town of Troy. The structure of the bridge displays characteristics which distinguish it from that of other bridges supported by Town lattice trusses in Vermont. Each truss has three chords instead of the usual four, single pegs at the intersections of the lattice planks instead of the usual double, and three exterior timber buttresses where most other bridges have none. Combined with the structural variations, the exterior sheathing of horizontal siding painted red and the steep-pitch gable roof with wide overhangs give the bridge a unique design among the covered bridges in the state.

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.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.



1. R. S. Allen, Covered Bridges of the Northeast, The Stephen Greene Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1974, p. 50.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allen, Richard Sanders, Covered Bridges of the Northeast, The Stephen Greene Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1974 (rev. ed.).
 Congdon, Herbert Wheaton, The Covered Bridge, Vermont Books, Middlebury, Vt., 1970.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

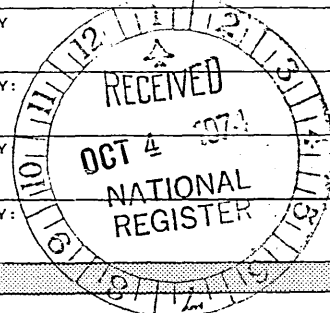
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE			LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	44	'	22"
NE	0	'	"	72	'	37"
SE	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"			

18/705550
4981150
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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: 9/10/74

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 9/30/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

A. R. Montrose
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/19/74

ATTEST:
Charles A. Henry
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date 11-15-74