

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:	Lamoille
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	NOV 19 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Gates Farm Covered Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Little Bridge

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Farm road across Seymour River at east edge of Cambridge village off VT 15

CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge 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"/> 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	<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: Vermont Department of Highways

STREET AND NUMBER: 133 State Street

CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier 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: Cambridge 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 Buidling

CITY OR TOWN: Montpelier STATE: Vermont 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
	(Check One)		(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Gates Farm Covered Bridge consists of a single span supported by two flanking timber Burr arch trusses. Each truss incorporates an arch built of two parallel arcs of single timbers, one on each side of the vertical posts and diagonal braces, and bolted together through the posts. A central segmented stringer has been tie-bolted to the underside of the floor beams for reinforcement. The structure rests on abutments built of concrete.

The Gates Farm Bridge is 82.5 feet long at floor level. The upper ends of the side walls flare outward to meet the gable ends which overhang the floor four feet at each portal. The bridge is 19.5 feet wide, and has a 16-foot roadway. The wood floor consists of planks laid on edge and parallel to the trusses.

On the exterior, the timbers pegged and bolted together to form the trusses (and side walls) of the bridge are sheathed with unpainted flush boards hung vertically. Similar siding protects the 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.

The gable ends are sheathed with flush boards hung vertically and painted white. The portal openings have diagonal upper corners, which cover the first interior struts. The medium-pitch gable roof is covered with corrugated metal sheeting painted green.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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) **1897**

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 Gates Farm Covered Bridge, which crosses the Seymour River near the east edge of Cambridge village, is the last covered bridge supported by timber Burr arch trusses to have been built in Vermont. The bridge is one of only nine Burr truss bridges remaining in the state. George W. Holmes of nearby Jeffersonville built the Gates Farm Bridge in 1897.¹

Known as the Little Bridge in comparison with a longer dual-lane covered bridge which crossed the Lamoille River a few hundred feet to the north, the bridge stood on its original site until 1950. In that year the longer bridge was replaced, and the channel of the Seymour River was relocated to eliminate the crossing at the Little Bridge. The bridge then was moved a few hundred feet upstream to the east to connect two sections of the adjacent Gates farm.

The present physical setting of the bridge is essentially identical to that of its original site. The practical function of the bridge has changed from that of carrying the principal highway (Vermont Route 15) along the Lamoille River valley to that of carrying a driveway between two sections of a farm. Except for an outside walkway which was removed at the time of the relocation, the bridge remains unaltered from its condition on the original site.

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.² 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.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hagerman, Robert L., Covered Bridges of Lamoille County, Robert L. Hagerman, Morrisville, Vt., 1972.

Allen, Richard Sanders, Covered Bridges of the Northeast, The Stephen Greene Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1974 (rev. ed.).

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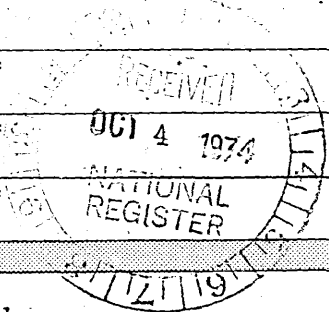
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	44°	38'	43"	72°	52'	22"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Hugh H. Henry, Historic Sites Researcher

ORGANIZATION: **Vermont Division of Historic Sites** DATE: **7/11/74**

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. Finney

Title Director of Historic Sites
State Historic Preservation Officer
Date 9/30/74

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

AR Montrose
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/19/74

ATTEST:

Charles O. Bennett
Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date 11.15.74

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

Section 8

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Vermont	
COUNTY Lamoille	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 10	DATE

(Number all entries)

1. Robert L. Hagerman, Covered Bridges of Lamoille County, Robert L. Hagerman, Morrisville, Vt., 1972, p. 10.

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

