

PH0013048

3rd Congressional District  
Jack Brinkley

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: Georgia	
COUNTY: Meriwether	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAY 7	1973

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Red Oak Creek Covered Bridge

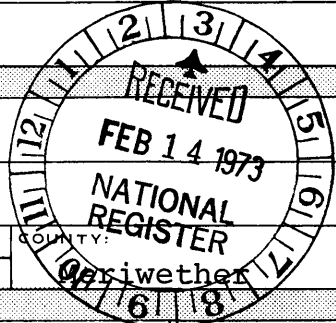
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Big Red Oak Creek Bridge

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Huel Brown Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
4 miles north of Woodbury

STATE: Georgia      CODE: 13      COUNTY: Meriwether      CODE: 199



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:  
Meriwether County

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Court House, Court Square

CITY OR TOWN: Greenville      STATE: Georgia      CODE: 13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Meriwether County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Court Square

CITY OR TOWN: Greenville      STATE: Georgia      CODE: 13

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:      CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia

COUNTY: Meriwether

ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 7 1973

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NPS USE ONLY

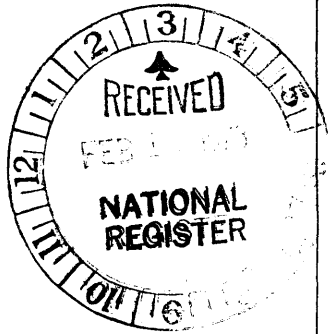
**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

The Red Oak Covered Bridge is the Town lattice type, probably built by Horace King c.1840. This Town lattice type of bridge construction, so named for the Connecticut architect, Ithiel Town, who patented the design in 1820, consists of planks arranged in a crisscross lattice pattern, pegged at their joints and attached to spliced horizontal timbers which form the girders for the span.

The physical statistics for the Red Oak Covered Bridge are as follows: the covered portion of the bridge is 116 feet; its total span is 412 feet (the longest total span of a covered bridge in Georgia); the long sills, sawed from heart pine, are 15"x15" thick; and approximately 2500 pegs hold this truss together.



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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) **c.1840**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>History</u>
<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

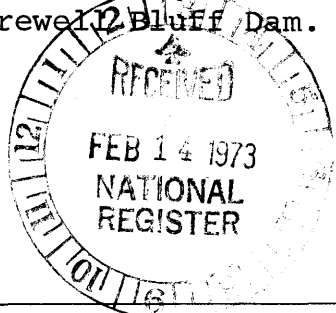
The Red Oak Covered Bridge, possibly the oldest covered bridge in Georgia, is of the Town lattice type and thought to have been built by Horace King. Still in use, the Red Oak Covered Bridge is an outstanding reminder of the age when there were over 250 covered bridges in Georgia.

This lattice bridge type, designed by Ithiel Town of New Haven, Connecticut, was patented in 1820. Town realized the need for a covered bridge truss which could be quickly built by a good carpenter. It has been described as the first truly American design and consisted of a web of light planks fastened together with wooden pins or trunnels at each intersection. An average of 5,536 hand drilled holes are required for each 100 feet of bridge and 1680 hand-made pins or trunnels one inch to two inches in diameter are needed to fasten the members. Sometimes square pegs or trunnels were driven in round holes to give an even tighter joint. Town did not build or supervise these bridges himself. Instead he collected through agents from the builder at the rate of one dollar a foot.

The actual builder was probably Horace King, a slave born in 1807 in South Carolina. He was given his freedom in 1848, but continued to work for his former master, John Godwin, a contractor. King built a bridge across the Chattahoochee at Columbus and spent much time in West Georgia building numerous other bridges. He moved c.1874 to the LaGrange, Georgia area where he continued contracting and building bridges. His three sons John, Marshall, and Washington followed his trade.

Of the 22 remaining covered bridges in Georgia, Red Oak Covered Bridge, one of two in Meriwether County, is in possible danger from the proposed Sprewell Bluff Dam.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Alabama Historical Quarterly, 1953.  
 "Georgia Kissing Bridges, The Sunday Ledger Enquirer Magazine,  
 Columbus, Georgia, November 14, 1971.  
Georgia Magazine, March 1972.  
 Freeman, Mrs. Ben R., Meriwether Historical Society, Inc., Presented  
 first draft of National Register nomination form; on file at  
 Georgia Historical Commission.  
 "Old Covered Bridges in Georgia," Georgia State Parks Dept. pamphlet.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

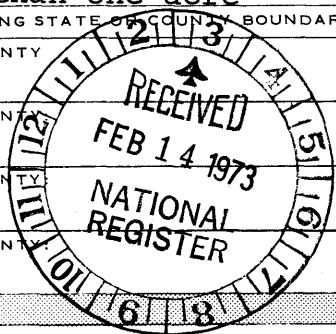
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 : "	0 : "		33° 02' 18"	84° 33' 13"	
NE	0 : "	0 : "				
SE	0 : "	0 : "				
SW	0 : "	0 : "				

NO UT  
CX

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 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:  
William R. Mitchell, Jr., Director, Georgia Historic Sites Survey

ORGANIZATION: Georgia Historical Commission DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER:  
116 Mitchell Street, SW

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

**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 Mary Gregory Jewett

Title State Liaison Officer

Date Feb. 7, 1973

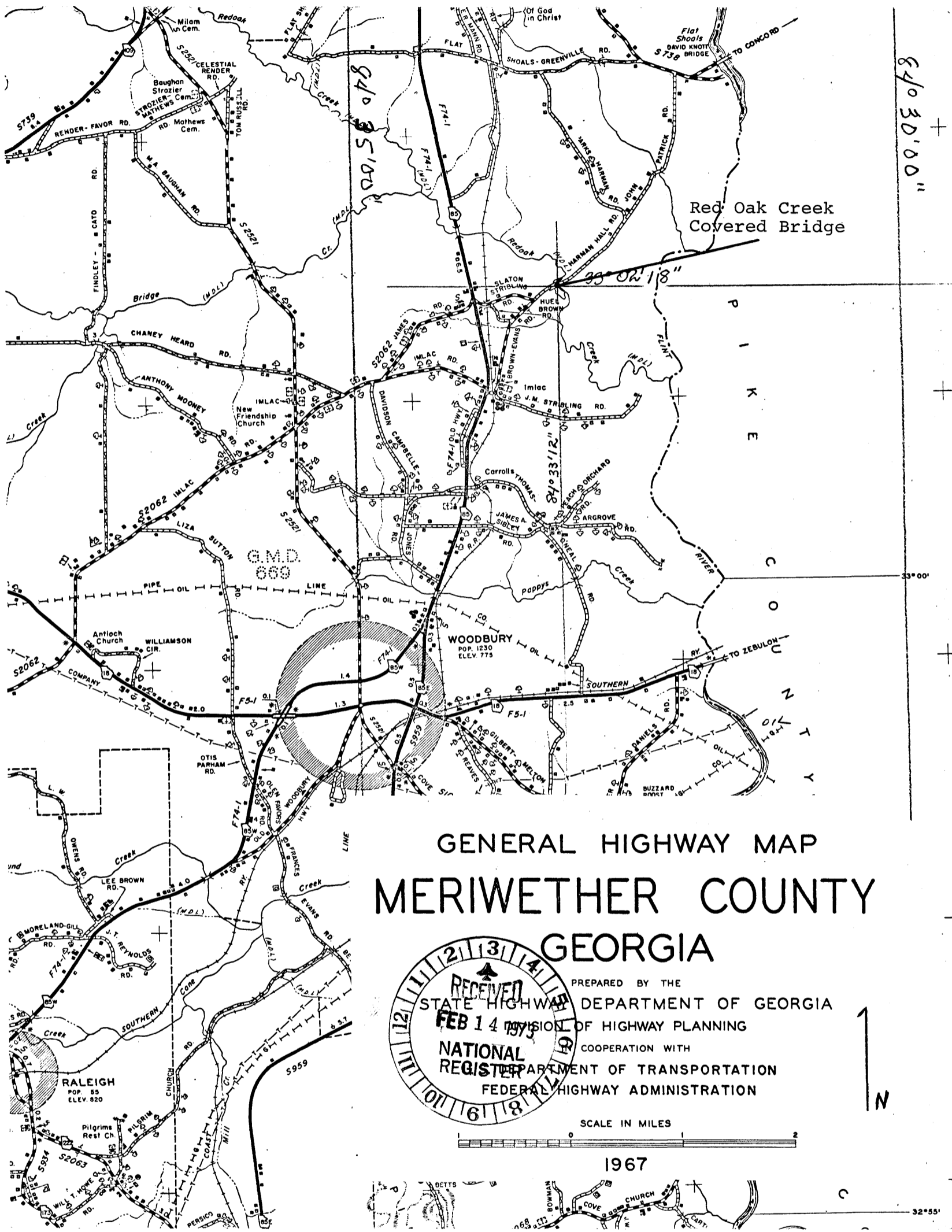
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert H. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/7/73

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

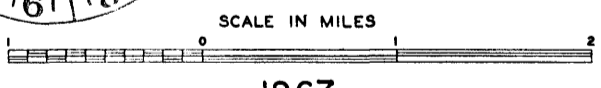
Date 4 30 73



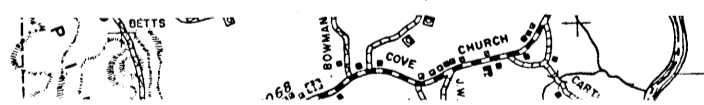
GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP  
 MERIWETHER COUNTY  
 GEORGIA

RECEIVED  
 STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA  
 FEB 14 1973  
 NATIONAL REGISTER

PREPARED BY THE  
 DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA  
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAY PLANNING  
 IN COOPERATION WITH  
 THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION



1967



840 30 000"

Red Oak Creek  
 Covered Bridge

P I K E

C O U N T Y



32°55'

Form 10-301  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Meriwether	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 7 1973

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Red Oak Creek Covered Bridge			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Big Red Oak Creek Bridge			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: Huel Brown Road			
CITY OR TOWN: 4 Miles North of Woodbury			
STATE: Georgia	CODE 13	COUNTY: Meriwether	CODE 199
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: State Highway Department of Georgia			
SCALE: 1 inch = 1 mile			
DATE: 1967			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

