

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Vermont</b>
COUNTY: <b>Caledonia</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>JUN 20 1974</b>

1. NAME

COMMON:  
**Centre Covered Bridge**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
*111 Lyndon off U.S. 5*

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **Across Passumpsic River immediately west of U.S. Route 5 at north edge of Lyndonville village**

CITY OR TOWN: **Lyndon** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: **Vt. District Rep. Richard Mallary**

STATE: **Vermont** CODE: **50** COUNTY: **Caledonia** CODE: **05**

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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Gerald E. Farrington**

STREET AND NUMBER: **P.O. Box 729**

CITY OR TOWN: **Lyndonville** 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: **Lyndon** STATE: **Vermont** CODE: **50**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey**

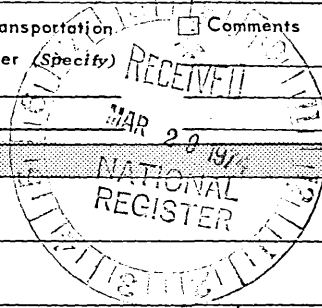
DATE OF SURVEY: **1973**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Vermont Division of Historic Sites**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Pavilion Building**

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Vermont  
COUNTY: Caledonia  
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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

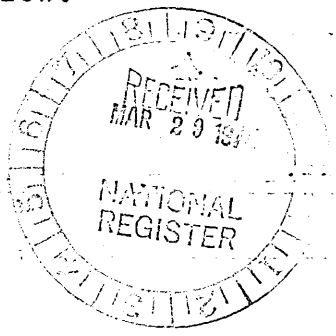
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Centre covered bridge consists of a single span supported by two flanking timber Paddleford trusses; an outside walkway is attached to the east side of the bridge. The bridge has been moved from its original site and no longer carries vehicular traffic. A small rectangular wood frame office has been built inside the south portal, independent of the bridge structure. The bridge rests on temporary abutments built of concrete.

The Centre bridge is 118 feet long at floor level. The gable ends project five feet beyond the floor at each portal. The bridge is 20 feet wide and has a 17.5-foot roadway; the outside walkway is 4.5 feet wide. The wood floor consists of planks laid flat and parallel to the trusses.

On the exterior, the heavy timbers pegged and bolted together to form the trusses (and side walls) of the bridge are sheathed on the lower east wall and walkway with flush boards hung vertically. The boards reach only about five feet from the floor; the wall and walkway are open above that height, revealing the structural members. The west wall currently lacks sheathing although nailing strips still attached to the truss members suggest former sheathing on the lower part.

The gable ends are sheathed with clapboards hung horizontally and painted red with white trim. The portal openings and eaves are framed with semi-elliptical arches (three at each end of the bridge). The medium-pitch gable roof is covered with corrugated metal sheeting. There are extraordinarily wide overhangs at the eaves to protect the exposed trusswork below.



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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian;       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1872-73

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"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                   | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Centre covered bridge is the longest bridge supported by timber Paddleford trusses in Vermont, and one of only three bridges of that truss type to survive in the state. The bridge has an outside walkway, a feature of only five other covered bridges in the state. In 1960, the bridge was moved from its original site across the Passumpsic River between Lyndonville and Lyndon Centre to allow for construction of a new bridge better suited to current traffic. The bridge now crosses the same river about one mile upstream from its original site.

The Centre bridge displays marked architectural similarity to the four other covered bridges in the town of Lyndon and a bridge in the adjoining town of Danville. Generally the bridges have open upper walls, extended eaves, projecting gable ends, and portals framed either with diagonal upper corners or arches, each complemented by similar forms under the eaves. These characteristics identify the most distinctive regional design among the covered bridges in Vermont.

The covered bridges of Vermont are among its most cherished and symbolic historic resources. About one hundred bridges still stand in the state, the greatest concentration by area of covered bridges in the country.<sup>1</sup> Many of these bridges are integral parts of unique architectural environments whose physical setting and cultural context have been little altered until recently. Now, however, pervasive highway expansion, intensive commercial development, and physical neglect are changing drastically the historic environment and threatening the covered bridges. The Vermont Division of Historic Sites, therefore, wishes to extend the recognition and protection of the National Register to the majority of the surviving covered bridges, including the Centre covered bridge.

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allen, Richard Sanders, Covered Bridges of the Northeast, The Stephen Greene Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1957.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

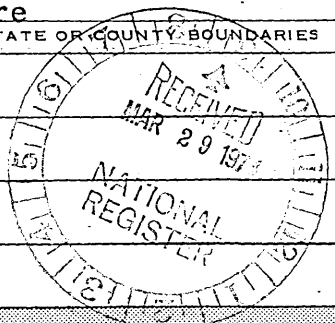
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		44 ° 32 ' 38 "	72 ° 00 ' 07 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

18/738200  
4936380  
CD

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: 2/26/74

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 D. Pinney

Title Director of Historic Sites  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 3/19/74

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

Ernest A. Connolly  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
Associate Director  
Professional Services

Date JUN 20 1974

ATTEST:

Charles R. Ferrington  
Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date 4/18/74