

PH0367389

DATA SHEET

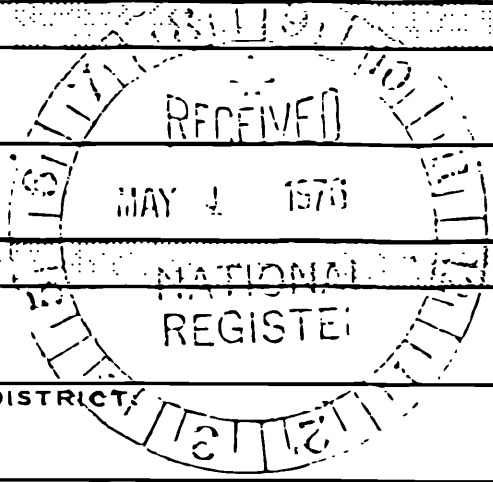
Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Hampshire
COUNTY: Grafton
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE APR 18 1977



1. NAME

COMMON: Haverhill-Bath Covered Bridge
AND/OR HISTORIC: Haverhill-Bath Bridge

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: N.H. 135
CITY OR TOWN: Haverhill Bath
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Second Second
STATE: New Hampshire 03875
New Hampshire 03740
CODE: 33
COUNTY: Grafton
CODE: 009

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One): District, Building, Site, Object, Structure
OWNERSHIP: Public, Private, Both
STATUS: Occupied, Unoccupied, Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC: Yes (Restricted, Unrestricted, No)
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate): Agricultural, Commercial, Educational, Entertainment, Government, Industrial, Military, Museum, Park, Private Residence, Religious, Scientific, Transportation, Other (Specify), Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: See Continuation Sheet 1
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:
CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Grafton Registry of Deeds
STREET AND NUMBER: P.O. Box 208 Grafton County Courthouse
Woodsville, N.H. 03875 N.H. 10, North Haverhill, N.H.
CITY OR TOWN: North Haverhill
STATE: New Hampshire 03774
CODE: 009

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: New Hampshire's Historic Preservation Plan
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: State of New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development
STREET AND NUMBER: State House Annex 25 Capitol Street
CITY OR TOWN: Concord
STATE: New Hampshire 03301
CODE: 33

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: New Hampshire
COUNTY: Grafton
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Present Physical Appearance: The Haverhill-Bath Bridge crosses the Ammonoosuc River near its confluence with the Connecticut River in two spans of Town lattice truss with arches added in the twentieth century. The bridge connects N.H. 135 in Bath on the north to N.H. 135 on the south in Haverhill at Woodsville village.

The lattice is constructed of 10' x 3" members, joined at each intersection by two wooden pins (some joints have added iron bolts). Each lattice member is jointed in this way to six other members. The chords flank the trusses and are each made up of four pairs of boards with two pairs on either side of each truss. The chord members are both wooden pinned and iron bolted to the lattice members and to each other. The trusses are laterally braced by 22 timbers set across the top chords, perpendicular to the truss walls; these timbers are further stabilized by wooden cross bracing between each. A similar arrangement provides lateral bracing for the bottom chord of the bridge.

Set inside the truss and rising from the faces of the abutments and pier are two pairs of laminated arches consisting of sixteen members each with overall dimensions of 10" x 32" total. The members of each arch are iron bolted together and further connected to the bridge by iron suspension rods which connect to the floor supports.

The truss rests on rectangular shaped abutments of split stone, laid up without mortar. Both abutments have been rebuilt in concrete on top to provide a better footing for the truss, while the north abutment has had part of its west wall refaced in concrete. The center pier is also of stone laid up without mortar; it is rounded on its east side from which direction the river flows.

The roof is of corrugated metal set on a light frame supported by rafters which rise from the top outside member of the top chord and are further strengthened by supports which extend from the lower inside member of the top chord to the peak of the roof. The roof has an overall length of 277'8" and does not overhang at either end.

The wooden roadbed has a length of 256'8" and a passable width of 14'4"; it is constructed of planks laid perpendicular to the direction of the road. The difference between the road and roof measurements is accounted for by framed entrances to the bridge which are built on land and are not a part of the truss system. The north entrance has a length of 12'2" while the south entrance is 9'5" in length.

The portals of the bridge are covered in clapboards painted deep red with white trim; the west side is sheathed in vertical boards that are weathered gray. The east side contains a sidewalk with an overall width of 6'1" making the overall width of the bridge 26'6½". The sidewalk is protected by vertical sheath-

Continued on Continuation Sheet 2

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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) **1829**

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 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

Engineering: The Haverhill-Bath Bridge is the first and only bridge to have been erected on its site. In March 1827 at town meeting, the residents of Bath selected Ira Goodall, Samuel Minot, and Samuel Hutchins as a committee to confer with the selectmen of Haverhill regarding the site of a bridge between the two towns.¹ At the next town meeting in March 1828 the subject of the bridge was not discussed or acted upon²; however, in September of 1828 Bath set aside \$300.00 for procuring timber and stone for a "Bridge near Alcott's Saw Mill."³ John H. Carbee and Moses Abbott were chosen to supervise this money and in March of 1829 Ariel Miner was given superintendancy over the building of the bridge.⁴ In June 1829 Miner petitioned to be released from this position and was replaced by Moses Abbott and Leonard Walker with the restriction that the "Selectmen be a committee to adopt the moddle for building said bridge."⁵

Although no further references to the bridge are made in the town records the bridge was completed in 1829 "in accordance with Towne's Patent, and cost about \$2,400!"⁶

Transportation: Upon completion in 1829, the bridge was intended to provide easier access to Haverhill Center and Bath; however, between 1829 and 1830 John L. Woods purchased a mill in the area of the bridge where some small mills already existed, this development of mills by Woods and the location of Woodsville for a railroad spur later in the century⁷ mark the growth in importance of Woodsville and the decline of Haverhill. Thus, the bridge has served Woodsville most of its life.

The Haverhill-Bath Bridge is thought to be the oldest covered bridge in use in New Hampshire, surviving many floods, including the flood of 1927 which caused the trunk of a tree to pierce through the lattice⁸ as well as a barn to float into the side of the bridge.⁹

The bridge still carries traffic with a six ton weight limit. The roadbed has been narrowed from 16'10" to 14'4" by new guardrails. Attached to the inside center point of the bridge is a sign marking the town line.

Continued on Continuation Sheet 3

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Secondary Sources:
 Allen, Richard S. Covered Bridges of the Northeast. Brattleboro: Stephen Greene Press, 1957. p. 47.
The Courier, September 16, 1973.
 Davison, Harold K. Haverhill's Historical Highlights. Littleton: Courier Printing Co., Inc., 1963. pp. 98-100.
 Continued on Continuation Sheet 4.

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° 09' 18"	72° 02' 13"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		<i>June 18</i>		
SE	° ' "	° ' "		736-975-E	4893-075-N	
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1/40 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Brian R. Pfeiffer

ORGANIZATION _____ DATE **June 20, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
135 Ivy Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Brookline** STATE **Massachusetts** CODE **02146** STATE CODE **23**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u><i>[Signature]</i></u></p> <p>Title NH State Historic Preservation Officer</p> <p>Date May 12, 1975</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date 4/18/77</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date 12-16-76</p>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 1.

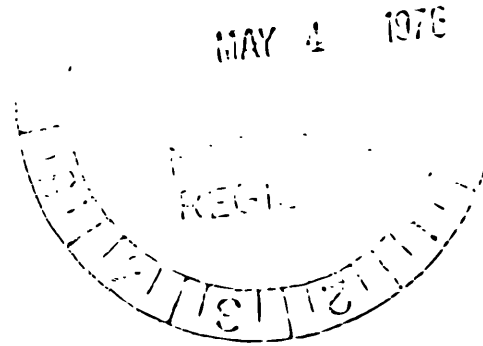
STATE	New Hampshire	
COUNTY	Grafton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		APR 13 1977

(Number all entries)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY, continued

Town of Haverhill, New Hampshire
 67 Central Street
 Woodsville, New Hampshire 03875 33

Town of Bath, New Hampshire
 Selectmen's Office
 N.H. 10
 Bath, New Hampshire 03740 33



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 2.

STATE	
New Hampshire	
COUNTY	
Grafton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 18 1977

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

ing to a height of 3'4" above the floor, above that the frame of the sidewalk is open, but protected by a 2' roof overhang. On the inside wall of the sidewalk a bench extends the full length of the bridge.

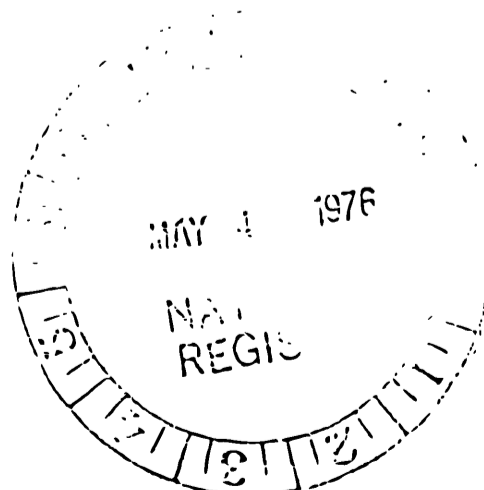
The Haverhill-Bath Bridge has the numbers 29-05-04 in the World Guide to Covered Bridges published by the National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges; 072-063 assigned by the New Hampshire Department of Public Works and Highways; and 27 by the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development.

Original Physical Appearance: When first built the bridge had neither the sidewalk nor the arches¹. Both entry ways have also been added². In the summer of 1973 the bridge was closed and repaired at an expense of \$40,000.00.³ The cost of the repairs was shared by the state and the towns of Haverhill and Bath. Normal maintenance costs are divided between Haverhill and Bath.

¹ Richard S. Allen, Covered Bridges of the Northeast (Brattleboro: Stephen Greene Press, 1957), p. 47.

² The Courier, September 16, 1973.

³ Statement by Floyd Avery, secondary roads engineer, personal interview, Concord, New Hampshire, June 11, 1974.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 3.

STATE	
New Hampshire	
COUNTY	
Grafton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 8 1977

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

1 See Town Clerk's Records, Selectmen's Office, Bath, New Hampshire, Vol. 4, p. 145.

2 Ibid., p. 152.

3 Ibid., p. 215.

4 Ibid., p. 226.

5 Ibid., p. 229.

6 David Sutherland, Address Delivered to the Inhabitants of Bath (Boston: George C. Rand & Avery, 1855), p. 73.

7 Harold K. Davison, Haverhill's Historical Highlights (Littleton: Courier Printing Co., Inc., 1963), pp. 98-100.

8 Statement by Edwin Chamberlain, selectman of Bath New Hampshire, personal interview, Bath, New Hampshire, June 1, 1974.

9 Ibid.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 4 1976
DATE ENTERED	APR 18 1977

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10. PAGE 5.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA, Continued

10.2 UTM References

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
18	7.36.975	48.93.075