

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Vermont
COUNTY:	Franklin
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	NOV 5 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:	Fairfax Covered Bridge
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: off VT 104			
Maple Street across Mill Brook at Fairfax village			
CITY OR TOWN:		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:	
Fairfax		Vermont District	
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Vermont	50	Franklin	011

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:	Town of Fairfax
STREET AND NUMBER:	(no street number)
CITY OR TOWN:	Fairfax
STATE:	Vermont
CODE	50

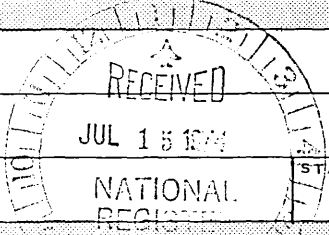
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:	Office of Town Clerk
STREET AND NUMBER:	(no street number)
CITY OR TOWN:	Fairfax
STATE	Vermont
CODE	50

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:	Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Survey
DATE OF SURVEY:	1974 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	Vermont Division of Historic Sites
STREET AND NUMBER:	Pavilion Building
CITY OR TOWN:	Montpelier
STATE:	Vermont
CODE	50

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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 Fairfax Covered Bridge consists of a single span supported by two flanking timber Town lattice trusses. Iron tie rods connect the top chords to provide lateral reinforcement. In spite of this the superstructure has developed a marked lean toward the west.

The structure rests on abutments built originally of irregular stone laid dry. The north abutment has been partly faced with concrete; the south abutment has been either completely faced or rebuilt with concrete.

The Fairfax Bridge is 56.5 feet long overall and 20.5 feet wide; it has a 17.5-foot roadway. The wood floor consists of planks laid flat and perpendicular to the trusses, overlaid transversely with two strips of planks for driving surfaces.

On the exterior, the heavy planks pegged together diagonally to form the trusses (and side walls) of the bridge are sheathed with unpainted flush boards hung vertically. The siding stops short of the eaves to leave strip openings along the tops of the walls.

The gable ends are also sheathed with unpainted flush boards hung vertically. The portal openings have diagonal upper corners, which cover the first interior struts. The medium-pitch gable roof, which does not overhang the gable ends, is covered with corrugated metal sheeting.



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6. 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			

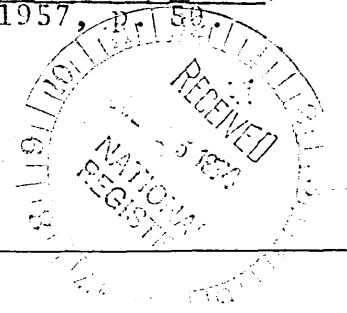
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The covered bridge at Fairfax village which carries Maple Street across Mill Brook is the only covered wood bridge remaining in the town of Fairfax. The bridge is one of the widest covered bridges in Vermont, undoubtedly having been built to accommodate the two-way traffic of the village street. The Fairfax Bridge constitutes a distinctive element of an attractive historic village environment.

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 State.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., 1957, p. 50.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Congdon, Herbert Wheaton, The Covered Bridge, Vermont Books Middlebury, Vt., 1970.

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

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

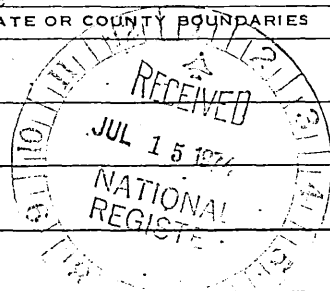
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		44 39 49	73 00 40	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

18/657700
4917200
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



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11. FORM PREPARED BY

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

ORGANIZATION: Vermont Historic Sites Division DATE: 5/30/74

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. Timney

Title Director of Historic Sites
State Historic Preservation
Officer

Date 7/10/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Arthur Towner
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/5/74

ATTEST:

Charles Abbott
Keeper of The National Register

Date 11.1.74