

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Hunterdon
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE NOV 19 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Green Sergeant's Covered Bridge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: N of Stockton off
Rosemont - Sergeantsville Road

CITY OR TOWN: Stockton vicinity
Delaware Township

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
13th - Joseph Maraziti

STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34 COUNTY: Hunterdon CODE: 019

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)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Board of Chosen Freeholders of Hunterdon County

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Flemington

STATE: New Jersey

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Hunterdon County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Flemington

STATE: New Jersey

CODE: 34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
H.A.B.S. - New Jersey - 442 New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (276)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1937, 1961 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress Historic Sites Section, DEP

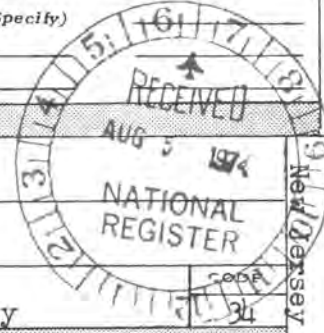
STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1420, Trenton, NJ

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: D.C.

CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Hunterdon
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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

Descriptive statement taken nearly verbatim from "Dedication of the Reconstructed Green Sergeant's Bridge", prepared by the Green Sergeant's Covered Bridge Association.

The restored Green Sergeant's Covered Bridge spans Wickecheoke Creek in Delaware Township, Hunterdon County, and carries westbound traffic on the Sergeantsville - Rosemont Road (County Road #32).

The clear span, face to face of stone abutments, is 73'8". The length of the 12 foot wide timber deck roadway is 82 feet. The overhead clearance is 12½ feet.

The old abutments, which probably predate the Revolution, were rebuilt and reinforced in 1961 with concrete keyed into the rock footings and steel dowelled to the old stone masonry walls in order to support modern-day traffic. The north and south faces of the abutments are surfaced with 12 inch thick stone masonry veneer anchored to the concrete. The stones were taken from the stream below.

The old timber trusses, 84 feet long by 12 feet 9 inches high and 1 foot 9 inches thick, have been reconditioned and erected in their former position now resting on steel brackets which project from a new steel under-carriage.

This under-carriage consists of two 36 inch wide flange steel girders spaced 11 feet on centers separated by floor beams at each panel point of the old timber trusses.

The timber deck consists of new and salvaged 3 inch by 10 inch planking laid on 4 inch by 12 inch new treated timber floor stringers spaced about one foot on centers and spanning 10 feet between floor beams. Timber wheel guards and a 2½ foot high timber rail on each side of the deck provide for vehicle safety.

The timber trusses are enclosed by 1 inch by 12 inch white pine vertical tongue and groove boards which are nailed to 3 inch by 5 inch horizontal nailers spaced 3 feet on centers. The vertical joints between the siding boards are covered by ¾ inch by 3 inch batten strips. Approximately 60% of the original pine siding is contained in the restored structure. It is painted white.

The pitched roof has 2 inch by 6 inch pine rafters, spaced two feet on centers overlaid by one inch tongue and groove sheathing. About 90% of the old rafters were reused. The balance of the roofing, including the cedar shingles and lathing, however, is new.

When the bridge was reassembled in 1961 ventilation was provided for the wooden structure by inserting four 3 feet by 3 feet louvers on the sides (Two per side).

To the south, and immediately adjacent, of the covered bridge a new single lane steel beam - concrete deck bridge has been built to carry eastbound traffic. The random native stone masonry parapet and wing walls were designed to soften contrast between the modern bridge and the covered bridge.

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

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; Reconstructed 1961.

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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Engineering/Transportation.

The last remaining covered bridge in New Jersey, Sergeant's Bridge was constructed in 1872 across the Wickecheoke Creek due to actions of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Charles Ogden Holcombe of Lambertville, responsible for most of this regions covered bridges, was the designer and chief carpenter of the bridge, which was built on the site of a pre-Revolutionary stone bridge, using the original stone abutments. Another builder involved was Peter Sibley, a nearby ship-carpenter. The masons were Ely and Charles Everitt, but being constructed on old abutments their work was confined mainly to repairs to the wingwalk.

During their period of popularity in New Jersey, roughly from 1825 to the last quarter of the 19th century, there were perhaps 75 such bridges constructed in the state. The bridges covered to provide protection to the wooden structural members from the elements. The roof prevented falling rain from rotting the timbers and the side walls minimized the amount of rain wind would spray into the support beams. (Although many covered bridges eliminated side walls.) Later, the bridges were commonly used for shelter from a quick thunderstorm and a romantic, if not totally secluded, spot for young lovers.

Before this covered bridge was built the property surrounding was sold to Charles Sergeant in 1805. On his death in 1833, his son, Richard Green Sergeant, inherited the estate. It appears that since the nearest resident was Richard Green Sergeant that the bridge was popularly titled Green Sergeant's bridge and the name has stuck ever since even though the covered bridge is different than the earlier stone bridge which had at least two piers.

As late as 1955 there were three such covered bridges in New Jersey, the other two spanning the Delaware River at Raven Rock and Columbia. The hurricane and flood of 1955, however, washed away the two bridges on the Delaware leaving the remaining Green Sergeant's Bridge the only 19th century covered bridge in New Jersey.

(cont.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American Buildings Survey - New Jersey - 442.
 Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., 1937.
Rural Hunterdon. Hubert G. Schmidt. New Brunswick, 1945 (p. 169)
 "The Story of the Saving of the Green Sergeant's Covered Bridge."
 Edward R. Johnson, Chairman, Hunterdon County Committee
 on Historic Sites and Structures. /1960/
History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties. James P. Snell,
 Philadelphia, 1881 (p. 376)
 "Dedication of the Reconstructed Green Sergeant's Bridge."
 /Green Sergeant's Covered Bridge Association/, (cont.)

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	° ' "	° ' "		40 26 38	74 57 58	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

18/502850
 4476840
 05

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **not applicable**

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:
Terry Karschner, Historian-Curator

ORGANIZATION: **Historic Sites Section, Dept. of Environmental Protection** DATE: **02-20-1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1420

CITY OR TOWN: **Trenton** STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

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: David J. Bardin
 Title: Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection
 Date: July 1, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

W. R. Montrose
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 11/19/74

ATTEST:
Wm. Montrose
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 11/18/74

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
New Jersey	
COUNTY	
Hunterdon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	NOV 19 1974

(Number all entries)

Green Sergeant's Covered Bridge
Delaware Township
Hunterdon County, 019
New Jersey, 34

8. Significance (cont.)

Interestingly, this bridge nearly met its demise shortly after, when, in 1959, an inspection revealed that the bridge was no longer safe due, in part, to the same 1955 flood. The New Jersey State Highway Department at this time would probably have torn down the bridge, but public sentiment prevented them from taking any action.

In the meantime, while the state sought a compromise solution, the bridge collapsed. The Board of Chosen Freeholders of Hunterdon County then carefully dismantled and removed all the sections of the covered bridge.

Soon the problem was solved. The highway department agreed to restore the bridge using "as many of the members and pieces of the present dismantled bridge as shall be practicable" (Assembly, Number 522) and constructing a new bridge parallel and adjacent to the the covered bridge.

The restoration was completed in the fall of 1961 and soonafter dedicated.

There is a New Jersey State Roadmarker at the site which reads:

Green Sergeant's

Last of New Jersey's 75
Covered Bridges. Built in
1872, on the site of a 1750
Bridge. Restored in 1961.
Named for a Local Farmer.



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(Continuation Sheet)

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ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		NOV 19 1974

(Number all entries)

Green Sergeant's Covered Bridge
Delaware Township
Hunterdon County, 019
New Jersey, 34

9. Bibliography (cont.)

- Hunterdon County, 1961. Brochure on the restoration of the bridge.
- "Assembly, No. 522, State of New Jersey." Trenton, 1961. An act to permit the restoration of the covered bridge.
- "Green Sergeant's Bridge", New Jersey Business. New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Company, July, 1963.
- "Last Covered Bridge Narrowly Escaped Demolition", Hunterdon County Free Press. Richard Harpster and Alastair Frazer. March 1, 1972 (p. 12)

Additional articles in newspapers:

Hunterdon County Democrat:

- "Covered Bridge to Mark Its 100th Year." September 7, 1972.
- "A White Christmas." 1930's block print of the bridge. December 21, 1972.

Trenton Evening Times:

- "100 Year Old Covered Bridge Span Takes a Break." September 18, 1972.
- "Long Span" Photograph. December 21, 1972.



WORKING NUMBER 8.574.1266

TECH REVIEW

PHOTOS 2

MAPS 1

7411125

HUNTERDON Co.

CONTROL REVIEW

OK
cm
8.8.
74

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN 1 question the integrity of the bridge - it seems ~~less~~ a restoration than a reconstruction. Defer to HAER for an opinion... Heyland

TO HAER
ARCHEOLOGIST only problems with this nomination might be its being reconstructed after it collapsed. However, it is the only one in New Jersey, and 90% of the original fabric is original material.
Accept
M. B. Barnes
14 Aug 74

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF Unless there is a definite ^{rule} policy dealing with reconstructed or moved structures, I would be inclined to accept this nomination for the reasons mentioned by M. Barnes. If there is a policy, I would like to know it.
Accept
End
9/10/74

BRANCH CHIEF Since it is ~~less~~ in N.J. and mostly orig. fabric -
Accept
Henry
11.11.74
Accom
Colls
10/10/74

KEEPER
Wm
10/18/74

National Register Write-up 12/3
Federal Register entry 2/75

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____
Entered NOV 19 1974





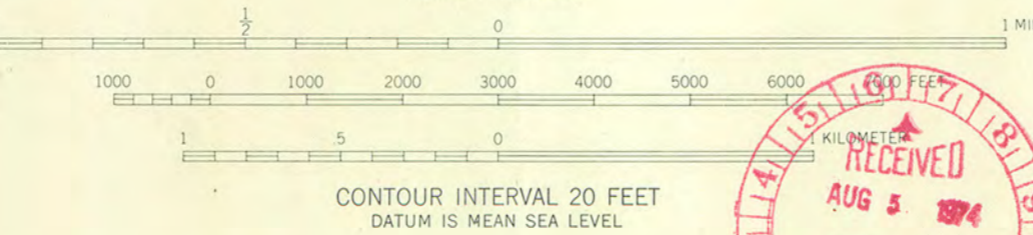
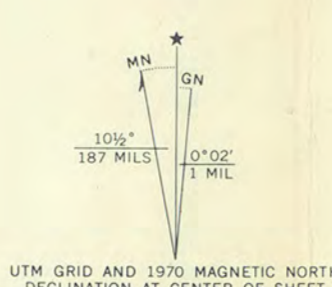
NJ 3-4



Green Sergeant's Covered
Bridge
Delaware Township
Hunterdon County 019
New Jersey 34
Latitude:
40-26-38
Longitude:
74-57-58

18/502850
4476840
0

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USC&GS, New Jersey Geodetic Survey,
Pennsylvania Railroad, and USSCS
Topography from aerial photographs by stereophotogrammetric
methods. Aerial photographs taken 1942. Field check 1943
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1954
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on New Jersey coordinate system
and Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey
from aerial photographs taken 1970. This information
not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

STOCKTON, N. J. - PA.
N4022.5 - W7452.5/7.5
1954
PHOTOREVISED 1970
AMS 6064 IV NW - SERIES V822



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
TRENTON 08625

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Dr. Murtagh:

I am pleased to nominate the following places to the National Register:

Elias Van Bunschooten House, Wantage Township,
Sussex County

Peter Mechling's Tavern, Union Township,
Hunterdon County

Green Sergeant's Covered Bridge, Delaware
Township, Hunterdon County

These nominations have received approval of the State Review Committee for Historic Sites.

Should you want any further information concerning these applications, please feel free to contact the staff of the Historic Sites Section, Box 1420, Department of Environmental Protection, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, telephone (609) 292-2023.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David J. Bardin".

David J. Bardin
Commissioner

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE NEW JERSEY

Date Entered NOV 19 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Somerset Roller Mills	Titusville vicinity Mercer County
Fairview District	Camden Camden County
Seventeenth Century Clark House	Township of Clark Union County
Green Sergeant's Covered Bridge	<i>Lockton vicinity</i> Delaware Township Hunterdon County
Garretson, Peter, House	Fair Lawn Bergen County

Also Notified

Hon. Clifford P. Case
 Hon. Harrison A. Williams, Jr.
 Hon. Joseph J. Maraziti
 Hon. John E. Hunt
 Hon. Matthew J. Rinaldo
 Hon. William B. Widnal

State Historic Preservation Officer
 Mr. David J. Bardin, Commissioner
 Department of Environmental
 Protection
 Post Office Box 1420
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Regional Director, Mid Atlantic Region
 PR Mott/cha

11/22/74