



BROWN BRIDGE

Built in 1880 and named after a Shrewsbury family, Brown Bridge is an exceptional illustration of 19th-century covered bridge construction and an outstanding example of a Town lattice truss, one of the most significant American timber truss types. Patented in 1820 by architect Ithiel Town, the truss system consists of a rectangular timber frame connected by sawn planks arranged in the form of a lattice and fastened together with wooden pegs. Brown Bridge is the best surviving example of the work of Nichols M. Powers, a prolific covered bridge builder from Clarendon. The bridge spans Cold River, using indigenous materials as its northwest abutment. Brown Bridge was designated a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service in 2014.

VERMONT DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION • 2018



WEI
LIM
5.
TO



WEIGHT
LIMIT
5.5
TONS





































BROWN BRIDGE
HAS BEEN DESIGNATED A
NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

THIS SITE POSSESSES NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE
IN COMMEMORATING THE HISTORY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

BUILT IN 1880 BY NICHOLS M. POWERS, BROWN BRIDGE
REMAINS A FINE EXAMPLE OF A LATTICE TRUSS
COVERED BRIDGE, A TYPE PATENTED IN 1820
BY ARCHITECT ITHIEL TOWN.
BRIDGES LIKE THIS COULD BE
INEXPENSIVELY CONSTRUCTED BY LOCAL BUILDERS
USING MACHINE-CUT WOOD PLANKS,
AND REQUIRED NEITHER THE COMPLEX WOOD JOINERY
NOR THE MASSIVE MASONRY ABUTMENTS
OF OTHER BRIDGE BUILDING SYSTEMS.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DESIGNATED 2014























COVERED BRIDGE
RESTRICTIONS
HEIGHT 8'-11"
WEIGHT 16,000 LBS



WARNING
ALL CAR
TAGS ARE
RECORDED

UPPER COLD RIVER RD →

AREA CLOSED
AFTER 8pm
POLICE TAKE
NOTICE



