

F-4-24
Old Harmony Road Bridge
Middletown vicinity
Private

Ca. 1895

The Old Harmony Road Bridge is a circa 1895 steel Pratt truss bridge with three chords, pinned connections, and a wood deck located over Little Catoctin Creek off Harmony Road just north of the I-70 overpass of Harmony Road. The bridge is now privately owned and not open to traffic. The bridge has inclined end posts and stone abutments. No identifying plaque is on the structure, but it is similar in design to others in Frederick County built by the Groton Bridge Company and the York Bridge Company during the 1890's and early 1900's. There were many of these small pony truss bridges erected beginning in the last quarter of the 19th century in response to the need for stronger bridges to carry the heavy wagons taking increasingly abundant agricultural produce to central transportation links.

F-4-24

Old Harmony Road Bridge

Middletown

Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:

Industrial Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes

Transportation

Resource Types:

Category: Structure

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:

Transportation/road-related/bridge

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Old Harmony Road Bridge

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Little Catocin Creek near Harmony Road not for publication

city, town Middletown vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mrs. James P. Grossnickle

street & number 9120 Harmony Road telephone no.:

city, town Middletown state and zip code Md. 21769

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio

city, town Frederick state Md. 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-4-24

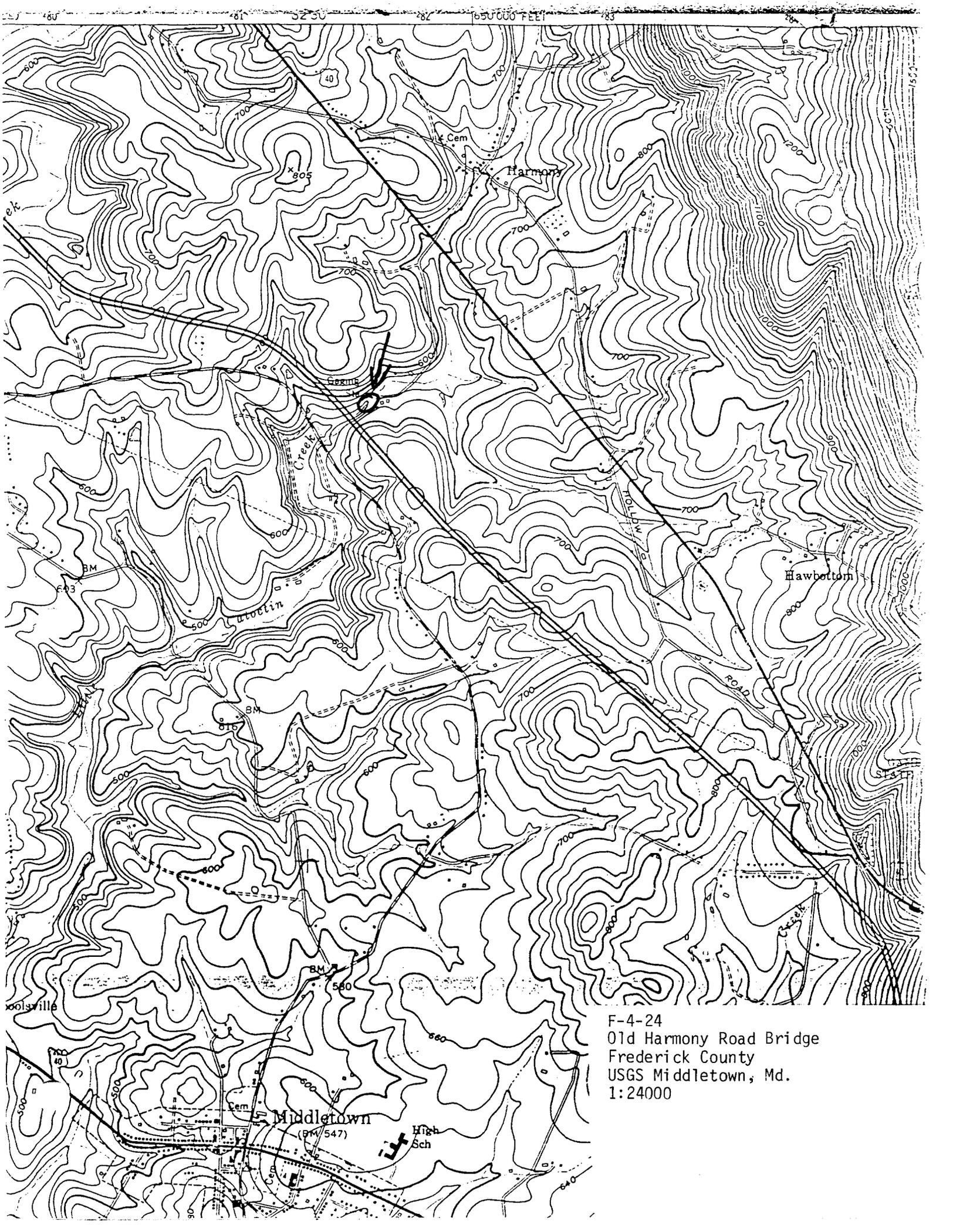
Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

The Old Harmony Road Bridge is a circa 1895 steel Pratt truss bridge over Little Catoctin Creek just north of the Interstate 70 overpass of Harmony Road near Middletown, Frederick County, Maryland. The bridge is on private land on the west side of Harmony Road, which was relocated when I-70 was built, isolating the bridge from public use. The bridge is currently used for infrequent pedestrian and private vehicle traffic.

The bridge is a pony type with inclined end posts and three chords held with pinned connections. The deck is wood and is somewhat deteriorated. Along the sides of the trusses are lattice railings. The abutments are stone. Although no identifying plaque is on the structure, the configuration matches that of other bridges in Frederick County of the same type which were built by the Groton Bridge Company of Groton, Connecticut during the 1890's and by the York Bridge Company of York, Pennsylvania during the first two decades of the 20th century. A similar, but probably later, example of the type is the current Harmony Road Bridge (F-4-6) located about 1/4 mile north on the same road.



F-4-24
Old Harmony Road Bridge
Frederick County
USGS Middletown, Md.
1:24000



F. U. 24

Old Hayward Road

Frederick

Photo: Jan 2, 1951

February 1951

View from east

1/2



F. 4. 24

Old Harmony Road Bridge

Frederick (Co. 2)

W. 1/2 Sec 2 T. 12 N. R. 12 E.

February 1932

W. 1/2 Sec 2 T. 12 N. R. 12 E., Co. 2, Frederick Co., Md.

W. 1/2 Sec 2 T. 12 N. R. 12 E.

at