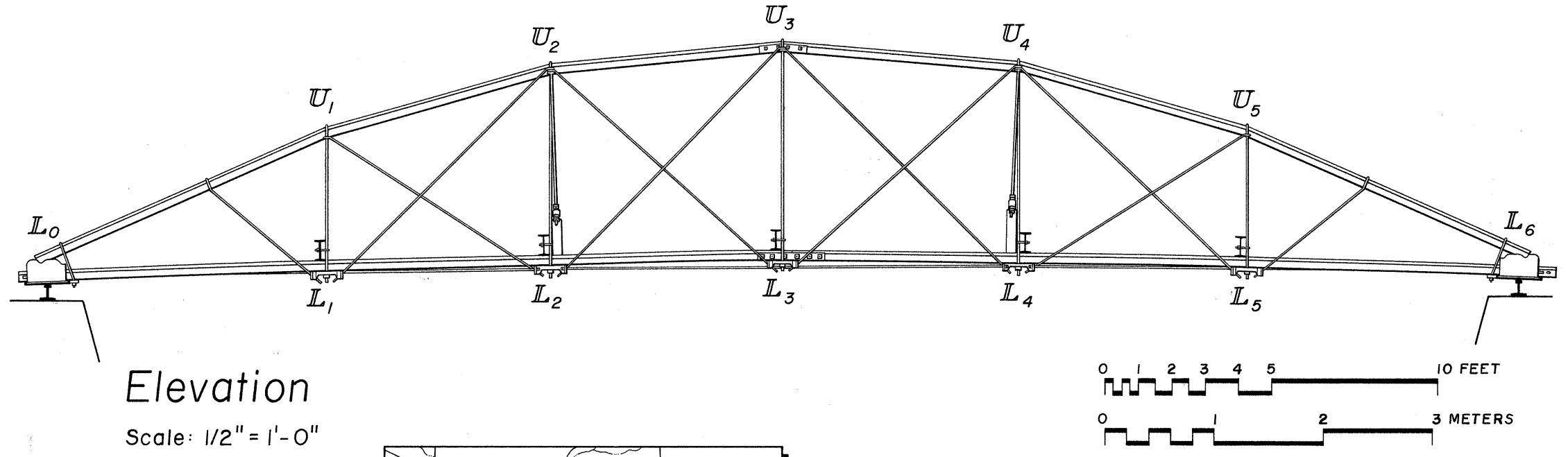
## AVERY/BARTHOLOMEW PATENT IRON-RAILROAD-BRIDGE

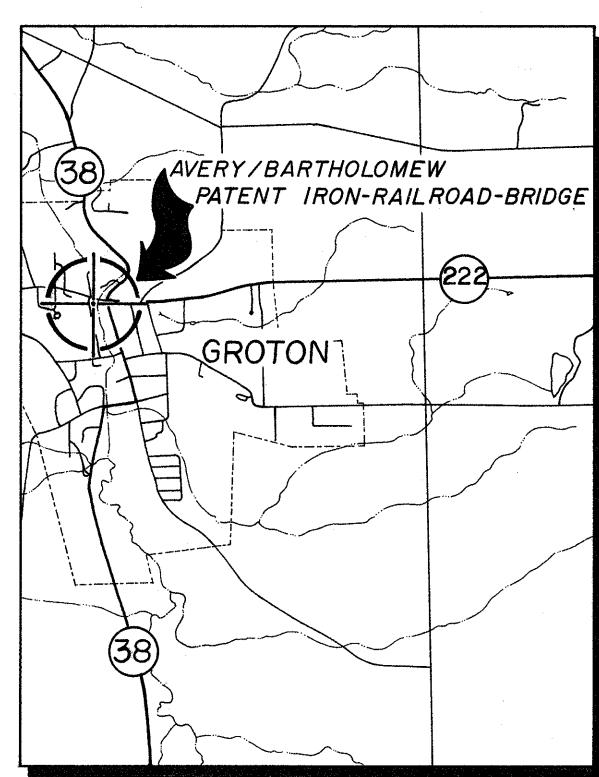
GROTON, NEW YORK . 1877

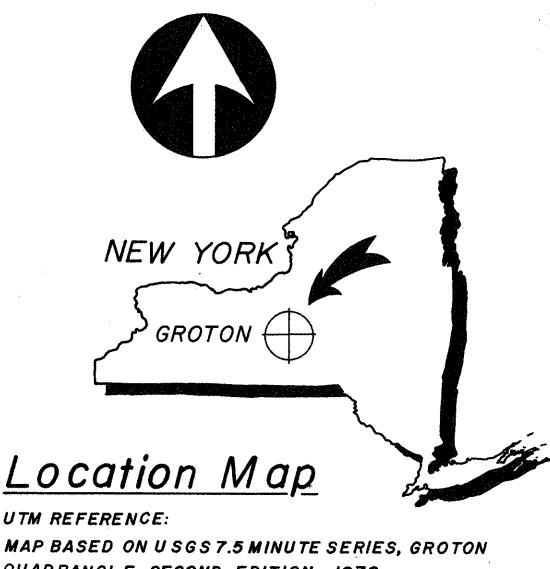


The feature that distinguishes the Avery/Bartholomew Patent Bridge is its upper and lower chords fashioned out of 5-5/8 inch deep iron railroad rails spliced at mid-span. The upper chord rail is bent at the panel points forming a segmented arch of six panels. It is the only example extant of a bridge based on the patents of Oliver Avery, Jr. and Caleb Bartholomew that launched the Groton Iron Bridge Company, one of the leading fabricators of metal truss bridges in New York State.

Salvaged in 1981 from active service, it has been reassembled in the Village of Groton as a visual reminder of the vernacular designs that sought a niche in the highway bridge market following the Civil War and, the Groton Iron Bridge Company, a local business enterprise.

This recording project is part of the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), a long-range program to document historically significant engineering, industrial, and maritime sites in the United States. HAER is administered by the National Park Service, US Department of the





MAP BASED ON USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES, GROTON QUADRANGLE, SECOND EDITION - 1978.

Interior. The Cast & Wrought-Iron Bridges (New York) Recording Project was cosponsored by HAER during the summer of 1994 under the general direction of Dr. Robert J. Kapsch, Chief, HASB/HAER, the New York State Department of Transportation, Michael J. Cuddy, assistant commissioner & Chief Engineer, with the assistance of Mary Ivey, Environmental Section, NY DOT; the Office of New York State Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, J. Winthrop Aldrich, Deputy Commissioner; and the School of Architecture, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Donald Watson, Dean.

The field work, measured drawings, historical reports, and photographs were prepared under the direction of Eric DeLony, HAER Chief and Project Leader; Karl Bodensiek, field supervisor; Caroline Schweyer, (ICOMOS-France), architect; Wang Bing (ICOMOS-Japan), architect; and William Chamberlin, PE, historian consultant. Large-format photography was done by Jet Lowe, HAER photographer. The project was edited in the Washington Office by Luis Rosario under the direction of Craig Strong HAER Sr Architect.

/ BARTHOLOM TOWN PARK SOI

