

Boston & Maine Railroad: Northampton
Lattice Truss Bridge
Northampton
Hampshire County
Massachusetts

HAER No. MA-55

HAER
MASS,

8-NORTH,

6-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

HAER
MASS
8-NORTH,
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Boston & Maine Railroad: Northampton Lattice Truss Bridge

HAER No. MA-55

Location: Across Connecticut River, directly upstream from State
Route 9 Highway Bridge
Northampton, Hampshire County, Maine

Date of Construction: 1887

Fabricator: R. F. Hawkins, Springfield, Massachusetts

Construction Engineer: G. M. Tompson

Present Owner: Boston and Maine Railroad

Significance: This structure is an early example of an all-riveted
metal lattice truss built for railroad use. The form
of the riveted lattice truss reduced deflection under
heavy moving loads and, apparently, provided smoother
passage for trains. At the same time, it required
more complicated mathematical analysis of stress than
simple Pratt trusses.

Transmitted by: Jean P. Yearby, HAER, 1985

ADDENDUM TO
BOSTON AND MAINE RAILROAD, NORTHAMPTON LATTICE TRUSS BRIDGE
Northampton
Hampshire County
Massachusetts

HAER No. MA-55

HAER
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