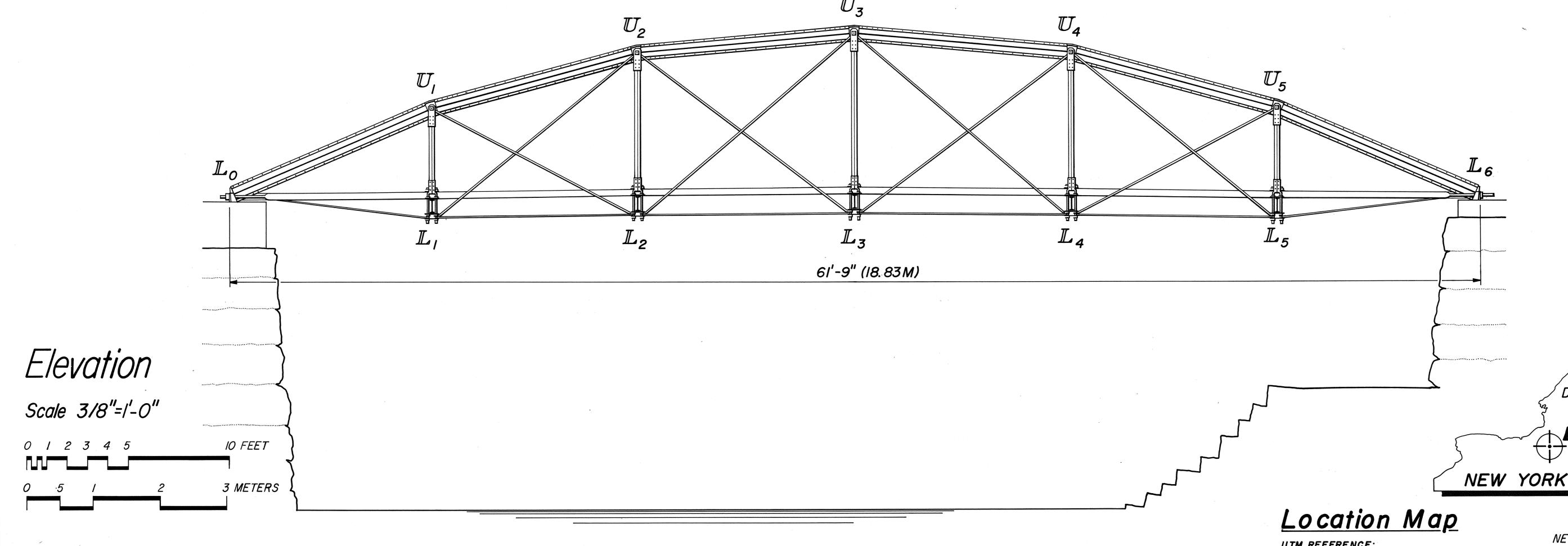
COOPER'S TUBULAR ARCH BRIDGE 1875. NEW YORK



Cooper's Tubular Arch Bridge was built for the Tow New York, by Melvin A Nash, a bridge-builder from Fort Edward. It is the only example extant of a bridge based on the 1873 patent of William B. Cooper, a civil engineer employed by the New York State Canal.

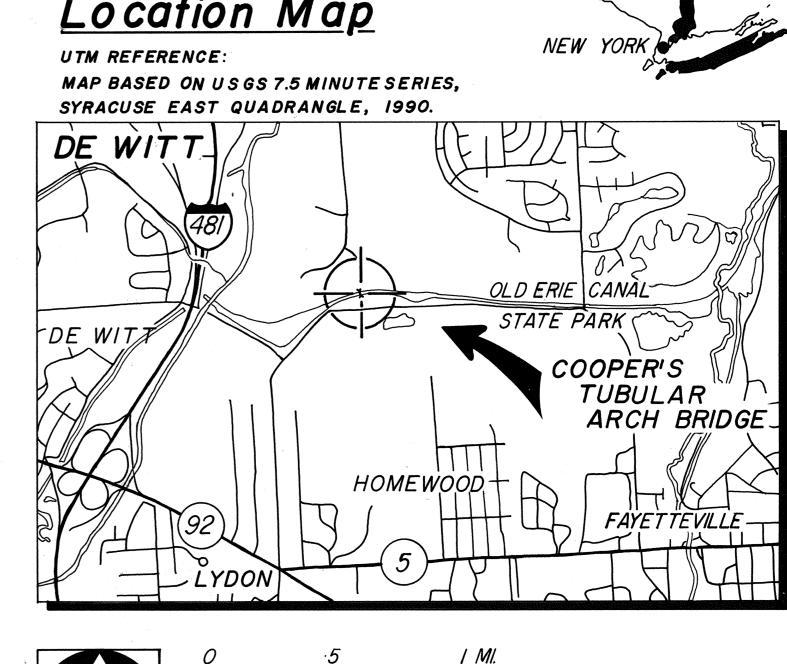
Designed as a canal crossing, Cooper's bridge later was manufactured commercially in partnership with Nash. The bridge is one of a small number that survive of patented cast and wrought-iron bowstring arch truss designs developed during the mid-to-late 19th century to address the need for simple, inexpensive bridges of moderate span.

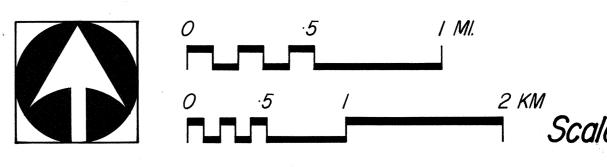
In 1975, the bridge was moved to the Old Erie Canal State Park where it carries pedestrians and service vehicles across a re-watered portion of the canal.

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 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, HABS/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.





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