

Griesemer Mill Bridge  
Over Manatawny Creek, 3-1/2 miles north of State  
Route 562, Spangsville, Oley Township  
Yellow House Vicinity  
Berks County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1020

HABS  
PA  
6-18-53  
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Eastern Office, Design and Construction  
143 South Third Street  
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

## GRISSEMER MILL BRIDGE

HABS  
PA  
6-YEL V  
2

Location: Pennsylvania, Berks County, Yellow House Vicinity, Oley Township, Spangsville, over Manatawny Creek,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mi. No. of State Route 562.

Brief Statement of Significance: Griesemer Mill Bridge is the oldest covered bridge still standing in Berks County.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Griesemer Mill Bridge which spans the Manatawny Creek, was built in 1832, which makes it the oldest standing covered bridge in Berks County. It was repaired and has had new siding and a new roof put on it in recent years, and is now in good condition.

References: Mitchel, Harry E., The Covered Bridges of Berks County, Berks County Historical Review, Vol. XIII, #1, p. 2.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Griesemer Mill Bridge is a one-lane, covered bridge with a single span of one hundred and twenty-four feet. It is a Burr arch truss employing great timber arches in its structure.

The abutments and piers of the bridge are stone. The structure is entirely of timber, and the siding is vertical boards painted red. The roof is wood shingle.

Prepared by  
Drury B. Alexander, Supervisor  
Schuylkill Valley Project, Reading, Pa.  
University of Pennsylvania, for NPS  
August 15, 1958