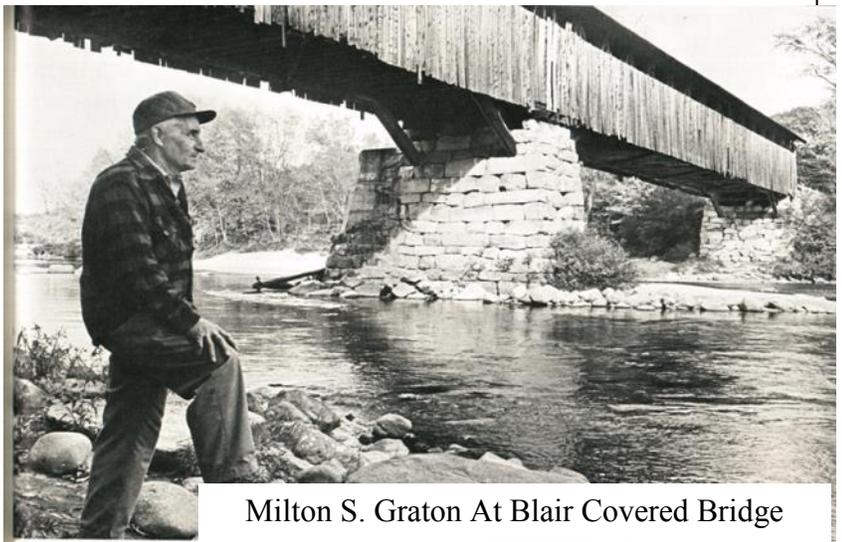


"Blair Bridge" Presented by: Arnold Graton

My father lived by "Remove not the ancient landmark which thy fathers have set", Proverbs, Chapter 22, Verse 28. My experience includes thirty years as a partner with my father.

Arnold M. Graton Associates, Inc., is a traditional builder and restorer of historical structures, including work on 65 wooden bridges, round barns, museums, water wheels and more. We keep this philosophy in the forefront of our approach to historic restoration, thus maintaining the integrity of the original bridge and the builder's work, Our goal is to retain as much of the historic fabric as possible. Hand tools and traditional techniques are our standard. I have built 16 new bridges and have worked on 65 or so from Georgia to California. My son Tim is the superintendent at the Blair Covered Bridge and has worked with me since he was young. He is a recent graduate from the UNH Thompson School. Tim and Don Walker, my long term foreman are completing the restorations to the Blair and moving forward with me to continue restoring other bridges.

My father Milton S. Graton, who pioneered the restoration of Covered Bridges during the flood control era of the 1950's, is known for reinventing the profession of Bridge Wright. Milton was employed in moving the old structures off the rivers and streams they had crossed for 100 years or more. He was so impressed by the workmanship that he became a tireless promoter and savior of many New England Covered Bridges destined to be lost to flood plains. He dedicated his time and our business to the nearly forgotten craft. Techniques developed by MSG and AMG to save as much of the original bridge as possible such as splicing timbers, thorough shoring and quality of timber and joinery were sited at the introduction of the "Burlington Charter for the Preservation of Historic Covered Bridges." Our work on the Halls Covered Bridge in Vermont was used as the prototype by the HAER to set the standard for all covered bridge restoration.



Milton S. Graton At Blair Covered Bridge

The presentation will be at the Old Town Hall in Campton, which is handicap accessible, and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For information about the Society, check our web site at www.camptonhistorical.org

Upcoming events:

August 2 - Old Home Day

August 23 - Cellar Hole Walk

Oct. TBD - Halloween History Walk,

book walk, pumpkin display and more!

Dec. 6 - Community Holiday Concert and Cookie Swap



This event is made possible thanks in part to the following business sponsors:

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