# NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORIC PROPERTY DOCUMENTATION OSSIPEE BRIDGES 137/297 & 137/299

#### NH ROUTE 16 OVER BEARCAMP RIVER

NH State No. 744

LOCATION: NH Route 16 & 25 over Bearcamp River, 2.5 miles south of Ossipee-

Tamworth town line, Ossipee, Carroll County, New Hampshire.

USGS Ossipee Lake, NH Quadrangle, 1998. UTM Coordinates: 19.324524.4851668

State Plane Coordinates (NAD 83 feet): x 1,112,416.93, y 473,235.54

**DATE BUILT:** 1955

**BUILDER:** New Hampshire Highway Department (NHHD)

**ENGINEER:** Harold E. Langley, Bridge Engineer, Robert J. Prowse, Assistant Bridge

Engineer, NHHD

**CONTRACTOR:** Peter Salvucci & Sons, Inc., Waltham, MA

**OWNER / USE:** NHDOT / State highway bridges

**SIGNIFICANCE:** Ossipee Bridges 137/297 and 137/299, also known as Bearcamp River Bridge and Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, are examples of a continuous I-beam stringer deck highway bridge of an uncommon design that combined simple and continuous beam design. They were designed by Harold E. Langley, Bridge Engineer, and Robert J. Prowse, Assistant Bridge Engineer, noted engineers in the history of the NHHD and may have been the first of their type designed by the department. The bridges retain features representative of mid-20<sup>th</sup> c. bridges of the type, specifically the H-pile bents of double batter-pile design, the combined open-grid shoulder/steel curb/open-grid sidewalk assembly, and the original steel angle railings. Although these features were once common they may have seen limited use in New Hampshire; the number of intact examples remaining is unknown. The bridges therefore possess distinctive engineering characteristics, represent significant work of two engineers important to New Hampshire bridge engineering history, and may have played an important role in the development of a specialized bridge type in New Hampshire. The bridges retain integrity of location, setting, association, feeling, design, materials and workmanship. They were determined eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria C. For further information see: Individual Inventory Forms OSS0030 & OSS0031 and associated Determination of Eligibility form (dated 2/26/2013) on file at New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, Concord.

PROJECT INFORMATION: Ossipee Bridges 137/297 and 137/299 were documented in accordance with the standards of the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) and the Historic American Engineering Record in May 2017 by Historic Documentation Company Inc. (HDC), Portsmouth, RI, for the NHDOT Bureau of Environment. The documentation fulfills the Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement between Federal Highway Administration, NH Department of Transportation and the NH State Historic Preservation Office, dated January 18, 2017. The report was written and compiled by Richard M. Casella, Engineering Historian, Historic Documentation Company. Rob Tucher Photographic Documentation, High Bridge, NJ, conducted the large-format black and white film photography.

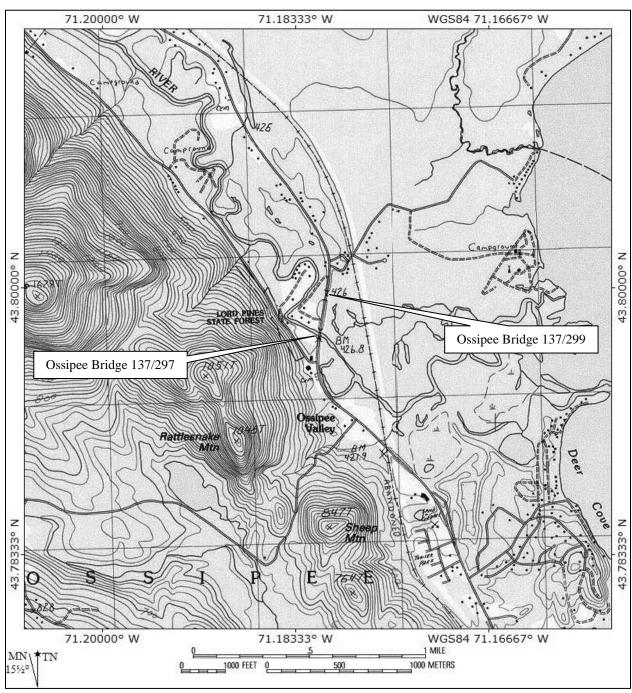


FIGURE 1: Location Map. (USGS Quad: Ossipee Lake, NH 1998).

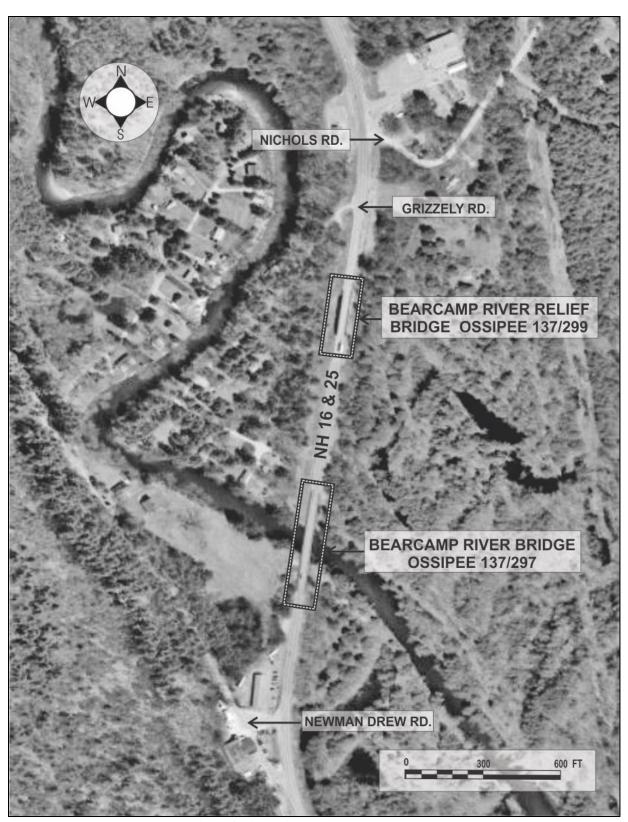


FIGURE 2: Location Map Detail (Microsoft Bing aerial mapping, 2016).

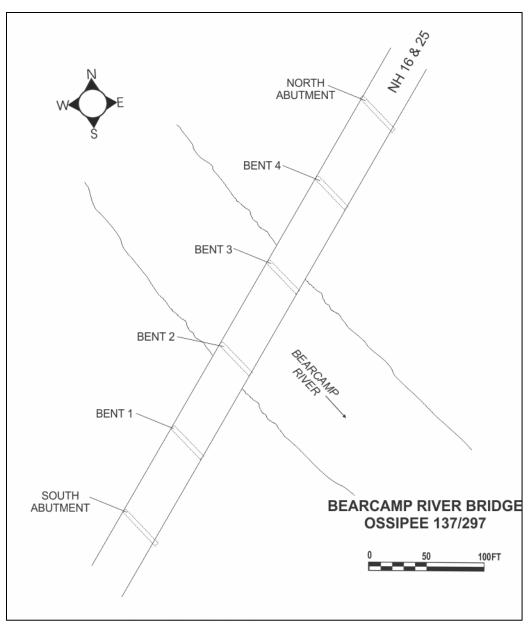


FIGURE 3: Bearcamp River Bridge, Site Sketch

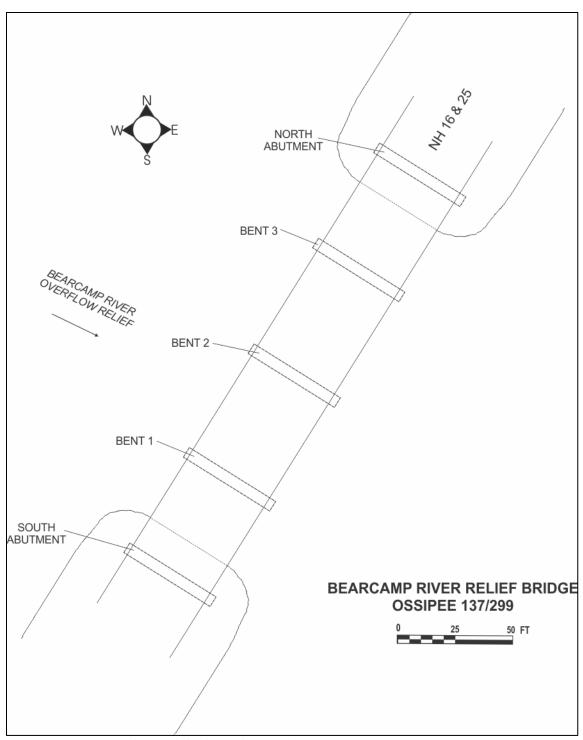


FIGURE 4: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, Site Sketch

## INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

OSSIPEE BRIDGES 137/297 & 137/299 NH ROUTE 16 OVER BEARCAMP RIVER Ossipee, Carroll County, New Hampshire. New Hampshire State No. 744 Photographer: Rob Tucher

northwest.

May 2017

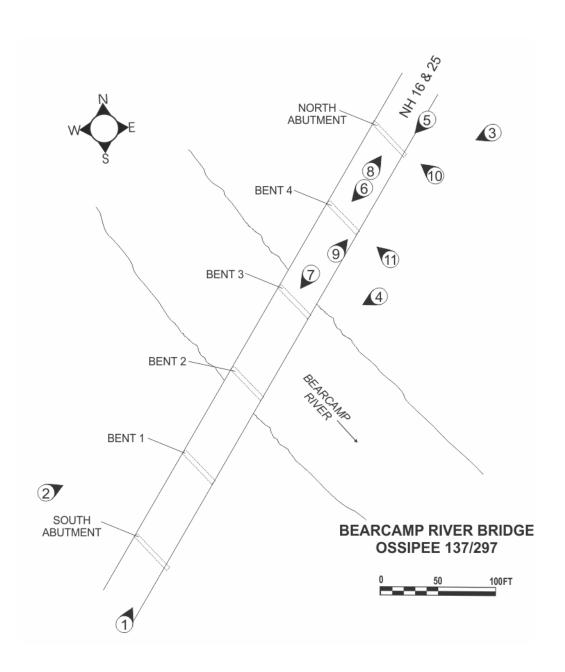
Widy 2017	
NH-744-1	Bearcamp River Bridge, south approach and view of deck showing slightly arched profile of superstructure most apparent in railing. Looking north.
NH-744-2	Bearcamp River Bridge, oblique view of west (upstream) side of bridge. Looking northeast.
NH-744-3	Bearcamp River Bridge, oblique view of east (downstream) side of bridge. Looking southwest.
NH-744-4	Bearcamp River Bridge, oblique view of east (downstream) side of bridge in context with river channel. Looking southwest.
NH-744-5	Bearcamp River Bridge, north approach, view of deck showing steel grate curb drains and sidewalk. Looking southwest.
NH-744-6	Bearcamp River Bridge, bent 4, elevation, showing battered H-piles, concrete cap girder, rolled I-beam stringers with diaphragm bracing. Looking southwest.
NH-744-7	Bearcamp River Bridge, bent 3, elevation, showing battered H-piles, concrete cap girder, rolled I-beam stringers with diaphragm bracing. Looking southwest.
NH-744-8	Bearcamp River Bridge, north abutment elevation, showing rolled I-beam stringers with diaphragm bracing. Looking northeast.
NH-744-9	Bearcamp River Bridge, bent 4, east side, showing battered H-piles, concrete cap girder equipped with flood-escape ladder rungs and the steel-grate sidewalk and curb assembly above. Looking northeast.
NH-744-10	Bearcamp River Bridge, north abutment, east side, showing abutment back wall, bearing, sidewalk assembly and railing. Looking northwest.
NH-744-11:	Bearcamp River Bridge, bent 4, east side, showing detail of welded splice joint joining stringers over bent bearings, made to exact specifications to allow the

stringers to function structurally as both simple and continuous beams. Looking

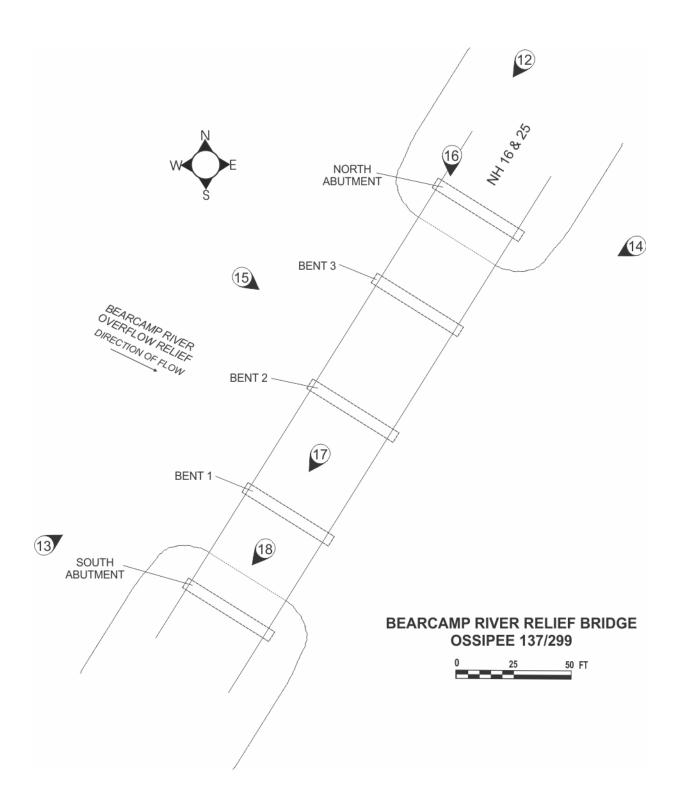
OSSIPEE BRIDGES 137/297 & 137/299 NH ROUTE 16 OVER BEARCAMP RIVER NH STATE No. 744 INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS PAGE 2

- NH-744-12: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, north approach with Bearcamp River Bridge visible in distance. Looking southwest.
- NH-744-13: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, oblique view of west (upstream) side of bridge. Looking northeast.
- NH-744-14: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, oblique view of east (downstream) side of bridge. Looking southwest.
- NH-744-15: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, west (upstream) elevation showing bents 2 and 3. Looking southeast.
- NH-744-16: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, deck view, showing railing, open grate drains and expansion joint visible at right of asphalt patch. Looking south.
- NH-744-17: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, bent 1, and underside of deck showing stringers and diaphragms. Looking southwest.
- NH-744-18: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, south abutment elevation, showing rolled I-beam stringers with diaphragm bracing. Looking southwest.

OSSIPEE BRIDGES 137/297 & 137/299 NH ROUTE 16 OVER BEARCAMP RIVER NH STATE No. 744 KEY TO PHOTOGRAPHS 1-11 BEARCAMP RIVER BRIDGE



OSSIPEE BRIDGES 137/297 & 137/299 NH ROUTE 16 OVER BEARCAMP RIVER NH STATE No. 744 KEY TO PHOTOGRAPHS 12-18 OVERFLOW RELIEF BRIDGE





NH-744-1: Bearcamp River Bridge, south approach and view of deck showing slightly arched profile of superstructure most apparent in railing. Looking north.



NH-744-2: Bearcamp River Bridge, oblique view of west (upstream) side of bridge. Looking northeast.



NH-744-3: Bearcamp River Bridge, oblique view of east (downstream) side of bridge. Looking southwest.



NH-744-4: Bearcamp River Bridge, oblique view of east (downstream) side of bridge in context with river channel. Looking southwest.



NH-744-5: Bearcamp River Bridge, north approach, view of deck showing steel grate curb drains and sidewalk. Looking southwest.



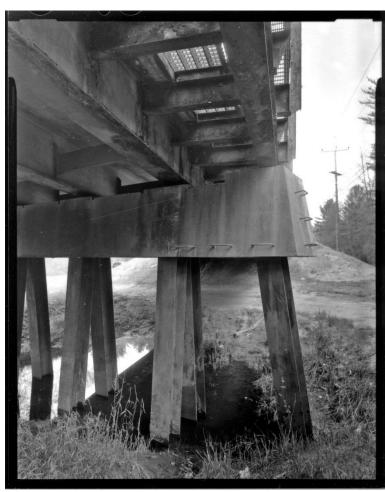
NH-744-6: Bearcamp River Bridge, bent 4, elevation, showing battered H-piles, concrete cap girder, rolled I-beam stringers with diaphragm bracing. Looking southwest.



NH-744-7: Bearcamp River Bridge, bent 3, elevation, showing battered H-piles, concrete cap girder, rolled I-beam stringers with diaphragm bracing. Looking southwest.



NH-744-8: Bearcamp River Bridge, north abutment elevation, showing rolled I-beam stringers with diaphragm bracing. Looking northeast.



NH-744-9: Bearcamp River Bridge, bent 4, east side, showing battered H-piles, concrete cap girder equipped with flood-escape ladder rungs and the steel-grate sidewalk and curb assembly above. Looking northeast.



NH-744-10: Bearcamp River Bridge, north abutment, east side, showing abutment back wall, bearing, sidewalk assembly and railing. Looking northwest.



NH-744-11: Bearcamp River Bridge, bent 4, east side, showing detail of welded splice joint joining stringers over bent bearings, made to exact specifications to allow the stringers to function structurally as both simple and continuous beams. Looking northwest.



NH-744-12: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, north approach with Bearcamp River Bridge visible in distance. Looking southwest.



NH-744-13: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, oblique view of west (upstream) side of bridge. Looking northeast.



NH-744-14: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, oblique view of east (downstream) side of bridge. Looking southwest.



NH-744-15: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, west (upstream) elevation showing bents 2 and 3. Looking southeast.



NH-744-16: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, deck view, showing railing, open grate drains and expansion joint visible at right of asphalt patch. Looking south.



NH-744-17: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, bent 1, and underside of deck showing stringers and diaphragms. Looking southwest.



NH-744-18: Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, south abutment elevation, showing rolled I-beam stringers with diaphragm bracing. Looking southwest.

#### INDEX TO ORIGINAL DRAWINGS

OSSIPEE BRIDGES 137/297 & 137/299 NH ROUTE 16 OVER BEARCAMP RIVER Ossipee, Carroll County, New Hampshire. New Hampshire State No. 744

Bearcamp River Bridge, Drawing 1-12

NH-744\_DRAWING-01 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River.

General Plan, Sheet 1 of 12, June 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-2.

NH-744 DRAWING-02 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-

12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Borings, Sheet 2 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH

Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-2.

NH-744\_DRAWING-03 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-

12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Layout of Steel Bearing Piles, Sheet 3 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord.

Plan File 3-4-3-2.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-04 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-

12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Abutment Details, Sheet 4 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-

2.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-05 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-

12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Reinforcing Steel - Abutments, Sheet 5 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord.

Plan File 3-4-3-2.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-06 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-

12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Typical Bent Details, Sheet 6 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-

4-3-2.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-07

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Bent Cap Reinforcing, Sheet 7 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-2.

NH-744 DRAWING-08

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Bridge Shoe Details, Sheet 8 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-2.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-09

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Framing Plan, Sheet 9 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-2.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-10

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Typical Transverse Section & Details, Sheet 10 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-2.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-11

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Expansion Details, Sheet 11 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-2.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-12

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/297, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Bearcamp River. Slab Reinforcement, Sheet 12 of 12, July 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-2.

### Bearcamp River Relief Bridge, Drawing 13-24

NH-744\_ DRAWING-13 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure. General Plan, Sheet 1 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-14 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure. Borings, Sheet 2 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-15

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure.
Layout of Steel Bearing Piles, Sheet 3 of 12, August 1954.
Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation,
Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-16 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure. Abutment Details, Sheet 4 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-17 Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure. Abutment Reinforcing Details - Abutments, Sheet 5 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-18

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure.
Typical Bent Details, Sheet 6 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord.
Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-19
Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure.
Bent Cap Reinforcement, Sheet 7 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord.
Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-20

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure. Bridge Shoe Details, Sheet 8 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744 DRAWING-21

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure. Framing Plan, Sheet 9 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744 DRAWING-22

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure. Typical Transverse Section & Details, Sheet 10 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744\_ DRAWING-23

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure. Expansion Details, Sheet 11 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

NH-744 DRAWING-24

Ossipee-Tamworth Bridge No. 137/299, Federal Project No. ER-12, State Project No. P-2738, N.H. Route 16 over Relief Structure. Slab Reinforcement, Sheet 12 of 12, August 1954. Original drawing on file at NH Department of Transportation, Concord. Plan File 3-4-3-5.

