

**Fish Creek 1901 (Town of Saugerties)**  
Source: Saugerties Public Library NY-56-24x



**Ganaghote-Tuttletown 1845 (Town of Gardiner)**  
Source: [www.lostbridges.org](http://www.lostbridges.org) NY-56-09x



**Phillis c. 1840. (Town of Gardiner)**  
Source: NSPCB Brainerd Collection NY-56-16x



**Wawarsing (Town of Wawarsing)**  
Source: [www.lostbridges.org](http://www.lostbridges.org) NY-56-13x



**Galeville c. 1850 (Town of Shawangunk)**  
Source: NSPCB RSA Collection NY-56-15x



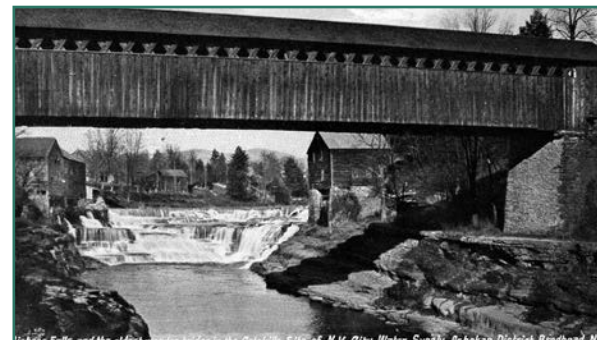
**Napanoch (Town of Wawarsing)**  
Source: [www.lostbridges.org](http://www.lostbridges.org) NY-56-11x



**Wallkill (Town of Shawangunk)**  
Source: [www.lostbridges.org](http://www.lostbridges.org) NY-56-14x



**Myers-Eagle 1906-07 (Town of Hardenburgh)**  
Source: [www.lostbridges.org](http://www.lostbridges.org) NY-56-04x



**Bishop's Falls (Town of Olive)**  
Source: [www.lostbridges.org](http://www.lostbridges.org) NY-56-12x

# Ulster County's COVERED BRIDGES



At the beginning of the 20th century,  
Ulster County had approximately  
40 covered bridges.

*Today, only five remain.*

For more information on how you  
can help preserve them, visit one  
of these websites:

New York State Covered Bridge Society  
[www.nycoveredbridges.org](http://www.nycoveredbridges.org)

Covered Spans of Yesteryear  
[www.lostbridges.org](http://www.lostbridges.org)

National Society for the Preservation  
of Covered Bridges  
[www.coveredbridgesociety.org](http://www.coveredbridgesociety.org)

Published by the  
Ulster County Clerk's Office

## Special Appreciation

• **National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges** (NSPCB) for providing rare images from their archives. [www.coveredbridgesociety.org/](http://www.coveredbridgesociety.org/)

• **Trish Kane and Bill Caswell** for images from Covered Spans of Yesteryear. (If you have any information about any of the lost bridges, please use the form on this website) [www.lostbridges.org/](http://www.lostbridges.org/)

• **Vivian Yess Wadlin** of The Area Guide **About Town** for design and production of this brochure ([www.AboutTown.us](http://www.AboutTown.us)) and for use of cover 1952 painting by Albert H. Shultis

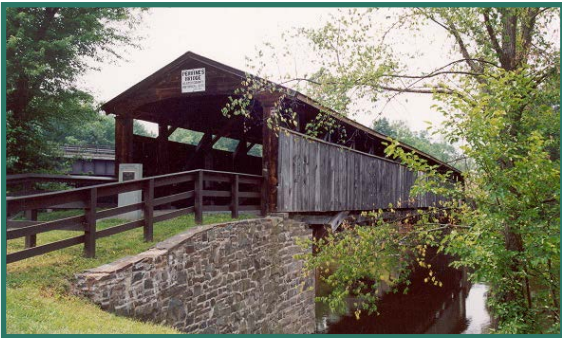
• Text for this brochure: **Ron Knapp**, SUNY New Paltz

• **Special thanks: Eddie Moran**, Ulster County Historian  
**Ulster County Department of Public Works** for Maintaining Perrine's Covered Bridge



## Five Existing Covered Bridges in Ulster County, NY

**Perrine’s Built 1821/Covered 1822 (Towns of Esopus-Rosendale)** Source: Trish Kane NY-56-01



Longer covered bridges were constructed to span major streams like the Wallkill, Rondout, and Esopus, shorter covered bridges helped bind communities in the Catskills where narrow ravines and rushing water made travel difficult.

Without exception, covered bridges provided practical crossings for widely separated hamlets that helped integrate rural economies based on agriculture with emerging villages and towns. Over time, many covered bridges were lost as they were replaced by ‘modern’ bridges con-

**Forge 1906 (Town of Hardenburgh)** Source: Trish Kane NY-56-02



structed of iron or steel even as others were destroyed by flood or fire.

While shorter covered bridges in Ulster County depended upon hand-hewn Kingpost and Queenpost timber trusses to support them, longer covered bridges utilized timber trusses patented by Theodore Burr and Ithiel Town. Burr’s two patents (1806 and 1817) combined the advantages of a simple Kingpost truss with a relieving arch that stabilized the structure. These and other patents are significant milestones in the development of Amer-

**Tappan-Kittle 1906 (Town of Hardenburgh)** Source: Trish Kane NY-56-03



ican engineering history.

Widely used throughout the Northeast with bridges that are no longer standing, Burr’s inventive structure can be appreciated in Ulster County’s 1844 Perrine’s Covered Bridge that spans the Wallkill River between Rosendale and Esopus. Town’s innovative 1820 patent was a lattice design employing a web-like assemblage of closely spaced intersecting timbers held in place by wooden pins. Although commonly used in many longer Ulster County covered bridges in the past, the only

**Ashokan-Turnwood (Town of Olive)** Source: Trish Kane NY-56-05



remaining examples are the Ashokan-Turnwood and Mill Brook Covered Bridge. The Tappan-Kittle Covered Bridge, which was originally supported by a Kingpost truss has been altered so that Stringers—beams—placed beneath it lift the deck and support the structure.

Once common, historic covered bridges today are relatively rare though fine examples not only can be visited in Ulster County but also in neighboring Delaware and Sullivan counties.

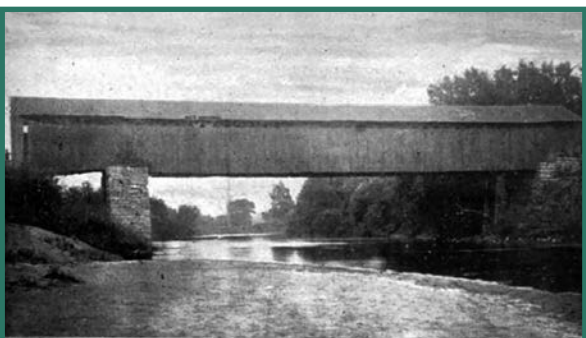
## Covered Bridges No Longer Existing in Ulster County, NY



**Mill Brook 1902 (Town of Hardenburgh)** Source: Trish Kane NY-56-06



**New Paltz c. 1850 (Town of New Paltz)** Source: *Artwork of Ulster Co.* 1893 NY-56-17X



**Kingston** Source: *The New England Magazine* 1893 NY-56-35X



**Saugerties c. 1874 (Town of Saugerties)** Source: *The Pearl* 1875 NY-56-21X