

TIMOTHY K. HORTON (1814-1896)

Clarendon Carpenter and Covered Bridge Builder

Mr. Horton lived on the South Flats, perhaps in the Shadow of the more famous Nicholas Powers. However, he is credited with the construction of two area bridges, one of which stands today. Kingsley Bridge across the Mill River in East Clarendon was built by him in 1870. Clarendon residents still appreciate its beauty and durability.

Horton also constructed Billings Bridge across Otter Creek north of the Clarendon Town Line. Its dark recess was the scene of the aborted highway robbery of Avery Billings and later the murder and robbery of Isaac Kelly. Billings eluded his assailants by trampling one with his horse



MILL RIVER (KINGSLEY) BRIDGE AT EAST CLARENDON
Built by Timothy Horton

while lashing out at the other with his whip, escaping under a hail of bullets. The less fortunate Kelly, who was carrying a sizable sum of money to purchase a railroad ticket was missing several days before a blood trail was discovered leading from the bridge to his mutilated body in some nearby bushes. His assailants were never apprehended. The bridge itself met a fiery end on Halloween night 1952 at the hand of arsonists.

Horton also built the town hall in 1868, a parsonage for the Brick Church on the Flats, and numerous houses and barns in Clarendon area. As a finish carpenter he had few peers.

SOURCE: (1) Interview with Andy Sietz (direct descendant of Timothy Horton)