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Copied from Joshua Coffin's History of Newbury  
page 265.

" 1792

November 26<sup>th</sup>. On this day, Essex Merrimac Bridge was opened to the public. It consisted in fact of two bridges resting on Deer island in the midst of the river. It was, when finished, one thousand and thirty feet long, thirty-four wide; height of arch above high water mark, thirty-seven feet, and contained six thousand tons of timber.

It was built in seven months, under the direction of Mr. Timothy Palmer, of Newburyport, a native of Boyford."

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same Page 269

" 1795

November 26<sup>th</sup> This day, the bridge erected at Holt's rocks, between Newbury and Haverhill, and which is called the 'Rock's bridge', was opened for travelers. It was one thousand feet in length, and was the longest bridge over the Merrimac. It had four arches, a draw, and was supported by five piers and two abutments. It was swept away by the ice, in 1818."

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