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Book by local writer earns award from 2023 Independent Publishers of New England

Jan 30, 2024



Kim Varney Chandler
Courtesy

Judges have selected “Covered Bridges of New Hampshire” by Kim Varney Chandler of Hancock as the 2023 Winner of Informational Nonfiction at the The 2023 Independent Publishers of New England Book Awards. The book was published by Peter E. Randall Publisher LLC. The winners were announced in an online ceremony on Saturday, Jan. 20.

IPNE serves as a collaborative educational and trade association for small and mid-size independent book publishers and authors in the six New England states; their yearly awards program recognizes publishers and authors for exemplary work.

The IPNE judges provided the following feedback on Covered Bridges of New Hampshire:



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“The author of this compendium partnered with bridgewrights, timber framers, bridge engineers, historical societies, town offices, libraries, state and national organizations, and community members to compile extensive histories of 60 covered bridges, 46 of which are over a century old. These historic bridges are with us today through the efforts of a small and determined community who both recognized their significance and honored their tradition. This book honors them, too.

This work is clear, comprehensive, and easy to use; the writing is clean and crisp. A deeply researched, beautifully wrought volume that opens a window on the past. A fine reference that makes also for a good read. The judges note, too, that the book aims to be a definitive resource for the histories of these particular bridges, sometimes setting previous misconceptions straight.”

“Covered Bridges of New Hampshire” was honored with a N.H. Preservation Alliance Award for education, documentation and advocacy; the accompanying podcast placed second in the N.H. Press Association Awards. The book received honorable mention from the Foreword Indies and was chosen as book of the week by the New Hampshire State Library.

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