



Built: 1873-1875
 Built By: Canadian National Railway
 Structure: Timber bridge

Current Owner: Township of Tay
 Original Use: Bridge for Trains
 Present Use: Recreation trail

Architectural

Structurally, the bridge is very similar to what it originally was. The surface of the bridge (Fig 3) has been maintained to allow for motorized vehicles to cross it. Supporting the bridge are logs and a steel support beam. The logs may have been replaced since its construction (Fig 1 & 2). Originally, there were no railings on the bridge. However, over the past 30 years they have been put on for safety reasons as it is a well travelled bridge with recreation vehicles and activities. While the trains were running, this bridge would have run perpendicular and below the Hogg's Bay trestle bridge as it runs in a west-easterly fashion.



Fig 1: Supporting steel beam and logs



Fig 2: Supporting beams 8x8



Fig 3: Timber covering the bridge

Historical

The Canadian National Railway created smaller railway lines radiating from Toronto, connecting growing communities deeper in the province and to Georgian Bay known as the

Midland Railway route. The bridge is part of the Port Hope, Lindsay and Beaverton Railway line off of the Midland Railway route. The bridge was constructed between the years of 1873 and 1875. It was officially opened for traffic in 1879. The railway was officially abandoned in 1994 but trains stopped running 2 years earlier. The bridge is still used today as part of a recreation trail. In the winter, snowmobiles use the trail as way to travel from town to town and the summer as a biking and walking trail.