

Bridges in the Upper Hutt District

Akatarawa Bridge Old Abutments – opened unknown – now closed

Akatarawa Bridge Old Abutments over Hutt River at Akatarawa

1995 BCHF report to UHCC - abutments are the substructure at the ends of a bridge span whereon the structure's superstructure rests or contacts

Akatarawa Bull Steam Bridge – opened 1922 – still open

Akatarawa Bull Steam Bridge [B1/6] (Truss) situated on Akatarawa Road between Upper Hutt and Waikanae. The Bull's Stream runs into the Akatarawa River. The bridge served the timber milling industry and farming community of the Akatarawa Valley

Akatarawa River Bridge – opened 1922 – still open

Akatarawa River Bridge [B1/4] (Truss) situated on Akatarawa Road at Cloustonville between Upper Hutt and Waikanae. The bridge served the timber milling industry and farming community of the Akatarawa Valley

Akatarawa River Bridge – opened 1922 – still open

Akatarawa River Bridge [B1/5] (Truss) situated on Akatarawa Road between Upper Hutt and Waikanae. The bridge served the timber milling industry and farming community of the Akatarawa Valley

Andrews Bridge and Pier – opened 1960s – still open

Andrews Bridge and Pier situated across the Hutt River between Bridge Road (north) and Akatarawa Road in Birchville. The first wooden bridge (Black Bridge 2) was built in 1880s across the river and was replaced in the 1960s with concrete span pier (named Andrews Bridge) which collapsed during the 29 October 2015 floods. A new bridge was built and opened on 03 May 2017. Andrew's Bridge was named after William Alfred Leslie (Les) Andrews a member of the County Council Mangaroa riding

Black Bridge [1] – opened 1880s – now closed

Black Bridge [1] was situated across the Hutt River from Akatarawa road and Bridge Road south. The bridge no longer exists but was later known as Pipe Bridge as the remaining bridge structure supported the pipes to Bridge Road before the pipes were connected to Andrews Bridge, children often took short cuts across the pipe bridge to school

Black Bridge [2] – opened 1880s – now closed

Black Bridge [2] was situated across the Hutt River at the north end of Bridge Road and Akatarawa Road in Akatarawa. The bridge no longer exists and was replaced with another built further north and renamed Andrew's Bridge after William Alfred Leslie (Les) Andrews a member of the County Council Mangaroa riding

Karapoti Bridge (Truss) – opened 1900s – still open

Karapoti Bridge (Truss) situated over the Akatarawa River at the beginning of Karapoti road off Akatarawa Road. The original bridge was washed out in 1972 and for many years the only access across the river was by a Pedestrian bridge until a new bridge was built in 1995

Karapoti Pedestrian Bridge – opened 1980s – now closed

Karapoti Pedestrian Bridge was situated over the Akatarawa River at the beginning of Karapoti road off Akatarawa Road. The Karapoti vehicle bridge was washed out in 1972 and a local

resident Michael John McLaughlin built the Pedestrian bridge until a new bridge was built in 1995. It is unknown when the Pedestrian bridge was demolished

The Karapoti Road Bridge

This bridge in the Akatarawa Valley, spanning the Little Akatarawa Valley, spanning the Little Akatarawa River, was built in the early 1930s. Designed by Seaton Sladden and Pavit for the Hutt County Council it has a single 20.4m Howe pony truss and a 3.7m end stringer span. The abutments are timber braced struts on a concrete sill, as is the pier. The balustrade appears to be a change from the original, having closely spaced palings which give it a domestic character. Today there is a load and speed restriction on vehicle.

(Reference publication Bridging the Gap Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830-1939 by Geoffrey Thornton year published page? transcribed by Christopher Benson)

Ladle Bend Creek Bridge – opened unknown - closed or open unknown

Ladle Bend Creek Bridge at Settlement Rimutaka Incline

NZAA S27/34 Ladle Bend Creek Bridge ad Settlement Rimutaka Incline

Maoribank suspension / swing Bridge – opened 1917 – now closed

Maoribank suspension / swing Bridge was situated between the Totara Park area and Maoribank. The bridge (also known as Whiteman's Bridge) was opened 1917 and overhauled 1955 reported unsafe and closed to traffic in 1975 but still there in 1980 and marked unsafe in 1986 with some repairs made in 1987 then on 14 September 1988 a major flood weakened the structure and it collapsed in to the river and the bridge was closed and the remains removed in the 1990s

Private Bridge Hutt River Maoribank

About 1917 Joseph Dawson designed and built a bridge over the Hutt River at Maoribank in Upper Hutt was erected for the Whiteman Brothers and a Mr Cottle who owned the property on the west side of the village. It had a span of 51.8m, and the timber deck was 3.6m wide. The concrete towers of 7.6 were tied at the top. The use of steel for the stiffening truss gives it a visual lightness. Unfortunately this attractive structure no longer exists.

(Reference publication Bridging the Gap Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830-1939 by Geoffrey Thornton year published page? transcribed by Christopher Benson)

McGhies Bridge – opened unknown – still open

McGhies Bridge situated on Karapoti Road and McGhies Road near Forestry Road in the Akatarawa Forest. Still operating

Moonshine Road Bridge Hutt River

Designed for the Hutt County Council by Gilbert Laing-Meason a Wellington consulting engineer who was also engineer to the Hutt River Board. The bridge over the Hutt River was known as the Moonshine, since it was on Moonshine Road in Upper Hutt. It consisted of six spans of 12.2 m with a 4.3m roadway. The five concrete piers were founded on 4.6m long piles. The parapets was solid and panelled on the outer faces. The cost, excluding approaches was 2100 pound. A horizontally curved structure now replaces the original bridge, forming part of the current express route.

(Reference publication Bridging the Gap Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830-1939 by Geoffrey Thornton year published page? transcribed by Christopher Benson)

Mungaroa to Waikanae Railway Bridge – opened unknown – now closed

Mungaroa to Waikanae Railway Bridge Abutment

1995 BCHF report to UHCC - abutments are the substructure at the ends of a bridge span whereon the structure's superstructure rests or contacts

Norbert Street Pedestrian Bridge – opened 1993 – still open

Norbert Street Pedestrian Bridge situated over the Hutt River between Harcourt Park and Totara Park. Open the bridge is for foot traffic only

Pakuratahi Bridge – open unknown – closed or open unknown

Pakuratahi Bridge Rimutaka Incline

NZAA S27/33 Pakuratahi Bridge Rimutaka Incline

Pakuratahi Bridge – opened 1st 1876 2nd 1910 – closed 1955

Pakuratahi Bridge situated over the Pakuratahi River on the old Rimutaka Incline Railway track. Built 1876 badly damaged by fire and rebuilt 1910 and closed 1955 when Rimutaka deviation and tunnel was completed. Today it is used as a walking and cycling track following the Rimutaka Incline line from Upper Hutt to the Wairarapa

Rail Bridge – opened unknown – now closed

Rail Bridge original remnants

1995 BCHF report to UHCC -

Rimutaka Incline Ladle Bend Bridge – opened 1876 – now closed

Rimutaka Incline Ladle Bend Bridge situated over the Pakuratahi River on the old Rimutaka Incline Railway track. Closed. Built 1876 closed 1955 when Rimutaka deviation and tunnel was completed. This is a rare rail bridge for its age and design and I was told is registered under the Historical Places Act 1993 but I am unable to locate the details in their on line register. Today it is used as a walking and cycling track following the Rimutaka Incline line from Upper Hutt to the Wairarapa.

Silverstream Railway Bridge – opened 1875 – now closed

Silverstream Railway bridge was first built in 1875 over the Hutt River near the road to the land fall and Railway museum in Silverstream.

Two Totara bridge piles – opened unknown – now closed

Two Totara bridge piles from the original bridge built at Silverstream in 1875 now adorn the entrance of the Railway Museum Silverstream off Reynold's Bach Drive

Te Marua Bridge (Truss) – opened unknown – now closed

Te Marua Bridge (Truss) is situated over the Mangaroa River at the end of Beechwood Lane in Te Marua. It was closed to traffic when State Highway two was re-aligned it is now used as a Pedestrian and cycling bridge between Beechwood Lane and State Highway Two

Te Marua Presbyterian swing bridge – opened 1935 – now closed

Te Marua Presbyterian swing bridge situated Main North Road on left after Topaz Street and before Beechwood Lane turnoff. Only remnants of the concrete supports remain at the side of State Highway Two and on the other side of the Hutt River

Totara Park Bridge – opened 1968 – still open

Totara Park Bridge is situated across the Hutt River on Totara Park Road. Opened 1968 and is still in use
