

Westland MP 2.9 24' Concrete Slab

Built 1927 Over farm road along Hornhead Road

Removed 2012 – replaced with metal culvert access

View from Hornhead Road in 2011 shows the original bridge.

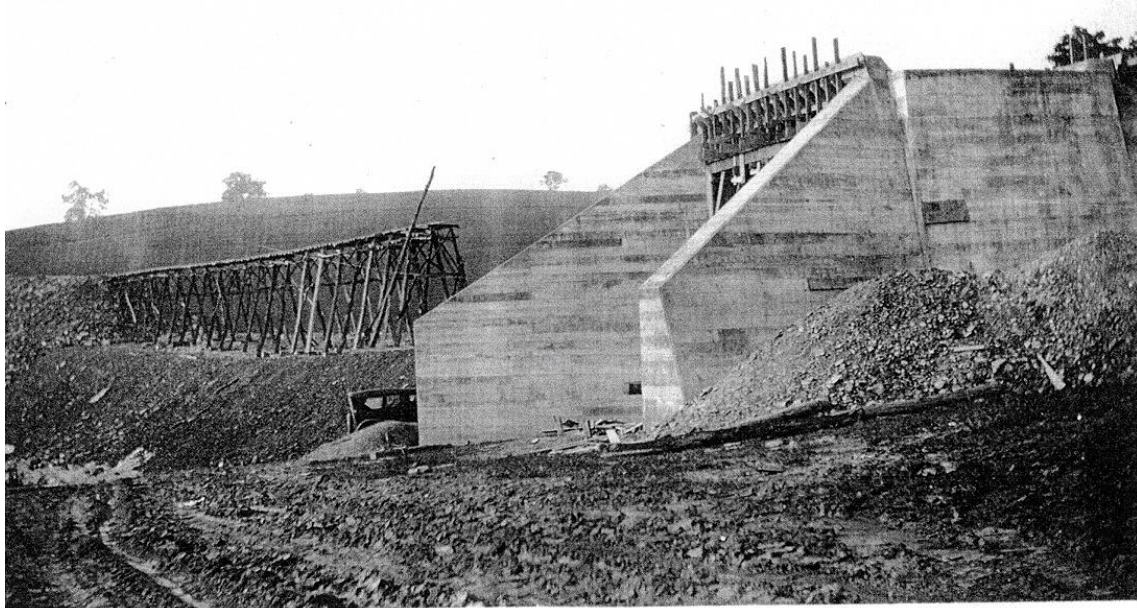


2011 photos Bryan Seip

View looking east shows how bridge provided access into farm fields on opposite side of railroad. Note cracks in abutments from soil pushing against concrete. Timber bracing was applied under bridge slab to hold abutments in place.



This view during the original railroad construction in 1927 shows the bridge under construction on the Don Cowden farm with fill being added for railroad bed. Note on photo indicates the bridge was referred to as Public Arch, as it carried the railroad over a public township road.



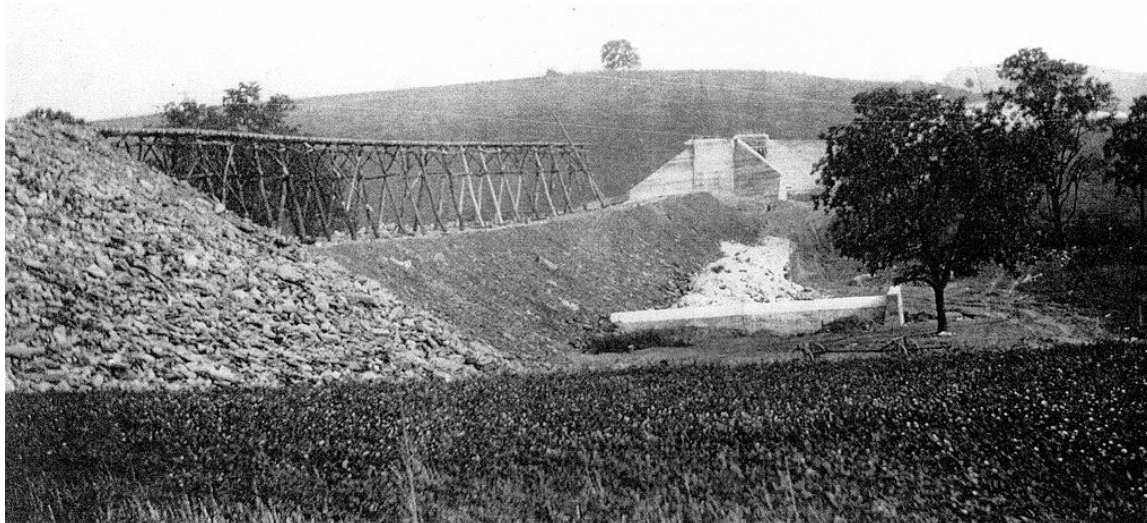
AUG 21, 1927

FACING HUTCHISON'S LAND

ARCH ALSO REFERED TO AS
PUBLIC ARCH

1927 photos by Esther (Hettie) Hutchison - courtesy of Jean Ferris

This view shows the bridge and fill under construction. Note concrete drainage culvert being installed in the fill section. This culvert is still in use.



AUG 21, 1927

SECOND SECTION OF FILL ACROSS OLD ROAD
(DOU'S ARCH)

The first train crosses the bridge after completion of construction in 1927. The engine is shoving coal cars down the railroad toward the Westland Mine tippie.



OCT 11, 1927

FIRST TRAIN ON NEW RAILROAD

View after railroad reconstruction in 2012 shows the bridge removed and replacement culvert installed as a “cow subway” to provide access to fields on far side of railroad. Farm equipment access is maintained by a grade crossing of the railroad. The original bridge was at the right edge of this frame.



W&LE 6381 West
Westland Branch
September 1, 2012
Gene P. Schaeffer Portrait

Gene P. Schaeffer photo

Wider view shows location of metal “cow subway” culvert. Concrete drainage culvert remains at left of big trees. Farm access road climbs the bank above culvert and cow subway to a grade crossing near right edge of frame, at location of the original bridge.



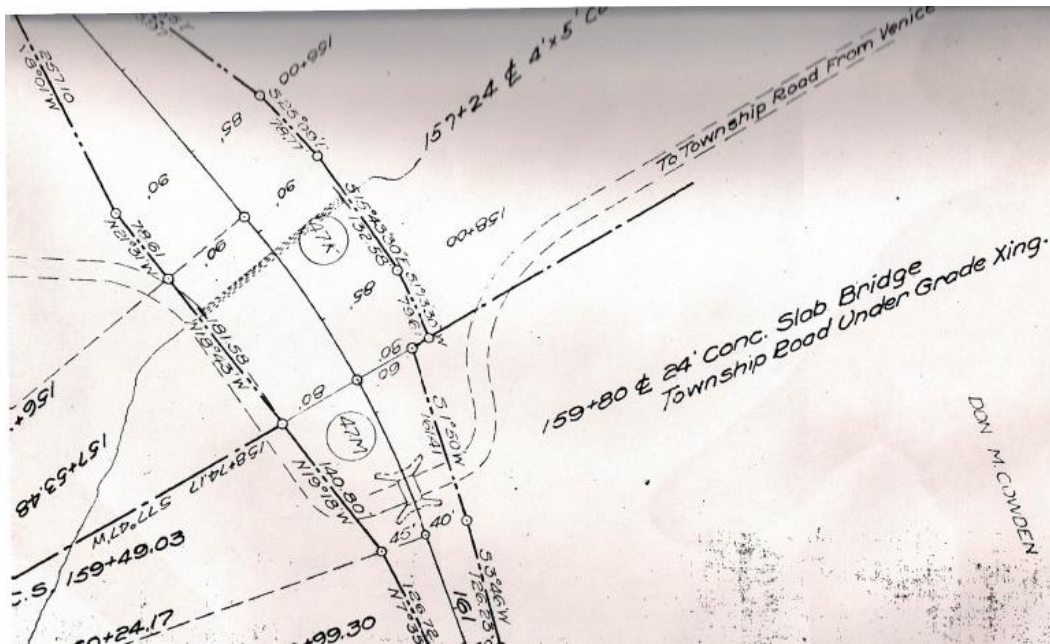
Bryan Seip photo

Aerial view from 1958 shows the farm road running from Hornhead Road at left, under the bridge and into farm lands on east side of railroad.



Courtesy Penn Pilot

Valuation plan shows concrete slab bridge with township road crossing under railroad and continuing at upper right towards Venice. 2012 replacement culvert is located just above the circle marked 47M. Concrete drainage culvert remains in use at circle 47K.



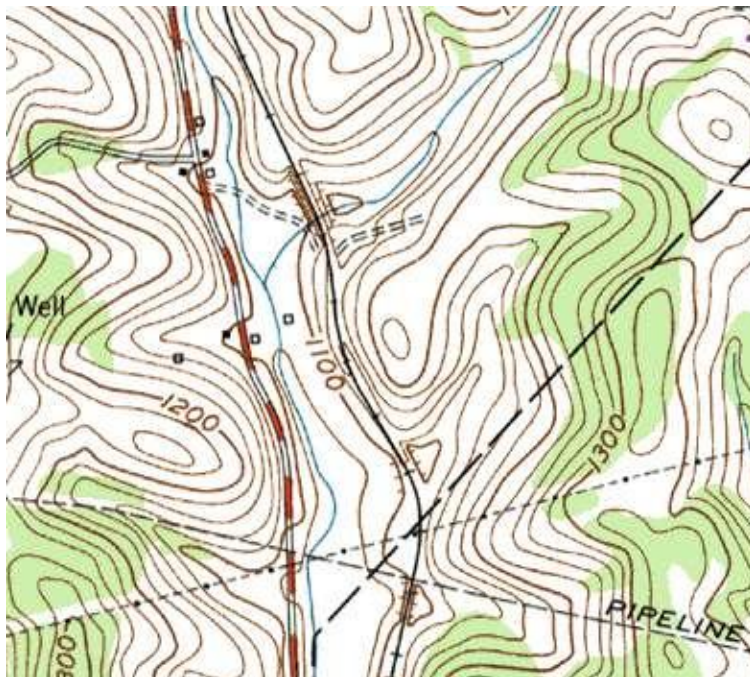
Courtesy Greg Corcoran

Satellite view shows bridge at center of frame, at small break in tree line. Railroad right-of-way runs in tree line top to bottom at center, with Hornhead Road parallel to left. Farm road runs past house and under railroad into fields on east side of railroad.



Google Images 2011

Topo map shows bridge near center, where dashed township dirt road crosses railroad. Hornhead Road runs top to bottom at left. Power line and pipeline cross railroad at bottom center.



Courtesy Bob Ciminel / USGS

Compiled by Montour Railroad Historical Society members