

Stone Creek Bridge I  
Pennsylvania Railroad  
South of Penn Street,  
between First and Second streets  
Huntingdon  
Huntingdon County  
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-246

HAER  
PA,  
31-HUDD,  
4-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

STONE CREEK BRIDGE I

HAER  
PA.  
31-HWDO,  
4-

HAER No. PA-246

Location: South of Penn Street, between First and Second streets, Huntingdon, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Date of Construction: 1849

Builder: Pennsylvania Railroad

Present Owner: none

Present Use: abandoned

Significance: The Stone Creek Bridge I is one of the few original PRR main line bridges still extant. It was built when the railroad's first single track was laid through the county.

Project Information: In February 1987, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) and the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) began a multi-year historical and architectural documentation project in southwestern Pennsylvania. Carried out in conjunction with America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), HAER undertook a comprehensive inventory of Blair and Cambria counties as the first step in identifying the region's surviving historic engineering works and industrial resources.

The results of this project have been published in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites, (1991), by Nancy Shedd, Sarah Heald, editor and published by HABS/HAER for the National Park Service.

Compiler: Nancy Shedd and Ken Heineman, Historians  
Gray Fitzsimons and Kenneth Rose, Editors

**History:**

**DESCRIPTION:** This abandoned railroad bridge, one of the few original PRR main line bridges still extant, consists of four semi-circular stone arches, each approximately 25' in length. This early structure parallels a highway bridge and a railroad bridge presently used by Conrail. All three bridges span Stone Creek. The voussoirs and keystones are smooth-faced, while the remainder of the stone work is rock faced. The top courses of stone are gone, and the top of the bridge is planted with forsythia and small shrubs.

**HISTORY:** The Pennsylvania Railroad constructed this stone arch bridge over Stone Creek, at the eastern end of Huntingdon Borough, in 1848 and 1849 when its first single track was laid through the county. Contracts for the sections through Huntingdon were let in May 1848, and the first train passed through to Huntingdon on June 6, 1850. In 1892 when the main line was relocated to the former Pennsylvania Canal bed, just south of the original railroad alignment, this bridge was abandoned. A layer of soil gradually formed on top of the structure, and about ten years ago it was planted with flowering shrubs. Huntingdon borough keeps the area mowed and trimmed.

**Sources:**

Africa, J. Simpson. History of Huntingdon and Blair Counties, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1883.  
Alexander, Edwin P. On the Main Line. New York: Bramhall House, 1971.  
Photograph collection. Huntingdon County Historical Society, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania.