

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY BRIDGE

Minimum Documentation

1. Unique f/p/t identifier

2. Jurisdiction

Alberta

3. Name of Historic Place

The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge

4. Location of Supporting Documentation

Red Deer and District Archives

Archivist

City of Red Deer

PO Box 5008, 4914 - 48 Avenue

Red Deer, AB T4N 3T4

File: Research File MG-250-5(2)

North Red Deer Historical Walking Tour, 1992

Alberta Community Development

Cultural Facilities and Historical Resources

Old St. Stephen's College

8820 - 112 Street

Edmonton, AB T6G 2P8

File: Designation File 1804

Provincial Heritage Inventory Data Base

The Little Village that Grew: A History of North Red Deer. Published by the North Red Deer 75th Anniversary Committee of the Northside Community Association, Red Deer: Advisor Graphics. 1987.

5. Formal Recognition Authority

Local Governments (AB)

6. Statute

Historical Resources Act

City of Red Deer Bylaw No. 3046/91

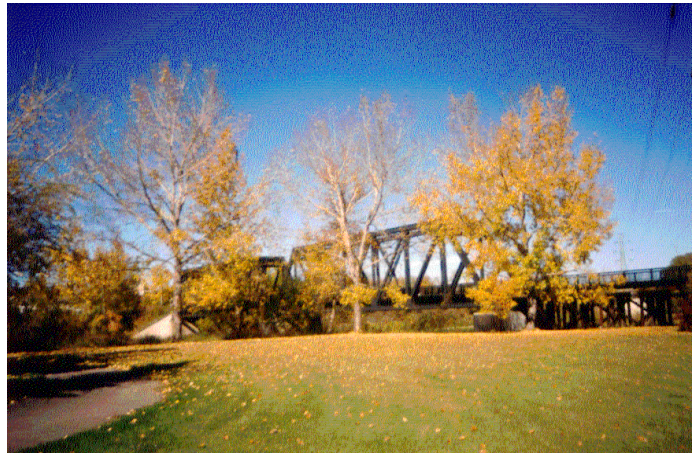


Figure 1: CPR Bridge, 1999

7. Formal Recognition Type

Municipal Historic Resource

8. Formal Recognition Date

1991/09/03

9. Owner Notification and Owner Response

Notification: yes

Response type: yes

10. Specific Location of Historic Place

Portion of the C.P.R. Bridge between north and south shores of the Red Deer River; SE of Plan 952 3190

Lat 52.26945 / 52 degrees 16 min 32 sec

Long -113.83188 / -133 degrees 49 min 55 sec

Mandatory Documentation

11. Specific Location

Lat 52.26945 / 52 degrees 16 min 32 sec

Long -113.83188 / -133 degrees 49 min 55 sec

12. Description of Boundaries

Portion of the C.P.R. Bridge (Calgary – Edmonton Branch) between north and south shores of the Red Deer River. The old C.P.R. Rail Bridge across the Red Deer River that is now a pedestrian foot bridge, located within LSD 1, in the SE ¼ 20–38–27–W4M.

13. Area of Historic Place

900 m²

0.09 hectares

0.22 acres

14. Number and Type of Contributing Resources

One structure

15. Historic Place Functional Category (original)

Transport–Rail

16. Historic Place Function Type(s) (original)

Railway Bridge

17. Description of Historic Place

Built in 1908 for rail travel across the Red Deer River, The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge today functions as part of the pedestrian network of the Waskasoo Park system within the city of Red Deer. It is a double span steel truss bridge, founded on concrete buttresses with a wooden trestle extension on the south end.

18. Heritage Value of Historic Place

Historical Value

The historical significance of The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge lies in its link with the creation of a Canadian Pacific Railroad (CPR) divisional point at Red Deer in 1907. It replaced a series of earlier bridges that failed to withstand the forces of the Red Deer River. This 1908 structure carried rail traffic continuously until 1990 when the CPR line relocated west of the city. The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge is an enduring landmark, which historically has served as an informal pedestrian link between North Red Deer and downtown Red Deer.

Architectural Value

The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge is architecturally significant as Red Deer's only example of a riveted steel, engineered truss, railway bridge, common throughout North America. The bridge is unique in its unusual combination of two different types of construction, exemplifying the transition from wooden trestle to steel truss in the early twentieth century. It is this progressive construction that has ensured the bridge's longevity.

19. Character-defining elements

- Form and massing of the bridge
- All extant features including: wooden trestles at the south end; painted, riveted steel truss design; concrete buttresses; old wooden rail bed
- Mixed use of the bridge within the Waskasoo Park system to include pedestrians, cyclists, and inline skaters

20. Photographs/Images

Contemporary Photograph

Image Description: Southeast view showing wood trestle and steel truss construction of The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge, February 2004

Image Caption: View of The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge from the Southeast, February 2004

Image Copyright: City of Red Deer, 2004

Image-Misc. Info. : N/A

Image Type: Exterior Photo



Figure 2: Contemporary Photo, The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge

Historic Photograph

Image Description: East view of The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge, 1913

Image Caption: The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge over the Red Deer River, 1913

Image Copyright: Red Deer and District Archives, mg 472-1

Image-Misc. Info. : N/A

Image Type: Historic Photo



Figure 3: Historic Photo, The Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge

Optional Documentation

21. Other name(s)

The Canadian Pacific Railroad Bridge
C.P.R. Bridge
The Rail Bridge
The Foot Bridge

22. Cross-reference to Historical/Archaeological Collection

23. Ownership of Historic Place (category)

Municipal

24. Historic Place functional category and type(s) (current)

Transport – Land, Pedestrian way, footbridge

25. Construction date range

1908–1908

26. Significant Dates

1908–1990

27. Associated event/person/organization/architect/builder

Canadian Pacific Railway (organization)

28. Theme category

Developing Economies

29. Theme type

Communications and Transportation

30. Web-site link

No