

Bridges: Historic Iron Truss Bridge Over The Allegheny River At West Hickory, Forest County, Pennsylvania (PA)

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"A personal web page could serve just about any purpose. This one serves mine."

-the Venango County Ambassador to the World explaining the significance of his web site



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West Hickory Bridge On PA Route 127 In Forest County



This ancient, 4-span iron truss bridge is just off scenic US Highway 62 at West Hickory, between Tionesta and Tidioute. US 62 runs right next to the river in this vicinity. The scenery and bridge views from downstream are superb!



Unfortunately, the 2001 PennDOT 12 Year Transportation Plan shows that this bridge is up for a \$7,166,000 replacement in the first 4 years of the plan.

My greatly missed grandfather, Klahr E. Young, liked to tell me that in the old days, some guy dressed up in a soldier suit used to collect money from vehicles crossing this bridge. I didn't know if these particular tolls were authorized or not.

The Franklin News Herald ran an article on Feb 22, 2002 that made mention of the history of this bridge. According to the article, the bridge was a toll bridge from 1886 until the early 1940s. Tolls were collected on the West Hickory side of the river. The Forest County Historical Society recently acquired the original toll both for preservation and display. If only they could also find a way to preserve the bridge ...

Although I've read that the bridge has been around since 1886, there is a number that could be a date in the circle on top of the builder plaques. A zoomed in view follows so you can see if it looks like a '96' to you. Maybe the bridge was built in 1896.



Clicking small photos usually provides enlargements and information



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