

Truax Dam

In 1851, Joseph Walker purchased 40 acres of Crown land South of the Durham Road in the Township of Brant and Town of Walkerton, securing water power rights along the Saugeen River which flowed across the property. In 1852 Walker erected a sawmill and dam across the river to provide power for the mill. The sawmill, gristmill, and lands were eventually sold to Reuben E. Truax in 1878, and the sawmill was renamed the Truax Dam in honour of Reuben E. Truax. For more than 40 years the company operated logging camps, and the mass production of lumber across Canada. In 1916 Harry Truax and H.D. Martyn took ownership of the renamed company, R.E. Truax Son and Company.

The Truax Dam supplied water power to Walkerton's first mill, which provided passage for massive schools of fish to travel upstream along the Saugeen River, being further reconstructed in 1919. The Truax Dam continued to act as a barrier to migration for some community fish species, however deterioration occurred and required extensive repairs.

In 2016, public consultation was held with the Lake Huron Fishing Club to discuss proposed removal of the Truax Dam. The Lake Huron Fishing Club received full funding from Bruce Power to complete the partial removal. After extensive public consultation, the Truax Dam was partially removed between August-September 2019. On October 15, 2019, the Municipality of Brockton held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the project's completion. The partial removal rehabilitated the dam to a more natural state, improved river access and public use at the site, allowed free fish migration to pass through the area and improved water quality, creating a healthier ecosystem.

Brockton Heritage Committee

Bridge No. 11 (Greenock)

Bridge No.11 (Greenock), located South of Paisley on Concession Road 20 between Baseline North and Greenock Elderslie Road, east of Bruce Road was a fixed steel pony truss bridge built around 1920, with steel floor beams and stringers supporting a laminated timber deck. The bridge was supported by cast in place concrete abutments and wingwalls with an overall span of 30.9 meters. The overall width of the existing structure was approximately 4.5m with flex beam guiderails on each side fastened directly to the steel truss.

After several repairs, due to deterioration and damage, GM BluePlan Engineering was retained by the Municipality of Brockton to complete a planning process addressing the deterioration of the bridge. The Municipal Engineers Association and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change developed a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process to assist in planning projects of this nature.

The Environmental Assessment took place from 2017 to 2019, involving extensive public consultation to review the proposed solutions for the bridge deterioration. On May 28, 2019, GM BluePlan Engineering presented their final recommendations, and the Council of the Municipality of Brockton authorized the removal of Bridge No. 11.

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