

BRECON AND MONMOUTHSHIRE CANAL MONUMENTS RECORD CARD		Monument Number: MB126 Llanfoist Fawr GOVILON
Monument Name:	Bridge 99, Llanwenarth.	
Map Reference:	326153 213958	
Official Status:	Listed Building Grade II ( Reference: 17254)	
Description: List description from Historic Wales website:		
<p><b>History:</b> The Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal was promoted in 1792 to connect the upper Usk valley to the Monmouthshire Canal at Pontymoile and from there to the sea at Newport. Construction began in 1797, with Thomas Dadford as engineer, and the first section, from Gilwern to Llangynidr was completed in that year with the stretch as far as Brecon following in 1800. Work then stopped for a time with the result that the section to the Blaenavon Road east of Govilon was not completed until 1805, now with Thomas Cartwright as engineer. Further funds had to be raised and the last section from west of Llanfoist to Pontymoile was completed between 1809 and 1812, with William Crosley as engineer. Linked to tramroads, the canal was an important artery for trade in iron, lime and coal. In 1865 the Monmouthshire and the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Companies merged becoming the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal Company. Later still the canal was bought out by the Great Western Railway and gradually the canal was run down until it was finally abandoned in 1962. Restoration work was begun in 1964 and is still ongoing.</p> <p><b>Exterior:</b> This bridge is within the section completed in 1805 under Thomas Cartwright. Coursed rubble masonry abutments with segmental arch to standard 1805 period design. Tow-path to the north.</p> <p><b>Reason for Listing:</b> Listed for its special interest as one of the surviving early C19 Brecknock and Abergavenny canal bridges.</p> <p>The bridge measures 6000 along the towpath.</p> <p>Two vertical posts using railway rails remain but the GWR weight restriction plates (see MB114) have been removed.</p>		
Images:		





Condition:  
Good. Minor repointing and repair required.

References:  
Nicholson's guides to the Waterways, vol 3, South-west, pp49-55, (n.d.);  
R A Stevens, Brecknock & Abergavenny and Monmouthshire Canals (Towpath Guide No 2),  
(Cambridge, 1974), p49-55

Notes: