

**BRECON AND  
MONMOUTHSHIRE CANAL  
MONUMENTS RECORD CARD**

**Monument Number:  
MB176  
GOETRE FAWR**

Monument Name:	Aqueduct at Goytre Wharf
Map Reference:	331333 206314
Official Status:	National Park Listed Grade II – Ref. 25544

**Description:**

**Listing Description:**

**History:** 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 Jnr. 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 Crossley as engineer. Linked to the tramroads the canal was an important artery for trade in iron, lime and coal. In 1865 the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Company merged with the Monmouthshire Railway and Canal Company who owned the connecting canal from Pontymoile to Newport. Later still in 1880 the MR&CC was bought out by the Great Western Railway and gradually the canal was run down until it was abandoned finally in 1962. Restoration work was begun in 1964, and the canal is once again open between Pontymoile and Brecon with the title Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal.

**Exterior:** Built of squared coursed stone with dressed voussoirs and keystone. A tall single arch aqueduct of very solid appearance with a depressed segmental arch. Deep curved wing walls, and a parapet. This is a handsome structure with the same treatment on either face. The side supporting the towpath has a tubular steel handrail added along the parapet.

**Reason:** Included for its special interest as a very handsome and well built canal aqueduct, one of the major structures surviving in use for the early C19 Brecknock and Abergavenny canal and a part of the important and attractive canal group at Goytre Wharf.

The aqueduct measures 12.400m along the road.

Images:





Condition: Good

References:

Nicholson's Guides to the Waterways, Vol 3, South-west, pps 49-55.  
 R A Stevens, Brecknock and Abergavenny and Monmouthshire Canals (Towpath Guide No 2), Cambridge, 1974, p 59. Stevens says he found a date of 1849 in the "north arch" which suggests Goytre and its kilns was developed some decades after the canal was cut. The date was not found in this survey. The arch with its marked entasis shares characteristics with the bridges on this section of the canal which suggests the aqueduct is part of the original works.

D Morgan Rees, The Industrial Archaeology of Wales, 1975, p 269.

Notes: