

Reinforcement and Refurbishment of Adam Bridge near Marchmont House

Adam Bridge crosses the Swardon Burn to the north east of Marchmont House and is a category B listed building. It was probably built in about 1759, and was designed by an architect called George Paterson. Constructed of smooth blocks of sandstone, the single-arched bridge is of a simple, classical design. In the 1720s, William Adam designed the surrounding landscape for the 2nd Earl of Marchmont. This is probably why his it is known as the Adam Bridge. The bridge currently carries a private road over the burn and is in a state of disrepair (2020).

(January 2022)



Details of planned works are given in two planning applications:

- listed building consent ([20/00872/LBC](#))
- repair and reinforcement work ([20/00873/FUL](#))

The following works are proposed:

- the burn would be piped through 11 600mm twin wall pipes and boarded over to support a radial array of props beneath the arch
- piled foundations would be inserted 12m down into bedrock within the abutments on either side and filled with concrete
- the face stones would be removed to expose the arch and the upper surface of the arch would be grouted and rendered
- concrete pile caps would be installed in the shape of stepped benches either side and four reinforced concrete beams would be laid between the two sets of benches and infilled with stone
- a deck of counter-laid concrete beams would be laid over the beams and the running course reinstated
- a programme of stone restoration using the recovered stone and new stone cut to match would be carried out
- the restored spandrels would be attached to the outer two spanning beams

The following interesting extracts are from the planning applications:

- diagrammatic sequence of the [conservation process](#)
- construction drawing of [beam details](#)

Further information and photographs are in [this Canmore record](#)