

Esquimalt & Nanaimo (E&N) Railroad Stone Trestle

Location: Koksilah Road and River Road, Cowichan Station

Formal Recognition: November 9, 2016

Construction Dates: Approximately 1908



Statement of Significance for the E&N Stone Trestle

Description of Historic Place

The E & N Stone Trestle is nestled in the heart of Cowichan Station, Electoral Area E. The 2.9 m tall bridge was constructed in approximately 1908 out of stone from the nearby Koksilah Quarry. The bridge remains today as it was built. It is owned by the Island Corridor Foundation.

Heritage Values

This historic infrastructure piece serves as an iconic reminder of Cowichan Station's settlement pattern history. The construction of the railway was tasked to Robert Dunsmuir to transport coal and lumber from Nanaimo to Victoria. The bridge provides a window into the history of the Cowichan Station. It serves as a reminder that the railway was the impetus for the development of the area. The bridge also has aesthetic value in its stone from the Koksilah Quarry.

Character-Defining Elements

The bridge was constructed out of stone from the Koksilah quarry in 1908 by railway workers. The stone, olive-colored when cut, weathered to light gray, had practically no cleavage lines, and had to be sawn by a rotary method, a steel wire fed with quartz dust.