

Sorry it has taken so long to get to this one, I was in New Zealand for November, and December just vanished. Life is still a bit hectic made more difficult by Sue declining somewhat. However, let's try to get back up to date. I was taken to this bridge in [Hodges Park](#) while working on a concrete arch with Duracrete of which more later.

But before we look at this bridge, a word of warning for those assessing viaducts. Over recent months of testing and thought, it has become clear that live loads are not supported entirely by arch thrust in viaducts. I am trying to write that up as a paper, but it is going to be a serious issue where new loads are being imposed on old viaducts. If you are working on such structures, or know anyone who is, please get in touch with bill, preferably initially by [email](#).

I am sure that few of my readers will be used to finding arches in surroundings like this.



Or even this:



It was quite a hot day.

The bridge itself is obviously quite small, but rather lovely.



The whole thing seems to be dry stone.



The nature of New Zealand weather means that this suffers regular and severe flooding but is still looking on good sound condition.

Not much more to say except that just as I type this I notice that it has been widened. At the point where the bottom three courses merge into two there is a butt joint that continues right up over the ring. My only defence in not noticing this before is that I had very little time and very poor light. Modern cameras can see much better than we can. Such things need to be noticed.