

SHINDLER BRIDGE

Scio Tribune

July 7, 1944, saw the end of exactly 37 years of service of an old landmark near Scio -- The Shindler Bridge, three miles east of Scio near the Jess Hildreth place. For on that day the bridge crashed into Thomas Creek, the result of burning of a weakened section by the bridge's private owner, Mr. Hildreth.

Three years ago the bridge was closed to the public at the time of the opening up of the new course of the Scio-Lyons-Mill City Highway. Hildreth bought the bridge from the county for salvage of materials and for private passage across the creek so the family mailbox could be closer to the house. The one side of the bridge sagged and the structure weakened making it unsafe and its service was ended.

The Shindler Bridge was built in 1907; spanned Thomas Creek 5 miles East of Scio at the end of Shindler Bridge Drive. The bridge was named after John and Anna Shindler who purchased property by the bridge in 1899.



HANNAH BRIDGE

Hannah Bridge was built in 1936 and crosses Thomas Creek.

This covered bridge design is an example of leaving trusses partially exposed by open sides. This design improves vision for drivers and has a pleasant look. The view of the river is very scenic.

There once was a store and gas station by the bridge.

The Hannah Bridge spans Thomas Creek. Thomas Creek is named for Frederick Thomas who obtained a Donation Land Claim and settled on the banks of this creek in 1846.

In 1853 John Joseph Hannah arrived by wagon. He had 151 acres of land on Thomas Creek and Bilyeu Creek.

The length is 105 ft. and is the oldest of the five covered bridges.



GILKEY BRIDGES

Gilkey Bridge is 120 ft. long and crosses Thomas Creek. It is located near the once town of Gilkey. Gilkey was built 1939. There was once a covered railroad bridge also. The area was once called "Gilkey Station" because the railroad arrived in 1880 and was named in honor of Allen and William Gilkey. It was a shipping station for farm products.

This bridge has open sides and curved portal openings.

INTERESTING FACT: Gilkey Covered Bridge was featured in the Hollywood movie "Stand By Me."

