

A9 DORNOCH FIRTH BRIDGE METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION

The purpose of these notes are to provide a broad summary of the design principles and construction techniques used in the construction of the bridge.

Design

The bridge is designed to be supported on 20 piers and each pier is founded on 2 No. 2100mm diameter reinforced concrete piles driven up to a depth of approximately 24m below the sea bed.

The bridge deck is a prestressed concrete base constructed in half span lengths and incrementally launched from the South End.

Construction

Piers

The piers are constructed using two different pieces of floating plant. The piles are driven from a $400 \text{ T} 18\text{m} \times 15\text{m}$ Jack-up platform which is positioned accurately at each pier location.

On the Jack-up is a 120 T capacity crane used for lifting the 30m long steel pile tubes and for handling the piling hammer which weighs 38T.

The piles after driving to the correct level below sea bed are excavated with an Airlift, which is a long 250mm dia tube placed inside the pile. Air is forced into the tube near it's bottom and the effect is to agitate the material in such a way that the material is sucked up the tube like a hoover. This removes the sands and gravels. The clay material is removed with a large grab.

After the piles have been excavated, they are inspected and then filled with concrete. The piers are then constructed using a 25 ton floating crane barge.

Deck

The deck is constructed in half span lengths in a temporary building erected at the South End of the bridge on the causeway.

After each section of the bridge deck is concreted, it is stressed to the completed section and pushed over the completed piers using 2 No. 600 ton pushing rams. This cycle will be repeated 42 times.

General

The bridge will reduce the journey distance from Tain to Dornoch by about 25 miles and the journey will take about 10 minutes.

The Labour Force engaged on the bridge will be about 60-70 persons at the peak of construction next summer.

DORNOCH FIRTH BRIDGE

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

CONTRACT:

Client:

Scottish Development Department

Contractors: Christiani-Morrison Joint Venture

13.3m

Contract Completion:

1991

DIMENSIONS

Overall Length: 890m

Number and Length 19 Spens of 43.5m of Spans: 2 End Spans of 31.7m

Overall Width:

Overall Depth of 2.63m

Concrete Box:

Navigational ... Width 36m

Clearance: Height 11m at H.W.

QUANTITIES (Approximate)

Valume of Concrete:

10,000m³

Area of Formwork: Tonnege of Rebar:

1,550te

Tomage of Prestress:

Stage 1 300te

Stage 2 80te

Weight of Concrete Deck:

15,000te

Number of Piles: Length of Piles:

Vary between 16m and 24m

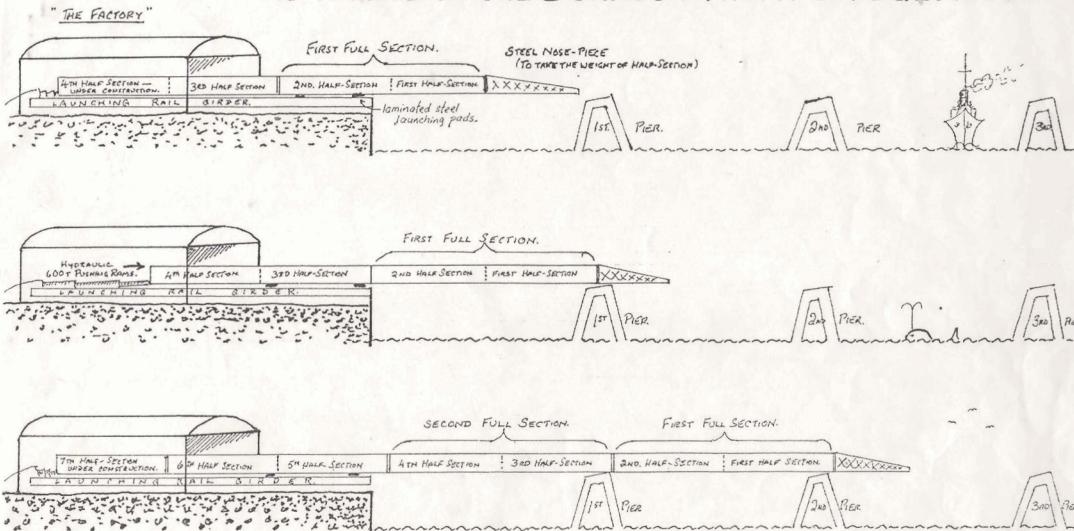
Diameter of Piles:

2m

Total Tomage of Steel Casings:

1100te

THE PRINCIPLE OF INCREMENTAL LAUNCHING IN BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION, AS APPLIED TO THE DORNOCH FIRTH BRIDGE. 1990.



and so, ultimately the first full span becomes the last span on the North side.