HARWOOD BRIDGE



The Hardwood Bridge is a two-lane steel truss bridge which carried the Pacific Highway over the Clarence River in the Northern Rivers region of New South Wales, Australia from 1966 until 2019, when it was replaced by a four-lane 1.5-kilometre-long (4,921 ft) concrete bridge, located 20 meters (66 ft) to its east. The Harwood Bridge has been retained to provide access to Harwood Island.

The Harwood Bridge crosses the main channel of the Clarence River, about 10 kilometers (6.2 mi) upstream from the river mouth, and 46 kilometers (29 mi) by road from Grafton. It is located 6 kilometers (3.7 mi) from the town of Maclean at the village of Harwood. It carried the Pacific Highway from the south bank of the Clarence River onto Harwood Island, from where the highway crosses the Serpentine Channel onto Chatsworth Island then finally crosses the North Channel of the Clarence River via the Mororo Bridge (also a steel truss bridge) to the northern bank.

The Harwood Bridge was completed in August 1966, and replaced the last ferry crossing on state highway system of New South Wales. Prior to the opening of the bridge, the river

crossing was provided by three cable-guided ferries operating in parallel.





the



The bridge has a total length of 888 meters (2,913 ft), consisting of seven steel truss spans of 43.1 meters (141 ft) length and twenty-seven steel girder approach spans. The deck carries two lanes of traffic and a footway. One of the steel truss spans is a vertical-lift span, which allows vessels to navigate the Clarence River. However, this now occurs infrequently.



