

Constructional schemes for some of the Cornish timber viaducts

[Based on figure in The Works of Isambard Kingdom Brunel edited by Sir Alfred Pugsley, 1976]

Examples of four designs used by Brunel in Cornwall

Not surprisingly they had larger spans and were taller than his earlier structures in the Stroud area. The Cornish viaducts were almost all single track whereas the ones in the Stroud Valley were all double track. The Cornwall, West Cornwall and South Devon railways had in total 65 timber viaducts of which 52 of these occurred in a total length of just 68 miles in Cornwall. The total length of the 52 viaducts was almost 6 miles and several were more than 1000ft in length.