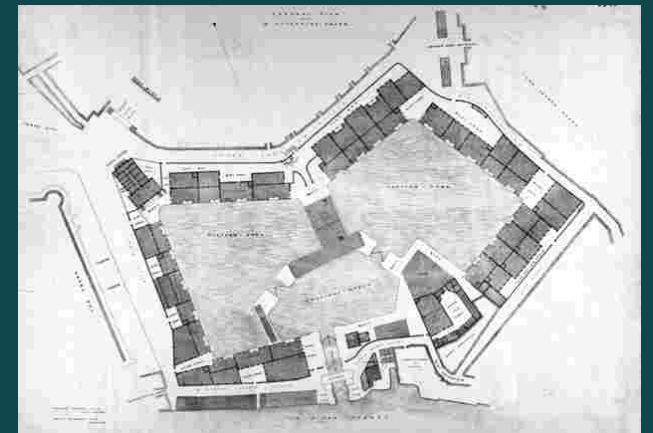


Telford Bridge

A Brief History

The bridge at the Docks was built by Thomas Rhodes, a Resident Engineer for Thomas Telford, the designer of the original docks, and made by John Lloyd from London. It is constructed from wrought iron forgings and iron castings, with the wrought ironwork stretching across the waterway and linked to rail-mounted cast iron counterweight boxes. The rails were set at the standard gauge of 4 ft 8½ inches. Movement was achieved using a rack and pinion system. If the wheels are original, they would have been advanced for their time, similar to those fitted to several locomotives around 1830.



Telford Bridge

The Next Steps

The new design, implemented in 1994, incorporates a moving platform that retracts into the original masonry of the dock walls. This design maximizes the use of the original Telford bridge space and employs the same materials and mechanisms to reflect the historical significance of the bridge.



The current design, known as the Loverose bridge, is currently undergoing full restoration. It was lifted away by barge and transported via the Thames to a workshop for much-needed updates. After the restoration, it will be returned to its rightful place at the heart of St. Katharine Docks.

