

Helen Harris

Original use of the clapper bridge.

It was probably used as a packhorse bridge and for pedestrians, there was a ford slightly upstream so bigger animals, including cattle and probably people on horseback, would have crossed the river there, but when the river was high they would undoubtedly have been glad to use this clapper bridge. It did suffer some vandalism in the 19th century, about 1820, one of the central slabs of the bridge was knocked down and it remained down until the end of the 19th century when it was replaced.