

Bull Bridge

The eighteenth-century Bull Bridge still exists, but it is now some 20m beneath the surface of Rutland Water, near the limnological tower. The origins of its name have not been established, but it is remembered today in 'Bull Brigg Lane', the access road to Whitwell Water Sports Centre and car park on the north shore of Rutland Water. 'Brig' is an old term for 'bridge', sometimes shown in old documents as 'brigg'. The lane, which was known as 'Edith Weston Road' before the reservoir, was renamed because it '... no longer went anywhere' (Mary Bell). However, it can still be followed along the Whitwell peninsula to the shore of Rutland Water, and more is revealed when the reservoir is at low level. The road originally led to Normanton and Edith Weston, Bull Bridge being its crossing-point over the north arm of the River Gwash.

The old Whitwell to Edith Weston road can still be followed to the shore of Rutland Water (SS)



Above: The eighteenth-century Bull Bridge in 1970 (Jim Levisohn ARPS)



Bull Bridge is adjacent to the north arm draw-off pipe, near the limnological tower seen here under construction in 1974 (Jim Eaton)