PORTAGEVILLE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

AN ICON REBORN

The Portageville Bridge is a vital link along the Southern Tier Route, crossing the Genesee River in Letchworth State Park. Built in 1875, the historic 820' viaduct was no longer able to meet the demands of Class 1 Rail Freight. Modjeski and Masters led the structural design of the new 483-ft arch and flanking girder spans, performed track realignment design, and roadway and civil design. The new bridge is already referred to as “The Arch for the Ages.”

Designer: Modjeski and Masters, Inc.
Contractor: American Bridge Company
Owner: Norfolk Southern Corporation
Location: Portageville, NY
Duration: 2015-2018
Cost: $68 Million

TIE-BACKS AND ROCK ANCHORS

The arch was stick built with temporary tie-backs supported by rock anchors located on each side of the gorge.

INNOVATIVE CONSTRUCTION

A cantilevered construction method precluded the need for any falsework in the river and gorge below the arch.

AESTHETIC SOLUTIONS

The new arch soars across the Genesee River Gorge opening up the viewshed and framing the scenic Upper Falls.