

# The Gold Star Memorial Bridge: Shaping New London's Poorest Neighborhood

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## Brief Timeline:

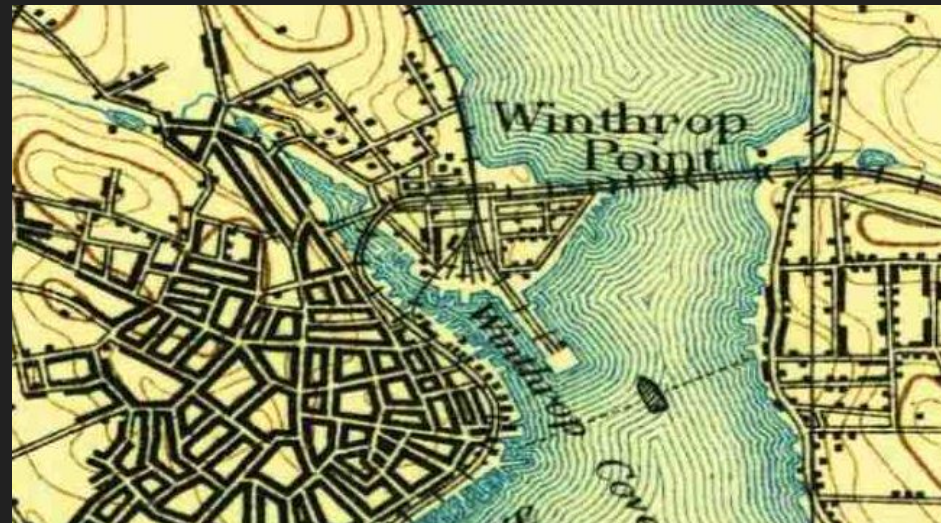
- Pre-19th Century - Ferries (horse/steam-powered) carried cargo, luggage, and people across the river
- 1889 - First railroad bridge was completed (an engineering masterpiece for the time)
- 1919 - Second railroad bridge built to take high weight capacity (replaced 2008)
- 1943 - First span of the GSMB was constructed
- 1973 - Second span completed





## Effect On Immediate Neighborhood

- First span led to many buildings, a church, a fire station, etc.(100 properties total) to either be destroyed or moved to other locations in New London or surrounding towns
- After the construction of the first span, Hodge's Square and the rest of Northern New London was cut off from the hustle and bustle of downtown N.L.
- 41.1% of N.L. population north of the bridge have an income below poverty level





## Only Public Access Close To Hodge's Square

- Boat launch (Residents don't have money for a boat)
- Not nice and sandy like Green's Harbor Beach in Southern New London
- Lots of concrete and rebar rubble left over from construction of bridges

# Citations:

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