Location: Over the Macquarie River at Ross.

Owner: Department of Infrastructure, Energy & Resources.

The plaque is located on a masonry pedestal in the bridge car park.

The bridge
The structure has three 9 metre spans. The arches are circular segments. Curved stairways lead up from the river banks at all four corners.

Stone originally stockpiled for bridge construction gradually disappeared when the start was delayed. When Captain Turner took charge, pilfering stopped and the project was expedited.

While the Midland Highway now bypasses Ross, the bridge remains in service and provides access to the historic town from the highway.

John Lee Archer (1791-1852)
Son of an Irish engineer, Archer trained in London in the offices of Charles Beazley (architect) and John Rennie (well-known engineer). On arrival in Van Diemens Land in 1827, he was appointed Civil Engineer and Colonial Architect.

John Lee Archer's designs were all in the classical mould. They were impressive, aesthetically pleasing, functional and beautifully engineered. He insisted on a high standard of workmanship and knew how to achieve it.

His works in Hobart include: Parliament House, Ordnance Stores in Salamanca Place, Public Offices in Murray Street, Old Trinity Church Court House and St George's Church nave in Battery Point.

The meaning of the ornamental carvings remains a mystery. They are deteriorating and a satisfactory method of preserving or restoring them has not been found. Their present detail has been recorded using 3D precise survey methods.

Ross Bridge and two 'heritage' engineers