On this day in Alaska's transportation history

October 31, 1935

Juneau-Douglas Bridge connects Douglas Island to mainland

Ferry service between Juneau and Douglas, which had commenced in the 1880's, was discontinued upon completion of the Juneau-Douglas Bridge, a cantilever steel truss design.



Juneau-Douglas Bridge under construction, 1935

Prior to the bridge's construction, residents of Douglas Island would either row across Gastineau Channel to reach the mainland, or use a triangular ferry service operated from Douglas to Juneau to Thane.

In 1975, construction began on a new girder bridge, which was completed in 1980. The original was demolished in 1981. The Juneau-Douglas Bridge is the only roadway link to Douglas Island communities: Douglas, North Douglas and West Juneau, the latter of which is situated at the bridge's western terminus.

Source: https://livingnewdeal.org/projects/juneau-douglas-bridge-juneau-ak/#targetText=The%20original%20Juneau-Douglas%20bridge,Douglas%20Island%20to%20the%20west.