

NEW YORK STATE BARGE CANAL, HALLS WASTE WEIR  
(Erie Canal, Halls Waste Weir)  
West of Exchange Street Bridge  
Lockport  
Niagara County  
New York

HAER NY-512  
*HAER NY-512*

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240-0001

## HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

### NEW YORK STATE BARGE CANAL, HALLS WASTE WEIR Erie Canal, Halls Waste Weir

#### HAER No. NY-512

**Location:** West of Exchange Street Bridge, Lockport, Niagara County, New York

Halls Waste Weir is located at latitude: 43.1760155, longitude: -78.6864576. The point was obtained in 2009, and there is no restriction on its release to the public.

**Significance:** Halls Waste Weir, located on the Erie Canal, is a component of the nationally significant New York State Barge Canal.

**Description:** The waste weir is located on the south bank of the canal and consists of two fixed-crest concrete spillway sections with three sluice gates and steel operating stands.<sup>1</sup> A set of concrete stairs with pipe railings leads to the operating trestle. The waste weir is in good condition.

Culvert 125, constructed to pass Eighteen Mile Creek under the Barge Canal at this location, is located nearby. The culvert is built of stone and has stone arched headwalls. It is in good condition.

**History:** The waste weir was built as part of Contract 64 by Empire Engineering Corporation, who won the contract on August 6, 1908. The contract called for the improvement of the Erie Canal from a point 600' west of the Prospect Avenue Bridge to a point 100' east of Gasport bridge, a total distance of 9.91 miles. The structures had been completed by 1912.<sup>2</sup>

**Sources:**

*Annual Report of the State Engineer and Surveyor of the State of New York for the Fiscal Year ended in September 30, 1912, Vol. 1.* Albany: J.B. Lyon Company, 1913.

Hay, Duncan. "New York State Barge Canal." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 2014.

Series B1762, New York State Archives, Albany, New York. "Western Division, Erie Canal, Section 10, Sta. 5834 to Sta. 5866." Approved December 3, 1924, 195.

**Historians:** Laura S. Black and Jami Babb, summer 2009

**Project Information:** The Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) is a long-range program that documents and interprets historically significant engineering sites and

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<sup>1</sup> Description of current conditions is based on a site visit made by the HAER recording team in summer 2009.

<sup>2</sup> *Annual Report of the State Engineer and Surveyor of the State of New York for the Fiscal Year ended in September 30, 1912, Vol. 1* (Albany: J.B. Lyon Company, 1913), 253-54.

structures throughout the United States. HAER is part of Heritage Documentation Programs (Richard O'Connor, Manager), a division of the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior. The New York State Barge Canal Survey was undertaken in summer 2009 in cooperation with the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor (ERIE), Beth Sciumeca, Executive Director. Justine Christianson, HAER Historian, and Duncan Hay, ERIE, served as project leaders. The staff of the New York State Canal Corporation provided access to the sites. Craig Williams of the New York State Museum provided research materials and assistance. The HAER field team consisted of Jami Babb and Laura Black.

### Appendix: Images of Current Conditions



**Image 1:** Overview of waste weir from the opposite bank of the canal. Field photograph taken by HAER recording team, summer 2009.



**Image 2:** Waste weir. Field photograph taken by HAER recording team, summer 2009.



**Image 3:** Culvert 125. Field photograph taken by HAER recording team, summer 2009.