

NEW YORK STATE BARGE CANAL, LOCKPORT LOWER
TERMINAL
(Erie Canal, Lockport Lower Terminal)
West of Exchange Street
Lockport
Niagara County
New York

HAER NY-513
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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

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HAER No. NY-513

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

Lockport Lower Terminal is located at latitude: 43.1754698, longitude: -78.6878486. The point was obtained in 2009, and there is no restriction on its release to the public.

Significance: Lockport Lower Terminal, located on the Erie Canal, is a component of the New York State Barge Canal. It was one of several terminals constructed along the Barge Canal to provide points for freight transfer.

Description: The Lockport Lower Terminal is located on the north bank of the canal adjacent to the Section 7 Maintenance Sub-Headquarters (see HAER NY-514). It is accessed by an asphalt road extending from Exchange Street. The terminal wall is concrete and severely deteriorated. There is a single concrete-filled cast-iron bollard, cast-iron cleats, and the remnants of light fixtures. The wall is in poor condition.

History: The terminal was built as part of Contract T-17 by John Johnson Construction Company, who won it on December 4, 1912. Elias H. Anderson, State Assistant Engineer, supervised the work, which included grading and paving the site and approaches. This had been mostly completed in 1913. Combined with the upper terminal, the terminal walls were 1,635'.¹

A 32' x 100' timber freighthouse was built in 1917 and still stands, but the ½-ton hand derrick, 15-ton hand derrick, and 2-ton portable steam crane were removed.²

Sources:

Annual Report of the State Engineer and Surveyor of the State of New York for the Fiscal Year ended in September 30, 1913, Vol. 1. Albany: J.B. Lyon Company, 1914.

Annual Report of the State Engineer and Surveyor of the State of New York for the Fiscal Year ended in September 30, 1914, Vol. 1. Albany: J.B. Lyon Company, 1915.

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

¹ *Annual Report of the State Engineer and Surveyor of the State of New York for the Fiscal Year ended in September 30, 1913, Vol. 1* (Albany: J.B. Lyon Company, 1914), 362; *Annual Report of the State Engineer and Surveyor of the State of New York for the Fiscal Year ended in September 30, 1914, Vol. 1* (Albany: J.B. Lyon Company, 1915), 369.

² Noble Whitford, *History of the Barge Canal of New York State* (Albany: J.B. Lyon Company, Printers, 1922), 265, 271.

Series B1762, New York State Archives, Albany, New York. "Western Division, Erie Canal, Section 10, Sta. 5899 to Sta. 5931." Approved April 22, 1925, 197.

Whitford, Noble. *History of the Barge Canal of New York State*. Albany: J.B. Lyon Company, Printers, 1922.

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 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: Image of Current Conditions



Image: Lockport Lower Terminal wall. Field photograph taken by HAER recording team, summer 2009.