

NAME: Culbute Canal		STATUS: abandoned, about 1882		ACS				
DATE/PROVINCE: Quebec, Canada				HAER				
COUNTY: Renfrew		ENLARGEMENTS: 1 2 3 4	DATE IN USE	LENGTH CANAL	SEAWATER	TOTAL	FEET LOCKS NO. / SIZE	
LOCATION (Endpoints of Canal): Center of Locks 88,550 m N , 30,800 m East								
TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS: Sheet 31 F/14 East								

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:**

Some reasoned that this Culbute Canal System might lead from the Ottawa River site of these locks to Georgian Bay of Lake Huron. Some commercial people were just thinking of the Ottawa River being made navigable. The Ottawa Free Press of September 28, 1876 condemned them as "utterly useless". When the locks were finished some one had forgot to make the East side of the to-be Canal navigable to Ottawa. Even before the Locks were completed the Canadian Central Railroad was finished. This was another factor that took the pressing need from the locks. The railroad could run all year around and the locks would be frozen in during the Winter.

The locks cost \$235,803.00 according to one report. At a later date the River, East of the locks was made navigable for another \$20,00. The first steership passed through the locks in 1880. Canal and locks started 1873, compl. 1876

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

There were two locks in tandem totaling 200 feet long and 45 feet wide, with six feet of water over the sills. These locks were the largest wood locks ever built, even larger than the first Welland Canal Locks, which were also built of wood.

Some timbers are still remaining, but time has generally eroded away at the wood parts so only skeletal parts remain, at this writing.

If this area could be dammed and dried up for awhile, a good archeological study could be made here about wood locks.

**NAMES & ADDRESSES OF GROUPS CONCERNED WITH CANALS PRESERVATION/RESTORATION:**

American Canal Society

**BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY:**

Newspaper, Citizen, of Ottawa Saturday, July 3, 1971 article by Brenda Lee-Whiting. General Report of the Minister of Public Works 1867-1882 Appendix 43. (pp. 1156-1157). Canals of Canada, booklet #8, 1971, (pp. 315-316) Miss L. St. Louis and Mr. Lawrence Earl of the Archives of Canada were a great help. P.K. Andrews, Chief of National Air Photo Library was a great help.

**PUBLISHED RECORDS, PHOTOS, DRAWINGS (CEHR, HAER, HABS, Local or Regional Historical Societies, Libraries, etc.):**

The Archives of Canada has a great number of photos of this lock area

**EXISTING OR RECOMMENDED LANDMARK STATUS (CEHR, National Register, etc.):**

Possibly a metal historical marker if there is not one.

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