

Structure Merrill's Falls & Diversion Canal		Canal -----	HAER/CEIR Condition POOR
State/Province <u>N.H.</u> County <u>Hillsboro</u>		Designer(s) <u>Presume-Samuel Blodget</u>	
City/Town <u>Below Granite St. Bridge</u>		Contractor/Builder <u>Isaac Riddle-??</u>	
Street -----		Source of Material <u>Local</u>	
Associated Waterway <u>Merrimack River</u>		DATES OF CONSTRUCTION	
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP <u>Manchester South Quad</u>		Start <u>Before 1807</u>	Rebuilding <u>Possible</u>
UTM Coordinates <u>298.7/4761.8</u>		Completion <u>By 1807</u>	Abandoned <u>1850 / 1855</u>
History & Use in Service; Use Since Abandonment:			
<p>Merrill's Falls was a natural river rapids. From near center of river a wing dam was constructed towards the east shore of the river. A granite wall was built within about 40-50ft. of the <u>east</u> shoreline more or less, then followed the contour of the river. An earth embankment on the east side formed a canal between the two, which boats navigating the waterway used to by-pass the local rapids. This project was built for Samuel Blodget. His private canal being just a short distance north of this site on the east side of the river under the <u>OLD</u> AMOSKEAG BRIDGE. Then to Amoskeag Falls via a guard lock.</p>			
Description (Visible Remains at the site):			
<p>Today, the rapids are still there. The canal is also, but in poor condition. The only time of year to see the canal is in the <u>late fall</u>, after all the foliage is gone. Otherwise, the dense growth of trees along the canal will prevent viewing it from any angle. From map scale of 1835, the length of this canal should be about 1600 ft.</p> <p>There was a lock at Merrill's Falls at one time, but of no consequence in comparison to other river locks.</p>			
Other works or events associated with site:			
<p>At the south end of Merrill's Falls was once the Ferry Boat Crossing, it appears to have had the same name and was probably operated by Mr. Merrill at that time.</p>			
Present Property Owners:		Location of Deed Description:	
<u>Presume Amoskeag Mills(Successor)</u>		<u>Same presumed</u>	
Bibliography (Published, unpublished mss, maps, photographs):			
<p><u>Manchester Historical Society</u>, 129 Amherst St. Manchester, N.H. <u>Concord Historical Society</u>, 30 Park Street, Concord, N.H.</p>			
Agencies, Individuals Interested in Preservation/Restoration:		National Register/CEHR, Other Recognition:	
<u>None that I know of, other than ACS</u>		<u>Very doubtful</u>	
Investigation made by: <u>Alden W. Gould (ACS)</u>			Date:
Address: <u>12 Shady Crest Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060</u>			<u>August 1975</u>
RETURN TO: <u>Peter Stott</u>			

A sketch map or illustration of the site should be included on the reverse.