

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

New York State Barge Canal Historic District
Albany, Cayuga, Erie, Herkimer, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery,
Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Orleans, Oswego, Rensselaer, Saratoga,
Schenectady, Seneca, Washington, and Wayne Counties, New York

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LIST OF FEATURES

The following list is organized geographically along each of the four canals and identifies every individual structure and building within the boundary. Each feature (indicated in **bold**) is located, described, dated and assessed as contributing or non-contributing. All features are contributing unless otherwise noted; non-contributing features are identified in the text. Features of insignificant size and importance are labeled “too small to count.” Other features, typically identified as “geographic reference” or “point of interest,” are mentioned to provide context and locational information but are not counted. They are listed in plain text.

Methodology for identifying and counting resources:

The Barge Canal system as a whole is counted as 1 contributing *structure*. The list of features is divided into the four major branches of the canal and arranged geographically. Within that, each of the 57 lock and 6 section shop complexes, encompassing multiple buildings and structures, are identified in UPPER CASE. Individual features within each lock or shop complex are categorized as contributing, non-contributing, or too small to count. Each lock chamber and its associated approach walls, gates, valves, operating machinery, and controls is counted as a single structure. Dams, powerhouses, lockhouses, and storage buildings are each counted separately. Freestanding canal structures scattered across the system (guard-gates, waste weirs, dams that are not adjacent to locks) and bridges that cross the channel are individually counted and classified. Features within the nomination boundary that have already been listed on the National Register are identified (and their status noted) but not counted again. Each individual counted feature is identified in **bold**. Features that are not counted are in plain text.

A number of nineteenth-century locks, aqueducts, and other towpath era canal structures are within the boundary or immediately adjacent to this nomination. Some were modified during Barge Canal construction and serve today as water retention or bypass structures. In 1993, NYSHPO prepared a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for the New York State Canal System that concluded: “Assuming adequate integrity, any canal-related feature is considered potentially eligible as a contributing component. . .”⁵⁹ For the purposes of this nomination, structures from earlier canal eras that were incorporated into the Barge Canal System and are used and maintained for current operations are counted (unless they were previously NR listed). Nineteenth-century canal structures that are in or adjacent to the Barge Canal, but have not been used for navigation or

⁵⁹ Linda M. Garofalini, NYSHPO, “New York State Canal System Statement of Significance,” November 29, 1993.

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water control since the present system was completed in 1918, are shown in plain text, identified as National Register Eligible (NRE), but not counted because they pre-date the period of significance for this nomination.

Locks, dams, bridges, guard gates, and other canals structures are named and numbered following conventions that have been in effect since construction -- structures numbered sequentially by type with prefixes "C" for Champlain, "E" Erie, "O" Oswego, and "CS" Cayuga-Seneca canals. In addition to canal numbers, the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) has assigned Bridge Inventory Numbers (BIN) to every span, the NYS Department of Conservation (DEC) numbers all fixed dams, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licenses hydroelectric projects. Contract numbers are listed for buildings and structures that date to original Barge Canal construction because many of the reports, records, and photographs housed at the New York State Archives are filed in their original contract number sequence rather than by geographic location or date. In 2009, a team from the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) conducted a field inventory of Barge Canal structures. HAER and the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) have performed in-depth recording projects at several New York canal sites, including some structures that are part of this nomination. HABS/HAER survey and documentation data, photos, and measured drawings are available through the Library of Congress website and are more detailed than the summary information presented here. BIN, DEC, FERC, Contract, and HABS/HAER numbers are included with individual site entries to facilitate cross-reference by management and regulatory agencies and to aid future research.

See continuation sheet