

American Canal Society Canal Structure Inventory

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| Structure Lock - Goffes or Goffs Falls | | Canal Merrimack River Navigation | HAER/CEHR Condition Poor |
| State/ XXXXXX N.H. County Hillsboro | | Designer(s) Presume John L. Sullivan | |
| City/Town Bedford? | | XXXXXX Builder Middlesex Canal Co. | |
| XXXXX Underneath B&MRR Bridge (West side) | | Source of Material Local | |
| Associated Waterway Merrimack River | | Presume DATES OF CONSTRUCTION | |
| TOPOGRAPHIC MAP MANCHESTER SOUTH | | Start 1810-1812 | Rebuilding ? |
| UTM Coordinates 19.2996 .41564 | | Before 1814 | Abandoned Late 1850's |
| History & Use in Service; Use Since Abandonment: | | | |
| <p>One of the several river locks that served transportation from Concord, N.H. to Lowell, Mass. and via the Middlesex Canal to Boston, Mass.</p> <p>Elevation drop in the river was from various reports- 120 ft. to 90 ft. I do not know which is correct. However, rapids occur frequently and these had to be by-passed by individual canals of different lengths to each lock. It was necessary to anchor these locks to ledge with iron bars driven into holes drilled in the glacial ledge. Barriers were built of granite and formed a canal dike, reenforced with cribbing of wood and iron rods. These can still be seen today after all these 160 years. Just a memorial to a past era today.</p> | | | |
| Description (Visible Remains at the site): | | | |
| <p>At this site can be seen the great many granite blocks of the lock that are now scattered about by the heavy ice flows that damaged this lock badly. You can walk on this lock but <u>not</u> around it, due to river water. Recent visit to lock turned up with an <u>anchor chain</u> attached to ledge at floor of structure. (Its purpose a ??) Will probably never know. Presume this lock was of the standard size 82 X 10 ft. Extreme caution should be used when reseaching any of these structures and don't do it -- alone! Too dangerous!</p> | | | |
| Other works or events associated with site: | | | |
| <p>Union Locks & Canal Co. Built by the Middlesex Canal Co. To open up the back country to water transportation for lumber, mill products and other merchandise to Lowell, Mass. and to Boston, Mass. via the Middlesex Canal.</p> | | | |
| Present Property Owners: | | Location of Deed Description: | |
| Unknown | | Unknown | |
| Bibliography (Published, unpublished mss, maps, photographs): | | | |
| <p>Manchester Historical Society. Concord Historical Society. Charles W. Mower, Reeds Ferry, Merrimack, N.H. (Photos etc.) Alden W. Gould, 12 Shady Crest Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060 Possible other interested associations as well.</p> | | | |
| Agencies, Individuals Interested in Preservation/Restoration: | | National Register/CEHR, Other Recognition: | |
| I doubt if any, due to type and the present condition of canals & locks. | | I would say none, but not certain. | |
| Investigation made by: Alden W. Gould and (Charles W. Mower of Reeds Ferry) | | | Date: |
| Address: 12 Shady Crest Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060 | | | 9/22/74 |
| RETURN TO: | | | |

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