

American Canal Society Canal Structure Inventory

Structure Navigation Dam & 3 locks		Canal Mystic River Navigation	HAER/CEHR Condition Excellent
State/Province <u>Mass.</u> County <u>Middlesex</u>		Designer(s) <u>MDC & Perini Corporation</u>	
City/Town <u>Somerville & Everett</u>		Contractor/Builder <u>Perini Construction Co.</u>	
Street <u>Off-Mystic Street-Somerville</u>		Source of Material <u>Local</u>	
Associated Waterway <u>Mystic & Malden Rivers</u>		DATES OF CONSTRUCTION	
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP <u>Boston North</u>		Start <u>c.1963-64</u>	Rebuilding <u>None</u>
UTM Coordinates <u>19.329130.4695450</u>		Completion <u>1966</u>	Abandoned <u>No</u>
History & Use in Service; Use Since Abandonment: <p>The construction of this site with its dam and 3 locks was primarily for flood control and constant basin elevation control, but boat locks were an integral feature, as this waterway (as well as the Charles River) have served as a thoroughfare for Marine Transportation since Colonial times. Today, the locks are indispensable links between the rivers and Boston Harbor for passage of 30,000 boats annually. Construction of this site impounded the Mystic & Malden Rivers, which were of a tidal nature for a great many years. But now created as a constant level waterway. In 1975 there were 9074 lockages at <u>this site only</u>, with 13,723 boats passing thru. Entire site in operation by the Metropolitan District Commission.</p>			
Description (Visible Remains at the site): <p>The dam here is 1000 ft. long. Consists of 350 ft. of concrete structures and 650 ft. of earth closure, the latter with a 20 ft roadway. There are 2-concrete locks for small boat navigation 25 X 120 ft., and one large lock for commercial vessels 45 X 325 ft., available also for peak pleasure traffic. A flood control pumping station with 3 huge pumps of a combined capacity of nearly 2 million gallons per min. was completed in 1976. This was to discharge run-off when the tide level was higher than the basin above. Other pumps located in the locks return salt water to the ocean. Located at the large lock is an 80 ft. high control tower which can record and transmit data on salinity and depths at various locations within the basin and water levels adjacent. Operated by the MDC</p>			
Other works or events associated with site: <p>This site was given the name of "Amelia Earhart Dam". Nearby Medford's heroine pioneer Aviatrix, who was lost in the Pacific during an attempted round-the-world flight in 1937. The writer was fortunate is following construction of this site from start to completion in the 1960's</p>			
Present Property Owners: <u>Presumed</u>		Location of Deed Description:	
<u>Commonwealth of Mass. (MDC)</u>		<u>Same</u>	
Bibliography (Published, unpublished mss, maps, photographs): <p>The Metropolitan District Commission.</p>			
Agencies, Individuals Interested in Preservation/Restoration: <u>The Metropolitan District Commission</u> <u>U.S. Coast Guard</u>		National Register/CEHR, Other Recognition: <p>?</p>	
Investigation made by: <u>Alden W. Gould (ACS)</u>			Date:
Address: <u>12 Shady Crest Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060</u>			<u>9/28/76</u>
RETURN TO: <u>Peter Stott</u>			

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