NEW YORK STATE BARGE CANAL, ERIE CANAL
Extends 340 miles from Waterford to Tonawanda
Tonawanda
Erie County
New York

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001
Location: Extends 340 miles from Waterford to Tonawanda
Tonawanda, Erie County, New York

Dates of Construction: 1905-1918

Builder: Various; see individual site histories for contractors

Present Owner: New York State Canal Corporation

Present Use: Navigation and shipping

Significance Statement: The Erie Canal is part of the New York State Barge Canal, a
nationally significant work of early twentieth century engineering
construction that affected transportation and maritime commerce
across the eastern third of the continent for nearly half a century.

Project Information: The Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) is a long-
range program that documents and interprets historically significant engineering sites and
structures throughout the United States. HAER is part of Heritage Documentation Programs
(Richard O’Connor, Manager), a division of the National Park Service, United States
Department of the Interior. The New York State Barge Canal Survey was undertaken in summer
2009 in cooperation with the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor (ERIE), Beth Sciumeca,
Executive Director. Justine Christianson, HAER Historian, and Duncan Hay, ERIE, served as
project leaders. The staff of the New York State Canal Corporation provided access to the sites.
Craig Williams of the New York State Museum provided research materials and assistance. The
HAER field team consisted of Jami Babb and Laura Black.

For documentation on individual sites on the Erie Canal, see:

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