

The Story of the New York State Canals

Historical and Commercial Information

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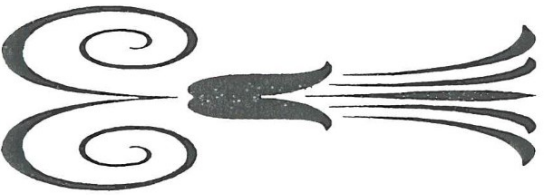


Afterword

Today, the name "Barge Canal" is no longer an accurate description of the marine activity on New York's canals. Trains and trucks have taken over the transport of most cargo that once moved on barges along the canals, but the canals remain a viable waterway for navigation. Now, pleasure boats, tour boats, cruise ships, canoes and kayaks comprise the majority of vessels that ply the waters of the legendary Erie and the Champlain, Oswego and Cayuga-Seneca canals, which now constitute the 524-mile New York State Canal System.

While the barges now are few, this network of inland waterways is a popular tourism destination each year for thousands of pleasure boaters as well as visitors by land, who follow the historic trade route that made New York the "Empire State." Across the canal corridor, dozens of historic sites, museums and community festivals in charming port towns and bustling cities invite visitors to step back in time and re-live the early canal days when "hogges" guided mule-drawn packet boats along the narrow towpaths. Today, many of the towpaths have been transformed into Canalway Trail segments, extending over 220 miles for the enjoyment of outdoor enthusiasts from near and far who walk, bike and hike through scenic and historic canal areas.

In 1992, legislation was enacted in New York State which changed the name of the Barge Canal to the "New York State Canal System" and transferred responsibility for operation and maintenance of the Canal System from the New York State Department of Transportation to the New York State Canal Corporation, a newly created subsidiary of the New York State Thruway Authority. With this act, a new era of rebirth dawned along the Canal System as New York State and communities all along the canals embarked on a massive effort to revitalize the Canal System and transform the waterway into a world-class destination for tourism and recreation. Through a strong commitment to preservation of the canals' rich heritage and encouragement of sensitive development along these waterways, New York State has taken the essential steps to ensure that the Canal System and its historic legacy will be preserved and fostered into the 21st century as a vital resource to be enjoyed for generations to come.



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**KEUKA LAKE FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT
KIMBALL'S GULLY EASEMENT**

THIS INDENTURE made the _____ day of _____, 2003, between YATES COUNTY, a municipal corporation of the State of New York ("Grantor"), and the PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, by the New York State Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation ("Grantee").

WITNESSETH THAT, Grantor, in consideration of ONE dollar and other good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is waived, does hereby remise, release and quitclaim unto the Grantee, the successors or assigns of the Grantee.

A permanent right, privilege and easement to construct, reconstruct, maintain and operate thereon, a work area, and including the right to: (1) remove therefrom any and all materials excavated, cut, razed, or torn down from the area described herein, or deposit any material thereon; (2) protect the bank of Kimballs' Gully Creek by any method deemed necessary; (3) clear and grub trees, shrubs, brush, debris and structures; (4) place, keep and operate machines, tools and equipment; (5) construct channel improvements including and not limited to a debris deposition basin and related facilities connected with the Keuka Lake Flood Protection Project; (6) reconstruct, use and maintain the road which extends from Hicks Street through the area of this easement including and not limited to the bridge over Kimballs' Creek, including the right at all times of ingress, egress and regress by the State of New York, its assigns and/or their agents, including and not limited to the Keuka Lake Outlet Compact, for purposes connected with the flood control project. Such easement shall be exercised in and to all that piece or parcel of property situated in the Village of Penn Yan, Town of Milo, County of Yates and the State of New York, comprising an area of 1.818 acres according to a survey prepared by the Department of Environmental Conservation, a copy of which shall be filed simultaneously herewith. as delineated and described as follows: