

The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee Agenda

Wednesday, May 7, 2025 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Video Conference

Meetings may be viewed live on the City's Youtube channel https://www.youtube.com/user/SaultSteMarieOntario

Pages

1. Land Acknowledgement

I acknowledge, with respect, that we are in Robinson-Huron Treaty territory, that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and known as Bawating. Bawating is the home of Garden River First Nation, Batchewana First Nation, the Historic Sault Ste. Marie Metis Council.

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2	Adoption of Minutes		3 - :	5
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Mover _____ Seconder ____ Resolved that Minutes of Municipal Heritage Committee meeting of April 2, 2025 be approved.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

4. Adoption of Agenda

Mover _____ Seconder _____

Resolved that the Agenda for Municipal Heritage Committee meeting for May 7, 2025 as presented be approved.

5. Business Arising

5.1 Museum Bell

6.	Sub-committee / Task Force Updates	
6.1	Heritage Booklet and Video Tour	
	Edits are underway and photos need to be added to the booklet prior to the next meeting.	
6.2	Doors Open	
	Next meeting is scheduled for May 15th at noon	
6.3	Heritage Trees	
	Committee members will be conducting research prior to scheduling the next meeting.	
7.	New Business	
	Seconder Resolved that the Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee recommend a designated heritage property grant in the amount of \$ for the cleaning repairs to the roof and roof drainage at the Algonquin Hotel be approved; and further that payment be rendered upon submission of the paid contractor's invoices and final approval of the project by the Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee.	
7.1	Designated Heritage Property Grant - Algonquin Hotel	6 - 8
7.2	Northwest Company Lock	9 - 24
	A request has been brought forward for an update on the status of the lock. Attached is the previous report.	
8.	Correspondence	
8.1	13 Summit - Clyde Bridge	
	Mr. Bridge is looking for assistance researching his property at 13 Summit.	
9.	Next Meeting	
	June 4, 2025 at noon	
10.	Adjournment	
	Mover Seconder Resolved that this Committee now adjourn.	



The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee Minutes

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 12:00 pm
Video Conference
Meetings may be viewed live on the City's Youtube channel https://www.youtube.com/user/SaultSteMarieOntario

Present: S. Walker, J. van Haaften, L. Joyal, S. Spina, C. Tomchick

Absent: A. White, H. Ellis

Officials: V. McLeod, A. Hornblower

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: L. Joyal Seconded by: S. Spina

Resolved that Minutes of Municipal Heritage Committee meeting of March 5, 2025 be

approved.

Carried

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

4. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by: S. Spina Seconded by: L. Joyal Resolved that the Agenda for Municipal Heritage Committee meeting for April 2, 2025 as amended with the addition of Cairns and Commemorative Plaques for Cultural events be approved.

Carried

5. Business Arising

5.1 Memorial Tower

MHC members visited the Memorial Tower to examine samples of glass blocks. Two different blocks were brought in. Block 1 has 3 grooves, and block 2 has 5 stripes vertically on one side and horizontally on the other.

Moved by: S. Spina Seconded by: S. Walker

Resolved that the Municipal Heritage Committee recommend that the glass blocks be fully replaced with new glass blocks; and further that the new glass blocks match the dimensions of the existing glass blocks; and further that the block pattern have the same pattern will have vertical lines on one side and horizontal lines on the other; and further that extra blocks be ordered for future replacement and the original blocks removed be retained.

Carried

5.2 Museum Bell

Sault College will take on this project in the fall once classes commence. Drawings will be made, and a material list will be provided.

6. Sub-committee / Task Force Updates

6.1 Doors Open

Doors open will be held on October 4, 2025. The subcommittee will be looking at what sites are interested in participating. The MHC needs to work on securing volunteers.

6.2 Heritage Booklet and Video Tours

The subcommittee is working on edits, and J. Ingram will be incorporating the updates into the document.

6.3 Heritage Trees

A summary document was sent to members to review. Trees are scored against 10 criteria which include taking tree measurements and researching historical/cultural significance.

- 7. New Business
- 8. Correspondence
- 9. Next Meeting
- 10. Adjournment

Moved by: L. Joyal Seconded by: S. Spina

Resolved that this Committee now adjourn.

Carried

ALGONQUIN HOTEL

Algonquin Hotel 864 Queen St. E. Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A-2B4 (705)253-2311

April 7th ,2025.

To: Virginia McLeod.

We are submitting documents for the property grant with two quotes that we received to replace the roof on the east side extension.

This roof has to be replaced as the bricks are repeatedly spalling every year due to water seeping behind the bricks and freezing.

We still have an open building permit to replace the spalling bricks as this has been an ongoing problem. We have been replacing spalling bricks every year and this has been extremely expensive.

On another note we are requesting permission to install 4 bollards along the rear north wall of the hotel along the laneway.

The proposed bollards might be a couple of inches on the city lane.

This is really important to protect the back wall of the building since this lane has become quite narrow due to the new fence installed at the new building in the back. The traffic traveling through the lane has on numerous occasions hit the corner of our building when they turn right from Pim street.

Also this lane is full of potholes and the building shakes when cars are driving by. We are asking for your help in this matter to obtain a building permit, since the building department advised us that we need approval from the Heritage committee.

864 QUEEN ST. EAST

Thank you for your help with this matter

Best Regards,

Martin Fiser / Algonquin Hotel 864 Queen St. E.

Sault Ste. Marie, ON

P6A-4J3

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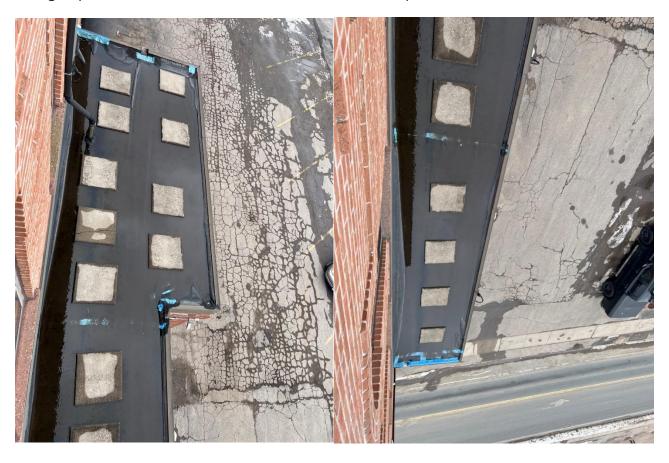
Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee

APPLICATION FOR A DESIGNATED PROPERTY GRANT

To be completed by the applicant and returned to the Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee, c/o the Manager Recreation & Culture. Note: In order to be eligible for this grant, properties must be within the City of Sault Ste. Marie and designated under The Ontario Heritage Act, 1975. For specific criteria refer to the document "Guidelines for the Application of a Designated Property Grant." Applicant Name Telephone (include area code) Algonquin Hotel 7052532311 Address Postal Code 864 Queen St. E. P6A4J3 2. Property for which application is being made: Algonquin Hotel 3. Have you previously received a Designated Property Grant for this property? (If "Yes, give date and amount) Date Amount Yes 4. Provide a description of the project and cost breakdown. Include details such as materials to be used, sizes, mortar mixes, etc. Enclose all drawings, project photos and/or other material necessary for a complete understanding of the proposed work (use additional sheets as required). Please include any available historic photographs. Description Cost Replace roof membrane and flashing on East extension. \$9600 + HST 5. List all sources and amounts of funding requested for project Heritage Grant Amount Amount Other Level of Government Funding Private Funds I certify that to the best of my knowledge the information provided in this application for a Designated Property Grant is accurate and complete. Date Nothing contained in this application relieves the applicant from obtaining required Municipal Permits. All work must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Ontario Building Code, Municipal By-laws and the City of Sault Ste. Marie Purchasing Policy. To be completed by the applicant and returned to the Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee c/o the Manager of Recreation and Culture Personal information on the Application for a Designated Property Grant is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O. 1990 M.C.M. 56 and will be used solely to determine applicable information necessary for application. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee, c/o the Manager of Recreation & Culture Division. jb/lacac/forms/application for a designated property grant 2009

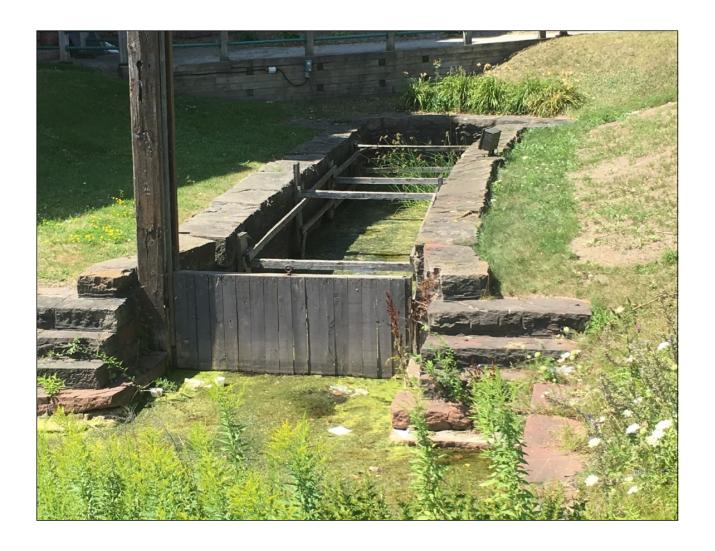


Algonquin Hotel - Photo of the flat roof section to be repaired



Proposed Restoration of the 1797 Canoe Lock located at 75 Huron Street, Sault Ste Marie, Ontario

City of Sault Ste Marie Municipal Heritage Committee



1) INTRODUCTION

2) Sault Ste Marie is located at the junction of Lake Superior and Lake Huron, linked by the St Mary's River. There is a water level difference of +/- eighteen feet between the two lakes resulting in the St Mary's Falls (or Rapids). The Canoe Lock is located in the grounds of the Algoma Conservatory of Music Building, located at 75 Huron Street, Sault Ste Marie, Ontario.

The Canoe Lock was constructed in 1797-98 on the site of the North West Company post in Sault Ste Marie which was largely destroyed during a raid by American forces in 1814

Around 1895 Francis H. Clergue, recognising the historical significance of the lock rebuilt the lock, retaining the original wood flooring, but creating stone walls to either side of the lock, replacing the original wood walls

The Canoe Lock has been designated under the Ontario Heritage Act and has also been recognised by a cairn and plaque installed by the Historical Sites & Monuments Board of Canada.

The lock is located in the grounds of 75 Huron Street which was originally the General Office Building of the Francis H. Clergue iron, steel, paper making, railway and shipping empire started in 1895. This building itself is of significant historical and architectural interest and has also been designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

The masonry canoe lock stone walls walls are now themselves shifting inwards and have had to be temporarily cross braced to prevent collapse and require immediate remedial work.

This first canal and lock was the precursor of the extensive system of locks, on both sides of the border at Sault Ste Marie, Ontario and Michigan which were developed over the next two centuries.

2) INTENT/ OBJECTIVE

It is the intent of the Sault Ste Marie Municipal Heritage Committee to restore the 1797 North-West Company Canoe Lock back to its original construction utilising the original record drawings prepared by Douglas Brymner, the Canadian Archivist and all relevant contemporary written records. Further a section of the lock as reconstructed by Francis H. Clergue will be maintained. Interpretive panels commemorating both the original construction and the Clergue intervention will be installed. It is noted that the still intact original wood floor planking will be maintained and incorporated into the restoration.

3) HISTORY

The history of the site and the canoe lock has been well documented

The first recorded mention was a survey by order of the North West Company by

Theodore de Pincier dated 1797.

In 1802, following a dispute between the North West Company and the XY Company a Captain Bruyeres of the Royal Engineers prepared a report (September 10, 1802) detailing the the construction and operation of the lock. At this time the lock was still in use. if it was still in use in 1814 it is assumed that it was largely destroyed in the American raid of that year during which the trading post was burnt down. In 1886 Judge Steere and a Mr Wheeler of Sault Ste Marie, Michigan, along with the

In 1886 Judge Steere and a Mr Wheeler of Sault Ste Marie, Michigan, along with the assistance of Joseph Cozens, a provincial land surveyor of Sault Ste Marie, Ontario who also provided the labour, located and excavated the lock remains. The floor and foundations of the lock were revealed to be in perfect condition. Their findings were recorded by Douglas Brymner, Archivist in the "Report on Canadian Archives, 1889" This report also contained record drawings of the lock prepared by Mr Brymner. In 1895 the existence of the lock was brought to the attention of Francis H. Clergue.

Francis Clergue transformed Sault Ste Marie into an industrial centre with the creations of iron, steel, paper, railroads, mining and shipping. He has been recognised as a nationally significant person. His vision also extended to the preservation of historically significant items such as the Powder Magazine on the North West Company site. This vision also extended to the canoe lock. Clergue re-excavated the site, retained the original floor timbers and foundations but rebuilt the walls in stone instead of timbers. What is seen today is the lock as re-created by Francis H. Clergue

4) CURRENT CONDITION

The following is a report prepared by Dr Harvey Robbins of the Sault Ste Marie Municipal Heritage Committee:

Nov. 25, 2015

Municipal Heritage Committee

Report on Examination of the Historical Canoe Lock Floorboards

Algoma Conservatory of Music property

I arranged to have the lock and attached structures dewatered with a fire pump. After an hour and half of pumping, we were able to lower the water by 12 inches to within seven inches of the bottom boards. Despite a large amount of debris (leaves and water weeds), we (Chris Tossell and I) were able to do a tactile examination of the floorboards with a long-handled probe.

We found that the floor boards are intact and sound over most of the floor of the lock as well as the upstream end. There is a missing section along most of the length of the lock second board in from the north wall. One other short section near the south-west corner, by the gate, also appears to be missing. It appears that the floor boards, which run lengthways in the lock are fastened down to cross boards beneath. The fastening of replacements for the missing boards could thus be accomplished by using lag bolts (although not strictly historically correct but economically completed). The floor boards are from 4-6" wide and either 2" or 4" thick. We did not extensively examine the bottom of the open area below the lock gate but it appears to be mud over sand. No attempt was made to determine the type of wood used.

Harvey Robbins, PhD.

Member, Sault Ste Marie Municipal Heritage Committee.

To which is added:

Stone Masonry Side Walls.

Note: these walls were added at the time of the Francis H. Clergue restoration of 1895.

The side and end walls are constructed of sandstone. Over the last decade they have started to collapse inward. Temporary cross bracing shoring has been installed to stabilise the movement. Further the vertical posts of the lock gate and associated framing are considerably rotted.

END







5) REPORT FOR DESIGNATION UNDER THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT - Prepared by Members of the Sault Ste Marie Municipal Heritage Committee (at the time of compilation known as the Sault Ste Marie Local Architectural Heritage Committee (LACAC)

SAULT STE. MARIE L.A.C.A.C. DESIGNATION REPORT NORTH WEST COMPANY LOCK

1797 & 1896

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

September 28, 2001

Prepared by: Linda Burtch Bob Ewing

Introduction

The Sault Ste. Marie Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (L.A.C.A.C.) is comprised of members interested in heritage conservation with expertise in a number of related fields such as local history and architecture. The members are appointed by Council and recommend to Council significant properties of historical and/or architectural value for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.

The Sault Ste. Marie LACAC has examined the structure known as the old North West Company Lock situated on the property of St. Marys Paper Ltd. on Huron Street and recommends to Council that this structure be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. L.A.C.A.C. has consulted with the current owner. St. Marys Paper Ltd., and the owner has indicated that they have no objection to the designation of this structure. (Appendix #1)

An information sheet outlining the designation process has also been included with this report.

Location

The North West Company Lock 1797 & 1896

The structure known as the North West Company Lock is located on property currently owned by the St. Marys Paper Company Ltd. It is situated north of the St. Marys Paper Ltd. office building at 75 Huron Street and adjacent to the west side of Huron Street. (Map - Appendix # 2) Two cairns have been erected on either side of the lock, one with a plaque commemorating the site of the first Sault Ste. Marie Canal and the other in memory of the men of Abitibi Power and Paper Company who gave their lives in WWII.

Description

The structure known as the North West Company Lock is actually two structures built almost 100 years apart. The stone replica lock which we see today was built by F. H. Clergue in 1896 and lies over the timber floor and framework of the original lock built in 1797 by the North West Company. (Photo - Appendix #3)

Constructed about 1797 by the North West Company, the original lock was part of a water system used to transport laden bateaux around the rapids. From a report dated September 10, 1802 by Captain Bruyeres of the Royal Engineers we know that the water system consisted of a wharf at the lower entrance to the lock and an approach which had been cleared of boulders (B on Map-Appendix #4), a lock that raised the bateaux 9 feet with a gate at the lower end that let down with a windlass and two folding gates at the upper end with a sluice (A on map - Appendix #4), a wooden trough about 300 feet in length which carried water from the canal to the lock, a canal with a floor of round logs to aid in the dragging of the boats over rough spots (dotted line on Map - Appendix #4) and a dam to raise the water level (C on Map - Appendix #4). The canal was 2580 feet in length with a wooden pathway running alongside which was used by oxen to track the boats through the locks. (Report on the Establishment formed on the North Shore contiguous to the Falls of St. Mary by the North West Company Trading to the Indian Country,

(Captain R. H. Bruyeres, Royal Engineers, Sept. 10,1802; vertical file 002 Sault Ste. Marie Public Library).

From Captain Bruyeres report we know that the lock was in use in 1802. We do not know how long the lock continued to be in use, however, if it was still in existence in 1814, it would have been burned

along with all the other buildings at the fur trade post when Sault Ste. Marie was attacked by the Americans in that year.

In 1886 Judge Steere & Mr. Wheeler of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Joseph Cozens of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario succeeded in uncovering the ruins of the lock and found its wooden floor and foundation intact. "The floor of the lock is forty feet long and eight feet nine inches in width. It is made of plank two inches thick running longitudinally. They are fastened to traverse foundation timbers with wooden pins shown at 'B'. There are thirteen planks, the seventh or middle one being narrower than the others. The lower transverse timber formed the sill for the gate. It is twelve inches square. On top of this is pinned a piece of oak eight inches wide and four inches thick. It is probable that this piece was the cleat against which the lower edge of the gate rested when closed. There are mortises in each end of this timber shown at 'A'. These mortises, the countersinking and notch in the floor plank seem to indicate that vertical timbers fourteen inches square stood at these points." (Report on Canadian Archives, 1889, P. XXXVIII) A lithograph illustrating their findings was included in the Report on the Canadian Archives, 1889. (Appendix #5)

In 1896, F. H. Clergue upon hearing about the canal and lock searched out its location and had it excavated. He found the entire framework and bottom of the lock in sound condition, however, the sides and ends had fallen in. Clergue had a replica lock built over top of the old North West Company Lock according to its original design but to make the structure more permanent he had stone walls erected instead of replacing the wooden timbers. Clergue also installed a miniature head and tail gate, a water pipe and overflow to permit flowing water. He also had the structure enclosed with an iron gate. Clergue gave instructions that the original floor timbers were to be left in their position. Clergue recollected that if the water was drawn off and the present floor taken up, that the original planking and sills would be found. (Sault Star , July 7, 1922) (Photographs -Appendix # 6 & 7).

Historical Significance

The epic story of the transcontinental fur trade route and its national significance to the history and development of Canada has been commemorated throughout Canada with plaques and national historic sites. The North West Company Lock is the only remaining link to this past situated in Sault Ste.Marie.

In 1923 during the Discovery Week Celebrations which marked the 250th Anniversary of Brule's arrival to the St. Marys Rapids, the Historic Sites and Monuments of Canada recognized the historic significance of the North West Company Canal and Lock by installing a cairn and plaque. (Appendix #8) This first canal and lock was the precursor of the extensive system of locks which would be developed through the rapids over the next two centuries.

The lock is first recorded on a map by Theodore de Pincier in 1797. (Appendix # 9) In 1802 a dispute over the use of the lock arose between the North West Company and the X Y Company. Captain R. H. Bruyeres of the Royal Engineers sent a report dated September 10, 1802 detailing the situation at Sault Ste. Marie and describing the construction and operation of the canal. No documents have been found which record the activities at the canal in the years following 1802, however, it is assumed that if the canal was still in existence in 1814, that it would have been burned during the American raid on Sault Ste. Marie in that year.

Reference to the lock and canal is next found in the Report on Canadian Archives, 1889, by Douglas Brymner where he includes an account of an expedition led by Judge Steere and Mr. A. S. Wheeler, General Superintendent of the St. Marys Falls Canal, from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Joseph Cozens, Provincial Land Surveyor from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Their excavations revealed the floor and foundation of the lock in perfect condition. A sketch of their finding accompanied the report.

When the existence of the lock was brought to the attention of F. H. Clergue, he had the structure uncovered and a stone replica of the lock built on the site while preserving the remains of the original lock. F. H. Clergue transformed Sault Ste. Marie into an industrial centre and has been recognized as a nationally significant person with the erection of a plaque by the Historic Sites an Monuments Board of Canada in 1994. It is a reflection of Clergue's vision and the scope of his interests that while developing an industrial complex based on the newest technology, he would preserve the original lock timbers and construct a replica stone lock.

Conclusion

The Sault Ste. Marie L.A.C.A.C. after careful review recommends that the structure known as the North West Company Lock be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. The reasons for designation are:

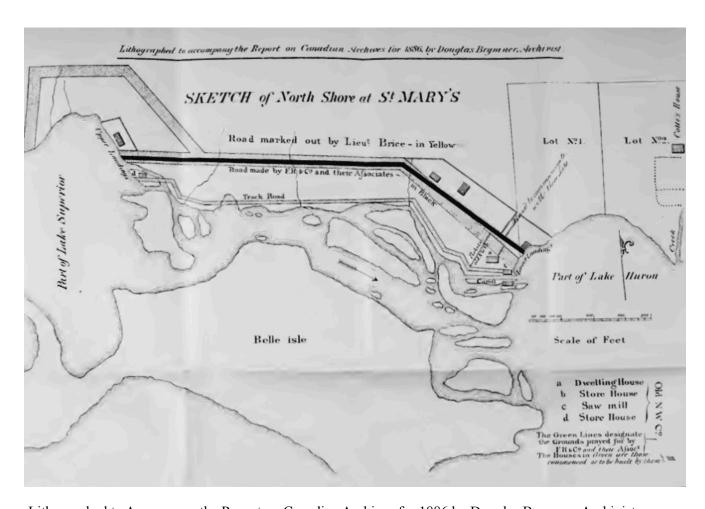
- 1) The lock was a part of the transcontinental fur trade route and is significant as it provides a link to the history of the fur trade in Canada and has been recognised by the Historic Sites and Monument Board of Canada with a plaque as being of national significance.
- 2) The wooden floors and timbers of the original lock built in 1797 have been preserved beneath the replica lock making the lock the oldest heritage structures in Sault Ste. Marie.

3) The replica lock was built in 1896 by F. H. Clergue, who has been recognised as a nationally significant person for his development of the industrial complex in Sault Ste. Marie, and is a reflection of Clergue's acknowledgment of the historical importance of the area.

Bibliography

Bruyeres, R. H. Capt. Royal Engineers; Report on the Establishment formed on the North Shore contiguous to the Falls of St. Mary by the North West Company Trading to the Indian Country, September 10, 1802; National Archives of Canada, "C" Series 382, Ordnance and Engineer Reports dated 1795 - 1802- photocopy, vertical file 002, Sault Ste. Marie Public Library.

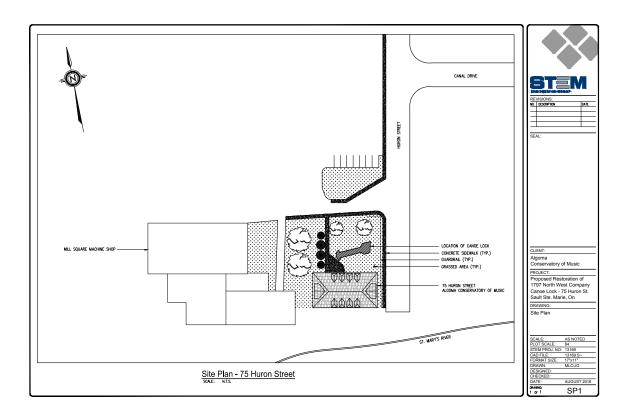
Brymner, Douglas; Report on Canadian Archive, 1886 &1889, Ottawa, Brown Chamerlin Printers Sault Star, July 7, 1922 END

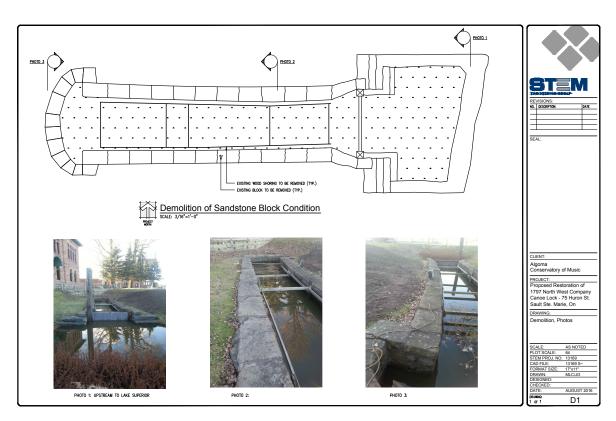


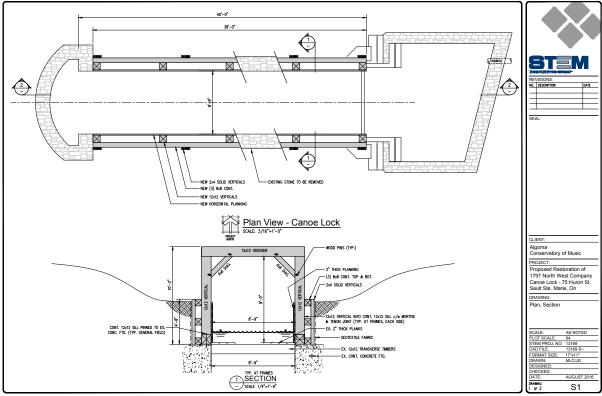
Lithographed to Accompany the Report on Canadian Archives for 1886 by Douglas Brymner, Archivist.

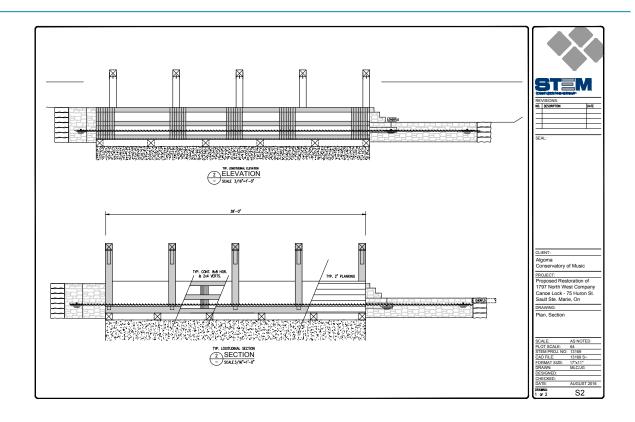
6) SCHEMATIC DRAWINGS OF THE PROPOSED LOCK RESTORATION PREPARED BY STEM ENGINEERING INC.











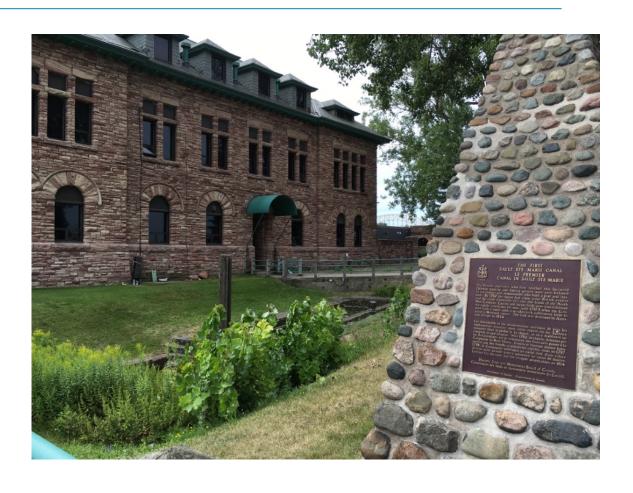
7) PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATE (CLASS 'C')

Expenses	Item	Cost
	Mobilize, demolition, excavation and restoration	\$67,000
	Timber work	\$63,000
	Gate restoration	\$5,000
	Interpretive Signage	\$8,000
	Perimeter fencing	\$16,000
	Consulting fees	\$15,000
Subtotal		\$174,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$17,400
Total:		\$191,400

Revenue	Source	Amount
	Algoma Conservatory of Music	\$20,000
	SSM Heritage Designated Property Grant	\$15,000
	Private fundraising	\$61,400
	Heritage Canada Legacy Fund	\$88,000
Request:	McLean Foundation	\$7,000
Total:		\$191,400
Revenue Minus Expenses:		\$0

8) PHOTOS







PROPOSED CANOE LOCK RESTORATION -N 75 HURON STREET, SAULT STE MARIE, ONTARIO



