

Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site

The Chicora, a ship carrying troops to the Red River uprising, was denied passage through the American Lock. Troops and supplies had to be portaged around the rapids on the north shore. This incident led to the construction of the Canadian Lock.



Source: www.sootoday.com

Source: www.sootoday.com

The Sault Canal was the first in the world to use electrically operated machinery. The watering and dewatering system allowed water to flow through the lock floor. Electrically operated gates and valves controlled the flow of water into and out of the new lock.



Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/

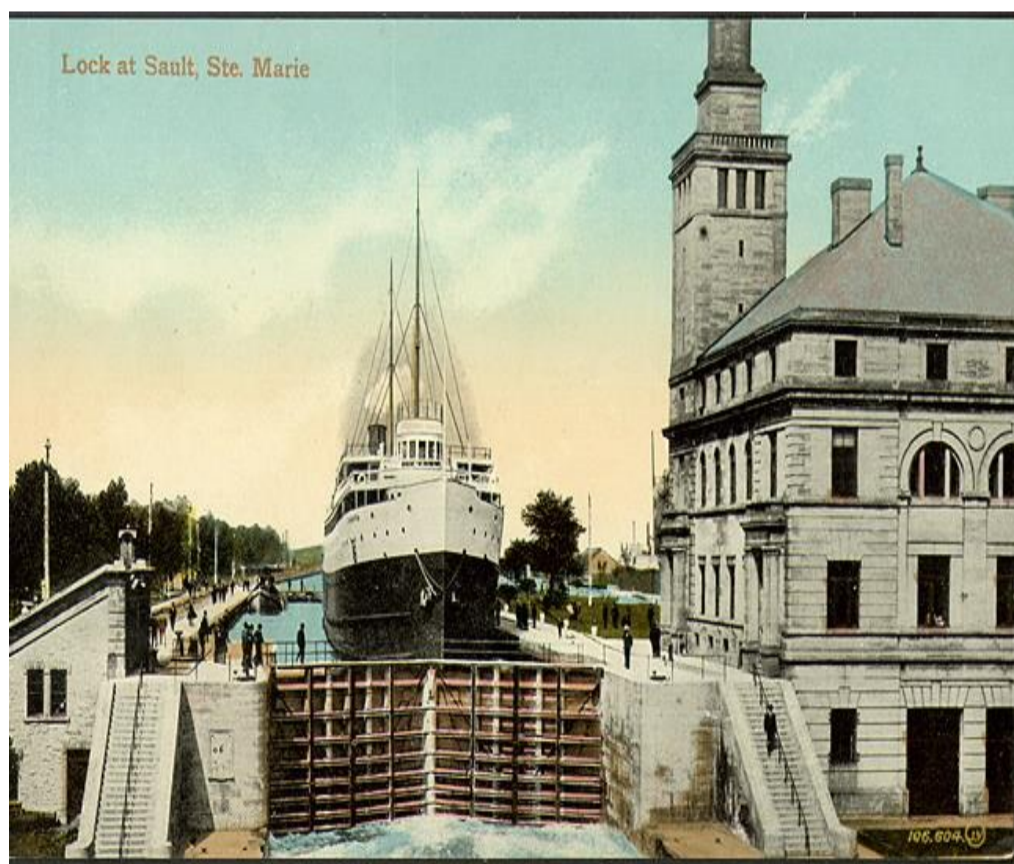


Photo credit: Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site of Canada

The Emergency Swing Dam (orange dam) was one of nine constructed, and remains the last in the world. It was the only one ever used in an emergency in 1909.



Source: www.sootoday.com



Source: Toronto Public Library Digital Archive



Both the Stores Building and the Powerhouse or Pump House are designated Federal Heritage Buildings. Built between 1894 and 1896, each building is made of local sandstone, removed from the canal during lock construction. The designation is confined to the footprint of each building. Source: <http://www.historicplaces.ca/>

During WWII barrage balloons were used to protect the locks and Algoma Steel property from aircraft attack.



Source: www.sootoday.com. Photo credit Sault Ste. Marie Museum

Pleasure watercraft from kayaks and sailboats to tour boats and yachts use the lock from May to October.



Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/

Visitors can walk across the lock gates and access nature trails on islands in the St. Marys River. The rapids are a popular spot for local fishermen.

van Haften, J. (2018) *Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site*. Sault Ste. Marie, ON.: City of Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Heritage Committee.

