

Heritage Value Statement  
Newboro Lockstation Landscape  
Rideau Canal NHS  
DRAFT October 1, 2015

## Context

### **What is a Statement of Heritage Value?**

A Statement of Heritage Value is a record that confirms that a Parks Canada asset, or collection of assets, meets the Agency's requirements to be a cultural resource. It provides a summary history of the cultural resource, its heritage value (why it is important), and its character-defining elements (aspects of the resource that express its heritage value).

### **Approvals**

The statement of heritage value requires approval by the Field Unit Superintendent and the Director of Cultural Heritage Policies and is designed to support decision-making about management of a cultural resource.

### **Interpretation**

Assistance to interpret the Statement of Heritage Value can be sought from a Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Advisor or a CRM specialist.

### **Assessments of Impacts**

When changes or interventions are proposed to cultural resources, the proposed changes and interventions are subject to an assessment of impacts using the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*. This is not to preclude changes or interventions, but rather to reduce possible negative impacts to the heritage value of the cultural resources.

### **Flexibility of Implementation of Changes and Interventions**

Sustainable conservation calls for a flexible and integrated approach that balances CRM with other Agency objectives. If negative impacts are expected to the heritage value of a cultural resource, these can often be reduced or eliminated through mitigations developed in consultation with the CRM Advisor. If mitigation is not possible, alternate approaches to certain aspects of a project, or alternative means of preserving heritage value, can be recommended (for example, preservation through heritage recording and subsequent interpretation).

### **Responsibility for Decision-Making**

Decision-making about an intervention on the cultural resource remains with the Field Unit Superintendent.

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**Description:**

The lockstation comprises lock 36, a blockhouse and a section of land along the canal between Upper Rideau Lake and Newboro Lake.

**Heritage Value:**

The Newboro Lockstation landscape is a cultural resource of national historic significance that is a fundamental resource of the Canal system and integral to the Rideau's unique historical environment.

The heritage value of the lockstation landscapes of national historic significance of the Rideau Canal derive from:

- associative and physical connection with the construction and early operation of the canal system;
- contribution to the unique historical environment of the canal system;
- visual and historic associations with heritage continuity along the canal system such as Chaffeys Locks, Newboro, Merrickville, Burritts Rapids and Ottawa;
- role as landmark and providing a sense of continuity along the canal system;
- surviving historic layout and configuration including their open spaces and circulation patterns;
- surviving historic views both within and beyond the station boundaries;
- contextual and heritage settings for the station's buildings and engineering works.

**Character-Defining Elements:**

Key elements contributing to the heritage value of the Newboro Lockstation landscape include:

- The entire engineering assemblage, including lock 36, the canal cut and tailings and the original stone sloping walls which contribute to maintaining the original appearance and function of the canal.
- The surviving spatial organization of the landscape, including its open spaces and circulation patterns.
- The location, form and scale of the 1833 Blockhouse, one of four constructed along the canal to defend the colony, which highlights the military construction of the canal and the strategic importance of the engineering works at Newboro.
- The unobstructed lines of sight from the blockhouse to the canal and to Newboro Lake are essential to its role in defending the colony and protecting the engineering works.
- The rough, ungroomed area surrounding the blockhouse reflects its state during the military era, with limited vegetation so as not to impede movement or lines of sight.
- The surrounding heavily wooded and rocky Canadian Shield within the landscape boundaries.
- The excavated channel between the Upper Rideau and Newboro lakes known as the Isthmus, where the water flows in both directions.
- The abutments from the 1886 and 1919 railway bridges, though the bridges are no longer extant, which bear witness to the successive changes from water to rail to roads as means of transportation in Ontario.