

**FEDERAL HERITAGE BUILDING REVIEW OFFICE (FHBRO)
HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT**

FHBRO Number:	89-224
DFRP Number:	06688
Resource Name:	Lockstation Cabin No. 1
Address:	Chambly Canal, Québec
Construction:	1905-1906; between 1937 and 1989, various relocations; around 1990, restoration and return to 1914 site
Original Function:	Shelter, storage space and workstation for the lockmaster
Current Function:	—
Custodian:	Parks Canada
FHBRO Status:	Recognized Federal Heritage Building

Reasons for Designation

Lockstation Cabin No. 1 has been designated as a “Recognized” building primarily because of its environmental significance and architectural qualities.

Historical Value

Lockstation Cabin No. 1, along with the other cabins and works on Chambly Canal, evokes the days when the canal was a major commercial route for the Québec logging industry. The cabin also recalls the years when the canal was a source of employment for the local community. Lockstation Cabin No. 1 is part of the Canal-de-Chambly National Historic Site of Canada.

Architectural Value

This charming cube-shaped wooden cabin was the prototype for the third generation of cabin built in the early 20th century along the Chambly Canal in keeping with the spirit of the “City Beautiful” movement. Its dollhouse-like look draws on Queen Anne design vocabulary, a style that had considerable impact on residential construction in Canada at the turn of the 20th century.

Environmental Value

The environmental value of this cabin lies in its relationship with the setting, which has always been the site of intense activity because of the dock, the triple lock and the swing bridge. Aside from locks and bridges, no physical element is more closely associated with the Chambly Canal than the lockmasters’ and bridgekeepers’ cabins. These small houses form a string of visual guideposts that shape the Chambly Canal environment. Cabin No. 1 is especially visible because of its strategic siting.

Character-Defining Elements

- The architectural lines of this charming Queen Anne-inspired wooden cabin, such as the complex profile of the steep roof, the tall dormers whose ridges meet in the centre (where the chimney rises); and the contrasting textures and colours adorning the wood siding and decorative openings.
- The symmetrical arrangement of the elevations.
- The elements that illustrate a design driven by the demands of the lockmaster's work; for example, the arrangement of doors and windows allowed the lockmaster to see in all directions.
- The relationship between Cabin No. 1 and the site as well as the canal works to which the lockmaster was assigned, and the open space that allowed the lockmaster to keep close watch on the area.
- The “clean” landscaping, which reflects the spirit of beautification of the landscape that led to the construction of this cabin.
- The very good visibility of the cabin, which, together with its sister cabins, gives structure to the landscape along the Chambly Canal.

For guidance on interventions, please refer to the *FHBRO Code of Practice*. For more information, please contact the FHBRO.

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