

Delaware & Raritan Canal

Main Canal: Bordentown to New Brunswick – 44 miles long – 14 locks
Dimensions: 75 feet wide x 8 feet deep (after 1851)
Locks: 24 feet wide x 220 feet long (after 1853)

Feeder Canal: Raven Rock to Trenton -22 miles – 2 guard locks
1 feeder lock
Dimensions: 60 feet wide x 6 feet deep

Summit Level: Trenton - 58 feet above sea level

Related Personnel: Robert P Stockton – First President till his death in 1866
Canvass White – First Chief Engineer till his death in 1834
Col. James Neilson – First Treasurer
Ashbel Welch, Jr. – Chief Engineer of Joint Companies in 1835

Significant Dates:

- 1830 Chartered granted for Delaware & Raritan Canal Company and Camden & Amboy Railroad
- 1831 D&R Canal and C&A Railroad become joint companies
- 1834 Canal opens for through traffic
- 1847 Connection established at Lambertville to Pennsylvania's Delaware Division Canal by means of a cable ferry
- 1850 Construction started on Belvidere & Delaware Railroad along the original feeder towpath. Towpath moved to other side
- 1851 Canal depth dredged to 8 feet
- 1853 Locks on main canal lengthened to 220 feet and banks "rip-rapped" with stone
- 1866 Peak year for freight -2,857,233 tons – 83% coal
- 1868 Installation of steam powered winches and steam activated valves
- 1902 Pennsylvania Railroad viaduct in New Brunswick constructed, thus limiting mast height on canal to 50 feet
- 1929 Peak year for pleasure boats – 941 non-commercial vessels
- 1932 Last season for boating
- 1944 State takes over properties
- 1973 Canal enters National Register of Historic Places
- 1974 Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park established

Source of information:
The Delaware & Raritan Canal – A Pictorial History by William J. McKelvey, Jr.