Wharton Canal Walk

**Lock 2 East Restoration**

1. **Water Filled Canal & Towpath**

   From the west end of the parking area follow the towpath along the water filled-section of canal. Stop to read the interpretive panels along the way.

2. **Lock 2 East Restoration**

   This canal level ends at Lock 2 East where canal boats were raised and lowered eight feet to the next level. The massive stone walls of the lock have been restored and the miter gates at the lower end of the lock replaced. In the next phase of the restoration the upper gates will be replaced and the lock tender’s house rebuilt.

3. **Towpath Causeway & Canal Basin**

   Follow the towpath along the causeway that separated the pond fed by Stephen’s Brook, on the right, from the former canal basin, on the left. The basin allowed boats a place to maneuver between the lock and Inclined Plane 4 East.

4. **Wharton & Northern Railroad**

   The berm at the end of the causeway towpath once supported a bridge that carried the track of the Wharton & Northern Railroad over the canal. Just beyond, Inclined Plane 4 East raised and lowered canal boats 52 feet. All remains have been removed.

5. **Return Railroad Loop Trail**

   Return to the lock site and follow the path around the south side of the lock and up onto the former route of the CRNJ Highbridge Branch. The railroad right-on-way, notched into the hillside high above the canal, makes for an interesting return to the parking area.

6. **Iron Mountain Trail System**

   For an additional adventure you can explore iron mine sites and a scenic view on Irondale Mountain. A kiosk along the Railroad Loop Trail marks the trail head.