



Jones Falls Concrete Bridge

Rideau Canal National Historic Site

Ongoing Work Update



Girder installation at Jones Falls Concrete Bridge

March 24, 2017 – In November 2016, work began on the replacement of the Jones Falls Concrete Bridge on the Rideau Canal National Historic Site. The project is progressing well and is scheduled to complete in late May 2017.

At the outset of the project, the contractor demolished the old bridge which required the removal of portions of the existing concrete abutments, approach retaining walls, concrete deck and girders – the bridge support beams. The contractor is now

working on the new bridge installation. The new concrete abutments and approach walls have been placed behind the old ones and new parapets – protective curbs on the tops of the walls, are set to be poured during the week of March 20th.

On March 16th, a major milestone for this project took place - the new concrete girders were hoisted into place. Using a 60 tonne crane, each slab weighing 15 tonnes were dropped into their final resting place to create the new concrete bridge's superstructure. The contractor will now focus on completing the approach retaining wall and concrete parapets. Additionally, they will pour a concrete overlay on the girders to create the new road surface. The project will complete with the installation of protective guardrails in May.

This project is part of Parks Canada's unprecedented \$3 billion dollar investment over 5 years to support infrastructure work to heritage, visitor, waterway and highway assets located within national historic sites, national parks, and national marine conservation areas across Canada. These historic investments will mitigate health and safety risks, halt the loss of nationally significant built heritage and stimulate the economy in communities across the country.

About Jones Falls

Work on Jones Falls began in 1827 and was completed in 1832. Given the rugged terrain, the Jones Falls Lockstation demonstrates the impressive feats of the canal builders. In order to address the one mile long rapids with a fall of 60 feet, Colonel By proposed the construction of an arch dam 60 feet high and 350 feet in length. Four locks were constructed at the site, each with a lift of 15 feet. The upper lock and the flight of three lower locks are separated by a turning basin.

In part because of the breathtaking views throughout the site, both from on land and in water, Jones Falls Lockstation is designated as a cultural landscape of National Historic Significance by Parks Canada.

For More Information:

For up-to-date news on infrastructure work along the Rideau Canal, please visit our website: www.pc.gc.ca/rcInfrastructure. If you would like to be added to our community engagement list and receive updates on this project, please e-mail RideauCanal.info@pc.gc.ca and include "Jones Falls" in the subject heading.