



BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION

WHAT IS: THE BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR?

The Blackstone River Valley is one of the United States best preserved areas recalling a neglected period of the past: The Age Of Industry. Thousands of structures and whole landscapes still exist which represent the entire history of the American Industrial Revolution and the people who lived and worked here.

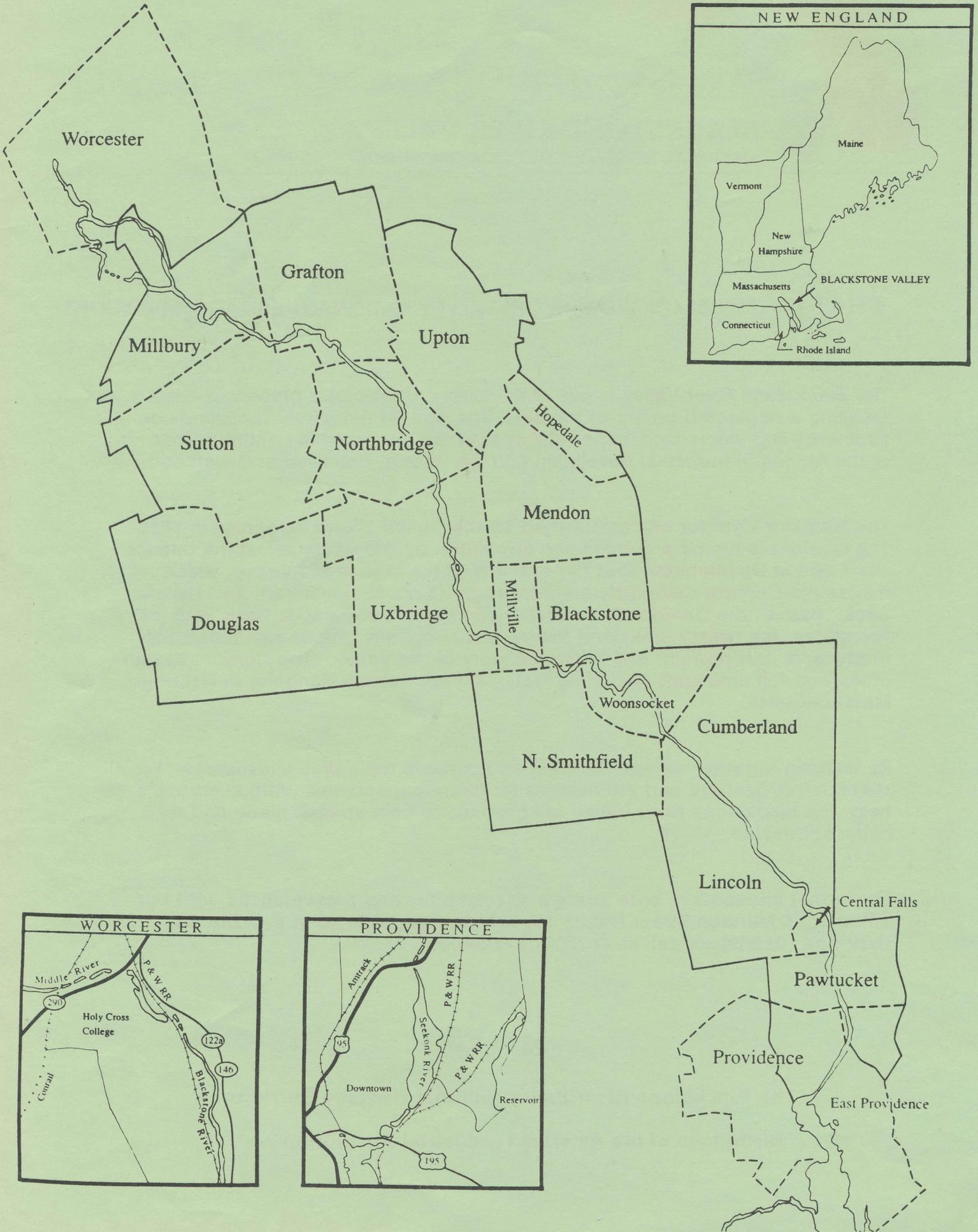
The Heritage Corridor was established by the United States Congress in 1986. The Corridor is run by a commission appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. The Federal Government does not own any of the land in the Valley, which makes the Corridor quite different from some of our National Park and Historic Sites. Rather, the Corridor Commission works on a cooperative basis with the two states, the twenty cities and towns, and numerous groups and individuals, to preserve and protect, and to tell the story of the Valley. The Corridor has an office and full time staff (including National Park Service Rangers) in Uxbridge, Massachusetts.

By working together we can maintain and improve the Valley's resources. We all share in this heritage and are trustees for future generations. With everyone's help, the Blackstone River Valley will continue to be a special place and a national treasure.

For further information, or to arrange special tours and presentations, visit our office at 15 Mendon Street (Route 16) in Uxbridge, write us at P.O.Box 34 in Uxbridge (01569), or call us at (508) 278-9400.

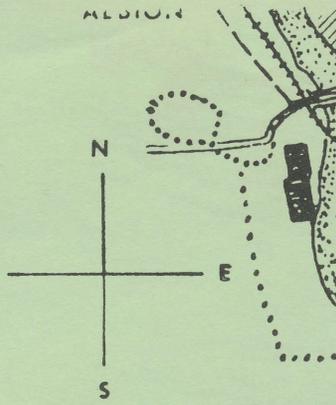
The Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor
Birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution

BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

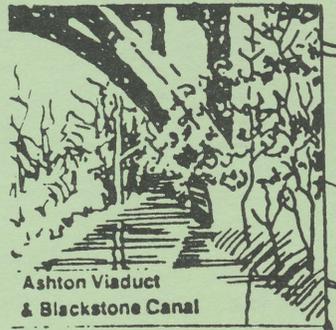


BLACKSTONE RIVER STATE PARK

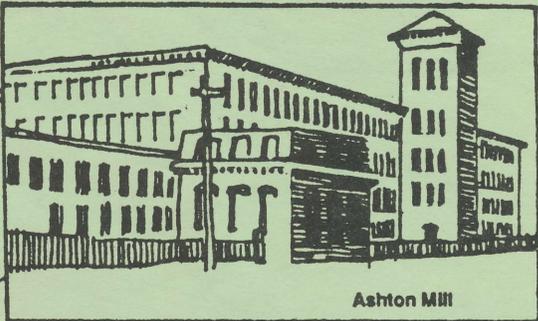
ALBION - ASHTON - LONSDALE



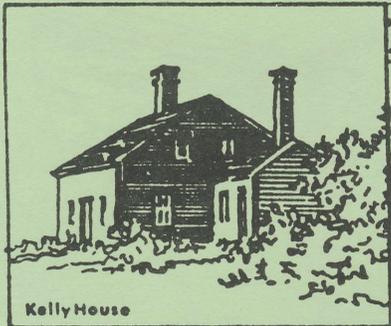
State of Rhode Island
Department of
Environmental Management



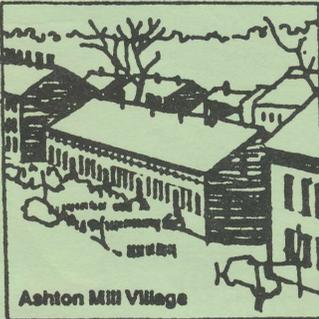
Ashton Viaduct & Blackstone Canal



Ashton Mill



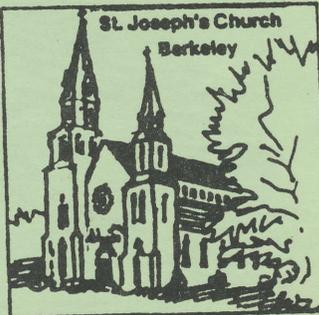
Kelly House



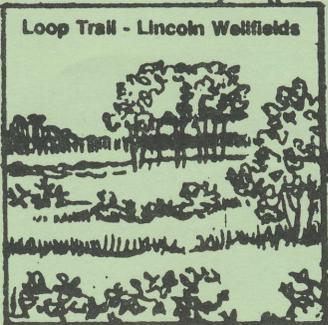
Ashton Mill Village



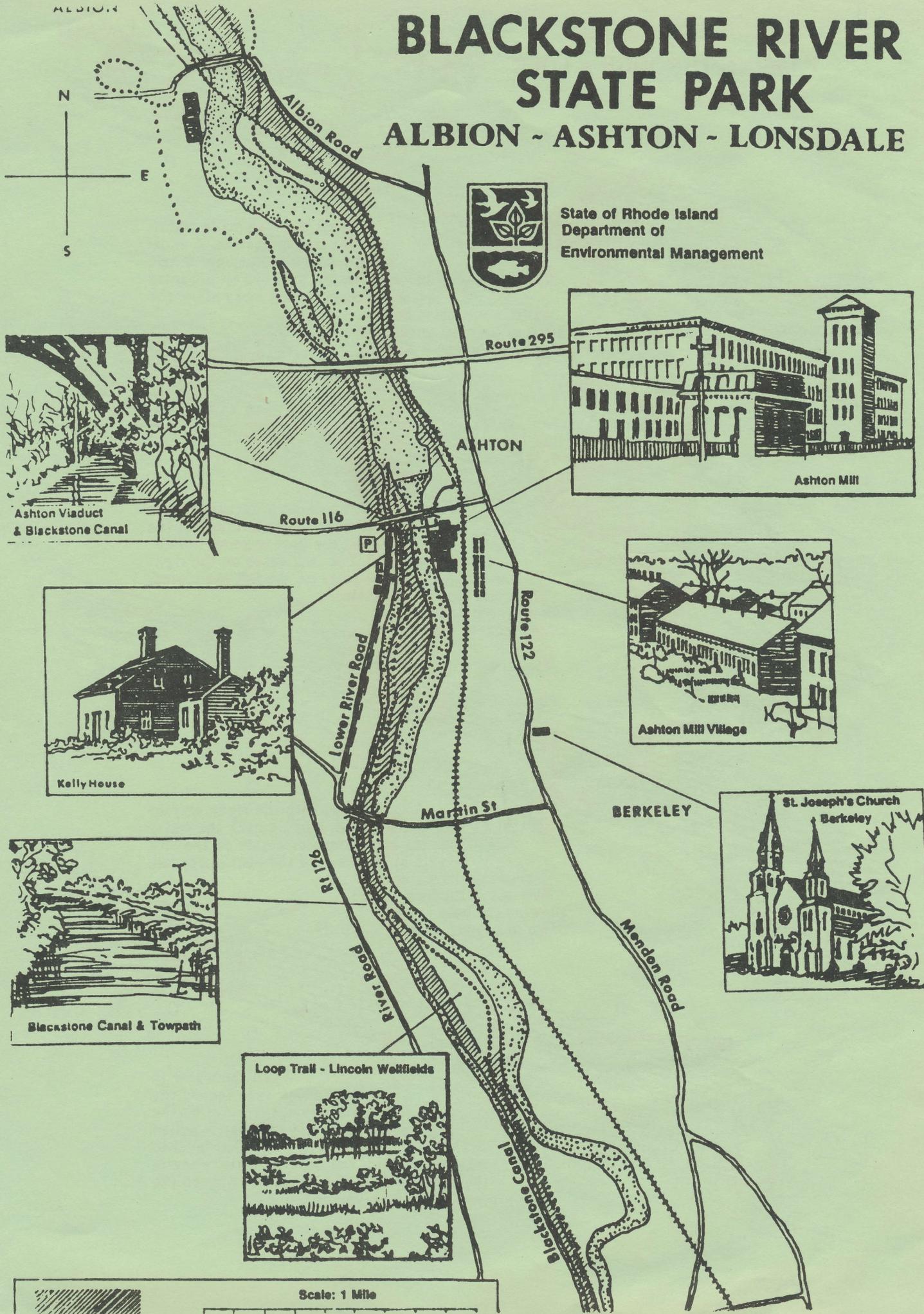
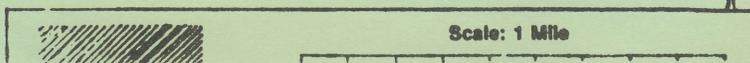
Blackstone Canal & Towpath



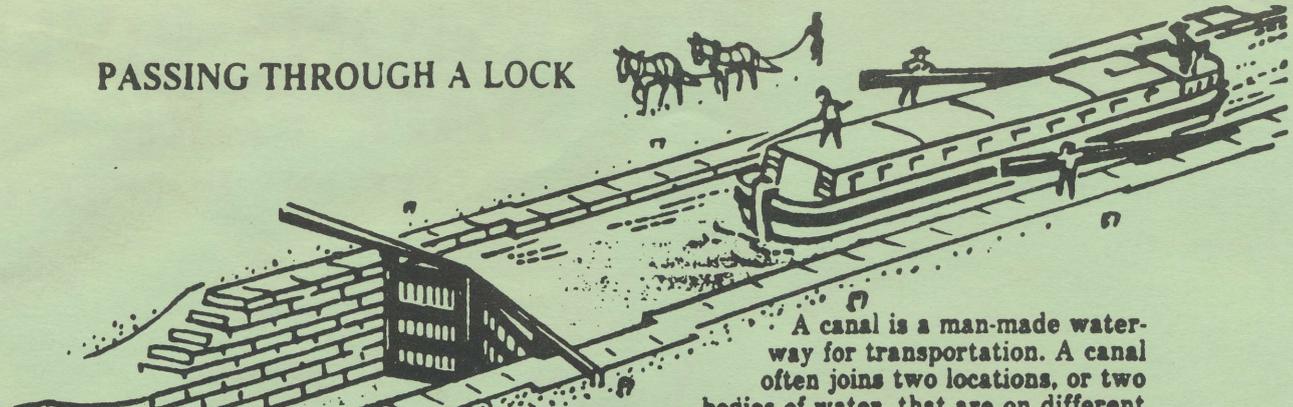
St. Joseph's Church
Berkeley



Loop Trail - Lincoln Wellfields

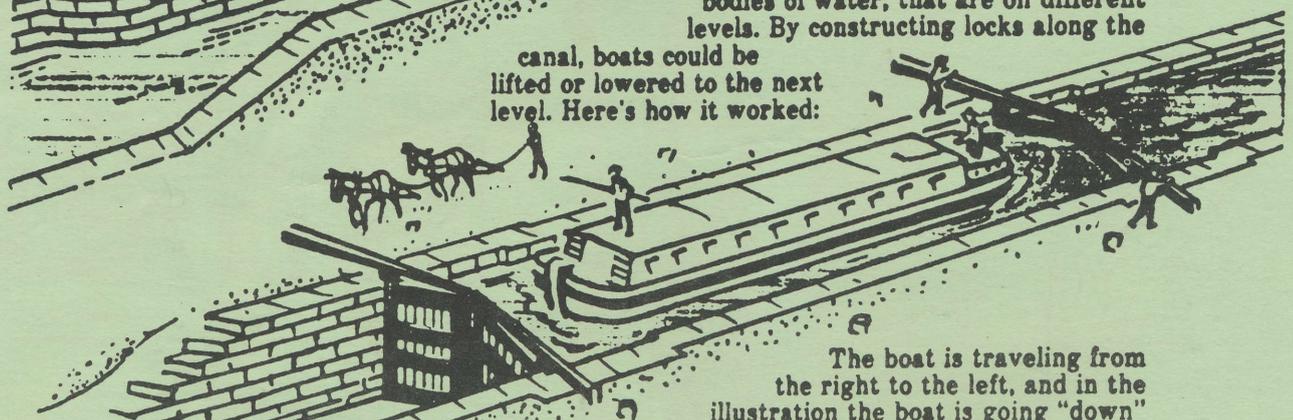


PASSING THROUGH A LOCK



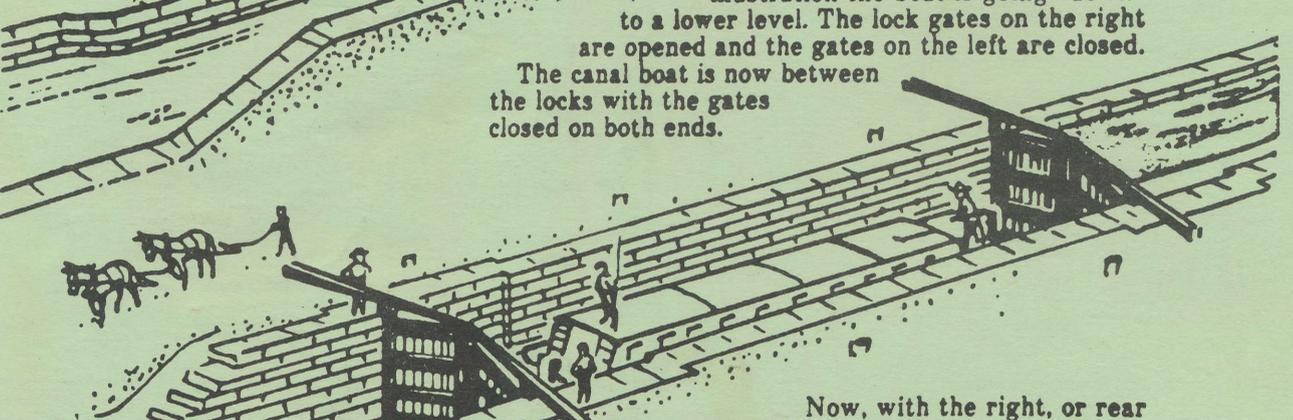
A canal is a man-made waterway for transportation. A canal often joins two locations, or two bodies of water, that are on different levels. By constructing locks along the

canal, boats could be lifted or lowered to the next level. Here's how it worked:



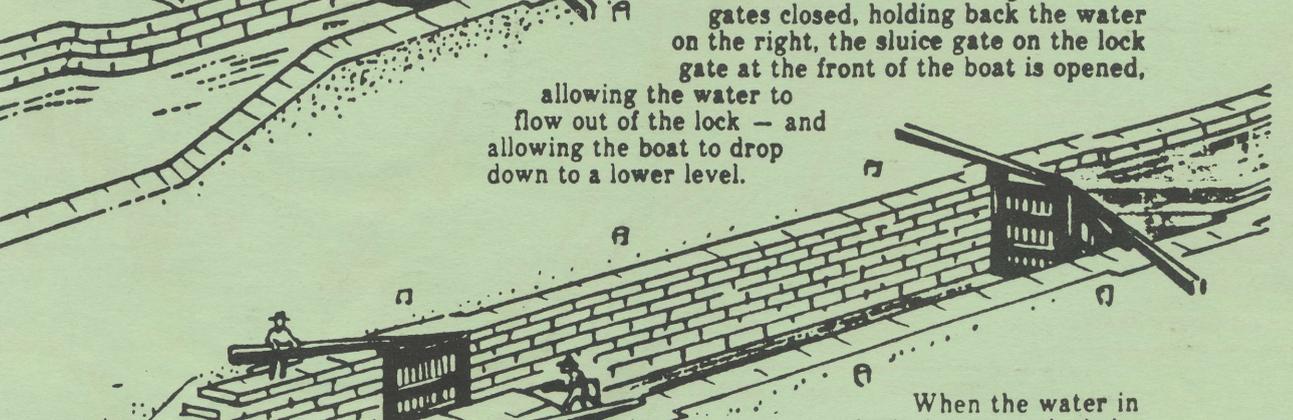
The boat is traveling from the right to the left, and in the illustration the boat is going "down" to a lower level. The lock gates on the right are opened and the gates on the left are closed.

The canal boat is now between the locks with the gates closed on both ends.



Now, with the right, or rear gates closed, holding back the water on the right, the sluice gate on the lock gate at the front of the boat is opened,

allowing the water to flow out of the lock — and allowing the boat to drop down to a lower level.



When the water in the lock has reached the lower level, the gates on the left are opened and the boat is pulled through, resuming travel on that level to the next lock. If the boat were traveling in the opposite direction (to a higher level) the process would be reversed.

