SALAMANCA FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION PROJECT

Department of Environmental Conservation

Region 9 Counties: Allegany, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie, Niagara, Wyoming

Operated and Maintained by: The City of Salamanca

PROJECT LOCATION
The project is located at Salamanca, Cattaraugus County, in southwestern New York State on the Allegheny River approximately 20 miles upstream from the New York-Pennsylvania State line.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project provides flood protection for the City of Salamanca and West Salamanca by the construction of the following:

Concrete flood walls, steel sheet pile cellular walls, and earth dikes with appurtenant works were constructed in three separate areas (zones) along the Allegheny River. The stage frequency curves for Salamanca are based on data derived from Red House, New York. The discharge frequency for the period of record which occurred between September 1903 through June 1968, and the stage relationship at Red House to Salamanca has indicated that the water elevation will exceed 1,376 feet once in a hundred years at the Main Street Bridge.

The elevations of the protective structures at the Main Street Bridge in Zone 1 are 1378.70 feet, and in Zone 2 1378.67 feet, which is over 2 feet above the maximum river flow expected to occur once in a hundred years. In Zone 3, the same degree of protection is provided. An interceptor storm sewer system including a pumping station, relief trenches and drainage ditches is provided in each zone to accommodate interior drainage from surface runoff and seepage from the river.

**Zone 1** of the project extends along the left (South) bank of the Allegheny River from approximately 1,600 feet downstream of the Main Street Bridge to about 1,100 feet upstream of the bridge. Protection for the area is provided by approximately 1,400 feet of earth dikes, 1,050 feet of concrete flood walls, and 220 feet of steel sheet piling cellular walls. Additionally, a interceptor sewer system exists that includes manholes, catch basins, relief trenches, and drainage ditches that carries interior surface drainage and seepage from the river to a pumping station which is then carried by a gravity outflow to the river. During high river stages however, this interior drainage and river seepage is pumped by the pumping station to a control structure for subsequent drainage to the river.

**Zone 2** of the project lies along the right (North) bank of the Allegheny River and includes approximately 3,400 feet of earth dike downstream of the Main Street Bridge and 400 feet of concrete flood walls upstream of the bridge. An interceptor sewer system, pumping station and ancillary installations function in this zone which is similar as to what is present in Zone 1.
**Zone 3** of the project extends along the right (North) bank of the Allegheny River from approximately 2,200 feet downstream of the Center Street Bridge to a point 600 feet upstream of the bridge to the mouth of Little Valley Creek. The project continues along the right bank of Little Valley Creek for approximately 1,700 feet above its mouth. Protection in this zone is provided by 4,443 feet of earth dikes and by a similar interceptor sewer system, pumping station, and appurtenances that function in the same manner as in Zones 1 and 2.

**AUTHORIZATION**

The Salamanca, New York Local Flood Protection Project was authorized by Section 203 of the Flood Control Act (Public Law 87-874 of the 87th Congress, HR 13273) approved October 23rd, 1962.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Construction on Zones 1 and 3 commenced on September 20th, 1968 and was completed on September 9th, 1970 by Al Johnston Construction Company. Construction on Zone 2 commenced on December 28th, 1969 and was completed on August 17th, 1971 by Associated Builders Supply & Equipment Company.
SALAMANCA – BIRD’S EYE VIEW