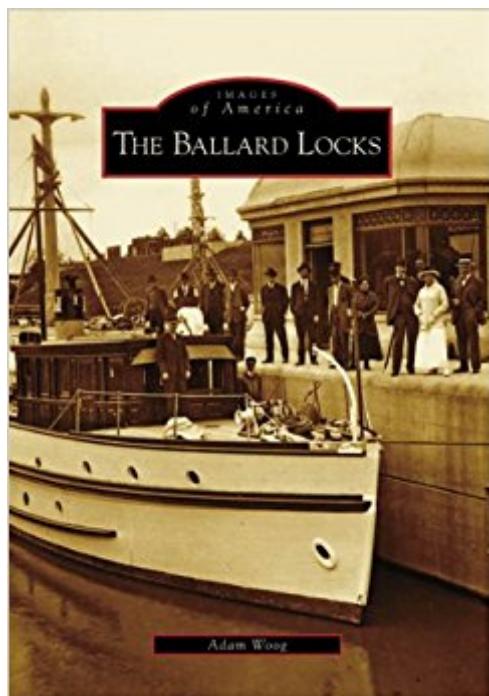


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# The Ballard Locks (Images Of America: Washington)



## Synopsis

The Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, known locally as the Ballard Locks, are an integral part of Seattle's extensive waterways. The busiest facility of their kind in America, the Ballard Locks form the heart of the channel connecting Puget Sound's saltwater with Seattle's main freshwater lakes. When completed in 1917, the locks were second only in size to the Panama Canal and the first of their kind on the West Coast. They function primarily to maintain the lakes' levels and allow the movement of vessels between them and the sea. The Ballard Locks are among Seattle's top tourist attractions; more than one million people visit annually. They watch salmon and other fish migrate through the fish ladder, visit the botanical gardens, and watch the nonstop parade of ships—from working vessels to pleasure craft—as they rise and fall in the locks.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Adam Woog, a native Seattleite and lifelong visitor to the locks, has written dozens of books for children, young adults, and adults. He has a special interest in biography and history, and several of his books focus on Pacific Northwest topics. Most of the images he uses in this book are courtesy of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who built and maintain the locks.

This is an especially informative book about the imagination of, alternatives considered for, planning of, construction of and entry into service of the Hiram Chittenden locks, also known as the Ballard Locks, in Seattle, Washington. Completed in 1917, the locks connected the fresh waters of the smaller Lake Union and the larger Lake Washington to the saltwater of Puget Sound. Doing so

solved local water transportation problems and enabled further development for Seattle and assisted in its becoming a major shipping facility on the Pacific Northwest Coast.

Great

Many interesting photos from early Seattle showing how Ballard locks changed life for Seattle. A great book for those who enjoy reading about Seattle history.

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