

## Framilode Lock, Stroudwater Canal

Stephen Mills    June 2025

This interesting evocative photo of the lock and basin recently came to light. Framilode Lock was the canal's first, its original entrance to the Severn. It was a tidal lock, allowing vessels access when the tide was high enough.

Initially, there was just the lock, the basin being added in the 1790s. It was partly paid for by the Thames & Severn Canal Co to ease the passage of coal from South Wales up to Brimscombe and beyond. Several Stroudwater Canal company buildings were associated with the basin that included a warehouse, lock keeper's house, and a row of three cottages.



After the opening of the Gloucester-Sharpsness Canal in 1827, use of the stretch of the canal between the junction with the new canal and the Severn declined, and in the 1920s the section had fallen into disuse and had been blocked. In the mid-1950s, this basin was filled in - only the wing walls of the lock at the entrance to the river now remain.



The basin in its