

American Canal Society Canal Structure Inventory

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| Structure (Auburn Tunnel) | | Canal SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION | HAER/CEHR |
| State/Province <u>Pennsylvania</u> County <u>SCHUYLKILL</u> | | Condition <u>open cut</u> | |
| City/Town <u>Auburn</u> | | Designer(s) | |
| Street _____ | | Contractor/Builder | |
| Associated Waterway -- <u>Schuylkill River</u> | | Source of Material | |
| TOPOGRAPHIC MAP <u>AUBURN</u> | | D A T E S O F C O N S T R U C T I O N | |
| ITM Coordinates _____ | | Start _____ | Rebuilding _____ |
| | | Completion <u>1821</u> | Abandoned _____ |
| History & Use in Service; Use Since Abandonment: | | | |
| <p>450 feet in length. The tunnel was constructed through a low hill, which might easily have been avoided by laying out the canal line about a hundred feet westward. However, the proprietors of the company wanted a tunnel, knowing that it would be the first one to be constructed in the United States. The tunnel grew to be a great curiosity, and people came from as far as Philadelphia to see it. It was shortened from time to time until about the year 1857, when it was reduced to an open cutting. The Schuylkill Navigation Company continued to operate from 1825 to 1870 when it was sold to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Co., one of its largest customers. Under the new management the system continued to operate until 1931.</p> | | | |
| Description (Visible Remains at the site): | | | |
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| Other works or events associated with site: | | | |
| | | | |
| Present Property Owners: | | Location of Deed Description: | |
| | | | |
| Bibliography (Published, unpublished mss, maps, photographs): | | | |
| Wm. H. Shank, <u>The Amazing Pennsylvania Canals</u> , p. 9. | | | |
| Agencies, Individuals Interested in Preservation/Restoration: | | National Register/CEHR, Other Recognition: | |
| | | | |
| Investigation made by: | | | Date: |
| Address: | | | (P.H. STOTT 6/xii/75 |
| RETURN TO: | | | |

A sketch map or illustration of the site should be included on the reverse.