Chenango Canal and Chenango Canal Extension

State/Province: New York State

Counties: Oneida, Madison, Chenango, Broome, Tioga

Location (Endpoints of Canal):
Utica to Binghamton
Extension—Binghamton to Pa. line

Historical Significance:
Construction was authorized for the Chenango Canal Feb. 23, 1833, construction commenced spring, 1834 and completed Oct., 1836 at a cost of $2,316,186.29. Material in locks originally 114 composite, 2 stone, rebuilt, rubble masonry in cement with timber fenders. Size of prism 42 and 26x4 ft.

The Chenango Canal Extension was authorized Apr. 9, 1863, construction commenced in 1865. Actual cost of construction was $1,600,889.19. Locks were built of stone, timber fenders. It was never completed to the Pa. line and was abandoned at the same time as the Chenango Canal, May 1, 1878. It had the same prism as the Chenango Canal.

Physical Description:
The Chenango Canal commences in the city of Utica, at what is called the Frankfort level of the Erie Canal, into which it empties, and extends south to the city of Binghamton, a distance of 97 miles. The summit level of this canal, which is reached at Salsville, is about 760 feet above the Frankfort level of the Erie, and is attained through 76 locks in a distance of about 23 miles; it is about 5 miles in length and extends nearly to the village of Hamilton. Thence the canal descends about 300 feet through thirty-eight locks, a distance of about 69 miles to the city of Binghamton. The feeder are Madison Brook, Leland’s pond, Kingsley’s brook, Bradley’s brook, Hatch Lake, Eaton reservoirs, all of which are discharged into the summit level near the village of Bouckville; Woodsman’s pond reservoir near village of Hamilton is discharged into level next south of the summit level and flows south; five or six feeders from Chenango River supply water between summit level and Binghamton. The total length of the feeders to this canal is 18 miles.

Bibliographical Summary:

Unpublished Records, Photos, Drawings (CEHR,HAER,HABS, Local or Regional Historical Societies, Libraries, etc.):

Existing or Recommended Landmark Status (CEHR, National Register, etc.):

14571

Reporter's Name & Address: Gerald Abendschein, 2132 Harris Road, Waterport, N.Y.
Date: Feb. 27/85
Return To: Canal Index Committee, c/o T.K. Woods, 6579 Eastham Circle, Canton, Ohio 44706