CANAL  
HOCKING CANAL

STATUS  
Abandoned

LOCATION (ENDPOINTS OF CANAL)  
Carroll, Fairfield County to Athens, Athens County, Ohio

DATES OF CONSTRUCTION & CLOSURE  
1836 - 1845. Abandoned 1894

LENGTH  
CANAL 36¼, BLACKWATER 19¼, TOTAL 56

LIFT LOCKS  
26

DIMENSIONS  
LOCK CHAMBERS 80 x 15

OVERALL  
varied

AQUEDUCTS  
NBR. 1

SECTION SIZE  
0

TUNNELS  
0

DESCRIPTION:  
Type of navigation, features of note (include USGS coordinates where useful); e.g., feeders (navigable & otherwise), locks other than above, type of locks, use of unusual material or methods of construction, present owner, present use & condition, etc.

Towpath navigation, horse or mule power.

Constructed to the dimensions and standards of the Ohio & Erie Canal, of which it was a branch. In addition to 26 lift locks, there were 5 guard locks, 34 culverts, 8 feeder and slack water dams and one aqueduct, wooden, of 80 feet span over Monday Creek.

Cost upon completion in 1843: $947,670.25

NAMES & ADDRESSES OF GROUPS CONCERNED WITH CANAL'S PRESERVATION/RESTORATION:  

None known

REPORTER'S NAME & ADDRESS:  
F.W. Trevorrow, Apt. 410, 36 So. Pleasant St., Oberlin, Ohio 44074  
DATE: July 2, 1973

HISTORICAL SUMMARY:  
Original aims of company, date of incorporation, prominent engineers, causes of closure, significant alterations to structure or route, height of traffic data, transfers of ownership, etc.

The Hocking Canal was authorized in 1836 as a branch of the Ohio & Erie Canal with which it made a junction at Carroll. It was intended to tap the coal and salt fields of the Hocking Valley and traffic in those bulk commodities was substantial. A privately built (1826) canal, 9 miles long, between Carroll and Lancaster, was taken over by the State of Ohio, when the Hocking Canal was authorized and enlarged to become part of the Hocking Canal. Partial abandonment of 7 miles of the canal below Chauncey to Athens, including the Athens terminal, took place in 1874. Final abandonment and lease of some canal property to the Hocking Valley Railroad took place in 1894.

BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY:  
[Published works relating to Canal]

Seventh Annual Report, 1843, Board of Public Works, Ohio. Description.


"New Historical Atlas of Fairfield County", L.H. Everts, Phila., 1875, maps show line of canal and volume contains drawings of scenes along the canal.

UNPUBLISHED RECORDS, LOCATION OF PHOTOS, DRAWINGS & IMPORTANT PERIODICAL REFERENCES

Daughton Survey of 1891, survey plates of canal. Dept. of Public Works, Columbus, Ohio

Randol references occur in county histories.

NATIONAL REGISTER & HAER (HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD) STATUS:

RETURN TO: CANAL INDEX COMMITTEE, c/o P.H. STOTT, HAINES ROAD, MOUNT KISCO, NEW YORK 10549

USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY, TO MAKE AN INDEX CARD SUITABLE FOR FILING, CUT ALONG THE HEAVY LINES AND FOLD BACK ALONG THE DOTTED LINE.