

American Canal Society Canal Structure Inventory

This is #1 copy; Copy #2 may be necessary after more research later;

Structure Hooksett Falls-Site of 3 Locks		Canal Merrimack River Navigation	HAER/CEHR Condition Poor
State/Province <u>N.H.</u> County <u>Merrimack</u>		Designer(s) Presume-Middlesex Canal Co.	
City/Town <u>Hooksett Falls</u>		Contractor/Builder Presume same	
Street <u>On SR #3-A (take cut off-right)</u>		Source of Material <u>Local</u>	
Associated Waterway <u>Merrimack River</u>		DATES OF CONSTRUCTION	
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP <u>Manchester North Quad</u>		Start <u>Presume 1810</u>	Rebuilding <u>Possible</u>
UTM Coordinates <u>299.2/4774.7</u>		Completion <u>1811</u>	Abandoned <u>1855</u>
<p>History & Use in Service; Use Since Abandonment: (None) Cost was \$15,000-owned by MCo in 1822. An important connecting link in the river navigation from Concord, N.H. to Lowell, Mass. and the Middlesex Canal to Boston. This canal and 3 locks by-passed the falls on the west side of the river. In the freshet freshet season it may have been <u>nearly impossible</u> to utilize these locks due to their location <u>so close to the river</u> and the speed of the water in those periods. One report states 3 locks within 50 rods, another states 3 locks within 80 rods. It is not clear as to which is correct. Another artifact of that early period close to this site is (Robies Store). Mentioned in "Historical Books". Present Store today is not the <u>original</u> which burned. At least a Historical Landmark of the area today, and still in operation.</p>			
<p>Description (Visible Remains at the site): Under the <u>right conditions</u>, in <u>very late fall</u>, sections of some walls can be viewed. Ice floes have raised havoc with much of the former sites. One has to be cautious due to the (poison ivy) bushes. The Boston & Maine R.R. tracks located very close to the canal and lock sites here for many, many years. In fact one may have to use their right of way in walking at times. However, there has been hydro-electric plants at the dam for years. Also the old abutments of a former bridge over the Merrimack which crossed over the canal some years ago. Hooksett Falls is a very attractive area, a pleasure to view it all while here. While I think of it, you can buy your lunch at Robies Old Store and then view the display of flood pictures & antiques.</p>			
<p>Other works or events associated with site: Visit Robies Store. Note the several bridges within the area. Note the hydro-electric plant at the falls. Be on the lookout for fast trains passing through the area.</p>			
Present Property Owners:		Location of Deed Description:	
<u>Presume-Property of Electric Company</u>		<u>Same</u>	
<p>Bibliography (Published, unpublished mss, maps, photographs): <u>Manchester Historical Society, also,</u> <u>Concord Historical Society.</u> State Library-Concord, N.H. Lowell Institute of Technology-Lowell, Mass.</p>			
Agencies, Individuals Interested in Preservation/Restoration:		National Register/CEHR, Other Recognition:	
<u>None that I know of, other than ACS.</u>		<u>Very doubtful at any time.</u>	
Investigation made by: <u>Alden W. Gould (ACS)</u>			Date:
Address: <u>12 Shady Crest Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060</u>			<u>August 1975</u>
RETURN TO: <u>Peter Stott</u>			

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