PENNSYLVANIA & OHIO CANAL ("CROSS CUT")

STATE/PROVINCE: Ohio & Pennsylvania

COUNTIES: Summit, Portage, Trumbull, Mahoning in Ohio, Lawrence in Pennsylvania

LOCATION (Endpoints of Canal):
- Akron, Ohio junction with Ohio & Erie
- New Castle, Pa., Junction with Beaver Div.

TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS:

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:
The Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal Company was formed in 1827 by Ohio and Pennsylvania financiers to build a canal which would join the Ohio & Erie Canal with the Beaver Division of the Pennsylvania State Canal System and divert some Ohio canal traffic to the Pennsylvania system to the benefit of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, competing with Erie Canal traffic. Jas. D. Harris was engaged as Principal Engineer of the Eastern Division, Sebrie Dodge was Principal Engineer of the Western Division. The canal was an important coal carrier from mines in Trumbull and Mahoning counties. The Cleveland and Mahoning Railroad gained control of the canal in 1854, gradually stifling its operation until final abandonment in 1875. Construction began in 1837, was completed in 1840.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:
The Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal was of the same dimensions and type of operation (horse or mule drawn boats of about 80 tons capacity) as the Ohio & Erie Canal. A 7 mile feeder with 3 locks north of Kent, Ohio supplied the western end of the canal from the Cuyahoga River. The main line of the canal had 54 locks with a total rise and fall of 454 feet. There were 2 aqueducts, one across the Shenango River in Pennsylvania and one at Newton Falls in Ohio.

NAMES & ADDRESSES OF GROUPS CONCERNED WITH CANALS PRESERVATION/RESTORATION:
None known

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UNPUBLISHED RECORDS, PHOTOS, DRAWINGS (CEHR,HAER,HABS, Local or Regional Historical Societies, Libraries, etc.):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.):

REPORTER'S NAME & ADDRESS: W. Travers, 36 B. Pleasant St. A, 440, Chicago, IL 60674

RETURN TO: CANAL INDEX COMMITTEE, c/o P.H. STOTT, MAINES ROAD, MOUNT Kisco, NY 10549

DATE: 7/4/1974