

American Canal Society Canal Structure Inventory

Structure <u>Schoharie Creek Aqueduct</u>	Canal (Enlarged) 1841 Erie Canal	MARK/CLASS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Condition <u>Poor</u>
State/Province <u>New York</u> County <u>Montgomery</u>	Designer(s) <u>Presumo- Arch. C. Powell</u>	Contractor/Builder <u>William Coleman & Co.</u>
City/Town <u>Fort Hunter</u>	Source of Material <u>Presumo-More or less local</u>	
Street <u>Schoharie Street</u>	Associated Waterway <u>Mohawk River (NYSBC)</u>	
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP <u>TRIBES HILL</u>	BEFORE DATES OF CONSTRUCTION	
UTM Coordinates <u>5854</u>	Start <u>1841</u>	Rebuilding <u>Doubtful</u>
	Completion <u>About 1841</u>	Presume early <u>1900's</u>
		Abandoned <u>1900's</u>

History & Use in Service; Use Since Abandonment:

After the original Erie Canal was built and in operation from 1825, it was fast becoming obsolete due to the heavy barge traffic, size of locks, the width and depth of canal and aqueduct sizes. Therefore it was necessary to build new and larger barges with a much greater capacity of tonnage, new and larger locks, a wider and deeper canal and aqueducts. Several aqueducts were quite long, some used blue limestone blocks (depending on area) same for locks. All of this construction came about as the result of the 1841 Erie Canal Enlargement. A great deal of which remains today, (See Canal Map of the State of New York) A considerable amount of RESTORATION has taken place.

Description (Visible Remains at the Site): About 5 miles west of Amsterdam, N.Y. on route #5 along the present barge canal is the Town of Historic Fort Hunter. Which has all three canals, and locks. 1825; 1841; And NYSBC of today. Fort Hunter has this large 1841 aqueduct of blue limestone over Schoharie Creek, had 12 spans originally but only 9 today. Three spans had to be blown up a few years ago to free a terrific ice jam on the river. Towpath was on the north side of this beautiful structure, located at rear of Post Office off Schoharie St. This aqueduct can be viewed easily from all sides on the ~~north~~ east side of Schoharie Creek. A photographic location! I would suggest to anyone touring the NYSBCanal that a stop at Fort Hunter is a MUST. So much here to see of our Old Canals of the 1800's, the Empire Lock and Clinton's Ditch of 1825.

Other works or events associated with site:

At "Yankee Hill Block" (1841) is an inscription on a stone plaque set into the lockhead which reads as follows (Arch. C. Powell-Res. Engineer;) and below Wm. Coleman & Co. Contractors; (1841) Therefore, it may be presumed that the aqueduct was built by them also. Length may have been more than 650 ft.??

Present Property Owners: State of New York?	Location of Deed Description: State of New York?
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Bibliography (Published, unpublished ass, maps, photographs):
I would suggest contacting Mr. Wm. Bobilin, President of the Fort Hunter Canal Society, Fort Hunter, N.Y. 12069; This society is well versed on the Erie Canal System. Also The Canal Museum, Weighlock Bldg. Erie Blvd-East, Syracuse, N.Y. 13202; With abundant information on the Erie Canals History. ~~xxx~~ Also, on (restoration projects) which have been going on quite recently from Syracuse to Rome, N.Y. Report of the Mohawk-Hudson Area Survey

Agencies, Individuals interested in Preservation/Restoration: There are many involved. See above!	National Register/CHHR, Other Recognition: I am not sure, but check it. National Historic Landmark + NR HAER (3 Drawings)
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Investigation made by: <u>Alden W. Gould (Director) American Canal Society</u>	Date: <u>May 12, 1975</u>
Address: <u>12 Shady Crest Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060</u>	

RETURN TO: Mr. Peter Stott

A sketch map or illustration of the site should be included on the reverse. A-B & W Photo enclosed