

American Canal Society Canal Structure Inventory

CANAL <b>Roanoke Canal</b>		STRUCTURE <b>Aqueduct</b>	HAER <b>Excellent</b>
STATE <u>Carolina</u> COUNTY <u>Halifax</u>		DESIGNER(S): _____	
TOWN <u>Weldon</u>		CONTRACTOR/BUILDER _____	
STREET <u>Off #158 @ Howell Steel Co.</u>		SOURCE OF MATERIAL <u>Presume local</u>	
ASSOCIATED WATERWAY <u>Chockoyotte Creek</u>		DATES OF CONSTRUCTION	
NAME OF 7.5 MIN USGS QUAD _____		START <u>Approx 1830</u>	COMPLETION <u>Before 1834</u>
UTM COORDINATES _____		REBUILDING <u>Doubtful</u>	ABANDONED <u>1910</u>

HISTORY & USE IN SERVICE: USE SINCE ABANDONMENT: Constructed by the Roanoke Navigation Co. An important link in the 13 1/2 mile canal from above Roanoke Rapids to Weldon. This massive structure with a single arch 50 ft. or more above Chockoyotte Creek is a masterpiece of masonry workmanship. Has withstood the elements for over 144 years, still with us today in excellent condition. Now a Historical Landmark in the Town of Weldon, reflecting back to an era before the coming of railroads. An era in early transportation of North Carolina that brought the back country in contact with the seaport towns of the 1800's. In 1974 its future seems assured. Its remarkable features are of interest to Canal Enthusiasts, Historians, Historical Societies and many other local associations. Its popularity as a Historical Landmark can draw hundreds to enjoy North Carolina's contribution to their Historical Heritage. The Press and other publications can do wonders. If you are traveling within the area be sure to stop off at Weldon.

I visited this site in October 1973. At that time the only evidence of any structure appeared to be one abutment of a former bridge. It was so completely grownup with trees and underbrush, leaving one to believe the location was wrong. On May 9-10th I was in Weldon. Contacted Mayor Oakley and we went over to the aqueduct via a new route which brought us face to face with the aqueduct. I couldn't believe it! What a complete change! WONDERFUL is the right word. Now it was possible to view the structure from all angles, even from the bed of the creek and the lovely arch above. A lot of work has been done here in the past few months, removal of trees and underbrush, clearing the chamber of the aqueduct somewhat. More work still to be done, remove more trees, dump a few loads of crushed rock or heavy gravel in chamber bed to make level walking in crossing over is suggested, also clear 100 ft. of the towpath. It now stands out clear in the open, an excellent site for a "Canal Park".

PRESENT PROPERTY OWNERS: <b>Hoerner Waldorf Corp., Roanoke Rapids,</b>	LOCATION OF DEED DESCRIPTION:
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BIBLIOGRAPHY (Published, unpublished mss, maps, photographs): U.S. Engineers maps show navigation canal. Not location of aqueduct. Dr. Wm. Trout has knowledge of the area. Research of related material can be located. Reporter took 20 pictures of the aqueduct, but due to camera trouble none came out. Another attempt will be made in October 1974. North Carolina Archives Department would have information. I have not checked on the availability or sources, due to those already given by Dr. Wm. E. Trout (ACS)

AGENCIES, INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN PRESERVATION/RESTORATION: <b>American Canal Society; Mayor Oakley-Weldon; Local &amp; nearby associations &amp; societies.</b>	NATIONAL REGISTER, HAER, OTHER RECOGNITION: <b>Recommended for National Register soon as possible.</b>
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INVESTIGATION MADE BY: <b>Alden W. Gould, 12 Shady Crest Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060</b>	DATE: <b>May 10, 1974</b>
RETURN TO: ACS CANAL INDEX COMMITTEE C/O P.H. STOTT, HAINES ROAD, MOUNT KISCO, NEW YORK 10549	

IF AT ALL FEASIBLE, A PHOTOGRAPH SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE REVERSE SIDE. A SKETCH MAP OF THE SITE IN RELATION TO SURROUNDING AREA WOULD ALSO HELP.