

Maps, Selected Ohio and Erie Canal and Walhonding Canal Features, and Bibliography

The Canal Society of Ohio, Inc. 2018 Spring Tour
Tracing the Ohio & Walhonding Canals:
Newcomerstown to Mohawk Dam to Roscoe Village

Much of this information was taken from the 1991 CSO Tour book of this area.

O & E Infrastructure

Lock 22, Northern Oxford Township Road 105, West of Newcomerstown, Tuscarawas County. Just west of N. Goodrich Street. One wall remains. In 2000, parts of the goon neck iron work still seen. Lift of 7 feet.

Lock 23 (aka Mackey's Lock) 1.62 miles west of Lock 22. Now under US 36.

Orange and Evansburg at intersection US36 and SR 751. Orange still exists, but Evansburg was destroyed by a tornado. Conflicting account states that Evansburg's name was later changed to Orange (Canal Society of Indiana Tour book 2000)

Evans Creek Aqueduct on TR 506. The north abutment remains. Originally 30 feet long and made of wood. According to Public Works Report of 1884, "the Orange Aqueduct received considerable repair. The north abutment fell down and was rebuilt. The superstructure was supported in the middle by a new trestle, and two new hanging beams were put in, the whole costing \$700,000."

Lock 24 (aka Reed's/Blue Hole Lock) was located across from Unusual Junction. It no longer exists, although some prism can be seen between CR 143 and US 36. Lock was filled in by a farmer to use as a lane. In 1989 stones appear to have been removed by a neighboring nursery for an embankment and the rest of the lock was destroyed with the widening of US 36 in 1997. Lift of 8 feet.

Lock 25 (aka Wild Turkey Lock) stands. Near TR 508 off US 36 and the RR crossing. Currently maintained by the Coshocton County Parks. Lift of 9 feet. According to Canal Society of Indiana Tour book 2000, left of the center is overflow, to the right is the lock chamber.

2 of 3 Roscoe Basins - Middle Basin (aka Lake Park) off of SR 83 is where the Monticello III canal boat is docked. Watered prism between Middle and Mudport (aka Upper) Basin is where the boat travels. Mudport Basin was dammed on the northern side to keep water for the boat's use. Roscoe Basin (aka Lower Basin).

Walhonding Aqueduct - The aqueduct was dismantled in 1910 or 1911. Currently a footbridge takes visitors across the river. The wooden aqueduct was five spans with a wooden flume 310 feet by 15 feet and the four stone piers were 50 feet apart.

O & E Locks 26 and 27, immediately below the Walhonding Aqueduct - Originally separate locks, the two were combined with a single gate. Each chamber had 7 foot lift. Only one chamber remains.

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Roscoe Basin (aka Lower Basin) - This basin is between Lock 27 and Roscoe village. It was cut by US 36. This is also the junction of the Walhonding Canal with the O & E Canal. The Walhonding Canal Triple Locks (Locks 1, 2, & 3) are located here. They shared gates between levels. Remnants of the Toledo, Walhonding Valley and Ohio RR trestle are visible. The RR was built after the canal was abandoned.

Walhonding Canal infrastructure

Locks 1, 2, & 3 (aka Triple Locks) - Unique to the state. See excerpt written by J. Hannibal. RR trestle described above ran across the lower chamber.

Site of Empire Mill - After 1896, the Walhonding Canal was maintained from 6 Mile dam to the Empire Mill and a hydroelectric plant located near the Triple Locks to provide hydraulic power to the mill and to the O & E Canal. The hydroelectric plant ceased operation in 1953. The mill was razed in 1954.

Culverts on our route. There are several beautiful culverts to enjoy. We'll stop or drive past Simmons Run, Darling Run - 1.2 miles west of Lock 8 and still carrying traffic over Darling Run. Darling Run called Hog Run on original canal plats and Crooked Run Culvert

Lock 4 - Just before US 36 crosses the Walhonding River before 6 Mile Dam, a private road to the south leads to Lock 4.

6 Mile Dam (aka Walhonding Dam) - The configuration here has changed considerably over the years. See sketch based on Terry K. Woods sketch. Originally the Walhonding Canal entered the slack water above the dam and then crossed the river to Lock 5 on the north (or left) bank. This outlet lock had a nominal lift of 7 feet plus.

Lock 5 - This lock is now on an island due to river movement.

Lock 6 (aka Crawford's Lock) - On private farm. Inaccessible.

Lock 7 (no remains) It was located at Township Line and US 36 at Warsaw. Prism is still visible.

Lock 8 (aka Frasey's Lock) - On private farm and not accessible. About 1 mile west of Warsaw. Recent photos show it is still in good condition even after long use as a corn crib. Concrete foundation present.

Lock 9 (aka Gamble's Lock) - Immediately behind private residence on RS 715. This lock and prism was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the late 1980s. In good shape. Lift 9 feet. Also has concrete foundation for corn crib use.

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Canal Society of Indiana Ohio Canal Tour book Aug. 2000 Stepping Into the Past

Greenlee, Michael/, ODNR— March 2018 email follows with facts/pieces of information specific to the biology of the Walhonding River and some of the fish and mussel species found in the river. Includes comments about the ecological benefits to those species from removing the dam AND Water Quality Report (contact Mary Starbuck for a link to Water Quality Report).

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*Michael Greenlee: "A total of 58 fish species were collected from the Walhonding River during a biological and water quality study conducted in 2007 by Ohio EPA. Fifty-four of those species were captured at sampling sites downstream of the dam while 34 were captured at sites upstream of the dam. Only 21 species were captured in the impounded section above the dam. Also, 15 species of fish were found downstream of the dam, but not upstream. Four of the fish species found only below the dam are classified as special status taxa by the State of Ohio and include river redhorse (*Moxostoma carinatum*-Ohio species of concern), northern madtom (*Noturus stigmosus*-Ohio endangered), mountain madtom (*Noturus eleutherus*-Ohio endangered) and eastern sand darter (*Ammocrypta pellucida*-Ohio species of concern). Bluebreast darter (*Etheostoma camurum*-Ohio threatened) are also known to occur near the project area.*

A total of 17 species of federal and state listed mussels were historically known to occur near or within the project area including the clubshell, rayed bean, snuffbox, fanshell, purple catspaw and round pigtoe. Recent surveys by Enviroscience have documented the presence of sheepnose – Federal endangered and rabbitsfoot – Federal threatened, both found upstream of the dam. One of only three Critical Habitat reaches (Federal designation) for rabbitsfoot in the State of Ohio is located approximately 2.5 miles upstream of the dam. Other Ohio state listed species include elktoe, purple wartyback, wavy-rayed lampmussel, creek heesplitter, black sandshell, and kidneyshell. Many of these species could benefit from the removal of the dam allowing upstream movement of host fish species and subsequent access to additional habitats in the upper Walhonding, Kokosing and Mohican Rivers.

The dam also is a source of impairment to other aquatic life (such as freshwater mussels) and habitat degradation due to siltation, direct habitat alterations (i.e., eutrophication, sedimentation, and thermal pollution) and flow alterations.

The dam also is a navigation barrier to some fish and mussel species as far more species are present downstream of the dam than upstream. Hydraulic modeling suggests that removal of the dam may improve habitat suitability for two mussel host fish species. Removal of the dam may also increase mussel access to highly migratory fish hosts that are currently restricted to reaches downstream of Six Mile Dam.

According to Ohio EPA, removing Six Mile dam would also improve the diversity of aquatic life and likely bring biological scores into full attainment of Exceptional Warm Water criteria.