

Canal Structure Inventory Sheet No:

Canal Society of Indiana

Canal: <u>Wabash & Erie /Central-Embankment</u>		Structure: <u>Patoka Aqueduct #17 & Embankment</u>	HAER Condition
State: <u>Indiana</u>	County: <u>Pike/Gibson</u>	Designer (s)	
City/Town: <u>Dongola /along Indiana Highway 57</u>	Contractor/Builder: <u>Forrer, Sturges, & Hosmer/ Wm H.</u>		
Street: <u>between old and new Patoka Rivers</u>	Source of Materials: <u>Stewart & Rockefeller</u>		
Associated Waterway: <u>Patoka River</u>	DATES OF CONSTRUCTION		
Name of 7.5 Min. USGS Quad. Map: <u>Petersburg</u>	Start: <u>1838</u>	Completion: <u>1839</u>	<u>Embankment</u>
UTM Coordinates	Rebuilding: <u>1851-2</u>	Abandoned: <u>1860</u>	

History & Use in Service; Use since Abandonment:
 The embankment across the valley of the Patoka River was begun in 1839 as part of the Central Canal but was abandoned until work was resumed in 1851. The wooden aqueduct, which no longer exists, consisted of a 50 foot center span and two 36 foot spans supported by two six foot thick wooden cribs filled with stone. The structure was an open trunk 18 feet wide and 4 feet deep. On each end of the aqueduct there were guard gates and slide gates were located in the sides in order to draw off the water. Some 2,800 feet of the aqueduct embankment has now become the road bed for Indiana Highway 57 across the Patoka valley with a State Highway marker mounted alongside near the site of the aqueduct.

DESCRIPTION: (visible remains at the site)
 Nothing remains of the original wooden aqueduct, but its site is readily visible. The earthen embankment is about 3,400 feet long (2,800 feet under Highway 57) by about 130 feet wide by 20 feet + feet high. In the sections immediately adjacent to the aqueduct site the canal is still well defined

Other Works or Events Associated With Site:

Present Property Owners: <u>Sylvester & Violet L. Hoerner</u>	Location of Deed Description: <u>Drawer 1 Card 3703 Columbia Township SE Section 31-T1S-R8W</u>
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BIBLIOGRAPHY (Published, unpublished mss., maps, photographs):
 Stormont's History of Gibson County
 On site measurement and photographs
 Annual Reports of the Trustees and Chief Engineer 1838-61, Indiana Documentary Journal

Agencies, Individuals Interested in Preservation/Restoration:	National Register, HAER, other recognition:
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Investigation Made by: <u>Stan Schmitt</u>	Date: <u>7/8/1983</u>
Address: <u>900 N. Fulton #1F Evansville, IN 47710</u>	

Return to: INDEXING COMMITTEE Canal Society of Indiana 302 East Berry St. Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

If at all feasible, a photograph should be attached to the reverse side, a sketch map of the site in relation to the surrounding area would also help.