

American Canal Society Canal Index

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<p>HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:</p> <p>The Codorus Navigation Company, with headquarters at York, Pa., was formed May 5, 1829, with stock offered for public subscription. C. A. Barnitz was president of the company and a vigorous promoter. So great was the local interest in the project that much of the estimated \$84,850 construction cost was subscribed in the first few months—\$10,500 worth of stock being purchased in a single day. The original plans called for eight miles of slack-water pools and three miles of canals to make the Codorus Creek navigable from York to the Susquehanna River above Chestnut Ripples. Simeon Guilford, a canal engineer already involved in design of the Conestoga Navigation and other canals, was retained as the company engineer. Ten dams and thirteen locks, including 2 guard locks, were planned. The locks were constructed 95 feet in length by 18 feet wide, with an average lift of about 7 feet. Presumably connection was to be made by means of the river, with the Main Line Canal basin via the outlet lock at Columbia.</p> <p>A newspaper item dated March 27, 1832 reads: "The Codorus Navigation will be finished in the course of a few months. The tow path is already made to the head of the Codorus Forge Dam, within a mile and a half of the River and the whole work is progressing rapidly and surely." On July 4, 1832, "The Farmer" of York carried this item: "The managers of the Codorus Navigation Company announce to the stockholders and the public generally, the completion of the first section of the works (a distance of about three miles) and will open it this morning. The new passenger boat 'Codorus' (70 feet in length and carrying 150 passengers) will start from Maine Street Bridge at 9:30 AM, 12 (noon) and 2 and 4 PM. Fare going and returning, 25 cents. The boat during this day will be under the direction of Captain Jacob Barnitz." Another vessel specifically built for this canal at the same time was the "Pioneer," operated by Gottlieb Zeigle, James Schall and Daniel Ford. These two</p>																																																																					
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<p>BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY:</p> <p>"Amazing Pa. Canals" W. H. Shank, 1977</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Continued over-leaf)</p>																																																																					
<p>UNPUBLISHED RECORDS, PHOTOS, DRAWINGS (CEHR, HAER, HABS, Local or Regional Historical Societies, Libraries, etc.):</p>																																																																					
<p>EXISTING OR RECOMMENDED LANDMARK STATUS (CEHR, National Register, etc.):</p>																																																																					
<p>REPORTER'S NAME &amp; ADDRESS: <b>W. H. Shank, 809 Rathton Road, York, Pa. 17403</b></p>		<p>DATE:</p>																																																																			
<p>RETURN TO: CANAL INDEX COMMITTEE, c/o P.H. STOTT, HAINES ROAD, MOUNT KISCO, NY 10549</p>																																																																					