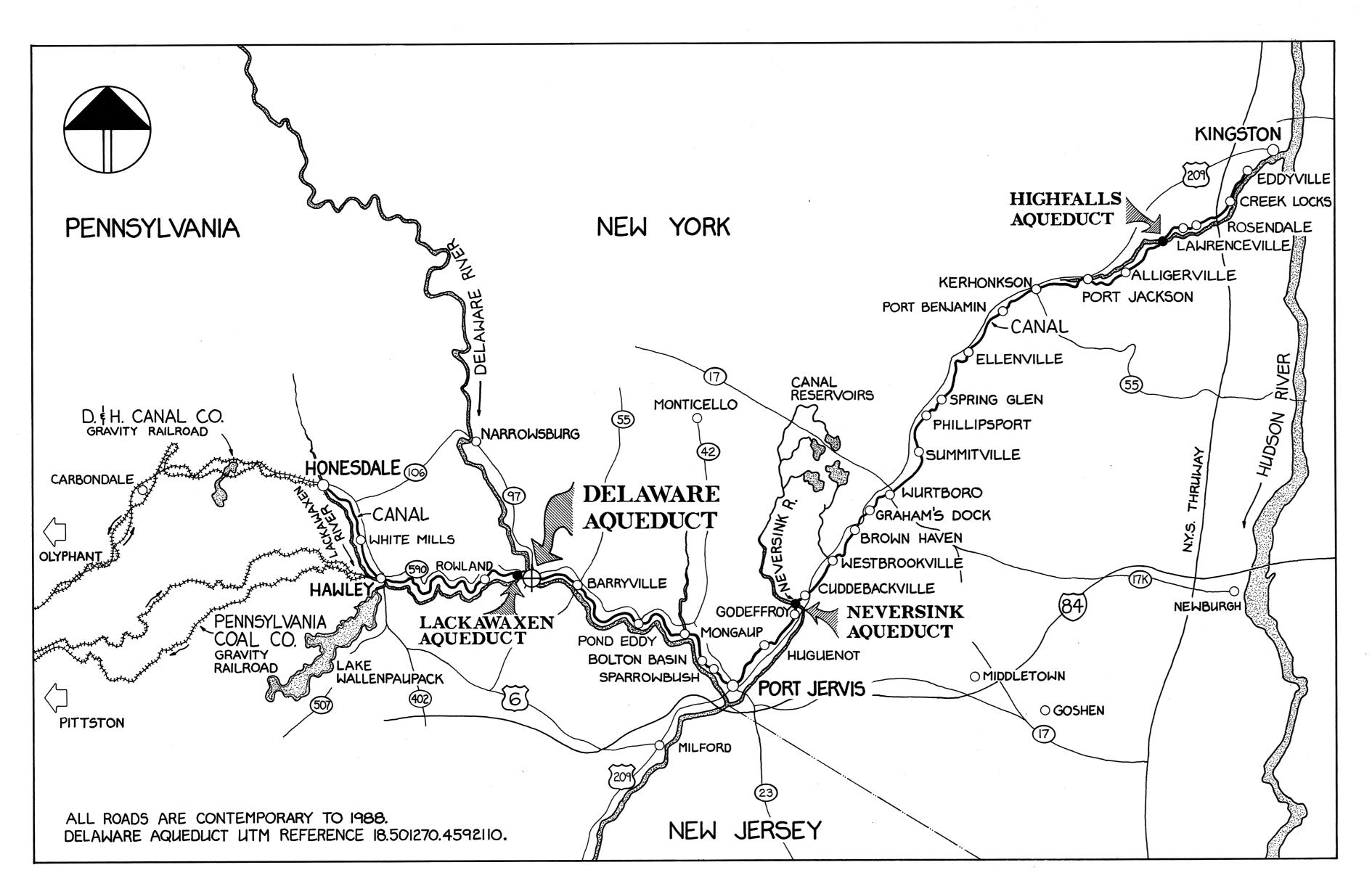


ADDENDUM TO

DELAWARE & HUDSON CANAL: DELAWARE AQUEDUCT 1847-49, 1930-31, 1985-87

LACKAWAXEN, PENNSYLWANIA



THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL AND GRAVITY RAILROAD, 1865

SCALE:
I" = 5 MILES

O M. 5

IO IS 20 25 30 35

O KM. IO 20 30 40 50

MAP SOURCE: ENDSHEET FROM COAL BOATS TO TIDEWATER BY MANVILLE B. WAKEFIELD (LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CATALOG CARD NO. 65-27932).

THE DELAWARE AQUEDUCT WAS ONE OF FOUR SUSPENSION AQUEDUCTS DESIGNED AND BUILT BY JOHN ROEBLING AS PART OF A MAJOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL. BECAUSE OF ITS PREEMINENCE IN THE HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY AS AMERICA'S OLDEST EXISTING SUSPENSION STRUCTURE, THE AQUEDUCT WAS RECORDED IN 1969 AS PART OF THE FIRST HAER SURVEY. THOSE DRAWINGS RECORDED THE MASONRY PIERS, THE SUSPENSION CABLES, AND THE SIMPLE WOODEN DECK WHICH REPLACED THE CANAL TRUNK AFTER THE AQUEDUCT WAS CONVERTED TO A TOLLBRIDGE. IN 1988, FURTHER HAER DOCUMENTATION WAS UNDERTAKEN TO SHOW THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL AQUEDUCT, AND ITS RECONSTRUCTION AS AN INTERPRETIVE TOOL AND ADAPTIVE REUSE AS A MODERN HIGHWAY BRIDGE.

THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL: DELAWARE AQUE-DUCT RECORDING PROJECT WAS UNDERTAKEN BY THE HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD (HAER), AN AGENCY OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPART-MENT OF THE INTERIOR, DURING THE SUMMER OF 1988. THE PROJECT WAS COSPONSORED BY THE UPPER DELA-WARE SCENIC AND RECREATIONAL RIVER, NARROWSBURG, NEW YORK, JOHN HUTZKY, SUPERINTENDENT, AND THE HIS-TORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY/HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD (HABS/HAER), DR. ROBERT J. KAPSCH, CHIEF. THE FIELD TEAM, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ERIC DELONY, CHIEF AND PRINCIPAL HAER ARCHITECT, AND BILL LEBOVICH, HAER ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN, AND ASSISTED BY SANDRA SPEERS, CHIEF, PLANNING AND SUP-PORT SERVICES UDSRR, AND CARLA M. HAUSER, SECRE-TARY UDSRR, CONSISTED OF BRIAN D. BARTHOLOMEW, ARCHITECTURAL SUPERVISOR (UNIV OF COLORADO AT DENVER), AND ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIANS SCOTT BARBER (UNIV. OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE), ANNE GUERETTE (US/ICOMOS AND LAVAL UNIV., QUEBEC) AND ELIZABETH F. KNOWLAN (UNIV. OF HOUSTON), AND HISTORIANS SYLVIE C. BROWNE (US/ICOMOS AND RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE) AND NANCY SPIEGEL (WINTERTHUR PROGRAM, UNIV. OF DELAWARE).

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD DA • 1

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ING BRIDGE) 1847-9, 1930-1, 1985-7

ADDENDUM TO
ADDENDUM TO
ADDENDUM TO
ADDENDUM TO
ACKAWAXEN PENNSY VANIA AND MINISINK FORD, NEW YOR

TEM, SCOTT BARBER, ANNE GUERETTE, ELIZAE

DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL: DELAWARE
SPANNING THE DELAWARE RIVER BETWEEN LACKAWAXEN PIKE COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

VEATED BY: BRIA

TRIM LINE

E GREY HOUSE / DEL AWARE AQUEDUCT
RECORDING PROJECT
HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NEW YORK PENNSYLVANIA LAND OF BENJ. HOLBERT BLUFF OF ROCKS LAND OF WM. F. BRODHEAD OLD TAVERN OLD LOCK 2 STORE OLD LOCK OLD LOCK 3 FERRYMAN'S HOUSE OLD TOWPATH-GREAT LOT NO. 16 TOWN OF HIGHLAND COUNTY OF SULLIVAN, N.Y. LOT NO. I D. & H. C. CO. LANDS OF THOMAS J. RIDGEWAY LACKAWAXEN DELAWARE **AQUEDUCT** NEVILLE HOUSE LAND OF STEPHEN ST. JOHN N.B. JOHNSON HOUSE LOCK 4 NASTE WEIR D. HOUSE LACOSTE LANDS LACKAWAXEN COAL DEPOT LOCK 5 LOCK HOUSE LAND OF R. F. LORD LOCK HOUSE DELAWARE AQUEDUCT LACKAWAXEN DEPOT NOTE: ALL LAND OWNERSHIPS NOTED HAD RIGHTS CEDED OVER TO D. H. CANAL CO. BETWEEN YEARS 1842-1851. LACKAWAXEN TOWNSHIP PIKE COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL: DELAWARE AND LACKAWAXEN CONFLUENCE, 1849

SCALE: 1" = 300' O FT. 300 900 1500 2100 O METRES 200 400 60

MAP SOURCE: <u>COAL BOATS TO TIDEWATER</u> BY MANVILLE B. WAKEFIELD, P. 83 (LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CATALOG CARD NO. 65-27932).

THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL COMPANY WAS INCORPORATED IN 1823 FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRANSPORTING ANTHRACITE COAL FROM PENNSYLVANIA TO NEW YORK CITY. BENJAMIN WRIGHT, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE NEWLY COMPLETED ERIE CANAL, WAS ENGAGED TO SURVEY AND BUILD THE CANAL ALONG THE LACKAWAXEN, DELAWARE AND NEVERSINK VALLEYS. IT WAS COMPLETED IN 1828.

MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SYSTEM WERE UNDERTAKEN THROUGHOUT THE 1840S. THE WORST PROBLEM WAS THE RIVER CROSSING AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE LACKAWAXEN AND DELAWARE, WHERE THE BOATS HAD TO LEAVE THE CONTROL-LED WATERS OF THE CANAL AND BE PULLED BY ROPE FERRY ACROSS THE DELAWARE. THIS CROSSING WAS OFTEN DELAYED BY HIGH WATER AND ICE. AND MADE PERILOUS BY TIMBER RAFTS DRIFTING DOWNSTREAM. THE SOLUTION WAS TO BUILD AN AQUE-DUCT TO CARRY THE CANAL OVER THE RIVER. IT WAS ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO REPLACE THE FERRY; HOWEVER, THE PROPERTY OWNER ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE LACKAWAXEN WANTED TOO MUCH MONEY FOR THE USE OF HIS LAND. CHIEF ENGINEER RUSSEL LORD BOUGHT LACKAWAXEN MANOR ON THE SOUTH BANK FOR THE COMPANY AND REDESIGNED THE CANAL ROUTE TO RUN ACROSS THIS LAND FROM A NEW AQUEDUCT ON THE LACKA-WAXEN, TO ANOTHER ON THE DELAWARE JUST BELOW THE SLACK WATER DAM. NEW LOCKS WERE TO BE BUILT AT MINISINK FORD WITH THE OLD CANAL SERVING AS A FEEDER.

IN 1847 THE COMPANY ACCEPTED THE PROPOSAL OF JOHN A. ROEBLING TO BUILD SUSPENSION AQUEDUCTS INSTEAD OF MORE CONVENTIONAL TRUSSED STRUCTURES. A SUSPENSION AQUEDUCT DID NOT REQUIRE FALSEWORK IN THE RIVER DURING CONSTRUCTION AND IT NEEDED ONLY THREE PIERS FOR SUPPORT, LEAVING MORE ROOM FOR THE FLOW OF WATER, ICE AND RIVER TRAFFIC. LORD BUILT THE ANCHORAGES, ABUTMENTS AND PIERS TO ROEBLING'S DESIGN; ROEBLING BUILT THE SUSPENSION SYSTEM AND AQUEDUCT TRUNK. SOON AFTER HE STARTED WORK ON THE DELAWARE, ROEBLING WAS HIRED TO REPLACE SMALLER AQUEDUCTS AT CUDDLEBACKVILLE AND HIGHFALLS WITH SIMILAR SUSPENSION AQUEDUCTS.

THE ENTIRE CANAL WAS ENLARGED SO THAT BY 1852, THE SYSTEM WAS ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE BOATS LARGE ENOUGH TO TRAVEL ON THE HUDSON, THUS SAVING TRAVEL AND TRANSSHIPMENT TIME. TRANSPORTATION OF COAL BY CANAL CONTINUED TO BE A PROFITABLE BUSINESS INTO THE 1870S, AFTER WHICH IT WAS ECLIPSED BY CHEAPER RAIL TRANSPORT. THE DIFF HAD ALREADY BUILT ITS OWN RAILROAD NETWORK WHEN THE LAST BOAT PASSED THROUGH THE CANAL IN 1898.

THE DELAWARE AQUEDUCT SURVIVED THE CLOSING OF THE CANAL BECAUSE OF ITS STRATEGIC LOCATION AS A RIVER CROSSING. IT WAS SOLD TO HOLDING COMPANIES INTERESTED IN ITS POTENTIAL AS A RAILROAD BRIDGE, UNTIL 1908, WHEN IT WAS CONVERTED TO A TOLLBRIDGE. MUCH OF THE DELAWARE SECTION OF THE CANAL WAS INCORPORATED INTO THE ROADBED OF NEW YORK STATE ROUTE 97 IN 1933-34. OF THE OTHER THREE AQUEDUCTS ROEBLING DESIGNED, ONLY ABUTMENTS REMAIN.

