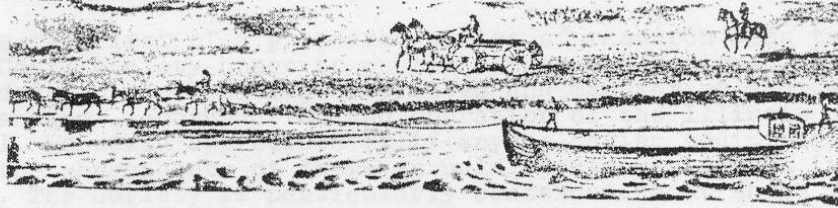


Ill. & Mich. Canal Annual Commissioner's Reports 1825-1916: Annual Reports Issued by the Illinois and Michigan Canal Authorities and the Library Collections in Which They Are Located. Lockport, Ill.: Illinois Canal Society, 1970.



**ILL. & MICH. CANAL ANNUAL
COMMISSIONER'S
REPORTS**

1825-1916

50¢

ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY

ILL. & MICH. CANAL ANNUAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS 1825-1916

ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL

This is the first of a projected series of research aids that the Illinois Canal Society hopes to publish. They are designed to pull together data on the location of printed and manuscript sources relating to the planning, construction and operation of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. We would appreciate it if anyone having additional information on the whereabouts of these annual reports would call it to my attention. The Society is particularly concerned about those years in which no reports have been found. We are also interested in information relating to the whereabouts of any collections of Illinois and Michigan Canal material.

The Various Canal Commissions

- I. On Feb. 14, 1823, the General Assembly appointed a Board of Canal Commissioners which was responsible for the survey made by Col. Justus Post and Rene Paul in 1823 and 1824 on possible canal routes. There were five members on this commission. Their only report was issued in 1825. In that year the Commission was replaced by an Illinois and Michigan Canal chartered company which came to naught. In 1829 a new Canal Commission was formed with three members. They were responsible for the first plating of Chicago and Ottawa in 1830, hoping to raise money thereby selling lots enabling the financing of canal construction. Their hopes died aborning. In 1833 this Commission suggested that a railroad be constructed instead of a canal. As a result of their suggestion the general Assembly abolished the Commission in that year.
- II. Because of increased agitation for a canal in 1835, the legislature created a new Canal Commission of five members appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate. This Commission got things going, and in July 1836 construction on the canal was begun. As a result of an attack upon this commission, it was reorganized in 1837, with three members chosen by the General Assembly and under its control.
- III. As the Canal ran into increased financial troubles, and as the State was flat broke in 1845, the Governor was authorized to negotiate a loan to be secured by a deed of trust. The Canal and all its property were turned over to a Board of Trustees two of which were to be chosen by the subscribers to the loan (Eastern and Foreign Bank, generally) and the third was to be appointed by the Governor. They were to build and manage the Canal for the benefit of the creditors, but certain interests of the State were to be protected. When the interest and the principle were paid the Canal was to revert to the State. Under this financing scheme the Canal was rapidly completed and opened for navigation in April of 1848. On April 30, 1871, the Canal Trustees made their final report, and turned the Canal and its properties back to the State.
- IV. Under the Canal Commission system set up in 1870, three commissioners were to be appointed by the Governor with the concurrence of the Senate. They were regarded as part of the State administration and were to last until 1917, when the Canal was made part of the newly established Illinois Division of Waterways.

John M. Lamb, President Illinois Canal Society Written 1970

**ANNUAL REPORTS ISSUED BY THE ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL AUTHORITIES
1825-1916
AND THE LIBRARY COLLECTIONS IN WHICH THEY ARE LOCATED**

State Canal Agencies issuing these reports were:

1825-1833: Board of Canal Commissioners
 1836-1844: Board of Commissioners of the Illinois and Michigan Canal
 1845-1871: Board of Trustees of the Illinois and Michigan Canal
 1870-1916: Canal Commissioners

REVISION NOTICE, 2003: ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY items are located at the Canal and Regional History Special Collection, Lewis University. "Illinois Dept. of Conservation" address is now "Dept. of Natural Resources."

Volumes Issued

<u>by Canal Authority</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Research Center Where Reports are Available</u>
1	1825	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library
2	1830	Illinois State Archives
3	1831	Illinois State Archives
4	1833	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives
1	1836	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Archives
2	1837	Chicago Historical Society
3	1838	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives
4	1839	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois Dept. of Conservation
5	1840	Chicago Historical Society,* Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation
6	1841	- Evidently Never Published -
7	1842	Chicago Historical Society,* Illinois Dept. of Conservation
8	1843	University of Illinois Urbana
9	1844	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, University of Illinois at Urbana*
1	1845	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Library, University of Illinois at Urbana*
2	1846	Chicago Historical Society, University of Illinois at Urbana*
3	1847	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois Dept. of Conservation
4	1848	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives
5	1849	Chicago Historical Society*
6	1850	Chicago Historical Society*
7	1851	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY
8	1852	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, University of Illinois Urbana
9	1853	?
10	1854	Illinois State Archives
11	1855	Chicago Historical Society,* Illinois State Library

12	1856	Chicago Historical Society,* Illinois State Library
13	1857	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Library
14	1858	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Library
15	1859	Illinois State Library
16	1860	Illinois State Library
17	1861	Chicago Historical Society,* Illinois State Library
18	1862	Chicago Historical Society,* Illinois State Library
19	1863	Chicago Historical Society,* Illinois State Library

Volumes Issued
by Canal Authority

	<u>Year</u>	<u>Research Center Where Reports are Available</u>
20	1864	Chicago Historical Society,* Illinois Sate Library, University of Illinois in Urbana
21	1865	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Illinois State Historical Library
22	1866	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, University of Illinois, Urbana
23	1867	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Library, University of Illinois, Urbana*
24	1868	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Library, University of Illinois, Urbana*
25	1869	Chicago Historical Society
1	1870	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Historical Library
2	1871	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library
3	1872	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library
Special Report	1872	Chicago Historical Society
4	1873	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library
5	1874	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library
6	1875	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Illinois State Historical Library, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation
Special Report	1875	Chicago Historical Society
7	1876	Illinois State Historical Library, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Library
8	1877	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Illinois State Library
9	1878	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation
10	1879	Chicago Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
11	1880	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Wisconsin State Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society
12	1881	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois Sate Historical Library,

13	1882	Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will county Historical Society
14	1883	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives
15	1884	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Will County Historical Society
16	1885	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Illinois State Library, Will County Historical Society
17	1886	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation Will County Historical Society

Volumes Issued
by Canal Authority

	<u>Year</u>	<u>Research Center Where Reports are Available</u>
18	1887	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society
19	1888	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society
20	1889	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society
21	1890	Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society
22	1891	Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation
23	1892	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation
24	1893	Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation
25	1894	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation
26	1895	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society
27	1896	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society
28	1897	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society
29	1898	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
30	1899	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Wisconsin State Historic Society

31	1900	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Society, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Lockport Public Library, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
32	1901	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historic Society
33	1902	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
34	1903	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
35	1904	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society

Volumes Issued
by Canal Authority

	<u>Year</u>	<u>Research Center Where Reports are Available</u>
36	1905	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Society, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
37	1906	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
38	1907	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
39	1908	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin Sate Historic Society
40	1909	Chicago Historical Society, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
41	1910	Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Chicago Historical Society, Wisconsin Historical Society
42	1911	Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
43	1912	Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
44	1913	Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
45	1914	ILLINOIS CANAL SOCIETY, Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Library, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Will County Historical Society, Wisconsin State Historical Society
46	1915	Illinois State Library, Will County Historical Society,

