





*My concern in this is public access to the towpath. There are adjoining property owners along the towpath between Lockington and New Bremen who already make it difficult for individuals who wish to hike the summit. If this transfer can be accomplished with the VERY clear proviso that there is public access on the towpath then I can support it. Otherwise I would not be in favor of this transfer being approved.*

*Andy Hite,  
Historic Site Manager  
Johnston Farm & Indian Agency, an American Association of Museums*

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*I agree with Andy Hite's position. The agreement must clearly state the parcel will remain a public access. Previous agreements speak of easements on the premises for a future trail. I will assume that the parcel will have access to the general public and trail planners until a time a trail is officially planned or designated. Currently, the BTA is not on this section due to limited access.*

*I strongly feel that no public access rights should be relinquished for any timeframe.*

*Thank you for the opportunity to comment of this proposed land transfer.*

*L. Neal Brady  
Executive Director  
Miami and Erie Canal Corridor Association*

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*I agree with Andy Hite's assessment of the situation and vote accordingly.*

*Mike Morthorst*

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*I am not at all familiar with the particulars of the area in question, but agree with Andy Hite that the transfer should occur ONLY if towpath access is guaranteed.*

*From an historical standpoint, I'd like to have note made of the fact that any towpath and/or channel remains should be treated as historical structure artifacts and not be destroyed or grossly altered without a proper historical assessment.*

*Terry K. Woods, Chairman  
ACS Engineering Design Committee  
ACS Parks Committee*

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*I agree and support Andy's recommendation since he is most informed about the situation.*

*Thank you and take care.*

*Dan Rice  
President and Chief Executive Officer Ohio and Erie Canalway Coalition*

*I find no objections to this transfer with the restrictions noted.*

*Thank you,*

*Bob Fonte, Director  
Stark County Park District*

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*I have no objection to the transfers as proposed, as long as trail rights are reserved.*

*Stan Davis  
St. Marys, Ohio*

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*I am in agreement as long as the new owners are willing to sign an agreement that there will be a trail easement across the parcels. I suspect that within the next two years we will be moving the Buckeye and North Country National Scenic Trails from back country roads onto this portion of the Miami and Erie Canal towpath here. Thx.*

*Richard (Rick) Adamson  
BT/NCT State Trail Coordinator  
BTA Executive Board  
NCTA Board of Directors  
Ohio Forest Stewardship Committee/Forest Legacy Program, ODNR  
Safety Committee, NPS/NCTA*

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*Seeing that "the applicants have agreed to accept a reduction in property rights in the form of a trail easement, should it be required"... I support this transfer.*

*Thanks,*

*Rory Robinson, Outdoor Recreation Planner  
RIVERS, TRAILS AND CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE  
"The Community Assistance Arm of the National Park Service"*

Parcels proposed for sale

State Owned Canal Land

100 ft

135 ft

State Owned Canal Land

Old Canal Basin

In private ownership (no easement)

Elevated towpath still exists along southwest side of Canal corridor

In private ownership (No easement)

Branscum & Smith Application Property Overview

