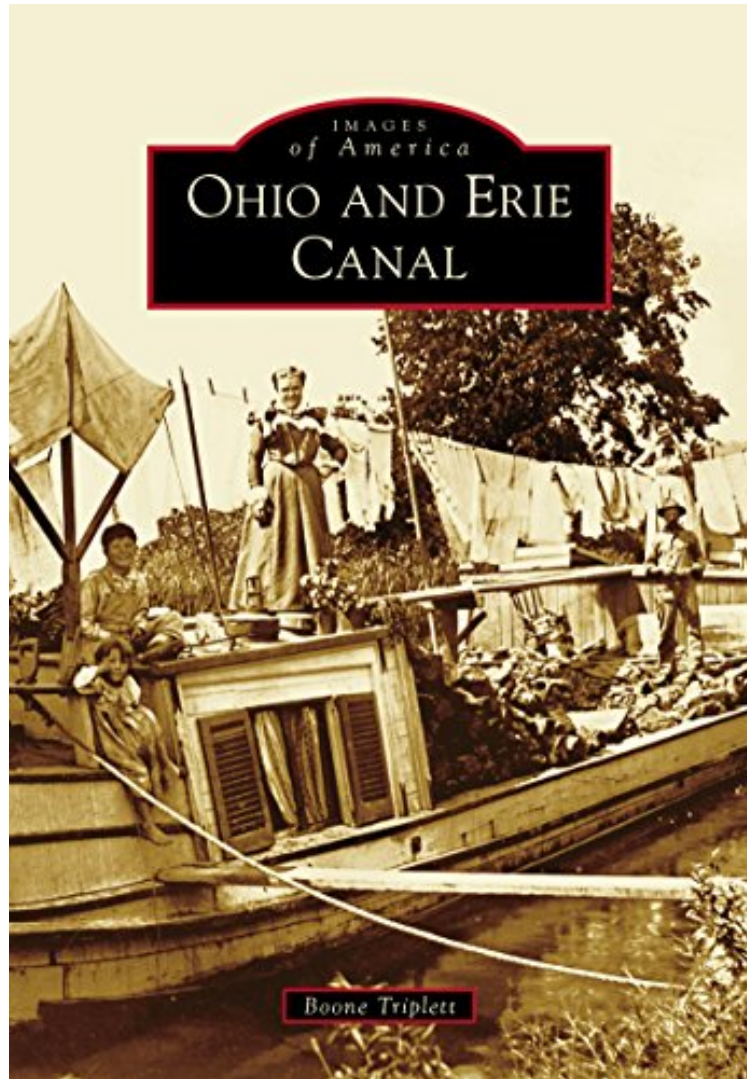


(Free) Ohio and Erie Canal (Images of America)

Ohio and Erie Canal (Images of America)

Boone Triplett

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0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CrittermomLoved this book! Wonderful seller!0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. She really enjoyed it.By Charles KerrBought this for my wife. She really enjoyed it.1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. I love the book because that is my grandmother and her ...By Lois MatneyI love the book because that is my grandmother and her family on the cover !!! Grandma is the little girl sitting on the edge with her hand on her chin. Her name was Hazel Reichard Rouch. That is the John Reichard family of Barberton (formerly New Portage, Ohio).

George Washington first proposed the idea of a canal connecting the Great Lakes to the Ohio-Mississippi River System in 1784. Inspired by the Erie Canal in New York, the State of Ohio began surveying routes in 1822 for its own grand internal improvement project. Completed a decade later, the 309-mile-long Ohio and Erie Canal connected Cleveland, Akron, Massillon, Dover, Roscoe, Newark, Columbus, Circleville, Chillicothe, Waverly, and Portsmouth. Success was immediate, as this vital transportation link provided access to Eastern markets. Within a span of 35 years, canals transformed Ohio from a rural frontier wilderness into the nation's leader in agricultural output and third most populous state by 1860. Railroads marked the end of the canal as an economic engine, but traffic continued to operate until the Great Flood of 1913 destroyed the system as a commercial enterprise. Today, the Ohio and Erie Canal is enjoying a rebirth as a recreational resource.

About the Author Boone Triplett is the editor of *Towpaths* and vice president of the Canal Society of Ohio (CSO). Images were selected from the CSO archives, academic institutions, historical foundations, libraries, museums, and private collections.