

American Canal Society Canal Structure Inventory

Continued Richardson? Not published

Structure Canal-Lock & Dam Site		Canal Augusta Canal	HAER/CEHR Condition Good
State/Province <u>Georgia</u> County <u>Columbia</u>		Designer(s) Engineer Thompson (Old Canal) Engineer Holley (1874 Canal)	
City/Town (Northwest) Augusta, Ga.		Contractor/Builder J.F. Hoesch; J.A. Green; J. Satterlee; &	
Street Off- Stevens Creek Rd.		Source of Material Presume local	
Associated Waterway Savannah River		DATES OF CONSTRUCTION	
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP _____		Start See below	Rebuilding See below
UTM Coordinates _____		Completion See below	Abandoned See below
History & Use in Service; Use Since Abandonment: Original canal began in 1846, was completed in less than a year. Length of canal 9 miles. Upper navigable section was less than 7 miles. This canal was 40 ft. wide, 20 ft. at bottom, 5 ft. deep. And must have had 1 lock here. Presume it was in operation up to the 1870's. In 1874 an enlargement was made of practically the same area, but much more extensively in every way. Barges moved merchandise from the head of navigation to Augusta at least. Was active during the Civil War. (Old Canal) The 1874 canal was in use on a modified scale well into the '1900's. Quite a semi-modern engineering feat here. Remarkable! When abandoned a question? Provided waterpower up to the 1960's at least. Present time of power use not known. An EXCELLENT SITE, and HISTORICAL.			
Description (Visible Remains at the site): There is so much to see here as the site involves so extensively, the massive stonework of the control gates, retaining walls and the single lock 76 X 11 ft. Which has steel gates & balance beams. The upper gate higher than the lower gate which is closed. Water level retained. Lock is of cut stone, in pretty fair condition. Present canal is 150 ft. wide, 106 ft. at the bottom and 11 ft. deep. Appears to be in good shape and well watered by the river. Stone marker here that gives construction date and the principal men involved, also its operational officers. The Bull Sluice Dam 1238' from a mid-stream island to Georgia shore, plus extension from island to S.C. shore. Two towpaths were used at times. "Canal & River Park" here is now part of this excellent complex. Be sure to visit this site soon.			
Other works or events associated with site: There is a quite attractive "Canal & River Park" located at the lower level close to the canal and other structures. This Park has several buildings, shelters, barbecue and picnic areas. Either restored or upgraded in 1932 by the City of Augusta. Very popular site during the summer season. Parking area at upper level on high ground.			
Present Property Owners: City of Augusta		Location of Deed Description: City of Augusta, Ga.	
Bibliography (Published, unpublished mss, maps, photographs): I personally know very little about this Historic Site. Mr. L.W. Richardson ACS. in the ACS Bulletin #8, gives a very nice article on this canal, and may have knowledge of that material. On May 8, 1975 I photographed this entire section with good results, even tho' it was a foggy morning. Beyond this, I have no further information. However, a map ever has been photocopied, available from ACS (small charge)			
Agencies, Individuals Interested in Preservation/Restoration: No doubt several agencies.????? Georgia Heritage Trust(at least)		National Register/CEHR, Other Recognition: Entire Augusta Canal on the National Register of Historical Places. Per- Mr. Richardson	
Investigation made by: Alden W. Gould ACS Address: 12 Shady Crest Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060			Date: 5/24/75
RETURN TO: Mr. Stott			

A sketch map or illustration of the site should be included on the reverse.