

CANAL		FAIRFIELD CANAL, North Carolina		(FOR ACS USE)	
STATUS		Abandoned		Hyde County	
LOCATION (ENDPOINTS OF CANAL)				DATES OF CONSTRUCTION & CLOSURE	
Alligator River to Lake Mattamuskeet				1872 - 1874	
DIMENSIONS				LENGTH	
LIFT LOCKS		NBR.		CANAL	
0		LOCK CHAMBER		SLACKWATER	
		OVERALL		TOTAL	
				4 1/2	
				4 3/8	
DESCRIPTION: [Type of navigation, features of note (include USGS coordinates where useful); e.g., feeders (navigable & otherwise), locks other than above, type of locks, use of unusual material or methods of construction, present owner, present use & condition, etc.]				AQUEDUCTS	
				NBR.	
				SECTION SIZE	
				0	
<p>In 1872 a contract was entered into by the Fairfield Canal Company for the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal Company to excavate with their steam dredges the proposed canal in Hyde County from headwaters of the Alligator River (a tributary of Albemarle Sound) to Mattamuskeet Lake. Purpose to drain surrounding country and improve land; also for "a valuable feeder" with proposed steamboat service. Canal completed in 1874. 6 1/2 foot draft. Cited in A & C Canal annual report as only other navigable canal in North Carolina. "One moiety" owned by Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal Co. Cite need for steamboat connection as benefit to Hyde County. 1880 report cites A & C Canal owning 2/3 of stock, and a small steamboat running from Elizabeth City try-weekly.</p> <p>NOTE: This is an interim report needing further investigation.</p>					
<p>NAMES & ADDRESSES OF GROUPS CONCERNED WITH CANAL'S PRESERVATION/RESTORATION:</p> <p>Present Fairfield Canal maintained by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, when the</p>					
REPORTER'S NAME & ADDRESS:				DATE	
Alexander C. Brown, 228 James River Dr. Newport News, Va. 23601				Jan. 9, 1974	
<p>HISTORICAL SUMMARY: [Original aims of company, date of incorporation, prominent engineers, cause of closure, significant alterations to structure or route, height of traffic date, transfers of ownership, etc.]</p> <p>This canal probably became abandoned and silted up. In any event there was no further need for it with the creation of the present Intracoastal Waterway Alligator - Pungo Canal, from which a lateral canal leads in to Lake Mattamuskeet. This is also termed Fairfield Canal. It is possible that today's canal is a redigging of the original.</p>					
<p>BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY: [Published works relating to Canal]</p> <p>Albemarle & Chesapeake Canal Company Annual Reports 1872, 1874, 1879</p>					
<p>UNPUBLISHED RECORDS, LOCATION OF PHOTOS, DRAWINGS & IMPORTANT PERIODICAL REFERENCES</p>					
<p>NATIONAL REGISTER & HAER (HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD) STATUS:</p>					
<p>RETURN TO: CANAL INDEX COMMITTEE, c/o P.H. STOTT, HAINES ROAD, MOUNT KISCO, NEW YORK 10549</p>					

USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY.
TO MAKE AN INDEX CARD SUITABLE FOR FILING, CUT ALONG THE HEAVY LINES AND FOLD BACK ALONG THE DOTTED LINE.