

CANAL		JERICHO CANAL, Dismal Swamp, Virginia		(FOR ACS USE)	
STATUS		In operation as drainage ditch, fire break		DATES OF CONSTRUCTION & CLOSURE about 1810	
LOCATION (ENDPOINTS OF CANAL)		North end of Lake Drummond to Shingle Creek, Nansemond river (near Suffolk, Va.)		LENGTH CANAL 10 SLACKWATER _____ TOTAL 16 m	
LIFT LOCKS	NBR.	DIMENSIONS spillway LOCK CHAMBER _____ OVERALL _____		AQUEDUCTS NBR. No SECTION SIZE _____	TUNNELS NO
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.]					
<p>This lumber canal was dug about 1810 by the Dismal Swamp Land Company which took over property originally owned by George Washington and "Adventurers," to improve on original route of Washington Ditch from which it branches off, running northwestward, a short distance north of Lake Drummond. In 1836, it was described as 10 miles long, 12 feet wide and 4 feet deep. An early account of a trip on Jericho by "Porte Crayon" (David Hunter Strother) in Harper's New Monthly Magazine, March 1856. Trip to Lake Drummond via a "large covered barge. Used extensively by lumber company to withdraw lumber and shingles made in the Swamp for transshipment at Suffolk. Equipment and boats destroyed during the Civil War. In the 1880s a lodge called Lake Drummond Hotel built at outlet of Jericho and the lake. A crude flat-bottomed, canopy-covered steamboat named the JENNY WILSON, 40' long, by 6' wide with 8" freeboard, made the three-hour</p>					
<p>NAMES & ADDRESSES OF GROUPS CONCERNED WITH CANAL'S PRESERVATION/RESTORATION: U.S. Dept. of the Interior (see Washington Ditch report)</p>					
REPORTER'S NAME & ADDRESS: Alexander C. Brown, 228 James River Dr. Newport News, Va.				23601	DATE Jan. 8, 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>* trip to lake and return. The upper end of Jericho Canal cut off when railroad line built across five miles of north end of Dismal Swamp. Like Washington Ditch, its owners, the Camp Lumber Co. draglined the canal in 1955 and built a flanking road. Jericho and Washington Ditch unite about 100 years from the lake with a crude spillway holding up the water in the canal. Along with Washington Ditch, Jericho was included in the Union Camp Co's 1973 donation to the Nature Conservancy for transfer to U.S. Dept. of Interior.</p> <p>Note: The Dismal Swamp is crisscrossed by numerous ditches by which lumber rafts were once navigated. The following named ditches and canals are cited but not detailed further: Portsmouth Ditch, Corapeake Lumber Canal, Cross Canal, Middle Canal.</p>					
<p>BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY: [Published works relating to Canal]</p> <p>Alexander C. Brown, THE DISMAL SWAMP CANAL (Norfolk County Historical Society of Chesapeake, 1970). References in index and bibliography</p>					
UNPUBLISHED RECORDS, LOCATION OF PHOTOS, DRAWINGS & IMPORTANT PERIODICAL REFERENCES					
NATIONAL REGISTER & HAER (HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD) STATUS:					
RETURN TO: CANAL INDEX COMMITTEE, c/o P.H. STOTT, HAINES ROAD, MOUNT KISCO, NEW YORK 10549					

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