

CANAL The Lower Appomattox Navigation		(FOR ACS USE)	
STATUS In use		DATES OF CONSTRUCTION & CLOSURE 1302	
LOCATION (ENDPOINTS OF CANAL) 37°14'N, 77°24'W - 37°18'N, 77°20'W Petersburg to deep water and the James River		LENGTH CANAL _____ SLACKWATER _____ TOTAL ca. 5mi.	
LIFT LOCKS	NBR. 0	DIMENSIONS LOCK CHAMBER _____ OVERALL _____	AQUEDUCTS NBR. 0 SECTION SIZE _____
TUNNELS 0			
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.) Petersburg's outlet to the James River, and the sea, was the lower Appomattox, ten miles long, of which at least half was a silted stream meandering among numerous tidewater islands. By 1302 the Lower Appomattox Company had begun to train the water into a main channel at least seven feet deep, by building jetties from each shore "as on the hine" and by clearing sandbars in the channel. The company was reorganized in 1325, when two cuts across shoals were made and a dam was placed across the old river bed to put all the water into the new channel. The navigation was successfully maintained by the company until 1350, when responsibility was turned over to the city of Petersburg. Later changes were made over the years by the Corps of Engineers, but some of the present channel, now used by small boats, may utilize the cuts made in the 1320's. An historical map of the lower Appomattox would be useful for recreational purposes, and should be worked up.			
NAMES & ADDRESSES OF GROUPS CONCERNED WITH CANAL'S PRESERVATION/RESTORATION:			
REPORTER'S NAME & ADDRESS: W.E. Trout, III 1922 Cinco Robles Drive, Duarte, California 91010		DATE 13 June 1973	
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.)  See above.			
BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY: (Published works relating to Canal) "The Appomattox River Navigations", W.E. Trout, III, unpl. ms., 1967, pp.14-15. JR&K Canal Library Reynolds Metals Company, Richmond, Virginia 23218.			
UNPUBLISHED RECORDS, LOCATION OF PHOTOS, DRAWINGS & IMPORTANT PERIODICAL REFERENCES Reports of the Lower Appomattox Company to the Virginia Board of Public Works, Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia 23219.			
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			

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.