

CANAL Pinopolis Lock, and Diversion Canal		STATUS Operating		ACS
STATE/PROVINCE: South Carolina				HAER
COUNTIES: Berkeley				
LOCATION (Endpoints of Canal): Lock: At Moncks Corner on Tail Race Canal Diversion: Between Lakes Marion & Moultrie		DATES IN USE: 1938-42+		LIFT LOCKS No./ SIZE
TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS: Cordesville 7½' (Pinopolis Lock) NW ¼ of Chicora 15' (Diversion Canal)		CANAL / SLACKWATER TOTAL		
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:		ENLARGEMENTS		
		1 3-mi/ Lake & River		1/
		2		
		3		
		4		

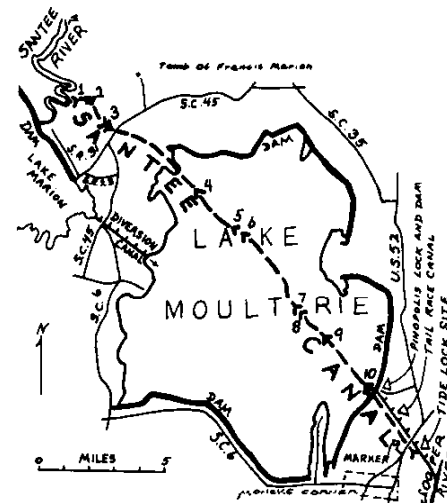
THE SANTEE-COOPER CANAL, constructed by Col. John Senf in 1793-1800, was a summit canal 22 mi. long, designed to draw the trade of the Santee River (and its branches, the Saluda, Congaree, Wateree-Catawba, Broad, etc., involving all of the other South Carolina canals) to Charleston, on the Cooper River. Locks 1, 2 and 3 lifted the boats, primarily rafts and poled river batteaux, from the Santee to the summit, and 7 more locks and a tide lock lowered them to the Cooper at Moncks Corner. The locks were of local brick and 10x60' in the chamber, except for the tide lock, which was wooden. Water supply at the summit plagued the canal but it continued in use until 1850.

In 1938-1942 the state created Lake Moultrie, surrounded by 32 mi. of dams and dikes, with a hydroelectric plant and PINOPOLIS LOCK (which can be visited) in Pinopolis Dam at the outlet or Tail Race Canal near Moncks Corner. This effectively replaced the Santee Canal and inundated all of it on the Cooper side of the summit except for the last 3 miles, below the dam, paralleling the Tail Race Canal on the SW. This section can be visited by taking the first R turn after crossing the Tail Race Canal on US 52/ Alt. 17, and following the signs to "Historic Marker ½ Mile". In 1970 there was some interest in restoring this part of the canal. Probably little remains aboveground of the wooden tide lock at the Cooper end, perhaps ¾ mi. below US 52 at UTM 17.5957.36742, Cordesville 7½' quad. This site needs investigation.

At the Santee end the canal is in very good condition although the brick work is crumbling and needs stabilization, and little remains of lock 3, which was a 2-lock staircase. The canal crosses SC 45, 0.8 mi. E of SR 31 and 1½ mi. W of the turn-off to the tomb of the famous Swamp Fox, Francis Marion, a Director of the canal company. Lock 3 (Big Camp Lock, 19' total lift) is about ½ mi. down the canal (NW) from SC 45; Lock 2 (White Oak Lock, 10' lift) is about 1½ mi. beyond; and Lock 1 (up to 5' lift) on the Santee, another mile. There are paths beside the canal, festooned by Spanish Moss. To drive to Lock 1, take SR 31 through Eadyville, following the signs to Walter's Grave, about 5 mi., and ask for directions at the store next the river. Only the Chicora 15' topo map is at present available for this end of the canal.

The Santee-Cooper Canal (which has been nominated to the National Register) is not to be confused with the modern DIVERSION CANAL, 4 mi. S on SC 45, connecting Lake Marion with Lake Moultrie, where there is a Canal Motel and Restaurant for fishermen (Cross, S.C. 29436, (803)849-2767.)

For details see The History of the Santee Canal by F.A. Porcher, \$1.25 ppd. from the American Canal and Transportation Center; "The Santee Canal" by Jack Leland, in the March 1970 Sandlapper; and "The Santee-Cooper" by E.T. Crowson in the South Carolina Magazine, August 1971.



The Santee Canal and Lake Moultrie

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UNPUBLISHED RECORDS, PHOTOS, DRAWINGS (CEHR, HAER, HABS, Local or Regional Historical Societies, Libraries, etc.):

EXISTING OR RECOMMENDED LANDMARK STATUS (CEHR, National Register, etc.):

REPORTER'S NAME & ADDRESS:

DATE:

RETURN TO: CANAL INDEX COMMITTEE, c/o P.H. STOTT, HAINES ROAD, MOUNT KISCO, NY 10549