Américan Caral Society Canal Index

CANAL Somerset (Collins) Canal	STAT	Status Still navigable				ACS
STATE/PROVINCE: North Carolina					HAER	
COUNTIES: Tyrrell		DATES IN USE	CANAL	LENGTH SLACKWATER	TOTAL.	LIFT LOCKS No./ SIZE
LOCATION (Endpoints of Canal): Pettigrew State Park	STNEWES 1	1788+	6			None?
TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS: Cresswell, Gresswell SE NC	ENLAR				:	
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:	_			 		

THE SOMERSET (COLLINS) CANAL, 6 mi. long, is the oldest of the 6 larger canals connecting Lake Pheips with the Scuppernong River, and was completed in 1788 by a shipload of slaves brought for the purpose. The canal was used for navigation as well as for draining the swampland, where rice and later corn was grown, and the fall at the lake was used to power machinery for Somerset Place, whose mansion house (ca. 1830) next the canal has been restored by the state and is open 9-5 daily, 1-5 Sundays, closed Thanksgiving and Christmas days. Leaflet available from Division of Archives and History, Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Quads: Cresswell and Cresswell SE 7½' (marked "Old Canal"). It is not known if there was a navigation lock connecting the lake with the canal.

Somerset Place is on the coastal plain, 9 mi. S of US 64 near Cresswell, at Pettigrew State Park, Route 1, Cresswell, N.C. 27928, (919)797-4475. Camping; boating on Lake Phelps.

From THE AMERICAN GANAL GUIDE Part 2, p.2 (1975)

NAMES & ADDRESSES OF GROUPS CONCERNED WITH CANALS PRESERVATION/RESTORATION:

Pettigrew State Park. Route 1, Cresswell NG 27928

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY:

Pettigrew State Park leaflet

UNPUBLISHED RECORDS, PHOTOS, DRAWINGS (CEHR, MAER, MABS, Local or Regional Historical Societies, Libraries, etc.):

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

REPORTER'S NAME & ADDRESS: W.E. Trout, III, 1932 Cinco Robles Drive. Duarte CA 91010

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

DATE27Sept81