

# Santee-Cooper Report Shows How Project Forces Formed

Columbia, March 9.—(P): The fourth annual report of the South Carolina Public Service authority, builder of the \$40,000,000 Santee-Cooper hydroelectric and navigation project, was submitted today to the general assembly by Governor Burnet R. Maybank, chairman of the authority's advisory council.

The report, covering activities in the fiscal year which closed last June 30, was chiefly a narrative of the organization of the authority's forces and those of the public works administration for construction work on the big project, which is about one-fifth complete. In regard to land acquisition, the report covered the period up to January 1 and showed that 102,014 acres of the necessary 188,735 had been obtained.

Telling of the engagement of administrative officials and the establishment of various divisions, the report said in reference to the general personnel that "training and efficiency were a determining factor in the employment of this personnel" although "every effort was made to disburse this employment to every section of the state".

There was a detailed account of the agreement by which \$18,865,000 of bonds would be purchased by the federal government in addition to the PWA grant.

Speaking of construction, the report pointed out a difference between the work and that of the Tennessee Valley authority and building its dams. "The Tennessee Valley authority does its own work, such as building dams, power plants, lockers, et cetera, operates its own commissaries and performs the other allied functions inherent in such a development" while "Santee-Cooper lets all its building and other operations by contract to the lowest responsible bidder."

"Theoretically, South Carolina Public Service Authority, builder and administrator of the project, does not expect to 'drive a three-penny nail nor shovel a spoonful of dirt.'"

"Workers are employed directly by the project's contractors and they will be fed and housed by these employers under proper inspections made by the authority's employees..."

# House Members Pass \$2,500 Santee-Cooper Investigation

Columbia, March 20.—(P): A \$2,500 investigation of the Santee-Cooper authority was approved by the house today after representatives refused to increase the appropriation to \$10,000.

Second reading was given the joint resolution by Speaker Sol Blatt, carrying out Governor Burnet R. Maybank's request for a "fair and impartial" inquiry. There was no action on a bill for a similar investigation pending before the senate.

Blatt's proposal would set up a six-man joint committee to investigate the management and administration of the huge Lowcountry power and navigation project.

The house tabled, on motion of Representative McFaddin, of Clarendon, an amendment by Sawyer, of Georgetown, which would have increased the appropriation for the investigating committee from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

Representative Callison, of Greenwood, withdrew his pending amendment to have the committee elected by the two houses rather than appointed by the presiding officers. "It seems there is some misunderstanding," Callison told the house.

The house again debated without final action the bill passed by the senate last year to submit the question of returning the state to prohibition to a popular vote in the summer Democratic primary.

"I don't want to see South Carolina go back to prohibition or anything like prohibition," said Thomas, of Beaufort, opponent of the measure. "I don't want to see the wealth that comes from liquor go back to the bootlegger."

## Condemns Liquor

Gresham, of Greenwood, said he believed "that if the people of this state had the opportunity to abolish this curse (liquor), they would."

Liquor he said "is against health, happiness, prosperity... against the church and it is against Almighty God.... In America today whiskey

is the greatest enemy of the home".

The house passed and sent to the senate the Orangeburg county delegation bill to authorize the colored college to borrow \$40,000 to finish a trades building.

A bill, pending on the house calendar with a majority unfavorable report since February 28, was put away quietly today when the house sent it back to committee on motion of its author, McCuen, of Greenville.

The measure would have prohibited the highway department from issuing any new or refunding bonds without "express authority" of the legislature. McCuen said he made his motion to "send it to an honorable death".

The senate, meanwhile, passed and ordered ratified a joint resolution by Representative Tuten, of Hampton, to extend the time for payment of state, county and school district taxes until May 1 without additional penalty.

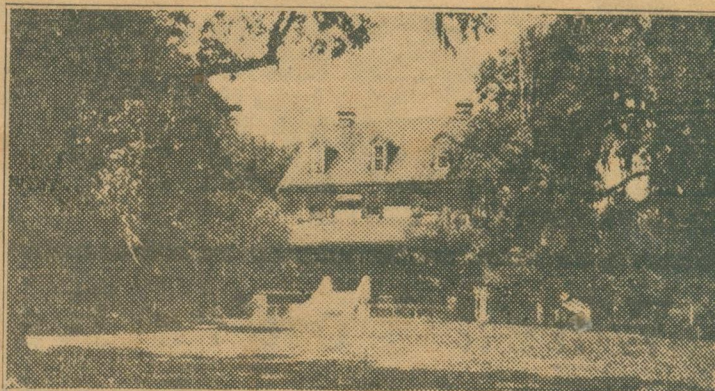
## Approved Quietly

The measure, which met stiff opposition on second reading last week, was approved without comment.

The senate also heard further debate on the pending bill to repeal the intangibles tax, but debate was still going at adjournment.

Laney, of Chesterfield, said South Carolina had "one of the finest tax systems in the union", as he opposed repeal of the surtax on dividends and interest.

He contended that repeal would



OPHIR

# Porcher Family Will Lose Last of Estates to Santee

## Lands of Once Mighty Nation to Disappear Under Berkeley Lake—Ophir Used by Yeaman's Hall Sportsmen

By F. M. KIRK

Pinopolis, Sept. 7.—Special: Ophir plantation, six miles northwest of Pinopolis, is one of the ancestral homes of the Porcher family. First owned by a Porcher, it has never passed out of the hands of the family and is now owned by Henry F. Porcher, of Memphis.

Like many of the numerous original Porcher plantations in this section, it lies below the level of the lake to be created by the projected Santee-Cooper development.

Of all the old Porcher estates, only Cedar Spring and Ophir remain in the hands of the family.

From the time of its appearance in Carolina, the Porcher name spread rapidly. Isaac Porcher, M. D., the Huguenot emigrant, whose Huguenot Bible (now two hundred and twenty-eight years old) is still owned by his descendants in Pinopolis, arrived in 1685. Before his death in 1727 he either owned or had owned property at Jamestown Santee, Orange Quarter on the eastern branch of Cooper river, Goose Creek French settlement and upper waters of Ashley river.

## Antedates Revolution

His descendants prospered and spread rapidly throughout lower, middle and upper St. John's and St. Stephen's parishes.

It was the emigrant's grandson, Peter Porcher, of Peru, who first secured Ophir some time prior to the Revolution. Upon his death in 1793, Peter left to his three sons his three plantations, Peru, Mexico and Ophir. Judging by the names he chose for his plantations, he must have valued them highly.

His second son, Colonel Thomas Porcher, inherited Ophir and built the house there about 1816. He is the ancestor of all the "Ophir Porchers", and many there are. The Colonel was blessed with twenty-four children, fourteen of whom lived to maturity.

Ophir house is large and beautiful. Like all the houses of that period it is constructed of hand-sawn lumber. Including a large basement and attic, it is four stories. During recent years it has been leased by members of Yeaman's Hall as a hunting reserve. The house and grounds are in excellent condition.

## Canals Feed Mill Pond

Behind the house some several hundred yards are the remains of

two canals leading into Ferguson's swamp. In old days these served to store water in a large reserve, which furnished power for a mill operated on the plantation.

An anecdote is told which illustrates the importance of the Porchers in St. John's in ante-bellum days.

A traveler, journeying up the Congaree road (now Highway 46) by stage coach, when passing the White Hall entrance asked the negro driver who lived there.

"Mister Porcher, suh," replied the driver. The question was repeated as they approached the Sarazins avenue.

Again the reply was: "Mister Porcher, suh."

The same question was asked and the same answer received as they passed Chapel Hill, Moorefield, and other Porcher plantations.

Finally the traveler remarked: "Well, there certainly must be plenty of Porchers in this country."

"Yas, suh," answered the dandy. "The Porchers are a mighty nation."

## Slaves All Satisfied

There seems to have been little trouble at Ophir with slaves during the War Between the States. When Yankee soldiers marched up the avenue to the house they were met by slaves who assured them that their mistress gave them so much they did not want any more. Whereupon the soldiers marched away without molesting the place.

A large church was built for the plantation slaves, remains of which were standing until a few years ago. There they worshipped on Sundays, contentedly going about their work during the week. Emancipation meant nothing to them.

Of the "mighty nation" or Porchers, only two Porcher men now live in St. John's, both the sons of the late Percival Ravenel Porcher who, with his brother, the late Isaac de C. Porcher, were said to have been the last two pure-blooded Huguenots in America.



# Somerset Plantation is One of the Historic Places Doomed by Santee-Cooper Project

Property Dates to  
1696—Now Owned  
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By F. M. KIRK

Pinopolis, Aug. 17. — Special: Some two miles from Pinopolis lies Somerset plantation, on which is located one of the finest plantation homes in Middle St. John's. Towering above the centuries-old liveoaks around it, it stands, proud of the history of its past, quietly awaiting the doom threatened it by the waters of the projected Santee-Cooper dam development.

One of the few plantation homes in this community still inhabited by the families of ante-bellum owners, it remains in good repair, and is still the seat of that hospitality which made the South famous in a happier day. Built on the conventional style of Colonial homes, it is distinguished from neighboring houses by a slate roof. It is now owned by the heirs of the late Dr. Joseph P. Cain.

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The two places had their nucleus in a grant of 804 acres made to John Stewart in 1696. Some accounts place this date at an even earlier period. During a period of Huguenot settlement, French emigrants soon had a newcomer of a different faith in their midst; for two years after receiving his grant, Stewart conveyed it to the Rev. William Screven, considered by some to have been the first Baptist minister to come to South Carolina. According to tradition, not backed up by available historical facts, the Rev. Mr. Screven desired the tract for the purpose of founding a town, at what later became Somerton plantation, as a haven for Baptists.

Apparently Mr. Screven abandoned his plans, for in 1704 he sold his 804 acres, together with an additional 300 acres he had secured, probably by grant, to Rene Ravenel, the Huguenot emigrant.

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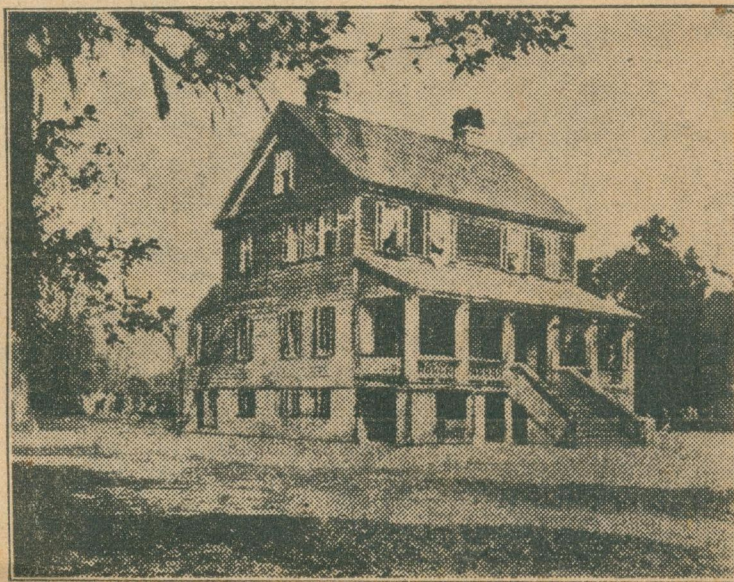
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Through marriage, the place passed into the hands of the Mazyck family. The tract was purchased jointly by Isaac M. Dwight and William Cain in 1827, the latter securing the house site. Since that date Somerset has remained in the hands of the Cain family.

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one of the most outstanding men of his day in St. John's and was well known to the entire state. For many years he was member of the state legislature, having served in both houses. He was a member of the electoral college which elected Polk as president of the United States. He also served as lieutenant governor of South Carolina. He was a captain of "minutemen" during the Nullification period, and was a signer of the ordinance of secession.

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"The last of these commanding figures that gave dignity and conserving tone to the St. John's hunting club of a half century ago, and which loom on the horizon of memory into a magnitude which is perhaps nearer their true proportions than that which appealed with the diminishing effect of familiarity to the contemporary eye, is that of Mr. William Cain, of Somerset. Tall of stature, dignified in presence and deliberate in all his movements, Mr. Cain exhibited to all a gentle courtesy and polished address which testified conclusively that these traits were not the exclusive heritage of pure Huguenot descent. . . . Like the others, Mr. Cain was a successful planter of long cotton and his crops usually brought the top of the market. I do not know any better illustration of his calm and good humor than with which he accepted the statement of a gentleman who was credited with seeing many things and telling more, that walking through the streets of Paris he had been surprised and gratified at seeing a number of familiar round bales of St. John's Berkeley, all marked 'W. C.'"

## House Described

Situated in the midst of a yard of many acres, covered with magnificent specimens of live oak, the house presents a striking appearance at any angle. It is high above the ground, and consists of two full stories and an attic. The interior is simply but beautifully decorated with hand carving. A beautiful feature of the living room is the black marble mantelpiece.

Many a family in lower South Carolina is connected by blood and by tradition to Somerset, and many a family sadly awaits the day that an historic land mark and a family shrine is obliterated by muddy

## 2 BERKELEY LAND CASES APPEALED

Juries Award \$11,000 for Bunker Hill and \$12,000 for Hog Swamp

Moncks Corner, April 18.—Special: Verdicts of \$12,000 and \$11,000 have been awarded during the last two days by a jury in the Berkeley county court of common pleas for two separate tracts of land in the Santee-Cooper area.

Both cases have been appealed from offers made by the South Carolina Public Service authority.

The first case, heard yesterday, brought a verdict of \$11,000 for 423 acres on Bunker Hill plantation, owned by H. W. Harvey, offered \$5,000 by the authority.

In the second case, heard today, a verdict of \$12,000 was awarded J. H. Harvey, Berkeley county farm agent, for Hog Swamp plantation of 362 acres, including a ten-acre pecan orchard. The authority had offered \$6,000.

Both cases were appealed from the decisions of three-man boards of referees, appointed by the owners and the authority.

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FRIDAY MORNING,

ith a 66

BELVIDERE TRACKS  
READY FOR RACE

Eutawville Plantation Home  
Prepare for Revelry for  
Events Saturday

Eutawville, April 1.—Special: Plantation homes of historic Johns will be thrown wide open as hundreds come to attend the spring races of the St. Johns Jockey club.

In homes where hospitality was famous in days before the War between the States, buffet lunch will be served, as families gather for reunions before the meet, as was the custom at the old races. The renewal of racing in this section revived customs of four generations ago.

A large field is entered, and President Richard S. Kirk advised that many post entries are expected.

Work on the track is complete and everything is ready for the first event at 2 o'clock. The Santee Sweepstakes, in two divisions is first on the schedule.

This will be followed by the Eutaw. This promises to be one of the most interesting races scheduled. Open only to locally-bred three-year-olds, four are entered, all the same sire, Frank Hampton, well-known "Cockspur", winner of one of last year's races.

Some of the outstanding entries in the Berkeley hospital five-furlong race are Numertia Plantation "Headlight"; Joe Bates' Sun Ship and Mrs. S. D. McGill's "W. Cracker".

The Belvidere track has been the scene of intense activity for many days. Owners have been bringing their horses for light workouts. Kirk advises that the time of horses has been decreased considerably since the fall races, due to the improved condition of the track.

Programs have gone to press, reserved parking places are now on sale. Advanced places may be obtained from Secretary W. H. Siler, Jr., or may be secured at the gate. Programs will be on sale for fifteen cents.



# PINOPOLIS WORKS SHOWN IN MODEL

Called Exhibit of Powerhouse  
is Finished—New Diorama  
Going North

A working scale model of the Santee-Cooper project's powerhouse, lock, switchyard and other hydro-electric equipment to be at the Pinopolis dam site will be on exhibition soon, it was announced yesterday by Robert M. Cooper, general manager of the South Carolina Public Service authority.

This model was completed recently by Roy Duer, the authority's model engineer, and his assistant, Mrs. Annette Lawrence. Their workshop is at Cumberland and State streets.

Now nearing completion is a diorama of the entire Santee-Cooper project area. It is to be shipped to New York about May 1 for exhibition at the world's fair and will be the only such public works administration-financed project so represented there. This diorama is similar to one already on exhibit at the state house in Columbia.

At the Pinopolis dam site, in the public viewing stand, is another model of the project, to give visitors a bird's-eye view of the huge development.

The South Carolina Public Service authority board of directors is meeting in Columbia this morning. Among matters likely to come up is the award of bids on circuit breakers and transformers at Pinopolis.

## Sign Contract Awarded

Acme Neon Signs, of Charleston, already has been awarded a \$630 contract to put up a neon sign at the intersection of the Pinopolis access road with United States Highway No. 52, about three miles north of Moncks Corner. This concern was the low bidder.

The board's session this week is being restricted to one day, instead of the customary two, because much routine business has been handled at previous sessions this month.

No move has been reported re-

# Model of Pinopolis Powerhouse Ready



ACCURATE ATTENTION to minute detail is shown in this working-scale model of the Pinopolis powerhouse and other electric works for the Santee-Cooper power and navigation development. The model was completed recently.

cently to have authority offices, now here and in Moncks Corner, placed in Columbia. A committee of Charlestonians had planned to appear before the board this month to ask that a previous decision to move the offices be rescinded. The Charlestonians have not made an appointment to present their case, however. The board announced previously that there would be no move before local interests have had the opportunity to present their plea.

Mr. Duer, in describing his now-completed model of the Pinopolis power works, said:

"Accurate information for building the model was obtained from latest blue prints, architectural sketches and other descriptive matter as furnished by Harza Engineering company, designers for the project, and the engineering department of the authority.

"The model is constructed at a horizontal and vertical scale of one inch to equal twenty feet, which is the equivalent of 142nd of the actual size of the completed project. The base of the model is four feet by six feet, representing an area of land and water of approximately 1,000 feet by 1,500 feet.

## Model Plant is Completed

"The structural details, with the exception of the switchyard, have white sugar pine foundation which is covered with a coating of plastic paint. The model plant is com-

plete in every detail. It shows five 40,000 horsepower generators and one 13,000 horsepower auxiliary generator. A balcony runs approximately the entire length of the powerhouse with passageways and equipment rooms beneath. The windows are made of clear celluloid marked to simulate glass block. The roof is finished to represent flat multicolored tile. The model shows the huge gantry cranes used on the heavy intake and draft-tube gates

"The spectator gets a conception of the tremendous size and proportion of the structural features of the project when he sees them in comparison to the six-foot human figures carved in wood which have been placed strategically on the model.

"A very interesting feature of the lock is the intricately carved pair of curved mitered gates nestled between the colossal concrete gate blocks. The spectator will also observe a building projecting above the left wall of the lock near the upstream end. This houses the electrical controls necessary to operate the lock mechanism.

"The huge switchyard fabricated by Mrs. Lawrence is a fine example of ingenuity in the use of materials. Rolls of fine steel and copper wire, round pieces of wood and tips of small brass screws joined together by glue, completes the illusion of the distributing point of this power project.

"The position in which this model will be displayed will give the public a very realistic, close-up airplane view of the vital elements of the project."



# SANTEE LAND CASE APPEAL IS OPENED

## Witnesses for Both Sides Testify in Cain Case at Moncks Corner

Moncks Corner, March 19.—Special: The appeal of the South Carolina Public Service authority from an award of \$181,234.75 by a board of condemnation for lands owned by the Cain family, near Pinopolis, which are being used in construction of the Santee-Cooper project, was opened today in the court of common pleas before Judge W. H. Muller, of Dillon. The jury was locked up tonight and it is believed the trial may be concluded tomorrow.

Appraisers for the authority offered \$87,000 for the Cain properties, which was refused. The matter then automatically went before a board of condemnation, composed of T. Allen Legare, appointed by Judge William H. Grimball, of the ninth judicial circuit; Joseph E. Jenkins, appointed by the Cain family, and George Stuckey, appointed by the authority.

The board appraised the lands at \$181,234.75, but the authority appealed the award to a jury. Witnesses for the owners included Cambridge M. Trott, Charleston engineer, who testified as to the value of the house; Frederick J. Aichele, Charleston florist, who testified as to the value of a bulb farm on the property; S. K. Simons, farmer and federal loan agency employe, who testified the land was worth \$30 to \$40 an acre, and Simons V. H. Waring, of Charleston; F. B. Hill and W. H. Dennis, both of Berkeley county, who testified as to value of the land.

For the authority, J. W. Geraty, of Younge's Island, testified that he had tried raising bulbs and found it unprofitable and in his opinion the bulb operations on the place were of little value. H. V. Goff, a land appraiser engaged subsequent to the making of the appraisal of the Cain properties, gave an itemized appraisal of the property by tracts and buildings.

Members of the Cain family who are interested in the suit are: Mrs. Elizabeth R. Cain, Miss Caroline Cain and Miss Katherine Cain, all of Pinopolis; Joseph P. Cain and Dr. Francis G. Cain, both of Charleston, and Malcolm Cain, of Moncks Corner.

The Cain family is represented by Waring & Brockinton, of Charleston, and Marion F. Winter, of Moncks Corner. The authority is represented by Richard M. Jefferies, general counsel; W. M. Wilson, assistant general counsel; A. Russel McGowan, of Charleston, and D. McK. Winter, of Columbia. The two Winters are brothers.

# IRBY WILL INSIST ON OPEN HEARINGS

## Dismissed Official Conference with Committee Members on Santee Probe

Columbia, March 28.—Special: The question of whether the senate judiciary committee's inquiry into charges against the administration of the Santee-Cooper project should be in public sessions came up here today.

Captain J. L. M. Irby, dismissed director of the project's land acquisition department and a prospective witness, said he would insist upon open hearings. It was Irby who charged that there was incompetence and a waste of public funds in the administration of the \$40,000,000 project now under construction in the lower part of the state.

Senator W. H. Nicholson, of Greenwood, a member of the judiciary committee, conferred with Irby today after the discharged director had been notified by the committee that it would like to hear him.

"I insisted on an open meeting," Irby said, after conferring with Senator Nicholson. Nicholson told Irby he would have to take up the question of public or executive meetings of the committee with the entire committee. Senator John M. Wise, of Chester, chairman of the judiciary committee, and president pro tem of the senate, said this was a matter for the entire committee to decide.

Hearings before the committee are scheduled to begin next Tuesday. The senate referred the proposition of a legislative investigation to the judiciary committee with instructions to determine the merits of the Irby charges a report from the committee within two months was promised. The assignments of the committee is to judge whether an investigation by a legislative committee is warranted.

When asked if he would decline to appear before the committee unless it voted to have open hearings Irby said he reserved the right to decline when he conferred with Nicholson.

"The people are interested in this project and its administration," Captain Irby said, "and I want to discuss the matter in a meeting that is open for the public."



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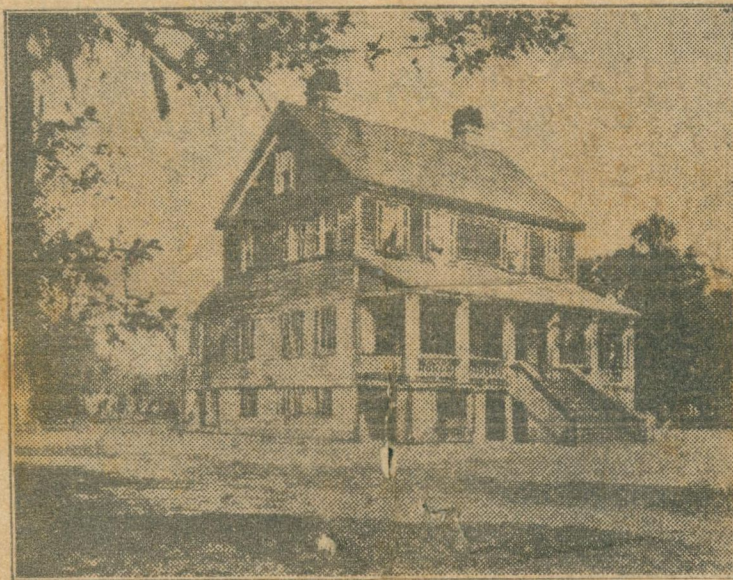
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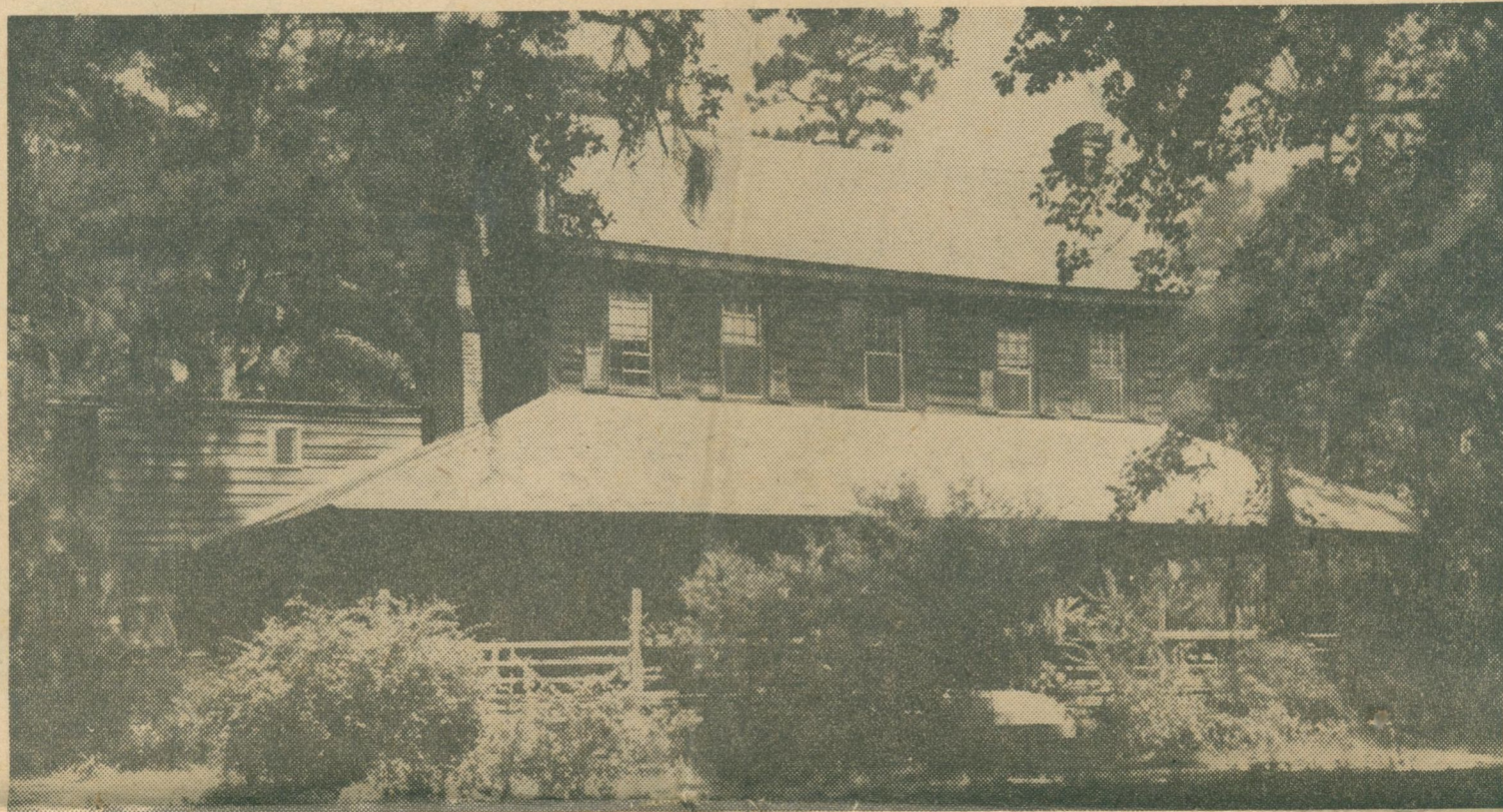
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## Do You Know Your South Carolina?

### Pinopolis



**SOMERSET SUMMER HOUSE**—Probably the oldest house in Pinopolis, it was built about 1835 by William Cain to shelter his family from the malarial swamps of the Santee, where Somerset plantation was situated. The house, known as "Somerset lot", still is in the Cain family, the resi-

dence of Malcolm Cain, Miss Caroline Porcher Cain and Miss Catherine Macbeth Cain. The house will be arranged in the fashion of the plantation summer days, and items from houses which will not be open are to be added for the show. (Staff Photo by Taylor.)

#### IN MEMORIAM

**MUMMA**—In loving memory of our dear husband and father, Wesley C. Mumma who departed this life two years ago today October 16, 1948.

Memories are treasures no one can steal,  
Death leaves a heartache no one can heal.  
Sincere and true in heart and mind  
What beautiful memories he left behind.

Wife and children.

**CAMPBELL**—In memory of S. Julius Campbell who departed this life October 16, 1948.

Two sad years since you left us,  
You whom we loved so dear,  
Oh, how can we help feeling lonely  
When your voice we do not hear?

A precious one from us has gone,  
A voice we loved is stilled,  
A place is vacant in our hearts,  
That never can be filled.

## Women of Trinity Parish to Show Plantation Antiques Next Month

By FRANCIS B. TAYLOR  
(A Staff Correspondent)

#### PINOPOLIS

Something of the gentle past is to be recaptured next month when the women of Trinity Protestant Episcopal parish put on a house-to-house antique exhibit.

There will be five or six houses open to visitors (for a consideration) among them the oldest of the plantation summer houses.

That is how Pinopolis came to be—a site of plantation summer houses, where the planters took their families away from the ma-

exhibit on Saturday and Sunday, November 11 and 12.

The peripatetic display will be on view in the residences of Mr. and Mrs. Percival Porcher, Malcolm Cain, Mr. and Mrs. Moultrie Ball, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Stokes, Dr. and Mrs. W. K. Fishburne, all in Pinopolis, and the home of Mr. and Mrs. Miller Boykin, in Moncks Corner.

In the parish house of Trinity church, the open fireplace will be equipped with kitchen utensils once in use generally. It will be

