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History
of
South
Carolina
State
Parks





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HISTORY OF SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS

Revised July 9, 1992

In the early twentieth century, man began to have more freedom due to the progress of invention and industry. He began to look for areas where he could enjoy life, be with his family - close to nature and recreational areas. He needed land where he could see America as the first man did. All across the nation, people began to look for these places. The answer to their quest was in the creation of parks for the people, both state and national.

THE BEGINNING

Taking a cue from the establishment of the national parks, South Carolina began to think of state parks for her people. In 1934, the South Carolina General Assembly passed an act charging the South Carolina Commission of Forestry with the responsibility of state parks. This act was signed into law by Governor Ibra C. Blackwood. This action was prompted by the people of Cheraw who had donated 706 acres to South Carolina to be used as a state park. South Carolina was now on its way to providing her people with the recreational outlets they needed.

THE WORK OF THE C.C.C.

The development of the parks owes its greatest debt to the many young men who created the parks. In 1933 the Civilian Conservation Corps was established by the United States Congress under the direction of President Franklin Roosevelt. The CCC was devised to provide useful and meaningful work for single, unemployed young men who could occupy time conserving the country's natural resources. In 1939, it became part of the Federal Security Agency. By 1940 the Corps had its objective turned from conservation and preservation toward national defense. The Corps had reached its peak in 1935,

when 500,000 young men were a part of the Corps. South Carolina alone had sixty CCC camps. Sixteen South Carolina state parks were developed by the CCC. The Corps was abolished in 1942.

THE EARLY DAYS

The early days of the South Carolina state park system were marked by the rapid acquisition of additional properties. In August of 1934, 1,067 acres were donated by Myrtle Beach Farms. Sumter County donated 1,000 acres for Poinsett State Park.

The chain reaction continued. In October, 1934, the Charleston Water Works donated 1,235 acres for Givhans Ferry State Park. The following month, 6,141 acres were received from the federal government for Kings Mountain State Park. In 1935, land was received for five additional parks: Chester, Edisto Beach, Lee, Oconee and Table Rock. That year, while Columbia was celebrating its 150th birthday, the Sesqui-Centennial Commission donated land for Sesquicentennial State Park. In 1937, people of Barnwell gave land for Barnwell State Park.

The first parks were developed with the assistance of the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service. Givhans Ferry, Poinsett, Myrtle Beach, Table Rock, Chester, Edisto Beach, Cheraw, and Kings Mountain were aided by the National Park Service, while Barnwell, Oconee, Sesquicentennial, Aiken, Paris Mountain and Lee received assistance from the United States Forest Service. In addition, two Recreational Demonstration Areas were developed at Cheraw and Kings Mountain.

Several wayside parks were developed during this era. Work on these parks was performed by the National Park Service. These wayside parks were located in Kershaw, Colleton, Greenwood, Greenville, Georgetown and Aiken counties. The construction of interstate highways diverted traffic away from these areas, and only the wayside parks in Colleton and Greenville counties were retained in the system. The former became

Colleton State Park and the latter Wildcat Wayside, a 63-acre tract near the Moun-

tain Bridge property.

The young parks were immediately popular and South Carolinians learned to utilize their facilities. The first state park to be opened to the public was Myrtle Beach on July 1, 1936. From that moment on, the state parks system has continued to grow.

The number of parks continued to increase. The Greenwood area soon had a park; acreage on the Buzzard Roost impoundment of the Saluda River was designated for a state park in 1938. Santee State Park was added to the system after Orangeburg County acquired 2,764 acres from the Santee-Cooper project.

The Forestry Commission was also responsible for historical areas. They included Eutaw Springs (site of the last significant battle of the American Revolution), and Santee Indian Mound/Fort Watson (pre-historic Indian burial mound and site of a Revolutionary battle during which General Francis Marion attacked and captured a British fortification, its garrison, supplies and ammunition.) The burial sites of Revolutionary War heroes Francis Marion, Thomas Sumter and Isaac Hayne were also under the supervision of the Forestry Commission.

THE FORTIES

World War II had a tremendous effect on the parks system. Some parks realized a reduction in visitation due to the curtailment of travel. However, parks continued to be favorite places for family gatherings. From 1942 to 1943, over 100,000 men and women in uniform visited the state parks. Some of the military visitors were from other nations. Among these were British sailors who enjoyed a visit at the cabins at Cheraw. Delayed in Charleston for ship repair, the sailors took advantage of South Carolina parks. From 1943 to 1944, Myrtle Beach, Hunting Island and portions of Edisto Beach were released to the Army, Navy and Coast Guard for training purposes.

Following the war years, the state parks continued to grow. The Rivers Bridge Memorial Association presented Rivers Bridge, site of a Civil War battle, as a state park

in 1945. Over 7,000 acres comprising part of old Camp Croft, a World War II training camp, were presented as a state park in May, 1949. During the following year, Pleasant Ridge in Greenville County was designated a State Park. The Pee Dee area of the state soon boasted a new park, Little Pee Dee State Park - at the cost of \$15,000!

The park budget continued to be small for the late forties and early fifties. The budget for FY 1949-50 was \$385,000. Lack of funds did not slow park visitation. When the South Carolina state parks system celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary during FY 1951-52, attendance reached three million.

PARK POPULARITY INCREASES IN THE FIFTIES

Other parks were to come into the state parks system in later years. They included Andrew Jackson, (1953), created as a memorial to the seventh president of the United States, and Old Dorchester, (1960), site of a colonial village founded in 1696. Huntington Beach, offering a diverse natural environment and historic Atalaya, the winter home and studio of noted American sculptress Anna Hyatt Huntington, was leased to the state of South Carolina in 1960.

The vacation cabins were popular with many visitors. Swimming, however, seemed to be the most popular activity. Organized camping groups continued to use park facilities. Mill Creek at Poinsett (which had previously been limited to use by blacks) became the scene of the annual Orthopedic Camp under the auspices of the State Board of Health. During the decade of the fifties, funds were made available for many needed improvements to the state parks.

CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE

The civil rights movement of the fifties was felt in the state park system. A suit was brought against the parks which resulted in the closing of Edisto Beach State Park for ten years. The civil rights movement had just begun. In July, 1961, a class action suit to

integrate the parks was filed. U.S. District Judge J. Robert Martin of Greenville issued an order for the state parks to comply entirely with the Civil Rights Act of 1954. Judge Martin set September 8, 1963 for total compliance with the law. The Attorney General of the State then advised the State Commission of Forestry that all parks would be closed on the evening of September 8.

The many opportunities of the state park system were now closed to all South Carolinians. The people, however, began to demand the use of their parks. On June 1, 1964, the parks were re-opened on a limited basis, but the people were still not satisfied. Two years passed and Governor Robert McNair stood firm that the parks would reopen with adequate funds. On June 30, 1966, the State Budget and Control Board ended a week of suspense by announcing that it had approved the request for transfer of \$60,000 in funds to the State Forestry Commission to reopen the parks.

The opening of the state parks was a showing of the will of the people. Indirectly, a Supreme Court order had been responsible for their closing. However, a Supreme Court order did not call for their reopening. It was simply the will of the people who wanted their parks open.

REOPENING OF THE PARKS

With the reopening of the parks, much work was to be done. To participate in the National Outdoor Recreation Programs, state park administrators compiled a detailed five-year development design. This project was undertaken in cooperation with the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. The plan involved the parks' history, annual use and attendance, facility inventory, expansion of present and undeveloped areas and new acquisitions. Increasing needs and demands for wholesome recreation would be met with this plan. The state parks could then become major attractions for tourists which would aid the state's economy. Cost for this development was estimated at \$3,000,000. Fifty percent of the cost of the five-year plan was reimbursable as authorized projects from the

Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

While this plan and necessary surveys were being readied, work on the parks continued. From capital funds appropriated by the state legislature on July 1, 1966, Baker Creek and Sadlers Creek state parks were pushed forward for development. Considerable funds were being expended on state historical parks.

A NEW BEGINNING

Changes in the park system were imminent with an increasing emphasis upon promoting tourism and outdoor recreation. On June 30, 1967, supervision by the Forestry Commission ended after thirty-three years. The Division of State Parks and Recreation became part of the newly-created Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

During the first year of operation under Parks, Recreation and Tourism, South Carolina state parks received new life through a \$6,250,000 bond issue approved by the General Assembly. Park attendance showed a significant increase, with the most heavily visited parks being Cheraw, Edisto Beach, Greenwood, Hunting Island, Huntington Beach, Myrtle Beach, Oconee, Paris Mountain, Sesquicentennial and Table Rock.

To improve communications within the state parks system, an internal newsletter was initiated. Now known as "Park Lites," the publication includes articles and photographs by both superintendents and staff members. Another publication, "Park View," was initiated in 1990 to develop support from the public for state parks. This biannual newsletter has received very positive response from the public.

To provide coordination and planning assistance between the Columbia office and the state parks, the state was divided into three districts (in 1974 to four), and district superintendents visited parks on a regular schedule.

DEVELOPMENT DURING THE SEVENTIES

South Carolina state parks now entered a new and exciting era. Dreher Island State

Park on Lake Murray was leased from South Carolina Electric & Gas Company in 1969. In October 1972, 195 soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg participated in an operation to "clear" the park property from bomb fragments left during the World War II era when the property was used as a practice bombing range.

Three properties on Clark Hill, Hamilton Branch, Baker Creek and Hickory Knob (the state's first resort state park,) became part of the system through leases from the U.S. Corps of Engineers. Clark Hill was later re-named Thurmond Lake in honor of Strom Thurmond, the state's senior United States Senator. Lynches River, which would serve the people of the Florence area, became a part of the park family in 1971. Kershaw County Park also became a state park as N. R. Goodale State Park, located on the outskirts of Camden. Sadlers Creek on Lake Hartwell was completed and opened, and other new parks included Keowee-Toxaway, located on Lake Keowee; Hampton Plantation, once the centerpiece of a coastal rice plantation and the home of the late Archibald Rutledge, noted writer and South Carolina poet laureate; and Landsford Canal, site of the last of a dozen 19th-century South Carolina canals.

For coordinating the purchase and storage of materials, a new Service and Supply Center was built in 1970 near Sesquicentennial State Park. Located off I-20, the center was designed to effect savings through bid purchases, and enabled personnel to accelerate the delivery of supplies and materials to the various parks throughout the state. Specialized support operations such as carpentry, small engine repair, sign shop, and welding are located at the Service and Supply Center.

A Summer Intern Program was soon instituted. Students from several colleges and universities offering Recreation and Parks Administration and Natural Resource Management curriculums participated in field training with the state parks. These students received valuable practical experience from on-the-job training. Many joined the state parks system after graduation, and several of these have been promoted to responsible positions.

One of the most significant additions to the South Carolina state parks system was initiated in 1976 when Caesars Head and Jones Gap were acquired. These two parks comprise 11,000 acres of the Mountain Bridge Recreation and Wilderness Area, which is providing the public with increased recreational opportunities while preserving a unique natural environment. The area is a part of the Blue Ridge Escarpment that “bridges” the mountains stretching from Spartanburg County to Pickens County, most of it in northern Greenville County.. The portion of the middle Saluda River flowing through Jones Gap has been designated South Carolina’s first State Scenic River. The Mountain Bridge project was a joint undertaking by Gov. Richard W. Riley, PRT and the S.C. Wildlife and Marine Resources Department in cooperation with landowners of the area, conservation organizations and other private groups and local, state and federal government officials and agencies.

The Young Adult Conservation Corps, a federally-funded program, was initiated in 1978. The program, sponsored by the U.S. Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, emulated the C.C.C. program of Depression days in its efforts to offer temporary conservation-related employment to young people without jobs. The program ended in 1984 after a six-year span.

NEW PROPERTIES ACQUIRED

One of the most significant developments in the history of South Carolina state parks was the creation of the Recreation Land Trust Fund. The South Carolina General Assembly enacted legislation to establish the fund in 1974 and provided the vehicle to move the state parks system into the future.

In previous years, South Carolina had been fortunate to acquire most of its state parks through donated lands. While the department will continue to seek cost-free recreation lands, most of the opportunities have already been exploited to acquire desirable tracts of land on a complete donated basis. A source of funds was needed to meet

future needs. The original appropriation of \$600,000 has been increased ten fold through matching federal funds, private and local grants, state appropriations, bond funds and donated land value.

During 1975, 1976 and 1977, the Department acquired eleven new park and recreation areas embracing over 7,000 acres with a total value of \$6.6 million. By utilizing the Recreation Land Trust Fund, donations and federal grants, PRT acquired these properties with the expenditure of only \$1.4 million of state funds. One of these was Oconee Station, offering the oldest structure in the South Carolina upcountry, an old stone "station" building once used as a fortified blockhouse and an Indian trading post.

A ceremony was held at Hunting Island in June 1975 to honor the 100th birthday of the park's lighthouse. In July of that year, total park attendance for the state exceeded ten million for the first time in a twelve-month period (FY 1974-75.)

As maintenance and visitor service needs grew in the late 1970's and early 1980's, the number of park field personnel decreased due to state budget cuts. At the same time, increasing park revenue was being produced through the operation of these newer facilities. The parks increased revenue generated per visitor by 23.8% between 1979 and 1985, the third highest increase in the country during that period. One example of revenue production instituted during this period was the charging of entrance fees at selected parks. Begun in 1976 at Myrtle Beach and Dreher Island as a means of controlling traffic through these parks, the amount of revenue produced led to the charging of similar fees at a total of fourteen state parks and a year-round admission fee at Charles Towne Landing.

PERSONNEL TRAINING

The need arose in recent years for the development of an ongoing training program on a variety of levels and course offerings. A training center at Sesquicentennial State Park near Columbia was initiated in 1975, with the first in-service class conducted

in October of that year. Certification programs such as for waste treatment operators are necessary for park operations, and other courses offered include supervisory development, search and rescue, computer training, criminal justice, and maintenance. The majority of instructors are state park employees and staff members, insuring a continuity and high quality of instruction. The training program for South Carolina state park employees has become a major component of career development, and additional courses of instruction are being added on a regular basis. A safety coordinator visits state parks regularly to provide first aid training, to insure that established safety regulations are being followed, and that safe practices are being followed by employees.

HERITAGE TRUST PROGRAM

Between 1980 and 1986, eight state park sites were registered with the Heritage Trust Program. This program, which registers properties with outstanding natural habitats, is managed in South Carolina by the Department of Wildlife and Marine Resources. Nineteen sites and properties on South Carolina state parks are listed on the National Register of Historic Sites. This includes parks such as Hampton Plantation; Redcliffe Plantation, former home of Governor, Congressman and Senator James H. Hammond; Rose Hill Plantation, former home of South Carolina "Secession Governor" William H. Gist; and properties such as the lighthouse at Hunting Island and the Indian shell mound at Edisto Beach.

A 50th reunion of CCC workers was held in 1984 at Sesquicentennial State Park near Columbia, with about 1500 persons attending.

REDUCTION OF OPERATING HOURS

In the spring of 1986, the state park system faced its biggest challenge since desegregation. The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that government employees at all levels, except for certain exempt management and professional classifications, were entitled to

overtime compensation for all work over forty hours per week. The increase in facilities in the previous twenty years, along with the decrease in total park staff, had led to some park personnel working in excess of seventy hours per week at the more popular parks during the peak season. The immediate impact of the court ruling was the loss of available man-hours to operate the parks equal to the loss of seventy-one full-time employees. The initial action of the parks division was to drastically reduce the operating hours of all parks except those showing an operating surplus.

The General Assembly responded to the crisis by authorizing sixty-two new positions to bring all but thirteen of the smaller parks back to full operation. As the new employees were hired, the advantages of this new staffing policy quickly became apparent. Opportunities for increased attention to specific needs were taken as maintenance and visitor services specialists were placed on the parks for the first time. This division of job tasks is leading to improvements in both general park operations and in park interpretation and programming. This specialization of certain park level personnel, coupled with a comprehensive training program, is increasing overall professionalism in the field at a rate unattainable prior to this time.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Programming at state parks in the seventies and early eighties was offered on a limited basis by personnel from the Columbia office. The need for additional efforts in this area was shown by the very positive response from park visitors, and a significant growth has taken place in this area during the past ten years. Full-time interpreters at fifteen state parks offer a year-round schedule of programs on a variety of topics including nature photography, history, wildlife, environmental education, orienteering, fly fishing, overnight backpacking, bluegrass festivals and other musical programs, trail maintenance, nature walks and stargazing. Support from the Columbia office has required the efforts of two full-time coordinators and other personnel to provide the needed

promotional materials, supplies and resources. The tremendous reception of these offerings by the public gives impetus for continued growth in the future as park visitors have come to expect educational opportunities on an equal basis with park facilities.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Another recent staff development has been the creation of a Resource Management section, to include an archaeologist, two biologists, a historian and a naturalist. This section has the responsibility for the cataloging, management, protection, and assessment of the diverse cultural and natural resources of the state parks system, and also has primary responsibility for design and content of interpretive exhibits and publications. Some specific concerns of this section include timber management, biological surveys, archaeological exploration and inventories, and the protection and interpretation of historic sites.

HURRICANE HUGO

During the evening of September 21, 1989, Hurricane Hugo slammed into the coast of South Carolina and steamrolled its way through twenty-three counties, rearranging our landscape and altering our way of life. This nightmare resulted in 135 mph winds, storm surges of 19.8 feet, 46,000 people in 225 shelters, 26,000 homes without electricity, 18,000 miles of road blocked, and \$6 billion in damage. Our state parks system suffered major damage to 22 parks and 5 historic sites, with sixteen parks closed initially. Hugo-related expense to our system totalled \$1,507,583 and 72,956 man-hours.

A unique acquisition in 1989 was Old Santee Canal State Park near Moncks Corner. Originally opened in July 1989, the park was closed after sustaining massive damage after Hurricane Hugo swept through the state. The park, reopened in September 1991, features the Stony Landing House, the boyhood home of longtime legislator Rembert Dennis. The park has a limestone bluff, over three miles of boardwalks and nature trails,

and a massive interpretive center with archeological exhibits and cultural history displays. One includes a model of "Little David," a submersible vessel which, in 1863, made a successful attack on a warship, and became the forerunner of the modern submarine.

LOOKING AHEAD

The distressed state of the economy in the early nineties has effected the operation of South Carolina state parks in several ways. State agency budgets have been reduced, resulting in the shifting of priorities and the reduction of some services and hours of operation. The staffing of new parks has required the shifting of positions from one park to another. One positive result has been the increased productivity and professionalism of our park employees, which has been reflected in numerous compliments from park visitors.

South Carolina state parks have a long history - from the presentation of Cheraw by interested local citizens to the more recent Devils Fork, a 500-acre park on Lake Jocassee that has been developed in cooperation with Duke Power Company and is being managed by PRT's Division of State Parks; and Calhoun Falls, offering access to Lake Russell, one of South Carolina's premier fishing lakes.

The present system of 47 parks totals nearly 80,000 acres, and offers a tremendous legacy to the people of this and succeeding generations. These parks, like the people of South Carolina, have known good times and bad. They have suffered during the Depression and War years, but have enjoyed the good life of more prosperous times. The parks have watched young children play and laugh and return with their own families. Every visitor has his favorite park, because each park is unique. Yet, together they represent the very best that South Carolina has to offer her people.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS

1205 Pendleton Street

Columbia, South Carolina 29201

803/734-0156

(All South Carolina telephone numbers are Area Code 803)

AIKEN STATE PARK

1145 State Park Road

Windsor SC 29856

649-2857

ANDREW JACKSON STATE PARK

Route #1

Lancaster SC 29720

285-3344

BAKER CREEK STATE PARK

Route #1, Box 219

McCormick SC 29835

443-2457

BARNWELL STATE PARK

Route #2, Box 147

Blackville SC 29817

284-2212

CAESARS HEAD STATE PARK

8155 Geer Highway

Cleveland SC 29635

836-6115

CALHOUN FALLS STATE PARK

Route #1, Box 360-A

Calhoun Falls SC 29628

447-8267

CHARLES TOWNE LANDING

1500 Old Towne Road

Charleston SC 29407

556-4450

CHERAW STATE PARK

Route #2, Box 888

Cheraw SC 29520

537-2215

CHESTER STATE PARK

Route #2, Box 348

Chester SC 29706

385-2680

COLLETON STATE PARK

Canadys SC 29433

538-8206

CROFT STATE PARK

450 Croft State Park Road

Spartanburg SC 29302

585-1283

DEVILS FORK STATE PARK

161 Holcombe Circle

Salem SC 29676

944-2639

DREHER ISLAND STATE PARK

Route #1, Box 351

Prosperity SC 29127

364-4152

EDISTO BEACH STATE PARK

8377 State Cabin Road

Edisto Island SC 29438

869-3396

GIVHANS FERRY STATE PARK

746 Givhans Ferry Road

Ridgeville SC 29472

873-0692

GOODALE STATE PARK

650 Park Road

Camden SC 29020

432-2772

HAMILTON BRANCH STATE PARK

Route #1, Box 97

Plum Branch SC 29845

333-2223

HAMPTON PLANTATION STATE PARK

1950 Rutledge Road

McClellanville SC 29458

546-9361

HICKORY KNOB STATE RESORT PARK

Route #1, Box 199-B

McCormick SC 29835

391-2450

HUNTING ISLAND STATE PARK

1775 Sea Island Parkway

St. Helena Island SC 29920

838-2011

HUNTINGTON BEACH STATE PARK

Murrells Inlet SC 29576

237-4440

JONES GAP STATE GAP

303 Jones Gap Road

Marietta GA 29661

836-3647

KEOWEE-TOXAWAY STATE PARK

108 Residence Drive

Sunset SC 29685

868-2605

KINGS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

1277 Park Road

Blacksburg SC 29702

222-3209

LAKE GREENWOOD STATE PARK

Route #3, Box 108

Ninety Six SC 29666

543-3535

LAKE HARTWELL STATE PARK

19138-A South Highway #11

Fairplay SC 29643

972-3352

LAKE RUSSELL (McCALLA) STATE PARK

Route #3, Box 435

Iva SC 29655

348-7841

LAKE WARREN STATE PARK

Route #1-A, Box 208-D

Hampton SC 29924

943-5051

LAKE WATEREE STATE PARK

Route #4, Box 282-E-5

Winnsboro SC 29180

482-6126

LANDSFORD CANAL STATE PARK

Route #1, Box 423

Catawba SC 29704

789-5800

LEE STATE PARK

Route #2, Box 202

Bishopville SC 29010

428-3833

LITTLE PEE DEE STATE PARK

Route #2, Box 250

Dillon SC 29536

774-8872

LYNCHES RIVER STATE PARK

Route #1, Box 223

Coward SC 29530

389-2785

MYRTLE BEACH STATE PARK

U.S. #17 South

Myrtle Beach SC 29577

238-5325

OCONEE STATE PARK

624 State Park Road

Mountain Rest SC 29664

638-5353

OLD DORCHESTER STATE PARK

300 State Park Road

Summerville SC 29483

873-1740

OLD SANTEE CANAL STATE PARK

900 Stony Landing Road

Moncks Corner SC 29461

899-5200

PARIS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

2401 State Park Road

Greenville SC 29609

244-5565

POINSETT STATE PARK

6660 Poinsett Park Road

Wedgefield SC 29168

494-8177

REDCLIFFE PLANTATION STATE PARK

181 Redcliffe Road
Beech Island SC 29841
827-1473

RIVERS BRIDGE STATE PARK

Route #1
Ehrhardt SC 29081
267-3675

ROSE HILL STATE PARK

Sardis Road, Route #2
Union SC 29379
427-5966

SADLERS CREEK STATE PARK

940 Sadlers Creek Park Road
Anderson SC 29624
226-8950

SANTEE STATE PARK

Route #1, Box 79
Santee SC 29142
854-2408

SESQUICENTENNIAL STATE PARK

9564-D Two Notch Road

Columbia SC 29223

788-2706

TABLE ROCK STATE PARK

246 Table Rock State Park Road

Pickens SC 29671

878-9813

WOODS BAY STATE PARK

Route #1, Box 208

Olanta SC 29114

659-4445

'South Carolina State Park Properties
in Chronological Order of Acquisition

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Year of acquisition</u> | <u>Acreege</u> | <u>Cumulative acreage</u> |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Cheraw | 1934 | 7,361 | 7,361 |
| Aiken | 1934 | 1,067 | 8,428 |
| Poinsett | 1934 | 1,000 | 9,428 |
| Myrtle Beach | 1934 | 312 | 9,740 |
| Givhans Ferry | 1934 | 1,235 | 10,975 |
| Kings Mountain | 1934 | 6,141 | 17,116 |
| Edisto Beach | 1935 | 1,255 | 18,371 |
| Paris Mountain | 1935 | 1,275 | 19,646 |
| Table Rock | 1935 | 2,860 | 22,506 |
| Chester | 1935 | 523 | 23,029 |
| Lee | 1935 | 2,839 | 25,868 |
| Oconee | 1935 | 1,165 | 27,033 |
| Barnwell | 1937 | 307 | 27,340 |
| Sesquicentennial | 1937 | 1,445 | 28,785 |
| Lake Greenwood | 1938 | 914 | 29,699 |
| Hunting Island | 1938 | 5,000 | 34,699 |
| Gen. Thomas Sumter Historic Site | 1941 | 5 | 34,704 |
| Santee | 1942 | 2,346 | 37,050 |
| Colleton | 1944 | 35.44 | 37,085.44 |
| Rivers Bridge | 1945 | 390 | 37,475.44 |
| Fort Watson Historic Site | 1948 | 2.8 | 37,478.24 |
| Croft | 1948 | 47.2 | 37,525.44 |
| Croft | 1949 | 7,088.08 | 44,613.52 |
| Pleasant Ridge | 1950 | 300 | 44,913.52 |
| Little Pee Dee | 1951 | 835 | 45,748.52 |
| Andrew Jackson | 1953 | 360 | 46,108.52 |
| Old Dorchester | 1960 | 77.80 | 46,186.32 |
| Huntington Beach | 1960 | 2,500 | 48,686.32 |
| Rose Hill Plantation | 1960 | 44 | 48,730.32 |
| Croft | 1961 | 47.2 (-) | 48,683.12 |
| Gen. Francis Marion Historic Site | 1962 | 9.65 | 48,692.77 |
| Eutaw Springs Historic Site | 1963 | 2.7 | 48,695.47 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|-----------|-----------|
| Col.. Hayne | | | |
| Historic Site | 1963 | 1 | 48,696.47 |
| Sadlers Creek | 1966 | 394.7 | 49,091.17 |
| Baker Creek | 1967 | 1,305 | 50,396.17 |
| Hickory Knob | 1969 | 1,090.55 | 51,486.72 |
| Dreher Island | 1969 | 348 | 51,834.72 |
| Landsford Canal | 1970 | 244 | 52,078.72 |
| Keowee-Toxaway | 1970 | 1,000 | 53,078.72 |
| Lynches River | 1971 | 668 | 53,746.72 |
| Hampton Plantation | 1971 | 322+ | 54,068.72 |
| Charles Towne Landing | 1971 | 664 | 54,732.72 |
| Wildcat Wayside | 1971 | 62.9 | 54,795.62 |
| Hamilton Branch | 1972 | 731 | 55,526.62 |
| Redcliffe Plantation | 1973 | 350 | 55,876.62 |
| N. R. Goodale | 1973 | 700 | 56,576.62 |
| Woods Bay | 1973 | 1,541 | 58,117.62 |
| Hanging Rock | 1975 | 250 | 58,367.62 |
| Musgrove Mill | 1975 | 365 | 58,732.62 |
| Oconee Station | 1975 | 92.4 | 58,825.02 |
| Long Bluff | 1975 | 260 | 59,085.02 |
| Drayton Hall | 1975 | 550.05 | 59,635.07 |
| Oconee Station | 1976 | 117.77 | 59,752.84 |
| Caesars Head (*) | 1976 | 7,467 | 67,219.84 |
| Jones Gap (*) | 1976 | 3,346 | 70,565.84 |
| Lake Hartwell | 1976 | 680.58 | 71,246.42 |
| Table Rock addition | 1976 | 208 | 71,454.42 |
| Jasper | 1980 | 441.83 | 71,896.25 |
| Lake Warren | 1980 | 422 | 72,318.25 |
| Lake Wateree | 1982 | 238.28 | 72,556.53 |
| McCalla | 1982 | 6,239 | 78,795.53 |
| Calhoun Falls | 1982 | 438 | 79,233.53 |
| Givhans Ferry (**) | 1982 | 247 (-) | 78,986.53 |
| Old Dorchester (**) | 1982 | 247 (+) | 79,233.53 |
| Croft (***) | 1983 | 34.24 (-) | 79,199.29 |
| Santee addition | 1984 | 131.65 | 79,330.94 |
| Pleasant Ridge (****) | 1988 | 300 (-) | 79,030.94 |
| Old Santee Canal | 1989 | 224 | 79,254.94 |
| Table Rock | 1991 | 17 | 79,271.94 |
| Devils Fork | 1991 | 622 | 79,893.94 |
| Hampton Plantation | 1991 | 14.78 | 79,908.72 |

(*) - Caesars Head and Jones Gap State Parks comprise the Mountain Bridge Recreation & Wilderness area. The acreage totals have been the result of numerous transactions since 1976.

(**) - The acreage changes of Givhans Ferry and Old Dorchester (247 acres) were the result of a land transfer by Westvaco (owner of both properties) involving a similar number of acres at both parks.

(***) - A land trade at Croft on May 30, 1983 resulted in a net loss of 34.24 acres of park land.

(****) - Pleasant Ridge State Park, acquired in 1950, was deeded back to Greenville County in 1988.

SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE PARK DIRECTORS

| Name | Years of Service |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| H. A. SMITH | July 1, 1933 - June 30, 1935 |
| R. A. WALKER | July 1, 1935 - June 30, 1942 |
| P. R. PLUMER | July 1, 1942 - October 20, 1942 |
| T. D. RAVENEL | November 1, 1942 - February 28, 1943 |
| BEN BOYSTER | March 1, 1943 - July 31, 1944 |
| J. H. GADSBY | June 1, 1945 - April 15, 1946 |
| P. R. PLUMER | April 16, 1946 - June 30, 1948 |
| C. W. JACOCKS | November 1, 1948 - May 3, 1963 |
| E. R. VREELAND | April 1, 1964 - December 14, 1967 |
| DONALD McSWEEN | December 15, 1968 - April 6, 1971 |
| RAY M. SISK | May 5, 1971 - December 31, 1990 |
| CHARLES W. HARRISON | January 1, 1991 - |

Note: State park directors from 1933 through 1967 were employed by the State Forestry Commission. Directors since that time have been employed by the State Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

