

American Canal Society Canal Index

CANAL Gulf Intracoastal WW, Port Allen Branch	STATUS Operating																							
STATE/PROVINCE: Louisiana	ACS IAER																							
COUNTIES: Iberville, St.Martin, Iberia	ENLARGEMENTS 1 2 3 4																							
LOCATION (Endpoints of Canal): Morgan City to Port Allen (Baton Rouge)		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">DATES IN USE</th> <th colspan="2">LENGTH</th> <th rowspan="2">LIFT LOCKS No. / SIZT</th> </tr> <tr> <th>CANAL</th> <th>SLACKWATER TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 1909-1961</td> <td>55 to Plaquemine Lock</td> <td></td> <td>1/55x260'</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 1961+</td> <td>65 to Port Allen</td> <td></td> <td>1/84x1198'</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1/56x800'</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	DATES IN USE	LENGTH		LIFT LOCKS No. / SIZT	CANAL	SLACKWATER TOTAL	1 1909-1961	55 to Plaquemine Lock		1/55x260'	2 1961+	65 to Port Allen		1/84x1198'	3			1/56x800'	4			
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TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS: Baton Rouge W 7½' (Port Allen Lock) Bayou Sorrel 7½' (Bayou Sorrel Lock)																								
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>The BAYOU SORREL LOCK is on the Morgan City - Port Allen branch of the GIWW not far from Plaquemine Lock, and faces in the opposite direction, taking the branch through a levee into the Atchafalaya River floodway. From Plaquemine take LA 3066 (Bayou Road) along the S bank of Bayou Plaquemine to "Indian Village," then S along LA 75 to Bayou Sorrel. Turn R at the bridge then L for a mile to the lock (56x 800', 0-21' lift, 1951). Curiously enough, this modern lock is like an ancient turf-sided or earth-chambered lock, with a pair of concrete gate bays at each end of a large square grassed basin; barges are held in the chamber proper by wooden guide-walls. The gates are pie-slice shaped sector gates, facing south to protect the Plaquemine area from floods of the Atchafalaya River. Unlike miter gates, the sector gates can be opened against a head of water, so the lock is filled and emptied in this manner, without any sluices or wickets.</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>The PORT ALLEN LOCK (mile 228.5, 84x1198', up to 45' lift, 1961) opposite Baton Rouge, is the upper entrance to the Morgan City - Port Allen branch of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW). Follow the signs "To Port" at the I-10/LA 1 interchange. This is a huge concrete structure with miter gates, and enormous steel stop planks stored at the upper end.</p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">From THE AMERICAN CANAL GUIDE Part 3, pp.5-6 (1979)</p>																								
NAMES & ADDRESSES OF GROUPS CONCERNED WITH CANALS PRESERVATION/RESTORATION: New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers, Box 60267, New Orleans LA 70160.																								
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY: <u>The Delta Engineers</u> by Albert E. Cowdrey (New Orleans District). NOS Chart 11354, Intracoastal Waterway, Morgan City to Port Allen. See also Plaquemine Lock Index Sheet for the lock replaced by Port Allen Lock.																								
UNPUBLISHED RECORDS, PHOTOS, DRAWINGS (CEHR, IAER, IABS, 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 GA 91010	DATE: 4 Oct 81																							
RETURN TO: CANAL INDEX COMMITTEE, c/o P.H.STOTT, HAINES ROAD, MOUNT KISCO, NY 10549																								