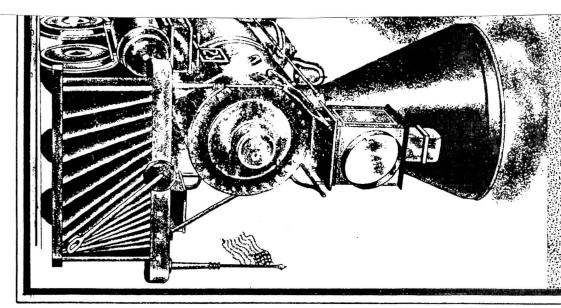
HISTORIC Branchville



HISTORIC POINTS

- I. BRANCH OAK—The first settlement of the Branchville vicinity was here in 1735. The oak was in the fork of the Indian trails connecting the coast and mountain regions.
- SUNSET INDIAN CAMP—The smallest of the three Indian villages near the first settlement.
- 3. HANGING TREE—Tories threatened to hang a Negro if he did not reveal the location of patriots under the command of Col. Williams, a Francis Marion subordinate.
- 4. BERRY'S BAY—Used by Marion's troops as a rendezvous point during the Revolutionary War.
- 5. CONFEDERATE EMBATTLEMENT'S—Three cannon bunkers and numerous trenches formed the fortifications that assisted in keeping Sherman from crossing the Edisto River and entering Branchville.
- 6. REVOLUTIONARY CAMPS—An estimated five thousand troops camped in these fields at various times between the many battles and skirmishes in the area.
- CONFEDERATE MUSTER FIELDS— Thousands of troops were mustered here to oppose Sherman.
- BYRD CEMETARY—One of the first cemetaries in the vicinity. Headstones date back to the time of the first settlement.
- FIRST MEETING HOUSE—The log building was built in late 1735. It later was moved and became Sardis Church.
- 10. SARDIS METHODIST CHURCH—Established in 1786. The present church was built in 1811.
- 11. INDIAN LANDING—Used as a loading point by the Indians and later Indian traders shipping goods to Charleston by raft.

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- 12. COLONIAL CANAL—Connects the Edisto River with Penn Branch. The canal eased the loading of rafts.
- 13. OLD MILL POND—Supported a grist mill during the early days. This pond is not accessible at the present time.
- PENN CAMP—Another of the Indian villages in the Branchville area.
- 15. BEECH TREE INDIAN CAMP The largest of the three villages.
- 16. FIRST RAIL, ROAD JUNCTION— Formed in 1838 when a branch rail was laid from Branchville towards St. Matthews and Columbia.
- 17. REVOLUTIONARY BATTLE—This was a small skirmish between Marion's men and a small band of tories traveling the area.
- CATTLE CREEK CAMPGROUNDS— Established in 1786. This old campground is still in use.
- FEDERATION CHURCH—Established in 1788. Congregation came from first meeting house.
- 20. OLD WATER MILL—Operated by first settlers. Not now accessible.
- 21. INDIAN CHIEF'S VILLAGE—Chief's council presided over the Edisto Indian tribes in the vicinity.
- 22. JOHN FAIREY GRAVE—Not now accessible, it is the grave of one of Branchville's first settlers whose descendants sold the land to the rail-road company to form the town.

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