

A RESOLUTION BY THE STATE HIGHWAY BOARD OF GEORGIA 1954

JEKYLL CREEK BRIDGE — DESIGNATED.

Initially, Jekyll Island was part of the State Park system. However, by 1950, as costs associated with getting the island ready for visitation began to mount, the island was taken out of the state park system and organized into a separate authority in order to become self-sustaining.

The Jekyll Island State Park Authority was created in February 1950 under the direction of Governor Herman Talmadge, and was designed to be a governing board. This board consisted of nine gubernatorial appointed members and was charged with the operation and care of the island.

On the 7th day of March, 1951, the State Highway Board of Georgia did enter into a contract with the Jekyll Island State Park Authority.

The said contract provided for the construction of a certain bridge across Jekyll Creek, connecting the then terminus of said State Highway No. 50, Federal Aid Route No. 7-4, on the eastern shore of Latham Hammock Island to Jekyll Island.

The aforesaid contract authorized the said Jekyll Island State Park Authority to operate the said bridge as a toll bridge; to collect tolls in amount, to be approved by the State Highway Department of Georgia, for the passage of vehicles and persons upon and over said bridge; to pay the expenses of the operation of such bridge for toll purposes out of the toll proceeds; to employ such personnel as necessary for such toll operation, and to require the said Jekyll Island State Park Authority to pay over to the State Highway Department of Georgia the net proceeds of such toll operations.

The bridge was constructed by the State Highway Department of Georgia, and the same is now a part of said State Route No. 50, Federal Aid Route No. 7-4, known as the Jekyll Spur, and is a part of the State Highway System of Georgia, and all of the obligations of the State Highway Department of Georgia under said contract have been executed.

The only executor provisions of said contract, or obligations yet to be performed, are the covenants of the said Jekyll Island State Park Authority, whereby such Authority agreed to operate the said bridge as a toll bridge, collect the tolls therefrom, pay the expenses thereof, and pay over the net proceeds to the State Highway Department of Georgia.

From September 1951 to December 1954, Jekyll Island was primarily closed to the public. Upon completion of the six-year causeway project and drawbridge erection on December 11, 1954, Jekyll Island officially re-opened to the public.

Adopted this 11th day of December, 1954.