



# GEORGIA HISTORIC RESOURCES

Historic Preservation Division

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

57 Forsyth Street, Suite 500

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

404/656-2840

Resource No. *DO-294*

County

*Douglas*

For instructions, see the Georgia Historic Resources Survey Manual

1 Name(s) of resource

*Fouts' Mill*

3 Address/location

*Fouts' Mill Road off of Big A Road*

*Big A Community (vicinity)*

4 Owner's name and mailing address

5 ☒ Building

☐ Structure

☐ Site

☐ Object

☐ Landscape feature

6 ☐ Representative example of building type

Number represented

7 Use, **current** *single dwelling*

*original mill/processing/manufacturing facility*

8 Date of construction (or estimate)

*CA. 1930 - 1939*

9 Major changes & date (explain in No.25)

☐ Altered

☐ Moved

☐ Addition

☐ Destroyed

10 Architect/engineer/designer

*Unknown*

11 Contractor/builder/craftsman

*Unknown*

12 Style

*No Academic Style*

13 Building type

*Unknown (insufficient information)*

14 Original Floor Plan

*unknown (insufficient information) - unknown depth*

15 Plan shape

*rectangular*

2 Location map with North at top

16 Number of stories

*One-and-a-half*

17 Facade symmetry & front door(s)

*asymmetrical, one door*

18 Roof type & material

*gambrel - composition shingle/asphalt shingle*

19 Chimney placement & material

*lateral exterior - fieldstone; lateral interior - fieldstone*

20 Type of construction

*balloon frame/platform frame*

21 Exterior material(s)

*running bond/veneer/stretcher*

22 Foundation material(s)

*brick continuous*

23 Porch(es)

24 Windows

*double-hung sash (flat-headed, 6+ /1, rectangular)*

25 Additional physical description

*This site consists of four buildings. The main residence consists of a 1938 building that was a former warehouse. This gambrel-roofed building features a side shed carport and an addition off the opposite side. Brick veneer has been added. The original mill foundation still exists and now comprises portions of the walls of another building that was constructed in 1936. This concrete block building features a front gable, exposed rafters, and an exterior brick chimney on the lateral side. The portions of the wall that were originally the mill's foundation consists of fieldstone with a thickness of two feet. The mill's store that was still extant was built in 1937 and features a flat roof with stepped parapet and nine-over-nine windows. A house ruin owned by the Abercrombies was not originally associated with the mill but is now situated near the site. Other structures on site include grain storage, a rock wall, a dam, a water house, and a grain-bill. A barn with a gambrel roof is also on site.*

26 Negatives: roll #

*R*

frames # *6,7,8,9*

*1936  
6129*



*residence*



*mill  
foundation*

*store*

27 Description of outbuildings (if any)  
see #25

28 Site plan with North at top

29 Description of landscape features

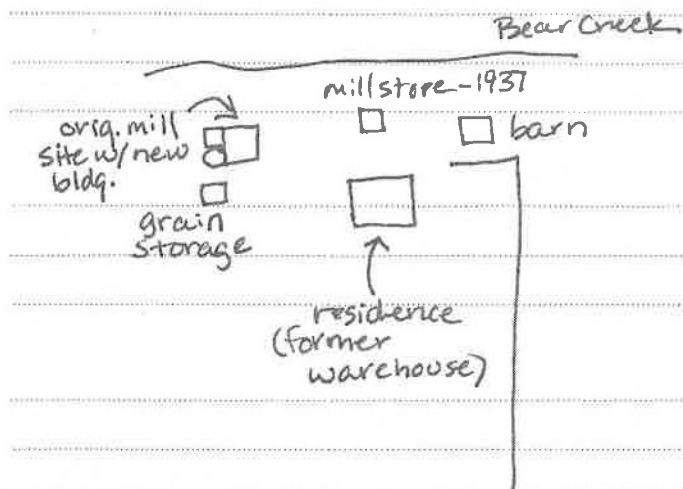
yard setting - informal/picturesque; terracing/contouring; forest/woods - natural

Very picturesque setting with a small creek cutting through the property.

30 Number of buildings 4 structures 5  
outbuildings 1 sites 0  
landscape features 0

31 Description of the environment

rural - forested/wooded (mixed old and new)



32 Archaeological potential

stone: foundations/chimneys/hearths (observed)

mill site - early 19th century to 198 (reported)

33 History

Fout's Mill was the last of the several water-powered grist mills to operate in the county. Up until the last decade, it was also the last extant mill. Mark Fouts built his mill on the site of previous 19th century mills. He acquired the property in 1936. He rebuilt the millhouse on the stone foundation of the previous one and installed new machinery. He also constructed a 14 foot concrete dam. The millhouse burned down in 1957. Fouts son, Herbert, rebuilt the millhouse and operated it until the business closed in 1978. The mill provided corn meal and white and whole wheat flour. Previous inhabitants of the site date back to the early 19th century, in which two Indian brothers by the name of Owl operated a mill at the site. The mill/mill site later became the Empire Mill. Around the 1870s Seaborn Abercrombie and his son, James, operated a mill, which was called Crombie's Mill (the community was known as Crumbie).

34 Historical theme(s)

THEMES: architecture; industry; Indian history; engineering; exploration/settlement GA HISTORY: extended frontier period and area

35 Significance

history - activity (good example/illustration)  
craftsmanship (local variant)

Mostly significant as an archeological site in which several mills have operated since the early 19th century.

36 Sources of information

Douglas Co, GA FM Davis local historian 1,8,33

37 Prepared by (person, organization and address)

Quatrefoil Consulting  
Douglas Co. Board of Commissioners  
8700 Hospital Drive  
Douglasville, Georgia 30143

38 Date of survey 1998 - 1999 resurvey

39 Government preservation activity

☐ Section 106 review ☐ Grant  
☐ Tax certification ☐ Other

40 SHPO evaluation

may meet National Register criteria

41 USGS quadrangle name Winston

UTM reference

17 706055 3725575

zone easting northing

42 Tax map number

43 Recognition and date

☐ National Landmark  
☐ National Register  
☐ Georgia Register  
☐ Local designation  
☐ HABS/HAER  
☐ Determination of eligibility  
☐ Other