



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

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 mill. A barn with a gambrel roof is also on site.

2 Location map with North at top

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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/stretchers

22 Foundation material(s)

brick continuous

23 Porch(es)

24 Windows

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

26 Negatives: roll #

R

frames # 6, 7, 8, 9



residence

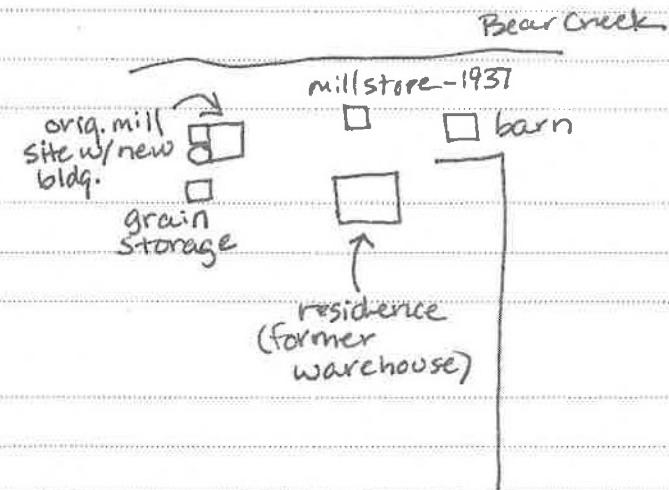


Store

mill
foundation

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

Fouts 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

43 Recognition and date

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

40 SHPO evaluation

may meet National Register criteria

41 USGS quadrangle name Winston

UTM reference

1 7 7 0 6 0 5 5 3 7 2 5 5 7 5
zone easting northing

42 Tax map number