

FRANKLIN COUNTY, NC

LOUISBURG MILL - 31FK181

a.k.a. Green Hill (1770's), Dents (early 1800's), Nathan Patterson (?), Jordon Jones (mid-late 1800's), Bill/Joe Edwards (1970's - last before burning)

circa: 1775-1800



Photo credit: "The Old Mill, Louisburg, N.C." in Durwood Barbour Collection of North Carolina Postcards (P077), North Carolina Collection Photographic Archives, Wilson Library, UNC-Chapel Hill.

LOCATION

Redacted per OSA Request

ACCESS

Redacted per OSA Request

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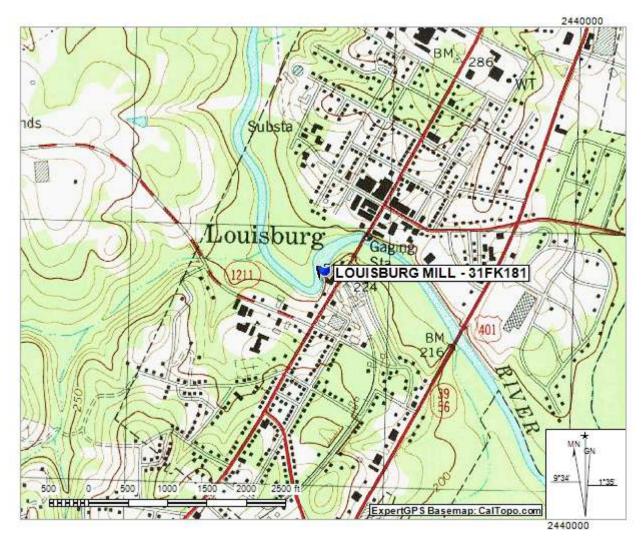
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======= MAPS =======



[USGS Topo NC Louisburg 1:24000, 1979]

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====== PHOTOGRAPHY =======

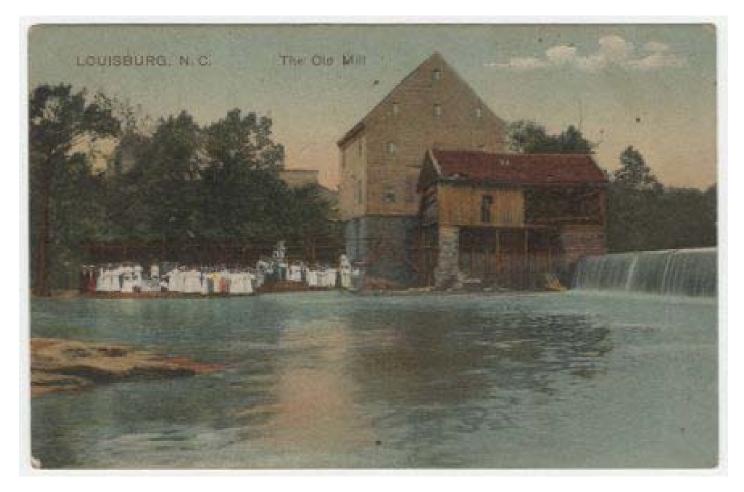


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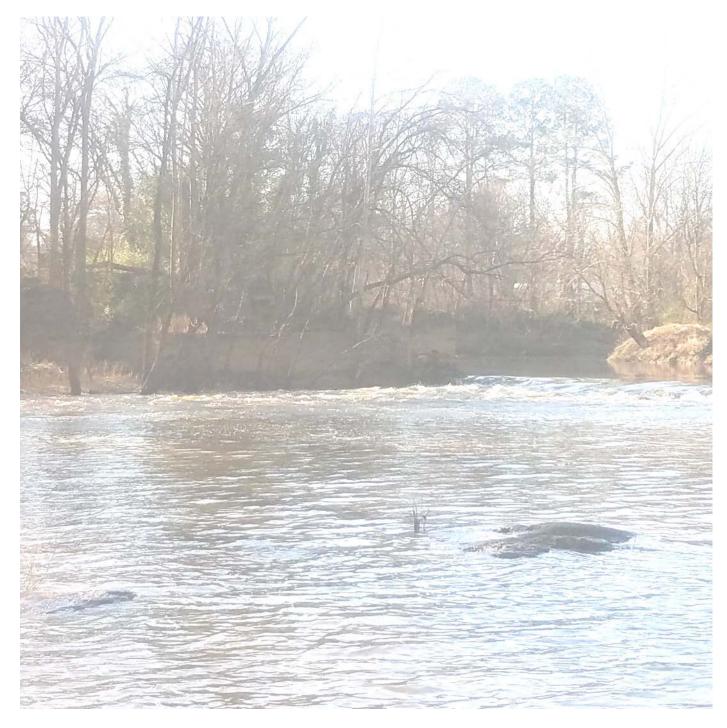


Photo by Bob Radcliffe January 2019 from Joyner Park looking east across the Tar River above Massey's Ford (now People's Bridge), showing the Louisburg Dam and Mill Foundation

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GRIST MILL INVENTORY

FRANKLIN COUNTY, NC



Photo by Bob Radcliffe January 2019 from Joyner Park looking east across the Tar River showing the Louisburg Mill Foundation that adjoined the Dam



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Photo by Bob Radcliffe January 2019 from south-east of the Tar River showing the Louisburg Mill Foundation remains

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Photo by Bob Radcliffe January 2019 from south-east of the Tar River showing the Louisburg Mill Foundation remains

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Photo by Bob Radcliffe January 2019 - Louisburg Mill Stone in Joyner Park

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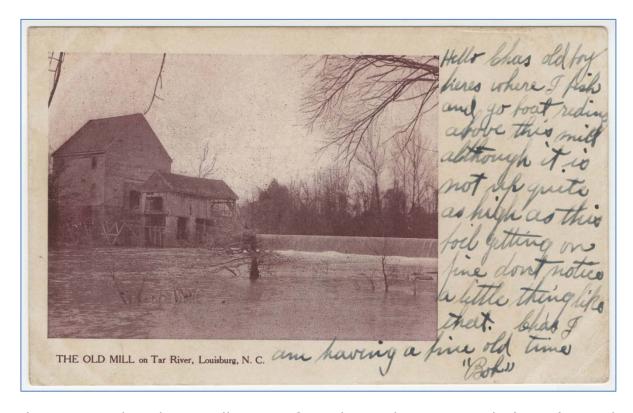


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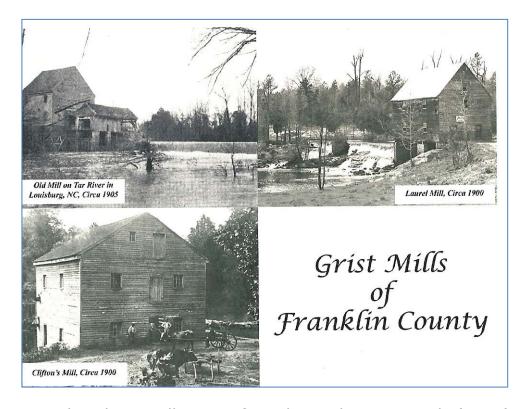


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====== REFERENCE MATERIALS =======

Massey's Ford at Louisburg was one of few "safe" crossing points (before bridges) across the Tar River in what was then Bute (now Franklin) County. At the time, north of Louisburg was Sims Ferry that is now called Sim's Bridge. The next crossing point further upstream was near Wilton, and downstream of Louisburg near Bunn.

All fords were relatively safe when river levels were low, but always impassable when at flood stage. The Tar River has a long history of severe flooding even to this day. The Old Mill at Louisburg adjoined the dam and foundation footprints remain for both in what is now called Joyner Park.

As a major crossing point, Louisburg developed permanent population and necessary services like the Louisburg Mill for local farms and industry.

The Louisburg Mill structure burned in the 1970's – not an uncommon occurrence. The gap between the Top (spinning) and the Bottom (fixed) Mill Stones was adjusted manually by the Miller to control the fine-ness of the flour. If the Stones become too close, heat and sparks are generated that propagate fires quickly inside the dust-laden Mill Building.

See the "Comprehensive Architectural Survey of Franklin County, North Carolina" by Megan Funk and Jeroen van den Hurk filed at NC Archives for more early history of Franklin County.