FRANKLIN COUNTY, NC

# QUARRY (nr Whitaker Mill) - 31FK182



# **LOCATION**

Redacted per OSA Request

#### **ACCESS**

Redacted per OSA Request

#### **REFERENCES**

https://lynchcreek.com/2008-jan-lynch-creek-journal-by-bob-radcliffe/

#### **DOCUMENT INDEX**

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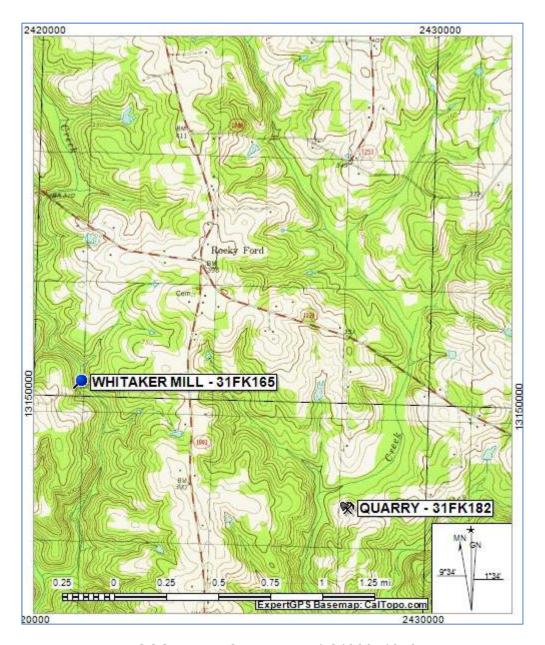
REFERENCE MATERIALS see PAGE-7

NC OSA SITE: 31FK182 – QUARRY (nr Whitaker Mill)

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#### ======= MAPS =======



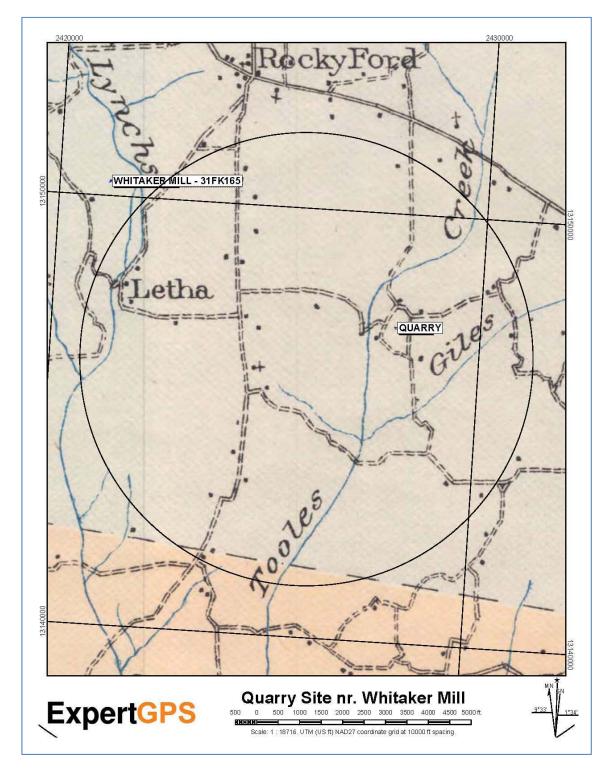
[USGS Topo NC Ingleside, 1:24000, 1979]

# BEN FRANKLIN SOCIETY

# **GRIST MILL INVENTORY**

www.BenFranklinSocietyNC.org

FRANKLIN COUNTY, NC



Stone Quarry near Tooles Creek for Whitaker Mill and Dam Foundation Cut Stone

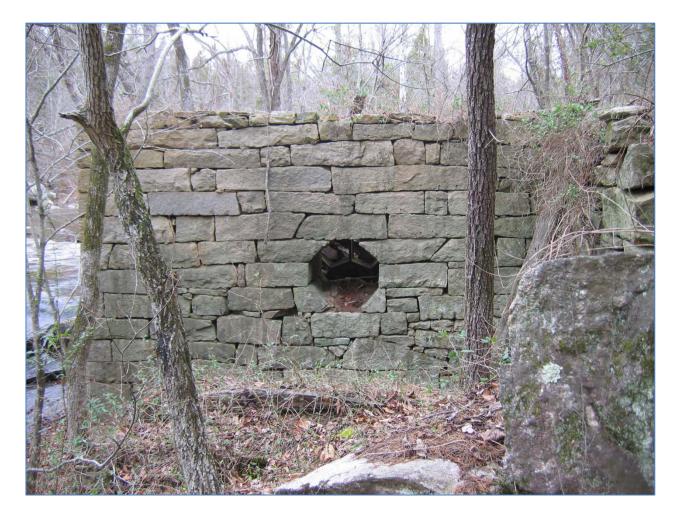
[Franklin County, NC Pratt Map (1906-1907)]

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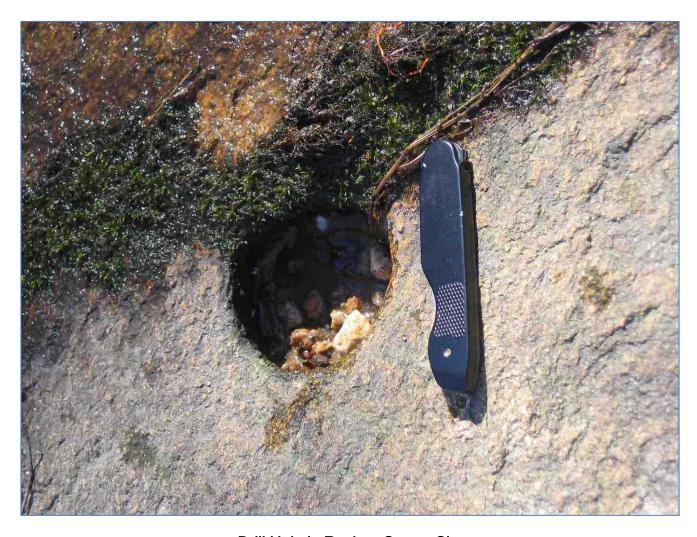
# ====== PHOTOGRAPHY =======



Typical Whitaker Mill Foundation Stone - likely cut from nearby Quarry on Tooles Creek



FRANKLIN COUNTY, NC

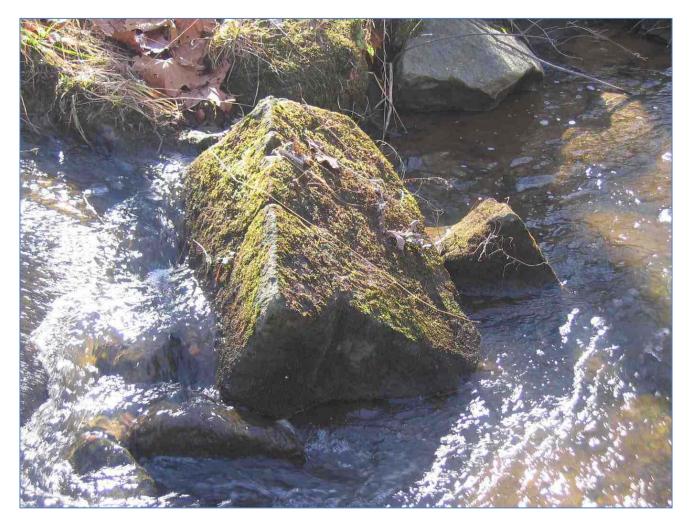


Drill Hole in Rock at Quarry Site

By Bob Radcliffe (circa 2007)



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Cut Stone Block at Quarry Site (Tooles Creek)

By Bob Radcliffe (circa 2007)

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#### ======= REFERENCE MATERIALS =======

#### Gill & Whitaker Mills

FROM: <a href="https://lynchcreek.com/2008-jan-lynch-creek-journal-by-bob-radcliffe/">https://lynchcreek.com/2008-jan-lynch-creek-journal-by-bob-radcliffe/</a>

The exact construction dates and the source of stone for the Whitaker Mill are still being researched. Nearby Cascine (Perry) Mill (30'x40', three grinding stones) on Cedar Creek below Louisburg is of similar construction (foundation stone and cast metal gearing) and dates between 1825-1830. It seems likely that the Whitaker Mill (25'x30', two grinding stones) replaced the older and less capable (or destroyed) Gill Mill (31FK178) located upstream Lynch Creek.

Local historian, Joseph Elmore took me (Bob Radcliffe) to see the Quarry Site in about 2007. He had not been there in over 15 years. In 2007, it was largely "swamped-up" and nothing like the quarry as he remembered it - not a hillside quarry, rather an open, layered, flat site working itself below grade.

I have since returned in February 2019, and could not recognize it as a Quarry at all. The creek had become indistinguishable, more like a marsh and heavily overgrown.

The Pratt Map segment shows a path from the Quarry Site across what is now Simms Bridge Road almost aligns with the path through Letha and onto the Whitaker Mill site.

It seems reasonable to conclude that the Cut Stone for the Whitaker Mill foundations and dam were delivered by Stone Boats or Stone Sledges - heavy duty toboggan like drags pulled by horse or oxen. They were used to move heavy loads like stones and stumps. They were a common piece of farm equipment. Stone boats worked most effectively over dry solid ground or packed snow. Many stone removal and farm quarrying operations occurred in the fall & winter when the harvest was over and the ground frozen. Surviving examples of stone boats are rare. The example in these photographs dates from circa

1890-1920 and is in the collection of the Windsor Historical Society (Maine).

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Franklin County, NC - Clifton Mill Photo - Showing Oxen Carts - circa 1900 - provided by Kenneth King