



Fig. 2: Location of Garner's Mill on Mills' Atlas.

detector survey of part of the site, and mapping and recording of the intact timber remains of the mill dam. Archival research was also undertaken to create a chain of ownership for the mill.

Archival research revealed that Garner's Mill was erected on 3,212 acres of land owned by Presley Garner, whose name is familiar today because he also owned Garner's Ferry across the Wateree River. The exact date of construction is unknown, but the mill is present on the Mills' Atlas

indicating that it was constructed sometime before 1820. The mill was under Presley's ownership until his death in 1837, at which time the mill and land on Colonel's Creek (as well as land and the ferry on the Wateree)

were passed to his wife, Sarah. At Sarah's death in 1840, 300 acres and Garner's Ferry were inherited by her son, Thomas, while her 660-acre plantation was bequeathed to John Leadenham and his children. The

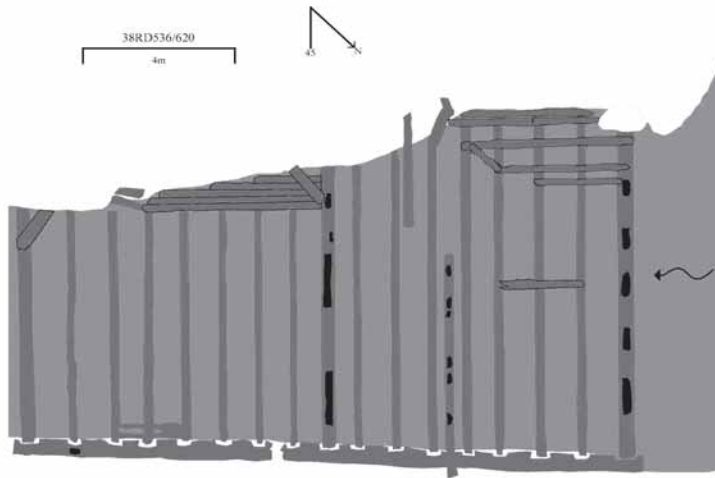


Fig. 3: Sketch of intact remains at Garner's Mill: upstream to right. (SCIAA drawing)

remaining land in Sarah's estate was to be sold at auction to repay her debts. It is uncertain whether the 660-acre plantation refers to Garner's Mill and the surrounding acreage on

Colonel's Creek or if the mill was sold at auction.

Historical documentation concerning the fate of Garner's Mill is lacking for the period immediately following Sarah Garner's death. However, a mill and mill pond on Colonel's Creek reappear in the historical records under the ownership of Joshua J. Lucius in 1868. Census records indicate that the Lucius family was living in the area by the time of the 1860 Census, so he could have purchased the land and mill in the 1840s or 1850s, perhaps at Sarah Garner's auction. Regardless of when Lucius purchased the mill, Garner's Mill is present on the 1854 Walker and Johnson Map of South Carolina suggesting that the mill was still in operation in the mid 1850s. In 1877, Joshua J. Lucius sold 2,188.5 acres, which included the mill pond and

perhaps the mill, to Marcilla Kleckley. Kleckley, however, defaulted on the mortgage allowing Lucius to buy back 1,200 acres of the tract at auction in 1883. Joshua J. Lucius was absent from the 1890 Census suggesting that he died between 1883 and 1890. Upon his death, his land on Colonel's Creek was inherited by his ex-wife and

children. By 1897, Garner's Mill was most likely no longer in operation because it does not appear on the 1897 Map of Center Township, Richland County. The land and mill pond remained in the Lucius family