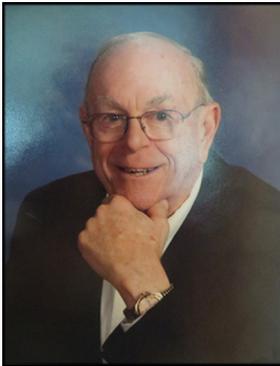


Water-Powered Mills in Richland County

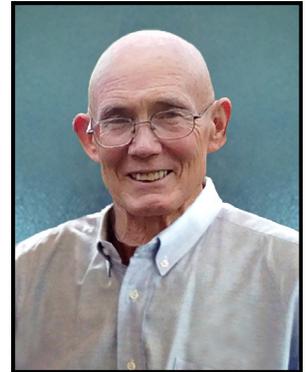
Background/Review



Robert A. Carter

This book, by Robert A. Carter and Michael C. Cullen is based on the research and passion for water-powered mills along the forks of the Mohican River in Richland County, Ohio, of D. W. Garber, an Ohio historian (1896-1983).

Garber interviewed many of the old-timers in milling and made numerous trips to old mills in Ohio since about 1920. In 1970 the Ohio Historical Society published *Water Wheels and Mill Stones, the History of Mills in Ohio*. Although long out of print, it became the bible for mill hobbyists throughout the state. Garber's passion for the history of the mills along the forks of the Mohican River drove him to continue his research. After his death in 1983, all of his material was passed on to his daughter, Connie Cullen, and then to her son, Garber's grandson, Michael C. Cullen.



Michael C. Cullen

In 2013 Cullen and Carter decided to write *Water-Powered Mills in Richland County*. Theresa Marie Flaherty, who had been an assistant to Garber, was brought on board in 2014 as the editor.

The book is featured in a review by Esther Middlewood in the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills (SPOOM) in their Fall 2016 periodical.

Not many authors can say that they have completed a project begun by another member of the family, yet Robert Carter and Michael Cullen have done just that. Cullen is the grandson of Ohio historian and author D. W. Garber (1896-1983) and inherited Garber's original notebooks and research material from his grandfaather. Carter's continued research and the Garber material provide a fascinating look at the importance of mills in Richland County, Ohio. Some Ohio historians might note that a few of the mills included in *Water-Powered Mills of Richland County* no longer stand within the boundaries of Richland County, but early settlers built those mills before the county boundaries changed in the mid-1800s. Most of the mills described in this book have suffered the fate of mills throughout the United States--abandonment, destruction, and finally disappearance.

This book is based upon the world of D. W. Garber, author of *Waterwheels and Millstones* (published in 1970). Yet it also contains updated information from the last 40 years or so. Of particular interest are the memories of those who lived during those bygone years. This 254-page, soft cover book includes 182 photographs and illustrations that clearly depict not only the mills in Richland County but also the lives of the people who owned and operated them. It is an excellent read for Ohio historians and anyone else who enjoys a good tale. It can be ordered from the publisher at www.turaspublishing.com, Amazon.com, or your favorite bookstore.

- Robert A. Carter was born in Mansfield, Ohio, in 1935, and graduated from Lexington High School in 1954. Married with 5 children and 9 grandchildren, he currently lives in Mansfield. He is a member of the Richland County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, the Ohio Historical Society and the Society for Preservation of Old Mills (SPOOM). Since 1964 he has written six local area history books, including *1964 Lexington Sesquicentennial booklet*; *The Sandusky Mansfield & Newark Railroad* (2002); *Tom Lyons The Indian That Died 13 Times* (2003); *Tales of the Old-Timers – The History of Lexington* (2007); *The Mansfield Riots of 1900* (2009), and *Water-Power Mills of Richland County* (2016).
- Michael C. Cullen was born in Brazil in 1946. When he returned from service in Vietnam he completed his bachelor's degree in History from Humbolt State College, followed by a Masters Degree in Strategic Studies in 1971. Over the next 31 years he lived in Mexico, Canada, England, and Italy before returning to the United States. He completed another Master's Degree in 2002 in Strategic Studies, and in 2006, he earned a third Masters Degree, in History, at the University of West Florida. The notebooks that provide the backbone for this book belonged to his grandfather, D. W. Garber, an Ohio historian.

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