

Cotton Gin: Fairfield County Museum, Winnsboro, SC



Mr. Dan Timms, son of the original owner of the cotton gin, David Young Timms, who died in 1926. The Timmses used to mount the gin on a flat wagon and haul it by mules to nearby farms and fields to gin on site. The family had not used the gin for many decades and it had been stored in the old barn shown here. Grandson Rufus Timms had notified me of the pending collapse of the barn and his family donated the gin to the museum. Five strong men assisted me with Rufus's little Ford tractor to slide the large segments onto a farm trailer to be moved into storage at my place.



The Timmses donated parts of the pit bale press that were still intact, and we loaded everything we could get until we heard loud creaking of the barn structure in stages of collapse, having to rope tie the roof to the surrounding trees while we carefully slid out the bottom frame portion of the gin onto the trailer





Backing up to pull out the remaining cast iron frame of the base of the gin...as the part was pulled free, the roof and walls let go and the barn went down in a cloud of dust.

Below is a picture of the gin before disassembling it under the old barn.



A similar gin on display in the Bishopville, SC, Cotton Museum.

