

MILLS AND MILL SITES OF WESTERN MARYLAND

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Friends of Colvin Run Mill

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Completing the Washington County Mill booklet has been challenge. There are many mills and mill ruins to see in this county but finding them was often difficult. Thus, many trips were made to Washington County. In fact, I feel very close to the many kind and generous people whom I met and who helped locate some of the mills.

The Hagerstown Library was also most helpful in making available the history of some of the mills in the area. The Hagerstown Historical Society provided useful additional information. Many people helped in locating the mills, including a carpenter, several mill owners, fishermen and also the “man on the street”. Overall, I am indebted to many people who, without knowing, helped in the writing of this booklet

I want to give special thanks to Nick Yannarell who, for many years, has been binding these mill booklets for me. I also want to thank my husband, Robert Lundegard, who is my consultant, photographer, and chauffeur. His encouragement and support made this project a more pleasurable adventure.

MILLSTONES AT CITY PARK HAGERSTOWN

When plans were being made for the construction of the City Park in Hagerstown, John Kausler, in 1922, proposed that a millstone circle be part of the park. So, at the entrance of the park a millstone circle was installed.

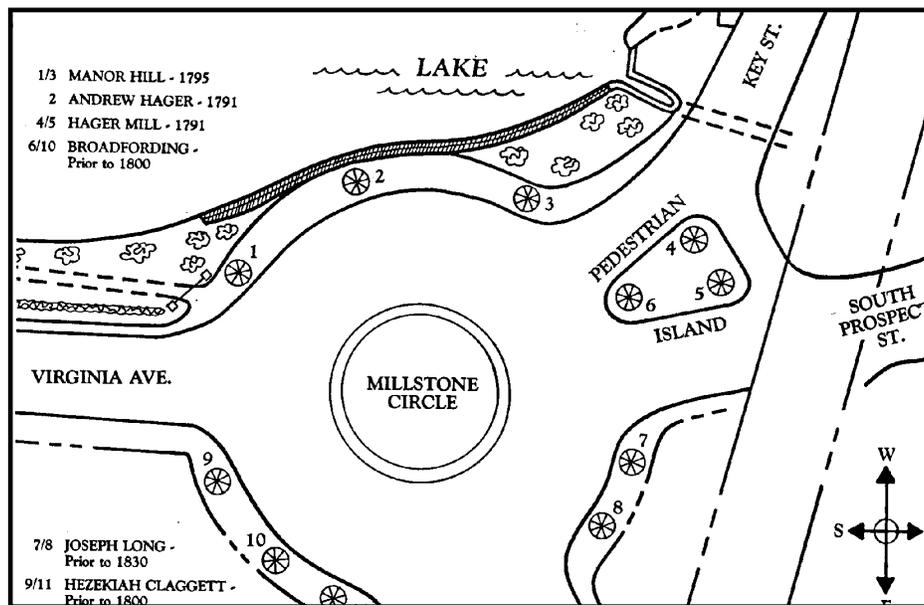
There is a sidewalk that surrounds the circle. The circle is the meeting point of S. Prospect St, Summit Ave, and Virginia Ave. Old mill stones that once ground grain in the Washington County grist mills were embedded in the sidewalk. There are eleven millstones in total. Each stone has a small bronze plaque that tells the name of the mill that once was the home to the grinding stone.

Two stones are from the Manor Mill. Manor Mill was built by Samuel Ringgold in 1795. The mill was on his estate known as Fountain Rock. There were several mills on his property. This mill would have been near the present site of St. James College.

Three stones are from the Andrew Hager Mill that was built around 1791. This mill is still standing on Mill Street, behind Hager's Park.

Two millstones are from the Broadfording Mill that was built prior to 1800. This mill was located on the bank of the Conococheague Creek. The horses and wagons forded the stream at this spot. Today, a bridge spans the Creek at the old mill site.

Two stones are from the Joseph Long Mill. This mill was built in the late 1790's. The mill was located near a place known as Spielman's that was alongside the Norfolk and Western Railroad. The mill was a two storey stone building with a hipped roof. This mill got its water from Marsh



Run. Another name for this mill is the Fairplay Mill.

Two stones are from the Hezekiah Claggett Mill that was built in the late 1790's. This mill was also known as Price's Mill.

CHARLES MILL

This mill is located in Washington County near the town of Downsville. Drive south on SR 632, through Downsville, to the McMahon Marina, which is on the Charles Mill Road. This road runs off of the Dillinger road. This will be about one and a quarter miles southwest of Downsville. The mill is on the west bank of Big Slack Water at the Potomac River, twelve miles from Hagerstown.

This mill is also known as Shaffer's Old Flouring Mill and also the Avis Mill. Avis was the owner of the Shaffer's Old Flouring Mill. At this time the mill produced flour, feed and plaster. Another name for this mill was the Cedar Grove Mill. A famous local politician whose name was Benjamin Galloway owned the mill around 1814. The mill is now called McMahon's Mill.



The mill is a four storey structure which has red siding today. There are two dormers on the side of the roof facing the river while the other side has three dormers. The millstones were on the second floor of the mill. The stones were driven by power from a twentyfoot diameter wooden overshot waterwheel. Today, the mill has a twentyfoot metal Fitz overshot waterwheel. All of the mill equipment has been removed. There is a metal pipe flume that directs the water to the wheel.

The Charles mill, also known as the McMahon Mill, was built around 1778 on the Downey Branch at the Big Slack Water. This was one of the deepest spots on the Potomac River. The mill used water from the Downey Branch spring. The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal was built alongside the Potomac River. The mill road was the only access to the canal in this area. There was a great deal of storm damage to the canal and today there is no evidence of a canal alongside the Potomac River. Even the towpath has been washed away.

In 1922, the mill was closed due to a flood that almost covered the mill with water. The original wooden overshot water wheel was replaced with a steel wheel that was also used to generate electricity.

The National Park Service acquired the mill around 1976 as part of the C & O Canal Park. No equipment is in the mill. The windows of the mill are boarded up today. Bill McMahon had removed all milling equipment before the Park Service acquired the property. He built an “open air” mill behind his restaurant. He had planned to make this a “demonstration mill”. He had two runs of millstones and several roller mills.

The mill is three and a half storied frame structure that has a gambrel roof. There are dormers on the roof.

Milling ceased around the 1920's. At that time, the twenty foot steel waterwheel was installed with a governor and a fifteen KW electric generator. This supplied electricity to the mill and millhouse.



CLINE'S MILL

This mill is located on route 68 between Alt. US 40 and SR 65. The mill is located at the place where the road to Breathedsville intersects SR 68.

On the way to the mill you will cross over a one lane two arch stone bridge that was built before the Civil War. It crosses over the Antietam Creek. There is a very nice park here called the Black Devil Park that is situated alongside of the Antietam Creek. This is a good area to do a little fishing or just to sit and listen to the water rush over the dam.

This mill is a three storey building which has wide sheet metal which covers the sides of the mill. The structure has a brick front. The brick gable has a fast fading sign that reads—*George Cline Feed Service, Grain, Feed and Coal.*

Today a sign in front of the mill reads—*The Feed Bin.* Plants and animal feed are sold here today. On one side of the building is a covered area where the wagons or trucks could bring the grain into the mill to be weighed and then processed into feed.

The roof line is somewhat unusual. There were two small towers perched on top of the roof.

The owners of the mill were not able to give us any additional history of the mill but it is interesting to see the wide diversity of mills in this county.



DOUB'S MILL

Doub's Mill is located in Washington County.

The roads listed are those in this county. Go south on SR 66 to I-70. Cross the highway and within a short distance turn onto Beaver Creek Road. The mill complex consists of a mill that is now a private residence, a stone barn, and several other stone and brick buildings. This mill has had several other names such as the Funk's Mill, the Woodside Mill and Doub's Mill.

This three storey stone mill was built between 1811 and 1822 by John Funk and replaced a wooden gristmill that had collapsed at this site. The story is that the frame structure had been overfilled with grain and this is said to have caused the collapse of the building. When Mr. Funk rebuilt the mill he used local limestone. In 1820, two men working at the mill, processed 12,000 bushels of wheat, rye, and corn into flour. At that time flour was selling for \$78 per barrel.

In 1831, John Doub bought the mill. By that time, five stone houses had been built nearby on the Little Beaver Creek. These houses and other outbuildings were part of the original mill complex that was built in the German tradition. One house has the date 1792 inscribed in the stone. Before Doub's purchase, the entire property belonged to the brothers Henry and Christian Newcomer. The brothers were Mennonites of Swiss-German origin.

Doub came to Frederick County in 1830. At that time he bought 264 acres of land. The Doub's



heirs owned and operated the mill until 1949.

In 1930 the mill ceased to operate as a commercial mill due to the lack of demand for the products. However, the mill continued to do custom grinding for the neighbors until 1945. From 1930 to 1945, a store and a post office operated in part of the first floor of the mill. Gas pumps also had been installed in front of the mill.

Frank L. Doub sold the mill in 1948 to Mr. and Mrs. Morgan. Morgan ran a store, a post office and a cooper's shop. He used the mill as an antique shop and also as an auction house. He commented that the mill was built like a fortress. The basement walls were five feet thick and the first floor walls were forty-two inches thick.



In 1968, the Morgans sold the mill to John Shaffer. He planned to turn the mill into a political retreat. He replaced the original metal roof with cedar shakes. At this time, he added two dormers on the front and four on the back. He replaced the original nine over six windows with six over six panes. In 1978, the mill was sold, but the new owners were not able to obtain permits to convert the building into a private residence. Mr. and Mrs. Perini bought the mill in 1979. In prior years extensive vandalism had occurred. In addition the mill was located in the flood plain. Sewage had to be pumped one thousand feet away from the building. The neighbors granted easements to the new owners and the mill was converted to the private residence that you can see today.

THE EAKLES MILL SITE

This mill was located on the Little Antietam Creek southeast of Keedysville. From SR 67, turn west onto Dogstreet Road. At Mt. Briar road, turn left. This will be in a southeast direction, continue on to the Eakle Mill Road. The mill site is on the east side of the road, west of the

Baltimore and Ohio railroad tracks, which have been removed, but one can see where the railroad tracks had been.

The first owner of this mill was David Furry. In 1826, he sold the mill to his son-in-law, David Keedy. An 1850 record shows that the mill was owned by Martin Eakle. The mill produced flour and feed.

Martin Eakle, from 1816 to 1878, owned two hundred acres of land. He was listed as a miller and a merchant. By 1880, Martin's son, Rohrer, operated the mill. However, the 1887 record lists H. M. R. Eakle as the miller.

Today, one can see remnants of the millrace. The dam has been somewhat damaged by vandals. However, the dam could probably be restored. The mill has disappeared. Probably, when the



present road was built the mill was destroyed. There was a post office in the mill at one time. A turbine was installed in the mill. To supplement this power, a steam engine was added.

By 1890, the mill was operated by a Ira Snively. The *Boonsboro News*, of March 24, 1955, listed Isaac Smith as operating a saw and planing mill at this location.

There is an old metal bridge over the stream at the site of the original road to the mill. The bridge was built in 1900 by the *John Wagaman Company*. The bridge was commissioned by local officials, Isaac Ankeney, Joseph Ernst, and Samuel Stouffer.

The village of Eakles is an interesting place. It contains many old houses built in the early 1800's. We had an interesting conversation with a family who lived in a house built in 1820. The village church was built in 1832.

Dogstreet is also an interesting road. There is a one lane stone arch bridge over the Antietam Creek. Nearby is a stone barn built in 1754 and a stone house built in 1784. German masons built the barn and house using local quarried stones. Note, the barn was built first to house their precious livestock, and then their house.

FOUCH MILL SITE

This mill site is in Yarrowsburg, which is on MD 67 north of Weverton. The mill was on the Yarrowsburg Mill Road along side of the Israel Creek. Yarrowsburg Road was also known as the Kaetzel Road. This mill is also known as the David Fouch Mill, Grim Mill and the Bartholow Mill.

John Fouch bought this mill from Hezekiah Boetler and wife in 1839. In 1842 John sold the mill to a John Grim. In an 1854 sale record The David Fouch Mill is mentioned in a bill of sale of wheat. Alexander Grim, in 1863, purchased the former Boetler-Fouch Mill.

Richard Grim's grist and sawmill was sited as a landmark in the 1910 "Voting Precincts of Washington County, Maryland".

The M. Bartholow Mill was on the east side of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, south of the Bartholow Station.

The shingle roof burned from sparks from a train locomotive. The mill was a four storied building. However, only the foundation remains today.

The Duke University Library is said to have the papers of the Jennings family in Washington County, MD. These papers contain the account book of David Fouch for milling.

GILBERT'S MILL

This mill is in the vicinity of Leitersburg. If one is coming from Smithsburg on the Leitersburg-Smithsburg highway, the mill will be near a hollow where the Little Antietam Creek passes under the road. A cluster of buildings hugs the road. The larger stone structure is the mill and the miller's house is to the west of the stone mill. The mill was once a three and a half storied building. Now only two stories remain. An entrance porch has been added. This mill is also known as the Bowman's mill.

The mill is now a two storied stone building. Christopher Burkhart is said to have built a mill at this site in 1779. An advertisement in the 1793 *Washington Spy* refers to "Jacob Gilbert's Mill at this site. Gilbert had purchased two hundred acres of land from Abraham Stouffer in 1789. Stouffer is also said to have built this mill. In 1799, Abraham Moyer bought the mill from John Gilbert. Unfortunately, Moyer suffered financial problems and in 1825 he had to sell the mill. Frederick Bell bought the mill. Bell, in 1837-38, installed new machinery in this mill. Frederick died in 1839 and his son, in 1840, bought the mill.

This mill had elliptical stone arches and heavy pegged window frames that suggests that Abraham Stouffer had built the mill. The mill had two runs of buhrstones.



In 1857, Daniel Mentzler removed the old building and built a new mill at this site. The mill was regarded as the most “commodious” mill on the Antietam Creek. This mill was a three storied building. The walls were stone up to the second floor and then weatherboard siding was used. The mill had a frame gable roof. Each side had four bays and the end had three bays. In 1886, this building was completely destroyed by fire. The mill had a thirtytwo foot metal overshot water wheel. When the road was opened a culvert under the road fed the water to the mill.

Other owners of the mill were Samuel Etnyer, David M. Deitrich, Jeremiah Fahrney, Ellias Stottlemeyer, and George Bowman. .

George Bowman was born in 1852. In 1886 he purchased the mill on Little Antietam Creek. He installed the roller process in the mill. In 1889 he also served as postmaster at Mills, which was the name of the little village. Space for the post office was added to the south side of the mill. Around 1920, George built a brick house across the road from the mill for himself and his family. In 1930, Amos, George's son, inherited the mill. Amos added a large one storey structure to the mill. This structure was used for storage and also served as a general store. In 1941, Amos purchased the farm across from the mill. There was a large stone house on the property and this is where he lived. The mill closed in 1952. At this time the mill was converted into rental apartments.



In 1980, when the road was repositioned, the frame overhang that provided shelter for the loading of the farm wagons, was removed. Also, at this time the upper floor of the mill was removed and today we see a two storey stone structure.

Rachel, the daughter of Amos, married William Niemyer and they live in the stone farmhouse today. They had two daughters, Carolyn and Linda. Carolyn married an Amsley and lives in the brick house across the road from the mill and Linda, married a man by the name of Baker and they live in the original miller's house that is west of the mill. The daughter of Linda, Kelly Skank, and her husband Richard and daughter Devyn Rachael live in the old mill structure. Six generations of the Bowman family have lived at the mill.

We met both of the daughters, Carolyn and Linda. They were very eager to show us around the property. We saw the millrace that had concrete walls and evidence of the millpond and dam. The headrace passed under the road to the mill. The tailrace has been filled in with dirt; it was hard to decide where it had been.

As with most mills there are interesting stories to tell. One such story is about their grandmother who burned down the barn at the mill when she was burning the chicken nests. The daughters remember their grandmother keeping pies on a shelf in the cave beneath the miller's house. The cave does not exist today. This is an interesting mill to visit.

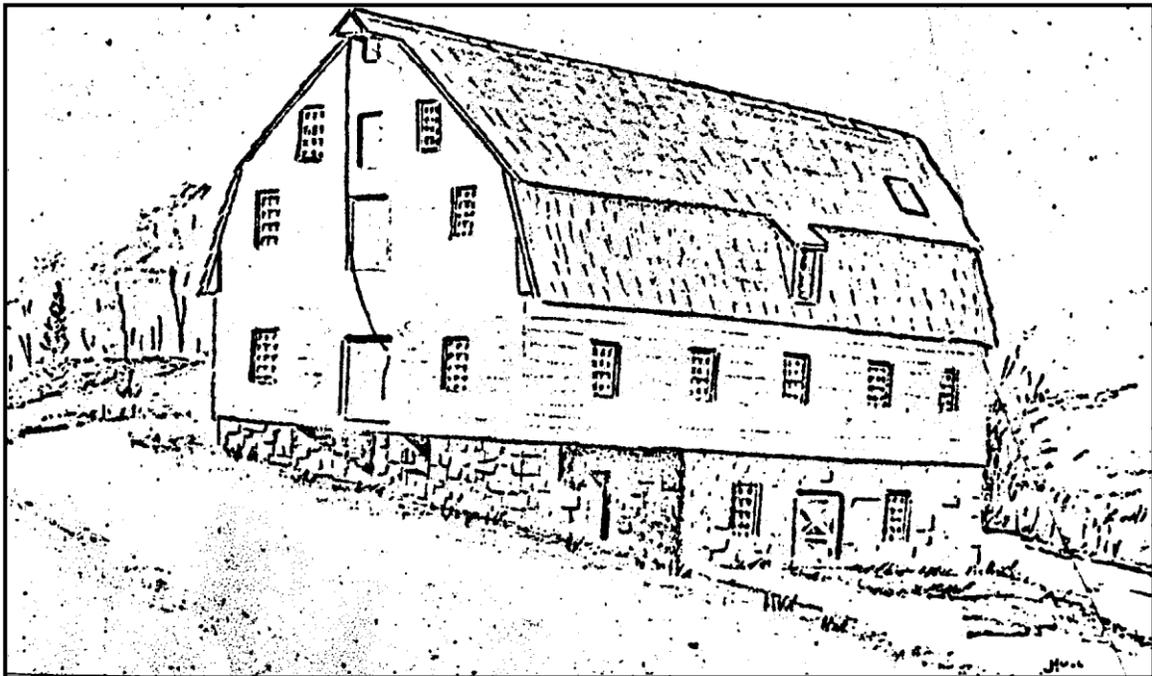


GOSSARD MILL SITE

This mill site is southwest of Fairview on the Gossard Mill Road about one and a half miles from Fairview. The mill was located on Rockdale Run on a steep cliff where the run takes a long drop.

In 1887 S. G. Spickler was the miller here at this mill. The mill was then known as the Fairview Mill or Spickler mill. A 1956 survey map also calls this the Fairview Mill.

Joseph Fiery built the mill before 1805. The heirs of Joseph Fiery sold the mill and two hundred and sixteen acres of land to John Fiery in 1805. In 1818, Joseph and Mary Brua bought the mill for \$7900. In 1843, Abraham, Daniel and David Miller owned the mill. Henry Fouke purchased the mill in 1864. By 1874, Samuel S. Zeller and John Schnebly paid \$800 for the mill. Owners of the mill between 1880 and 1913 were many. In December 30, 1913, Lester and Lillie Gossard bought the mill at a foreclosure sale for \$5840. The Gossard family owned and operated the mill until November 10, 1942 when Bruce Hoffman bought the mill from Upton Gossard.



Bruce Hoffman was the owner-operator of the mill until 1976. During his ownership, he made extensive renovations. The overshot waterwheel was restored, new electrical service was installed and some structural improvements were made.

Bruce operated the mill for six to seven years. Fred Speck was his miller. Fred died of a heart attack while sitting in the miller's office. Pappy Sowers was the next miller. The mill operated until around 1949-1950. Business had dwindled and also many of the mill customers owed large sums of money to Bruce.

When the mill ceased operations the milling equipment and fixtures were sold to other mill owners in the area. After operations ceased, the Hoffman family used the mill for storage.

Over time the mill began to deteriorate from neglect. Vandals broke all of the window panes. In 1972, hurricane Agnes weakened the mill bridge structure. In 1975, a large dump truck filled with gravel fell into the run as it tried to cross over the stream. At this time, the Washington County Highway Department purchased one acre of land from the Hoffman family. In 1976, the local firemen burned the mill. The highway department cleared away the stone foundation of the mill. The road was straightened and a new bridge was built. Today, as one looks at the cliff, there is no evidence that a mill was ever at this site.

The mill was a frame structure that set on a stone foundation on a steep cliff on the Rockdale Run. The mill, a three and a half storied structure, had a hipped roof. It was a merchant mill.

The book, *LIFE OF D. L. MILLER* by Bess Royer Bates, a niece of D. L., describes the period of ownership from 1843 to 1864, by the Millers. D. L. Miller was the oldest of thirteen children of Abraham and Catherine Miller. Abraham and his family set up housekeeping in the basement of the mill in 1841. D. L. was born in the mill. In 1920 when he returned to see the mill, the room where he was born was being used as a pig pen.

Around 1853, the miller's house was built. It was originally a log structure with two rooms down and two rooms up. Later on additions were made and today we have an L-shaped two storey brick structure. The house was recently sold and will be used as a family residence.

D. L. and his brothers began to work in the mill at the early age of twelve. When the mill operated, twentyfour barrels of product could be produced in a day. Wheat and corn were ground using the French buhrstones.

D. L. Miller went on to become a minister of the Church of the Brethren. He gave speeches and sermons throughout the area. He died in 1921. Information for this article was furnished by Bill Isham who owned the miller's house and some twenty seven acres of land around the mill site. He had done some research about the Gossard mill and furnished me with copies of his research. Again, even though there is not a mill to see, the rural country in this area is well worth the trip.

GOWER'S MILL

This mill is on the north side of SR 63, east of Williamsport. This modern feed mill is located alongside the Penn Central railroad tracks.

William Gower and Sons operate this mill. The mill was the dealer for Wayne Feeds. Today Purina Chow is sold here. It is a commercial mill. The building is made of cinder blocks and wood siding. The structure has been enlarged during the many years of operation.

As we were taking pictures of the mill, Marvin W. Gower came over and offered to give us a tour through the mill. The mill receives grain from the local farmers and then converts the grain into animal feed. The grain is dumped into a hopper and then it goes to a roller mill that chops the grain. After the grain has been chopped and ground it is mixed with molasses and then it is sacked in 100 pound bags. An Archimedes screw moves the feed to the bags. This mill was never water powered. Today, electricity is used to power the mill.

The miller's office today is where the original railroad station manager had his office. In the office today is the original cash drawer and also other items that were typical of a railroad station office.

The original mill was built before 1908. We were shown the original record books that are stored in a closet up on the third floor. On the second floor were rooms that were plastered which suggested that the miller or station manager might have lived above the station. The original mill burned in 1936. Marvin's father, William, rebuilt the mill. William is still active in the daily operation of the mill.



This was my first tour through a modern feed mill and I was amazed at the similarity of the processes used to those of a flour roller mill. The roller milling machine for feed is much larger than the ones used in flour mills.

As with many family businesses, everything is saved, nothing is thrown away. In the basement is an old hammer mill that is no longer in use. Old record books were in stacks on the upper floors. Marvin gave us an old sales form that indicated the mill specialized in grain, coal, feed, fertilizers, and general merchandise in the 1920's.

HAGER'S MILL

This mill is located in Hagerstown, adjacent to Hager's Park, which is at 245 Mill St. Hager's Park is bounded by Mill St. and Memorial Blvd.

In 1791, John Stull sold twentythree and a half acres of land on Marsh Run to his brother, Daniel. Daniel and his partner, Col. Nathaniel Rochester, built a three storied stone mill with a frame gable at this site. The Marsh Run headwaters were in the present city park. Their mill was known as the Rochester-Stull Mill.



Daniel Stull died in 1818 but his son, William, operated the mill until he sold it in 1822 to John Kennedy. Thus, the mill became known as the "Kennedy Mill". Kennedy sold the mill in 1845 to William Hess. It is Hess who sold the mill to Jonathan Hager. Later, after Jonathan died, his son, William, operated the mill.

During the Civil War, mills were raided by both Union and Confederate troops. When the Confederate soldiers raided the mill they left behind receipts for what they used. Hager never received payment for the food used and if one looks at an entry he put in his ledger—"to be paid when the devil dies", he never expected to be paid.

Nathaniel Forey was a miller at the mill during William Hager's ownership. In 1883, Daniel Stickel, who later had his own mill at the corner of Baltimore and Hood Streets, leased this mill for a number of years.

Dr. E. R. Firey bought the mill property in 1907 and later sold it to the city of Hagerstown in 1917.



The city tried to operate the mill but due to the obsolete machinery, they were unsuccessful. Thus, the city sold the mill to John A. Forsythe, who used the mill as a storage warehouse for seventy years.

The mill's water wheel was demolished many years ago. The wheel pit area is filled in with dirt and debris. Where did the machinery go? No one appears to know the answer to that. Today the windows of the stone mill have been covered with boards. The Forsyth furniture Co. is still the owner of the mill.

INGRAHAM'S MILL

This mill is near Smithsburg on Crystal Falls Road, which is an extension of Maple Avenue. Crystal Falls Road intersects SR 64. The mill is directly across the road from the Smithsburg Reservoir that furnishes water for the city of Hagerstown. The milldam is to the right of the mill.

Ingraham's Mill was built around 1810. It was a three storey stone structure with a gable roof. Records show that the mill was owned by the Ingraham family in 1940. The mill had an overshot water wheel. Edward Ingraham operated the mill during the civil war. The mill made wheat flour, buckwheat flour, corn meal and ground feed for the farm animals. Sometimes cash was given for the work done and sometimes a toll was taken.

Grove Creek supplied water to the mill. This Creek also supplied water to the Smithsburg reservoir. The millpond was also a place for winter sports such as ice skating. However, farmers and merchants would also use the pond to get ice that was stored under sawdust in their ice houses. When they were cutting the ice for summer use, the ice skating would come to a halt and the skaters would have to wait until the pond froze over again.

Edward had six daughters who inherited the mill. Tillman Williams was the miller who operated the mill for the daughters for many years. Later, Mr. Allen C. Smith operated the mill. Miss Rachael, one of the daughters, became the sole owner of the mill. When Rachael died, Smith purchased the mill and operated it for many years.

Later, the mill was sold to Mr. Smith's nephew, Wade Smith. A short time later, Wade sold the mill back to his uncle. However, during this period of operation the mill was known as the Ingram's Mill.

When Smith died, the mill was sold to Lancelot Jacques. Lancelot was a descendent of the early furnace builder, Denton Jacaues. Lancelot used the mill as a storage place for the fruit that he grew on his farm. He disposed of all the mill furnishings.

Today, the mill has become the private residence for the Roger family whose father had bought the mill and restored the building into a private home. In the living room is a run of grindstones that still have the wooden hoop over them and the crane that was used for lifting of the stones. All of the original beams and supports have been kept. In the basement are the gears that operated the grinding stones. There are many belt driven pieces of equipment still in place in the mill basement. There is a twentyfour foot steel Fitz water wheel in place. The water wheel is badly rusted.

The millpond and dam are still intact. There is a big sluice gate in place. Even though this is a private residence, it is well worth seeing.

KEMPS MILL

This mill is located on Kemps Road at Conococheague Creek. Using I-70 east, exit at highway 63,



which is exit 24. Go south a short distance to Kemps road. Follow the road to the mill.

This mill is listed as the “Old Mill Tavern”. So, we decided this would be a great place to have lunch as we were traveling from Ohio back to Washington. Much to our surprise, the mill had not operated as a tavern for many years. The mill part was not occupied but an apartment had been added to the mill.

The mill is a three storey wood siding structure. There was an old stone foundation under the mill. A metal roof had been added to the mill. On top of the roof was a cupola with all glass sides. There was evidence of a dam in the streambed but the dam was no longer functional. The headrace had been sealed off from the stream. The mill appears to have been turbine powered. The mill was probably built in the late 19th century. The side of the mill facing the stream has a concrete block foundation. This indicates that there had been some flood damage done at some time. Probably, due to the size of the mill, this was a commercial mill.

William H. C. Kemp was born in 1823. From this father, David C, he learned the business of the miller and distiller. He settled around Jefferson, Maryland. However, he had many mills in



Maryland at various times. This mill is also known as Shingles mill. This mill is fast disappearing. Hopefully, someone will save this mill before it turns into a historical ruin.

KLINE BROTHERS MILL

This mill is located on Alt. US 40 at Beaver Creek. The mill is in a town called Benevola. Today, this very large facility is not operating.

Charles H. Kline was the owner of 148 acres of land at this site. In 1900, his two sons, Stanley and Herbert, owned the Benevola Roller Mill. It was operated by steam and was kept running all year long. It was fitted by the Wolf Co. of Chambersburg. It produced fifty barrels of flour per day using three roller machines and one run of buhr stones. The mill produced the finest quality of flour. The sign on the mill reads, "*Home of Kline's Best Flour, Meal and Feed.*"

In the apple season, the Kline brothers made cider and apple butter by the steam process. They could produce twenty five barrels per day. If the cider mill operated twentyfour hours per day, then thirtyfive barrels were produced. The mill was heated by steam.

The mill appears to have had several additions during the years of operation. The mid section, which was built on a stone foundation, was the original section. The office had a very large old metal safe.. The safe was about six feet by four feet. It was probably over one hundred years old. In the office was walnut wainscoting. The siding of the mill was covered with metal siding. Adjacent to the mill is a large new brick building.

Behind the building were many huge grain storage units. At some time the mill operated as a feed mill. The address on the mailbox is Wilkins Rogers Inc, Boonsboro Milling Division, 8545.

Sadly, since the building is empty it is beginning to rapidly decay away. Is there a future for this mill?



THE KUHN MILL

This mill is located on the Charles Mill Road, west of Hagerstown. From Williamsport, go northwest on SR 68 to SR 56-west. Follow SR 56 to Charles Mill Road. Go south on this road. The mill is south of the Western Maryland Railroad.

Records show that the Kuhn mill was upstream from the J. J. Charles Mill that is on Charles Creek. J. Kuhn's mill, which is on Camp Spring Run, was known as the Big Spring Grist Mill. J. Kuhn and his brother, A. Kuhn, are listed as the millers of this mill in the 1887 directory.

A 1794 map shows three gristmills within a mile long stretch in the Big Spring area—Kuhn’s mill, Bell’s mill, and Charles’s mill. Only the Kuhn mill remains today. It no longer functions as a mill but is a private residence.

It is not known who built this mill. It was probably built sometime in the early 1800’s. Jacob Kuhn was the mill owner and operator of the mill. When he died in 1881, his sons, Abraham, Joel and John, inherited the mill and other property. Abraham and Joel never married.

Abraham became the operator of the mill. He began working in the mill at the age of ten and continued until he died sixtythree years later in 1904. He was well liked by everyone in the community. Although he was extremely wealthy, he helped many people in the community when they had financial problems.

Abraham’s nephew, Edward Smith, son of John, became the next miller. The mill had a big overshot water wheel. The mill was a two and a half storied stone and weatherboard structure.

When ownership by the Kuhn family ceased, the mill had many owners such as Guy Angle and Ben Charles, George Sword, Lloyd Bartles, Jack Corwell, and Emory and Evelyn Metger.

The Charles family was the first to use the mill as a residence. Later, the owners converted the first floor of the mill to a residence. Living quarters have been extended to the second floor and the basement. The old beams are exposed and the stone fireplace has been restored.

An interesting story is that a descendent of Jacob Kuhn, Jacob Ankeney, claims that he had his “curls “ cut off in the mill by Jacob Kuhn. His grandfather had taken him to the mill and while there he got a haircut, much to the disappointment of his mother.

LEHMAN’S MILL

To reach this mill, take MD 60 from Hagerstown east toward Leitersburg. Close to Leitersburg, turn left onto Lehman’s Road. This is a very narrow road. Follow this road to the mill that will be on the left hand side. Don’t give up—it only seems to take forever to reach the mill.

In 1833, Jacob Lehman purchased the land. Jacob and Peter Middlekauff built the first school in this area for a sum of \$4200. It was called the Paradise School. In 1854, Jacob Lehman purchased a mill from David Brumbaugh. This mill was known as the Marsh Mill and was built by Thomas Spriggs in 1760. The mill was on Marsh Run that is a tributary of the Antietam Creek. In 1794, there were fifteen mills on the Antietam Creek.

In 1850, Marsh’s Mill was known as Lehman’s Mill. At this time, 4444 barrels of flour per year were produced. At the same time 2000 bushels of rye and corn chop were produced and also 11,100 bushels of “stuff”. As you can see, the mill was quite productive. By 1860, Jacob’s son, Henry, was operating the mill. There was a half mile wide log dam that had been dug by slave labor. A slave by the name of Chatham helped build the mill. Chatham lived to be 104 years old.

By 1869, Henry, Jacob’s son, had purchased the mill from his father’s estate. Jacob had died in 1866. Henry replaced the stone structure of the mill with bricks. In 1887, Henry added steam power to the mill.

For over one hundred years, the Lehman's owned and operated the mill, i.e. four generations of Lehmans. Henry's son, William Barton operated the mill followed by his son, also named William Barton. By 1969, the mill was sold to the Better Foods Foundation. This foundation ground soft wheat that they purchased from farmers in Ohio. They produced 250,000 pounds of flour per year from 4000-5000 bushels of wheat. At this time, electricity was the source of power for the mill. In 1996, John Eshelman and Doug and Paula Reed owned the mill. The Reeds lived on the farm



across the road from the mill.

Today, the Brezler's own the mill and live in the miller's house that is adjacent to the mill. The mill is no longer operational. The present owners hope to have an operational mill someday. In the meantime, to help defray restoration expenses, the Brezlers feature several special functions each year. One of these functions is the Pumpkin Festival that is held in September. At this time a guided tour of the mill is given. On the first floor of the mill, arts and crafts are featured. In November, an arts and crafts festival is featured.

The mill is a three storied brick structure. The front section is a three bay brick section with one door. The end section is a two bay brick section with one door. There is a brick gable and the roof is covered with metal sheeting. There is an inside double steel ten foot wide, eight feet in diameter overshot Fitz waterwheel. Later on a diesel engine was added. No milling equipment is on the first floor. At one time, there were grinding stones and these were later replaced with roller machines.

Even though this is not an operational mill, it is a beautiful mill. Hopefully the owners will be able to restore it at some future time.

MARTIN'S MILL

At Hagerstown, go north on SR 60 to the town of Reid. The mill is on Reid Road and is located west of the Western Maryland Rail Road.

In 1889 the Lehman family built this mill. The Lehmans later sold the elevator and mill to Earl Martin. Earl operated an elevator and mill at this site. The mill was a clapboard structure. Wirthmore Feeds and Genuine Olga Pocahontas flour were sold here.

The 1967 records show that this mill was still in operation, but today, year 2000, the mill is no longer in operation. The Paramount modern feed mill is nearby and is still in operation. It is interesting to note the changes that have occurred in milling. The Lehman's gristmill is also in this area and so one can go from the water powered mill to the modern electric mill and only travel a short distance.



MAUGANSVILLE MILL

This mill is located northwest of Hagerstown. From Hagerstown, go north on Pennsylvania Ave to Maugans Ave. Turn left onto Maugans Avenue and go to the town of Maugansville, get on Village Mill Drive that will take you to the mill

This is a large modern feed mill that is located alongside the railroad.



This is an operating mill that produces feed today.

THE MILLER'S MILL SITE

This mill site is located near Sharpsburg on Burnside Bridge Road, which is south west of Sharpsburg. The site is on the south side of the road. The site is near the Antietam Battlefield. This mill was also called Miller's Mill.

This mill was owned by Colonel John W. Miller. He had thirty acres of land. John was born in Jefferson County, Virginia. He moved to Washington County, Maryland in 1810.

Water from the C and O Canal powered the mill until the Civil War at which time operation of the mill ceased.

During the battle of Antietam, Lee's chief engineer occupied the stone house at the corner of Miller's Sawmill Road. From this house he could observe the water levels just in case the army should have to retreat.

Sometime later, a George Miller operated the Miller's Mill and also the Julius Mill as a woolen factory. George also had a clover seed cleaning mill on Antietam Creek.

ORNDORFF MILL SITE

This mill site is located at Orndorff Bridge, sometimes called the Middle Bridge, on Antietam Creek on SR 34 about one and a half miles east of Sharpsburg.

Christian Orndorff I, originally from the Rhine River area of Germany, came to Pennsylvania and built many mills in the Lebanon Valley area in the 1700's. He came to Maryland and built a house, Mount Pleasant, on the Antietam Creek. This was a log house that had two chimneys and six fireplaces. Across the road from the house were a large flourmill and a sawmill. Christian bought several lots in Sharpsburg in 1764.

The mill was built in 1753. It was the oldest mill in the county. It was rebuilt in 1782 by Christian Orndorff II. Orndorff was an active patriot. He was an organizer of Captain Cressap's Company in 1775. He became a major but he did not serve any military time. Major Orndorff organized a flour shipment for the siege of Yorktown.

Christian Orndorff III was a 2nd Lieutenant in the Flying Camp. In 1782-83 he built a new mill near the Mount Pleasant homestead. When the mill was torn down in 1904, a cornerstone was found with this inscription -“1782, September 2, C.O. and M.O”. The M.O. represented Mary Thomas Orndorff, the wife of Christian, and the C.O. represented the name of Christian Orndorff III

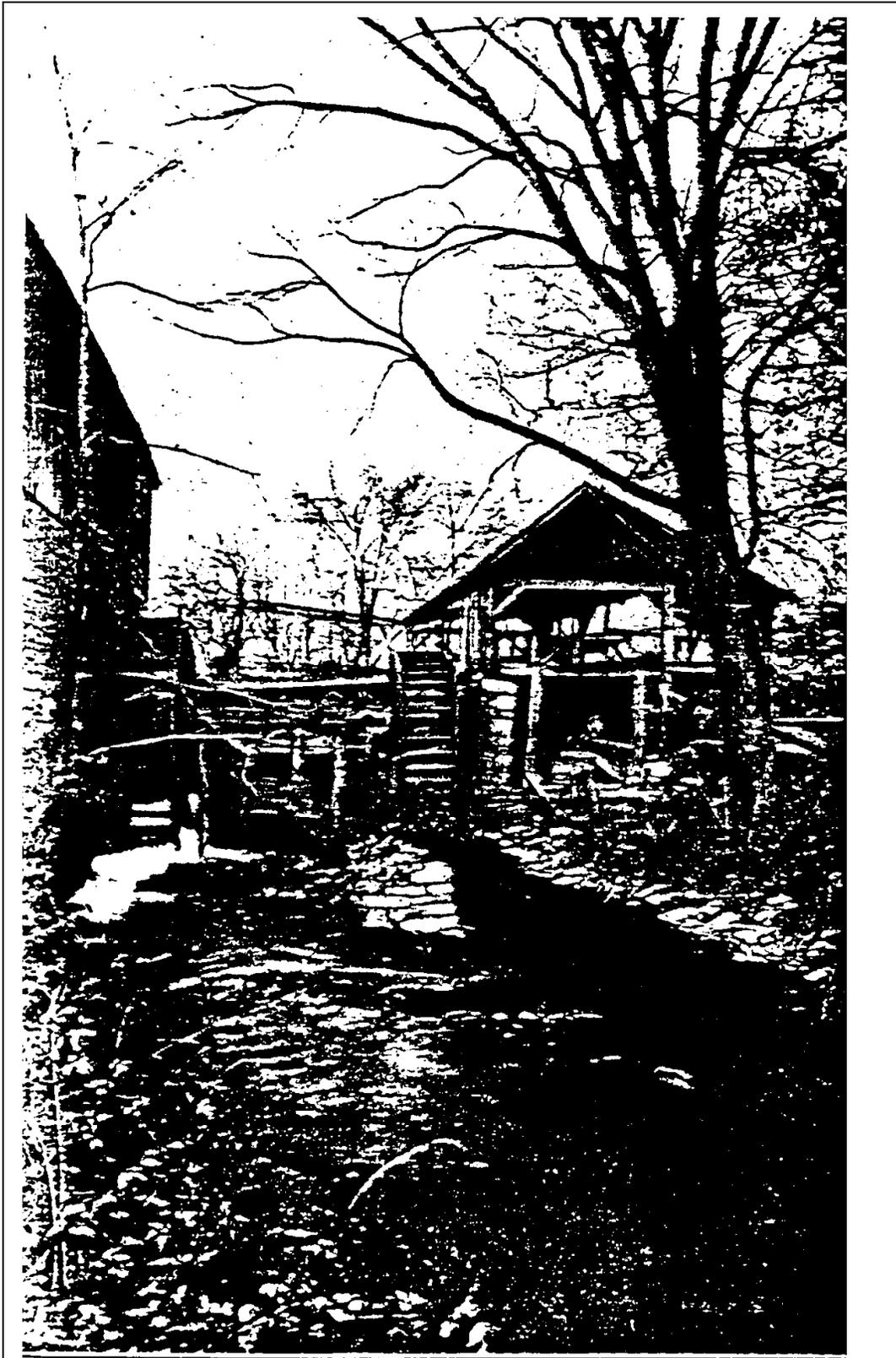
Christian III sold the Mount Pleasant Plantation to his sons, Henry and Christopher. The mill was given to Christopher and the water rights were given to Henry. In 1797, Christian III died.

In 1796, Christopher sold the mill to Jacob Mumma. Jacob's son, John, helped in the mill. Flour was shipped to Baltimore. Negro teamsters drove the horse driven wagons to the city.

John Mumma married Elizabeth Shafer, who was a grand daughter of Mary Orndorff. John inherited the mill. A rutted dirt lane led to the mill. This path became known as the “bloody lane” in the battle of Sharpsburg in Sept. 17, 1862. The ditch along side of the lane became filled with casualties. In terms of lives lost, this was the most costly battle of the war.

John Myers owned this mill for a time and the mill was known as the Union Mills. However, in 1889, the dam was washed away during the “Johnstown Flood”. The Orndorff inscription stone was found by Helen Ashe Hayes in 1910. By this time the mill had been dismantled.

The mill is said to have had two separate water wheels—one for the sawmill and one for the gristmill. Photos of the mill show the mill to be located downstream of a steel bridge.



Old Orndorff Mill, Built in 1753—Oldest in the County.

PARAMOUNT MILL

This modern feed mill is located near Paramont, which is north of Hagerstown, alongside the railroad.

In 1967 this mill offered custom grinding. No other information about this mill was available.



POPLAR GROVE MILL RUINS

When we were visiting the Strite mill there was a man repairing the roof of the garage. Since we were not able to find the Ingraham mill that was supposed to be in this general area, we asked the roofer if he knew where this mill was located. After scratching his head for a couple of minutes, he said that he had no knowledge of this mill but that there was a mill called Poplar Grove that was nearby. He asked if maybe we might like to see this mill. We eagerly listened as he told us how to find this mill.

To reach this mill, go north from Leitersburg on highway 60. Within a short distance, turn right onto highway 418. Within two miles you turn right onto Poplar Grove. Do not make the mistake and turn right onto Grove that is just before you reach Poplar Grove. At the first bridge, on the right hand side, is the mill ruins.

This mill is on the Little Antietam Creek. The roof on the building has long ago disappeared. The mill was a two storey stone structure. There was a stone gable. There was a three bay window placement. The side where the water wheel or turbine would have been is gone. The millrace was probably where the road is located today.

This is an interesting mill and well worth the time to stop to see it. Hopefully, the walls will be stabilized sometime before they collapse. The Black Rock Mill restoration in Montgomery County, Maryland is a good model to follow.



PRY'S MILL

This mill is in the vicinity of Keedysville. The mill is located on the Little Antietam Creek near the confluence with Big Antietam. This mill is located on Keedysville road, just off of 34-S.

Samuel Pry was the owner of this mill. This mill is sometimes called the Valley Mills. There was a gristmill and also a sawmill at this location.



Aaron C. and Emory A. Pry were the owners of this mill in 1887. This was a four and a half storied brick mill that was built on a two storey stone foundation. The mill was set in a deep hollow on Upper Bridge Road. Also at this site was a cooper shop.

This mill had four runs of buhrstones and was the fifth largest mill in the county. The original mill was built around 1700. Besides being a commercial gristmill, there was also a sawmill at this site. One can see where the sawmill was located. There is evidence of the original dam, headrace and tailrace. The mill probably had an inside water wheel. We were told that the water wheel was a twentyfoot Fitz overshot waterwheel. This mill was in operation until 1920.

Pry's house, during the battle of Antietam on September 17, 1882, was the headquarters for General McClellan. This battle was one of the bloodiest battles of the war. At this time, Al and John Nunamaker operated the mill. During the Civil War the mill was used as a hospital. In fact, it is believed that Clara Barton worked at this hospital.

The sawmill was intact until around 1930. Today the mill has been converted to a private residence.

The Pry Bridge over the Antietam Creek is a one lane two arch stone bridge that was built by a George Burger in 1858 at a cost of \$1650. The bridge has bulwarks that were shaped like the bow of a ship. Several bridges in this area have the same type of bulwarks. These were very effective in breaking up logjams.

Not long ago, the present owners noticed something down in the flood plain mud that looked like a grinding stone. After some digging, they decided that it was a grinding stone and should be moved to higher ground. A local farmer came to their rescue and with his tractor he pulled the stone to dryer ground. However, in the placing of the stone in its new location, the stone was “face down” and all one sees today is the concrete back of the stone. But, the buhr stone is now in a safe place



and maybe some day, the other side of the stone will be seen.

ROSE MILL RUINS

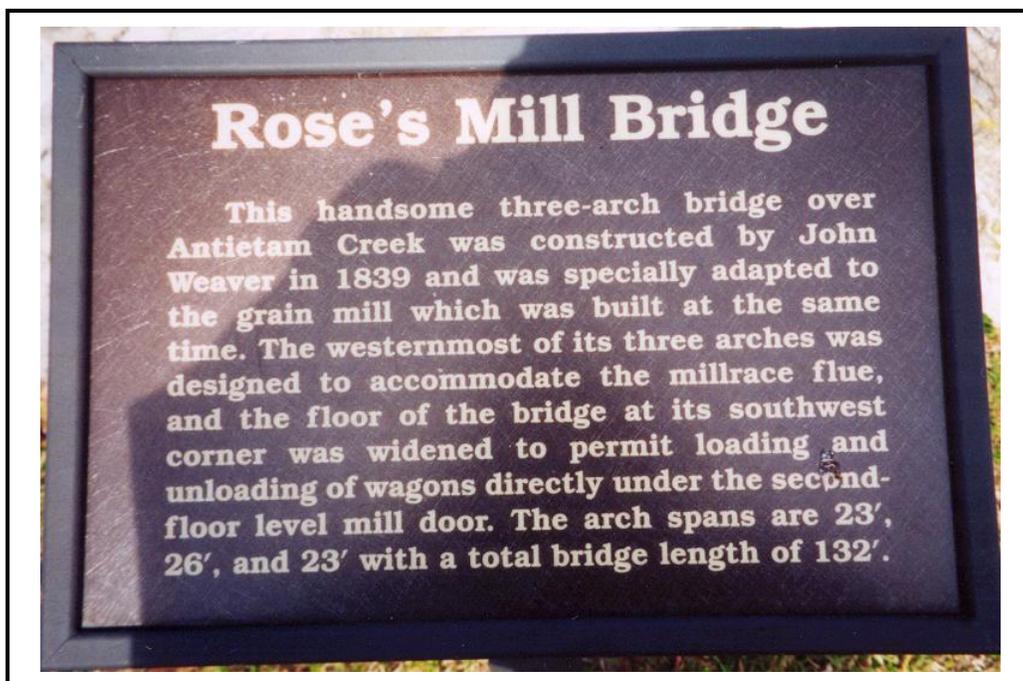
Christian Rowland built this mill in the late 1700's. On a 1795 map the mill is listed as the Roland's Mill. This mill was on the west bank of the Antietam Creek, two miles below Funkstown. Use US Alt 40 north toward Funkstown. Turn onto Rose mill road to the mill ruins.

In 1800, David Rowland was the owner of this mill, but in 1808, Jacob Sharer was listed as the owner. The name Sharer has two spellings—the other spelling is Sherer. When the mill irons were advertised for sale, the name was spelled "Sharer".

The mill was at the southwest end of Rose Mill Bridge that was built by John Weaver. This was a three-arched structure that was built in 1839 to accommodate the mill traffic. The floor of the bridge was widened to permit loading of the wagons directly under the second floor level mill door.

Another mill downstream from the Rose mill was the Fiery Mill that is sometimes called Claggett's Mill. This mill was owned by a John Claggett. In 1819, John was a road supervisor. This mill burned around 1900.

The Old Rose Mill was a clapboard building. This was a flourmill but also at this site was a cooper shop. In 1928 the water wheel was intact. The Old Rose Mill was known as the most modern mill



in Washington County. By 1910, the mill building was in very bad condition.

In a photo of the Rowland's Mill, also known as the Old Rose Mill, following a fire, one can see a wooden water wheel that got its water from the Antietam Creek through a metal pipe. The photo also shows that the mill had been built with a typical Antietam stone bridge.

Today, a small stonewall is still standing beside a stone bridge which had three stone arches. Two of these arches were over the Creek and third arch led to the mill. The stone millrace is extant and one can see the partial stone dam.

ROXBURY MILL RUINS

This mill was on the west side of Antietam Creek, four miles south of Funkstown. Two other mills in this area, were the Claggett's Mill and the Old Rose Mill.

John Shafer Jr. built a gristmill at this site in 1795 near the Antietam Creek. John lived to be 97 years old. This was the site of the first of the "classic" stone bridges that were built in Washington County. The son of John Jr., John Shafer III, married Elizabeth Hess who was the daughter of Jacob Hess, the first miller of Keedysville. The daughter of John and Elizabeth married John Mumma who was the son of Jacob Mumma. Jacob had bought the Orndorff Mill in 1796. John had helped him in the mill. The Shafer mill was owned by J. Henry Shafer, son of John III.

The Roxbury Mill was later converted to a distillery. The mill was greatly enlarged at this time.



The mill ruins show that the mill had two fireplaces. One fireplace was in the center of the end wall on the first floor and there was another fireplace on the second floor in the same location. The mill was probably a three storied brick structure. Today, one sees a partial sidewall and a corner unit that is still standing.

Across the road from the distillery ruins, there is a partial stone foundation and lots of stones indicating something had collapsed. This structure appeared to be a large unit. The headrace was where the road is today. The partial dam can be seen upstream.

Another mill, upstream from the Roxbury Mill, was the Delamere Mill, sometimes called the Booth's Mill. The Rev. Bartholomew Booth founded a boy's school in 1776 near the Delamere Mansion. He built the mill at Devil's Backbone, where Braddock had crossed the mountain. In 1850 the mill had an output of 14,000 barrels of flour per year. Late in the nineteenth century the mill burned.

The Roxbury Mill Bridge is on Garris Shop Road. Some ruins of the mill remain visible today. There is a one lane three arch stone bridge that was built in 1824 by Silas Henry. The bridge is 169 feet long and has arch spans of twentyseven feet, thirtythree feet, and twentyseven feet. This bridge also had pointed bulwarks that helped break up the log jams and the ice flow.



STICKELL'S MILL

This mill was located in Hagerstown on West Baltimore Street and Hood. The building was intact in 1990 but has since been partially dismantled. .

At the age of 16, Daniel A. Stickell was an apprentice to William Crum, who was a Hagerstown miller. Daniel earned ten to fifteen dollars each month, plus his board. He worked eighteen hours each day. In 1883, he went into business for himself at the Andrew Hager Mill that was on Mill Street in Hagerstown. By 1896 his mill was producing fifty barrels of flour each day.



By 1917, his mill was at Hood and West Baltimore Street and was producing 800 barrels of flour each day. There was a rail siding by the mill so that the product could be easily shipped to other parts of the state. In 1918 his sons had become partners in the business. In 1919 a small feed mill was added. In 1919 the mill burned but the feed mixing plant remained. The Stickells decided to enlarge the feed mill. D. A. Stickell and his head miller, Charles Young, designed a plant to produce thirtytwo tons of feed per hour. The mill had eleven salesmen. There was a storage unit capable of holding 40,000 bushels of feed. There was a buried tank that could hold two carloads of molasses. There was also a soft coal burning dryer. The mill was now a four storied brick structure.

The chief brands of feed produced were the “Blue Ridge” and “Super” which were feed for poultry and cattle. The mill was owned by Daniel Stickell and his three sons, Howard, Clarence, and Ross. The mill consumed more grain than the community could produce. In 1949 the mill was expanded and new equipment was purchased. An automatic electrical control panel mixed the feed batches. This was the first such mill in the state. Now the mill was five stories high plus a basement. It was seventyfive feet by seventy five feet in size. There were two Jay Bee hammer mills which were run by two 100 H.P. G.E. motors. A cyclone dust collector was installed. This was a very modern mill.

Daniel Stickell died at the age of 92 in December of 1952. His son, Howard, served as president for fifteen years and at the age of 78, with the consent of other family members, sold the plant to Saul Padek of Milwaukee.

The mill operated under the Stickell name for a while. However, the new owners were not able to operate at an expected profit. So, they decided to dismantle the machinery at the mill in Hagerstown. Other holdings were also sold. The machinery of the feed mill was shipped to Israel and is now in operation in that country.

The mill building was empty for several years. In 1970, several small businesses had moved into the mill. Part of the mill building remains today and is being used by several businesses.

STRITE’S MILL

This mill is in the vicinity of Leitersburg. Go northwest on Leitersmill Road. Turn right (east) on Strite Mill Road. The mill, which is now an apartment building, is on the west side of Antietam Creek in Village City.

The mill was owned by Jacob Leiter until his death in 1764. At this time Jacob’s son, Christian Leiter, became the owner of the mill. In 1790, Christian sold the mill to Peter Shanaberger. Samuel Kraumer(Cromer) bought the mill in 1792. Kraumer built the present mill in 1798. One building stone has this inscription—“S.K.1798”. John Russell, who had come to this area from the Shenandoah Valley, bought the mill in 1807. John died in 1808 and his son, Christian, bought two-thirds interest in the mill. He operated the mill until 1829 when the mill suffered a severe financial reversal. Christian left this area and he died in a Mississippi steamboat explosion.

In 1829 Stephen Martin purchased the mill. He operated the mill until his death in 1843. At this time Christian Strite purchased the mill. He added a south wing that was used for grinding plaster. When he died in 1862, Samuel Strite operated the mill. Samuel leased the mill to John C. Strite who operated the mill through 1898.

Records show that, in 1904, Strite descendants still owned the mill.

The two storey stone L-shaped structure has one side made of concrete block. The mill is on the west edge of Antietam Creek. In a flood in the early 1900's, a nearby house was washed away but



the mill survived. Water filled the mill up to the second floor.

Several years ago the mill building was converted to a three family apartment building. A three car garage has been added to the mill structure. One can see evidence of the dam which was upstream a short distance. Considering the size of the structure, the mill probably did custom grinding. Also in the village is a beautiful stone barn that naturally no longer serves as a barn.

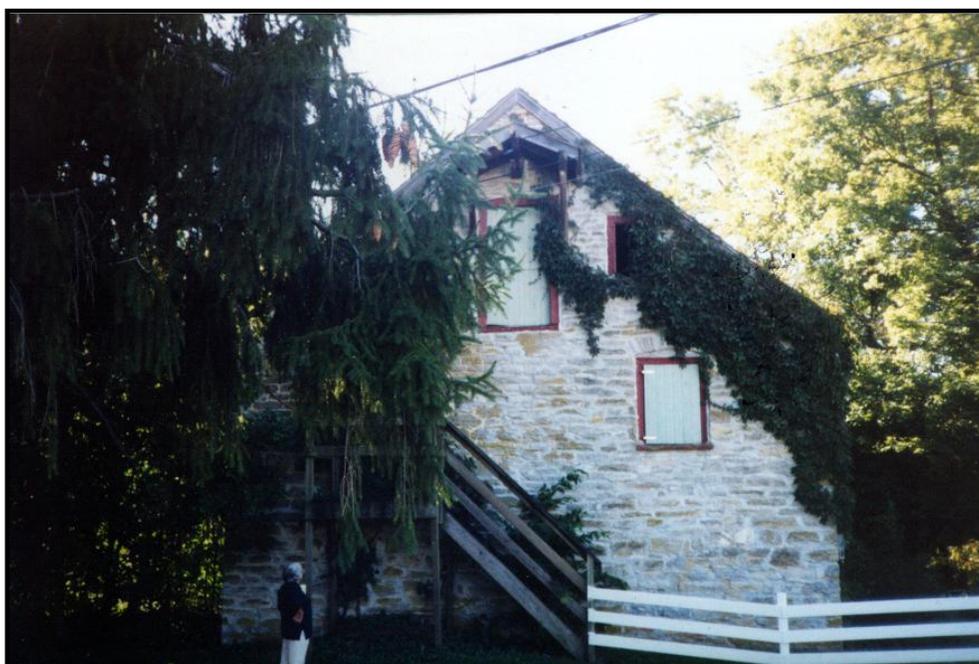
Even though there is no evidence of any mill equipment around the mill, the mill is still a beautiful sight to see. No one seems to know where the equipment went but as was true for many mills the iron pieces might have been sold as scrap metal during our two world wars.

TROVINGER MILL

Following MD 64 east of Hagerstown to Trovinger Mill Road. This will be about three and a half miles. You will cross over the Antietam Creek at Bridgeport. Turn left onto the Trovinger Mill Road and follow it to the mill that will be on the left hand side of the road. You will cross the railroad tracks on your way to the mill.

The first mill was built on this site around 1744 and was owned by John Stull. The mill was a small stone structure and was used to make paper.

John Rohrer owned the mill in 1768. In 1771, he enlarged the mill. At this time the mill was used to produce corn meal, whole-wheat flour, flour and feed. John Roher owned land along this stream as early as 1739. In 1761 he was granted a patent for a tract of land known as the “addition to the Jacob Roher Mill”. The mill stayed in the Roher family until 1817.



After 1817, the mill changed ownership often. In 1867 the mill was known as the Horine Mill. In 1875, Bachtell owned the mill. By 1880, the mill was known as the Trovinger’s Mill. Joseph Trovinger, who lived nearby, operated this mill for many years.

During the 1900’s the mill had many owners. During the time when Petcock owned the mill, from 1910 to 1922, the mill was known as the Willow Grove Mill. The main product of the mill was animal feed. Later owners were Helser, Hurd, Dehart and Hyde.

The miller’s house was a two storey stone structure that was built around 1753. In back of the house are the burial grounds for the Rohrer family and others. Across the road from the house and on the creek is a shallow spot in the creek that used to be called “*John Wolfenberger’s Ford.*” This mill is located at the ford. The mill started as a paper mill and then later was a gristmill.

The mill is a two storey stone structure. A stone in the gable has a date of 1771. The mill now has a cedar roof. The down hill side of the mill is three storeys . This mill is very long. 100 ft. is a good estimate.

The tailrace, although dry, is evident. The water flowed under the building through an arch in the middle of the building. At one time there was an up-down sawmill here. There was probably an undershot wheel or perhaps a turbine that furnished the power for the mill. In the yard around the mill was a roller machine. This indicates that the mill might have used roller machines at some time. At one time there was a swinging bridge that was used to cross the stream to the house on the other side of the creek.

Close by there were many farm houses. Along the stream was a level sandy meadow. Here it is said that John Neff cultivated cantaloupes and sweet corn. He was the first to do so in this area.

The old Antietam Church site and burial grounds are nearby. Other mills were located on this creek. There is an old mill foundation nearby. This mill was used to grind flax seed from which linseed oil was extracted.

The Trovinger mill is beginning to need some major repairs if it is to survive. There is a good roof over the building. Some windowpanes need to be replaced. Today, the McMahon family owns the mill and plans to restore it in the future.

MILL SITE OF WEVERTON

To reach this area, drive to Brunswick, Maryland. Turn onto highway 17 and proceed north to highway 340. Turn west onto this highway and proceed to Weverton. The mill site area is between the B & O Railroad and the C & O Canal. This is east of the Weverton Train Station.

Casper W. Wever was the chief engineer of the B & O Railroad. He moved to this area from Pennsylvania. In 1834, the Weverton Mfg. Co. was chartered by the General Assembly. The charter included the land at the foot of Pleasant Valley and all water rights on both sides of the



Potomac River between Weverton and Harpers Ferry.

This was a threemile section of the river that had a fifteenfoot fall.

In 1847, the first building was completed. In 1849, a large cotton mill was built by the Potomac Company. A \$75,000 dam was built across the Potomac River. The machinery for the mill was not satisfactory and so the mill never was operational..

Joseph C. Chapman, of Charles County, became president of the project in 1849. However, when Casper Wever died in 1849, the enterprise began to fall apart. Weverton was not selected as the site for a National Foundry that the congress had authorized. A large hotel, with running water, had been built. Also, excellent worker's houses had been built. The only use of these buildings was by both the north and south army units during the Civil War. Garrett's Mill was located on the east bank of Israel Creek and on the east side of the B&O Railroad tracks. The site is on Garrett's Mill Road at Israel Creek. The mill was a flourmill.

KAESE MILL

This mill is located in Garrett County, Maryland. The mill is located near Accident, Maryland on Bear Creek. From I-68 west, exit on 219 south. Go left on Collier Road. On the right hand side, opposite Collier's road, is the Art Butler Car Dealer. Follow Collier's road to the end. The road is narrow and rather hilly. The mill will be on the right hand side.



The mill is a three and a half storey frame building with a frame gable roof. SPOOM lists this mill as owned by the Maryland Historical Society in 1993. The mill needs restoration soon as the weatherboard siding is beginning to fall off. There is a good metal roof over the building.

The long wooden penstock is beginning to rot away. Some of the windowpanes are missing also. The mill was built around 1868 and was probably a merchant mill. One could see where the tailrace was located.

Looking through the lower windows one could see some machinery inside. There was a wooden frame that fits over the grinding stones. The metal waterwheel is in position and appears to be useable. The overshot water wheel is about fifteen feet in diameter. The miller's office did not have any furniture in it.

SPOOM lists the mill as having all equipment intact. This included one run of stones and the roller mills.

STANTON MILL IN GARRETT COUNTY MARYLAND

Stanton Mill is located in Spruce Forest Artisan Village in Grantsville, Maryland. To see this mill, if traveling west on I-68, use exit number 22. At the light, turn right and proceed for about two miles. The mill is on the right hand side of the road. The mill is part of the restored Village that also has several reconstructed log buildings.

The mill was built in 1797 by Jesse Thomlinson. Thomlinson had purchased the land from Thomas Stanton. The Youghiogony River furnished waterpower for the mill. This was the name of the river when George Washington, on June 19, 1755, crossed the river with General Edward Braddock on the ill-fated expedition to Fort Duquesne. The name of this river is now called the Casselman River. The stone bridge over the river was completed in 1811. It has a fifty-foot stone arch. The bridge is now a historical monument. The high arch was needed to accommodate the river traffic. This bridge is the oldest of the three bridges over the river.

The three storey frame mill building had an undershot water wheel which was replaced by a steel overshot water wheel in 1898. At this time, a dam and a millrace were constructed. However, in 1928, a modified turbine replaced the waterwheel. The turbine also used water from the river. In 1944, the turbine was replaced by an electric generator. Thus came the end of waterpower that had been used from 1811 to 1944.

The mill was built on the site of Col. Dunbar's 1755 hospital encampment. The nearby Braddock trail followed Nemacolin's Indian trail that was the only passage through the mountains. Until the late 1700's the road was used primarily by pack horses. By 1815, freight wagons and stagecoaches were using the trail.

Jesse Thomlinson deeded the mill to his son. The son built a sawmill, country store, and a tavern nearby. In 1840, George Bruce acquired the property. By 1859, Peter Shultz was the owner of the property.

In the 1860's, the mill property, along with 350 acres of land, was owned by the Stantons whose family were the original owners.. William Stanton was the son of Thomas. In 1863, William's son, Eli, bought the property.

Eli operated the mill for 43 years. He made several major improvements. In 1880, rollers had replaced the millstones for grinding grain. A new engine supplemented the water wheel in 1894. In 1900, the size of the mill was changed. A west wing, several bays wide and full height, was added.

Eli's son, William, bought the mill in 1910 and he operated the mill until he died in 1942. William had willed the property to his son Edgar and his daughter, Mary. Mary had married a Bryon Bender. When Edgar died, Mary became sole owner of the mill. The Benders operated the mill for 20 years. Their son, Robert, bought the mill and operated it for 25 years. Five generations of Stanton's have owned and operated the mill.

Custom grinding was done here until about 1930. The Mill also produced dairy feed, egg mash, and hog feed. Livestock feeds were ground six days a week. Bob Bender also sold fertilizer, farm supplies and seeds, and dairy barn equipment. Another side-line was the sale of maple syrup which was shipped all over the United States and also to foreign countries.

In 1989, Robert Bender sold the mill to Penn Alps.

Today, the mill is only open three-four days a year. The floor needs to be stabilized. In 1976, a large viaduct was built during the construction of I-68. This saved the headrace so that if and when the mill is made operational, they have water rights.

In Grantsville is an historic inn that was built in 1824 to serve stage coaches, drovers, riders, and the covered wagons who used the trail. The inn has been known as Drover's Inn, Farmer's Hotel, Dorsey's Hotel, and the Casselman Inn. The Inn was built by Solomon Sterner. The brick was made at the site. There is a fireplace in each room. The fireplace was used for heating the room and also for cooking.

In the log village are many shops and "homes" open to visit. One could easily spend a day here. Be sure to take time to eat at the old Casselman Inn.

