

Talbot County Mills

INTRODUCTION

In 1860, the 14 Talbot mills were worth \$58,950, which was about 65% of the industrial wealth of the county. Sales amounted to \$125,035, and the mills employed 21% of the county labor force. Average salary was \$185 per year, which was \$22 less than the average, ESMV, p. 965.

ABBOTS MILL (3)

See Wrights Mill.

ALDRIGG MILL (4)

See Old Mill.

ANCHORAGE WINDMILL (1)

This windmill accompanied the house of Edward Lloyd on Miles River, OBGF, pp. 13, 91.

ATKINSON MILL (4)

In 1803, Isaac Atkinson had 12 acres surveyed under the name Mill Seat (Patented Certificate No. 416, MSA). The tract was shown south of a number of loops in Kings Creek and began near the “west by south line of Turkey Neck.” Cf., site of the Berry Mill writ of condemnation.

The tract passed to John Arringdale, and “Mill Land” and part of Turkey Neck, described as “The Merchant Farm,” were laid out in 1837 as Lot No. 3 by the commissioners appointed to divide the property (Talbot Deeds, JH 53:96). The plat in Petitions and Commissions 1831-1837, folio 91, showed no mill and listed only the “usual improvements necessary for a farm,” folio 85 (Easton courthouse).

ATKINSONS TANYARD (1)

See Stevens Tanyard.

AUSTIN STILL (1)

Hannah Austin had a still house on the tract Austins Trail per the 1783 tax list of Bay and Mill Hundreds.

BALL WINDMILL (2)

William Ball's windmill was on the Carroll farm on the lower end of Broad Creek per R. D. Lambdin's list of 1935. Apparently same as Carroll Windmill.

BALL WINDMIL (2)

Another William Ball windmill was on Broad Creek on James Adam's farm, 1935, per the list made by R. D. Lambdin.

BANNING WINDMILLS (2)

Henry Banning had two windmill on the tract Conjunction on Third Haven or Plain Dealing Creek, in the 1798 tax list. The mills were rented to Daniel Gossage; one was in tolerable good repair and was worth \$100; the other in bad repair, worth \$60. Both were in Mill Hundred.

BARBER MILL (E)



“Easton . . . John W. Barber & Co. . . . adding roller process machinery for hominy . . .,” *Manufacturers Record*, 12 (January 7, 1888): 978. *The American Miller*, 16 (February 1, 1888): 130, reported the same news. The same paper, 17 (January 1, 1889): 57, reported, “I. A. Barber, Easton, Md., has ordered a Silver Cloud Flour Packer, one Double 6 x 16 Allis Roller Machine, and a lot of other machinery, together with shafting, pulleys, gearing . . . for increasing the capacity to from 50 to 60 barrels, of Aug. Wolf & Co., Chambersburg.”

The American Miller, 22 (April 1, 1894): 301, reported, “Dr. Isaac A. Barber . . . Talbot County . . . operates three mills . . . Easton, Point Rock . . . 216 bbl per day. The product is largely consumed at home.” The Isaac A Barber Roller Mill letterhead showed that there were mills at Londonderry, Easton, and St. Michaels, all roller plants [in 1897]. *The American Miller*, 27 (June 1, 1899): 78, reported, “The new mill which Congressman Barber is building near Easton, Md., is almost completed.” The company letterhead listed the following brands of Easton Roller Mill: Pride of Talbot, Tred Avon, High Grade Flour, Golden Queen Roller Flour, Choice Hominy, and Fedora Family Flour.

The mill started in Easton by Dr. and Congressman Barber became the Bartlett Mill and in 1948, the building at 7 East Dover Street at Hanson Street was converted into the office and printing plant of the Easton *Star-Democrat*. The building has been enlarged three times. Dickson J. Preston credited editor Norman Harrington with the move into the mill space, *Talbot County, A History*, 1983, p. 318. The location is now called One Mill Place and bears MHT Site No. T-3. Location is 14-C-6 in the ADC Street Atlas. The two-story frame dwelling of the former miller at 23 Hanson Street dates from the 18th century and bears MHT Site No. T-31.

BARNES LOOM HOUSE (1)

James Barnes had a loom house on the tract Caulkers Addition, 1783 tax list of Bay and Mill Hundreds.

BARTLETTS MILL (3)

Same as Tarburton Mill.

BARTLETT SAWMILL (3)

The 1850 census of manufactures listed John Bartlett's lumber mill, hand powered by six employees, producing 200,000 ft of lumber annually worth \$2000; capital investment was \$200.

BARTLETT WINDMILL (1)

Elizabeth Bartlett owned an old windmill on the tract Rattcliff Manor near the water per the 1783 tax list of Mill and Bay Hundreds. The site would have been near Old Bloomfield per Dickson J. Preston (1978).

BATEMAN TANYARD (1)

H. E. Bateman & Co. advertised to buy 120 cords of tanbark at their tanyard, Easton, *Eastern Shore Whig*, April 16, 1839. They wanted red oak, peach, willow, or Spanish bark.

BATTE WINDMILL (2)

The 1850 census of manufactures listed John W. Batte with \$500 capital investment in a windmill with 2 employees and annual output of \$2000 in flour and corn. Peter Battee was listed as a miller at Royal Oak in the 1880 State business directory.

BAYSHORE FOODS, INC. (1)

Bayshore Foods was a vast poultry feed complex on East Broklets Avenue at the railroad in Easton, producers of the Shoregood brand. The mill was combined with J. McKenny Willis and Son, poultry supplies. Also a branch in St. Michaels [1976].

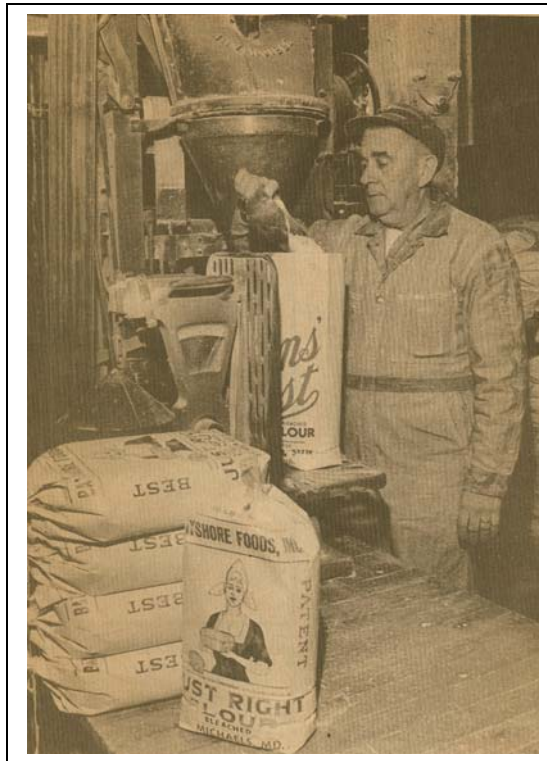
Sara L. Handy prepared the MHT Inventory form on the old steam mill at St. Michaels in April 1981. Ms. Handy found that the mill was started in April 1890 by Arthur K. Easter on one of the subdivision lots of “Miller’s Addition” laid out by investor Dr. Miller. Dr. Isaac A. Barber bought the mill from Easter.

The *American Miller*, 17 (December 1, 1889): 848, reported, “The St. Michael’s Flour Mill’ at Saint Michaels, Md., is being remodeled to the roller process.” The 1897 letterhead of Dr. Isaac A. Barber’s chain of three mills showed a small illustration of the “St. Michael’s Roller Mill.”

Sara L. Handy wrote that the mill went through various ownerships and became property of James E. Watkins and Robert S. Dodson, who had 15 employees. Another owner was Edgar T. Warner. The mill passed in 1920 from Warner to Samuel Quillen who marketed his flour as “Just Right” and sold it in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Quillen had started as an employee of Watkins and Dodson.

Emerson Langrell was the first miler and remained until his death in 1943. Everett Dulin became miller in 1945. Jennings Quillen aided his father through the 1930s to final shut down in the 1960s. Additional office space and grain bins were added. Samuel Quillen died in 1968.

Easton Star-Democrat
photo of Horace
Jefferson packing “Just
Right” flour in 1968.



The St. Michaels mill was operating as Bayshore Foods, Inc., when written up by the Easton newspaper in 1968. The mill had four stand of rolls 7 inches in diameter and 20 inches long; output was 4 bbl/hr, powered by a 60 hp Fairbanks Morse motor, then 48 years old, which had to be started by heating a firing pin; the large fly wheel was started by a thrust of air. Chief miller was Everett Dulin, aided by Horace Jefferson, *Easton Star-Democrat*, May 1, 1968. The mill was located on Talbot Avenue and was distinct from Shaffer Mill at Navy Point.

After more than half a century, the house brand flour brand was retired per “Just Right Flour Ends 52 Years of Production,” *Easton Star-Democrat*, n. d., 1973.

The MHT newsletter, *SWAP* for December 1981, reported, “A state planner has proposed a resolution to a conflict in St. Michael’s caused by a rezoning proposal within the residential district. In order to use a rehabilitated mill for commercial purposes, the block could be rezoned a redevelopment within the historic district.”

Christopher Weeks in *Where Land and Water Intertwine* (JHU Press: Baltimore, 1984), p. 254, presented a photograph of the St. Michaels Mill on Chew Avenue. Kate Fones reported in March 2007 that the main mill at 100 Chew Avenue was owned by T. C. DuPont of that town; the main building was planned for redevelopment, while part of the secondary buildings were used by St. Michaels Winery. This resource bears MHT Site No. T-478. Location is 12-B-4 in the ADC Street Atlas.

BERGMAN MILL ()

“Wm. Bergman, Oxford, Md., has a roller mill new from the ground up, using one double 6 x 15 Dawson Corrugated Roller Machine, one double 6 x 15 Dawson, one-half corrugated, and one half smooth roller machine, two double 6 x 15 Dawson Smooth Roller Machine; all roller machines fitted up with McAnulty feeders Aug. Wolf & Co., Chambersburg, Pa., who will do all the millwright work. The mill when completed will have a capacity of from 40 to 50 barrels of flour in twenty-four hours,” *American Miller*, 18 (February 1, 1899): 127. In the July 1 issue, the same paper reported (22:528), that Bergman & Co. of Oxford had rolls redressed by Griscom & McFeely. *The American Miller*, 27 (July 1, 1899): 561, reported, “Bergman & Co. have closed their mil at Oxford, Md.”

BERRY MILL (4)

Benjamin Berry took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* at the head of King’s Creek making out of Choptank River, August 16, 1762. Some 18 acres and 20 square perches belonged to Sarah Berry, widow, and she was awarded 18 Shillings of Great Britain yearly; smaller awards went to Elizabeth Berry and Gilbert Barrow “the aforesaid land being covered with water and out of the possession of the owners thereof” (Chancery Records, Liber 9:279, MSA).

BERRY MILL ()

James Berry took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on Wooden Hawks Branch on the second day of the “month called March” in 1764. However, the Sheriff lost the writ and was unable to return it to the Chancellor’s office per legal requirement. Berry’s petition to correct eh negligence was dated April 10, 1773, and the grant was issued on June 5. The inquisition found damages of 15 Shillings Sterling yearly for Benjamin Berry and 2 Shillings yearly for Benedict Hutchins (Chancery Records, 11:37, MSA). The 1798 tax list showed William Hutchins on Kings Creek, owner of part of the tracts Turkey Neck and Addition to Mill Land, but no mill. See also Isaac Atkinson’s Mill Seat.

BIRKHAM TANNERY ()

John Birkham in 1775 patented 0.25 acre called Old Tanyard (Patents, Liber BC & GS 50:254).

BLADES MILL (2)

See Oakland Mill at St. Michaels.

BOZMANS MILL (4)

See Hardcastle Mill on 1795,

BOZMANS MILL (1)

Thomas Bozman took out a writ of *ad quod dmnum* on Edmonsons Branch, part of the tract Henwarthe, April 26, 1774. The beginning of the survey was on the north side of the east side of the Main Road from Peach Blossom Bridge to Talbot Court House). A total of 6 Shillings yearly was awarded to Thomas Robins and Elizabeth and Rachel Edmonson (Chancery Records, Liber 4:693, MSA).

BRANS MILL ()

The 1783 tax list of Island, Tuckahoe, and Kings Creek Hundreds showed John Brans [?], Esq., with an old mill on Batchellors Branch.

BRENEMAN SAWMILL (E)

“B. H. Brenneman, Easton, has rebuilt his saw mill, previously reported as burned,” *Manufacturers Record*, 10 (January 15, 1887): 814.

BRIDGES WINDMILL (1)

The 1783 tax list of Bay and Mill Hundreds showed Daniel Bridges with the tract Bildon and a windmill located “near the water.”

BROMWELL WINDMILL (3)

Edward Bromwell owned the windmill on the public square in Oxford; built 1796, HTC, p. 364. Bromwell was described as a blacksmith in 1774 (Talbot deeds, JL 20:437, MSA). [Note: Oldham’s mill was located on Town Point.]

BUCHMAN AND DANNING MILL (1)

The 1860 census of manufactures listed the Buchman and Danning steam mill with \$15,000 in Easton Town; 6 employees; annual output of 1000 bbl flour (\$7000), 10,000 bu meal (\$8700), and 30,000 ft lumber (\$8000).

BURKE STILL (1)

Sara Burke was charged with a life interest in Coventry and Mucklemore plus a still house on 1783 tax list of Mill and Bay Hundreds.

BUTTS AND MILLER FOUNDRY (E)

The *Sun*, September 5, 1850, reported an accident at Butts & Miller foundry at Easton when an iron shaft crushed Z. Shaeffer.

CARROLL WINDMIL (2)

Mrs. D. Carroll’s windmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas near Elstons Point between Balls Creek and First Harbor Creek. Apparently the same as Balls Windmill listed by R. D. Lambdin in 1935.

CECRIST SAWMILL ()

Polk’s 1908 peninsula directory listed M. F. Cecrist with a sawmill at Cordova.

CHAPELLE STEAM SAWMILL CO. (4)

This works was listed in the 1860 census of manufactures with \$3800 capital investment; 3 employees; annual output of 250,000 ft of lumber (\$5000). This was probably the “new steam saw mill lately put into operation in the immediate neighborhood” that was mentioned as an outlet for timber on property advertised in the Chapel District, *The Whig*, Easton, September 24, 1839. Timber could be shipped there by either Wye River or Tuckahoe Creek.

CLAIBORNE SAW AND PLANING MILL (3)

Joseph T. Tunis, prop., was an atlas patron in 1877; he was born in Talbot in 1845 and owned 120 acres at Claynorne.

CLARKS MILL ()

Henry Clark took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on the Eastern Branch of Highfield Creek that runs into Tuckahoe Creek and so into Choptank, May 7, 1746. The jury found 8 acres in possession of Edward Clark, Planter, and 12 acres in possession of Rebecca Clark, widow, and awarded them damages of 3/9 and 4/7 yearly, respectively. The site bordered Highfield (Chancery Records, Liber I. R. No. 4:677, MSA).

CLARK TANNERY ()

John Clark was listed as tanner in the 1850 census of manufactures with \$7000 capital investment; the plant worked by horse power; there were 3 employees who cost \$5 per month; 800 sides of leather were produced annually, a value of \$1500.

CLAYBORNE SAWMILL (5)

This steam sawmill was shown on the wharf at Clayborne in the 1877 atlas. See John H. Tunis sawmill.

COLLINS MILL (3)

W. O. Collins steam sawmill was shown in the 1877 atlas on a branch of Bolingbroke Creek near Manassas. W. O. Collins, an atlas patron, listed himself as a miller and jeweler, having come from Maine in 1875.

COLSTON WINDMILL (1)

Jeremiah Colston had a windmill on Cove Hill tract on Third Haven Creek; it was rented to John Smith per the 1798 tax list of Mill Hundred.

CORDOVA MILL (4)

A large complex of abandoned mill or hatchery buildings stood on Md. 309 SE of Cordova village [1976].

CORDOVA MILLING CO. (4)

Cordova Milling Company was a modern commercial feed mill on Md. 309 supplying Red Rose products [1976].

CORSE AND ATKINSON TANNERY (1)

Isaac Corse and William Atkinson had a tanyard 0.5 mile from Easton in 1793, probably east of the road to Oxford, Land of *Legendary Lore*, p. 252.

COTTAGE MILLS (3)

See Tarbutton Mill.

COXES MILL (3)

Coxes Mill was apparently built by Isaac Cox (Sr.) before 1754, the year in which the property of the orphan, Isaac Cox, son of Isaac deceased, was evaluated. “We find upon the afd land one water-mill the stones are about half worn the running gere are much worn. The mill house is very indifferent (Talbot records, JL 18:226). Isaac Cox, Millwright, in 1765 bought a number of properties from Samuel C. Abbott including Taylors Ridge (Talbot deeds, 19:364).

Isaac Cox patented a tract called Mill Security, 108.25 acres in 1786 (Patents, Liber IC No B:530, MSA). The tract was a resurvey of Bennetts Freshes on the west side of Miles Creek. Coxes Mill was a landmark cited in the 1798 tax list of Bullin Brook Hundred and described a located near the tracts Bailden and Pearsons Land. Bennetts Freshes, surveyed in 1734, was downstream of the Abbott-Wright Mill and adjoined the John Scott tract called New Mill in 1665. Coxes Mill apparently became the Pearson Mill of the 1798 tax list. Coxes Mill itself was not listed in that assessment.

DAWSON CIDER MILL (5)

Th1 1877 county atlas showed “Cider Mill” of T. S. Dawson on the west bank of First Harris Creek, SE of Sherwoodsville P. O.

DODSON SAWMILL (2)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed H. C. Dodson with \$11500 capital investment in a 12 hp with 6 employees and an annual output of 40,000 ft worth \$625.

DOUBLE MILLS POINT (2)

Double Mills Point was on the west bank of Tred Avon River and the Double Mills Steamship Landing was shown in the 1877 county atlas but without a mill (on Tred Haven Creek). R. D. Lambdin’s list called it a windmill, and Wilson M. Tyler stated that two windmills stood together, both owned by Robinson Leonard, and they were later inherited by his sons, Captain C. R and Robert Leonard. The foundations had vanished, See, “Many Old Grist Mills in Hopkins Neck,” Wilson M. Tyler, *Easton Star-Democrat*, November 12, 1927. Double Mills Point was still carried as a place

name in 1941, GZMD and also shown on the 1950/1964 topographic maps.
Location was 19-C-1.

DUNCAN AND BRO. MILL (1)

The 1877 atlas showed this steam sawmill 1 mile east of Easton on New Road, producing lumber and offering sawing.

EASTERN SHORE EARTHENWARE MFY. (1)

Samuel Sharpless advertised the opening of his potting business at the head of Washington Street, Easton. His advertisement of November 11, 1803, announced that he “had burnt one kiln” of all sorts of earthenware, *Land of Legendary Lore*, p. 252.

EASTON ROLLER MILL (1)

See Isaac A. Barber Mill.

EASTON SILK CO. (1)

The Easton Silk Company was established by *Laws of Md., Acts of 1838, Chapter 347*, with William H. Tilghman, James Parrott, Solomon M. Jenkins, and Thomas S. Dawson and others as incorporators; capitalization was to be not less than \$4000.

The silk industry site was Lombardy Farm, or “Thief Keep Out,” presumably the Bernard Greef house east of Md. 370 at Unionville on the west side of Miles River, *Garden Tour Book*, 1967, p. 61.

EASTON POINT MILL ()

R. Thorp advertised the Easton Point steam grist and saw mill, *Baltimore American*, October 8, 1847.

EASTON SOUTHERN STATES FARMERS COOP. (1)

This commercial feed mill was on the west side of US 50 in Easton; supplier of horse feed [1976].

EASTON WINDMILL (1)

“The windmills” were cited as a landmark for Bullen’s Lots in Easton, 1798 tax list.

EDMONDSON MILL (1)

A writ of *ad quod damnum* was issued to John Edmondson to build a mill at the head of Miles River, August 28, 1669, Arch. Md., 51:335. John Edmondson sold half of “a Corne Mill at ye head of Michell’s River” in October 1670 and in the following October sold all of “that parcel Water Mill Standing at the head of St. Michael River” to Richard Carter (Talbot deeds, LR 1:148, 176). Andrew Skinner sold to Carter a parcel “to be laid out about the water mill at the head of St. Michael’s River” in 1672 (Talbot deeds, LR 1:234). This mill apparently vanished, and Carter’s property was condemned in 1723 to become the site of a new works, Potts Mill (q. v.).

EDMONSON WINDMILL (3)

A plat of the lands of the late John Edmondson showed a 13.7-acre “Wind Mill Lot” on the south side of Third Haven Creek, west side of Edmondson’s Branch, east side of Trappe-Easton Road (Land Commissions, 1837-1845, folio 144, Easton Court House). Cf., Bozmans Windmill. Present-day location is in the triangle formed by Routes 322 and US 50, south of Easton, and also west of the stream leading to Papermill Pond, and within “Edmondson’s Neck,” per Dickson J. Preston (1978).

ELBEN MILL (1)

Same as Potts Mill.

ELBINS MILL ROAD (4)

On modern maps, this road runs from Md. 404 to Deep Branch Road in Caroline County where there is a crossroads called Elbins Mill. The end of the road near Md. 404 is called Thawleys Mill Road [1976].

EUREKA FLOURING MILLS (1)

See Potts Mill.

FARMERS FOUNDRY (1)

William P. and J. A. Oxenham advertised plough castings at Easton, “now ready,” *The Whig*, June 30, 1840. James A. Oxenham bought out his brother and appointed John Ringrose foreman, *Ibid.*, December 22, 1840.

GAREY LOOM HOUSE ()

The 1783 tax list of Island, Tuckahoe, and Kings Creek Hundreds showed Henry Garey with an old loom house on the tract Dudley’s Inclosure.

GIBSON MILL (4)

John Gibson took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on Nobles Branch of Wye River, March 7, 1763. The inquisition was taken at Nobles Northern Branch, and the jury found damage to Colonel Edward Lloyd of 1/8 Sterling per acre and to Mrs. Deborah Nichols, 3 Shillings 4 pence Sterling per acre. In making the grant however, Colonel Lloyd's damages were increased to 6/8 Sterling (Chancery Records, Liber 9:214, MSA).

A deed of 1797 revealed that the old Gibson Mill Pond had become meadow land. The "old mill dam" was on Mill Branch (Talbot deeds, 32:112 and 29:149). John Gibson's patent of "Chance" began "near the head of the eastern branch of Wye River formerly called Bread and Chese Harbor, beginning at a stone set in the south side of the Mill Branch" (Patents IC No. B:655 MSA).

John Gibson (I) turned the mill over to his son Woolman Gibson in exchange for toll-free milling for his natural life. Woolman Gibson died in 1798 and his widow Frances Gibson claimed the mill and rented it to John Thomas who died in 1799. Mrs. Thomas advertised the mill and sold it in March 1800 to John Gibson (II).

The 1798 tax list of Island Hundred had shown Frances Gibson as owner of a mill house, 1 story, 30 x 28, of wood, in bad repair, on part of the tract Planters Increase Resurveyed. It was occupied by John Thomas (Wye).

John Gibson offered to sell Gibsons mill and 80 acres at the head of Wye River, a never failing stream, *Easton Herald*, May 31, 1803. He sold the mill and part of the tract Planters increase to Joseph Bennett that December (Gen. Court of Eastern Shore Deeds, IC No. C:134ff, MSA). John Bennett sold the mill to Edward Price for \$600 but failed to convey proper title. In 1810, Richard Gibbs advertised carding and rolling of wool into kersey at Mr. Edward Prices Mill near the Wye Mill in Talbot County, QACM, p. 392. Bennett finally deeded Gibsons Mill to Ellen Price in 1817 (Talbot deeds, JL 39:186).

John Gibson (II) had sold "The Mill Tavern" to William Dunn in 1806. In 1815, Gibson initiated a Chancery suit against Eliza Thomas Stuart and William and Thomas Basker over the ownership of the mill and the remainder of the lease his father had obtained under a writ of condemnation. The case was dropped in 1831. Chancery Papers No. 2164 reveal that John Thomas had paid £ 120/annum rent for the mill. A restriction in the deed to John Bennett forbade him to raise the head of water as to "cover the main roads leading across the said Eastern and Northern Branches of the said Mill Pond."

The Price Mill passed from Thomas H. Baynard in 1840 to Cornelius Sherwood and the History of St. Joseph's Mission Cordova, Md. (p. 29) described Sherwood's Mill as a good bullfrogging place in the 1850s. The 1850 census of manufactures showed the Sherwood Mill worth \$800, run by water; with 2 employees, producing 500 bbl of flour and 8500 bu meal worth \$6700 annually.

Sherwood's widow, Emily A. Sherwood, instituted a suit against the infant heirs in 1864; the bill of complaint spoke of the "valuable mill" but witness Charles H. Gibson "thinks the mill is quite dilapidated and will very shortly require to be rebuilt from the foundation" (Talbot County Chancery Records, STW 9:518ff). The mill was sold under decree to Edmund L. F. Hardcastle and John R. Scott in 1867 for \$10,300. The 1877 county atlas showed the gristmill of Captain E. L. F. Hardcastle on a pond SE of Wye Mills and NE of Skipton, south bank of Mill Creek between the present US 50 and Ned Owens Road.

An advertisement in the 1877 atlas showed A. B. Hardcastle as proprietor of Sherwood Flouring Mills, supplying family flour and performing custom work near Skipton. The atlas patron list indicated that A. B. Hardcastle came from Caroline County in 1876. The 1880 census of manufactures also listed A. B. Hardcastle mill on Tavern Creek and listed a fall of 20 ft; there were 2 employees; there was an overshot wheel 12 ft broad running at 7.5 rpm to develop 35 hp; annual output was 648 bbl flour and 102 tons of meal (\$7528).

E. L. F. Hardcastle sued the heirs of his partner Scott in 1884 and became sole owner at the auction that resulted (Talbot Chancery Records, TH 19:42). Edmond L. F. Hardcastle sold Sherwood Mill farm to Joseph S. Golt in 1886 (Talbot County deeds, TH 103:245). J. S. Golt was listed as miller at Skipton in the 1887 State business directory. The *American Miller*, 28 (September 1, 1900): 718, contained the item, "I have bought the stock of my father and am running the Skipton Roller Mills . . . James W. Golt, Wye Mills, Md."

The *American Miller*, 21 (June 1, 1893): 462, reported, "The contract for building the 40-barrel mill at Wye Mills, Md., for Jos. O. Golt has been closed by Mr. Hartz, general Atlantic agent for Aug. Wolf & Co., Chambersburg, Pa."

The *American Miller*, 27 (March 1, 1899): 240, published a letter to the editor: "Jos. R. Golt, Wye Mills, Md., . . . opened wholesale exchange house for feed . . . in connection with our mill in Queenstown, Md. We have also recently installed a gasoline engine in our mill; it is giving perfect satisfaction in every respect. A great many millers are installing them. George Wilson of Easton has just put one in. They save nearly one-half the power expense of running the mill."

Another letter from James T. Golt, Wye Mills, carried a story of how an old miller could have cheated a farmer and he mentioned the "old mill I am in now," *American Miller*, 27 (March 1, 1899): 227.

Golt sold to Ernest Rasp in 1904; Rasp sold in 1911 to George F. Nickerson, and in 1930, following a decree against Clara L. Mills, the mill was sold to Omar Dulin, current owner [1976]. The pond (which backed up water in two branches of Mill Creek) was shown on the soil map of 1929 but has since vanished. In the early 19th century, Humphreys Old Mill was downstream.

GINGER SAWMILL ()

The 1880 census of manufactures listed John Ginger with \$1200 capital investment in a sawmill with 5 employees, and a 9 hp steam engine; annual output was 200,000 ft of lumber (\$3000).

GOLDSBOROUGH STILL ()

A still house and other properties on Miles River were advertised by Charles Goldsborough, *The Herald*, Easton, March 3, 1801.

GOLDSBOROUGH WINDMILL ()

Sarah Goldsborough had a windmill 12 x 12 ft in Oxford Neck valued at \$60 in the 1798 tax list of Third Haven Hundred.

GOLT MILL (4)

See Price Mill.

GORSUCH MILL ()

James Gorsuch was listed as miller at Oxford in the 1887 State business directory.

GORSUCH WINDMILL (2)

See Gossages.

GOSSAGES TIDE MILL ()

James Gossage's mill on Tide Mill Creek near St. Michaels was on the E. Martingham farm per R. D. Lambden's list of 1935. The mill had been operated by the tide on a variation of 2.5 feet.

GOSSAGES WINDMILL (2)

Gossages Windmill, also spelled Gorsuch's , was a post mill on the Miles River at Big Dundee. Also spelled Gorsuch's Windmill, "Gossage" being the traditional local pronunciation. It was shown in an 1805 survey made for Robert Henry Goldsborough. Long extinct, OBGF, pp. 13, 96, 100.

GRUNDYS MILL (4)

In 1722, the General Assembly passed an act to enable James Lloyd and wife Anne Lloyd and Deborah Pemberton, surviving executors of Robert Grundy to convey land sand water mills that Grundy had in his lifetime failed to convey to Edward

Morgan; the land was part of Smith's Cliffs, plus a water mill and 20 acres (*Arch. Md.*, 38:310). This mill was extinct by 1744 and became the site of Hardcastle Mill, q. v,

GRUNTREE WINDMILL ()

Matthew Gruntree owned two windmills valued at \$160 and occupied by Henry Bullen, 1798 tax list of Island and Tuckahoe Hundreds on the tracts Scotts Lott and part of Barthahem.

HARDCASTLES MILL (4)

See Gibson Mill for Hardcastles Mill on Mill Creek.

HARDCASTLES MILL (4)

Thomas Bozman took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on a branch of Tuckahoe Creek where formerly stood an Old Mill belonging to Col. Grundy, February 22, 1744. Ten acres on the south were in possession of Sara Morgan, widow of Jacob Morgan, later of the Island of Antigua and damage to her of 2/3 yearly; the rest belonged to Richard Hall and he was awarded 3/3 yearly. Both tracts were part of Smiths Cliffs (Chancery Records, Liber I. R. No. 4:731, MSA).

The 1798 tax list of Island and Tuckahoe Hundreds showed Sarah Hardcastle's mill house, 32 x 32 ft, part brick and all advantages considered worth \$600. Jacob Slaughter was the occupant. The 1794-1795 Dennis Griffith map had shown Hardcastles Mill, 2.5 miles SW of Hillsboro.

The mill passed to John Hardcastle, Jr., and on his death passed to his daughter Elizabeth, "an infant of tender years," who soon died. Thomas Hardcastle of Caroline County and other relatives petitioned for a division of the property in 1806. The commissioners appointed by the court evaluated parts of the tracts Smiths Cliffs, Chestnut Bay, Ludey's Cliffs, and Hasco Green. They found the "Mill Seat out of use by reason of the blowing up of the Dam and the works belonging thereto," (Land Commissions, 1794-1808, folio 290). The commissioners advertised the "commodious mill house" in the *Easton Star* prior to the auction of September 11, 1806.

"This mill is supplied by never-failing streams . . . stands within a mile of three navigable landings . . . well calculated for merchant and country work," f. 347. Peter Harriss bid \$2000 for the mill seat and promptly conveyed to Thomas Bell for \$2100. Bell sold to Robert Bruff, who lost the mill when the Sheriff sold it under a writ of *feri facias* to George Reed in 1813 in a deed that mentioned an "old mill lot" (Talbot County deeds, JL 40:568). Reed, described as a Gentleman in the deed, sold to Levi Lee, miller, in 1822 (Talbot County deeds, JH 44:168).

Levi Lee advertised the property for rent in the *Easton Gazette*, November 25, 1825, “A Mill for Rent. The Subscriber Will rent for the next year that valuable mill seat, known by the name of ‘Lee’s Mill,’ Situate on the Post Road from Easton to Hillsborough. The Dwelling House and Mill is in complete repair and to a good tenant who understands the business, the terms will be made moderate.”

Lees Mill was mentioned as near the farm where his mother died in 1825 by Frederick Douglass, *Life of An American Slave*, p. 23. Lees Mill was also mentioned in 1826, apparently located between Skipton and Hillsborough (Land Commissions, 1819-1830, folio 314).

Dickson J. Preston pursued the Frederick Douglass reference farther, and in a letter to the author, September 11, 1977, stated, “Frederick Douglass’ grandfather, Isaac Bailey, had a cabin just south of the mill. You may be interested to know that the remains of the mill are still in existence in the creek valley on the west side of Route 309 just north of Tappers (not Trappers) Corner. . . . They show it to have been a double structure, with two mill streams –I presume one for sawing wood, the other for grinding flour and meal. The ruins are largely of concrete from which again I presume that they date from a much later period than the 1820s. However, there is no doubt that the mill existed in various forms for at least a couple of centuries. I haven’t really had a chance to check it out as thoroughly as I’d like to.” [Note: The highway should be Md. 303., because Md. 309 parallels the railroad.]

In 1826, commissioners appointed to report the value of the nearby property of the late Aaron Anthony filed a plat showing Smith’s Cliffs on Mill Creek, and also a mill lot (Land Commissions, 1819-1830, f. 321).

Lee mortgaged the mill and by 1827 had to sell it to Jacob Loockerman (Talbot County deeds, JL 47:46). His wife Sarah Lee leased her dower right in the place to Loockerman in 1828 (Talbot County deeds, JL 47:52).

Jacob Lockerman’s [sic] executors offered the mill, mill house, and mill seat on the road from Millsborough, *The Whig*, Easton, August 6, 1839. A. H. Rolls announced he had rented Loockermans Mill, *Ibid.*, January 5, 1841.

The site passed to George W. Leonard, who in 1858 mortgaged 271 acres of Smiths Cliffs to William Arringdale, William P. Leaverton, and others (Talbot County deeds, STH 67:291). The county collector sold the property at auction in October 1856, and Leaverton was the purchaser. The mill appeared south of the Leaverton property on Dilworth’s county map made in 1858.

The 1860 census of manufactures listed William P. Leaverton with \$5000 capital investment in a water mill with 2 employees and annual output of 11,000 bu of meal and flour (\$12,000) plus 110,000 ft of lumber (\$1800). After a lawsuit among Leaverton’s partners, the land was sold under decree to George H. Moore in 1865 (Talbot County deeds, STH 72:120).

The 1877 atlas showed the mill property of Satterfield and Moore with the grist and saw mills on the south and north banks, respectively, both on the west side of present Md. 303 north of Trappers Corners. The 1880 census of manufacture showed \$10,000 capital investment, 2 employees, and a 12-foot fall on Mill Creek that drove two 3-foot turbines at 120 rpm to develop 16 hp. Annual output was 104 bbl flour and 116 tons of meal (\$13,500).

In 1901, Harry Moore conveyed to Harry A. More and George C. Moore “all that mill, Mill Seat . . . Moores Mill . . . being Lot No. 10 in real estate of George W. Moore” (Talbot county deeds, 237:392). The property remained in the hands of the Moore family [1976] and the “Geo. Moore Heirs Mill Lot” appeared on the east side of the road on recent tax maps, although the mills have largely vanished except for the remnants noted by Dickson J. Preston in 1977. Location was 3-K-11 in the ADC Street Atlas.

HARRIS CANNERY (1)

Joseph Harris, the pioneer in the broiler raising industry, had a tomato cannery at Landoff; another cannery was standing in 1967 on his farm. See also Harris Mill under Caroline County.

HARRISON AND LARABEE (1)

Harrison and Larabee’s large cannery was south of Md. 318 and east of Easton in 1971.

HARRISONS CANNING HOUSE (2)

The 1877 atlas showed the canning house of E. Harrison at the steamboat wharf in St. Michaels. Location was 12-A-3 in the ADC Street Atlas, part of Navy Point.

HARRISON MILLS (2)

Stephen Harrison first had a horse mill on his farm, Canton, adjoining the town of St. Michaels. In 1819, he moved this equipment into the town proper. He then built a frame steam mill, which was not successful and was torn down in the 1840s to be replaced by Willeys shipyard, HTC, p. 390. John Leeds Kerr, Samuel Harrison’s executor, offered the 10 hp steam saw and grist mill on the margin of St. Michael’s River, *The Whig*, Easton, September 24, 1839. Location of Canton farm was given in Talbot County deeds 67:292.

HARRISON WINDMILL (5)

Captain Joseph Harrison's wind grist mill was shown in the 1877 county atlas on the west aide of First Haven Creek. Harrison was listed in the 1880 State business directory as a miller at the village of Wittman.

HARRISONS WINDMILL (5)

Levi Harrison's windmill on Pot Pie Neck, now Wittmans Neck, was later moved to Tilghmans Island per the 1935 list by R. D. Lambdin. This seems to be the same as the F. Sewell windmill shown in the 1877 atlas, down a long farm lane from L. P. Harrison's dwelling.

HAYWARD WINDMILL (3)

The 1798 tax list showed George W. Hayward's windmill, 10 x 10 ft, assessed at \$30, situate in Baileys Neck in Third Haven Hundred; there was a miller's house, 16 x 14 ft, assessed at \$20. R. D. Lambden's 1935 list placed this windmill on William Hayward's farm on the Miles River. The 1783 tax list of Bullen Brooke and Third Haven Hundred listed William Hayward with part of Marshy [or Marley?] Point and a "fram'd mill house."

HEMSLEY MILL (4)

See both Wye Mill and the tract called "Old Mill."

HOLTS MILL (1)

Same as Potts Mill.

HOPKINS MILL (4)

See Wye Mill.

HUGHLETT MILL (3)

The 1850 census of manufactures listed William R. Hughlett's steam saw and grist mill capitalized at \$4500 with 3 employees and annual output of 300,000 ft of lumber, 85 bbl flour, and 1000 bu corn meal, total value of \$6100. The 1860 census of manufactures listed the Leonard Hughlett steam mill doing \$8100 business.

HUMPHREYS MILL (4)

Jacob Lockerman took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on a branch of Indian Bridge Branch or Bread and Chese Harbor Branch, October 27, 1747. Total rents of 4/3 per annum were awarded to Richard Benentt, Esq.; Philip Emerson; and Charles Stevenson (Chancery Records, Liber I. R. No. 4:653, MSA).

Jacob Lookerman [sic] planter sold the lease, mill, and 20 acres to James Robass in 1749 for £ 150 Current Money (Talbot County deeds, JL 17:278, MSA). William Thomas, executor of Robass, now spelled “Roberts”, sold the lease and gristmill to Francis Humphreys and Samuel Baker in 1759 (Talbot County deeds, JL 18:547, MSA) and Humphreys later bought all the interest of Samuel Stephens, miller, in the Lookerman lease (Talbot County deeds, JL 19:173, MSA).

Martha Humphreys, executor of Francis Humphreys sold the mill, pond, lease, dams, and “all other tackle” to Francis Clinton in 1774 for £ 125 (Talbot County deeds, JL 20:409, MSA).

A deed of 1795 mentioned a boundary marker “on the main road and close to the Bridge standing on or near the Head of Lobs creek Branch leading from Humphrey’s old mill to Wye Mill . . . a division between Edward Lloyd and William Hindman” (Talbot County deeds, WLB 26:616).

The site became William Rose’s property and was not mentioned in the 1872 division of his property, and the mill was missing from the 1877 county atlas. The stream is now called Mill Creek, and the mill stood on the present Md. 662, the original road to Easton, downstream of Gibson-Price Mill. Remains of a dam can be found in the present Mill Creek Park upstream of the road; the property belongs to Maryland Ornithological Society and serves as a bird sanctuary [1976]. In 1973, the author followed the nature trail and found a sign pointing to Humphreys Mill Dam. Location was 2-C-7 in the ADC Street Atlas.

HYNER SAWMILL (1)

This sawmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas 3.75 miles NE of Easton on the district line; on the south bank of Miles River (Potts Mill) Creek, upstream of Elben Mill (earlier Potts). Isaac Hyner was also an atlas patron. The mill was on the west side of the present Hiner [sic] Lane just west of the intersection with US 50. The 1880 census of manufactures listed Isaac Hyner with a steam sawmill with a 20 hp engine, 5 employees; and annual output of 60,000 ft lumber (\$600). Mill extinct. Location was grid 7-E-7 in the ADC Street Atlas.

JOHNSON SAWMILL ()

The 1850 census of manufactures listed William Johnson with \$10,000 capital investment in a steam powered sawmill, with 7 employees, and annual output of 800,000 ft of oak ship plank and framing (\$11,000).

JOHNSONS LOGGING CO. (4)

Johnson’s Logging Co. was a modern sawmill established on Longwoods Road near Easton in 1967; 18 employees; Fred H. Johnson, partner, DMM, 1970.

JONES AND KIEHLING SAWMILL (3)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed this steam sawmill with \$2500 capital investment, 15 employees, 18 hp steam engine; annual output was 400,000 ft lumber (\$7700).

JUMP AND KIRBY SAWMILL (4)

Jump and Kirby Sawmill was listed in the 1887 State business directory at Matthews, 3 miles from Cordova.

JUMP MILL (3)

T. W. Jump steam sawmill was shown in the atlas south of Trappe on the east side of the road of that period. The 1880 census of manufactures listed \$2000 capital investment, a 30 hp engine, 5 employees, and an annual output of 200,000 ft of lumber (\$1600). The flour mill had 3 employees and annually produced 600 bbl flour and 192 tons of meal (\$8246). Location was approximately 23-F-2, now occupied by the La Trappe subdivision and overrun by US 50.

KEMP WINDMILL (5)

This windmill was on the “Quaker John Kemp Farm on Bay Shore” per the 1935 R. D. Lambdin list; at the time of that 1835 list, the farm was occupied by Dr. Hunter of St. Michaels. This tract was also known as Boulton or Bolton. The 1860 census of manufactures listed Susan Kemp’s windfall of \$250 capital investment; there was 1 employee; annual output was 1000 bu meal (\$800). Labor cost was \$15/month. This windmill was in the Bay Hundred District. It was possibly the same as the “windmill” shown in the 1877 county atlas along the shore between Wittman Post Office and Long Point, north of Mrs. Susan Kemp’s house.

“In later years, ‘Boulton’ became known as ‘The Quaker Kemp Farm.’ Yet remembered is the old windmill for the grinding of meal and coffee that stood at the end of the long lane,” Emerson B. Roberts, in “Among the Meeters at the Bayside,” MHM, 19 (December 1944): 355.

KENNARDS MILL (4)

See Wye Mill.

LEAVERTON MILL (4)

Same as Hardcastle Mill of 1795.

LECOMPPT MILL (1)

Blanch Lecompt owned the tract Cumberland and a mill house near the water per the 1783 tax list of Mill and Bay Hundreds.

LEES MILL (4)

Same as Hardcastle Mill.

LEONARDS MILLL (1)

The *American Miller*, 18 (September 1, 1890): 632, reported, “C. R. Leonard, W. T. Elben, and J. H. Covington have purchased an acre of land near Easton, Md., and will, it is stated, erect a roller process flour mill.” The same journal, 19 (February 1, 1891): 125, contained a letter from the company stating, “Wm. T. Elben . . . with C. R. Leonard and James H. Covington of Easton, Md., we are building a 100 barrel mill; we will start it early in February . . . C. R. Leonard & Co.” The same issue on p. 113 noted that William T. Elben was moving from Longwoods, Md., to Easton. Hardly a year later, the *American Miller*, 20 (February 1, 1892): 145, reported, “C. R. Leonard & Co., milers at Easton, Md., have dissolved partnership.”

LEONARD MILLS (3)

In 1866, Nathaniel Leonard opened a shipyard, saw, and grist mill in Oxford, ESMV, p. 984. This steam works was on Town Creek. Leonard, a native of the county born in 1820, advertised ship lumber on hand in the 1877 county atlas. *Hawes Business Directory* of 1867 had listed N. Leonard and Company grist and saw mill at Oxford, pp. 517, 534. The 1880 census of manufactures listed 5 employees, a 20 hp engine, and annual output of 300,000 ft lumber (\$5000). Location was 18-J-7 in the ADC Street Atlas.

LEONARDS WINDMILL (2)

See Double Mills.

LLOYD FULLING MILL (4)

See Wye Mill.

LLOYD MILL ()

A home-made mill book for the year 1826 is preserved in the MHS Special Collections, Lloyd Papers, Item 2001. Every entry is “Corn Received at the Mill” written out in full. Manuscript No. 2001, Vol. 117, is “Mill Book of Wm. H. Scott giving receipts of corn from different farms of Col. Lloyd.” It is a small, marbled notebook covering 1860-61 for the farms of Home House, Wye Town, New Design, 400, Hopewell, Davis, Presq’ile, White House, New Quarter, and Timber Neck. There was also an entry showing, “C. Winden dr. to Sawing 645 ft. of Pine

Lumber.” The Lloyd estate was a self-contained and self-sufficient agricultural empire. See also, Wye House Windmill.

LONDONDERRY ROLLER MILL ()

The Londonderry Roller Mill was a small, compact, two-story building on Isaac A. Barber’s 1897 letterhead. Probably his mill on Easton Point Road mentioned in the *American Miller*, 22 (April 1, 1894): 30. Dr. Barber had three distinct mills.

LOOCKREMAN MILL (4)

See Hardcastle Mill of 1795 or Humphreys Mill.

LOWE WINDMILL ()

William L. Lowe’s windmill was listed in 1860 census of manufactures with \$400 capital investment, 1 employee, and annual output of 1000 bu meal and flour worth \$1200. Labor cost was \$15/month. In the opinion of Dickson J. Preston, this was possibly the unidentified windmill shown on the Bay shore south of Wittman Post Office in the 1877 county atlas (1978).

LUMBER MILLS (-)

The national survey of 1931, *Nonutilized Wood*, listed the following Talbot wood-consuming works: Easton, L. S. Fleckenstein & Sons; St. Michaels, W. H. Jesse and Charles Radcliffe; Trappe, Cooper and Gordy; Griffith Brothers, and C. A. Kephart.

McDANIEL SAWMILL (1)

Louis McDaniel was listed in the 1880 census of manufactures with \$2000 capital investment in a sawmill with 7 employees, 30 hp steam engine, and annual output of 300,000 ft lumber (\$3000).

McDANIEL WINDMILL ()

John McDaniel had the tract Tisbourns Cott and a windmill “near the water” per the 1783 tax list of Mill and Bay Hundreds.

MacMAHAN TANYARD ()

John MacMahan advertised for a tanner at Hole-in-the-Wall, *Md. Herald*, Easton, June 29, 1790.

MANUFACTURING CO. OF THE EASTERN SHORE ()

This company was chartered under *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1841, Chapter 143, and established in Talbot County for the manufacture of woolens, linen, and cotton by Edward Lloyd, Samuel Dickinson, William Melvy, William E. Seth, Robert Moore, Lambeth Reardon, and John Kemp. Authorized capital was \$25,000.

MARTIN TANYARD ()

Joseph Martin had a tanyard in 1804, *Land of Legendary Lore*, p. 252. Joseph Martin and Company advertised their tanning and currying business “near the Trappe,” *Easton Herald*, August 14, 1804.

MILL COVE ()

Mill Cove is a tidal creek off Miles River opposite Gossages Post Mill, q. v.

MILL CREEK (4)

Mill Creek runs into Skipton Creek south of Wye Mills but was the water supply, not for Wye Mill, but for Prices (Gibbs Mill or Hardcastles) and Humphreys Mill. In 1972, much of the stream was part of a bird sanctuary. Distinct from Mill Branch, which supplied the water to Wye Mill. The Moore-Hardcastle Mill (1795) was on another Mill Creek in District 4.

MILL FARM ()

The Mill Farm and other property mortgaged by Robert R. Goldsborough (Talbot County deeds, JL No. S:524) on St. Michaels River was offered by trustee, T. R. Loockerman, *The Whig*, Easton, August 25, 1840.

MILL GARDEN (3)

In 1695, Samuel Abbott patented 35 acres called Mill Garden (Patents, Liber CC No. 4:81, MSA).

MILL HOUSE (2)

The Mill House at St. Michaels was originally built on the beach about 1600 and was later moved to its present position on Harrison Square (Cherry Street near Locust Street), *Tidewater Times*, July 1969, p. 64.

MILL HUNDRED (1)

Mill Hundred was a political subdivision dating from at least 1663 and it was replaced by Easton District.

MILL POINT (1)

For Mill Point on the Wye River, see Wye House Windmill.

MILL POINT (1)

Mill Point is a place name on Leeds Creek at Tunis Mills but no mill survived [1976]. Location was 5-J-11 in the ADC Street Atlas.

MILL POINT MILL (2)

See Shaffer Steam Mill (at St. Michaels).

MILL ROAD ()

Henry Parker patented a tract called Mill Road, 200 acres, in 1674 (Patents, Liber 15:177, MSA). It was on the north side of Fawsley Branch of St. Michael's River and it passed to Thomas Smithson and others (Rent Rolls, Liber 11:80, MSA). The 1798 tax list of Mill Hundred showed Mill Road partly in possession of John Bowen.

MILL ROAD ()

MILL ROAD ADDITION

Thomas Smithson patented Millroad Addition, 150 acres, in 1681, and Mill Road Addition, 300 acres, in 1688 (Patents, Libers 21:260 and BB No. 3:5442, respectively, MSA). Smithson's will of 1714 left Mill Road and Mill Road Addition to his wife Mary, MCW, 4:5. The tract was on the south side of St. Michaels River (Rent Roll 11:102, MSA). There was also Mill Road Second Addition on the head of Gallaway Branch surveyed in 1688 (Chancery papers No. 2135, MSA).

MILL SEAT (4)

See Atkinson Mill.

MILL SECURITY (3)

See Coxes Mill.

MILL STREET (3)

Mill Street in Oxford runs parallel to Morris Avenue, from the water at "the Strand" eastward for a block or two to Tilghman Street. No mill stood in 1982; the area was the site of boat yards. There was no factory on "Factory Street," although that name might be derived from tobacco factors [i. e., merchants]. No mill was shown in the atlas. The street was not far from the Leonard Steam Sawmill on Water Street. [One of Dr. Barber's three roller mills was in Oxford in the 1890s.]

MOORE MILL (4)

See Hardcastle Mill of 1795.

NEALL WINDMILL (4)

Joseph K. Neall advertised a farm 2.5 miles from Easton, a little off the road leading from Dover Bridge; 190 acre, with “an excellent windmill, the profits of which are three hundred bushels of grain per annum,” *Easton Gazette*, May 30, 1829, p. 4. Location would have been on present Dover Road (Md. 331), roughly at 14-J-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

NEW MILL (3)

James Scott patented 200 acres called New Mill in 1665 (Patents, Liber 8:183, MSA) and he bequeathed New Mill and Partnership on Miles Creek to his son William in 1679 (Wills 4:72, MSA). William was then at school in England. In 1693, William and James Scott sold New Mill and Partnership to Robert Grundy. The tracts, 500 acres, were in Miles Creek in Great Choptank River (Talbot County deeds, LL:33, MSA).

New Mill, alias Bennetts Freashes, Markland, or Deep Branch Farm, was sold under decree and purchased by Sarah D. Hardcastle in 1864 (Talbot County deeds, 71:275); the tracts began on the road from Abbott-Wright Mill to Parsons Landing. This was apparently the site of Coxes and Parsons Mill.

OAKLAND STEAM SAW AND PLANING MILL (1)

Originally called Oakland mills, this works on Mill Point and Leeds Creek was renamed Tunis Mills and the road is still called Tunis Mills Road. The 1877 atlas presented an illustration of the steam sawmill of W. W. Tunis and Bros. at the steamboat landing. Yellow pine was produced, and white oak ship plank cut with gang saws. Also prime heart decking. Cart and wagon felloes were on hand and cut to order per the advertisement in the atlas. The 1880 census of manufactures listed an investment of \$40,000, 30 employees, and an 80 hp engine. Annual production was 3 million feet (\$15,000). The *Denton Journal*, March 28, 1896, reported, “Tunis Mills . . . contract for lumber for the Catholic Church at Ridgely [was awarded to Tunis].” The place name was spelled Tuhls Mill in GZMD, 1941. The works is now extinct, not to be found in the late 1960s. Also, *WPA Guide*, p. 390. Location was 5-J-11 in the ADC Atlas.

OLD MILL (4)

“Old Mill” was a 250-acre tract laid out for James Scott in 1664. In 1676, Anne Mitchell, wife of John Mitchell, granted to her daughter, Grace Aldridge, 250 acres called “Ould Mill” lying in Wye River (Talbot County deeds, GG No. 3:46, MSA).

George Aldrigg bequeathed “Old Mill” to his daughter Grace in 1679 (Wills 10:73, MSA). On making his will in 1679, James Scott left “New Mall” on Miles Creek, but no longer possessed Old Mill.

William Hemsley left “Old Mill,” 200 acres, to his daughter Eliza in 1699 (Wills EM 1:158, MSA). In 1731, William Hemsley had Old Mill, Hopton, Yorkfields, and other tracts resurveyed into Hemsley Upon Wye. Hopton had been in 1680 the site of the courthouse built at York Town (HTC, p. 211); this fact, plus platting out the boundary lines of Old Mill, suggests that the tract was on the west bank of Skipton Creek at Wye River, west of the present US 50, east of the extinct town of York.

Scott’s Mill has been incorrectly associated with Wye Mill, which stood on the tract Wilton. The Scott Mill perished from the dampness of its low lying setting per Dr. Henry Chandlee Forman in OBGF, p. 119.

(THE) OLD MILL (3)

The Old Mill Antiques Shop at Maple and Main Streets in Trappe seems to be no more than a country store structure [1976].

OLDHAM WINDMILL (3)

In 1717, the General Assembly gave permission to John Oldham to erect a windmill at Town Point, Oxford, HTC, p. 364. Oldham received enough land for the mill and its “Tayle Tree” (*Arch Md.*, 37:230). [A tail tree was the heavy timber prop that made it possible to turn the pivoting windmill into the breeze and also keep it balanced.] Also, *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1717, Chapter 11.

OREM WINDMILL (2)

Stephen Orem was listed with \$200 capital investment in a windmill, 1860 census of manufactures; Orem had only one employee and a labor cost of \$18/month and an annual output of 1700 bu meal (\$1275) and \$140 bbl flour (\$780). Orem also operated the Oxford Ferry for many years and lived on the Ferry Neck side of Third Haven Creek.

OXFORD OYSTER PACKERS (3)

The 1887 State business directory listed the following:

1. Blades and Derring
2. John M. Blades
3. Joseph Crockett
4. W. Haddaway and Sons
5. John W. Henry
6. Edward Jefferson
7. Aaron Mills
8. Oxford Oyster Company
9. W. H. Seth and Co.
10. Sinclair and Haddaway
11. Stewart, Price and Co.
12. Seth and Korb (crab packers).

PAPERMILL POND (1)

See Talbot County Paper Mill.

PARROTT WINDMILL (3)

Abner Parrott owned a windmill 10 x 18 ft and worth \$40 near the head of Bollen Brook Creek, 1798 tax list of Bollen [sic] Brook Creek.

PEARSON MILL (3)

Thomas Pearson owned a 2-story frame mill house, 30 x 35, valued at \$250 on part of Taylors Ridge; Francis Neale was occupant, 1798 tax list of Bullin Brook Hundred. "Pearsons Land" included "The mill Seat" and was near Coxes Mill, or possibly the same as Coxes Mill.

PETERS MILL ()

S. G. Peters was listed as miller at Royal Oak in the 1880 State business directory.

PHOENIX MILL (1)

See Wilson mill.

PITTS MILL (1)

Thomas Barnitt bequeathed to his son Thomas "a water mill known as Pitts Mill in Talbot Co," MCW, 7:0. One witness to the will was John Price (miller), March 22, 1732. A mill belonging to John Pitt had previously been left to his grandson, James Berry, in 1737, MCW, 4:107. Berry later took out writs to build other mills. Pitts His Bridge was at Tanyard Branch on the old Easton Road just above the town, HTC, p. 221. A steam mill was shown here on the 1858 Dilworth map and in the 1877 county atlas. The atlas still showed the archaic terminology "Pitts His Bridge" in 1877. See Wilsons Mill for the steam works. Location was the present upper end of Washington Street, inside the present town limits, grid 14-C-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

PORT STEAM SAWMILL (3)

This sawmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas across from the County Alms House and west of Hambleton Post Office. Location was 20-B-7 in the ADC Street Atlas.

POTTS MILL (1)

John Potts took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* for a water mill near Carters Bridge at the head of St. Michaels (Miles) River, February 10, 1723. The lands belonged to Samuel Cocken and Elizabeth Carter, Widow. The jury valued the land at 10 Shillings annually. The survey began near the east side of the main road to the head of Wye River (Chancery Records, Liber 3:1069, MSA).

This seems to be the same site used for the Edmondson Mill in 1670, presumably extinct by the time of Potts. John Potts of Queen Anne's County, miller, and Thomas Potts, planter, and sons of the earlier John Potts, sold the Mill on Carter Bridge Branch to James Tilghman of Philadelphia in 1772 for £ 70 (Talbot County deeds, JL 20:199, MSA).

Tilghman Mill was shown on the Dennis Griffith 1794-1795 map at the head of Miles River, 4.5 miles north of Easton. The 1798 tax list of Mill Hundred showed Jeremiah Roads "situated at Potts Mill" with 1 brick mill house 40 x 22 ft, with 1 pair of stones in tolerable repair, the race but sorry repair," and assessed at \$600.

Elizabeth Tilghman, widow of James Tilghman, Jr., appointed Hugh Sherwood trustee to sell the property in April 1801 (Talbot County deeds, JL 29:107). A mill seat, property of James Tilghman, Jr., deceased, was advertised in the *Easton Herald*, August 4, 1801. The site was on Miles River, 4 or 5 miles from the town. Hugh Sherwood of Huntington advertised again that Potts Mill was for sale under decree of the High Court of Chancery; located at the head of St. Michaels River, 5 miles from Easton, *Ibid.*, September 4, 1804.

William Atkinson purchased the property, but by a decree passed in 1808, John Kemp was appointed trustee and sold the mill to John Benentt (Talbot County deeds, JL 34:538). In 1821, Bennett conveyed the property to his financial backers, Theodore Denny and James Seth (Talbot County deeds, JL 43:351).

Tilghmans Mill, formerly Holtz, in Chapel District, 1.5 miles from Primary School to Persimmon Bottom, was advertised in *The Whig*, Easton, January 15, 1839, *Ibid.*, January 22. William H. Tilghman offered the mill for rent for the 1841 season, *Ibid.*, June 30, 1840; "just put in complete order."

Jacob Wright bought the mill from Denny in 1845 (Talbot County deeds, JP 59:171) and it was referred to as "Wrights Mill, formerly called Potts Mill" in Liber 61:449. Wright advertised in the *Easton Gazette*, January 3, 1846:

***Potts Mill* . . . the late millers family who were afflicted with Small Pox have recovered, washed out and moved off & the house well cleaned and white washed inside and out and of course no kind of damage can be apprehended by persons visiting the mill. The mill is now kept by Mr. Francis E. Russum, a very competent man . . . with one of the best Smut Machines in the county and a plentiful supply of water.**

The 1850 census showed the Jacob Wright mill with \$2000 capital investment, powered by water, with 2 employees and an annual output of \$3000 in flour (250 bbl) and meal (3000 bu). The sawmill was worth \$2500 and had 6 employees turning out 200,000 ft of plank and lumber worth \$4000. This works was shown as the J. V. B. Wright mill on Dilworth's 1858 map.

The mill passed to John Elbin, and following his death, was taken over by William T. Elbin. The *American Miller* reported in August, 1875, (3:52), "George B. Kent, millwright, at Chestertown, Md., has commenced building a new four-run mill for Wm. T. Elben & Co., near Easton, Md., their old mill having been burned a few weeks since."

The late John Elbin's daughter and her husband, Mary Elbin Briscoe and James E. Briscoe, sued the widow and heirs, including mill operator William T. Elbin. The mill was sold under decree and was purchased by Elbin and a new partner, Thomas P. Stuart, trading as William T. Elbin and Company, 1876 (Talbot County deeds, JFT 83:24; Queen Anne County Judgments, JW 5:173).

The atlas listed Eureka Flouring Mills, owned by W. T. Elben [sic], who advertised family flour and custom work; his residence was at Longwood; a native of Salem County, New Jersey, he had settled in 1872 and owned 114 acres. The mill was shown on the east side of the present Md. 662 just south of Longwoods and on the south bank of the stream. The mill burned again on December 29, 1877, per the *American Miller*.

The *American Miller*, 6 (February 1, 1878): 30, "The three-run grist and merchant mill of Messrs. Wm. T. Elben & Co. at Longwoods, Talbot Co., Md., was destroyed by fire on December 29th last. The loss was \$8,000; insurance \$3,700. This is the second time this mill has been destroyed within a few years. It will be rebuilt at once."

The *American Miller*, 9 (April 1, 1881): 207, carried an advertisement, "For Sale. A two-run custom and merchant mill with 25 acres of land. Two turbine wheels. One of the best stands on the Eastern Shore of Maryland . . . W. T. Elben, Box 94, Easton, Talbot Co., Md."

The *American Miller*, 14 (August 1, 1886): 450, reported, "Wm. T. Elbin, Easton, Md., has put new engine and boiler in his flour mill, with a view to putting in roller process machinery."

The 1880 census of manufactures listed a 13-foot fall, two 5-foot turbines of 200 rpm, developing 30 hp; annual output was 1628 bbl flour and mill (\$18,695). Elbin was also listed in the 1887 State business directory. The *Manufacturers Record*, 11 (May 7, 1887): 491, reported, "Wm. T. Elbin had purchased new machinery for a roller mill . . . 30 to 40 bbl/diem . . . Longwoods . . ."

The *American Miller*, 18 (October 1, 1890): 709, “For Sale or Rent. One of the best 35-barrel mills on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Everything in complete order. For particulars address, W. T. Elben, Longwoods, Talbot Co., Md.”

The *American Miller*, 23 (December 1, 1895): 920, reported, “Fred Roe has commenced the operation of the Old Potts Mill, located near Easton, Md. The mill, which has been idle for about a year, was given a thorough overhaul before being placed in operation.”

The mill was included on R. D. Lambdin’s 1935 list which described a mill race and overshot wheel. No ruins could be seen and the dam was down when observed in 1976. In his 1983, *Talbot County: A History*, p. 71, Dickson J. Preston noted that the location was once described as on “the freshes of St. Michaels River. Location was 7-B-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

PRICE MILL (4)

See Gibson Mill.

PROBASCOS WHARF AND CANNERY (4)

Probascos Wharf and Cannery was shown in the 1877 atlas on the south side of Skipton Creek, east of the extinct town of York. Location was 2-B-11 in the ADC Street Atlas.

QUEEN ANNE GRAIN CO. (4)

Two modern mills were in the town of Queen Anne, selling Funks Feed; there was also a separate feed mill. Owned by D. Kirby Metz, Jr.[1976].

QUEEN ANNE ROLLER MILLS (4)

“Grinding and Mixing” was painted on the concrete-block mill building near the Queen Anne Grain Company; apparently a previous corporate title.

RANDALLS MILL (4)

In February 1707, John Randall, Millwright, sold Randalls Mill, a grist and water mill, to Richard Bennett, Esq., for £ 140 Good and Lawful Money of England. The mill had been built by Randall on land acquired from Charles Stevens and it adjoined Weston on a branch of Wye River, actually the present Mill Creek. The deed mentioned ironwork and brasses, millstones, floodgates, mill dam, and mill pond (Talbot County deeds, RF 11:46). This was apparently the site condemned under writ in 1747 for Humphreys Mill, q. v. Also, Dickson J. Preston, *Wye Oak*, p. 133.

REYNOLDS MILL ()

Edward Reynolds was listed as miller at Kirkham in the 1887 State business directory.

RICHARDS MILL (2)

See Shaffer Mill.

RICHARDSONS WINDMILL (1)

Robert Richardson had a windmill on Miles River plus the tracts Beach and Elliotts Lott, on the 1783 tax list.

RIDGELY WINDMILL (2)

The 1860 census of manufactures listed Charles W. Ridgely with \$200 capital investment in windmill with 1 employee and annual output of 140 bbl flour (\$780) and 1700 bu meal (\$1275). These same statistics were given for the Orem Windmill.

RIGBY WIDMILL (2)

A windmill run by Charles Henry Rigby at Deep Neck on the farm later owned by John D. Williams of Easton was mentioned by Wilson M. Tyler in "Many Old Grist Mills in Hopkins Neck," Easton *Star-Democrat*, November 12, 1927.

RITTENHOUSE SAWMILLS (3)

Separate sawmills of W. C. and S. C. Rittenhouse were listed near Easton in the 1887 State business directory. The 1880 census of manufactures had listed the 20 hp steam sawmill of S. C. Rittenhouse with \$2000 capital investment and 8 employees, producing 600,000 ft lumber per annum (\$6000).

ROBINSON SAWMILL (3)

John Robinson was listed in the 1860 census of manufactures with \$2500 capital investment in a steam sawmill, with 3 employees, and an annual output of 200,000 ft (\$3500).

ROE AND WARREN SAWMILL (4)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Roe and Warren with \$1000 capital investment in a 10 hp steam sawmill with 4 employees and annual output of 225,000 ft (\$2600).

ROSE SAWMILL (4)

Dr. C. H. Rose steam sawmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas at Woodland Station at the NE corner of present Three Bridge Road and Rabbit Hill Road. The 1880 census of manufactures listed \$1000 investment, 15 hp engine, and 70,000 ft annual output (\$900). Possibly the same as the Chapels Saw Mill of 1860. The works is extinct, but a large modern sawmill operates nearby at Woodland on the east side of the railroad, north of Rabbit Hill Road. Location was grid 8-C-7 in the ADC Street Atlas.

ST. MICHAELS MILL (2)

A large commercial mill, an old brick structure, survived on Talbot Avenue in St. Michaels. See Bayshore Foods, Inc.

ST. MICHAELS OYSTER PACKERS (2)

The 1887 State business directory listed (1) J. H. Blades and Bro., (2) William Caulk, and, (3) George W. Tyler.

ST. MICHAELS SILK CO. (2)

The St. Michaels Silk Co. in Talbot County was chartered by *Laws of Md., Acts of 1838, Chapter 344*. Incorporators were Joseph Bruff, James B. Way, Thomas Auld, and John Harper; capitalization was to be not less than \$5000.

ST. MICHAELS WINDMILL (2)

The St. Michaels windmill was adjacent to the Lambdin and Sons shipyard in St. Michaels and the owner was unknown per R. D. Lambdin's list of 1935.

SAWMILL COVE (3)

Saw Mill Cove is an inlet of La Trappe Creek, 4.5 miles SE of Oxford per GZMD. Location is 22-G-3 in the ADC Atlas. No sawmill nor cove place name was shown in the 1877 county atlas.

SATTERFIELD AND MOORE MILL (4)

Same as Hardcastles Mill of 1795.

SCHULTZE MILL (5)

Fred Schultze was listed as miller at McDanieltown in the 1880 State business directory. Location was approximately 4-C-3 in the ADC Street Atlas near Wade Point. A "Sh & Mill" was shown in the 1877 atlas on the north side of present Tilghman Island Road (Md. 33).

SCOTTS MILL (3, 4)

See Old Mill and New Mill.

SETH SAWMILL ()

The 1850 census of manufactures listed Joseph M. Seth with \$2000 capital investment in a steam sawmill with 10 employees, and annual output of 80,000 ft in timber, scantling, and planks (\$5000).

SETH WINDMILL ()

James M. Seth was listed in the 1860 census of manufactures with \$500 capital investment in a windmill with 1 employee; labor cost was \$15/month, and annual output of 1000 bu meal and flour (\$1500).

SEWELL MILL (1)

The 1860 census of manufactures listed Thomas Sewell with \$5000 capital investment in a water mill that produced 6400 bu meal (\$6000) and 30,000 ft lumber (\$8000) with 1 employee.

SEWELL MILL (3)

C. Sewell was listed as miller at Trappe in the 1887 State business directory. The *American Miller*, 21 (January 1, 1893): 70, reported, "W. P. Sewell of Trappe, Md., is putting up a new mill, and has contracted for a complete 30 barrel mill with Aug. Wolf & Co., Chambersburg, Pa." The same journal of May 1, 1893 (21:386) reported, "W. C. Sewell, Trappe, Md., is about to run his new 30-barrel mill. The contract was awarded to Aug. Wolf & Co."

SEWELL MILL (2)

Same as Shaffer Mill.

SEWELL WINDMILL (5)

The T. S. Sewell windmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas at Collisons Cove. Location was 11-A-3 in the ADC Street Atlas on the present Sewell Point Road near Wittman. Possibly the same as Levi Harrisoin's windmill in the list made in 1935 by R. D. Lambdin.

SHAFFER STEAM MILL (2)

John H. Tunis built a steam mill at Navy Point or Gibson's Point at St. Michaels before 1850 about the time the reliable old windmills began to disappear. Tunis operated several years, sold out to William P. Blades, and moved to Kent Island. The 1860 census showed Blades and Shaffer with \$8000 capital investment in a steam mill, producing 9000 bu meal and 2400 bbl flour annually (\$23,200).

The mill burned during Blades' ownership, a date given as 1859 in one source. In 1861, William F. Shaffer built a steam mill on the ruins of the Tunis-Blades structure. The new mill had an output of 25 bbl/diem. In 1864, after the mill had been operating nonstop for two days, the water went low in the boiler and the African American fireman filled it up with cold water. The subsequent explosion sent the boiler in two directions, half landing on a sailing vessel and the rest plowing through a shanty, killing the fireman's wife. A mill customer waiting for his grain, John Leonard of Royal oak, was also killed. The *Md. Farmer and Mechanic*, 1 (December 1, 1864): 373, quoted the *Easton Journal* of November 1, reporting that the boiler of the steam gristmill at St. Michaels had exploded "destroying the mill house, instantly killing two persons, one of whom was Mr. John H. Leonard and the other the miller's wife, a negro woman. Mr. Shaffer the owner of the mill received some severe injuries on the hand."

Still another mill was built and was standing in 1915 per HTC, p. 391. the third mill was operated as a steam saw and grist mill for one year by S. Sutliff, a native of Queen Anne's County, who sold to Mr. Sewell. R. D. Lambdins list made in 1935 credited Sutliff with running the mill for 2 years. Mr. Sutliff advertised the property in the *American Miller*, 2 (September 1, 1874): 60, "NAVY POINT MILLS. A good steam saw and grist mill, having three circular saws and two French burrs, doing a good business, in a town of 2,500 inhabitants. Plenty of white oak and yellow pine to be had in the vicinity."

The 1880 census of manufactures listed the Sewell and Richards with \$3500 capital investment, 3 employees, a 25 hp engine, and annual output of 1440 bbl flour and 116 tons of meal (\$14,500). The sawmill then produced 80,000 ft (\$1200). The 1880 State business directory listed the firm of Richards and Sewell as millers and sawmillers at the "Navy Point Steam, Saw, Flour, and grist mill" as he described it in an advertisement. After about two years, Sutliff sold out to M. R. Richards, a resident of Delaware. The 1887 State business directory listed the M. R. Richards steam saw and grist mill at Navy Point, St. Michaels. Richards ran the mill day and night until the machinery wore out, per R. D. Lambdin in "Wind, Water, and Steam Mills in and Around Talbot County, Maryland," 1935.

The 1877 county atlas had shown the S. S. Sutliff Navy Point Sawmill at the foot of Willow Street, now called Mill Street. Location was 12-A-3 in the ADC Street Atlas.

SHANAHAN SAWMILL (1)

The 1880 census of manufactures showed G. Kelly Shannahan with \$1400 capital investment in a steam sawmill with 3 employees, a 20 hp engine, and annual output of 250,000 ft (\$2500).

SHARPLESS POTTERY (1)

Samuel Sharpless founded the Eastern Shore Earthenware Manufactory, q. v.

SHEETS-GIBSON TANYARD (4)

Tan Yard Farm at the head of Wye Rive, property of Clara Sheets, bequeathed to her under the will of her grandfather Jacob Gibson, was for sale, *The Whig*, Easton, October 13, 1839.

SHERWOOD MILL (4)

See Gibson Mill.

SHERWOOD WINDMILL ()

Daniel Sherwood, planter, left his son Hugh Sherwood a half-interest in a windmill at his brother Francis's, May 21, 1733 (Wills, Liber 22:11, MSA), probated 1738 per MCW, 8:6. Sherwood also owned the plantation called "Daniel and Mary."

SINGER MIL ()

J. M. Singer built a flour and saw mill at Wittman's, but it closed due to a shortage of timber, per R. D. Lambdin's list of 1935. The 1880 State business directory listed Capt. Asbury Mill as miller at Wittman.

SMITH MILL (3)

T. T. Smith was listed as miller at Hambleton, 1.5 miles from Trappe, in the 1887 State business directory.

SPEAKMAN SAWMILL (1)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed H. L. Speakman with \$1400 capital investment in 12 hp steam sawmill with 2 employees, and an annual output of 155,000 ft of lumber (\$1863).

SPEDDEN TIDE MILL (1)

An item in the *American Farmer*, 10 (April 11, 1828): 29, reported "*Tide Mills of Easton, Md.* -- A Mr. Robert Spedden has obtained a patent for a *tide mill*, which is represented as adequate to the ordinary purposes of grinding and propelling

machinery in factories. It is intended to be used in small creeks or inlets, and cannot fail to be of utility in level countries, or in those sections where running streams are not abundant.”

STEAM GRIST MILL (1)

The *Easton Whig* of May 21, 1839, carried a sale notice wherein Joseph K. Neal offered a half-interest in the “well established mill at Easton Point . . . first rate timber for building a sawmill . . . which is to be attached to the engine driving the gristmill. Neal announced he should have to charge one-sixth “due to [the] extravagant price he has to pay for wood,” *Ibid.*, November 17, 1840.

The mill was offered again in *Easton Gazette*, September 5, 1846. “The Steam Grist Mill at Easton Point will be sold Tuesday the 15th of Sept. This property . . . on waters of Thread [sic] Haven river about 1 mile from the Town. The machinery is complete & with very little repair could be made nearly as good as new. RICH’D THOMAS.” The mill was offered again, described as brick, by R. Thorp of Easton, *Baltimore Sun*, October 12, 1847. Thorp gave the maximum capacity as 30-35 bbl/diem.

STEVENS MILL ()

John Stevens owned part of Samuels Beginning and 1 water mill, 20 x 18 ft, of wood, assessed at \$40, also a miller’s house 16 x 14 ft, assessed at \$15, in the 1798 tax list of Island Creek, Third Haven Hundred. Stevens also owned the Atkinson tan house in Easton.

STEVENS TANYARD (1)

Samuel Stevenson [sic, usually given as Stevens] advertised a tanyard at Easton in 1792, *Land of Legendary Lore*, p. 252. In 1793, Samuel Stevens agreed to build at William Jenkins Atkinson’s “a bark house and shop to work in . . . to be built out of the remains of the old building” (Talbot County deeds, BS 25:275).

SUTLIFF MILL (2)

See Shaffer Mill.

SWEATNAM MILL (4)

See Wye Mill.

TALBOT COUNTY PAPER MILL CO. (1)

E. L. F. Hardcastle was president and R. B. Dixon treasurer of this paper mill at Easton. Papermill Pond is SW of Easton and empties into Tred Avon River. The

Easton Gazette, June 25, 1881, reported, "Talbot County Paper Mills Co. will contract for wheat straw . . . R. S. Dixon, treasurer." "The Talbot County Paper Mill Co. will rebuild their straw board mill reported last week as burned. The loss is \$35,000," *Manufacturers Record*, 11 (July 9, 1887): 894. Paper Mill Pond is located at 14-B-8 in the ADC Street Atlas.

TANNERIES (-)

The following tanners met at Easton in 1794 to fix prices: William Rose, Isaac Corse, William Atkinson, Christopher Nice, James Richardson. There was a tannery at Hole-in-the-Wall. Other tanners in the 1790s were Samuel Stevens and Joseph Martin. There were no tanneries operating by 1898, *Land of Legendary Lore*, p. 252.

The 1798 tax list showed John Stevens as owner of the Atkinson tanners shop, a wood structure 22 x 50 ft assessed at \$20. See also Yarnall's tanyard and Thomas's.

TANNERY AT PERRY HALL ()

A tannery was one of the outbuildings at Perry Hall in its days under Jacob Hindman, ca. 1750. See Henry Chandlee Forman, *Tidewater Maryland Architecture*, pp. 65, 70.

TANYARD BRANCH (1)

Tanyard Branch flows into the North Fork of Tred Avon just north of the town limits of Easton and was the stream that powered Pitts Mill. Location of the pond was 14-B-5 in the ADC Street Atlas, and the mouth of the stream was at grid 14-A-5.

TARBUTTON MILL (3) TARBUTTON MILL ROAD

This site, also called Cottage Mills, was said to have belonged to Robert Bartlett of Old Bloomfields. The 1850 census of manufactures listed James Bartlett with \$600 capital investment in a water-powered gristmill with 1 employee and annual output of 200 bbl flour and 6000 bu meal (\$4500).

On the death of James Bartlett, Jr., in 1865, the mill passed to his widow Elizabeth Ann Bartlett. The *Baltimore Sun*, July 18, 1873, reported that Bartlett's Mill and farm in the Trappe District had been sold to Mrs. Tarbutton of Chapel District for \$12,000. Deeds show that Mrs. Bartlett sold to James C. Tarbutton, who gave her a mortgage on the mill and on some of his personal property including:

- 1 10 hp Frick and Bowman engine
- 1 Page Fifth Class Saw Mill

- ½ 10 hp Frick and Bowman engine
- 1 Page Fourth Class Sawmill
- ½ one-eighth hp Wood Tabor and Morris engine
- 2 threshers
- 1 30-inch Westinghouse and Dingy Thresher
- 1 30-inch Glen & Hall Thresher No. 684
- 2 Horses, “Frank” and “Tom”
- 1 Yoke of oxen, “Buck” and “Duke”
- 1 ox cart
- 2 pair of timber wheels.

The above list appeared in Talbot County deeds, Liber JFT 81:443f. The mill was described as the ancestor of Bartletts mill in Easton in “Talbot’s Most Picturesque Spot,” *Easton Star-Democrat*, 1931 (undated clipping).

The 1877 county atlas listed James C. Tarbutton, Jr.,[sic] as proprietor of Cottage Mills, a gristmill and portable sawmill; he gave an Easton postal address and listed his birth date as 1840 with his estate given as 170 acres. The atlas map showed the steam gristmill on the east side of a branch of Miles Creek, south side of the road and there spelled Tarbotton.

The 1880 census of manufactures valued the mill at \$5000; there was a 14-foot fall, one turbine of 1 foot 5 inches breadth, 295 rpm, developing 10 hp; annual output was 112 bbl flour and 40 tons of meal (\$1800). The steam sawmill was rated at 10 hp and had an annual output of 312,000 ft (\$5626). The 1887 State business directory spelled the name Tarbutton and included the sawmill. In 1882, Tarbutton mortgaged the mill, engines, boiler, and livestock and then lost the property by default in 1909.

The mill was sold to Perry D. Taylor in 1910, and in 1922, Perry sold Cottage Mills to Percy Lewis and Katherine T. Lewis (Talbot County deeds, CBL 193:484). In 1927, Lewis sold to William H. Valliant, Jr., and Joseph N. Valliant. William H. Valliant became sole owner in 1931 and in 1946 sold to the Lyons family. The *Easton Star Democrat* in 1931 described the mill as only a foundation standing on Miles Creek near Manadier Cross Roads, a mile from Wm. P. Wright mill (which was downstream).

Tarbutton Mill Road of the present runs east off US 50 between Old White Marsh Church ruins and Trappe; the road leads to Wrights Mill Road. A photo of the owner’s rambling house appeared in OBGF, p. 119. Location was 20-J-9 in the ADC Street Atlas.

THAWLEYS MILL ROAD (4)

Thawleys Mill Road, named for a mill in Caroline County, ran from Elbins Mill Road, of which it was an extension, to MD. 404. Not on current maps or street atlases.

THOMAS TANYARD (3)

William Thomas had a quarter framed building 20 x 16 ft in his tanyard on Road Creek; also a brick house, on the 1798 tax list of Bullen Brook Hundred.

THOMPSON WINDMILL (1)

John Thompson owned Bouthebay and James Progress tracts with a windmill near the water on the 1783 tax list of Mill and Bay Hundreds.

TIDE MILL CREEK (2)

Tide Mill Creek was the site of Gossages Mill, q. v.

TILGHMANS MILL (1)

Same as Potts Mill.

TILGHMAN WINDMILL (1)

The 1783 tax list of Mill and Bay Hundreds showed Matthew Tilghman, Esq., with Rich Neck and a windmill. The Tilghman Windmill was last mentioned in an 1811 estate inventory when it was in good condition (Talbot County Administration Accounts, 1817-1820, No. 11,276 H. R., folio 247, MSA). Cf., MHM, 74:166. Brother Thomas More Page, C. F. X., in writing “Lloyd Tilghman and Sherwood Manor,” quoted the diary of Molly Tilghman, August 5, 1785, where she wrote of her cousin Henrietta Maria Tilghman, “O this Henny of our is the saddest creature you can conceive. If she drags her bloated self to the Wind Mill, she thinks so prodigious an exertion entitles her to groan and complain the whole evening” The mill belonged to her husband, Lloyd Tilghman.

TIRBUT WINDMILL ()

Samuel Tirbut owned a windmill in Oxford assessed at \$60; George Jefferson was the miller, and the 18 x 12 ft miller’s house was valued at \$12 on the 1798 tax list of Third Haven Hundred. [Possibly same as the Bromwell windmill.]

TRAPPE FEED SERVICE (3)

Trappe Feed Service was located on the west side of US 50, a frame commercial mill selling Southern States products [1976].

TRAPPE LANDING GRAIN CO. (3)

This commercial feed company was listed in the 1967 telephone directory at Trappe Landing.

TUCKAHOE MILL ()

Dr. Peter Sharpe, Chirurgeon, of Calvert County, left to his son William “Claborns Island” and the residue “besides what I have given to John Gary at Tuckahoe Mill” in 1672 (Calvert County Wills, Liber 1:494, MSA). Dr. Sharp[e] owned several tracts in Talbot and Dorchester Counties and also 400 acres on Fowling Creek. He had moved to the Eastern Shore from Calvert County, HCVC M, p. 261.

TUHLS MILLS (1)

See Oakland Mills.

TUNIS MILL (2)

See Shaffer Mill at St. Michaels.

TUNIS MILLS (1)

TUNIS MILLS ROAD

See Oakland Mill.

TUNIS STEAM SAWMILL (1)

A list of Talbot County delinquent tax payers included: “John H. Tunis, State & County Tax for 1855, Steam-Mill Easton Point,” Baltimore *Republican & Argus*, September 24, 1856.

TURNERS GRANARY (4)

Captain Turners Granary was shown in the 1877 county atlas on the Choptank River opposite Kingston Landing. Location was 15-J-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

TURNERS MILL ()

John Turner’s heirs owned one mill on the tract Hasco Green; built of brick, two stories, 40 x 24 ft, assessed at \$750. The occupant was John Roberts per 1798 tax list of Island and Tuckahoe Hundreds.

VALLIANT WINDMILL (2)

On Mr. Valliant's farm, Solitude Creek, near Royal Oak, there was a windmill at Darby's Point and was once "owned by Captain Thomas Valliant, uncle of William H. of Bellevue." The site was in 1927 the home of Ormond Hammond. "Many Old Grist Mills in Hopkins Neck," by Wilson M. Taylor, Easton *Star-Democrat*, November 26, 1927. Also in R. D. Lambdin's 1935 list of mills.

WAKEFIELD WINDMILL ()

William E. Bartlett had a post windmill on his estate, Wakefield. AN 1854 sketch of this windmill appeared in H. Chandlee Forman's OBGF, p. 14f.

WARNER SAWMILL (1)

James M. Warner's steam sawmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas near School No. 2, SW of Easton. Warner was also an atlas patron. The works was located between the present Md. 565 and the Easton-Oxford Road on an extension of the present Waverly Drive. Location was approximately grid 14-B-10, an area overrun by the Poplar Hill subdivision.

WARNER SAWMILL (4)

L. O. Warner was listed as a sawmiller at Cordova in the 1887 State business directory.

WAYNE FEED SUPPLY INC. (4)

This modern feed mill supplying Wayne products was on Md. 309 at Cordova [1976].

WESTON AND SPEAKMAN MILL (3)

James N. Weston and Speakman were shown as proprietors of a steam sawmill near Hambleton in the 1877 county atlas. Weston was listed in the patron list as born in Talbot, 1843. James H. Western[sic] was listed with a sawmill at Hambleton in the 1880 State business directory.

WESTON MILL (1)

Cf. Wilson Mill at Easton.

WHITES OLD MILL (4)

Whites Old Mill was mentioned as on the road to Skipton in 1861 (Talbot County deeds, 69:273). The 1858 Dilworth map of Talbot County showed it upstream and west of the mill called Hardcastles in 1795, south side of the Mill Creek that flows

into Tuckahoe Creek; NE of Cordova and north of Md. 309. Possibly located at 3-G-10 in the ADC Street Atlas.

WILLIAMS MILL (4)

See Wye Mill.

WILSON MILL (1)

William A. Wilson was listed with a gristmill at Easton in *Hawes Business Directory*, p. 517. The 1875 Boyd's *Business Directory* listed William E. Wilson as miller at Easton. The 1880 census of manufactures listed William H. [?] Wilson with \$2000 capital investment in a 40 hp steam mill doing all custom work, producing 350 bbl flour and 91 tons of corn meal per annum (\$3000) with 3 employees. A deed made in 1866 placed Willson [sic] steam mill property on the road to Centreville (Talbot County deeds, STH 73:230), probably at Pitts Bridge.



Phoenix Mill about 1902.

The *Manufacturers Record*, 12 (December 10, 1887): 782, reported, “Easton . . . Wm. H. Wilson & Co. have nearly completed their roller flour mill.” The *American Miller*, 27 (March 1, 1899): 240, published a letter from James R. Golt, who noted, “George Wilson of Easton has just put one in [meaning a gasoline engine].”

A photograph taken ca. 1902 was reproduced in Warren & Warren, *Maryland Time Exposures* (1984), p. 41, which showed a frame mill with a separate boiler house. A painted sign was marked “Phoenix Flour Mill” and the authors stated that it was at Easton, operated by George M. Wilson.

WINDMILL (5)

The 1877 county atlas showed a windmill on the Bay above Long Point south of Wittman Post Office. Possibly belonged to Mrs. Susan Kemp whose dwelling was

marked “Res.” on the atlas plate, or failing that, possibly the William Lowe windmill. Location was approximately 10-G-3 in the ADC Street Atlas.

WOTTERS MILL ()

John Wotters [Watters] left “the mill” to his sons John, Jacob, and Philip in 1701, MCW, 2:229.

WRIGHTS MILL (1)

See Potts Mill.

WRIGHTS MILL (3) WRIGHTS MILL ROAD

Abbotts Mill already existed at the head of St. Michaels (Miles) Creek in 1695 when Samuel Abbott patented a tract called Mill Garden (Patents, Liber CC No. 4:81, MSA). Samuel Abbott had patented Abingdon in 1764 and in 1688, another 197 acres called Bailden (Patents, Liber CD :185, MSA) on a branch of Miles Creek. In 1703 he left the mill to son John, to pass on his death to Samuel, son of Samuel deceased, MCW, 3:200.

Abbotts Mill was mentioned in 1711 in the will of Francis Harrison as near Taylors Ridge, MCW, 3:200. The road from Abbotts Mill to Island Creek Neck was mentioned in the 1774 patent of the tract Fox Land adjoining York (Patents, Liber BC & GS 45:446, MSA). The Dennis Griffith 1794-1795 map showed Abbotts [sic] Mill on Miles Creek, 8 miles south of Easton. The 1798 tax list of Bullen Brook Hundred listed a 2-story mill, 30 x 28 ft, one story of brick, the other frame, “new and well finished and excellent never failing stream,” on part of Beaver Dam and Mill Branch (16-1/2 acres) at the head of Miles Creek, assessed value \$650.

Abbotts Mill was mentioned in the funeral notice of Mary Abbott, *Easton Gazette*, April 26, 1819. The mill was offered at auction, August 28, 1821, by Joseph Martin, trustee, and was struck off to Dr. Nicholas Hammond along with the tracts Mill Branch (16 acres), Benentts Freshes, the Beaver Dam, and Hatton.

Joseph L. Turner advertised Abbotts Mill for Sale, “mill in good condition, 2 miles east of post road leading from Easton to Cambridge,” *Easton Gazette*, June 11, 1825.

An advertisement appeared in the *Baltimore American*, July 21, 1827, “I would sell—Abbotts Mill, lying in Talbot County, Maryland, between Cambridge and Easton, about eight miles from each place, which are fine markets for flour and meal . . . 30 acres . . . the mill tolls about 1000 bushels of grain . . . This mill is the second best stand in the county for custom, and gets as much grinding as she can do Apply to JOSEPH L. TURNER.”

When Dr. Hammond died, his properties were sold under special Act of Assembly to Gibson W. Wight in 1837 (Talbot County deeds, JP 53:121). Wright had been born in 1798.

The 1850 census of manufactures had shown the Gibson Wright water mill with \$3000 capital investment, with 2 employees, producing 250 bbl flour and 8650 bu meal (\$13,700) annually.

Wright built a new access road in 1857 (Talbot County deeds, Liber STH 67:447) and on his death in 1871, Hope Farm and Mill Seat passed to son William P. Wright (Talbot County deeds, Liber JB 77:341). The mill appeared in the 1877 county atlas on the present Wrights Mill Road, downstream of Tarbotton [sic] Mill on Miles Creek, a tributary of the Choptank.

The 1880 census of manufactures listed a 9-foot fall running a breast wheel 7 ft broad at 12 rpm to develop 8 hp. Annual output was 312 bbl flour and 75 tons meal (\$3750).

The *American Miller*, 9 (August 1, 1881): 327, reported, "Mr. William P. Wright, Easton, Talbot Co., Md., is removing his wooden water wheels and all the old style machinery at his gristmill, and putting in a 30-inch Improved Success Water Wheel, built by S. M. Smith, York, Pa., who furnished Mr. Wright with the machinery necessary to make a completely modern mill, fully up to the demand of the times." William P. Wright was deep in debt in 1885 and conveyed all his property to trustees, who in 1889 sold the farm and mill to Oswald Tilghman (Talbot County deeds, Liber TH 109:45).

The *American Miller*, 18 (October 1, 1890): 704, reported, "Oswald Tilghman, Trappe, Md., is putting in a special purifier furnished by the Case Mfg. Co., Columbus, Ohio." The *Manufacturers Record*, 18 (November 29, 1890): 39, reported, "Trappe—Flour Mill—Roller Process Machinery is reported as being put in Wright's flour mill near Trappe." The *American Miller*, 19 (January 1, 1891): 54, reported, "Wright's Mill at Trappe, Md., is being remodeled to the roller process." Later that year, the same journal, 19 (December 1, 1891): 848, reported, "Oswald Tilghman of Easton, Md., has just started a 30-inch Improved Success Water Wheel, made by S. Morgan Smith, York, Pa."

Oswald Tilghman was sued by his mortgage holders in 1900, and the mill was sold under decree in 1901 to Thomas H. Smith, who received title in 1910 (Talbot County deeds, FCW 156:270 and Chancery Records 26:284). Smith sold the mill to William J. Price in 1924 (Talbot County deeds, CLB 197:420). Clara Price, widow, sold to William H. Valliant in 1927.

It was described as a brick mill [why, when it was a frame building?] and very old, powered by a breast wheel, and later by a turbine; located at the southern part of Landing Neck. The miller's dwelling brick was vacant but the mill was running

when featured in “Talbot’s Most Picturesque Spot—Old Wrights Mill,” *Easton Star-Democrat*, 1931 [undated clipping].

Valliant sold Wrights Mill, mill seat, and machinery to Nettie Marie Jones in 1943 and two years later Ms. Jones sold to Alfred R. Roberts in a deed that mentioned lands formerly belonging to the United Baking Company in which Valliant had been a member (Talbot County deeds, WLS 261:489). The Mill Farm and Shiloh passed to Henry P. Mushaw in 1947.

The mills stood until 1961. It was a story-and-a-half frame structure set on a brick basement and a full architectural study and photos of its progressive decay were shown in H. Chandlee Forman’s OBGF, p. 115ff. The ruins were listed in the 1966 Tourists Guide Map of the County. The miller’s house survived in 1967 per OBGF, p. 119. The site was on the east side of the road, south bank of Miles Creek. Location was grid 20-K-11 in the ADC Street Atlas.

WRIGHTSON FOUNDRY ()

The 1850 census listed Pere Wrightson’s hand-powered machine shop capitalized at \$2500, with 3 employees, producing \$1400 in agricultural implements annually.

WRIGHTSON MILL (5)

John B. Wrightson’s mill was shown in the atlas at McDanielstown. A steam grist and sawmill, it had burned per the 1935 list prepared by R. D. Lambdin.

WYE HOUSE WINDMILL (1)

This post windmill was shown on Wye River in an old plat of Wye House, 1784, OBGF, pp. 52, 59. There had also been a miller’s house. Matthias Bordley recommended Daniel Thomas as a miller to Edward Lloyd V (Lloyd Papers, MHS Special Collections, June 16, 1798). Lloyds windmill was apparently about to return to service; he had sent his grain to be ground at Bordley’s the previous winter, except for some that Bordley explained “was in so soft a state that it could not be ground.”

Frederick Douglass recalled the windmill as a mile from his old master’s house, located on Long Point where Wye River and Miles River met, near the anchorage of the sloop, *Sally Lloyd*. “There was a creek to swim in, at the bottom of an open flat space of twenty acres or more, called ‘the Long Green’—a very beautiful play ground for children The sloop and the mill were wondrous things, full of thoughts and ideas. A child cannot well look at such objects without thinking,” *My Bondage and My Freedom*, p. 50.

WYE MILL (4)

Wye Mill, still grinding wheat and corn as a living museum, long maintained by the Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities, claimed to be the oldest institution in either Queen Anne's or Talbot Counties and stands on a part of the tract Wilton, 650 acres patented in 1665 by Thomas Williams "at the head of a branch called the Dividing branch near the head of Middle Branch of a River called Wye River . . . Cabbin Cove" (Patents, Liber 8:69, MSA).



Wye Mill, after restoration, photo by author.

The ownership of Wilton was claimed by several different parties, although the Williams title ultimately prevailed. A deed of 1682 from Edward Barrowcliff, Millwright, to Daniel Gingerson and Henry Snader conveyed part of Wilton in exchange for "a quantity or parcel of work to be done to ye dame of ye sd Mill of ye said Edward (Talbot County deeds, HH 4:147, MSA). Then in 1683, George Robins conveyed all of Wilton to Edward Barrowcliff of Talbot county, Millwright, and Benjamin Blefold, planter, for 5000 pounds of tobacco (Talbot county deeds, HH 4:218,MSA).

In 1690, Henry Pratt of Talbot County sold all of Wilton on "a branch of Wye River now called the Mill Branch" and adjoining Edward Barrowcliff's land to Richard Sweatnam (Talbot County deeds, KK:274, MSA). Captain Richard Sweatnam in 1697 left to son William and wife Jane "my water Milue at ye head of Wye River in Talbot County" (Wills, EM 1:134, MSA). If Mrs. Sweatnam were to remarry, her next husband was required to pay the repair of the mill and half the profits were to go to William.

The Williams family still claimed Wilton, and in 1704, Thomas Williams of Northumberland County, Virginia, son and heir of Thomas Williams formerly of Talbot County, sold Wilton and The Addition plus mill and water mill to Maurice

Jones, also of Northumberland County (Talbot County deeds, RF 9:311, MSA). Jones sold the tract and mill to Richard Bennett in 1705 (folio 313); the stream was at that point called “Williams (or the Mill Branch).” In 1706, Richard Bennett leased to William Sweatnam twenty acres of Wilton, and “his Grist Water Mill Commonly called and known by the name of Wye Mil with the appurtenances . . . and the Mill house, Mill Dam, Mill stones, floodgates, water wheels, pear head, and benefits.” The lease was to run 60 years at 500 pounds tobacco annually. Sweatnam was to keep the mill in repair and to supply necessary ironwork (Talbot County deeds, RT 10:55, MSA).



Millstone vat and hopper, Wye Mill.

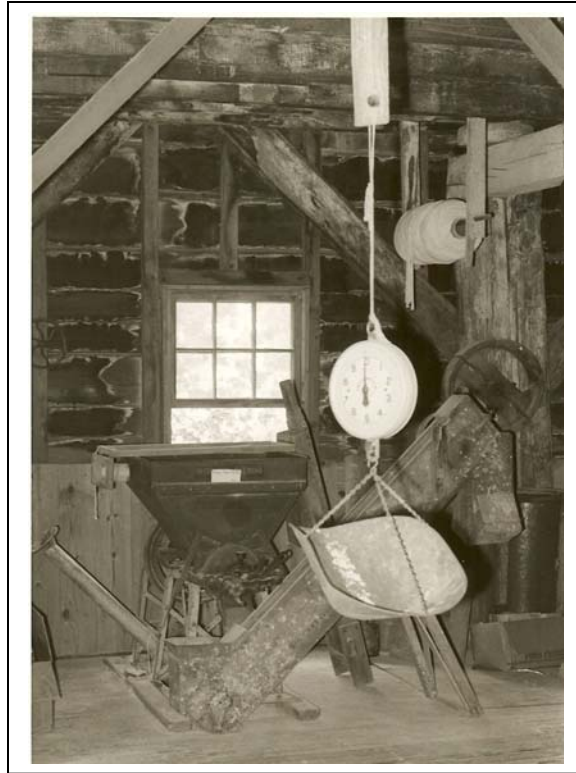
“The mill formerly called Sweatman’s [sic] was the terminus of the line run in 1706 from Tuckahoe Creek to Wye River in *Laws of Md., Acts of 1706, Chapter 3*, which split Queen Anne’s County off from Talbot. In 1710, Edward Barrowclift signed a quit claim to Richard Bennett for all lands in Talbot County held by his father (Talbot County deeds, Liber 12:106, MSA).

The mill passed from Bennett in 1749 to his cousin and executor, Edward Lloyd (Queen Anne County Wills, 28:476, MSA). Edward Lloyd, Esq., advertised a fulling mill (plus grist mill, bolting mill, and bake house at the head of Wye River in the *Md. Gazette*, Annapolis, June 21, 1759, apply to Robert Wilson. When Edward Lloyd (IV) conveyed Wilton and The Addition to his brother Richard Bennett Lloyd in 1771, he reserved the “grist mill, fulling mill and Mill Houses Mill Pond and Mill Dam and the land covered by the water of the said Pond the Millers Dwelling House and the bake house,” (Talbot County deeds, JL 20:152, MSA).

On May 27, 1778, Edward Lloyd IV sold the mill to William Hemsley as recorded in General Court of the Eastern Shore Deeds, Liber IE No. A:6, MSA) but not of record in either county adjoining the mill property. The deed included “the Mill Pond, Mill Stones, bolting Cloths, bolting & hoisting Gears, wheat fan, rolling screen, Mill Pickers, Hammers, Tubs, Measures, and . . . other Implements, Utensils, Tackle and furniture to the said Mill belonging necessary for grinding

Country work and manufacturing Flour.” In April 1779, Colonel Hemsley received an order from the Eastern Shore Treasurer to grind £ 10,000 worth of flour at his own mill or any other convenient; he also received an order from Robert Morris for the Continental Army, QACM, p. 308.

William Hemsley, Gentleman, sold a half interest in the mill to Joshua Kinnard [also spelled Kennard] of Talbot County, Miller, February 29, 1780 (Talbot County



Feed grinder and scale in Wye Mill.

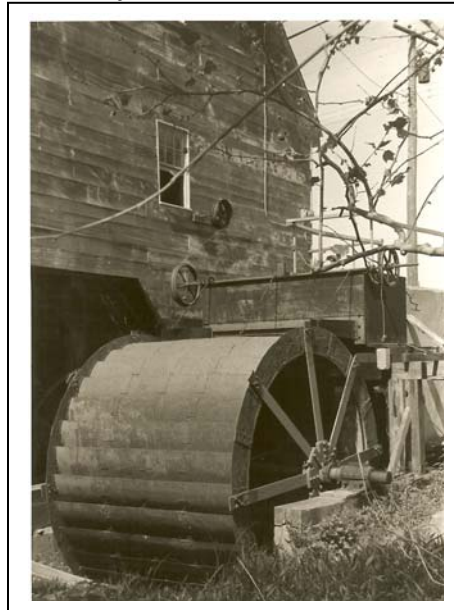
deeds, RS 21:127, MSA). For £ 500, Kennard received half of the tract Wilton which overlapped both counties and contained 76 acres and “half part of a certain Water Grist Mill commonly called and known by the name of Wye Mill contiguous and adjoining to the afd . . . Land.”

Colonel Hemsley’s mill near Corsica was mentioned in a letter of Colonel Henry Hollingsworth to Governor Lee, April 25, 1781. In August, Hollingsworth reported that over half the flour ground at “Colonel Hemsley’s Corsica Mill” had been rejected by army inspectors—153 bbl out of 253 (*Arch. Md.*, 47:212, 268, 410).

Charles Blake, Commissary for Queen Anne’s County, reported, July 11, 1781, to the Governor that milling for the army had stopped at Kennards Mill as Mr.

Kennard's people had gone "into the other State" to escape the draft in Maryland, (*Arch. Md.*, , 47:343).

The 1798 tax list of Island Hundred, Talbot county, showed William Hemsley owner of one mill house, 35 x 40 ft "at Cooper"; the mill was assessed at \$600 and stood on the tract Wilton, still 76 acres. Colonel Hemsley died in 1812, and the mill passed to son Alexander Hemsley. Alexander Hemsley in 1821 sold a half interest in Wye Mills to Samuel Hopkins (Queen County deeds, TM 2:461) and the other half to Ezekiel Forman (Talbot County deeds, JL 43:321).



Steel water wheel at Wye Mill.

The price to Hopkins was \$4000 and included the gristmill and parts of Wilton, Cole Brook, and The addition, 108 acres in all; the sawmill was capable of "sawing plank, boards, and scantling." Thomas Hopkins advertised in *The Whig*, Easton, July 2, 1839, that "Having concluded to go milling again," he wanted to sell his farm near Easton called "Galloway." The sawmill at "Hopkins Water mill" was mentioned in an advertisement in *The Whig*, December 1, 1840. Wye Mills Post Office was established in 1841.

Thomas Hopkins advertised again in the *Baltimore American*, October 25, 1843, "The well known property 'Wye Mills' . . . The mill has lately gone through a general repair, and the machinery is nearly all new and on the most improved plan, with Grimes' Smut Machine affixed – a good stand for both country and merchant work, with a constant stream of water. Also, Saw Mill, Blacksmith's shop"

In 1845, Henrietta Forman, widow, conveyed the other half ownership to Thomas Hopkins, and the next day, various Hopkins heirs conveyed the entire mill to John R. and Sally Hopkins; a few weeks later, Sally Ann deeded all to John R. (Talbot County deeds, 60:241). The 1850 census of manufactures under Queen Anne

County with a water mill with \$3000 capital investment, 2 employees, grinding 10,000 bu corn and wheat annually.

The mill remained in the Hopkins family and the 1877 county atlas showed J. R. Hopkins as owner; he was also an atlas patron and had been born in Talbot in 1820 and owned 650 acres. The 1880 census of manufactures showed J. R. Hopkins with \$5000 capital investment, with 5 employees, and annual labor cost of \$300. There were 2 run of stones, 125 bu/diem maximum capacity; one-eighth of the business was custom. The 8-foot wide Fitch back [pitchback?] wheel was driven by a 14-foot fall of water, running at 15 rpm to develop 12 hp. Annual output was 600 bbl flour, 162 tons of meal, and 27 tons of feed worth \$8000. The 1887 State business directory listed The Hopkins Estate as owner; however, the incumbent miller, John F. T. Brown, who had been on the job since 1867, purchased the mill that year from the heirs (Talbot County deeds, CLB 179:292).

The *American Miller*, 16 (March 1, 1888): 204, reported, "John T. F. Brown of Wye Mills, Md., will remodel his flouring mill to the roller system. The capacity will be 50 barrels per day."

J. T. F. Brown contributed an article to the *American Miller*, 17 (May 1, 1889): 340, under the headline, a Very Short System Mill:

I have recently remodeled my mill to the roller system. I expect to have the shortest system you have ever heard of. I hardly know whether to call it a one or two-break mill. It has one pair smooth rolls to grind all the middlings. I have three Silver Creek Flour Bolts, one single and one double scalper, one purifier, one Excelsior Bran Duster, one Eureka and one Hercules Wheat Cleaner, these are all the machines I have in the mill. The two-break mills are 9 x15, manufactured by John T. Noye Mfg. Co., Buffalo, N. Y. I send all The tails over from the bolts and scalpings, such as bran and ship stuff, to the bran duster, and it gets all the flour out of it. The flour that comes from the bran duster I send to No. 3 bolt, clothed with No. 12 cloth; about one-half of this bolt is cut off and sent to purifiers, which makes very good middlings. I am making a straight grade equal to patent flour, and have a capacity of thirty barrels in twenty-four hours. I am running my mill with water power and have sufficient water all the year to drive it. I engineer the mill myself, and it suits me in every respect.

Brown had another letter published in the *American Miller*, 19 (January 1, 1891): 50, under the heading, "Is Delighted."

I have lately improved my mill by putting in two Perfection Wheels, one 18 inch wheel for corn, and one 21-inch for roller mill. I have a short system mill, and can make one barrel of flour per hour. These little wheels give great power. They do all the maker claims

for them, and more too. They have never had a choke since I started them. They stand outside the mill where they can be seen all the time, and the gate is the most perfect arrangement I ever saw. I am perfectly delighted with them, it does not require a millwright to set them. I have a good custom trade, and the mill is running all the time. The wheat is very good. The farmers say they did not get over two-thirds of a crop this year

In 1899, the mill was sold by Brown's executor to John S. Sewell. *The American Miller*, 27 (October 1, 1899): reported, "Editor. American Miller John Sewell bought the Wye Mills formerly owned by J. F. Brown. He has stopped the mill and is repairing the dam"

Sewell sold the works in 1918 to Maude Roberts Lee Blakeslee, wife of Winthrop H. Blakeslee, both of New Jersey (Talbot County Deeds, CBL 179:398). Mr. Blakeslee at some point installed a turbine right in line with wheel to generate electricity without running the mill or mill wheel; some rusted steel remnants of the system survived in the wheel pit, under water and linkage items in the NE corner of the pit (data from student millers, September 1, 1974). *The Baltimore Sun*, August 1, 1925, reported, "Storm Breaks Dam on Eastern Shore at Wye Mills."

In 1953, Mr. Blakeslee, then 79, planned to retire because the Maryland Game and Inland Fish Commission had an option on the property to build a community pond and the State agency took title. The dam washed out in a tropical storm in 1955 but was restored. The fish commission transferred title to the mill to the Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities in 1956. The dam, damaged by Hurricane Connie in 1954 [or was it 1955?], was rebuilt by 1957. The Society restored the building and machinery with the help of Mr. Thomas Sylvester Sewell, son of the former owner, John S. Sewell. Contractor was Howard Eley, who apparently went in the hole financially on the \$10,000 budget available.

However, the restoration was improperly done with modern materials according to analysis by restoration architect, Dr. H. Chandlee Forman, OBGF, pp. 119, 123, and Forman stated that the building was not as old as claimed. In fact, a wall of modern cinder block was visible in one place. A new steel wheel was made by Midatlantic Metal Fabricators in Easton, a job that consumed 350 man-hours. Allan Lovelace was the current miller per *Easton Star-Democrat*, July 3, 1968. A pre-restoration photograph is filed in the Talbot County Free Library at Easton. The mill as restored measures 37 x 25 ft versus 35 x 40 ft on the 1798 tax list.



Wye Mill, elevator conduits, MHT photo by Nancy Miller Schamu.

The brand name in the 20th century was “Golden Run Flour.” The mill was outfitted with modern devices, including an American Midget Roller Mill; there is still a manual feed grinder in the building. The large pond stretches all the way to US 50 from the mill area, a mile to the SE. The location is the southern bank of North East Wye River, as currently known, west side of Md. 662, the old “Delmarva” post road, 1 mile east of US 50. The county line runs at an angle through the mill, although most maps show it inside Talbot County. In 1970, the mill was operated on a regular basis by students of Chesapeake College who mastered the mysteries of milling with surprising speed. Jeff Sarvey, a Chesapeake history major, with help from journalist Dickson Preston, performed the first serious research into the mill’s history, rapidly demonstrating that the devolution of title was not “hidden in the musty pages of the seventeenth Century” as stated in MHM, 52:35 but tracing the deed back to the settlement period. [This mill is not to be confused with Scott’s “Old Mill.”]

Everett Powers of the SPOOM organization wrote to the author on May 27, 1976, that he had observed “a long model of the Midget Marvel Mill, called ‘American Super-Midget’ manufactured by the Anglo-American Mill Co., Owensboro, Ky.”

Another round of restoration took place in 1990 thanks to a State bond issue. In 1996, Preservation Maryland deeded the mill to Friends of Wye Mill, Inc., a non-profit Eastern Shore organization that keeps the mill open from mid-April to mid-November.

Wye Mill has an iron-clad chain of title back to the period of settlement but it is not a mill equipped with colonial machinery because its owners kept up with new inventions, right down to the roller mill revolution of the 1880s, which made millstones obsolete. The mill also switched to turbines at one point in its history and even generated electricity. Since the owners never pulled out the millstones, the

tourist can experience the vibration and whooshing sounds of an historic mill in action, breathe the dust, and be immersed in a very compact building with all sorts of Oliver Evans inventions operating all around.

Grid location of Wye Mill in the ADC Street Atlas is 2-B-1. This artifact bears MHT Site No. T-51.

Other Sources:

J. F. T. Brown, "A Very Short System Mill [letter to editor from owner]," *American Miller*, 17 (May 1, 1889): 340.

James A. Flood, "A Miller Plans to 'Go Fishin,'" *Sun*, February 23, 1953.

Robert G. Breen, "Mill without a Miller," *Sun*, January 7, 1956.

Edwin M. Barry, "The Old Wye Mills, 1690-1956," *MHM*, 52 (March 1957): 35-38 [the title search is wrong in this article].

Edwin M. Barry, "Ye Old Wye Mills 1690-1957," *Md. Conservationist*, July 1957.

Robert G. Breen, "Wye Mill Restored," *Sun*, December 11, 1959.

"Old Wye Mill Is Grinding Meal, Future Studied," *Easton Star-Democrat*, December 11, 1959.

WPA Guide, 1940, p. 372.

Mary Swaine, "New Wheel for Old Wye Grist Mill," *Easton Star-Democrat*, July 3, 1968.

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John McGrain, "Wye Mill Welcomes Summer Travelers," *Old Mill News*, July 1974.

Frank Megargee, "1776-Era Mill Grinding Toward Bicentennial Boom," *Evening Sun*, May 27, 1975.

"A Bit of History Gets a Touch-Up [restoration of steel wheel]," *Sun*, August 4, 1988

Peter Jensen, "Eastern Shore Project Puts Restorers Through the Mill," *Sun*, October 10, 1988.

"Completion Due July 1. Wye Mill Phase Two Restoration Begins," *The Phoenix*, 9 (March/April 1990): 1.

“Restoration Work Begins at Wye Mills,” *Sun*, April 11, 1990.

“Historic Properties, Wye Mill,” *Preservation Maryland, Annual Report, 1990.*

WYE MILLS FEED CO. (4)

This large modern milling complex was opposite the Wye Oak on the east side of Md. 662 with a branch plant located in Cordova [1976].

WYE SILK CO. ()

The Wye Silk Co. was chartered under *Laws of Md., Acts of 1838, Chapter 342.* Incorporators were William Powell, H. B. Feddeman, William A. Andrews, Ed. T. Paca, Arthur W. H. Emory, James Bordley, William Rose, Thomas Warren, John P. Paca, James Kelly, and 30 others for the development of silk growing in Talbot and Queen Anne’s Counties. Capitalization was to be not less than \$5000.

YARNALLS TANYARD (1)

Uriah Yarnalls had a lot on Goldsborough Street, Easton, a half acre, with “Tan Vatts on the Lot,” in the 1798 tax list. He was actually deceased and Samuel Edmondson had taken over, *Md. Herald*, Easton, February 8, 1791. The works between Harrison and Hanson Streets was advertised with a new, two-story frame house, 25 ft square, the lower part a bark mill, upper part a currying shop, Baltimore *Federal Gazette*, April 4. 1809.

