
ADKINS, HOLLOWAY AND CO. (3)

Adkins, Holloway and Co. operated a sawmill listed at St. Martins in 1887 State business directory.

ADKINS SAWMILL (4)

Thomas Atkins [sic] had a steam sawmill at Newark on Breakwater, Frankford, and Worcester Railroad (west side), south of the present Woods Road, per 1877 county atlas. The estate of Thomas A. Adkins was advertised on the road from Newark to Berlin and included a 25 hp steam sawmill and smokestack, *Democratic Messenger*, December 15, 1938. Location was Mill Street, 15-C-11 in the ADC Atlas.

ARCHER LUMBER CO. (4)

Archer Lumber Co. was listed with a sawmill at Newark in the Polk 1908 directory.

ASHCROFT AND RISLEY (1)

In 1845, John Ashcraft and Ezra B. Risley established a steam sawmill at Harry Hendersons Landing. They purchased all the cypress swamps below town and operated 20 years, making $150,000 before they retired, *History of Pocomoke City*, p. 112.

ATKINSON AND HARGIS TANNERY (1)

In 1861, Levi Atkinson and George Hargis established a tanning business. Hargis sold out, and in 1877, Atkinson died, ending the leather industry in the town, *History of Pocomoke City*, p. 94.

ATKINSONS MILL (7)
Thomas Atkinson was shown on the 1783 tax list of Pocomoke Hundred with Mill Lot and a mill. In 1791 and 1810, surveys were made of Atkinsons Conclusion for James Atkinson and John Fountain Atkinson, respectively.

Atkinsons Mill on the tract Atkinsons Conclusion was deeded by Levin W. Beauchamp and wife Sally to William H. and Litttleton Tilghman in 1866. Littleton Tilghman deeded a half share of the saw and grain mill to Sally Beauchamp in 1870. The saw and grist mill appeared on the west side of present Whiteburg Road at Whitesburg [sic], sawmill on the north bank of Pusey Branch, gristmill on south, apparently marked as property of Dennis Heirs or White Heirs.

Following a lawsuit, Atkinsons or Tilghmans Mill was deeded in 1879 to Emma S. White (Worcester deeds, ITM 7:196). The Whites conveyed to William S. Baker in 1884, and Baker conveyed the next year to George W. Ellis. The 1887 State business directory listed George Ellis as miller at Whiteburgh.

Ellis made a deed of trust for a mill, storehouse, and farm to Samuel Townsend in 1894; the trustee sold to James S. P. White in 1899, and in 1901, White sold to William W. Wonnell. In 1903, Wonnell sold to Handry R. Shockley. The site remained in the Shockley family until 1938; no mill was mentioned in the sales notice that year, although a Delco lighting plant was included; the last deed to mention the mill was in 1913 (Worcester deeds, ODC 14:207).

WCMA, p. 303, reported that the mill had a large reserve of water on lower Pusey Branch and was about 2 miles south of Nazareth or Pusey’s Mill. “It was claimed in the area that Shockley Mill was built exclusively for lumbering, as at Nazareth, and after that business came to an end at water mills, it was converted to the grinding of grain.” The writer of WCMA thought that grist-milling came first . . . both types were shown in the atlas. A community grew up here . . . the mill continued until the second decade of the present [20th] century, by which time it was submarginal and in need of repairs. . . . rainfall following the 1912 hurricane washed out the mill . . . . Rufus Shockley was the last miller at Whiteburgh. Location was 18-F-10 in the ADC Street Atlas.

ATKINSON MILL BRANCH (4)

Atkinson Mill Branch was mentioned in 1763 patent of Meadow Grove which adjoined Mill Haven Pasture. The branch flowed to Assateague Creek (Patents, BC & GS 24:520, 483, MSA). Assateague Creek is now Marshalls Creek.

ATLANTIC FLOUR MILL (1)

See Dixon Mill.

BAKER MILL (1)
Thomas Baker took out a writ of *ad quod damnum*, February 29, 1719, on the north side of Pitts Creek (Chancery Records, Liber 3:572ff, MSA).

**BASSETT MILL (4/3)**

Bassett Mill Pond survives on a stream called Mill Creek, Wood Haven Creek, and Island Creek, and was described as Mill Creek in *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1843, Chapter 268, when it separated Districts 3 and 4. A grist and saw mill here were devised by David Bowen to son Francis A. Bowen in 1847 and was sold under decree in 1852 and was purchased by John S. Timmons (Worcester deeds, EDM 5: 476). In 1858, Timmons sold to Benjamin Bassitt [sic]; Bassitt conveyed to James L. B. Bassitt in 1874 in a deed that mentioned both old and new mill roads. The 187_ atlas showed only the Bassett [sic] dwelling. The mill was conveyed to Claude F. Bassett in 1903. One deed mentioned condemned lands (Worcester deeds, ITM 3:449).

The *Democratic Messenger* of December 1904 reported that Isaac West “started up the Bassett Water Mill near Ironshire and made very nice meal.” Ownership has remained in the Bassett family [as of 1976], and the 1950/1971 county topographic map showed Bassett Mill Pond 4.6 miles SE of Berlin and SE of US 113 on Bassett Creek. Location was 16-A-10 in the ADC Street Atlas.

**BEAUCHAMP SHINGLE MILL (9)**

Peter Beauchamp’s shingle mill was listed at Whaleysville in the 1887 State business directory.

**BENSTONS MILL BRANCH (DEL)**

Benstons Mill Branch in Broad Creek Forest was mentioned in the 1758 patent of the tract Cannons Addition; probably in Sussex County.

**BIG MILL (8)**
Big Mill in October 1967

In 1833, Sarah Ann Cluff sold to Thompson Holmes a lot for a mill dam abutment; the tract adjoined the Holmes pond and Swans Gut Creek (Worcester deeds, AZ:310). Holmes conveyed to John D. Welbourne in 1838 (Worcester deeds, GMH 1:443). The village of Welbourne took shape around the present Big Mill Pond as did the town of Wagram Mill Pond. The pond was large and shallow, the dam just north of the Virginia line.

In September 1938, John D. Welbourne conveyed to William Welbourne, Junior, who promptly conveyed to William, Senior; the tract was called Steel Pond or Still Pond. Holmes or Marshall's mills, grist and saw, plus a miller's house, on a never failing stream was advertised by Walter P. Snow, Trustee, Worcester Shield, May 9, 1854. John D. Marshall took title in 1855 (Worcester deeds, EDM 7:101), and William Marshall was listed in Boyd’s 1875 Business Directory.

The 1877 county atlas showed the separate grist and saw mills of Dr. E. W. Marshall, either side of the dam. Holmes Mill was still a place name of 1882, served by Stockton post office, Industries of Md., p. 81. The 1887 State directory listed S. K. Marshall and Co. at Welbourne.

In that year, the village supported two stones, two millers, a wheelwright, physician, shoemaker, and population of 30. The store closed in 1966, leaving only homes around the pond and “the long silent millhouse,” Nothing Ever Happened in Arcadia, pp. 34, 45.

The mill was still standing in weathered, ruinous condition in 1967, of frame and clapboard and once painted red. The site was 7 miles SE of Pocomoke City; the road ran east from Md. 12 just north of the Virginia State line and followed a winding route to US 13, where it was called Shephouse Road, the second intersection north of the Twin Towers Motel. The dam on Swanscut Creek produced the 11-acre Big Mill Pond and marked the end of tidewater from Chincoteague Bay. The pond contained large-mouth bass and pickerels. Little Mill Pond was upstream. The mill was extinct on subsequent visits. Jim Carey of the Wye Mills stated at the SPOOM conference in September 2005 that Big Mill was gone by the early 1970s because Maryland DNR performed a study of the pond. The Maryland Historical Society has a black and white photograph by the author on-line and available for purchase. This was the only surviving Worcester Mill by 1967. Location was 39-J-2 in the ADC Street Atlas of the county, The Big Mill Bridge, a small concrete slab bridge is listed as MHT Site No. WO-481, its construction date estimated as 1930.

BIRCH SALT WORKS (3)
The 1877 county atlas called this resource Birches Salt Works and put its location east of South Point on the present Assateague Island. Another source called the site North Beach. Seawater was evaporated in iron kettles to make the salt. A salt works had been started here in 1777, using Hessian prisoners for labor. “Three old slab salthouses” were mentioned in the 1813 Patented Certificate No. 81 (MSA). See also, “The Sea Coast of Md.,” by William B Marye, MHM, 40:111.

BISHOP PROCESSING CO. (5)

This company, a subsidiary of Showell Poultry, Inc., was established with 6 employees at Bishopville in 1966. Products were feather meal, steamed bone meal, poultry fat, and feeds. The company was sued in Federal court by Delaware residents for emitting fumes that crossed a State line. After conviction and appeals, the U. S. Supreme Court sustained the lower court’s closure orders, the first such case in regard to Inter-State air pollution, 1970.

BENNETTS MILLS (8)

See Dormans Mill.

BERLIN MILL (3)

See Purnell Sawmill.

BERLIN MILLING CO. (3)

The Berlin Milling co. was mentioned in the patron list of HSM, 1932. It is still [1976] on Franklin Avenue opposite the Berlin Ralston Purina plant, and is a modern feed mill and elevator complex.

BERLIN RALSTON PURINA Co. (3)

This large, modern feed mill is on the railroad at Berlin [1976].

BISHOP SAWMILL (5)

Charles Bishop was listed as a sawmiller at Bishop in the 1887 State business directory.

BLADES MILL (5)

James B. Blades was listed as miller at Bishopville in the 1880 and 1887 State business directories. The 1877 atlas had shown a gristmill on the north bank of Bunting's Branch of Bishopville Prong, opposite the Evans Blades and Co. sawmill.
BOUNDS SAWMILL (7)

The 1877 atlas showed a steam sawmill south of Denen Branch, 0.7 mile east of Dividing Creek, west of Stevens Road, apparently the property of J. Bounds. Location was 18-A-3 in the ADC Atlas.

BOWDEN MILL (3)

The 1877 atlas showed grist and sawmills at Taylorsville on a pond along Turville Creek, east side of present Md. 598 (Ocean Downs Road). The nearest resident was W. Bowden. Location was 8-B-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

BOWEN MILL (4)

See Colebourn Mill (Newark).

BOWEN SAWMILL (4)

S. T. and W. Bowen were listed with a sawmill at Newark in the 1908 Polk directory.

BOXIRON MILL (2)

David Richard Richardson of Worcester County took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on Boggertnorten Creek, June 19, 1761. The inquisition awarded the owner, Moses Pain, 8/6 yearly in current money. The beginning of the tract was at a marked pine standing near the Sea Side. The tract was beholden to the Manor of Worcester (Chancery Records, Liber 10:43, MSA).

The mill stream’s name, possibly a corruption of Boca de Norte, was later known as Boxiron Creek, and the mill site on the tract Durham House passed from Levin Causey to John Joshua Duffy in April 1875 (Worcester Deeds, ITM 4:16). Duffy sold to Charles H. Hancock in June, and the atlas showed the J. Hancock gristmill on the south side of the present Boxiron Road, east of Boxiron Creek, just NW of Bocquetenorton Bay.

In 1900, Captain George W. Truitt bought the mill from the estate of Jimmy Hancock, long-time miller and owner. Polk’s 1908 directory listed Truitt as miller at Boxiron. Although not a miller, Captain Truitt invested in rebuilding the works, but the business was only sub-marginal and the local people tended to take their grain on Saturdays to the Snow Hill steam mill (Selby’s), where they could exchange it for the finished product without waiting.

The mill ended service in 1917 when its last owner and miller, “Uncle Billy” Fallon died. Captain Truitt’s investment in repair was largely lost per his son, Dr. Reginald V. Truitt, November 1973.
The Iron Box Pond dam broke as did the highway bridge in the great 1936 storm per Truitt's *High Winds . . . High Tides*, p. 14. A pond appeared on the 1950 county topographic map, but in 1973, the dam was still broken and no remains of the mill were visible. Modern maps show Cherrix Road, grid location 28-F-10 in the ADC Street Atlas.

**BRATTEN SAWMILL** (1)

Polk’s 1908 directory listed William P. Bratten as dealer in meat and operator of a sawmill in Pocomoke City.

**BROADWATER SAWMILL** (1)

*History of Pocomoke City*, p. 116, stated that Levin J. M. Broadwater and Thomas R. P. S. White started a sawmill and ran it until 1869 when they sold out to James T. Young, who operated it until 1876 and in turn sold to W. J. S. Clark; the mill was then moved to Accomack County. The 1867 *Hawes Business Directory* listed L. J. Broadwate [sic] sawmill at Newtown (the old name for Pocomoke City), p. 534.

**BROWN SAWMILL** (7)

The A. Brown’s sawmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas on the west side of Stevens Road, 2.4 miles below the county line, 1.4 mile south of McGrath Road. Location was 11-A-13 in the ADC Street Atlas.

**BRUMBLEY MILL** (7)

See Nassawango Grist Mill.

**BUCKINGHAM MILL** (3)

See Trappe Mill.

**BURBAGE LUMBER MILL** (3)

Polk’s 1908 Peninsula directory listed W. N. Burbage lumber mills, 7 miles west of Berlin, probably on Burbages Crossing Road; he was also listed under Whiton.

**BURK MILL BRANCH** (7)

This creek empties into Dividing creek NE of Pocomoke City. A 1928 deed mentioned an “old mill site” on the east side of Flemming Mill Road (Worcester deeds, BB 5:69). This had been Charles H. Chaltam’s property until 1920. Cf., Chaltam’s Steam Sawmill. The stream stretched across several grids on Sheet 25 of the ADC Street Atlas.
CAREY TANYARD (3)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed E. B. Carey with $1000 capital investment in a tannery at Berlin, 3 employees, and annual output of 300 sides and 50 skins worth $1160.

CAREY WINDMILL (10)

Joshua Carey (1831-1907) had a windmill “down Sinepuxent Neck” which endured into the 20th century. “It originally stood atop [four] heavy stilt-like timber in order that carts could pass directly under the mill to transfer grain or load grist conveniently.” The smock-type mill later rested on the ground. It was covered with long cedar shakes with rounded ends, WCMA, p. 309. That book published a photo of the windmill owned by Mrs. Julia E. Carey Shockley.

The author acquired a postcard of pre-1907 design showing a smock mill in Sinepuxent Bay, said to depict the first gristmill in Worcester County. The mill was shown without the sails in place. A bearded man in the picture was Joshua Carey. A smock mill resembled the shape taken by the linen duster or smock with its flaring skirt worn by Dutch windmill operators while at work. The same photo appeared in Pul Baker Touart, Along the Seaboard Side (1994), p. 71. Touart added that the windmill had been on the Mayfield Plantation.

CAROW MILL (1)

William Carrow was listed as miller at Newtown (Pocomoke City) in the 1875 Boyd’s Business Directory.

CEDAR HALL MILL (1)
Martenet’s map of 1866 showed a mill east of Pocomoke River on Hall Branch, not far north of the Virginia State line at Cedar Hall Landing, distinct from Wagram Mill. This was possibly one of William J. S. Clark’s mills. John E. Brittingham acquired this property from Edward W. Lambden, and an 1873 deed described it the former John W. Whittingham farm (Worcester deeds, ITM 2:457).

**CHALTAMS STEAM SAWMILL (7)**

The 1877 county atlas showed the Chaltam steam saw mill on the west side of Whiteburg Road, opposite the terminus of Oak Hall Road, north of Burk Mill Branch. The 1920 division of Charles E. Chaltam’s property was shown in deeds BB 5:69. Modern maps show this site on the bottom boundary of the State Forest at grid 25-F-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

**CHESTNUT RIDGE LUMBER MFG. Co. (1)**

This firm owned by H. H. and G. A. Wilford was listed in Pocomoke City by Polk’s 1908 peninsular directory as manufacturing mining timber.

**CLARKE MILL (1)**

Masons Mill was mentioned as located on Careys Creek in *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1868, Chapter 80. The 1877 atlas showed William J. Clark [sic] mill at David Cross Roads (now called Goodwill), just inside the election district line at the present Pilchard Creek and Md. 366. Polk’s 1908 peninsular directory listed O. T. Merrill’s grist and saw mill at Goodwill.

**CLARKE MILL (1)**

William J. S. Clarke’s steam sawmill and marine railway were shown in the 1877 atlas at Newtown (Pocomoke City). The 1880 census of manufactures listed this logging firm with $6000 capital investment, 15 employees, its own shipping vessels, a 35 hp steam engine and annual output of 2.4 million ft/annum ($23,000).

The W. J. Clarks & Co. firm had $360 capital investment in a steam gristmill at Pocomoke City. Maximum capacity was 125 bu/diem. It was all custom business. There was 3 run of stones. Idle 9 months of the year, the mill produced 135 tons meal, and 5 tons feed ($3425). Clarke advertised in the 1880 State business directory, p 478. Location was 32-A-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

**COLBOURN SAWMILL (3)**

The 1880 census of manufactures of Election District 9 listed Daniel Colbourn with $2000 capital investment in a sawmill; the works was idle 6 months annually; there were 6 employees, a 30 hp engine, and an annual output of 300,000 ft lumber ($4500). Colbourn did his own logging.
COLBOURNE MILL (2)
COLBOURNE MILL ROAD

See Mulford Mill.

COLBOURNE MILL (4)

Sampson Colbourne’s mill was on the north prong of Massey Creek, left side of county road leading from Newark to Mason’s Landing.” The atlas showed a pond there in 1877. The Baltimore Sun reported that Richard D. Bowen’s gristmill about a mile from Newark had its dam broken in several places by the famous blizzard of March 16, 1888.


COLLINS, VINCENT & ROBBINS SAWMILL ( )

“Collins, Vincent & Robbins, Snow Hill, have completed their new sawmill,” Manufacturers’ Record, 7 (May 16, 1885): 427.

CONNER MILL (4)

L. A. Conner offered to sell his flour and feed business at Newark because of poor health. The works was a four-stand flour mill of 60 bbl capacity (over 24 hours), with 1 corn meal grinder with new burrs, 1 corn crusher of 18 bags/hr, 1 Busy Bee Hammer Mill, 1 Oliver Corn Sheller, 6000 burlap bags, 900 bu wheat, Chevrolet truck, and Ford V-8, Democratic Messenger, December 22, 1938, p. 12.

CORBINS MILL ( )

Corbins Mill was mentioned in the diary of J. W. Williams of Harford County, May 30, 1833, following a visit to Assateague. MHS, Special Collections, Ms. 613.

CORDDRY PLANING MILL ( )

The Corddry Company’s store and plant appeared near the Snow Hill bridge, both sides of the road, in a photograph of 1907 in Kate Gaskins Matthews and William Russell Matthews, Worcester County, A Picture History (Donning Company/Publishers: Norfolk/Virginia Beach, 1985), p. 74. George F. Coddry started the company to produce sash, doors, blinds, and sell lime, hair, cement, glass, lumber, coal, and shingles. The photo showed a low factory building with a tall, square, brick chimney. Paul Baker Touart presented a photograph of the
surviving part of the complex, then in use by the Pocomoke River Canoe Company, *Along the Seaboard Side* (1994), p. 373. This ca. 1905 illustration showed a frame building with a clerestory, next to the bridge, filed under the name Old Corddry Company Warehouse, MHT Site No. WO-247. The company and its output was also described in the *Democratic Messenger*, April 25, 1925.

COSTONS MILL

The road from Coston’s Mill to Gibbs Ferry was mentioned in the will of Abraham Gibbs, probated in Worcester County, 1776.

COTTINGHAM MILL (7/2)

Cottingham Mill Pond was referenced in a contemporary deed to a Chesapeake Corporation timber tract along Sturges Creek, NE of Millville (Worcester deeds, FWH 105:560).

COTTINGHAM MILL (7)

Levin Cottingham at Naswadux, planning to remove west, advertised a sawmill capable of 30,000 ft annual output and a gristmill averaging 150 bbl flour and 150 bu corn. The mill Lot also had a new smith’s shop, *Snow Hill Messenger*, June 25, 1832.

Cottingham Mill Run appeared on the 1973 7.5-minute USGS quad sheet, “Dividing Creek.” It was marked as 4 miles SE of Whiteburg, and branched from the north side of Pocomoke River downstream of Milburn Landing. No mill was shown in the atlas, but the Oak Hall and Cottingham Lands were part of William Flemming’s estate in 1886 (Chancery Records, 22:13). Oak Hall Road reaches the creek from Whiteburg Road.

CROPPER SAWMILL (4)

Cropper Bros. sawmill was listed at Newark in Polk’s 1908 peninsular directory.

CURMEAN MILL (7)

Benjamin Curmean, J. P., was listed in the 1877 atlas as owner of Curmean and Co., a lumber mill with a Snow Hill postal address. He was an atlas patron, listed as owner of 100 acres, a naïve of Sussex County, Delaware, who had settled in Worcester in 1852. The 1880 census of manufactures for Election District 7 listed Curmean and Co. with $2000 capital investment in a sawmill with 12 employees, 20 hp engine, and annual output of 900 ft ($9000); half the logging was done by the owner.

DAMS MILL (1)
Next to the Mariner place was a mill and farm known as Dam’s Plantation, built prior of 1803. The mill stood where County Road 714 crosses Impossible Branch, a tributary of Pitts Creek, and passes into Maryland. The mill operated until the early 1900s. The farm house dated to ca. 1763 and stood until the 1950s. *Nothing Ever Happened in Arcadia*, p. 21. This mill was shown on the accompanying map of Beavermad, barely south of the Md.-Va. Line (Scarborough’s Boundary).

**DEEP CREEK FURNACE/ NANTICOKE FORGE (DEL.)**

A number of Philadelphia investors in 1763 set up a company and acquired large tracts in Worcester, Dorchester, and Sussex Counties. A deed (Dorchester 22 Old 135) recited that the mills, houses, and furnaces of the company were on Deep Creek in Worcester on 400 acres acquired from John Spicer. The forge stood on the tract Brothers Agreement, 500 acres on Nanticoke acquired from John Elzey (Worcester deeds, E:514).

Three ironmasters were investors: Persifor Frazier, John Chamberlain, and Jonathan Vaughn. The first two sold out their one-sixth interests in 1767. Vaughn was described as “Ironmaster of Deep Creek Furnace in Maryland” when he bought out Chamberlain (Dorchester 22 Old 151). Both works were included in Sussex County, Delaware, by settling the boundary dispute. Historian Scharf placed the forge at Middleford and stated that the mill and sawmill were still operating in 1888, *History of Delaware*, p. 1299f.

The Dennis Griffith 1794-1795 map showed Douglas Forge and Lightfoot Forge on Deep Creek near the present Concord, as well as Shankland’s forge near Middleford.

**DELMARVA GRAIN CO. ( )**

The Delmarva Grain Co. was mentioned as manufacturing feed for the hogs owned by Gerald S. Klein, who was involved in bank irregularities at Merritt Savings & Loan of Baltimore, *Sun*, August 4, 1985, p. 15A. The mill was in Pocomoke City and had belonged to Klein’s subsidiary, called Delmarva Venture.

**DENNIS AND BRITTINGHAM MILL (8)**

The 1877 atlas showed this sawmill near the depot in the town of Girdle Tree Hill, operated by Dennis and Brittingham, suppliers of dry goods and lumber. John A. Brittingham, miller, came from Wicomico County in 1837 per the atlas patron list. R. G. Dennis owned 390 acres and had been born in Wicomico and settled in Worcester in 1864.

The 1880 census of manufactures had listed Rufus G. Dennis with $3000 capital investment in a sawmill with 8 employees, one 60 p engine, and annual output of 800
ft lumber ($6000). One-third of the logging was performed by the company and the product shipped by Delaware River.

DENNIS MILL (5)

John Dennis, Jr., of Worcester County took out a writ of ad quod damnum on Church Branch, April 26, 1762. The NW side was in present possession of Rachel Turwell and to her damage of 5 Shilings plus a yearly rent of 2-1/2 pence Sterling. The SE side was in possession of a Martin Kennitt and he was awarded the same damages. The beginning was on a point of land between Middle Branch and Church Branch. Middle Branch is a tributary of Shingle Prong, 2 miles SE of Bishop; Church Branch is also called South Branch.

The 1783 tax list of Worcester Hundred listed Colonel John Dennis with a gristmill and the tracts Fragment, Cornhill, Conclusioin, and Holloing Point. This site is possibly south of St. Martins River near Holland Point, possibly ancestor of Lemuel Showell’s mill of 1888.

DENNIS MILL (7)

See Mulord Mill.

DENSTON MILL (7)

John Denston patented Mills Lot in 1747 beginning at a marked gum tree on the easternmost side of the Main Branch of Dividing Creek, about 30 poles from the said Creek in a Small Dreen or Gully; Richard King had previously owned the warrant, Liber TI 1:175, 50 acres.

Dustins [sic] Dam on the road from Atkinsons Mills was mentioned in an 1855 deed (Worcester deeds, EDM 6:553). Denston Dam Road crosses both Denney Branch and Dividing Creek west of Nassawango Furnace.

DICKERSON MILL (2)

See Mulford Mill.

DISHAROON SAWMILL (6)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed William T. Disharoon sawmill with $700 capital investment, 5 employees, one 20 hp engine, and annual output of 300,000 ft ($1800) annually; no logging was performed by the owner.

DIXON MILL (1)
This work was founded to 1872 by James T. Hearn, Allison Fleming, and Charles G. Dale as a steam flour and grist mill; it was purchased by H. M. Dashiell of Princess Anne, who leased it to Dixon, *History of Pocomoke City*, p. 117. The 1880 State business directory listed Richard T. Dixon and Sons, millers and manufacturers, at Pocomoke City. This was apparently the unidentified flour mill shown in the 1877 atlas at the foot of Market Street on the river.

The 1880 census of manufactures listed T. T. Dixon and Sons 65 hp steam mill at Pocomoke with $1000 capital investment, 60% custom business, 4 run of stones, 5 employees, 2 boilerss, and 200 bu/diem maximum. Annual output was 500 bbl flour, 125 tons meal, and 22.5 tons feed ($7400).

*The American Miller*, 14 (February 1, 1886): 91, “R. T. Dixon, for the last nine years in charge of the “Atlantic Flour Mill,” at Pocomoke City, Md., has left the trade to devote his attention to mercantile pursuits. He is succeeded in the mill by his son, James Dixon.” James C. Dixon was carried as miller there in the 1887 State business directory.

Dickson’s [sic] mill lost its smokestack in the great blizzard, Baltimore Sun, March 15, 1888. James C. Dixon was manager of Pocomoke Roller Mills in the 1908 Polk peninsula directory.

**DORMANS MILL (2/8)**

The 1794-1795 map by Dennis Griffith showed Dormans Mill at NE and SE intersections of Corkers Creek and Snow Hill Road (US 113). The “former Dorman Mill on Caulkers Creek” was mentioned in election district description, *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1813, Chapter 36. The 1877 atlas showed two mills of M. (or of Dr. A. J.) Lindsey on the west side of the road, the gristmill in District 2, north bank, sawmill in District 8 on the south bank, 2.2 miles north of Lindseyville (now Klej Grange). Mathias Lindsey’s will of 1877 called this the Bennetts Mill tract, which was to be sold to pay his debts. A plat of M. N. Lindsey’s late estate was shown in Worcester deeds, ITM 7:454 when this 200-acre tract was auctioned to Joseph M. Drexell of Philadelphia in 1879. The area is now part of Pocomoke State Park. Location was 27-A-8 in the ADC Street Atlas.

**DOUGHERTY SAWMILL (7)**

See Pusey Mill.

**DOWNS MILL (3)**

J. Preston Downs feed mill was operating at Berlin in the 1960s.

**DUFFEY MILL (2)
Probably built before Purnell’s Mill, Duffey Mill was less than 2 miles east of Snow Hill on Campground Branch, between the Penn-Central (Del. Md. Va.) Railroad and Mt. Wesley. It was also called Old Mill. The site was discernible in the woods east of US 113, in the 1970s, WCMA, p. 295. Probably the first water mill in the Snow Hill area; it was said to have been built by the Godden family at Rochester on the east branch, now called Campground Branch, WCMA, p. 288. Location was 271-D-9 in the ADC Street Atlas.

DUNHILL MILL (1)

“Calvin H. Long has bought the flour mill in Pocomoke City, belonging to the Dunhill estate. He proposes to refit the mill with all the latest improvements and give it a capacity of forty barrels a day,” Md. Farmer, 33 (August 1896): 47.

DUNLAP MILL (3)

Millford (two L’s) was patented by Thomas Lamb in 1753 (Patents Liber Y & S 7:490, MSA); in 1756, Lamb had a tract surveyed under the name of Milford’s Addition (Unpatented Certificate No. 884, MSA). The lands were on the SE side of Dividing Creek of St. Martin’s River, a stream now called South or Church Branch, upstream of the Lemuel site of 1888.

William Dunlap took out a writ of ad quod damnum on Church Branch or Showell’s Branch, October 31, 1758. The inquisition found the land part of Verman Dean and in possession of James Mumford and part of Mulford [sic] in possession of George Cochran and Thomas Norris, for the south bank. On the north bank, part of Corum in possession of Samuel Sanford (9 acres) and another part of Milford. The parties on each side were awarded 1/6 damages and 3 pence yearly rent. The grant was issued September 17, 1765 (Chancery Records, Liber 9:260, MSA). The site was apparently upstream of the Dennis-Showell mill location.

Major Thomas Harwood of Annapolis owned a mill on the tracts Addition to Milford and Mill Lot; his heirs sued the major’s manager, John Landreth, in 1808 for not forwarding the rents. Landreth submitted an accounting that showed he had rebuilt the mill in 1796; in 1797, the mill was sold; it was sold again in 1801 by the Sheriff, and Landreth spent £ 100 to recover the works from a Mr. Lemmon who had taken possession in 1802 (Chancery Papers No. 2693, MSA).

EAGLE MILLS (1)

See Stevenson Sawmill.

ELLIS MILL (5)

Ellis Mill was a modern feed mill operating on St. Martins Neck at Bishop, 1967.
ELLIS MILL (7)

See Atkinson Mill.

ERSKINS MILL (7)

Erskins Mill was shown on the Dennis Griffith 1794-1795 map at or near Millville.

EVANS AND CO. SAWMILL (5)

Evans Blades and Co. sawmill was shown on St. Martins River opposite the Blades gristmill at Bishopville in the 1877 atlas. Location was 3-H-2 in the ADC Street Atlas.

EVANS SAWMILL (2)

George Evans was shown in the atlas as owner of a steam sawmill on the west side of Taylor Road, east of Snow Hill and west of Ricks Point. Location was approximately 22-B-11 in the ADC Street Atlas.

FARMERS AND MERCHNATS FLOUR MILL (2)

Polk’s 1908 peninsula directory listed Charles L. Shockley and DeWitt F. Fooks flour mill at Snow Hill.

FLEMING MILL (7)
FLEMMING MILL POND ROAD

Flemming Mill Pond Road runs from Somerset County, crossing both Dividing Creek and Burk Mill Branch to end at Md. 364, NE of Pocomoke City.

The Md. Farmer & Mechanic, 1 (December 1, 1864): 373, reported, “Dr. Fleming has returned from Baltimore with a new Sorghum Evaporator in place of the one destroyed by fire, and that he will have his mill in operation sometime next week.”

The 1877 atlas showed only William Flemming’s house, 0.3 mile east of Dividing Creek.

William Fleming’s [sic] will signed in 1886 mentioned the tract Dickinsons Misfortune, which son J. Allison Fleming had combined with the “old mill property.” Fleming also owned Oak Hall and the “Cottingham Lands,” presumably the site of Cottinghams Mill. His executor sold to the principals of the Richardson, Moore, and Smith lumbering firm, and on dissolution of that company in 1907, the tract was purchased by another timbering group: John Walter Smith, John P. Moore, and Marion T. Hargis (Worcester deeds, FHP 27:161). WCMA placed the mill on the Somerset side and noted that the dam was quite massive; only
Nassawango Mill had a larger water reserve, p. 296. No mill was to be seen in 1967; the property was then owned by Duncan Brothers. Location was 25-E-2 in the ADC Street Atlas.

FLOYD MILL (5)

The Md. Farmer, April 2, 1920 (4:20) carried an advertisement for a public sale of a mill property, “the Bishopville Water Mill,” to take place Sunday, May 15, 1920. “The mill consists of two wheels, two sets of stone runners, one gasoline 15 horse power engine of Fairbanks Morse make, including belting and all tools for handling mill, together with one half acre of land for sand to be used on dam. Also one building lot. This mill is practically fire-proof. Located in farming section where corn in abundance is raised, convenient to farmers. Excellent opportunity to start flour mill, since merchants would have no freight charges to pay, there being some twelve stores within a short distance of the mill.”

“The building is 24 x 50, one story and half high. Elegant loft for storing corn or wheat. Built on cement foundation with nice large cellar. Usually plenty of water for power during seven to eight months of the year. Two sets of runners for grinding. Two wheels, plenty of power, and one wheel could be used for grinding corn, while other could be used for running flour mill.—Charles W. Floyd.”

FOOKES SAWMILL (6)

The 1880 census of manufactures of the former District 6 listed Irvin Fookes and Co. with $636 capital investment, 5 employees, doing one-sixth of their own logging with 2 boilers and an 18 hp steam engine; output was 300,000 ft ($2100) annually. This was apparently the sawmill shown in District 7 by the 1877 county atlas, west of Snow Hill Road just below present Longridge. Location was 12-C-9 in the ADC Street Atlas, adjoining the north parcel of Pocomoke State Forest. See also Millville.

FRAINS SAWMILL ( )

The tract Massey’s Folly was near Raccoon Savanna and on the north side of the county road running from Frains Sawmill to Grovell Branch in the 1754 (Patents, BC & GS 11:186, MSA). A Francis’s Sawmill was mentioned in the 1756 patent of Batchelors Lot as on the road from Snow Hill. Possibly in Mattaponi Hundred.

FREEMAN, LLOYD, MASON, & DRYDEN WORKS (1)

This firm set up a phosphate plant in Pocomoke City and by 1883 had moved to a larger works at Norfolk, Va., History of Pocomoke City, p. 94. In the 1880 State business directory, p. 476, Smith Freeman, Edward B. Freeman, C. C. Lloyd, and F. H. Dryden advertised “Pocomoke Super-Phoaphate,” with 2 to 4% ammonia content.
FULTON GRAIN SERVICE (2)

Fulton Grain Service was a modern feed mill at 207 South Bay Street, Snow Hill, per the 1967 telephone directory.

FURNACE MILLS/ TOWN/ POND (7/2)

See Nassawango Furnace.

GIRDLETREE MILL (2/8)

Girdletree Mill was next to a tract left by Francis Joyce to Richard Bizard in 1715, MCW, 5:71. Possibly the ancestor of Strahams Mill.

GODFREY MILL (2)

Robert F. Godfrey was listed in the 1877 atlas as manufacturer of lumber with a Snow Hill postal address. He was an atlas patron of the former District 6, born in Worcester in 1834 and owner of 260 acres. The 1800 census listed R. F. Godfey and Co. sawmill with $2000 capital investment, 7 employees, 2 boilers, one 24 hp engine, and annual output of 500,000 ft lumber ($3250) from its own logging.

Godfrey Mfg. Co. sold its sawmill to E. S. Adkins and it was reassembled on the farm of Thos. R. P. S. White in Atkinsons District, Democratic Messenger, February 4, 1903.

GRATTONS MILLS (8)

The MHS library has a map of Worcester County as it was about 1800 (drawn in 1852) on which Grattons Mill appeared on a branch of Pocomoke River along the road from Newtown to Mattaponi. The site was apparently the west side of present US 113, north bank of Willow Grove Creek. Location was 33-B-1 in the ADC Street Atlas.

HALL AND VINCENT SAWMILL (8)

The 1877 county atlas showed this steam sawmill on the south side of Pilchard Road between the present Goodwill and Klej Grange, a village formerly called both Goodwill and Lindseyville. Location was 33-F-3 in the ADC Street Atlas.

HALL BROTHERS SAWMILL (1)

The 1887 State business directory listed Hall Brothers and Co. marine railway and steam sawmill at Pocomoke City. The firm had been founded 1863 by Major T. and Jerome B. Hall; in 1869, they built a second sawmill and the marine railway, History of Pocomoke City, pp. 71, 117.
HAMBLIN SAWMILL (5)

The 1877 county atlas showed Charles Hamblin’s sawmill SE of Bishopville and east of St. Martins River, west side of present Daye Road. The location is now called Shell Mill Road; the mill was at 3-K-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

HANCOCK MILL (2)

See Boxiron Mill.

HARPERS MILL (2/8)

Harpers Mill was mentioned in the boundaries prescribed for the Election Districts and was located on Caulkers Creek, Laws of Md., Acts of 1813, Chapter 36.

HARWOOD MILL (3)

See Dunlop Mill.

HENDERSON MILL (8)

The 1783 tax list of Mattaponi Hundred listed William Henderson with the tract Fludburry and a mill.

HENRY’S LIME KILN (3)

A lime kiln was built in pre-Civil War times on Newport Neck Road by Zadock P. Henry II to burn imported limestone and oyster shells for fertilizer; it was in ruins by 1940, per WPA Guide, 442. The 1973 Historic Sites Inventory, 2:49, listed a lime kiln, MHT Site No. WO-18 at the end of Hayeys Landing Road near Berlin. This was a round stone structure in ruins at the time of listing. This was the only such structure found to exist on the entire Eastern Shore. It was apparently a lime kiln which processed the lime brought into the harbor by ship or made lime from native oyster shells. A drawing of this kiln in Newpoet Neck appeared in Nancy Sawin and Janice N. Carpers Between the Bays (1978), p. 23. A good photograph of the kiln appeared in Paul Baker Touart, Along the Seaboard Side (1994), p. 264. Touart estimates the date as early 19th century.

HENRY SAWMILL 990

The 1880 census of manufactures showed John W. Henry with $1200 capital investment in a 25 hp sawmill with 4 employees and 240,000 ft lumber annual output ($4700); Henry did all his own logging.

HILL MILL (8)
Burton Hill’s steam grist mill at Stockton burned in 1907 after 12 years of operation, WCMA, p. 291. Bob Jones of Stockton recorded that Hill was born in 1876 and his sawmill was probably on Bird Hill Road; Mr. Jones was able to identify the nine sawmill workers shown in a vintage photograph of the works [posted on the Mattapony website in 2006].

Stockton Sawmill, courtesy of Bob Jones

HOLLAND MILL (3)

L. Holland’s saw and grist mill, apparently a steam plant, was shown in the atlas on the east side of US 113, about 1.4 miles south of Berlin, the later site of Harrison Nurseries and possibly the Stokes Sawmill of the 1887 State business directory. The modern atlas showed this site within the town limits on the east side of Main Street (Md. 818) south of Burley Street; its grid location was 7-D-12 in the ADC Street Atlas.

HOLOWELL MILL (7)

The 1887 State business directory listed George Hollowell’s steam mill at Whiteburgh.

HOLMES MILL (8)

See Big Mill.

HOUSTON CAREY AND WEST SAWMILL (5)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed this firm with $2000 investment, 16 employees, 1 boiler and 20 hp engine; annual output was 1 million ft ($9000) from its own logging.

HOUSTON MILL ( )
“J. Houston’s grist mill at Stockton, Md., was recently burned. Loss, $6,000,”
American Miller, 20 (September 1, 1892): 669.

HOUSTON MILL ( )

The 1783 tax list of Boquetenorton Hundred listed Captain Isaac Houston with the tract Mill Lott and a water mill worth £ 335.

HUBERT MILL (DEL)

Peter Heubert of Dorchester County took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on the head of Deep Creek where the county road leads over the creek, October 9, 1760. The inquisition found the tracts in possession of Whittington Draper, heir at law of Alexander Draper, parts of the tracts Pembridge and of My Fortunen. Draper was only awarded 1 penny Sterling and 5 Shillings Currency for each side. The Mill Lot was surveyed there on October 31, beginning at an oak standing on the SW side of a country road leading from Deep Creek to Broad Creek. The grant was issued a full ten years later (Chancery records, Liber 11:29, MSA). The area is now within Sussex County, Delaware.

HUDSON/HODSON MILL (2)

See Purnell Mill.

HUDSON MILL ( )

The 1783 tax list of Buckingham and Worcester Hundreds showed Ann Hudson with Hardship and half a gristmill.

HUMPHREYS AND TILGHMAN SAWMILL (5)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed this logging firm with $3000 capital investment, 10 employees, one 30 hp engine, and annual output of 600,000 ft ($5500).

HUMPHREYS AND TILGHMAN SAWMILL (7)

This works valued at $3000 in 1880 census of manufactures had 14 employees, 25 hp engine, and annual output of 1 million ft ($10,000) from its own logging, shipped in its own vessels.

HUTCHINSON SAWMILL (1)

The first steam mill built in Pocomoke City was erected 1839 by Hutchinson to make shingles; it was later operated as a sawmill by Hutchinson and his partners,
Dr. George S. D. Shipley, Ricaud, E. S. Young, and George Blades. It was then reorganized as Young and Blades, then operated by E. S. and James H. Young as Young and Brother.

Captain James T. Young took over, and in 1866 sold to Polk and Powell, who were listed as grist and saw mill owners in the 1867 Hawes Business Directory, p. 534. Polk and Powell sold in 1876 to James T. Young and Lewis W. Young, who also operated as Young and Brother. Finally (before 1883), James T. Young bought out his brother, History of Pocomoke City, p. 111.

IRON BOX MILL (2)

See Boxiron Mill.

JOHNSON & KERBY MILL ( )

William D. Patrick extracted the following from the Records of the August Court, 1797, folios 81-82: “The Commission to divide the real estate of Samuel Johnson determined that the land (three parcels: The Three Brothers, Corn Hill, and Corn Hill’s Addition, totaling 128 acres) will not admit of partition. The three parcels of land, extending from St. Martin’s River to Spring branch, and one half of an old grist or water mill on the premises, now in partnership with the heirs of John Kerby, deceased, are valued at one pound fifteen shillings per acre.” See, “Worcester Co., Md., 1796-1802, Liber A, Petitions, Commissions, Depositions,” Md. Magazine of Genealogy, 4 (Spring 1981): 5-6.

JONES AND NOCK (2)

Jones and Nock was a modern works supplying lime, fertilizer, and grain at Snow Hill on the north side of US 113 [1976].

JONES MILL ( )

The 1850 census of manufactures listed Purnell I. Jones with $3350 capital investment in a lumber works, cutting 2000 logs annually by water power to produce 400,000 ft of 4/4 board worth $4000. The gristmill ground 3000 bu corn for 500 bu in toll with a cash value of $300; two employees.

JONES SAWMILL (2)

J. Franklin Jones was the owner of a sawmilling operation established at Snow Hill in 1959; 22 employees listed in DMM, 1970.

JONES SAWMILL (4)

Polk’s 1908 peninsula directory listed Gordon B. Jones sawmill at Newark.
KELLEY SAWMILL (7)

Robert Kelley’s sawmill was listed at Whiteburgh in Polk’s 1908 peninsula directory.

KELLY MILL BRANCH (2)

Kelly Mill Branch flows into Corkers Creek 4.5 miles south of Snow Hill upstream of T. S. Lindsey mill site on Mill Fortune tract. The mill was abandoned before the 1890s and had been built shortly after the Civil War; it closed down by 1870 due to the shortage of water, WCMA, p. 296. Location was 27-B-3 in the ADC Street Atlas.

LAMBDEN MILL (1)

The gristmill of T. Lambden was shown in the 1877 county atlas on the west bank of Pitts Creek, south side of present Colona Road. There was also Mrs. Lambden’s Store at this pond SW of Pocomoke City. Lambdens Mill was listed as a village place name in the 1867 Bradstreets Directory but no miller was listed, only a general store keeper, A. D. Merrill. Lambden Mills still survived as a place name in 1941 listed in GZMD. In the 1970s, the millstones were at the home of Edgar Benson near the site of the dam. The mill had ground only corn, hominy, and feed; it had a flat, water-shed construction; its date of construction was unknown, WCMA, p. 297.

LANKFORD MILL (1)

J. Miles Lankford, Inc., was a modern feed mill offering grinding and mixing on Virginia Road, Pocomoke City (at US 113 and Md. 366) [1976].

LAWS MILL (7)

Elija [sic] Laws Mill was mentioned as the beginning place of a road that would meet the road from Dennis Mills, Laws of Md., Acts of 1811, Chapter 120. If located on the present Laws Ditch, the site would fall within present Wicomico County.

LAWS SAWMILL (2)

J. Milton Laws Lumber Co., 318 South Church Street, Snow Hill, was established in 1941 to carry on sawmilling; 25 employees. Listed in DMM, 1970.

LAWSHE MILL (3)

L. Lawshe was listed as a miller at Berlin in the 1880 State business directory.

LAYTON AND COLLINS SAWMILL (8)
This steam sawmill at Bishopville was robbed of its belting, saws, and tools, Baltimore *American*, March 20, 1888, p. 8.

**LEONARD MILL (7)**

The road from Leonards Mills to the Furnace was mentioned in a George Humphrey deed of 1876 (Worcester deeds, ITM 4:495).

**LIME KILN (3)**

See Henry Lime Kiln.

**LINDSEY MILL (8)**

See Dormans Mill (US 113).

**LINDSEY MILL (8)**

The T. S. Lindsey gristmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas on the south side of Corkers Creek, 1.2 miles upstream of Dr. A. J. Lindsey’s mill (the Dormans of 1795). This mill 2 miles NE of Lindseyville [renamed Klej Grange] stood on the tract Mill Fortune patented in 1764 by Outen Sturges and Daniel Gorse.

**LINDSEY MILL BRANCH**

This mill was shown in the 1877 county atlas 0.4 mile south of Lindseyville [now Klej Grange] on the present Jones Ditch of Batchelors Branch, then known as Linsey [sic] Mill Branch. W. C. Tarr’s steam saw and four mill was listed at Klej Grange in the 19098 Polk peninsula directory as was A. C. Strickland’s grist and saw mill.

**LINDSEY SAWMILL (8)**

The atlas showed a steam sawmill on the east side of Betheden Church Road in Lindseyville. In 1877, Mathias Lindsey left shares of the steam mill in the village to sons Thomas and James A. with instructions not to move it (Chancery Records, Snow Hill, 33:243). Location was 26-J-13 in the ADC Street Atlas.

**LINDSEY SAWMILL (8)**

The 1877 county atlas showed a steam sawmill at the eastern terminus of Big Mill Rod, east side of the Stockton-Virginia Line Road (Md. 12), near a Lindsey home. Apparently the steam mill on the “Newell Farm” that embraced two States,
bequeathed by Mathias Lindsey to son Henry in 1877 (Snow Hill Chancery Records, 13:242). Located south of Rabbit Knaw Road at 34-D-12 in the ADC Street Atlas.

LITTLE MILL (8)
LITTLE MILL ROAD

Little Mill Road is south of Md. 366, west of Stockton, but no mill survived in 1967. The 1877 atlas showed Little Mill on Little Mill Run, upstream of both Big Mill Pond and Marshall Mill; it was apparently the grist and saw mill of S. E. Mason. Current topographic maps show Little Mill Pond and designate the upper reaches of the run as Little Mill Creek [1976]. Millwrights from Disharoon Brothers & Co. of Salisbury rebuilt Little Mill in the early 1890s for Steven Mason, Sr. They thought that old foundations dated from the early 1700s. Mason’s miller was Myra Redden, an African-American who became owner ca. 1900. The mill washed out in 1910, WCMA, p. 298. Location was 38-G-3 in the ADC Street Atlas.

LOWE AND WEST SAWMILL (4)

Lowe and West Sawmill was advertised in the atlas of 1877; the lumber works and residence appeared near Wesley Station, NE of Snow Hill. The 1880 census of manufactures listed $2000 in capital investment, 15 employees, 1 boiler, one 20 hp engine, and annual output of 300,000 ft lumber ($4500). The firm did 75% of its own logging. Also listed in the 1880 State business directory.

McKINNEY MILL (8)

Girdletree’s great fire of 1912 destroyed William McKinney’s steam mill after 16 years of grist milling, WCMA, p. 291.

MARSHALL MILL (4)

Marshall’s Mill was located on the middle branch of Marshall Creek near Newark. No traces were found by aerial reconnaissance. No local traditions survived. If this mill ever existed, it disappeared early, WCMA, p. 298.

MARSHALL MILL (8)

See Big Mill.

MARTIN MILL (1)

Thomas and George Martin took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on Nassscanango Creek on February 9, 1761. The inquisition found all 20 acres in possession of the Lord Proprietor, who was awarded 1 Shilling Sterling yearly. The beginning point of the tract was a “marked Pine standing on an island and near the Main Branch of Nasseango Creek about a quarter mile above an old mill formerly belonging to John

MARYLAND IRON CO. (7)

See Nassawango Furnace.

MASONS MILL (1)

See Clark Mill.

MASON MILL (8)

See Little Mill.

MASON SAWMILL (4)

Polk’s 1908 peninsula directory listed the John L. Mason sawmill at Newark.

MASSEY SAWMILL (2)

William E. Massey’s sawmill, 2 miles north of Snow Hill, had a boiler explosion that killed Frank Baker, Democratic Messenger, October 1, 1899.

MELSON MILL (5)

G. T. B. Melson’s gristmill was shown in the 1877 atlas at Bishopville; an atlas patron, he had been born in Sussex County, Delaware, and settled in Worcester in 1872. He was also listed there in the 1880 State business directory. The 1908 Polk peninsula directory listed Melson and Harrison’s sawmill.

MELSON SAWMILL (4)

Melson Sawmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas north of Wesleyville and south of Poor and Honest Branch (Waterworks Creek), east side of present Basket Switch Road. The 1880 census of manufactures listed two sawmills of L. S. Nelson and Bro., one with $2000 capital investment with 10 employees, the other with 6 employees; both were equipped with two boilers and one 40 hp engine. Total output was 1.6 million ft ($15,000), all logging performed by the company. Location was 22-C-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

MILLER MILL (1)

The 1783 tax list of Pocomoke Hundred showed Math. Miles with part of Heron Quarter and a saw and grist mill.
MILFORDS ADDITION (3)

See Dunlop Mill.

MILL ANGLE (-)

Three tracts called Mill Angle were patented:

1. 1685, James Round, 25 acres, Liber 22:115
2. 1748, John Purnell, 571 acres, Liber BY & GS 1:77
3. 1767, James Round, 56 acres, Liber BC & GS 34:164

The tract surveyed for James Round in 1683 was “back in the woods about two miles from Assateague on the seaside” near a beaver dam and adjoining “Collock Moore.” Round left the 25 acres to son James of the Parish of All Hollis in 1738, MCW, 8:5. The 1767 Mill Angl [sic] was merely a resurvey of the earlier tract; it was in possession of John Davies in 1783 Quepongo, probably in present Election District 4.

MILL BRANCH (7)

Mill Branch, alias Beavins Gut or Jenifers Branch, was mentioned in a 1798 lawsuit as a tributary of Pocomoke River on the road from Nassawango Bridge to Dividing Creek (Chancery Papers No. 1383, MSA).

MILL BRANCH (8)

George Russell patented Mill Branch, 4000 acres, in 1684 (Patents, 22:54, MSA). A plat of the tract showed it “near Pocomoke River a little above Mattaponi Landing,” MHS Library, plat case, Mattaponi Landing in 2.5 miles from the present Klej Grange and on the west bank of Pocomoke River. Mill Branch was mentioned in the will of James Riggan, January 2, 1773; inventory 117:34).

The 1783 tax list showed James Lindsey, Sr., with part of Mill Branch. The Stevenson-Russell “Mill Branch” tract of 1683 was about 0.8 mile upstream of Snow Hill Road on a stream called Lindsey Mill Branch by the atlas and Bachelors Branch by 20th century topographic maps. The tract was one of the late properties of M. N. Lindsey shown in the 1879 plat when the land was acquired by Joseph W. Drexell (Worcester County deeds, Liber 7:461).

MILL CREEK (3/4)

See Bassett Mill.
MILL FORTUNE (8)

See Lindsey Mill (Corkers Creek).

MILL HAVEN PASTURE (4)


MILL LOCK (2)

See Mulford (Dennis) Mill.

MILL LOT (-)

At least 12 tracts called Mill Lot or Mill Lott were patented or surveyed in the books or certificates indicated, all on file at MSA, Annapolis:

1. 1747 John Denton (Mills Lot) 50 acres Liber TI no. 1:175
2. 1757 Matthew Purnell 8 Liber BC & GS No. 9:541
3. 1755 Paris Chipman, Jr. 96 Unpatented Certif. 891
4. 1763 Richard Nicholson 50 Liber BC & GS No. 24:522
5. 1796 Josiah Timmons 1 Unpatented Certif. 888
6. 1799 Elie Showell 143 Unpatented Certif. 890
7. 1800 John Culver 79 Liber IC No. A:261
8. 1814 Levin Pollitt and William Corbin 84 Liber GC No. C:124

(1) See Denstons Dam.

(2) Matthew Purnell’s 8-acre Mill Lot patented 1757 began on a hill in Quepongo Neck near a mill pond on the south side of Qupongeo Branch and adjoined the tract Purnell’s Security. The tract was in Quepongo Hundred near the present Newark (q. v.) in Election District No. 4.
(3) Paris Chipman, Jr.’s Mill Lott of 1755 began near the mouth of a bald Cypress branch (west bank) adjoining Edward Wadden’s land.

(4) Richard Nicholson’s tract of 1763 was on Lake Branch of Nassawango Creek near an old Beaver Dam.

(5) Joseph Timmons’ tract of 1796 was NW of Timmons’ plantation and adjoined Brittingham’s Lot.

(6) Eli Showell’s Mill Lot of 1800 was a resurvey of Conclusion (originally surveyed for William Morris of Thomas) and adjoined Batchelors Lott in Mattaponi Hundred; probably on Marshalls Creek. Cf., Colbourn Mill and Atkinson Mill Branch.

(7) John Culver’s tract of 1799 was patented by virtue of escheat on the property of the late Gideon Tillman, land originally granted in 1741 and afterwards the property of Amaziah Richmond who died seized thereof; it began on the west side of Nassawango Creek.

(8) Levin Pollitt and William Corbin acquired a tract near their property called Mill Security; it adjoined Lanes Discovery, Mason’s Ridge, Shockleys Purchase, Golden Mine, and Swine Harbor, probably in Acquango Hundred, possibly near the later Furnace.

(9) William Fooks in 1811 had a resurvey made of part of Addition to Branch Lott originally surveyed for William Smullin in 1794.

(a) A Mill Lot surveyed in 1754 for John Phillips turned out to lie in Delaware, beginning on the west side of Broad Creek, 6 poles from a mill dam, below the old bridge.

(b) Mill Lot, 200 acres of the late Zelpha Shock, was advertised by Affra D. Johnson, et al., commissioners, Worcester Shield, July 29, 1851.

(c) Thomas Surman received patent for 4 acres called Mill Lot near Cow Bridge Branch at the head of Indian River above Laceys Bridge in 1757, a site now within Sussex County, Delaware.

**MILL SECURITY (-)**

Two tracts called Mill Security were patented: (1) Joshua Morris, 1813, 10 acres (Patents Liber IC No. C:113, MSA), and (2) Levin Pollitt and William Corbin in 1814, 20 acres (Patents, Liber IC No. C:405, MSA).

The Joshua Morris tract began on the east side of “Morryses Mill Pond” and adjoined “What You Will” and “Maiden’s Choice” tracts, probably in
Pocomoke Hundred east of Dividing Creek in Jenkins Beck (Election District 7). The Pollitt and Corbin site adjoined Swine Harbor and Rackoon Harbor, apparently near the partner’s tract called “Mill Lott” surveyed in 1814; probably in Pocomoke Hundred and near the later Furnace site.

MILL STREET (2)

Mill Street is shown in the current ADC Atlas at grid 15-C-11 in the village of Newakk, q. v. where the sawmill has stood.

MILL TALE (THE) ( )

Philip Quinton patented 14.75 acres in 1793 called the Mill Tale (Patents Liber IC No. 1:324). The tract began west of Quinton’s Mill House adjoining the tract Conclusion and bounding on the Mill Branch.

MILLERS MILL (2)

The journal of John Watson in 1751 mentioned “the road leading to Miller’s Mill and the widow Dulany’s” near the 6th milestone of the trans-peninsular line to the north-south line between Maryland and Delaware. See, Richard W. Cooper, Profile of a Colonial Community (Baltimore, 1968), p. 78. The Snow Hill-Millers Mill Road was mentioned in a road authorization in Laws of Md., Acts of 1811, Chapter 120.

MILLS NEGLECT ( )

Mills Neglect was surveyed for William Campbell, 23 acres, Unpatented Certificate 894. It adjoined Edmund Cooper’s Hog Quarter and contained only an orchard.

MILLS SAWMILL (2)

L. C. Mills and Son sawmill was shown in the 1877 atlas just east of Nassawango Creek and north of Brumbley Mills (at the Furnace site); Mills gave a Snow Hill postal address and also advertised dry good and had a store in Millville. The mill was on present Olive Branch east of Md. 12 and west of Olive Church Road. Location was approximately 19-H-4.

MILLTOWN (5)

Bishop was formerly called Milltown per WPA Guide, p. 440.

MILLVILLE (7)
Millville is a place name on Md. 12, about 3.6 miles south of the Wicomico County line. Millville Creek runs through the village and on to Nassawango Creek, crossing Snow Hill Road (Md. 12) below Longridge. The atlas showed a sawmill on Sandy Branch, property of L. C. Mills, on the west bank, south side of the road leading to Mt. Olive Church Road from Md. 12. Data from WCMA, p. 298, noted that one of the three mills on Nassawango Creek above Old Furnace was the Millville Mill on Sandy Branch, now called Millville Branch, located off Md. 12 on Old Stage Coach Road between Snow Hill and Salisbury. Traces of the mill was identified in 1976. That mill was listed only as a sawmill in the atlas of 1877. Charles West, a resident in the area could hardly recall the mill but thought [in the 1970s] that it had been owned and operated by a Disharoon-Shockley partnership. It was apparently a short-lived operation, possibly put out of business by the portable sawmills of the 1880s. Location was near the present Old Stage Coach Road at grid 12-B-10 in the ADC Street Atlas. See also the nearby Fookes Sawmill.

MOORE BROTHERS SAWMILL (5)

The 1908 Polk peninsula directory listed Moore Brothers with a sawmill at Bishopville.

MORRIS MILL (3)

The 1783 tax list of Buckingham and Worcester Hundreds showed William Morris with New Port Lot and a gristmill; possibly at “The Trap.”

MORRIS MILL (7)


John Morris advertised a good saw and grist mill with 2000 acres rich in iron ore, Village Herald, Princess Anne, July 8, 1828. The Morris Mill Property passed to the Maryland Iron Company and when that works was up for sale, the auctioneer offered its gristmill near the furnace, plus a saw and gristmill on “an adjacent stream called Dividing creek,” Ibid., August 4, 1835.

MORRIS TANYARD (3)

Morris Tanyard was a place name of 1871 listed in Drysdale’s State Gazetteer. The 1880 census of manufactures listed Robert Morris as a tanner with $1200 capital investment, 3 employees, and annual output of 700 sides leather worth
$1600. The 1877 county atlas showed R. J. Morris in Election District 9 on the west side of present US 113, just south of the present Carey Road.

MULFORD MILL (2)

Colbourn Dennis’ Mill was mentioned in the 1771 will of Armwell Showell. The Captain Benjamin Dennis mill existed in 1799 when the 4.5-acre site adjoining Raccoon Point was resurveyed as the tract Mill Lock (Patents Liber CG No. C:113, MA). The pond had been mentioned in the 1798 patent of Mud and Water (folio 129), Those patents were issued to son James Dennis in 1814. A road was authorized from Dennis Mill to the Elijah Laws Mill by Laws of Md., Acts of 1811, Chapter 120.

In 1867, Sampson Colbourne conveyed to Firman L. Mulford, Enoch Pancost, James H. Vansman, and Louis M. W. Pancost all interest in Dennis’s Safeguard tract and in its previous tract Raccoon Point, Mill Lock, Mud and Water, Shockleys Beginning, et al., (Worcester deeds, GHR 3:370).

In 1869, Perry W. Colbourne conveyed to Mulford tracts in both Worcester and Wicomico Counties “near Colberns Mills” (Worcester deeds, GHR 3:729). The 1877 atlas showed a gristmill in the former Election District 6, east bank of Nassawango Creek, west side of the present Colbourne Mill Road, 0.7 mile south of the county line.

The 1880 census of manufactures listed the Mulford sawmill with $3500 capital investment, 15 employees, 30 hp engine, and 800,000 ft annual output ($6000) cut from the company’s own logging. The gristmill represented $2000 capital investment and had 2 employees, 1 run of stones, 7-foot fall on Pocomoke River,: 1 turbine 4.5 ft broad, running at 125 rpm to develop 12 hp. Annual output was 56 tons meal and 2.5 tons feed ($1600). Maximum capacity was 45 bu/diem; 75% of the business was custom.

The water mill and saw mill privileges conveyed by Sampson Colbourne to the later Furman [sic] L. Mulford and the lands adjoining Colbourne’s Mill Road were advertised by George W. Purnell, Trustee, Worcester Shield, March 25, 1882. Polk’s 1908 peninsula directory listed J. E. Dickerson’s store and flour mill at Colbourne, 7 miles NW of Snow Hill.

Colbourne Mill Road now runs from Mt. Olive Church Road to Bear Swamp Road in Wicomico County. Dennis Mill Race and Cottinghams Mill Pond were still referenced in a current deed to Chesapeake Corporation of Virginia, a timbering concern (Worcester deeds, FWH 105:560). The gristmill was opposite the Gladfelter Paper Company property. Location was 12-J-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

MULFORD STEAM SAWMILL (6)
The steam sawmill of F. L. Mulford was shown on the 6th Election District map in the 1877 atlas, 0.8 mile east of Nassawango Creek, just south of the Wicomico County line, grid 13-B-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

MUMFORD MILL (3)

James Mumford of Thomas took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* for a mil seat on Chappell Branch of St. Martins River, September 13, 1734. The jury found that 10 acres belonged to Thomas Sanford of London and set an annual rental of 12 pence. Mumford was also required to support His Lordship’s Main Road (Chancery Records, Liber 5:617, MSA).

Chappell Branch, a tributary of South or Church Branch, was west of Friendship, north of the present Carey Road. This was possibly the Walter Purnell mill in 1783.

MUMFORD MILL (3)

The mill and stave factory of C. C. Mumford at Showell burned with $5000 loss, *Democratic Messenger*, September __, 1909. The 1908 Polk peninsula directory had listed production of lumber and piling.

MURRAYS MILL (5)

Isaac Murray of Worcester County took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on the Three Runs, July 4, 1755. The inquisition taken at New Port Town in Worcester Parish on November 1, 1756, found that a mill was already built.

The 10 acres on the south side of the stream were in possession of Isaac Murray, John Wright, and Peter Jones, parts of The Venture and Exchange. Damages of £ 3-1 were awarded to John Wright and nothing to Murray and no mention of damages to Jones. The grant was not issued until August 8, 1761 (Chancery Records, Liber 9:80, MSA). John Wright had patented The Venture, 110 acres, in 1755.

MURRAY MILL (5)

H. Earl Murray was operator of a large commercial feed works on the railroad at Bishop and was listed in the 1967 telephone book.

NASSAWANGO FURNACE (7)

John Morris advertised his mills and 2000 acres with “an abundance of iron ore, which would warrant the erection of a forge,” *Village Herald*, Princess Anne, July 8, 1828. The Maryland Iron Company was chartered on March 12, 1829,
by the General Assembly (*Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1828, Chapter 171). The incorporators were Beale Randall, Thomas Finley, Hugh Boyle, Joseph W. Pattson, Shepard C. Leakin, John S. Shriver, Talbot Jones, William H. Freean, Alexander C. Bullitt. In 1830, some 4800 acres were acquired, and the furnace was built by Mark Richards in 1832, some 5 miles NW of Snow Hill on Old Furnace Road west of the present Md. 12.

Hulbert Footner in *Rivers of the Eastern Shore* (Farrar & Rinehart: New York, 1944), p. 118, credited Littleton Teackle of Princess Anne with a very successful iron furnace nearby, a works that lead to a $260,000 bankruptcy. [We cannot find any contemporary proof that Teackle was involved with Nassawango.] John R. Park in *Maryland’s Mining Heritage Guide*, p. 67, stated that in 1788, Joseph Widener operated a primitive smelter on this site,

The Nasseongo [sic] Furnace and its grist and saw mills were for sale, *Village Herald*, Princess Anne, August 4, 1835. “The furnace is driven by Naseongo River, a powerful and constant stream.” There was also 21,000 bu of coal, 650 tons of ore on the banks, and 1000 tons in the beds; also offered were the mills on Dividing Creek (i.e., to John Morris Mills). “There has been recently erected a first rate dwelling house and a significant number of workmen’s houses, all of which are nearly new, with a Store-house, Barn, and other capacious outhouses.”

Maryland Iron Company sold out to Benjamin Jones of Philadelphia in January 1837, and that December, Jones sold to John C. Dean of Portland, Maine, who immediately conveyed the furnace, sheds, shops, and mills to Thomas A. Spence (Chancery Records, Liber B171:444, MSA).

The tracts included Orchomenus Hardship, Dormans Chance, Turpine Grove, Johnsons Dispute, Ruarks Security, Creek Swamp, Edens Choice, Hog Quarter, Addition to Defiance Enlarged, Safe Guard, and Morris’s Mills, properties which had earlier belonged to Samuel Lorey and then to the Maryland Iron Company.

The furnace was 24 ft square at the base, 8 ft in diameter at the boshes, and approximately 50 ft high. Loblolly pine was used for charcoal and output was 700 tons per annum. Furnace town was U-shaped and consisted of a hotel, gristmill, tavern, general store, a Methodist Church called the Shingle Meeting
Conjectural view of Nassawango by Historic Am. Engineering Record.

House, a 14-room mansion for the iron master, and 24 identical story-and-a-half workers’ cottages. The classic “colonial style” [or was it Greek Revival?] mansion had lofty ceilings, broad verandahs, and pillars. The hotel could bake 200 loaves at a time. However, no school was provided. A photo of the ironmaster’s house, ca. 1910 showed a two-story house in the process of losing a two-story, full-width front porch, not far from vernacular architecture, reproduced in Paul Baker Touart, Along the Seaboard Side (994), p. 73 (from the collection of Michael Luby).

The ore was mined from swamps along Nassawango Creek, bog iron, drawn to the furnace by oxen. A blind mule was used to pull the ore to the top of the furnace because a sighted animal would have balked at the flames. Ingots were shipped to Baltimore and Philadelphia. John R. Park stated that hot blast equipment was added during the Spence period.

The last operator, Thomas A. Spence, an attorney and Judge from Princess Anne, invested the fortune of his wife, an Ellicott widow, in the works. Alexander’s 1840 report on iron gave the ore a 29% iron content, p. 94. Prosperity increased and the town built up to a population of 1000, including a sawmill, wheelwright, blacksmith, and cobblers shop. However, the ore soon petered out, and all too late, Judge Spence received a geologist’s report—his first—with the data that the ore was “corrupted by phosphate of iron and barely marketable.”

Philip T. Tyson in his Second Report of the State Agricultural Chemist (Annapolis, January, 1862), p. 11, noted, “It [pig iron] was formerly smelted at Nasseungo [sic] Furnace, and although pig iron was readily and cheaply produced, yet the brittle character of the metal rendered it unsalable, and the operation was suspended.”

In 1847, Benjamin Jones sued Spence for completion of payment on the 1837 sale, and a trustee was appointed by the High Court of Chancery to sell the
property if Spence defaulted. The furnace is reported to have closed in 1847, but

Casting arch of Nassawango Furnace, photo by author.

the 1850 census of manufactures listed Nassawango Furnace with $20,000 capital investment, water powered production, 10 employees, and annual output of 400 tons pig iron per annum worth $8000 made from 700 tons ore ($175) and 45,000 bu coal ($1350). The figures apparently reflect the last year of operation in the 1840s. Dr. Michael Robbins reported about 1976 that the furnace was 24 feet square at the base and 8 ft diameter at the boshes and was approximately 50 feet high, although Robert S. McKay estimated the height as 45 ft in 1953.

After final shutdown, Sampson Harmon, the ironmaster’s slave, lived at the site all his life until he was taken to the county poor house to die at age 107 at the end of a career of gustatory and amatory achievements, WPA Guide, p. 446. Sampson Harman, or Sampson Hat, appeared along with Furnace Town in George Alfred Townsend’s 1884 novel, The Entailed Hat.

In 1911, the property belonged to U. S. Senator John Walter Smith and William Jackson of Salisbury. The 1974 condition of the furnace stack was about the same state as it was when Joseph T. Singewald photographed it in 1910 for his dissertation that was published as RIOM. The furnace was protected within the Pocomoke State Forest and it was deeded to the Worcester County Historical Society by Senator Smith’s descendants in 1964. After professional consultation, the historical society had the site fenced in 1965. A State historic roadside marker was set up on Md. 12 at Old Furnace Road terminus, 3 miles east of the ruin.

The MHT’s former newsletter SWAP (September 1977), p. 6, reported, “A study done by a Snow Hill archaeological team has discovered at least five, possibly seven, structural foundations relatively undisturbed adjacent to the Nassawango Iron Furnace. It appears that up to 30 log or wood houses formed a town called
Furnaceville. Commercial buildings were also in the town. The furnace, which ceased operation in 1847, is a restoration project of the Worcester County Historical Society. A former parish house from St. Mary’s Church in Pocomoke City has been moved . . . to the site . . . to serve s headquarters.”

In 1989, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) produced measured drawings of the existing furnace stack combined with a conjectural view of the works when its water wheel, bellows, bridge house, and casting shed were intact. Delineators were John R. Bowie and Diane M. Pohlsander, SLA Newsletter, 18 (Fall 1989): 2. On October 19, 1991, the furnace was listed as a National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark. The Maryland Historical Society photogranh collection has a 1934 view of the stack (Catalog No. Z24.1357).

In recent years, the premises have been developed as an interpretive display of a typical iron works of the early 19th century. The Nassawango Iron Furnace Site was added to the National register of Historic Places on October 31, 1975. This resource bears MHT Site No. WO-10. Location is 12-J-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

See other sources:


WPA Guide, 1941, p. 446.


Principio to Sparrows Point (Bethlehem Steel Company: Baltimore, 1962), p. 3.

“Pre-Civil War Furnace Among Ruins on Shore,” Sun, November 27, 1966.


*Restored buildings at Furnace Town, photos by William Hollifield.*

Among other lands, the ironworks company had acquired the old Morris Mill. In mid-century, the water rights in this area passed from James Wonnell to Jacob Wonnell and in 1856 they were acquired by Henry W. Brumbley; they passed in 1870 to George S. Richardson, who sold in 1875 to George W. Brumbley. Brumbley also purchased land and water courses from Robert Todd in 1874 (Worcester deeds, ITM 3:253).

The 1877 county atlas showed a sawmill on the west bank of Nassawango Creek and a gristmill on the east bank, both on the south side of present Old Furnace Road and apparently the property of George W. Brumbley. Furnace Mill Pond was mentioned in *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1884, Chapter 344, as located on Nassawanga [sic] Creek. Furnace Mills was given as a village name of 1941 in GZMD, some 4.5 miles NW of Snow Hill. The former Furnace Town is now an
historical park and no trace of the mills can be seen; Worcester County Historical Society holds title to the mill site [1976].

NAZARETH MILL (7)

Same as Puseys Mill.

NEWPORT CREEK (3)

In colonial times, there were warehouses and granaries here per the WPA Guide, p. 442. The granaries were shown in the 1877 county atlas at Deep Landing and at Hays Landing at the head of the creek SE of Berlin.

NICHOLSONS MILL ( )

Charles Nicholson left a mill to his wife Mary and also 40 acres of the tract Hopewell, May 6, 1774 (Wills 40:152, MSA). Possibly near “deep swamp.”

OLD MILL BRANCH (4)

Old Mill Branch empties into Pocomoke River, 4.5 miles NW of Newark, but no mill was shown there by the 1877 county atlas. The stream crosses Whiton-Queponco Road and flows west to the river. In 1909, the present road was referenced in a deed as “the county road leading from Whiton to Newark north of Queponco Mill Bridge” (Worcester deeds, ODC 5:161). This was apparently the Queponcoe Creek of Dennis Griffith’s 1794-1795 map. See also, John Purnell’s tract called Mill Angle.

OWENS POND (DEL.)

Owens Pond adjoining the vacant lands on which William Owens “had made some improvements” was mentioned in the 1756 patent of the tract Good Neighborhood (Patents, Liber BC & GS 9:341, MSA). It was east of the head of Nanticoke, probably in Sussex County, Delaware.

PARSONS MILL (7)

The atlas showed E. B. Parsons gristmill on the south side of Sturges Creek, just west of Nassawango Creek, south of Mt. Olive Church Road. The present deed of Chesapeake Corporation of Virginia referenced Sturgis Mill Pond as well as Cottingham Mill Pond and Dennis Mill Race (Worcester deeds, FWH 105:560). Although not marked on the former District 6 atlas plate in 1877, one of that district’s advertisers was John W. Sturgis, manufacturer of “all kinds of lumber” with a Salisbury postal address. Location was 12-G-9 in the ADC Street Atlas.
PARSONS MILL (7)

George W. Parsons steam sawmill was shown in the 1877 county atlas on the east side of present Md. 12, 0.2 mile below the Wicomico County line. Location was 11-H-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

PERDUE SAWMILL (7)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Perdue Brothers with $2000 capital investment in a sawmill with 7 employees, 2 boilers, and one 32 hp engine; output was 750,000 ft annually ($7500); 75% of the logging was done by the company itself.

PILCHARD MILL (8)

The 1887 State business directory listed Major W. Pilchard with a mill at Stockton and also the Pilchard Landing Sawmill. The 1880 census of manufactures showed Major Pilchard with $80 capital investment in a sawmill with 7 employees; it was idle 6 months of the year, and ran on a 12 hp engine. No logging was done by the owner. Annual output was 416,000 ft lumber ($3720), shipped in Pilchard’s own vessels. This is the steam sawmill shown in the 1877 county atlas at Stockton on the Worcester Railroad, north of Ward Road, west of Md. 12. Location was approximately 34-E-8 in the ADC Street Atlas.

POCOMOKE SAWMILL CO. (2)

The 1880 State business directory listed Pocomoke Steam Sawmill Co. manufacturing lumber at Snow Hill. The 1880 census of manufactures listed Pocomoke Sawmill Co. with $30,000 capital investment and 20 employees, doing 75% of its own logging, with 4 boilers, two 80 hp engines, shipping vessels, and annual output of 3 million ft lumber worth $30,000.

The gristmill represented $6000 capital investment and had 4 employees, 4 run of stones, and 300 bu/diem maximum capacity; there were four boilers and two 80 hp engines. Annual output was 205 tons meal, 100 bbl flour, and 60 tons feed ($5000). All custom work.

POLK AND POWELL MILL (1)

Polk and Powell’s grist and sawmill was listed at Newtown by the 1867 Hawes Business Directory and by Boy’s 1875 directory. Young and Brother acquired the works in 1876.

POOR HOUSE MILL (2)
A mill existed on Poor House Branch east of Pocomoke River and NE of Snow Hill. It probably went out of service when the land on Johnson Branch was acquired for an alms house in 1870, WCMA, p. 301.

PORTERS TANYARD (4)

Porters Tanyard was mentioned in setting up New Ark election district, Laws of Md., Acts of 1845, Chapter 35. Probably on Porters Crossin Road near Pocomoke River; not shown in the 1877 county atlas.

PRICES MILL (7)

Prices Mill, possibly the same as Puseys, was shown on the Dennis Griffith 1794-1795 map on a branch of Dividing Creek, 9 miles west of Snow Hill.

PURNELL AND WHITE STEAM MILL (2)

The 1867 Bradstreet Directory listed the Purnell & Collins Steam Mill at Snow Hill, giving it a rating of AB for good credit. The 1877 county atlas showed the L. R. Purnell and E. White Mill, south bank of Pocomoke River on the railroad at the foot of Washington Street, Snow Hill, upstream of present Md. 12 bridge. The 1895 Sanborn insurance atlas showed the mill close to the river, also a hominy mill facing Washington Street. Location was 20-H-12 in the ADC Street Atlas.

PURNELL MILL (2)

The Worcester Shield of September 28, 1847, reported, “The new road over the mill pond above the town is almost impassable.” That mill on the west side of the present US 113, north side of Purnell Branch, was Spences Mill. The 1850 Worecster County census of manufactures showed Thomas A. Spencer [sic] with $5000 capital investment in a saw and grist mill with 4 employees, and annual output of 200,000 ft of 4/44 board cut from 1550 logs, and 6000 bu of corn meal that provided the miller with 1000 bu toll worth $500. Labor cost $10/month. Thomas A. Spence sold the works to John P. Robbins, then to David Richardson. Richardson bequeathed it to sons William, David, and John, who sued each other in 1855.

In the testimony taken, William Johnson stated that the land was lying idle and that both saw and grist mill were in bad condition and unsafe, the miller’s house not worth repairing. William Taylor deposed that the mill needed two new set of runners and bed stones, and all the driving irons were worn out. Very little had been put into repairs since Captain Richardson had bought the place, but the mill could, if required, average about 300 bu of toll annually.
Taylor continued, “The grist mill wants two new spouts, the tale way floor wants to be new, with new sleepers, the bolting wheel spout and shaft wanting to be made new, the bolting cloth being out of use for the want of them from the same defect in the original construction of the mill house, it is now leaned over to one side, requiring to be propped up; some of the posts which support the structure are rotten . . . the wings in the pond are both rotten. The saw mill wants a new spout and a new cap sill, new carriage, petman [pitman?] and saw gate and new sleepers for the floor, two head blocks, new dogs, new Billest work; one half of the mill wants new sheeting; the dam wants a thousand loads of dirt . . . supposing it would take about $600 to put both mills in order . . . believe that the expenses for the saw mill have absorbed all its earnings ever since the property was bought by Capt. Richardson” (Worcester, Chancery Records, 6:43).

The place was sold under decree on July 1, 1856. The trustees’ advertisement was not copied into the court records. The mill was purchased by William H. Richardson (Worcester deeds, WET 1:143), and promptly resold to John M. Purnell who acquired title to Spence Mill, the dam, and the tracts Snow Hill Confirmation and Flatbury. The 1877 county atlas showed J. M. Purnall with a mill and pond, and he was listed in the 1880 State business directory.

The first elephant ever seen in Snow Hill was brought from Berlin with a circus, and the citizens watched it bathe all day in the Purnell Mill Pond. The Denton Journal, August 3, 1889, reported that Purnell’s Mill near Snow Hill was completely swept away on the 29th of July.

In 1890, Purnell sold to Francis Asbury White, who conveyed in 1893 to William T. White. Elijah A. Perdue bought the Purnell Mill property in 1904 and the same year sold to William H. Jones, who held it until 1925, selling to William E. Bratten, who promptly conveyed to William E. Timmons. In the 1927 Equity Case No. 3581, the flour mill was described as “bringing in no income whatever, except the sum of $3 a month from a tenant thereon, and is rapidly deteriorating in value.”

William J. Layton bought the mill in 1927, and it was held for a year by L. & P. Milling Company, passed to William J. Layton and Margaret L. Ayres, and to Charles L. Shockley in 1932. For an additional $1, Shockley bought the “machinery, stock, paraphernalia used in said mill property for manufacturing flour and meal . . . rolls, corn mill, crusher, flour bolter, gyrator, elevators, engines, all flour and meal bags.”

“Purnell’s Mill was a very profitable one until outdistanced by the nearby (Snow Hill) steam mill owned by Thomas Selby. It staggered along with successive owners and millers . . . until it was destroyed by fire in 1933,” Dr. Reginald V. Truitt, letter to author, November 1971. See also, Truitt and Les Callette, WCMA, p. 301, where the two authors list the various owners:
During the “tenure of Bill Handy Jones” a gasoline engine was installed, next a steam plant, which still could not compete with Selby’s Steam Mill.

The dam on US 113 washed out along with the bridge in the severe storm of 1936, Truitt, *High Winds . . . High Tides*, p. 14. The next year, Shockley’s widow sold the pond and buildings to William O. Dickerson. This property was Parcel 18 on Worcester Tax Map 55 [1976].

PURNELL MILL (3)

The 1783 tax list of Buckingham and Worcester Hundreds showed Walter Purnell with Security, Hog Quarter, and a half gristmill on Holly Grove. Walton [sic] Purnell’s patent of Security showed that the tract was on Turwell’s Creek in Turwells Neck (Patents BC & GS 11:178, MSA), 1758. *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1784, Chapter 4, authorized a new road from the Sinepuxent Road to Walton Purnell and Annanias Hodson’s grist mill and from thence to Freeman’s Branch [in current terms, from the road leading from Saint Martin’s Church to Sinepuxent Inlet].

PURNELL MILL (3)

The 1783 tax list of Buckingham and Worcester Hundred showed William Purnell of John with 750 acres and a gristmill.

PURNELLS SAWMILL ( )

Purnells Saw Mill Plantation was near the tract Wings Discovery patented by Samuel Wings in 1757 (Patents, Liber BC & GS 11:136, MSA).

PURNELL SAWMILL (2)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Vincent and Collins Purnell sawmill with $6000 capital investment, with 15 employees, doing all their own logging; there were 2 boilers, a 30 hp engine, and annual output of 1.5 million ft lumber ($15,000).

PURNELL SAWMILL (3)

J. S. and H. Purnell sawmill was shown south of St. Martins River, 3 miles east of present Showell in the 1877 county atlas. The 1880 census of manufactures
listed this logging firm with a 2-boiler, 30 hp saw mill with $2000 capital investment, 8 employees, and annual output of 200,000 ft ($3500). The two Purnells were listed among the atlas patrons as farmers and lumber dealers in Berlin with 2400 acres, and were born in Worcester in 1850 and 1853. Location was 4-C-11 in the ADC Street Atlas; the site has been overrun by Ocean Pines and Somerset housing developments.

PURNELL SAWMILL (3)

The atlas showed a steam saw and grist mill distinct from the present feed mills at West Berlin. J. S. and H. Purnell advertised as Berlin lumber dealers in that atlas.

PUSEY AND SONS (2)

Same as Snow Hill Farmers Service.

PUSEYS MILL (7)

Lankford Pusey’s mill was mentioned in 1832 near Wonneills Crossing (Worcester deeds, AX:539). The mill passed to Stephen Pusey, who conveyed the mill and various items of furniture and livestock to trustee Ephraim E. Wilson while confined in Worcester Jail over a $20 fine (Worcester deeds, EDM 5:531). After his release, Pusey conveyed the same mill to John R. Franklin in 1857 along with the tracts Pusseys Contrivance and Townsends Hardship. The next year, Franklin contracted to sell to William F. Dougherty, but died, and proper title was not conveyed until 1889, and then to William T. Dougherty. However, the atlas showed William Dougherty sawmill on the east bank of Pusey Branch, south side of present Old Furnace Road.

James H. Dougherty sold to Leonard Kelly in 1889, and Kelley sold to Chester V. Kelley in 1915. Polk’s 1908 directory listed Robert Kelley’s sawmill at Whiteburg. Chester Kelley sold the “Stephen Pusey Tract” to William A. Riggin in 1923. The road from Whitesburg to Puseys Mill was still mentioned in a deed of 1970 (Worcester deeds, 287:503). This was possibly the same as Prices Mill of the 1794-1795 Dennis Griffith map.

This mill disappeared between 1890 and 1910 and had also been called the Nazareth Mill for its proximity to the Nazareth Church, per WCMA, p. 203. Location was 18-G-4 in the ADC Street Atlas.

QUEPONCO MILL (4)

See Old Mill Branch.

QUILLEN MILL (3)
See Taylor Mill.

**QUINN AND VEASY TANNERY (1)**

This works was founded about 1815 by the Rev. James Tilghman and General Ebenezer Hearn. Tilghman died in 1816 and General Hearn took on his relative, Gibson Cannon, as partner, then replaced him with John S. Mills. Mills died in 1844, and Hearn sold to John W. Quinn. The 1850 census listed Quinn and Veasy tannery with $3000 capital investment, 3 employees, and annual output of 900 skins ($2700). Quinn closed up in 1854-1855, *History of Pocomoke City*, p. 94.

**QUINN, MURRAY, AND ASHCRAFT SAWMILL (1)**

In 1854, John W. Quinn, James Murray, and John Ashcraft established a steam sawmill at Newtown; the next year, Murray sold out to Nicholas N. Bosley; in 1857, the works was purchased by Thomas W. Hargis and Ambrose Dixon, and in 1859 by Captain H. H. Husted, and in 1862 by Captain James H. Young. Young already had a mill and bought this one to end the competition. He sold out to Polk and Powell and then retired. *History of Pocomoke City*, p. 113.

**QUINTON MILL ( )**

See The Mill Tale.

**RICHARDSON MILL (2)**

See Boxiron Mill.

**RICHARDSON MILL (7)**

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Richardson & Co. mill near Nassawango Creek with $5000 capital investment, 2 employees, 1 boiler, and a 20 hp engine; maximum daily capacity was 56 bu; all the business was custom trade. Annual output was 162,000 lb each of meal and feed ($1504).

**RICHARDSON, MOORE, AND SMITH STEAM SAWMILL (2)**

This mill was at Snow Hill in the 1877 atlas on Pocomoke River at the foot of Church Street, the present site of the fertilizer works. A photo of the “Big Mill” in the Julia A. Purnell Museum in Snow Hill showed a large, L-shaped building constructed of vertical boards and lighted by high clerestories. The factory whistle was preserved in the museum.

The 1880 census of manufactures listed the firm in District 2 with a $4000 investment, 30 hp steam sawmill, its own vessels, 5 employees, and annual output
300,000 ft ($4500). No logging was done by the company. Also listed in 1880 State business directory.

ROBINS/ROBINSON MILL (2)

See Turpin Mill.

ROBINS MILL (3)

Thomas Robins of Worcester County took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on Burch Branch which maketh into the head of St. Martins River, February 25, 1760. The inquisition found the south side in possession of Joshua Mitchell and the heirs of George Laurence; damages to both were one Farthing Sterling and one Shilling Currency per acre yearly. The north bank was in Robins’ possession (Chancery Records, Liber 9:121, MSA).

ROWLEY MILL (2)

Rowleys Mill was apparently the successor of Strahams Mill. Before the Civil War, John Edwin Disharoon was the hired miller and the mill was rebuilt about that time. Rowleys Mill was on Pikes Creek, a nameless stream in the 1877 atlas, nor was the mill shown on the Stockton atlas plate. Rowley’s is one of the few mills that has been written about, in this case by John S. Hill, who later became a school principal. Hill’s memoirs have been transcribed in the 21st century by Bob Jones and posted on his Mattaponi web site. Stockton was known as Sandy Hill in Hill’s youth. Hill was placed in charge of Rowley’s Mill by his father who worked for William A. Rowley, tilling the farm and working as a waterman in winter. The younger Hill described himself as a “miller-boy” but he was the entire work force. Rowley had previously employed an African American as hired miller, but in 1869, at age 11, John S. Hill took over. As a very small boy, he was too small to lift a half-bushel of corn directly from the floor to the mill-hopper, so he had to build a set of steps so he could drag the half-bushel, a step at a time, until he could tilt the corn into the hopper. The mill had only one run of stones and its maximum capacity was 20 to 25 bu/diem. John S. Hill built up the business and sometimes ran the mill until 9 in the evening. The second year, Hill began to travel out to farms to buy more corn to keep the mill going. Later, Rowley decided to spend some capital and put in a new water wheel to double its capacity. In dull moments, Hill pursued self-education and eventually became a teacher and principal of Stockton High School. Bob Jones reported in 2006 that the mill is gone without trace and was probably accessed by Pike Lane, going eastward from Md. 12. Location 34-G-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

ROWLEY WINDMILL (2)
The Rowley Windmill was at Old Seaside Road off Rowley’s Cove at Taylor Landing near Girdletree. The tract was formerly called Timber Quarter Plantation, and since 1850 the “Rowley Farm” and also known as the Westfall Place and also as Snow Hill Farm. Arthur Rowley’s will signed May 2, 1819, directed that “my Dutch fan stays on this place I now live on for the use of Sam [Rowley] and Benj. [Rowley] and Jesse Benentt,” who were his sons and son-in-law, WCMA, p. 307. Also found in Worcester Wills at MSA, Annapolis.

SAWMILL (7)

A large commercial sawmill was operating on the west side of Md. 12 just above Lukes Road in 1973. Current sawmill operations are too numerous to tabulate in Worcester County [1976].

SAWMILL LOT (-)

Two tracts called Saw Mill Lot were surveyed: (1) 1752, Thomas Lamb, 7 acres (Patents Y & S 7:632, MSA), and (2) 1762, John Dennis, 372 acres (Patents, BC & GS 19:50, MSA). Tomas Lamb’s lot was on the west side of St. Martins River near the road over the wading place. Colonel John Dennis’ lot was a resurvey of Hudsons Adventure on the north side of Pigg Penn Branch of St. Martins River.

SAWMILL RANGE (3)

Two tracts called sawmill range appeared in records: (1) The 1783 tax list of Buckingham Hundred showed John Brachem and John Tull with parts of Saw Mill Range. Sawmill Range, 225 acres, was advertised (without a mill) following the case of Lemuel Showell -vs- John Tull, Worcester Shield, January 16, 1849. (2) A 908-acre tract called Saw Mill Range was patented in 1829 by William and Lewis Tull (Patents IB & GGB No. H:549, MSA).

SAWMILL SUPPLY (-)

Four tracts called Sawmill Supply were surveyed: (1) for George Parker, 1749, 100 acres (Patents BY & GS 5:215, MSA). (2) A 360-acre tract surveyed for J. Bogie and Joseph Caldwell in 1757 (Unpatented Certificate No. 1158, MSA). (3) In 1773, Eliazar Johnson had 14 acres surveyed under this name (Unpatented Certificate No. 1157, MSA). (4) In 1757, Charles Bannister had a 129-acre Saw Mill Supply tract surveyed from an earlier 190-acre tract of the same name; it was about 0.5 miles from Deep Creek, probably in present Sussex County (Patents, BC & GS 11:47, MSA).

SAWMILL SUPPORT (1)
The 1783 tax list of Pocomoke Hundred showed Eli Johnson with Saw Mill Support. Alexander Johnson had another part of the tract, plus a sawmill and part of Beavers Chance.

SHOCKLEY MILL (7)

See Atkinson Mill at Whiteburg.

SCHUM SAWMILL (1)

The 1783 tax list of Pocomoke Hundred showed Solomon and Josh. Schum with the tract Bayleys Adventure and a sawmill.

SELBY MILL (8)

Peter Selby left a mill on his dwelling plantation to his wife Mary on February 20, 1773 (Wills 39:315, MSA). The estate was called “Robertson in Heritance.” James Selby owned a mill on the tract Forlorn in the 1783 tax list of Mattaponi Hundred. Selby Mill Branch is found south of the Virginia line below Welbourne.

SHOCKLEY MILL (3)

Harry G. Shockley converted the former J. M. Moore factory at Showell into a corn mill, *Democratic Messenger*, August 3, 1909. The 1908 Polk peninsula directory had listed J. M. Moore and Company with a box factory and gristmill.

SHOCKLEY SAWMILL (2)

The 1877 county atlas plate of the former Election District 6 showed the sawmill of Uriah F. Shockley and Co., east of Mt. Olive Church on the present Laws Road which runs east from Pine Grove; Shockley gave his postal address as Snow Hill. The 1880 census of manufactures listed this logging firm with $1500 capital investment, 6 employees, one 30 hp engine, and annual output of 250,000 ft lumber ($2250). Location w as 13-C-10 in the ADC Street Atlas.

SHOWELL MILLS (3)

The Church Branch was also called Showells Branch as early as 1758 when William Duncan took out a writ of condemnation on that stream; a second writ on Church Branch was taken out in 1762 by John Dennis, Jr. (q. v.) and the Dennis Mill of 1783 was possibly the predecessor of the Showell site.

The *Worcester Shield*, September 25, 1858, claimed that Lemuel Showell [probably the second] was in his 48th year as postmaster, having been appointed in 1809 by Thomas Jefferson; but Showell would not have been of age in 1809
and the post office was not established until 1813. Showell is least found in the 1816 list of Maryland postmasters. His length of service would have been about 46 years and could eclipse the record of Carroll County miller Samuel McKinsrty [who served from the Van Buren administration to Chester A. Arthur’s]. Showell died on October 4, 1859, with a fortune of $250,000, WCMA, p. 563. The Baltimore Sun, October 12, 1859, stated, “He is said to have been the wealthiest man in the county and worth a million dollars.” The Orphans Court records showed that in 1818, Lemuel Showell [no doubt the first of that name] left a mill and lands to son Josiah Showell.

The 1877 county atlas showed the saw and grist mills of L. Showell [the tird of that name] along the present South Branch of St. Martins River east of the present village of Showell. The 1880 State business directory listed Lemuel Showell as timber manufacturer at St. Martins and Lemuel A. Showell’s “Old Mill Pond” was shown on Church Branch in a plat of his property made in 1888 (Worcester County Chancery Records, 17:26). The plat showed a road running to the pond from St. Matins Church, and the property was called Holland Point Farm. . A deed made in 1888 mentioned a “stob near the old break in the dam,” WCMA, p. 302. The property was advertised in the Democratic Messenger, June 27, 1888.

The American Miller, 50 (June 1, 1922): 651, reported, “Showell, Md.—Fire which started in the mill of the Showell Milling company on April 18, totally destroyed it. Cause was not determined.”

SHOWELL MILLING COMPANY (5)

This company operated mobile milling trucks that went to individual farms to grind grain crops; its office was in Showell [1976].

SHOWELL SAWMILL (5)

The 1877 county atlas showed the sawmill of William Showell east of Campbelltown on the Worcester Railroad, south of Birch Branch. Location was 3-F-9 in the ADC Street Atlas.

SINEPUXENT SALT WORKS ( )

See Wallace Saltworks.

SMITH. MORRE & CO. (2)

The 1895 Sanborn insurance map of Snow Hill showed the Smith, Moore & Company planing mill, box factory, and gristmill south of Strawberry Alley in Snow Hill. Location was 20-H-12 in the ADC Street Atlas. Paul Baker Touart in Along the Seaboard Side (1994), p. 177, presented a ca. 1900 photograph of
Smith, Moore & Company’s building from the collection of the Julia Purnell Museum.

SNOW HILL FARMERS SERVICE (2)

This modern feed works was located on North Washington Street Extended and north of the railroad tracks on Md. 12, supplying Southern States feed products, operating in 1970.

W. S. Pusey and Sons, were operating in an old commercial building on Md. 12 north of Snow Hill, serving as a Southern States feed warehouse in 1976. The 2006 telephone directory still carried that firm at Washington Street Extended, Snow Hill. Apparently the same as W. W. Pusey and Sons listed at this street address in the 2006 telephone directory.

SNOW HILL KINDLING MILL (1)

This works was listed at Snow Hill in the Md., Del., and D. C. State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1906-1907, p. 747.

SPENCE MILL (2)

See Purnell Mill.

SPENCE MILL (2)

George Spence’s mill pond on Corkers Creek was mentioned in the 1763 patent of Conclusion (Patents BC & GS 24:540, MSA).

STATON AND WHITE MILL (3)

Staton and White were listed as millers at St. Martin in the 1880 State business directory.

STEAM MILL HILL (3)

This mill was on the north fringe of Whaleysville, q. v.

STEAM SAWMILL (1)

The 1877 county atlas showed a steam sawmill 1.7 mile south of Unionville on the east side of Unionville-Cedar Hall Road between New Bridge Road and Cedar Hall Road. The nearest residents were A. D. Merrill and J. Boston. Location was 31-G-11 in the ADC Street Atlas.
STEVENSON SAWMILL (1)

This firm was founded 1865 by Thomas F. Stevenson as a planning mill; his son Riley M. Stevenson became a partner, History of Pocomoke City, p. 117. The 1867 Hawes Business Directory listed T. M. Stevenson sawmill at Newtown, p. 534. The 1880 census of manufacturers listed F. F. and R. M. Stevenson with $1500 capital investment in a gristmill with 2 run of stones and 150 bu/diem maximum capacity, 3 employees, 25 hp steam engine, doing all custom business. Annual output was 850 bbl flour, 270 tons meal, and 4 tons feed ($1,875). The 1880 and 1887 States business directories listed the Thomas F. and R. M. Stevenson planning mill at Pocomoke City; the 1882 issue called it Eagle Mills.

The correspondent from Warren village in Baltimore County took a trip to Pocomoke City and reported that the Eagle Hominy Mills were owned by Thomas F. Stevenson & Son. Mr. Stevenson had invented the process in use, Maryland Journal, Towson, April 5, 1884.

The American Miller, 18 (October 1, 1890): 704, reported, “R. M. Stevenson of Pocomoke City, Md., contemplates changing his mill to the roller system.” The Manufacturers’ Record, 8 (October 25, 1890): 40 reported, “Pocomoke City—R. M. and T. F. Stevenson will remodel their flour mill, lately mentioned, to the roller system.”

A letterhead dated June 21, 1933, showed R. C. Dryden as proprietor of Eagle Mills, Pocomoke City, manufacturing the brands Bon-Ton, Crystal, and Daisy flour and also poultry feed. The building pictured in the foreground was a three-story, modern, functional structure in brick.

STOKES SAWMILL (3)

George C. Stokes was listed as operator of a lumber yard and mill at Berlin in the 1887 State business directory; possibly same as Holland Mill.

STRAHAMS MILL (2)

Straham Mill was shown on the 1794-1795 Griffith map on a branch of Chincoteague Bay 5 miles SE of Snow Hill, south bank of present Pikes Creek, east side of Md. 12.
STRATON SAWMILL (2)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Joseph L. Straton with $5000 capital investment in a sawmill with 16 employees, 3 boilers, and a 60 hp steam engine; annual output was 1 million ft ($10,000), with all logging done by Straton. The gristmill represented $1000 capital investment, and had 2 employees, same power plant, 2 run of stones, maximum daily capacity of 160 bu; 80% of the business was custom trade. Annual output was 500 bbl flour, 270 tons meal, and 32.5 tons feed ($9360).

STURGES MILL (7)

See Parsons Mill.

TANHOUSE CREEK (2)

Tanhouse Creek empties into Assateague Bay SE of Snow Hill per the 1877 county atlas but no works was shown. Its mouth is 1.2 miles SW of Public Landing at 29-C-7 in the ADC Street Atlas.

TARPEN MILL (2)

See Turpin Mill.

TARR LUMBER MILL (1)

W. C. Tarr was listed as lumber dealer at Goodwill in Polk’s 1908 peninsula directory.

TAYLORS MILL (3)

Located at Taylorsville, this grist and saw mill was shown on the north and south banks, respectively, of Turville Creek, east side of present Route 589. The 1877 county atlas showed the nearest landowner as W. Boden, but WCMA, p. 303, proves that the owner in 1874 was Laban J. Taylor. John Quillen was listed as a miller at Berlin in the 1880 State business directory. Sawmilling was discontinued soon after and the mill, also known as Quillin’s, washed out in the hurricane of 1904, WCMA, pp. 303-304.

TILGHMAN AND PURNELL SAWMILL (4)

TILGHMAN CANE MILL (6)

The 1877 county atlas showed the S. Tilghman gristmill and cane mill on a pond east of present Shockley Road (Md. 154) near the Wicomico County line, just west of Pocomoke River. Location was 13-K-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

TILGHMAN MILL (2)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Samuel Tilghman with $1000 capital investment in a mill with 2 employees, 40 bu/diem maximum capacity, doing 80% custom business with one run of stones; an 8-foot fall on Pocomoke River drove a 3.5-foot turbine at 180 rpm, developing 10 hp. The census form described the motive power as a “tub” wheel, which probably indicated a turbine rather than a primitive tub wheel, which could never spin at 180 rpm. Annual output was 81,000 lb meal and 3000 lb feed ($1000) The 1877 county atlas showed Tilghmans mill on the west side of the present Whiton Road (Md. 354) at Tilghman Race. The sawmill was on the south bank. Per WCMA, p. 304, the mill closed about 1912 and was then owned by William Timmons; its last miller was Edward Givan. Location was 13-K-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

TILGHMAN MILL (7)

William Tilghman took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on Wennells Branch running into Dividing Creek, June 29, 1761. The inquisition found the south bank in possession of James Wennell and Darby Riggin and to their damage 10 Shillings Current money and 5 pence Sterling yearly. The north bank was in possession of Stephen Winwright and was assessed at the same rate. The beginning of the survey was near a bridge. The grant was dated 12 years later, October 26, 1773 (Chancery Records, Liber 11:46, MSA).

TILGHMAN MILL (7)

See Atkinsons Mill.

TODD SAWMILL (2)

R. S. Todd was listed in the 1877 county atlas as a farmer and manufacturer of lumber with a Snow Hill postal address. He actually lived near the Furnace.

TOWNSEND SAWMILL (4)

The 1908 Polk peninsula directory listed William Townsend with a sawmill at Newark.

TRADER SAWMILL (4)
The Thomas E. Trader and Co. sawmill was listed at Newark in the 1908 Polk peninsula directory.

TRAPPE MILL (1)

Truitt and les Callette called the Trappe Mill site the oldest in the county, successor of Powell’s Mill mentioned in the 1698 will of Walter Powell, then a resident of Somerset County. Powell left to his daughters Elizabeth and Mary Evans “Powell’s Mill Pond,” 250 acres and the tract “Hilliard’s Discovery on the seaboard side.” The authors of WCMA, p. 288, believed that Powells Mill developed into Trappe Mill.

The village of Buckingham was in the upper seaside region at a gristmill on Trappe Creek. After the main highway bypassed the location, the settlement declined and was superseded by the village near Burley Inn (i.e. Berlin); the old mill continued as the Trappe Mill per Julia Carol Parsons in “What’s in a Name,” Old Home Prize Essay, 1962.

The village was also known as “The Trap” and the 1877 county atlas showed the mill in possession of William C. Turner. Trappe Mill Pond survived on the 1950/1971 topographic map just south of Md. 376; the mill was also mentioned in WPA Guide, p. 376.

At least two postcards of ca. 1900 in the author’s collection showed Trappe Mill, one card shows what looks like a larger and taller replacement building on a crisp new poured concrete foundation. The second card bears the name T. M. Purnell [as photographer?].

This was one of the last four mills in the county, owned by James Davis when put out of business by the 1933 hurricane. Davis’ father-in-law, Powell Pattey, had owned it during the Civil War per WCMA, p. 304.
Modern atlas maps show that Turner was on the north side of Md. 376 at Trappe Mill Pond; its grid location was 7-J-13; the sawmill was on the west side of Kitts Branch and its grid location was 7-H-13 in the ADC Street Atlas. A plat of the pond from public records of February 1869 is reproduced in Paul Baker Touart, *Along the Seaboard Side* (994), p. 70 along with the view of both grist and sawmills.

**TUBBS MILL (5)**

John Tubbs was listed as miller at Bishopville in the 1880 State business directory.

**TULLS MILL (1)**

See Wagram Mill.

**TURNER MILLS (3)**

See Trappe Mill.

**TURPIN MILL (2)**

The 1783 tax list of Boquetenorten Hundred listed Ann Robinson or Robins with a water mill on the tract Form Hill Addition. John Tarpens [sic] Mill on the present Robins (or Swan) Creek was mentioned in *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1843, Chapter 268. His name was spelled Turpin in Acts of 1845, Chapter 35.

John S. Turpin inherited the tract Robins Folly and Jones Adventure from his father, Sewell Turpin, and in 1847 sold to Thomas Sewell Turpin (Worcester deeds, GMH 9:383). T. S. Turpin sold to Joseph Godfrey in 1864 and Godfrey sold to Caroline P. (Mrs. William M.) Peters in 1883. The 1877 atlas showed a gristmill on Robins Creek, upstream from Assateague Bay, east of Wesleyville, and near W. M. Peters nursery.

**TYSON FOODS, INC. (2)**

Tysons Foods, Inc., was listed as a feed dealer at Snow Hill in the 2006 *Harris Maryland Manufacturers Directory*, p. 407.

**UNION COMPANY OF SNOW HILL (2)**

The Union Company of Snow Hill was chartered by the General Assembly, *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1814, Chapter 61. “Whereas, several citizens of Worcester County have associated and formed themselves into a company and raised a stock of thirty thousand dollars for the purposes of erecting a steam mill and manufacturing establishment.” The company issued notes in the 6-1/4 cent

The 1820 census of manufactures listed a cotton mill and gristmill in Snow Hill Town. Capital investment was $48,000; employment was 7 men, 4 women, and 16 boys and girls. The works manufactured cotton yarn, and had 1020 spindles, 7 carding and braking machines, and “one ditto wool.” Cotton consumption was 100 bb/diem. The grist mill of 3 run of stones produced both flour and Indian Corn meal. Payroll was $2600 per month.

WAGRAM MILL (1)

Wagram Mill Pond appeared on the 1951 topographic map. In 1806, Littleton Dennis owned and operated a gristmill just a few feet south of the old Calvert-Scarborough line. He began calling the property Wagram after Napoleon’s victory over the Austrians in 1809. The 1877 county atlas showed it as the grist and saw mill of William T. Tull on Beaver Dam Creek at Wagram Post Office on the Virginia line.

Farther downstream, the mill run becomes Pitts Creek. About 1900, the mill closed because the village that had grown up around the pond was in decline. By 1968, only one house remained. *Nothing Ever Happened in Arcadia*, p. 21. Also, ESMV, p. 33. Willis Tull of the Baltimore County Public Library had interviewed his kinsman, Thomas White Tull, a former owner of the mill (communication to author, November 23, 1975). Location was 38-A-B-11 in the ADC Street Atlas.

WALLACE SALTWORKS (3)

Mr. Wallace and other gentlemen were about to set up a salt-work on the seacoast in June 1776, *Arch. Md.*, 11:500. Probably the predecessor of Birches. The *Sun Magazine*, November 21, 1976, reprinted an item from the Revolutionary period found in a paper the week ending November 21, 1776: “In Convention, Annapolis. RESOLVED, that a public salt work be erected on or near the Bay, near the mouth of the Potowmack, and another on the sea board of this Province, and that any sum of public money, not exceeding the sum of 500 pounds, may, by order of the Council of Safety, be expended in erecting and carrying on each of said works.”

Salt, usually imported, was desperately needed to preserve meat over the winter. *Current Maryland Archaeology*, July 1976, p. 2, reported, “Assateague Island. K.-Peter Lade (Salisbury State College) directed the excavation and stabilization of a saltworks for the National Park Service during June.”

The National Park Service at Assateague had an iron evaporating pan from the Sinepuxent Salt Works per Jim Carey, a participant at the SPOOM annual conference, Westminster, Md., September 9, 205.

**WARD MILL (1)**

The 1783 tax list of Pocomoke Hundred showed Saul Ward with Wonnell’s Choice tract, te 15-acres Mill Lot tract, and a gristmill.

**WEST, HEARN AND BRO. SAWMILL (5)**

The 1880 census of manufactures listed this firm with $2000 capital investment, 6 employees, 1 boiler, one 30 hp steam engine, and annual output of 1 million ft ($9000). No logging was performed by the company.

**WEST SAWMILL (4)**

The 1877 county atlas showed N. G. West as a lumber dealer at Wesley, born in the county in 1824. He was also in the 1887 State business directory. Cf., Lowe and West.

**WHALEY MILL (5)**

Polk’s 1808 peninsula directory listed William Whaley and Co. with a general store and gristmill at Bishopville.

**WHALEYS MILL (3)**

The S. M. Whaley gristmill was shown in the 1877 atlas plate of the former Election District No. 6, SW of Whaleysville. An atlas patron, Whaley had been born in Worcester in 1821 and owned 550 acres.

**WHALEYSVILLE SHINGLE INDUSTRY (3)**

From early Colonial times, the chief industry in the Great Pocomoke Swamp was manufacturing cypress shingles, which were at first riven by hand with heavy iron blades called frows and then reduced to the required thinness with drawknives. Most of the old Pocomoke shingles were 30 inches long or longer (as opposed to more modern 18-inch shingles) and were used for both roofing
and sheathing of outer walls. The hand-shaven cypress shingle is said to be rot-proof even when it has worn to paper thinness.

In 1852, the Whaleysville Steam Saw, grist, and Carding Mill (q. v.) was established on the SW edge of town. The mill, its successors on the same site, and two others on the north and east fringes of the village, changed the appearance of Whaleysville and made it a sawmill center for a century.

There was a hotel, saloon, and three barbershops. Products were at first hauled to Shingle Landing by oxen. Later, a branch railroad was built from the Wicomico and Pocomoke Railroad at Berlin, a narrow-gauge line with one locomotive. The line was later rebuilt to standard gauge and extended to Ocean City. The mill north of town stood on Steam Mill Hill.

Great Pocomoke Swamp was 50 square miles and the bald cypress and cedar logs were both felled and mined. By 1860, most of the standing timber had been cut, but layers of sunken logs were dragged to the surface by man and by ox teams. The logs were centuries old but perfectly preserved.

The large cylinders of timber were cut into bolts, the bolts into shingle blocks, and an expert with a draw knife could rip out 500 long shingles per day from the blocks. When the cutter had assembled 1000 shingles, he could trade them at the store in Whaleysville for $2.50 in food and other goods.

In 1930, an underground fire started and destroyed the peat deposits and unharvested logs, leaving only an expanse of blackened snags, and Whaleysville was on its way to becoming a ghost town. By 1950, it was almost extinct, but has since begun to revive as a residential area. No industrial structures survived in 1970.

See, WPA Guide, p. 379f. See also, “Whaleysville,” a paper by Dr. Arthur B. Cozzens, 1970 (in Snow Hill Public Library); see also the wall-sized plat associated with the Cozzens study.

See also, “A Peninsular Canaan” Harpers Magazine, 59: (July 1879):193, reporting a trip from Berlin to the cypress swamp; incl. a woodcut of lifting sunken logs; also illustration of a shingle maker (p. 203).

WHALEYSVILLE STEAM SAWMILLS (3)

J. W. Whitaker was listed in the atlas as proprietor of Whaleysville Steam Saw Mills, offering grinding, sawing, and carding. The works had been established in the town in 1852. Whitaker was a native of Franklin County, Mass., having settled in Worcester in 1865.
The 1880 census of manufactures listed Jonathan E. Whitaker with $1000 capital investment in a sawmill with 2 employees, 2 boilers, one 30 hp steam engine, and annual output was 100,000 ft and 80,000 laths ($2000); no logging was performed by the owner. The same census also listed Jonathan Whitaker as carder of wool with $1500 capital investment, 2 employees, 2 boilers, 30 hp steam engine, and annual output of $2800. The 1887 State business directory listed J. E. Whitaker as miller here.

WHEELER MILL (3)

William Wheeler was listed as miller at Berlin in 1875 Boyd Business Directory.

WHITAKER MILL (3)

See Whaleysville Steam Sawmill.

WHITE AND STURGIS MILL (3)

White and Sturgis were listed as millers at Whaleysville in the 1887 State business directory. The 1880 census of manufactures had listed the partners with $1600 capital investment, 6 employees, 2 boilers, a 20 hp steam engine, and an annual output of 1 million ft annually ($9000). No logging was performed by the company.

WILDMANS MILL (1)

John Wildman’s old mill was a quarter mile downstream of the site where Thomas and George Martin took out a writ for building a mill on Nassawango Creek in 1761 (Chancery Records, Liber 9:92, MSA). In 1775, Catherine Wildman bequeathed to her nephew Duncan Murray “all my land on Nasseongo Creek and the Mill” (Worcester Wills JW 2:157).

WIMBROW & CO. SAWMILL (3)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed J. W. Wimbrow and Bro. with $2600 capital investment in a sawmill, doing all their own logging, with 7 employees, 2 boilers, one 22 hp steam engine, and an annual output of 250,000 ft ($2500). Polk’s 1908 peninsula directory listed N. J. Wimbrow’s general store and sawmill at Whaleysville.

WINDMILL CREEK (3)

Windmill Creek enters St. Martins River NE of Berlin and was shown as Little Mill Creek on the 1888 plat of Lemuel Showell’s property (Worcester Chancery Records, 17:26). Location was 3-K-10 in the ADC Street Atlas.
WINDMILL POINT (4)

Windmill Point is on the western shore of Chincoteague Bay near Waterworks Creek; no windmill was shown by the 1877 county atlas.

WORCESTER FERTILIZER CO (2)

A large complex of mill-like buildings along the Pocomoke River west of Washington Street (Md. 12) dated to 1913 when the company put up two small structures on the former Hargis Wharf. This site was described as “Area D, Obsolete commercial mill buildings on Lower Washington Street” in the Snow Hill Master Plan of 1966. A modern plant was processing feed there [1976].

YOUNG AND COLBOURN MILLS (1)

See Young Mill.

YOUNG MILL (1)

The 1877 county atlas showed the saw and grist mill of Young and Brother on the Pocomoke at the foot of Walnut Street in present Pocomoke City, then called Newtown. This firm had bought out Polk and Powell, thereby acquiring the old Hutchinson Mill; they also acquired the plant started by Quinn, Murray, and Ashcraft.

The 1880 census of manufactures showed James T. Young mill with $5000 capital investment, 15 employees, one 25 hp engine, and annual output of 1.5 million ft ($15,000). The company did its own logging and had its own vessels for shipping. James T. Young advertised the steam saw and grist mill in the 1880 State business directory, offering pine and oak, flooring worked to order, barrel staves, and laths. The 1887 State business directory listed Young and Colbourn Mills, providing shipbuilding as well as saw and grist milling.