

Caroline County Mills

ALLABAND SAWMILL (1)

M. F. Allaband was listed as a sawmiller at Denton in the 1887 State business directory.

ALLCOCK SAWMILL (8)

Burtonwood Allcock sold half a sawmill on Fowling Creek to Joseph Allford, November 14, 1739 (Dorchester County deeds, 10 Old 78). In 1750, Johanna Alcock of Kent County, Delaware Bay in Penna., Gentlewoman, sold Thomas Alcock part of "Taylors Lot where Alcocks Saw Mill is located," (Dorchester County deeds, 14 Old 430). This site was on a branch of Fowling Creek opposite the present Nagel feed mill [1976].

ANDERSON MILL (3)

See Potters Mill.

ANDERSONTOWN MILL (3)

This early mill was shown as the saw and grist mill of L. W. Pool in the 1887 State business directory. It was spelled Pools and described as a sawmill on Saulsbury's 1897 map. The 1880 census of manufactures had listed Levin Pool with \$1000 capital investment in a 20 hp sawmill with 3 employees, 1 gang of 3 saws and 1 circular saw. Annual output was 125,000 ft (\$1900). No logging was done by the owner.

The Levin Pool gristmill represented \$1000 capital investment and had 1 run of stones, 1 employee, and a 40 bu/diem maximum capacity; a 20 hp steam engine ground 600 bbl flour, 42.5 tons of meal, and 30 tons feed annually. The *Denton Journal*, December 6, 1890, reported, "Williston . . . Harry C. Evans, the young man who was so badly mangled by falling upon a belt at Poole's Mill near Andersontown, sometime ago, is rapidly recovering . . ."

The *Denton Journal*, January 9, 1897, reported, "Mr. M. N. Hartz of Philadelphia . . . in town . . . conferred with Mr. Levin Pool, who thinks of putting roller process machinery in his mill at Andersontown."

ANDREW MILL (8)

The first Andrew Mill was built on Fowling Creek by Bromwell Andrew and Thomas Blades in 1782. Thomas Blades sold one half of the tract to Andrew, ". . . mill now about to be built by and between the said Blades and Andrew to stand nine

strides from main branch of Fowling Creek, 10 acres, more or less,” (Caroline County deeds, April 9, 1782). After Andrew died, his heirs bought out Blades.

The mill appeared on the Dennis Griffith 1794-1785 map and was valued at \$909 in the 1798 tax list. It burned several times in its history and was also known as Fowling Creek Mill. In 1821, Joseph Richardson sold to Elisha Dawson and Isaac Frampton 5 acres of Out Range on Fowling Creek “which now or hereafter may be drowned by raising the water in the pond of the mill commonly called Upper Fowling Creek or Dawson and Company’s Mill.”

Isaac Frampton sold to Atwill Chance his interest in Fowling Creek Mills, beginning “opposite . . . the mill dam built by Elisha Dawson and Company on fowling creek,” 1824 (Caroline County deeds, JR No. O:492). In 1826, Atwil Chance bought Noah Chance’s share (Caroline County deeds, P:168).

In the case of Delihay Sparklin –vs- William Tilghman Chance in 1842, Sparklin was appointed trustee, and sold Chance’s share to James Turner and all interest “with said Fowling Creek Mill or Mills was built by a certain Elisha Dawson and Company” (Caroline County deeds, JR No. V:372).

Hall Bonwell and wife sold the mill to Philip Morgan in 1954 (Caroline County Deeds, FFG No. BB:371) and Morgan sold to John Nichols for \$4650 in 1865 (*Ibid.*, JWT 31:154). John Nicholas of K died in 1873 and his son John E. Nichols deeded a share of the mill to his mother, Mary B. Nichols in 1875 (Caroline County deeds, JWT 37:58). The 1875 Isler map showed the grist and saw mill of J. Nicholas on the east bank of Fowling Creek.

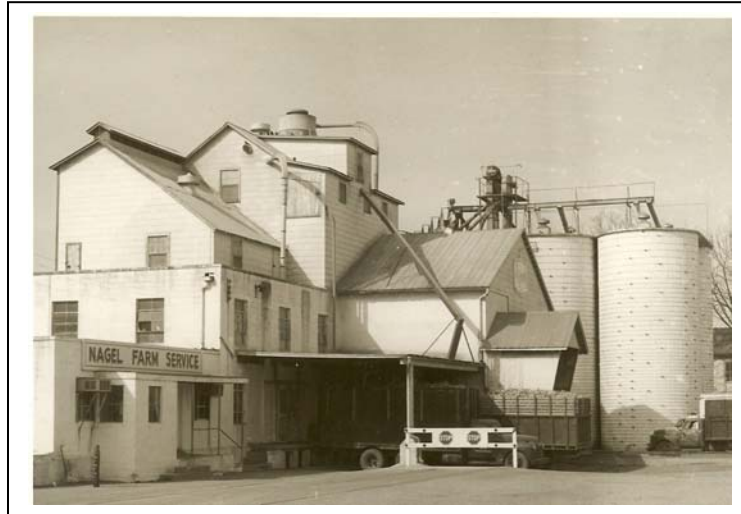
In the case of Nichols –vs- Nichols, Charles E. Todd testified that the mill was worth \$4000. The trustees advertised the mill in the *Denton Journal*, December 15, 1877, with 30 acres and a dwelling, a 16-foot head, and all “in good order . . . good custom work.” At the auction, they withdrew the mill and made a private sale to Samuel L. Webster for \$2200 (Chancery Records, Liber 9:43, 49).

The 1880 census of manufactures listed S. S. Webster with \$500 capital investment in a sawmill on Fowling Creek with 1 employee, 1 each circular and Muley saw. A 10-foot fall drove a 28-inch Rich wheel at 130 rpm to develop 8 hp. Annual output was 30,000 ft (\$582) cut during a 4-month season.

The gristmill represented \$8000 capital investment and had 2 employees, 2 run of stones, 30 bu/diem maximum capacity. The same water fall drove a 14 hp overshot wheel 5 ft broad at 11 rpm to grind 667 bbl, 113 tons meal, 16 tons feed, and 10.5 tons hominy (\$6881).

The *American Miller*, 14 (March 1886): 147, reported, “The floodgates of Wm. M. Dean’s mill-dam at Fowling Creek, Caroline County, Md., were washed out during the recent flood, carrying away a considerable portion of the dam.”

The mill was later operated by William H. Deen and C. C. Deen; the dam was washed out in 1919 and 500 bu corn, 50 bu meal, and 1000 of wheat were ruined. A 1938 photo in the Denton library showed a white clapboard mill equipped with a wide steel water wheel.



Nagel Mill, successor to Andrew Mill, rebuilt after 1946.

The *Baltimore Sun*, June 12, 1946, reported, “Thousands of Bushels of Grain Burn with Mill,” and stated, “Preston, Md., June 11. (AP)—Thousands of bushels of grain were destroyed today when the Fowling Creek grist mill at Harmony, 5 miles from here, was burned. Brook Nagel, owner of the mill, placed the loss at \$100,000; including the grain and the seed mill itself. He had been operating it as a grist mill and seed-mixing plant. Firemen from Preston, Federalsburg, and Easton fought the blaze for two hours and saved nearby buildings which were threatened.”

In the 1970s, there was a large commercial mill downstream of the original mill, operated by C. Brooks Nagel, who had rebuilt after the fire. The plant was supplying Agway Feeds on Nagel Road west of Harmony. The storage space could hold 250,000 bushels. The 75-acre pond was shown in Caroline County deeds. Liber 151:748. See also, HCLN, pp. 16, 20, 348. Location of the Nagel Mill was 18-H-3 in the ADC Street Atlas; the 1794 Andrew Mill was at 18-J-1.

ANTHONY'S MILL (5) ANTHONY'S MILL ROAD

Anthony is a place name on Md. 474 between Hobbs and Denton. The 1860 census of manufactures listed Robert Anthony with \$4000 capital investment in a gristmill with 1 employee and water-powered output of 5000 bu corn and 2000 bu wheat (\$10,000). Isler's map of 1875 showed R. Anthony's grist and saw mill on Watts

Creek. The *American Miller*, 6 (October 1, 1878): 240, reported, “Mr. Joshua Anthony, of Denton, Md., has remodeled his mill.”

The 1880 census of manufactures showed \$2200 capital investment in the mill and an annual production of \$3746. The maximum daily capacity was 85 bu. A 12-foot fall on Watts Creek drove 3 run of stones through two 24-inch turbines that ran at 180 rpm to develop 13 hp. The *American Miller*, 14 (March 1, 1886): 147, reported, “The floodgates of Wm. H. Dean’s mill-dam at Fowling Creek, Caroline Co., Md., were washed out during the recent flood, carrying away a considerable portion of the dam.” The 1887 State business directory listed J. M. Anthony as owner of a gristmill.

The *Denton Journal*, June 28, 1890, contained an advertisement to sell a mill property mortgaged by Robert W. Anthony in 1888 (recorded in Liber LHG 52:282). A public sale was to take place on July 15, 1890, of Anthony’s Mill, a dwelling, and a store house, Lots 1, 2, and 3.

The *American Miller*, 21 (November 1, 1893): 844, reported that the August Wolf Company had installed a new roller mill of J. M. Anthony, at Anthony, Md. [presumably new equipment put into an existing mill]. The *Baltimore American*, September 16, 1896, reported the burial of Joshua M. Anthony, eldest son of the late Robert Anthony, owner of Anthony’s Mills, Greensboro.

The *Denton Journal*, September 26, 1896, carried an advertisement, “Flour Mill for Rent for 1897. Equipped with roller process, in first class repair, and has both steam and water power. There is a saw mill attached, which can also be rented if party desired. There is a six-room dwelling, a garden, and a stable. Party will be required to give bond for the rest and for the proper management of the property. It is located about two and a half miles from Denton, and is known as Anthony’s Mill. The applicant must be well recommended.—Mrs. M. Ella Anthony, Anthony, Md.”

The 1897 map by Saulsbury showed the mill as property of the Anthony heirs.

John M. Anthony (1848-1896) also ran a general store and served as postmaster. His British grandfather had built the mill and his father, Robert Anthony, had carried it on. A 1792 plat of the neighborhood showed a sketch of a one-story mill, similar to Wye Mill, and was published in *Easton to Bethlehem* by W. Francis Ewing, p. 26. The mill once had a wool-carding machine, per HCLN, p. 166f.

The mill was not to be found in the *Northwestern Miller’s* list of Maryland mills in 1930. Chris Slaughter of the Maryland Geological Survey noted in April 1979, that his grandparents had operated the mill down to about the time of the First World War; there were no remnants on Anthony Mill Road when he gave this information to Claire A. Richardson. Location was 13-G-12 in the ADC Street Atlas.

BAILEY MILL (5)

Lehman L. Bailey and Son, Inc., suppliers of hog feed, were listed in DMM, 1970, at Federalsburg, although the actual plant was at Finchville, Dorchester County, established 1965; 5 employees.

BARROW TAN HOUSE (6)

Samuel Barrow owned a 16 x 16 ft tan house in Hillsborough; it was occupied by John Eagle per the 1798 tax list.

BARTLETTS MILL ()

Solomon Bartlett had a “mill house 24 x 24 and a water mill” on the tract Rose Bottom Range in the 1798 tax list of Fork and Bridgetown Hundreds.

BARTON SAWMILL (6)

Shown in Kent-Queen Anne atlas of 1877 as F. T. Barton’s sawmill at Hillsborough.

BAYNARD AND CARSSON MILL (6)

See Knotts Mill.

BEACHAM CARDING MILL (4)

See Pritchett and McNash.

BEAUCHAMP GRANARY (2)

Samuel J. Beauchamp’s single-story dwelling, carriage house, and granary were advertised by trustee, *The Journal*, Denton, May 16, 1868. It adjoined the land of Joseph Colbourn, Thomas Murvin, and Edward S. Wooters.

BELLS MILL (5)

Same as Messenger Mill.

BLADES CANNERY (4)

John Blades had a cannery at Choptank earlier than the Weight Canneries; it later burned. Before moving to Choptank, he owned the Dickinson Mansion, an old wayfaring house on Wiltshire Manor.

BLADES MILL (8)

See Andrew Mill.

BLADES SAWMILL (4)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed A. C. Blades with \$500 capital investment in an 8 hp steam mill with 3 employees, 1 gang of 3 saws and 1 circular saw. Annual output was 80,000 ft (\$1225) over a 4-month active season. Blades did part of the logging.

BLOOMERY/BLOOMBERRY MILLS (8)

Bloomery Mills was mentioned in a boundary description, *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1854, Chapter 211. *Bloomberry Mills* was described as near Smithville in 1920, HCLN, p. 166; it was even then out of service. The angle bend in Bloomery Road is located at 20-J-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

BOOKER SAWMILL (1)

Henry Booker had a steam sawmill at Goldsborough per 1887 State business directory.

BOOTH SAWMILL (3)

M. Booth's steam sawmill was shown SW of Andersontown Post Office on Isler's 1875 county map.

BOYCE MILL (2)

BOYCE MILL ROAD

Boyce Mill was on the road from Greensborough to Delaware, HCLN, p. 247; it was upstream of Moore Mill on the east side of the road and also had a sawmill. Isler's 1875 county map showed W. Boyce. William Boyce's sawmill was advertised at a collector's sale, *Denton Journal*, March 11, 1876. Mill extinct [1976]. The road terminus was 9-A-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

BRADFORD SAWMILL ()

The 1860 census of manufactures listed John Bradford with \$200 capital investment in a steam sawmill with 2 employees, 6 hp engine, and annual output of \$1200 in timber and lumber.

BRADLEYS MILL (6)

Bradleys Mill near Bradleysburg, Jumptown, or Fuhrman's Grove, was actually across the line in Queen Anne's County, q. v.

BRICK MILL (7)

See Hardcastle Mill.

BROWN FURNACE (5)

Eggleston Brown mined bog ore in the valley at Federalsburg, ca. 1835, and local writers credit him with a furnace. Joseph T. Singewald showed the ore bank in the SW corner of town, south side of the present Md. 307, RIOM, p. 229.

BROWN MILL (5)

The 1860 census of manufactures listed J. W. Brown with \$3000 capital investment in a gristmill with 1 employee and water-powered output of 6000 bu corn and 3000 bu wheat (\$9370). The Brown sawmill had 2 employees and output of \$1000.

The 1866 Assessment Record of Election District 4, listed John W. Brown with 20 acres and a grist, saw, & factory mills and a dwelling house worth \$9000; he also had 65 acres of Griffith's Purchase and a sawmill near Federalsburg worth \$1300 (HR # 12,078, MSA).

The 1867 *Hawes Business Directory*, p. 517, listed John W. Brown's flour and saw mill and turning factory at Federalsburg. *Bradstreet's Directory* in 1867 listed J. W. Brown as a miller at Federalsburg, giving him a credit rating of BB, quite good. Isler's 1875 map showed J. W. Brown with one grist and two saw mills on Northwest Fork on opposite banks just north of Federalsburg.

The 1880 census of manufactures showed \$500 capital investment in the mill with 1 engine, 2 circular saws and 1 Muley saws. An 8-foot fall on Nanticoke drove a 3-foot Hotchkiss wheel at 200 rpm to develop 10 hp to cut 200,000 ft (\$3390); 80% of the logging was done by Brown. The gristmill represented \$6000 capital investment and had 3 employees, 1 run of stones, 100 bu/diem maximum capacity. The same fall of water drove three 4-foot turbines at 100 rpm to develop 100 rpm. Annual output was 1560 bbl flour, 252 tons meal, and 63.5 tons feed (\$17,000). One-eighth of the business was custom.

The *American Miller*, 18 (February 1, 1890): 126, reported, "J. W. Brown will erect a 25-barrel roller mill at Federalsburg, Md."

The *American Miller*, 18 (August 1, 1890): 560, reported, "Brown & Davis, Federalsburg, Md., are erecting a building for a 30 to 40 barrel mill, and has contracted with Aug. Wolf & Co., Chambersburg, Pa., for a full line of Wolf's improved flour mill machinery. The equipment will be very complete. A 36-inch high Wolf improved turbine wheel will furnish the power."

BROWN MILL (8)

J. O. Brown and Son were listed as millers at Smithville in the 1887 State business directory. Probably same as Smith Mill, q. v.

BROWN PHOSPHATE FACTORY (5)

J. W. Brown's phosphate factory was shown in the Dorchester County 1877 atlas on the Dorchester and Delaware Railroad in Federalsburg just west of Nanticoke River.

BROWN SAWMILL (5)

J. W. Brown sawmill on Houstons Branch was shown on the 1875 Isler county map on the road to Bloomery. It had an up-and-down saw, also a gristmill. The 1880 census of manufactures listed a second Brown sawmill with \$3000 capital investment with 1 employee, 1 circular and 1 Muley saw. A 9-foot fall on "Nanticoke" drove a 3-foot Rich wheel at 200 rpm to develop 8 hp to cut 75,000 ft (\$1125) annually. No logging was done by the owners.

BUCKLEY MILL ()

Agnes R. Buckley was listed as owner of a gristmill at Woodlawn in the 1867 *Hawes Business Directory*, p. 517.

BURCHENAL MILL ()

The *Baltimore American*. August 30, 1843, reported, quoting the *Easton Gazette*, "heavy rain on Sunday evening last, we understand, done damage in Caroline County, carrying away or injuring every mill from Gen. Potter's to the upper part of the county—all the bridges, it is said, are swept off in the Upper and Middle district—Mr. Burchenall in endeavoring to save his mill, nearly lost his life, he was much hurt but is recovering."

CAMP TODD MILL (8)

Per Mrs. Paul Knotts of Denton, there was an early mill on this site at Robins Creek. The up-and-down sawmill of Daniel Horsey was also at the head of the pond. See Stanton's Mill of 1838.

CANNON MILL (2)

The 1860 census of manufactures showed John W. Cannon with \$2000 capital investment in an 8 hp steam gristmill with 1 employee, and annual output of 6000 bu corn, 2000 of whet (\$820). The 7 hp sawmill represented \$1000 capital investment; annual output was \$1000 in plank and scantling. By virtue of a decree in Booker -vs- Cannon, a steam saw and grist mill "a good deal out of order" at

Bridgetown was advertised by John T. Cannon, trustee of Mary E. Cannon, *The Journal*, Denton, October 31, 1868.

CAROLINE COUNTY SILK CO. ()

This firm was chartered under *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1837, Chapter 59. The stockholders were William Orrell, Parrott Roe, Richard Jarrell, John Harper, Samuel Dunning, James B. Wilson, Samuel Crawford, Thomas Jarrell, James B. Way, John Boon, Jr.; Thomas Roe, George W. Harrington, Philemon Skenner, John McFeeley, William Roe, Anne White, William Genn, Harry Roussett, John Jump of P., Sally Ann Priest, John Jump of S., Noah Seward, John A. Sangston, and William F. Chilton. Capitalization was \$5000.

CAROLINE MANUFACTURING COMPANY ()

This firm was chartered by the General Assembly, *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1813, Chapter 154.

CAROLINE SUPPLY CO. (4)

This modern commercial feed mill at Preston was formed 1946 by Southern States as a store and mill; owned and operated by the H. Rieck family. Located on Back Landing road; custom mixing and grinding [1976].

CASHO SAWMILL (1)

The 1887 State business directory listed William H. Casho as sawmiller at Henderson. The 1880 census of manufactures had shown \$7000 capital investment in the mill, with 3 employees; a 15 hp steam engine, and 2 circular saws. Annual output was 75,000 ft (\$2000). Casho did all his own logging within a 5-mile radius of Henderson. The 1897 Saulsbury county map showed Cashos Mills on Brodey's Branch at Melville.

CHAFFINCH SAWMILL (3)

Both the 1875 Isler map and the 1885 Martenet map showed Chaffinch Sawmill on the south bank of the south branch of Mill Creek, upstream of the mill near Potters Landing. The site was the north side of present Beauchamp Branch Road.

CHAMBERS LAKE (5)

Site of the Sullivan-Dawson Mill, q. v.

CHANCES MILL ()

Chances Mill, 2.5 miles from Greensborough and 5 from Denton was offered by R. C. and William E. Chance, heirs of Noah Chance, *The Whig*, Easton, July 30, 1839. The mill had 2.5-foot head and an overshot wheel. Thomas H. Lewis was then tenant. [Noah and Atwill Chance also held interests in Fowling Creek Mill.]

CHILTONS MILL (2/3)

Chiltons Mill stood on Chapel Branch about 1810, HCLN, p. 20.

CHOPTANK MILL (1)

See Mud Mill.

CONNERLYS MILL ()

On August 17, 1754, Thomas Connerly of Dorchester County, Planter, sold to Thomas Taylor, part of the tract Taylor's Neglect, 30 acres adjoining Taylor's plantation "where Connerly's Mill stands" (Dorchester County deeds, 15 Old 119, MSA).

In October 1765 there was mention of the "new road that leads from Hunting Creek Church to Connerlys Mill." There was also a mention of Connerlys Branch, apparently a tributary of Northwest Fork (Dorchester County deeds, Liber 20 Old 412, MSA). Mrs. Clara Mitchell of Preston informed the author that Connerlys Branch was also called Skinners Branch.

CORKRAN MILL (5)

Corkran Mill was a sorghum works at Nichols, HCLN, p. 279.

CORKRANS SAWMILL ()

Corkrans Sawmill was near Nathan Corkran's home per Dorchester County atlas.

CROLL FEED CO. (5)

This 20th century feed mill was operating in 1971 on Railroad Avenue, Federalsburg, west of the Federalsburg Milling Co.

DAVIS SAWMILL (5)

Joseph T. Davis was proprietor of a sawmill and a dealer in lumber, peach, and berry boxes at Federalsburg. Shown in Dorchester County atlas of 1877 [There was no atlas published of Caroline County]. The 1880 census of manufactures listed E. F. Davis and Co. with \$2500 investment in a sawmill with 1 employee, 1 each circular and Mule saw. An 8-foot fall on Nanticoke drove a 3-foot Rich wheel at 200

rpm that developed 8 hp to cut 63,000 ft (\$945) over a 6-month season. Davis did none of the logging. The mill was actually on Davis Mill Pond Branch. Location was 26-C-5 in the ADC Street Atlas, opposite the terminus of Md. 313

DAWSON & CO. MILL (8)

See Andrew (Fowling Creek) Mill.

DAWSON MILL (5)

See Sullivan Mill (at Federalsburg).

DAWSON SAWMILL ()

Soverign Dawson had a sawmill assessed at \$300 in Fork Hundred in the 1798 tax list.

DAY MILL (7)

The 1875 Isler county map showed the steam sawmill of J. W. Jump and Co. on the southeast edge of Ridgely in 1875. The steam sawmill of T. L. Day was listed at Ridgely in the 1887 State business directory. In 1888, the firm of T. L. Day Sawing Company was established to make 700,000 canned goods crates and berry boxes per annum (*The Founding of Ridgely*, p. 77f).

DEENS MILL (8)

Same as Andrew Mill. Spelled Dean on the 1897 map by Saulsbury.

DENNIS AND ANDREWS CANNERY (4)

J. T. Dennis and Henry Andrews operated a cannery in Smithson. It was later owned by Lester Christopher, postmaster of Preston, and still stands [1976].

DENTON FLOUR MILL(3)

The Manufacturers' Record, 9 (April 10, 1886): 290, reported, "Frank W. Redden will erect a roller flour mill at Denton, Md., with a daily capacity of 55 barrels." *The American Miller*, 14 (June 1, 1886): 332, reported, "Frank W. Redden is building a roller flour mill at Denton, Md., which will have a capacity of about sixty-five barrels per day. The mill is expected to be in running order some time during the summer." *The American Miller*, 14 (November 1, 1886): 688, carried an advertising testimonial from Frank W. Redden, signed October 19, 1886, stating that he was entirely satisfied with the George T. Smith Centrifugal Reel. The 1887 State business directory listed F W. Redden as owner of a sawmill at Denton. The *Salisbury Advertiser*, March 10, 1888, reported that the "Denton Flour Mill of Frank

W. Redden in West Denton above the iron bridge . . . burned Wednesday [the 13th] . . . nearly new . . . completed 1886.” The *American Miller*, 16 (April 1, 1888): 260, reported the same event but placed the fire on March 6, saying the mill was “nearly new, having been completed in 1886 and were considered among the best patent process mills in the State Redden was in Philadelphia buying more equipment . . . was about to enlarge the mill.”

The *American Miller*, 22 (May 1, 1894): 377, reported, “Mark H. Smith, Denton, Md., will build a 30 to 40 barrel roller mill, and has awarded his contract to Aug. Wolf & Co., Chambersburg, Pa.” The *Denton Journal*, November 7, 1896, reported, “The engine at the flour mills at Denton Bridge broke down on Thursday of last week, and the proprietor, Mr. M. H. Smith, will put in a new one in a few days.”

John Johnson, miller, placed an advertisement for Denton Flour Mill in the *Denton Journal*, February 6, 1897, stating that the mill was at Denton Bridge, owned by M. H. Smith. The brands listed were: Pride of Denton, Matchless, Globe, and Choptank.

DENTON SILK CO. (3)

The Denton Silk Company was chartered under *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1837, Chapter 157, with \$2500 capitalization. The directors were James Sangston, William Baily, Dr. William A. Tatem, Joshua Clark, John Jump of Paul, Joseph Pearson, and James Duke.

Other incorporators were William R. Sangston, Edward B. Hardcastle, William Malster, John R. T. Saulsbury, George T. Martin, George F. Mason, Matthew W. Hardcastle, Hugh Taylor, Joseph Evitts, Nemiah Fountain, William A. Ford, Samuel Council, John G. Willis, Thomas F. Bourke, Isaac Baly, and John Jones.

DICKINSONS MILL (5)

Dickinsons Mill was same as Douglas Mill.

DICKINSONS MILL (8)

Ruins of a milldam survived on Fowling Creek Branch on Wiltshire Manor and have been identified as either a Blades Mill or Dickinsons Mill by Mrs. Clara Mitchell of Preston, October 17, 1967. This land at Grove near Preston had been owned by Henry Dickinson and several generations of Isaiah Blades heirs.

DISHAROON MILLS (5)

See Idlewylde Mills.

DOUGHTY MILL (4)

See Hog Creek Mill.

DOUGLAS BROTHERS FOUNDRY (8)

This foundry was established near Smithville by two English brothers ca. 1780; presumably the origin of the name Bloomery; HCLN, p. 166.

DOUGLAS FURANCE (8)

Iron was discovered before 1780 (and possibly before 1757), and the Douglas Brothers had a furnace to supply the foundry or bloomery near Smithville. *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1807, Chapter 81, in connection with a bridge authorization, mentioned “The Old Bloomery . . . on Northwest Fork River.” See also, Moores Iron Mine, Turpins Iron Mine, and Browns Furnace. The Douglas Furnace was called Federalsburg Bloomery in RIOM, p. 176, which placed it on Marshyhope Creek, a mile below Smithville, in or before 1800. The raw material was local bog iron.

DOUGLASS’S MILL (5)

Douglass’s Mill was shown on Marshyhope Creek, 5 miles above Federalsburg on the Dennis Griffith 1794-1795 map. Same as Dickinsons Mill at Bloomery or Bloomsberry near Smithville. Location was 20-H-7 in the ADC Street Atlas. Now located in the Idylwild Wildlife Management Area.

DOUGLAS MILL (4)

A Douglas once owned Hog Creek Mill, q. v.

DOUGLAS SAWMILL (4)

The 1860 census showed James E. Douglas with \$2000 capital investment in a sawmill with 1 employee; annual output was \$1000 in lumber. Earlier, this sawmill west of Preston on Marshy Creek had belonged to Dr. Henry Fisher Willis. The 1866 *Maryland State Business Directory*, p. 121, listed Douglass’s Mill at Preston.

Isler’s 1875 county map showed it as Colonel James E. Douglas’s sawmill, and it appeared as a “SM” on the 1885 Martenet State map. The mill was first set on the tract Richardson’s Choice and was moved across the creek to stand on Skipton. The site was east of Poplar Neck Road at a low place on the present Haver Camp Road; the dam once supported the road.

In 1884, the site was property of James H., Mary E., and Eugene Douglass, who sold to Louis Haverkamp; in 1917, the tract passed to Annie H. Haverkamp, and is presently the property of Harlan F. Davis [1976]. The 1884 deed mentioned Douglas Saw Mill Lot and log yard. Location was 23-F-3 in the ADC Street Atlas.

DOUGLAS WINDMILL (4)

This windmill was built by Colonel James Douglas at his home farm near Preston.

DOWNS MILL (1)

See Goldsborough Mill.

DRAPERS MILL (2) DRAPERS MILL ROAD

A mill was shown here on a map of Caroline Mills of ca. 1810 in HCLN, p. 20. D. T. Moore's gristmill was listed at Greensborough in 1867 *Hawes Business Directory*, p. 517. It was shown as D. S. Moore's and NE of town just east of the Choptank on Isler's 1875 county map.

The 1880 census of manufactures listed David S. Moore with \$7000 capital investment in a mill with 2 employees, doing all custom work; 80 bu/diem maximum capacity; 2 run of stones. A 9-foot fall on Choptank drove a 3.5-foot turbine at 85 rpm to develop 12 hp. Annual output was 440 bbl flour, 126 tons meal, and 20 tons feed (\$6300). The works was also listed in the 1887 State business directory.

The *American Miller*, 16 (July 1, 1888): 503, reported, "Geo. H. Moore of Greensboro, Md., has placed a single 6 x 12 Butler Roller Mill and a purifier in his mill. Both were obtained from Griscom & McFeely, Philadelphia, Pa."

The *Denton Journal*, March 23, 1889, reported that Frank Robinson was cut by a circular saw at Walter Draper's sawmill near Ingleside. The *Denton Journal*, December 26, 1896, reported that Davis S. Moore died at his home at Moore's Mill about two miles from Greensborough; he had been born in Sussex County, Delaware 73 years before; he purchased the mill property near Greensborough and had served in the Maryland Legislature.

The 1897 map by Saulsbury showed the heirs of D. S. Moore. Sewells Mills appeared as a village on Gravelly Branch between Ervings Chapel and Greensboro on the present Drapers Mill Road on a topographic map of 1950. Drapers Mill Road runs from Greensboro to the Delaware line; the mill was extinct before 1968.

DRIVERS MILL (3)

The old mill dam of Matthew Driver, Jr., formerly made by Thomas Foster, was mentioned in 1769 on Ingrams [Chapel] Branch in Dorchester County deeds, 23 Old 169. Driver also had a tract called Mill Range surveyed in 1770. The 1798 tax list of Fork and Bridgetown Hundreds listed a mill house and gristmill owned by Joshua Driver and occupied by Stephen Trusty [Finsty?] on the tract "Grist Mills,"

assessed at \$1000. Drivers Mill Branch was mentioned as a landmark in that tax list.

About 1810, the mill belonged to Colonel Matthew Driver, who also had a sawmill near the point where Md. 313 crosses Chapel Branch. Later called Gareys Mill or Spring mill, the Driver Grist Mill was on the outlet of the present Garland Lake, 0.7 mile east of Md. 313. Matthew Driver's home, Willow Grove, was described in HCLN, p. 82f.

Spring Mills near Denton, rebuilt in 1838, with a first-rate carding machine were advertised by Bachelder G. Chance, *The Whig*, Easton, August 18, 1840. Chance, presumably a Quaker, wished to leave the State. An ad for Chances Mill near Greensboro (q. v.) mentioned Spring Mills as near Denton. Chance had advertised in the *Whig* for a carder "to take charge of a new carding machine at Spring Mills . . . 5th mo. 24, 1839."

The sale of Drivers Sawmill by Edwin M. Garey, heir of George W. Garey, to John Stack, Samuel C. Barnnock, and Foster B. Stevens, in 1841 was recorded in Caroline County deeds, JR V:186.

The 1860 census of manufactures showed Thomas F. Garey with \$6000 capital investment in a gristmill with 1 employee, and output of 10,000 bu corn and 3000 of wheat (\$13,120). The 1875 Isler county map showed T. F. Garey with a gristmill NE of Denton. The 1880 census of manufactures showed Garey doing a \$8036 business, 87% of it custom, with the mill value down to \$3000. Per diem maximum capacity was 90 bu; there were 2 run of stones powered by an 11-foot fall on Chapel Branch; two 32-inch turbines ran at 180 rpm to develop 20 hp.

The 1887 State business directory listed T. F. Garey, Jr., while the 1897 map by Saulsbury showed T. M. Garey. The *American Miller*, 17 (January 1, 1889): 57, reported, "T. Fred Garey, Denton, Md., has purchased two hominy mills, one Fairbanks' Scale, and a lot of shafting, pulleys, gearing, belting, etc., of Aug. Wolf & Co., Chambersburg, PA." The *Manufacturers' Record*, 12 (December 17, 1887): 830, reported, "Denton . . . E. M. & T. F. Garey have contracted for remodeling their flour mill to the roller system."

The *American Miller*, 16 (March 1, 1888): 204, reported, "T. F. Garey, Denton, Md., will build a 30-barrel roller mill, 30 x 50 feet in size. Water power will be used." The same journal on September 1, 1888 (16:643), reported, "T. Fred Garey, Denton, Md., is building a roller mill, using four double roller machines, six Wolf & Hamaker Bolts, three Shaker Scalpers, No. 3 Purifier aspirator, bran duster, wheat scourer, 24-inch Low Kaiser Turbine, which will furnish the power, together with the shafting, pulleys, gearing, etc., The mill when completed, will have a capacity of 50 barrels per day. Wolf & Hamaker, Chambersburg, Pa., have the contract."

T. Fred Garey, advertised as proprietor of the 40-barrel per diem Spring Mills near Denton, "Having just completed my roller mill," *Denton Journal*, September 7, 1889.

In 1899, Thomas F. Garey made a deed of trust for the benefit of his creditors (Caroline County deeds, CWH 65:120), and the Spring mills was advertised in the *American Union*, January 25, 1900. The mill was described as a gristmill, roller process, with 24 bbl/diem maximum capacity. "The mill house and machinery are completely new." In 1908, Thomas F. Garey, Jr., conveyed Gareys Mill to Peninsula Light and Power Company (Caroline County deeds, TDL 72:511). By 1902, the mill was extinct, HCLN, p. 244.

DWIGGINS TANYARD ()

Dwiggins Tanyard was a tract surveyed fro James Dwiggins in 1748 and patented 1787 by Patented Certificate No. 78, MSA.

EAGLES MILLS (5)

Eagle Mills was founded in1900 by H. B. Messenger, *Federalsburg, An Historical Souvenir*.

EAGLE TANNERY (6)

The late John Eagle's tannery at Hillsborough, then rented by Francis H. Hawley, was advertised, *Easton Gazette*, December 21, 1818. There was a currying shop, marble table, beam house, bark and mill house, and 45 vats.

EDDINGTON MILL (5)

See Sullivans Mill.

EDMONDSON MILL (4)

In 1742, William Edmondson sold to his cousin William Edmondson III (of Solomon) part of the tract Skipton near the head of Fox Creek (Marshy Creek) except for 1 acre reserved for the mill (Dorchester County deeds, 10 Old 283, MSA).

ELBEN MILL (6)

Same as Knotts Mill.

ELIASON MILL (2)

Isler's 1875 county map showed Eliason Mill on Forge Branch SW of Greensboro and east of Holly Cross Road.

ELLCOTT FORGE (5)

Ellicott Forge was on the east side of Marshyhope Creek just above Federalsburg on the site of the (1911) electric power plant dam; it was built by John Ellicott in 1840 to use local bog iron ore, which soon proved too brittle for use, RIOM, p. 176f.

ELLIOTT SAWMILL (5)

Elliott Sawmill was listed at Federalsburg in the 1867 *Hawes Business Directory*, p. 534.

ELLIOTT MILLS (5)

See Idlewylde Mills.

EMERSON SAWMILL (8)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Robert R. Emerson with \$1500 capital investment in a sawmill with 8 employees, 1 gang of 6 saws, 1 circular saw, 2 boilers, 25 hp engine. The mill, near the Choptank, cut 300,000 ft (\$4500) annually; part of the logging was done by Emerson.

ESSKAY POULTRY GROWING DIVISION (4)

See Phillips and Douglas Mill.

EMERSON MILL (3)

Emerson Mill was built in Denton, 1868, on Saulsbury Creek by John Emerson and Frederick Roschy, a German shoemaker. Washouts caused closure. The building was moved to Towers Wharf, HCLN, p. 234.

EVALAND SAWMILL ()

David Evaland will erect a sawmill near Greensborough, Md.," *Manufacturers' Record*, 9 (February 20, 1886): 46.

EXETER MILLS (5)

See Idlewylde Mills.

FEDERALSBURG BLOOMERY (5)

Same as Douglas Furnace.

FEDERALSBURG KINDLING MILL (5)

The *Denton Journal*, November 16, 1889, reported the settlement of a strike at the kindling wood mill at Federalsburg.

FEDERALSBURG MILLING CO. (5)

See Messenger Mill.

FEDERALSBURG SILK COMPANY (5)

The Federalsburg Silk Co. was chartered by *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1838, Chapter 345. Incorporators were Jacob Charles, William Stack, and Dr. John W. Conaway of Dorchester County; capitalization was at least \$4000.



Federalsburg Windmill in 1936 HABS Photograph.

FEDERALSBURG WINDMILL (5)

This mill was depicted in ESMV, p. 1097, was a replica made about 1902 by Charles M. Walker based on the Woolford Windmill of Dorchester County. It stood until 1936, per Cooper Walker, "Maryland's Last Windmill," *Baltimore Sun Magazine*, March 23, 1952. A photo of this wooden windmill is preserved in the HABS collection of the Library of Congress. The replica was not very true to Woolford Windmill, in fact, the windmill apparently could not be turned into the wind.

FLUHARTY MILL (4)

See Hog Creek Mill.

FOOKS CANNERY (4)

Lester Fooks built this cannery at Choptank where Blades Brother Cannery had burned. Still operating in 1967.

FORGE BRANCH (2)

Forge Branch is a tributary of the Choptank east of Greensboro.

FORKNERS MILL (5)

This mill, more properly spelled Faulkners, was shown on the present Faulkner Branch and Polks Pond on the Dennis Griffith 1794-1795 map. Location was 26-D-1 in the ADC Street Atlas.

FOSTERS MILL (3)

A fence-building bond recorded between Matthew Driver and Nahor Goodwin in 1769 mentioned “an old mill dam formerly made by Thomas Foster.” Probably on Ingrams Branch, now Chapel Branch.

FOUNTAIN MILL ()

Nathaniel Fountain had a water mill in Great Choptank Hundred, and David Fountain also had a water mill on the tract “Es. Resurvey,” in the 1798 tax list index.

FOWLING CREEK MILL (8)

See Andrew Mill.

FRAMPTON MILL (1/2)

Frampton Mill was mentioned as on the west side of the Choptank on Framptons Mill Branch in an 1875 election district boundary description, MGS, 6:458.

FURTADS MILL (1)

See Mud Mill.

GAREY MILL (3)

See Drivers Mill.

GARRETT MILL (2)

In 1771, Obed Dixon and Thomas Garrett agreed to submit their dispute concerning a mill pond to arbitrators. Garrett's father had built the pond, drowning some of Dixon's land; the bond mentioned the dam gates and tumbling dam (Dorchester County deeds, 15 Old 135). Location was near present Greensborough.

GEARY MILLPOND (6)

See Crouse Mill in Queen Anne's County chapter.

GEORGE MILL (1)

The American Miller, 23 (November 1, 1895): 920, reported, "William George has completed a new 25-barrel mill at Marydel, Md." William George's gristmill was shown at the SE end of Marydel per the 1897 Saulsbury map, detail map of Marydel, across the line in Delaware. Also listed in the 1908 Polk peninsula directory. The mill was extinct by the late 1960s and could have perished well before that. Location was 2-H-7 in the ADC Street Atlas.

GOLDSBOROUGH MILL (1)

The first mill here was a tub mill 15 x 12 ft, built of clapboard work, already standing when Jeremiah Jadwin had some tracts resurveyed into "Security" on Old Town Branch of the Choptank. The patent was not carried through to issuance, and in 1762, John Culbreth had the tracts resurveyed under the name "Culbreths Purchase." The tub mill was again mentioned by the surveyor. The patent was issued in the name of William Keene in 1764, then passed to Thomas Goldsborough via mortgage (discovery of Richard Alan Sehorn, letter of August 12, 2004).

Dennis Griffith's 1794-1795 map showed this mill on the east bank of Old Town Branch at the present Lake Bonny. It was also called Oldtown Mill of Thomas Goldsborough in HCLN, p. 166. Thomas Goldsborough (1728-1793) was said to have been the first practicing lawyer in Caroline County and was delegate to the Convention in 1774. He served in the House of Delegates in 1786 and was owner of Old Town and Ratliffe tracts. *His* son, Thomas Moore Goldsborough (b. 1778) inherited the plantation and served in the Cavalry in the War of 1812. His son, Thomas Griffin Washington Goldsborough, University of Maryland Medical School, 1840, farmed the plantation to help his mother but did not like agriculture. Dr. Goldsborough was confined in Fort Delaware for his confederate sympathies but was paroled (*House of Goldsborough*, 5:224-5).

The 1897 Saulsbury map placed the mill SE of Goldsborough village on a pond across Old Town Branch, property of P. W. Downs. The 1880 census had listed P. W. Downes [sic] sawmill with \$250 capital investment, 1 employee, 1 each circular and Muley saw. A 6-foot fall on Mill Creek (of Choptank) drove a 28-inch turbine at 160 rpm, 6 hp, to cut 25,000 ft (\$575) during a 6-month active season. Two-thirds of the logs were brought in by Downes himself. Location was at the south end of

present Lake Bonnie, Broadway Road, SE of Goldsboro, at 5-C-11 in the ADC Street Atlas.

GOSLIN MILL (5)

The American Miller, 12 (May 1, 1884): 258, reported, “E. L. Goslin, of Federalsburg, Caroline County, Md., contemplates building a flour mill in that State.”

E. S. Goslin, Federalsburg, Md., advertised in the *Denton Journal*, March 28, 1896, “Valuable roller process flour mill, capacity 60 bbls per day; 1 set corn buhrs, capacity 200 bushels fine meal. Hominy mill, capacity 100 bushels finished hominy per day. Pond of water covers 150 acres of land. No steam needed. Enough additional water power for several other enterprises. Situate in Federalsburg, Caroline County, Md., at head of Nanticoke River and on Cambridge and Seaford R. R. in a prosperous community and surrounded by a cereal producing country. Has 50 acres arable land . . . Millers residence 24 x 30 feet, five tenement houses. Mill and machinery new, best improved. Mill house 30 x 65 feet, 3-1/2 stories. With present low prices of grain, mill is yielding from custom work \$150 monthly owner about to remove house in town sewerage to river”

GRAYS MILL (5)

This mill at Federalsburg was willed in 1820 by the Rev. Paul Conaway to his children. Before becoming a preacher, Conaway was in the lumber business and shipped some of the first timber to the U. S. Capitol on board the *Morning Star* under Captain William Gray.

The tract Mill Pond (or Mill land) Enlarged was Thomas Saulsbuy’s until sold under execution by the Sheriff and purchased by James and Catharine Sangston. They sold May 6, 1841, to John Gray who died in 1846. Gray’s property was ordered sold and it was purchased by Thomas Stanton, *Denton Journal*, November 3, 1849. Gray had left numerous debts including one to John Bozman for “putting cogs in the mill . . . 2 days work at mill . . . 25 sawings in mill” (Chancery Papers, No. 6770).

GREENSBOROUGH MFG. CO. (2)

This firm was chartered by the General Assembly under *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1835, Chapter 222. William Hughlett, a landowner, proposed to take in as partners, George Reed, Thomas Burchenal, William Potter, and John Boon for manufacturing operations; authorized capitalization was \$20,000.

GREENSBOROUGH SAWMILL (2)

Isler's 1875 county map showed this steam sawmill at Greensboro on the west branch of Choptank River.

GRIFFIN MILL (4)

Same as Linchester Mill.

GRIFFITHS MILL (8)

An account of a State-wide storm and flood in the *Baltimore Sun*, August 1, 1868, reported, ". . . the *Denton Union* says. . . the dam of Mr. John Nicholas mill commonly known as Griffin's [sic] Mill, between Potters Landing and Harmony was blown out."

Griffith's Mill, a property of the late John Nichols of E., was advertised in the *Denton Journal*, December 25, 1877. "The dam is now broken but can be easily and cheaply repaired." It was on the road from Potters Landing to Harmony, 10 acres, and was struck off to William Morgan for \$60 (Caroline Chancery Records, Liber LHC 9:48). In the testimony taken in the case, Charles H. Todd had stated that the mill was worth \$100 (Chancery Records, folio 45). "Griffiths Mill (saw)" was mentioned in a deed made in 1875 from John E. Nichol to Mary E. Nicholas (Caroline County deeds, JWT 37:58). Probably stood on present Md. 16.

HARDCASTLES MILL (7)

The 1798 tax list showed John Hardcastle with a brick mill house, 26 x 30 ft, 2 stories; a brick mill, 21 x 21 ft; mill addition, 14 x 14 ft; and two shops, 18 x 46 and 30x 16 ft. This mill built in 1748 by Robert Hardcastle from England, was on the Choptank 3 miles north of Denton and was called Brick Mill, and the site Brick Mill Landing. It was opposite Melvill's Warehouse, ESMV, p. 1100.

The 1860 census of manufactures listed William Wilson with \$4000 capital investment in a water mill with 1 employees, and output of 5000 bu corn and 2000 bu wheat (\$1000). Isler's 1875 county map showed it as N. Wilson's Mill.

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Thomas J. Wilson with \$6000 capital investment in a mill with 1 employee, 1 run of stones, and 40 bu/diem maximum capacity, doing all custom work. A 10-foot fall on Choptank drove a 14-foot wide breast wheel at 10 rpm to develop 15 hp. Annual output was 300 bbl flour, 114 tons meal, and 20 tons of feed (\$5200). James D. Wilson was listed in the 1887 State business directory. The pond, but not the mill, appeared on the 1897 Saulsbury map. The mill was torn down in 1900. Brick Mill Landing appeared on the 1950 topographic map. Location of the landing on present River Road is 12-D-1.

HARMONY MILL (8)

See Andrew Mill.

HARRIS CANNERY (4)

Joseph P. Harris had a tomato cannery at Landoff in Talbot County and another on his farm in Caroline County which was still standing in 1967.

HARRIS BROILER HOUSES (4)

The late Joseph P. Harris began experimenting in 1922 with small cotton-padded chicken coops and artificially heated ones. He was the first person to make mash for broilers, having found that the usual feed would not work on broilers, and he experimented with his own blends. Preston was described as the starting place of the vast Delmarva chicken industry that supported a quarter of the population.

At first, these small, multiple, and single brooder houses were designed for the chickens to run out into a fenced-in yard where grain was growing; certain sections were plowed to purify the ground, and the chickens were eating the green in one plot while another was growing. Other farmers began to raise chickens in quantity, and Harris delivered his own to city markets by truck.

Frank Langrell and then Phillips began to manufacture broiler feed. Harlan Davis built a hatchery near Preston. However, in Sussex County, Delaware, Mrs. Wilmer Steele of Ocean View is credited with starting the broiler industry in 1923, and the first broiler house is marked with an appropriate sign, Baltimore *Sunday Sun Magazine*, James F. Waesche, "Two Billion Chickens A Year," December 10, 1967. Other data from Mrs. Clara Mitchell, Preston.

HENDSON GRISTMILL (4)

John Hendson had a gristmill on the 1798 tax list of Choptank Hundred.

HICKMAN SAWMILL (3)

Hickman Sawmill was extant in 1920, HCLN, p. 247. Hickman village is on the Delaware line SE of Hobbs.

HICKS MILL (6)

Same as Knotts Mill.

HIGHNUT MILL (8)

See Smith Mill.

HOG CREEK MILL (4)

This mill was on Hog Creek NW of Blairtown before 1810 per HCLN, p. 20. Hog Creek Mills was listed as a village name 2.75 miles north of Bethlehem, the place name still used in 1941 per GZMD. The 1798 tax list showed James Douglas owner of a mill 28 x 20 ft occupied by John Shepherd on the tract Burch Grove in Fork and Bridgetown Hundreds. The *Easton Gazette*, October 24, 1829, carried an advertisement placed by William Potter, Trustee, to sell Hog Creek Mills, the former property of Garretson Blades.

In 1838, Adino McNitt conveyed Hog Creek Mills and Lookermans Beginning to Jacob C. Wilson of Talbot County. Wilson in 1841 conveyed the grist and saw mills to John Beauchamp (Caroline County deeds, TR No. V:55). Clara M. Wilson conveyed her dower rights in Hog Creek Mills to Joseph Mowbray, 1851 (Caroline County deeds, Liber TFG No. AA:17).

The 1860 census of manufactures listed John Nicholls with \$4000 capital investment in a mill with 1 employee and annual output of 8000 bu corn and 1000 bu wheat (\$8000). Hog Creek Mills, part of Wings Landing, was in possession of John Nichols of E at the time of his death in 1873 (Caroline County Chancery Records, Liber LHG 9:43).

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Absolom Doughty with \$5000 capital investment in a mill with 1 employees, 2 run of stones, and 30 bu/diem maximum capacity. All work was custom. A 9-foot fall in Hog Creek drove one 3-foot turbine at 30 rpm to develop 12 hp. Annual output was 504 bbl flour, 75.5 tons of meal, and 20.8 tons feed (\$5031).

The map in HCLN, p. 20, showed the mill as C. Thompson's.

The 1897 Saulsbury map of the county showed the mill as A. Beauchamp's. The Assessment Ledger for 1894-1897, Election District No. 4, showed in its 1903 updates, that S. Fluharty owned 42 acres of mill property assessed at \$1200 (HR No. 12,882, MSA). Other early owners had been Garretson Blades and George Garretson Blades. The mill was still standing in 1920 when mentioned by HCLN, p. 166. The mill was extinct in the late 1960s. Mr. Wilbert Merriken, Denton attorney, remembered hauling corn there when a boy [1976 note]. Hog Creek Mills was still carried as a village name, 2.75 miles NE of Bethlehem, in GZMD, 1941. Location was 18-B-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

HOPKINS MILL ()

The 1860 census of manufactures listed Elias P. Hopkins with \$2500 capital investment in a water mill with 1 employee and an annual output of 4500 bu corn, 1000 bu wheat, and 500 bu rye annually (\$5330). The 1867 *Bradstreet Directory* listed H. B. Hopkins as miller at Greensborough with a BC credit rating.

HORSEY SAWMILL (8)

Daniel Horsey once owned an up-and-down sawmill at the head of Robins Creek near Camp Todd, a long extinct works, possibly the successor to the Chaffinch sawmill found on the 1875 map by Isler. Location was probably at grid 14-K-10 in the ADC Atlas, based on a nameless asterisk found in Martenet's 1885 State map.

HORSEY SAWMILL (3)

W. G. Horsey's sawmill was shown on Chapel Branch upstream of Garey Mill on Isler's 1875 county map. Apparently the same as Chiltons mentioned in HCLN, p. 20, in the list of mills standing in 1810. See the quote under Nuttle Mill.

HOUGH SAWMILL (1)

The L. Hough steam sawmill was shown on the railroad north of Goldsborough on Isler's 1875 county map.

HOUSTONS MILL (6)

Houstons Mill was on Houstons Branch near Northwest Fork, close to the Delaware line, NE of Federalsburg, about 1810. James Houston came from Sussex County in Delaware about 1800, HCLN, pp. 20, 280. [On Md. 318 ?]

HUBBARD STEAM SAWMILL (3)

A "new steam saw mill in excellent running order and doing a prosperous business" on the tract Banks Delight along the Md. And Delaware railroad was offered by T. K. Kemp, trustee of Charles Jarel and James Hignut, who had obtained the property under an 1859 mortgage from Ennals and Ellen T. Hubard, *American Union*, Denton, November 20, 1860.

HUGHLETT MILL ()

William Hughlett had a gristmill valued at \$300 on Long Reach tract in Choptank Hundred on the 1798 tax list.

HUNTING CREEK GRIST AND SAW MILL (4)

Same as Linchester Mill.

HUSTON MILL (1)

N. Huston was listed as a miller at Henderson in the 1887 State business directory. The 1880 issue had listed Hugh E. Anderson.

HUTSON SAWMILL (2)

J. Hutson's sawmill was shown on a large pond NE of Greensboro on Saulsbury's 1897 county map. Location was 9-E-3-4, right on the dividing line between grids in the ADC Street Atlas.

IDLEWYLDE MILLS (5)

The name Exeter Mills was used in *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1799, Chapter 43, for a mill site also known as Idlewylde, on the northwest fork of Nanticoke River, here called Marshyhope Creek. The mill was founded by John Elliott per HCLN, p. 270. The sawmill cut logs that were floated up the river on the incoming tide, and there was also a wool carding machine per ESMV, p. 110. Elliotts Sawmill was listed in the 1867 *Hawes Business Directory*, p. 534. The pond appeared on the 1897 Saulsbury map, upstream of Federalsburg.



Idlewylde Mills at Federalsburg.

John F. and Henry Disharoon, former residents of Saulsbury, acquired the mill and organized the Idlewild [sic] Electric Light and Power Company of Caroline County, *Wicomico News*, Salisbury, September 8, 1908. Robert Holt of Federalsburg recalled in 1974 that the sole employee of the power plant was Charles Shaw, who arrived on his bike with a tin pail of midnight lunch every day at sundown and threw the gears to mesh the water wheel to the generators, giving Federalsburg 8 hours of lighting. After his shift, Mr. Shaw closed the dam and cycled back home.

The power plant later burned, and Frank Langrell acquired the iron, riveted, smokestack and used it as a water intake conduit at Linchester. The frame structure now on the property on the east side of Old Denton Road (Md. 313) is a Southern States feed outlet owned by Leroy S. Merriken [1976]. The home of John Elliott (ca. 1775) was restored in 1967-1968 by Mrs. Robert Holt; the house, a two-

segment, clapboard structure, is on the west side of the road. South of the feed mill is the Disharoon house.

IRELAND MILL (6)

Same as Knotts Mill.

JEFFERSON AND STOCK MILL (5)

Same as Sullivan Mill.

JOHNSON STEAM MILL (2)

W. G. Johnson & Co. advertised a 14 hp steam sawmill built within the last 12 months at Union Corner; the mill had iron smokestack, shafts, crank wheels, saw carriage, saw gate, iron feed gear; annual output was 2000 ft oak timber/diem; also cylinder sets for making 25 sets of bent felloes or shafts per diem, *Worcester Shield*, Snow Hill, February 11, 1856. No mill found on the 1897 Saulsbury map.

KNOTTS MILL (6)

John Baynard and Henry Cusson (or Casson) Gentleman, took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* for 20 acres on Dillaughans Branch situate between Choptank River and Tuckahoe Creek, February 9, 1739. Both tracts were part of Hackton; the south bank belonged to Elinor Anthony, wife of Mark Anthony, and to Rebecca Leonard; the north bank belonged to Margaret and Mary Knowles, Minors. Total damages were 20 Shillings plus an annual rent of 2/6 (Chancery Records, 6:13, MSA).

In 1752, John Baynard had died, and Thomas Baynard and John Casson conveyed the Water Mill to Peter Russum (Queen Anne County deeds, RT No. D:92, MSA). The mill descended to Wimlock Russum, who conveyed it to John Loockerman in 1759 (Queen Anne County deeds, RT No. F:15, MSA), with the "Liberty to a certain Henry Casson to have his wheat & corn ground Toll free at the said mill."

The mill came to be called Hills and also Morgans, and in 1776 the stream was called Morgans or Hills Branch. The wharf was called Sloop Landing on Hills Shore when James Seth patented a 20-acre tract on the east side of Tuckahoe Creek under the name of Mill Landing, 1771.

The mill built by Baynard and Casson under the writ of condemnation was sold in 1776 by the executor of John Loockerman to James Seth to make good a sale never formalized by Loockerman during his life (Caroline County deeds, A:205). Colonel Henry Hollingsworth reported to the Governor Lee that 600 bu of State wheat was stored at Seths Mill in June 1781 (*Arch. Md.*, 47:283). Seths Mill appeared on Dennis Griffith's 1794-1795 map on a branch of Tuckahoe Creek, 2 miles below Hillsborough, west side of the present Deep Branch Road.



Knotts Mill converted to dwelling, 1970 photo by Michael Bourne.

The mill passed to Thomas Hicks, who in 1802 sold “Seths Mill” and 20 acres, part of Hackton, to John Ruth (Caroline County deeds, TR No. H:251). Ruth sold to John Lucas in 1808, and John Lucas 3d sold the mill and remainder of the 80-year term of Baynard and Casson writ to Henry Nichols in 1818 (Caroline County deeds, JR No. M:325). In the 1834 division of the Nicholas property, Lot No. 3, the mill property, fell to James Nichols, and a plat of the pond, mill, and dwelling appeared in Caroline County deeds, JR No. S:156-157.

The 1858 Dilworth map of Talbot County showed the Ireland Mill at the old Seth side, and the 1860 census of manufactures listed Isaac Ireland with \$6000 capital investment in a water mill with 1 employee and annual output of 8000 bu corn and 3000 bu wheat (\$1162). All business was “country work.”

The mill passed from James Nichols’s daughter to Thomas Hackett, but they sued him in 1872, and the property was offered for sale and was finally purchased by John K. Knotts, who appeared on Isler’s 1875 county map, and on the 1897 Saulsbury map.

Chancery Records JWT 7:407 contained a plat of the mill site with the county road slightly different from that of 1834. Only the mill was described as in good condition. The 1875 Isler map showed the grist and saw mills on opposite banks. An advertisement in the *Denton Journal*, June 3, 1876, listed J. W. Knotts as proprietor and N. P. Sewell as superintendent. A miller with a small family was wanted per another advertisement, *Denton Journal*, July 22, 1876.

The 1880 census of manufactures listed John W. Knotts with \$3100 capital investment in a sawmill with 4 employees and 1 circular saw; a 14-foot fall on “Tuckahoe Creek” ran a 2-foot turbine at 140 rpm to develop 12 hp. Annual output was 240,000 ft (\$3600). No logging was performed by the owner. The gristmill represented \$6000 capital investment and did all custom work with 2 employees, 2

run of stones, and 100 bu/diem maximum capacity. A 16-foot fall ran a turbine and an overshot wheel 13 ft broad running at 20 rpm to develop 28 hp. Annual output was 1400 bbl flour, etc. (\$13,230).



Paper flour sack from Tuckahoe Mills

The American Miller, 8 (August 1, 1880): 226, reported, “Mr. John W. Knotts, Hillsborough, Md., is remodeling his merchant mill with a view to increasing its capacity. To his present water wheels he is adding one of the Improved Success Wheels built by the York Water Wheel and Mill Finishing Co., of York, Pa., who furnish all the machinery and put it up.” Knotts was listed as miller at Henderson in the 1887 State business directory.

The American Miller, 16 (November 1, 1888): 786, contained the cryptic sentence, “John W. Knotts is building a mill at Hillsboro, Md.”

The Denton Journal, August 24, 1889, carried an advertisement by John W. Knotts, “Tuckahoe Flour Mills, Capacity 45 barrels per day. My Tuckahoe Neck mill has lately been equipped with Roller Process Machines.”

Another ad placed by Knotts of Hillsboro in the *Denton Journal*, July 18, 1896, offered “For Rent for 1897 . . . The roller mills in Tuckahoe Neck known as ‘Knotts Mills’ . . . Capacity 35 barrels flour per day, and runs by steam or water.”

Another ad in the *Denton Journal*, August 21, 1897, offered to rent the mill in 1898, "A Fine Mill for Sale or Rent. The Tuckahoe Roller Flour Mills, all in complete order, and with an excellent trade . . . for rent for 1898. All machinery is complete."

The pond appeared on the east side of Deep Branch Road on the MGS topographic map of 1904. This was also called Sparklin's Mill and Elben's Mill, and it was damaged in the 1919 flood. The author's collection contains a flour sack printed during the tenure of Fletcher C. Elben who called the place Tuckahoe Roller Mills.

The mill was acquired in the 1960s by Mr. and Mrs. Charles V. Layton and was converted into a Georgian Revival dwelling and the mill race was reworked into a landscaped pond. The new owners renamed the place Laytons Mill and erected a wooden sign marked "c 1739." See Baltimore *Sunday Sun*, December 1, 1968, real estate section. See also, HCLN, pp. 166, 296, 347. The restored building was recorded in Caroline County deeds Liber 160:625. In 1985, the author received an inquiry from a descendant of miller Isaac A. Ireland, Mr. David Ireland of Marydel, Md. The MHT assigned Site No. CAR-192 to the Knotts Mill House, the miller's dwelling, a mid-19th century dwelling reported on by Michael O. Bourne in 1977. The converted mill is MHT Site No. CAR-33. Location of the mill is 10-K-10 in the ADC Street Atlas.

KUGLARS MILL (5)

Kuglars Mill was mentioned in an election district boundary description of 1870, MGS, 6:459. The 1860 census of manufactures had listed George W. Kuglar with \$1600 capital investment in a water mill, doing country work; annual output was 4000 bu of wheat and corn and 500 bu rye (\$5000). The 16 hp steam sawmill represented \$300 capital investment and produced \$6000 in lumber; total employment of 4.

LANE AND CHAMBERS FACTORY (4)

Mr. Lane and Max Chambers, Preston editor, owned and operated a factory near Preston, but went out of business when the work force declared a strike while the factory was loaded with tomatoes.

LAYTON MILL ()

The 1860 census of manufactures listed John W. Layton with \$6000 capital investment in a water grit mill with 1 employee and an annual output of 8000 bu corn and 3500 bu wheat (\$12,560). The sawmill represented \$1500 capital investment and had 1 employee and an annual output of \$500 in timber.

LEGATES CANNERY (4)

This cannery at Edmondsons Cree near Tan Yard village was founded by Earl Legates and was being operated by John Leates in 1967.

LEGATES FACTORY (4)

Another Legates cannery was located near Dover Bridge [1967].

LIDEN MILL (3)

Same as Potters Mill.

LIDEN SAWMILL (8)

A Liden's sawmill was shown on Robins Branch, west side of the road from Fowling Creek Post Office to Potters Landing on the 1875 county map by Isler. Possibly same as Griffiths. Location was 14-K-10 in the ADC Street Atlas [based on a nameless asterisk on Martenet's 1885 State map].

LINCHESTER MILL (4)

Linchester Mill is on Md. 313 east of Preston, south side of the road and west side of Hunting Creek, still in use as late as 1972 and running with water power. An ancient lineage is claimed for this mill, possibly through misinterpretation of land records. Edward T. Tubbs contributed the Caroline County chapter to Swepson Earle's 1916 book *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, where on p. 164, he dated the mill at 1681 and stated, "The first mention of a mill at the site of the present Linchester is found in the Dorchester Rent Roll where a survey of May 20, 1680, for Thomas Pattison is described as being on Hunting Creek 'above the mill-dam.'" Marion Nicholl Rawson in *Little Old Mills*, p. 55, stated that it was "originally property of Thomas Pattison." The Tubbs chapter was repeated in Swepson Earle's *Chesapeake Bay Country*, p. 384, in 1923.

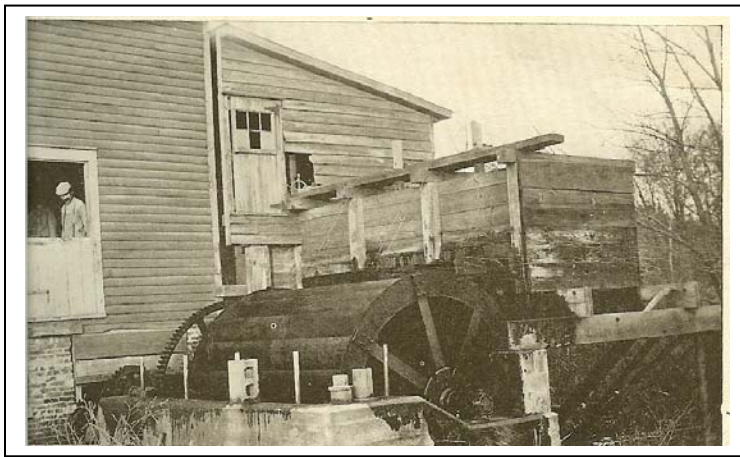
However, a check of the Dorchester Rent Roll (Liber 10:422, MSA) shows two Thomas Pattison tracts dated May 20, 1682 entered on the same page; one tract, "Rinionle," was listed on Hunting Creek, but the certificate description (Patents, Liber 21:437, MSA) made no mention of a mill; the other Rent Roll entry was for a tract of land called "Carleton," and the capsule description of that ground included the words "by the Branch Side above the Mill Dam" but on searching out the certificate (Patents, Liber 21:436, MSA), Carleton turned out to lie in present Dorchester County on Cabin Creek. It is however demonstrable that the Linchester site is about 40 perches upstream of the location of an earlier mill.

The older mill was first mentioned in 1719 when Elizabeth Lowe left to son Vincent a "water mill in Dorchester County at the Head of Hunting Creek called Hunting Creek Mill," (Talbot County Wills, 15:248-254, MSA. Also, MCW, 4:217). Mrs. Lowe's postmortem inventory contained, *inter alia*, 168 barrels of corn worth £ 67,

plus 600 feet of inch plank worth £ 2-2/0 and Captain Henry Trippe still owed her for 500 feet of plank (Testimentary Paper, Talbot County, Box 26, folder 26, MSA, 1720). A lawsuit showed that Mrs. Lowe had sued Thomas Edmondson for 17 barrels of Indian corn (Liber VD No. 3:333ff, MSA, 1717-1718). Obviously the Lowes had been engaging in milling.

A mention of “the road that leads from *hunting creek mill* to Thos. Edmondson’s plantation” was mentioned in the patent of Edmonds [sic Addition, in January 1729 (Patents, AM 1:182, MSA).

A tract called Margaret’s Delight was surveyed for Joseph Nichols, August 26, 1730 (Patents, Liber EL No. 3:223, MSA). That tract had its beginning point “at a white oak close by the east side of Hunting Creek Mill Dam about 60 perches above said mill.” Nicholls signed the certificate over to Dr. William Murray, November 10,



Linchester Mill from 1920s postcard.

1731. On the property there were a tobacco house, 30 x 20 ft, a milk house, and an “old mill House good for little.”

In a deed of 1730, Watson’s Lot, a tract that began on the east side of present Linchester pond, was described as “upon the main Branch of Hunting Creek a little above the old mill” (Dorchester County deeds, 9 Old 183). It may be conjectured that the Hunting Creek Mill was already of a considerably age, and it could be further argued that the pond may well have existed in 1680 when Watsons Lot was laid out—otherwise the beginning tree could have been located farther to the NW, keeping Watsons Lot in line with the large adjoining tract called Squires Chance.

The certificate of survey for Margaret’s Delight did not specify which bank the “good for little” mill occupied; thus it is not certain whether it was in present Dorchester or Caroline Counties. By crossing the creek, the tract Margaret’s Delight intruded on The Plains. At any rate, the first mill came into the Murray family in 1731 and was about 0.2 mile blow the original road now bypassed by the

improved MD. 318-331. It may be argued that the present Linchester Mill is the Murray family's continuation of the very first mill on Hunting creek. Clearly, the Lowes did not have proper title to the site, although Vincent Lowe in 1714 acquired half of Squires Chance, about 0.9 mile upstream of the present dam.

In a title search performed at the request of Governor Tawes by Sara Salter of the Hall of Records (now MSA) in 1966, the Linchester Mill is clearly demonstrated to stand on part of a tract called The Plains, surveyed for William Watson, April 28, 1682 (Patents, Liber 21:539, MSA). The certificate of survey for The Plains made no references to a mill dam, and in fact, the first mention of a mill in this chain of descent appeared in a deed made in 1754.



Frank S. Langrell in March 1968.

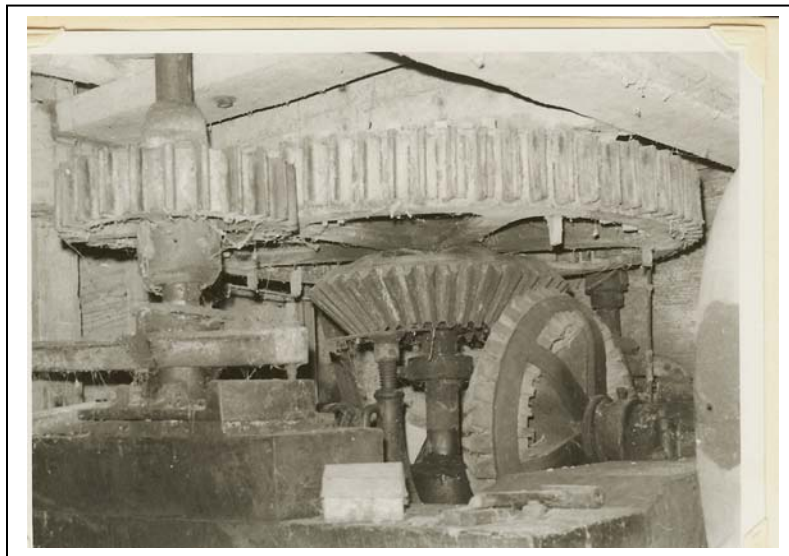
Watson sold the 300-acre Plains in 1684 to Thomas Taylor, who sold it to Joseph Smith, 1685. Smith sold to Anthony Squires in 1688, and in 1694, Squires sold half the tract to Phillip [sic] Pitt. Pitt died, leaving to his son Philip [sic] the “land at Hunting Creek purchased of Anthony Squires” (MCW, 2:173). Pitt’s grandson, Thomas Pitt, heir at law to Captain John Pitt, in 1754 sold the 150 acres to John Dickinson, “on the north side of the Head of Hunting Creek and next adjoining the mill dam” (Dorchester County deeds, 15 Old 25). [Charles Dickinson, owner of the other half of The Plains, had discovered that the patent had never been recorded, and in 1714 he petitioned for recordation (Patents, Libers LG No. C:268 and PT No. 1:9, MSA).] To add to the mysteries, The Plains had also been claimed by the White family, and a deed of 1718 mentioned Thomas White as a professional millwright (Dorchester County deeds, 7 Old 67).

IN 1755, John Dickinson sold 7 acres of The Plains to Dr. William Murray, and in 1762, Dr. Murray made a will bequeathing to son David “the Plains where on I now dwell that part of the Plains I bought of Mr. John Dickinson where on the mill is built” (Dorchester County Wills 31:1037, MSA). However, in 1763, Murray

conveyed the same 7 acres “upon which the Mill house now stands” by deed to David Murray for £ 7 (Dorchester County deeds, 18 Old 356).

David Murray left the mill and a bake house to his brother James Murray in 1764 (Dorchester County Wills, 32:135, MSA). James Murray’s mill was cited as a landmark in setting up the bounds of the newly erected Caroline County in 1773. In 1774, the boundary of Great Choptank Hundred ran “up said creek to the bridge over Jams Murray’s Mill Dam and thence with the main county road that divides Dorchester County from Caroline County.”

Colonel James Murray, described as “physician of Annapolis,” acquired other



Massive iron bevel gears in crawl space.

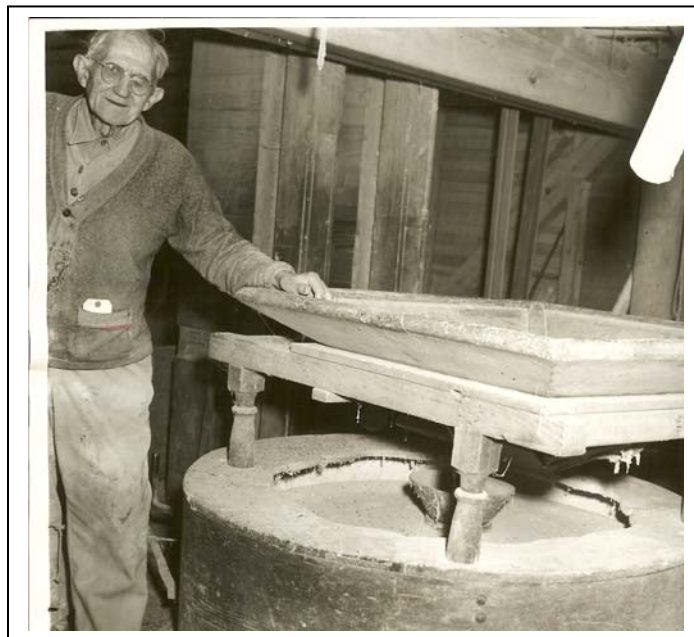
properties, including half of Grantham, which he bought in part from Joseph Bland, Jr., in 1765 and he purchased the other half from James Taylor, Jr., of Virginia on October 17, 1775 for £ 37-10/0. Swepson Earle placed Colonel Murray’s holdings at 2551 acres, *Chesapeake Bay Country*, p. 384. Flour from this mill was shipped to Valley Forge. Colonel Murray’s farm was ransacked by Captain Richard Andrew of Caroline County in his search for salt at meat-curing time of 1776, *HDC*, p. 222; this account described the place as the Billup farm of the 1920s. See also, *Arch. Md.*, 12:449-451, date given as November 15, 1776.

Some of the more fanciful accounts date the mill at 1670 and state that it was washed out and rebuilt. In some versions, the mill was floated to its present location by a freshet. If the mill could be dated at 1681, it would clearly be the oldest going concern in the United States—provided it keeps going [1968]. The Murray family had a landing about a mile downstream of the mill known as Warehouse Landing, and parcels of land were called Murray’s Landing and Willis Landing.

In 1792, William Littleton Murray devised “my mill in Caroline County and all the appurtenances thereunto belonging” to William Robertson (Chancery Records Liber B56:52, MSA). The mill was shown as Robertsons on the Dennis Griffith 1794-1795 map. Littleton M. Robertson in 1831 sold to Jacob C. Wilson “all them Mills and Mill Seat . . . known by the name of upper Hunting Creek Mills” (Caroline County Wills, Q:534). Wilson’s executor, Turpin Wright, sold Upper Hunting creek Mills to John R. Stack, 1855, for \$3002 (Caroline County deeds, BB:576). Wilson’s widow in 1851 had sold her dower right in the mill to Job D. A. Robinson (Caroline County deeds, TGF No. AA:19). The 1860 census of manufactures showed John R. Stack with \$3500 capital investment in a water mill with 2 employees; annual output was 10,000 bu corn and 3000 bu wheat (\$15,120).

John R. Stack died in 1866, and in the case of Stack -vs-Stack, his widow sued her infant heirs to acquire title to the mill and then sell it for their benefit. Jesse Hubbard, one of the commissioners appointed by the court, reported of the mill “that it is in very bad repair and depreciating in value daily . . . it would be decidedly to the advantage of the parties interested to sell it; for unless something is done to the mill property, it will fall down” (Caroline County Chancery Records, Liber JWT 7:9). The court ordered the property sold.

The late Stack’s mill and four dwellings were auctioned off with John R. Nicholls buying the works for \$7200. A sale notice in the *American Union*, Denton, October 5, 1865, offered the mill, saw mill, and carding machine situated on Upper Hunting Creek. Both Nicholas and the trustee David Blocksom died before a title was conveyed and the mill passed to his son, John E. Nichols, the widow, and the infant heirs.



Frank S. Langrell at millstone hopper, March 1968.

John E. Nicholas deeded his one-eighth share to his mother, Mary E. Nicholas, in 1875 (Caroline County deeds, JNT 37:58). In *Nichols –vs- Nichols*, Mary E. Nichols was sued by Francis E. Nichols for a division of the property, which included four mills (Caroline County Chancery Records, Liber LHG 12:37-53). Hunting Creek Mills was advertised in the *Denton Journal*, December 15, 1877, as 4.5 acres plus a pond. “The grist mill is in good running order, an excellent stand, and has steady custom work. The saw mill is supplied with a Rich wheel, and has been recently put in thorough condition.” The trustees, W. Spry Sherman and Robert J. Jump, sold the mill to John Webster in 1879 (Caroline County deeds, JWT 41:272), 5.2 acres known as Hunting Creek Mills.

It is not likely that the mill was rebuilt between 1865 and 1879 during the time of various unsettled estates. It had at least been repaired by the time of the 1879 auction. If the mill was new, a trustee would have emphasized that in his advertisement.

The 1877 atlas of Dorchester County showed the mill as that of A. Griffin (presumably a tenant operator). The 1880 census of manufactures showed Webster's grist mill with \$4000 capital investment, with 2 employees, and 30 bu/diem maximum capacity. The mill was idle 3 months of the year. The fall of water was 7 feet, and there was one breast wheel 7 ft broad running at 12 rpm to develop 20 hp. Annual output was 556 bbl flour, 81 tons corn meal, and 21 tons feed (\$5284). All the trade was custom. The saw mill was driven by a 10-inch, 8 hp Rich wheel. No logging was done by Webster.

The *Manufacturers Record*, 9 (June 26, 1886): 686, reported, “Wm. T. Tuff has put new machinery in his grist mill at Linchester, Md.” The 1887 State business directory listed W.A. Tuff as miller [although he never appeared in land records].

Hunting Creek Mill was sold by the trustees and devisees of John Webster in 1889 to Samuel L. Webster (Caroline County deeds, Liber LHG 54:188). The *Denton Journal*, under Potters Landing items, reported on January 11, 1890, “Mr. Thomas E. Evans is going to Preston to run the Webster Mill.” The *Denton Journal* of July 26, 1890, reported, “The Linchester Roller Mills, under the management of J. B. Webster, began operations on the 24th.”

The *Denton Journal*, October 4, 1890, reported, “A break occurred in the mill-race at Linchester Friday week, causing damage to the extent of \$125.” The *Maryland Bureau of Industrial Statistics & Information, Report 1893*, by A. B. Howard (Baltimore, 1893), p. 35, noted, “Caroline County . . . Roller flour mills, which have been established lately have a capacity of sixty-five barrels daily.”

The *Denton Journal*, January 2, 1897, reported “The young people have had a fine time this week skating on the Linchester mill-pond.” A report from Preston in the *Denton Journal*, June 12, 1897, was as follows, “The B. F. Starr machinery which

was placed in Mr. S; L. Webster's flour mill at Linchester, several years ago has been taken out. In its place the Wolf roller process machinery has been recently put in, and the mill, which has a capacity of twenty-four barrels a day, is now in thorough repair." The mill of S. L. Webster appeared on the 1897 map by Saulsbury. The Caroline County Assessment for Election District 4 showed S. L. Webster being charged with \$800 improvements to the mill in 1898 (Liber GAD-1896-1897, folio 231, HR No. 12,882, MSA). Tax ledgers consulted did not show a rebuilding of the mill in the mid-to-late 19th century.

In the 1902-1903 *Maryland State Gazetteer*, S. and J. B. Webster were listed as owners of the flour mill and John Foley and Jesse T. Legar were Millers. The *Annual Report of the Bureau of Industrial Statistics of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1903), p. 140, listed Beauchamp & Brother with a flour mill at Linchester.

Polk's 1908 *Peninsula Directory* showed John A. Williams and W. T. Swiggett as millers at Linchester and the general storekeepers were J. R. Blanche and R. D. Bradley and Sons. In 1911, J. and S. L. Webster were listed as owners.

Samuel L. Webster conveyed Hunting Creek Mills and "privoliledges" to Hynson Cole in 1912. Cole sold "Hunting Creek Mills and more recently called Linchester Flour Mills" to Robert H. Williamson, February 4, 1913. Williamson sold that August to Walter P. Taylor, who in 1914 conveyed to Frank S. Langrell, who carried on milling activity until 1972 (Caroline County deeds, JKS 77:13; plat, DRH 156:421).

According to Swepson Earle, the mill was rebuilt by Wright and Corcoran in 1800, *Chesapeake Bay*, p. 384. An extensive rebuilding has clearly taken place, if not in 1800, certainly in the late 19th century roller-mill era. Until the 1840s, Hunting Creek was a port of entry, and "flour from this mill was loaded onto scows and then reloaded on ships anchored in deeper waters to be shipped far and wide," ESMV, p. 112. A sunken vessel of some sort had been identified in the bottom of the present pond. In 1856, the Upper Hunting Creek post office was moved to Preston, a village previously called Snow Hill. The mill village was named Linchster in 1860, a combination of Caroline and Dorchester. A Linchester Post Office existed from 1881 to 1905. The name did not appear in deeds to the mill property until 1913.

The 8-foot diameter I. X. L. steel overshot wheel of 22 hp was installed in 1918 by one account, in 1936 by another. There is a 300-foot millrace and a dam with two pine gates. A conduit pipe carried the water from the flood gates to the flume; this conduit had been a riveted smokestack at the Disharoon or Exeter Mills in Federalsburg. After the Disharoon power plant and mill burned, Frank Langrell had the stack transported to Linchester and laid it horizontally. There was formerly an ice house. The mill is clapboarded and set in deep shade, the paint faded from red. The 30-acre pond provides good bass and pike fishing [1968].

Mr. Langrell acquired the hominy equipment of Williston Mill where he had been employed 3 years. He was an early manufacturer of broiler feed. The mill formerly produced unbleached flour, but Mr. Langrell “quit fooling with flour for human consumption” because of taxes and paperwork involved. Max Chambers, editor of *Preston News & Farmer*, invented the story that Mr. Langrell, exasperated with governmental forms, threw a scoopful of flour on an OPA inspector. In 1968, at the time of the author’s visit, the chief product was hog feed composed of corn, wheat, rye, barley, salt, and soy beans. The mill closed on Thursdays so that Langrell could make his deliveries. The *Evening Sun*, June 26, 1966, carried a feature story with a photo by Robert Kneische of Mr. Langrell standing in the doorway, “Nation’s Oldest Business/Grist Mill Won’t Quit Grind.”

In April 1967, he was beaten with a pipe by a thug, but in spite of his 5-foot height, put up a strong resistance and drove the fellow off. Four thugs jumped him a few months later, put a bag over his head, dropped him in a bin, and made off with \$40.

Max Chambers and the members of the Caroline County Historical Society devoted considerable effort to dating the mill’s origin and having it designated a National Landmark. Chambers even had divers go into the pond to study pilings believed to be an ancient wharf that existed before the silting up of the rivers. The mill had been called “the oldest continuously operated private business in the country.” Even with the wheel rusted out and the forebay battered by the “Agnes” tropical storm and flood of 1972, Langrell and his on-in-law were on the scene every day selling flour and feed. A public celebration on September 8, 1974, honored Mr. Langrell for his continuous service; the afternoon was marked with colonial costumes and the publication of a booklet on the mill by Dr. Dorothy R. Davis. But on November 29, the ancient miller died. The following paragraphs were written when he lived, and rather than change the wording to the past tense, it is presented as written from fresh impressions:

. . . The author interviewed Cap’n Langrell, more or less on the hoof, while taking some photos on March 15, 1968. He had just recovered from 9 weeks in the hospital; perhaps there was something wrong with his lungs—he had been breathing dust for 66 years and it did affect some milling families. He complained of general weakness while manhandling a 100-pound sack of bran middlings. He had been put out to work at age 15 to support the family and had worked at six mills; three of those years he worked for Willard Todd, father of Mrs. Paul Knotts of the Historical Society. Milling gets in some families’ blood; Mrs. Knotts can’t stay away from mills. He had been a widower for two years and was much visited by ladies with a sudden interest in molinosophy; he was living with his daughter, although he had resorted to television dinners, which he actually liked. Mr. Langrell has been retreating from overwhelming competition in several fields: the chicken feed business is now dominated by “the big guys,” in particular the combined mills of Easton and Saint Michaels (the Shoregood line) which knew how to blend medicines into the mash. Mr. Langrell is also concerned about the overproduction of chickens on the Eastern Shore. Langrell is far from an irascible

opponent of big government, and hardly the sort to fling flour on the Federal agent; he is a short, affable little man, a white-haired Leprechaun of the milling trade with a pixie grin and sense of humor; he has long seen the handwriting on the mill wall, and in spite of being trampled on by the forces of economic history, has always come up with a product, whether it is broiler feed or hog feed, to keep the oldest business going. Although his spectacles are coated with dust, he has no illusions. He finds the maunderings of historians rather amusing, perhaps even pathetic. He confided to the author that he forgot to tell Max Chambers about the old brick he had dug up under the foundations—it had four numerals on it, “many generations back,” but he forgot what numerals they were and the maid seems to have mislaid the brick.

... The CBS television crew from New York impressed him the most with their elaborate truck full of equipment—that was the Charles Kuralt program. Most of the mil-worshippers in Preston missed seeing the film when finally shown. The National Park Service historians visited the mill the day before the author did: the miller said he had “ten head” of some kind of government people along with the Caroline County Historical Society, including Mrs. Clara Mitchell and Ms. Dora Mitchell.

... The paper “sacks” in use called the works “Linchester Roller Mills” and advertised “Fresh Water-Ground Corn Meal” in red and green ink. Langrell was then giving lessons in corn-grinding to Sherman Cooper of Wicomico County’s Double Mills: Cooper was “doing real well” at even though he didn’t come of a milling family.

... Langrell had the story that the mill elevator had been invented by a slave who grew tired of carrying bags of ground meal upstairs and strung together a chain of gourds to form an endless belt; a white man then made off with the idea as his own; the name of this white villain hadn’t been handed-down—Mr. Langrell had never heard of Oliver Evans (who had once kept a general store at Hillsboro). The present-day elevators, not much changed since 1795, consist of a series of spoon-like scoops attached to a moving belt; the belt travels inside a wooden conduit and gradually takes the contents of its bin to the floor above for cooling, sifting, or storage. Linchester Mill still had two run of stones, although only one was in use. The stones are solid, one-piece types, driven by a sophisticated system of massive iron gears. The Cologne stones were used for cornmeal, the French burrs for flour.

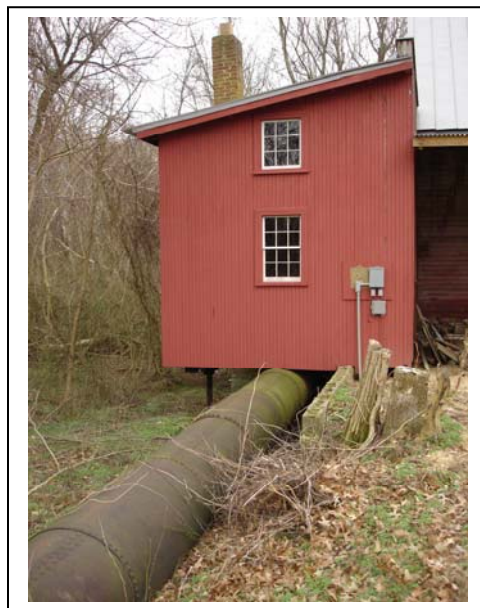
... The mill’s fame has spread. One lady wrote from Chicago and requested a sample of corn meal, but interstate regulations forbid Mr. Langrell to ship it. He had letters also from Alaska and the Ozarks. The mill has even appeared on a calendar of the Caroline Supply Company.

... The Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments advised Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior, that, “Since the Civil War, the mill has been enlarged and altered. All the siding has been replaced and most of the foundations rebuilt. None of the original machinery remains, and

most of it, including the water wheel, dates from the early 1900's or later. Therefore, the Board believes the present Linchester Mill does not represent a type specimen of a colonial mill and does not recommend it for designation as a National Historical Landmark." This decision was based on the visit of park historians and on an article of August, 1966, in the *Southwestern Miller* by Herman Steen, the historian of the American flour industry, who had visited the mill long after having written his nationwide study. Steen did however accept the claim that the Linchester Mill, if truly the lineal descendant of a mill of 1670, 1681, or 1682, was indeed the oldest going concern in the country at that time. Steen rated the mill's out put at a maximum of 50 cwt per 24-hour day, less than average for a mill of its size in its day. [It was a vast increase over the 5 bbl/diem or 5.7 cwt rating given in the 1889 census of manufactures.]

Millwright and restoration contractor Theodore R. Hazen in a letter of August 30, 1999, stated, "I would say that the basic framing of the building was built in the late 1800's or during the 1700's. There were changes in the 1800's and when the roller system and the additions were added."

On July 24, 1973, the author explored the pond area with topographic map in hand. The side streams that enter the pond seemed to be too small, too low in flow to have powered an "upper" mill on the land survey called Squires Chance. There were no good elevations for impounding water. That afternoon, both Bob Glessner and



--photo by Lynn Lanham

Old smokestack used as water flume, 2005.

Frank Langrell stated their agreement that there was no mill farther upstream; in other words, the Linchester site was the best location for a mill, and thus Elizabeth Lowe's early mill must have operated at the same location.

On visitors' day on September 8, 1974, the author was able to observe the top floor and the cellar. The forebay had collapsed. The cellar proved to have a concrete floor and a foundation of relatively modern brick walls. There was only crouching room in the cellar. One supporting post had been jacked up with a wooden block that rested on the concrete floor. At the west end, under a shed, was a rusty diesel engine with the nameplate "US." On this visit we obtained a successful photograph of the carving of a sailing vessel on the side panel of the stair treads. [Later this carved plank was stolen—legend held that it was carved by Indians.]

Linchester was not the standardized mill design found in Oliver Evans' 1795 book. The mill has no "hood" or "cathead" extension of the roof to shelter a hoisting apparatus. The mill lacks the series of loading doors located one over the other in the gable end as shown in Plate IX, the typical mill design of Thomas Ellicott published in the fifth part of Evans' book.

The MHT's house organ, *SWAP*, December 1981, p. 3, noted, "In view of the damaged condition of the Linchester Mill dam, the county is considering trying to acquire the property, including the historic mill, from its private ownership and subsequently restore the dam."

By 2006, the mill was indeed in the hands of the Historical Society of Caroline County and some stabilization work had been started. The failure to list the mill on the National Historic Landmarks list seems to have been characteristic of a pro-colonial bias spawned by Williamsburg in the 1930s and still prevailing in the 1960s. The entire range of significance of the Industrial Revolution, none of it "colonial", is now more appreciated. Mills did not stand still with the equipment of the 1600s but adapted every new device right down to the electric generator to stay productive and solvent. Linchester Mill, shorn of its vegetation resembles the Big Mill in Worcester County and Barren Creek and Rewastico Mills in Wicomico County, and Red Lion Mill in Queen Anne's County. This resource bears MHT Site No. CAR-5. Location is 24-E-4 in the ADC Street Atlas.

See also "Pritchett & McNash Carding Mill" which was probably inside the mill. John R. Wright, postmaster of Upper Hunting Creek in 1826, was the first operator of the carding mill.

Sources. Cap'n Langrell (as Max Chambers dubbed him) was perhaps the most interviewed miller in history:

Swepson Earle, "Murray's Mill," in *Maryland's Eastern Shore* (1916), p. 164. [Earliest claim for the date of 1681].

Associated Press, "Mill Which Aided the Revolution Still Is Operating On Shore," *Baltimore Sun*, July 21, 1940.

WPA *Guide*, p. 376.

Associated Press, "Ancient Shore Grain Mill Will Grind Again for Army," March 3, 1942.

Also, A. H. Deute, "The Stone s Grind Slowly," *Gourmet*, March 1943. [This article described Ethel, cook for Max Chambers, carrying home cornmeal from Linchester and gave her recipe for Rock Fish in Cornmeal].

Ray P. Davis, "300-Year Old Mill Still Doing Its Part," *Evening Sun*, March 6, 1946.

James C. Mullikin, "Spare That Old Mill," *Baltimore American*, June 18, 1959 [when a highway plan threatened the mill].

Phillip Evans, "Owner Won't Sell Grist Mill Which Predates the Revolution," *Baltimore Evening Sun*, April 7, 1961.

"Oldest Operating Grist Mill in U. S.," *Evening Sun*, January 8, 1962.

"Time By Passes Old Lincheter Mill," *Easton Star-Democrat*, February 25, 1965.

Frank Megargee, "Grist Mill Owner Won't Quit Grind," *Evening Sun*, January 26, 1966 [illustrated with wrong photo of a water wheel].

Mary Warren, "The Mill at Linchester," *Maryland Conservationist*, June 1967.

Hon. Rogers C. B. Morton, M. C., *Congressional Record*, July 27, 1967 [Mr. Morton was later Secretary of the Interior].

Herman Steen, "Maryland Grist Mill, Which Furnished Flour to George Washington's Forces, Still Operating and Proposed as a Historic Shrine," *Southwestern Miller*, August 9, 1966.

"An Old Grist Mill Grinds On," *Baltimore Sun*, August 24, 1967.

John Milton, "The Old Mill Grinds Away in Maryland," *New York Times*, Sunday, September 10, 1967.

Orlando V. Wooten, "Old Mill Still Grinds Out Meal for Pone, Poultry," *Salisbury Sun*, October 29, 1967.

Mary Coddry, "An Old Man and a Mill," *Tidewater Times*, November 1967.



Linchester Mill about 1914, courtesy of Ted Hazen.

Television interview conducted by Charles Kuralt, WMAR-TV, CBS Evening News, December 6, 1967. Film acquired by State Department of Tourism.

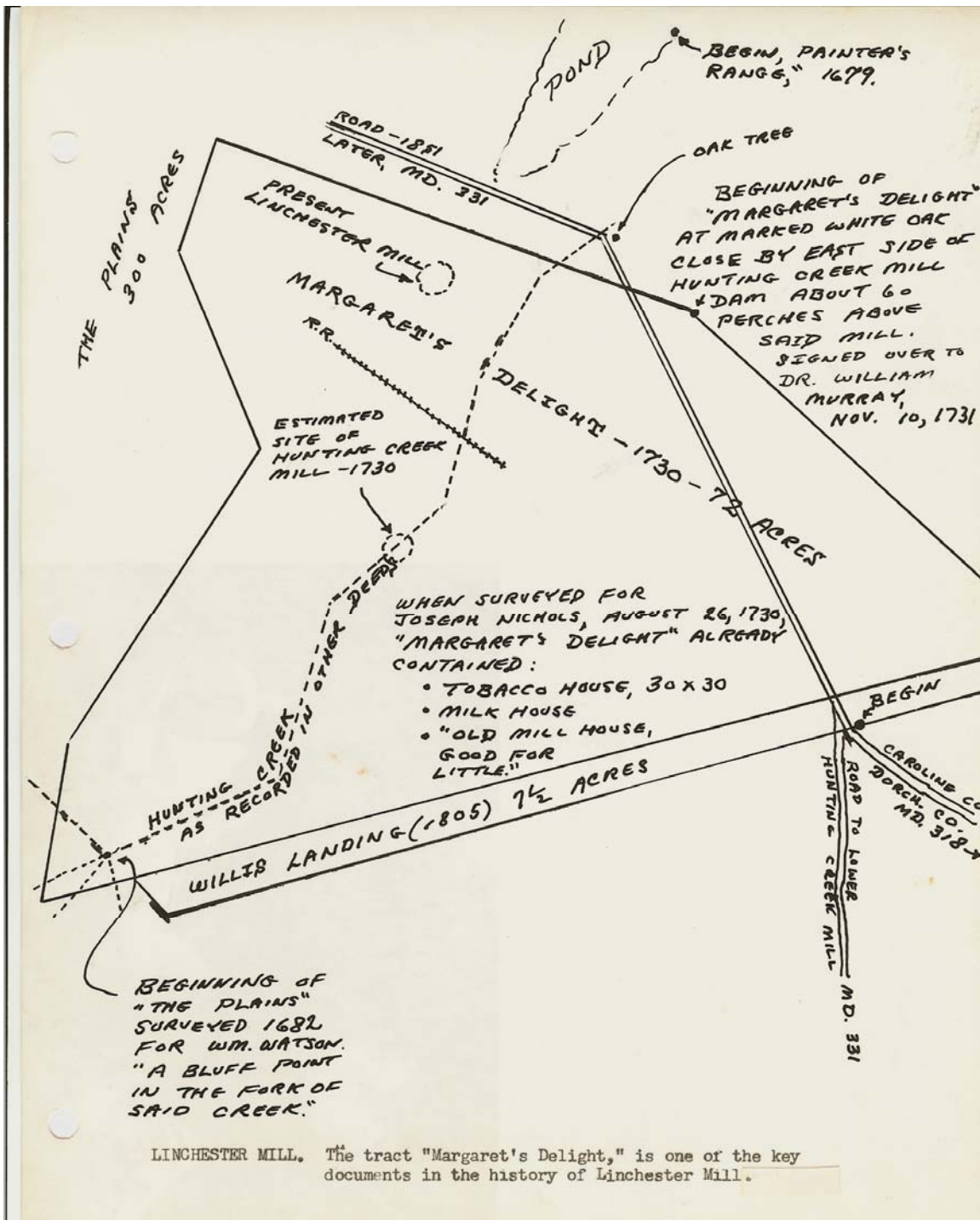
Ray Richardson and Wade Hooker, "Back to the Grind," *Argus*, College Park, Md., December 1967.

Philip H. Lowe, "Oldest Grist Mill in U. S. Keeps Grinding Away," *Washington Evening Star*, January 22, 1968.

Frank Megargee, "Linchester Mill Eyed as Landmark," *Baltimore Evening Sun*, March 7, 1968



Meal sack given the author in 1968.



Land grants in and around Linchester. Platted by the author.

Frank Megargee, "Historical Mill Studied by Scholars," *Baltimore Evening Sun*, March 15, 1968.

"Caroline's Historic Landmark Not Historic Enough," *County Record*, Denton, July 17, 1968.

Dorothy R. Davis, *Langrell's Mill, Linchester, Maryland, c. 1670-1974* (Preston, Md., 1974).

LIME KILN ()

The American Farmer, 3 (February 2, 1842): 290, reported a kiln at Hillsboro that had been going 2 or 3 years, producing 26,000 bu of quick lime per annum. The demand was stimulated by agricultural societies.

LOWE AND WEST SAWMILL (6)

"Lowe and West have moved their sawmill from Denton Bridge. We understand they intend locating it near Chincoteague Bay," *Denton Journal*, June 3, 1876, p. 3.

LOWE MIL (4)

See Linchester Mill entry.

LUCAS MILL (6)

Same as Knotts.

LYNCH GRAIN AND FEED CO. (3)

This is a large, modern feed mill on Crystal Avenue in Denton, supplier of Swifts products [1976].

McKHETT SAWMILL (1)

This was shown as A. McKhett's sawmill on the north side of the present Md. 313 east of Jones Road on the 1897 Saulsbury map. Location was 4-D-6 in the ADC Street Atlas.

MARINE MILL (4)

See Nichols Sawmill.

MARINE/ MERINE MILLS (-)

See Dorchester County chapter for Merine or Merine Mill near Federalsburg.

MARSDIN MILL (1)

See Mud Mill.

MEDFORD MILL (DELAWARE)

See Mud Mill.

MELVIN SAWMILL ()

The 1860 census of manufactures listed John Melvin with \$3000 capital investment in a steam sawmill with 3 employees, a 16 hp engine, and annual output of \$3000 in country work.

MERRIKEN MILL (5)

See Idlewylde Mill.

MESSENGER MILL (5)

This large frame flour mill was built by H. B. Messenger ca. 1900 at Railroad Avenue and South Main Street, Federalsburg. It passed to Bill Bell and then to Walter Perry Messick, who also had owned a tomato cannery and flour mill at Beulah in Dorchester County. The works was operated in recent years as Federalsburg Milling Company.



Federalsburg Milling Company, 197_.

MESSICK CANNERY (4)

This cannery at Bethlehem first belonged to H. M. Messick and then to A. J. Messick and stood until 1967.

MESSICKS STEAM MILL (4)

R. M. Messick's steam mill near Harmony was mentioned in the election district boundary description, *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1884, Chapter 17. The 1880 census of manufactures listed \$2500 capital investment, 5 employees, 1 gang of 3 saws, 1 circular saw, 15 hp, and annual output of 300,000 ft (\$3450) during a 4-month season. A quarter of the logging was done by Messick.

MISSICK MILL (5)

Same as Messenger Mill.

MILFORD MILL ()

A tract called Milford Mill was owned by Francis Sellers and occupied by Jurman Codd was listed in the 1798 tax list of Done Hundred.

MILL CREEK (3/8)

Mill Creek flows into the Choptank out of Williston Lake below Potters Landing on the 1950 topographic map; the stream is related to Potters Mill. There is also a Mill Creek on the current Tax Map No. 37.

MILL FARM (1)

Mill Farm in the upper election district was property of Thomas Slaughter when he died intestate. The commissioners appointed to value his estate announced their meeting at Mill Farm, *Kent News*, Chestertown, July 14, 1849. The grist and sawmill, dwelling, and 12 acres were evaluated at \$2600. Robert McGonigal, husband of Julia Ann Slaughter, elected to buy the property; Erastus Anderson was tenant. Slaughter had also owned Old Town and other tracts (Chancery Papers, No. 9803, MSA).

MILL LAND (5/8)

Thomas Andrew patented a 25-acre tract called Mill Land in 1746 (Patents, Liber LG No. E:602, MSA). The tract was on the north side of Brights Branch that flowed out of the east side of Northwest Fork of Nanticoke. Probably near the present Smithville.

MILL LAND ENLARGED ()

Mill Land Enlarged was a tract patented in 1792 by James Wright of Levin, (Certificate No. 196, MSA). Mill land Enlarged was a tract owned by the late Jacob Wright (d. 1830) and ordered sold by the Court of Chancery in 1846. The lot only brought \$78 when sold to Edward Nichols (Chancery Papers No. 6240).

MILL LANDING (6)

Mill Landing was a tract patented by James Seth in 1771; it was on the east side of Tuckahoe Creek, the site also called “Sloop Landing on Hills Shore.” See also, Knotts Mill.

MILL POND ENLARGED (5)

See Gray Mill.

MILL RANGE ()

Matthew Driver had the tracts Hap Hazard, Clements Chance, and other parcels resurveyed into a new shape called Mill Raing or Mill Range in 1770, receiving his patent in 1785 (Caroline Patented Certificate No. 156; Patents, Liber IC No. B:129, MSA). The Land Office indexed listed it as Mill Rain only because the letter “g” had been torn off the Certificate for Mill Raing.

MILL RANGE CORRECTED ()

Mill Range Corrected was a tract surveyed in 1805 for Matthew Driver (Certificate No. 197, MSA. Also mentioned in Chancery Records of 1845, Liber B168:120-123, MSA). The 12-acre tract was advertised with a granary, smokehouse, and dwelling of the late John Jones, near Townsends X Roads, Denton *Pearl*, prior to trustees’ sale scheduled for March 24, 1846.

MILL SEAT ()

Mill Seat was a tract of 39.7 acres surveyed in 1784 by Caleb Ricketts (Certificate No. 198, MSA).

MILL SEAT ()

Mill Seat, 57 acres, was bequeathed in 1788 by Richard Tilghman Earle to his son Michael Tilghman Earle, Jr., and was a subject of dispute over the residue of the estate. There was a mention of the “mill creek called the Hay Marsh.” Richard Tilghman Earle [Jr.] was highest bidder at the trustees’ auction held at Denton, December 4, 1827 (Chancery Records, Liber B134:630-632, MSA). The land adjoined Goodwill.

MILL SEAT (4)

“Mill Seat”, a tract worth \$100 was charged to Daniel Williams in the 1866 Assessment Record of Election District 4 (H. R. #12,878, MSA).

MILL SECURITY ()

Mil Security was the name of three tracts surveyed for various owners:

**1777 Frederick Causey
1783 Stephen Slaughter
1784 Richard Tilghman Earle,**

(Certificates No. 201, 199, and 200, respectively, MSA). There was a distinct Mill Security tract in Dorchester County.

MILL SWAMP, ADDITION TO (4)

William H. Wright was charged with Addition of Mill Swamp, 116-1/2 acres assessed at \$2563 (Assessment Record, Election District No. 4, 1866, HR #12,878, MSA).

MILL SWATHE ()

David Todd owned Mill Swathe, 20 acres, in Fork and Bridge Town Hundred, in the 1798 tax list.

MILL TRACT (4)

Ezra R. Ayres owned 100 acres called The Gambriel Land worth \$800 and 7 acres of the Mill Track [sic] worth \$56 in the 1866 Assessment Record of election district No. 4, (HR #12,878, MSA).

MOFFAT MILL (1)

James Moffat was listed as miller at Goldsborough in the 1887 State business directory. “James M. Mofatt, Goldsboro, Md., has made a change in his mill, adopting the Gathman System of milling and putting in the Garden City Break Machine and Brush Scalpers, manufactured by the Garden City Mill Furnishing Co., Chicago, Ill,” *American Miller*, 12 (September 1, 1884): 483.

MOORE GRANARY (2)

The house. Lot, and granary of the late Thomas H. Moore was advertised in the Denton Journal, October 1, 1864. It was in Greensborough opposite the store house of Messrs. Ridgeway and West.

MOORE MILL (2)

See Draper Mill.

MOORE MILL (6) MOORE MILL LANE

Thomas Moore of Sussex County, Delaware, built a grist and sawmill in Maryland, HCLN, p. 191. The 1860 census of manufactures listed Thomas Moore with \$3000 capital investment in a gristmill with 1 employee and annual output of 8000 bu of corn, 1600 of wheat, and 500 of rye (\$9400). The *Denton Journal*, July 19, 1890, reported, "James Demby, aged 14 . . . drowned in Moore's mill-pond, near Hillsboro, Sunday"

MOORES IRON MINE (8)

Risdon Moore patented 10 acres called Moore's Iron Mine in 1768 (Patents, BC & GS 33:485). The certificate of survey had been taken out by James Murray in 1757 and later assigned to Ambrose Goslin and then to Moore. The beginning of the tract was on the north side of Wolfpit Branch "about 35 perches below a bridge that crosses said branch between Flurrance Sullivans and Richard Websters." The Dorchester County land records speak of Iron Mine Branch as a NW fork of the Nanticoke. The Moore tract was presumably near the present Agner and supplied ore to the Douglas/Federalburg Bloomery. Location was grid 20-B-9 in the ADC Street Atlas.

MORGANS MILL (6)

Same as Knotts Mill.

MORGAN MILL (8)

This saw and corn mill was built at Chestnut Grove by William Morgan. The 1866 Assessment Record [of Election District 4] carried William Morgan with 30 acres of sawmill and a Mill Seat (HR # 12,878, MSA).

Isler's 1875 map showed it as the W. Morgan Mill. The 1880 census of manufactures listed the Morgan sawmill with \$1000 capital investment, 1 employee, 1 circular and 1 Muley saw; an 8-foot fall on "Nanticoke" drove one 3-foot Rich wheel at 200 rpm, 8 hp, to cut 50,000ft (\$750) during a 6-month season.

The gristmill represented \$1000 capital investment and had one employee, 1 run of stones, and 25 bu/diem maximum capacity. One-eighth of the business was custom. The same fall drove a 4-foot Rich wheel at 100 rpm to develop 15 hp. Annual output was 27 tons meal, and 1 ton feed (\$1000) over a 6-month operating season.

The mill served as the post office and was renamed Agner for a later owner, John Agner, HCLN, p. 288. The Saulsbury map of 1897 showed the pond but not the mill. The post office was discontinued 1902. The 1950 topographic map showed Agner village, since disappeared, on the east bank of Wolfpit Branch and east of Md. 313.

MOWBRAY MILL (5)

See Hog Creek Mill.

MUD MILL (1)

MUD MILL ROAD

David Marsdin took out a writ of *ad quod damnum* on a River Branch near the head of Choptank, January 10, 1756. The jury met at a tract called Fountenfield Addition and found 10 acres of that tract in possession of Anna Maria Hemsley, awarding her 2/2 yearly; the other side belonged to the Lord Proprietor and he was awarded 8 pence Sterling yearly (Chancery Records, Liber IR No. 5:94, MSA).

In November 1759, David Marsdin of Queen Anne's County, millwright, and John Moore of New Castle County, Delaware, sold to Thomas Murray of Kent County, Delaware, all his interest in the 10 acres on Choptank River Branch "with the water mill standing thereon" (Queen Anne's County deeds, RT No. F:62, MSA).

Another early clue to Mud Mill is found in the published notebooks of the Mason-Dixon survey of the line between Maryland and Delaware. An entry made on May 2, 1768, showed that the surveyors encountered a pond between the 42nd and 43rd mile posts: "N. B. The last 3 or 4 Cords passed around a Mill Pond in Choptank which I did not attend. The water about 4 feet deep" (*The Journal of Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon* (Philadelphia, 1969), p. 205).

The predecessor of the present Mud Mill appeared on the Dennis Griffith 1794-1795 map as Joseph Furtad's mill and may date from 1760-1780. A 1783 deed described Furtad as a millwright from Kent County, Delaware. The mill was shown in HCLN, p. 180 as Mud Mill. The legal title of the mill was "Choptank Mill" and although the building is in Delaware, the Mud Mill has been closely associated with Caroline County and its postal address is Henderson, Md.

Isaac Jump acquired the property and tore down the old mill and built a new one announced in the *Dover Sentinel*, April 22, 1876. Richard Alan Sehorn discovered an insurance application made by Jump in 1876 for coverage of a new three-story mill house, 22 x 60 feet and a saw mill house 20 x 60 feet. The mill lacked a "hood," the characteristic extension of the roof ridge sheltering the hoisting apparatus. The mill was much like Linchester Mill, Big Mill in Worcester County, or Red Lion Mill in Queen Anne's County.

The *Denton Journal*, February 8, 1896, reported, “William Medford, miller, near Goldsborough . . . in darkness, walked into a strand of barbed wire . . . hit in eye . . . fear he will lose sight of it entirely”

The Mill was conveyed to John B. Medford in 1898 by Harriett C. Comegys (Kent County, Delaware deeds, Liber B, Vol. 8:445). In 1920, John B. Medford was listed as owner at Medford Cross Roads in HCLN, pp. 20, 182. Present tax maps showed the owner as Paul J. Medford (Liber 154:166), and the J. B. Medford Company is still functioning [1968] supplying Red Rose feeds and corn meal.

On a visit in March 1989, the mill was standing but closed. It can be reached from Henderson by going east into Bee Tree Road, then left into Mud Mill Road. There was also an old house and barns. Location was grid 5-H-2 in the Caroline County ADC Street Atlas.

Richard Alan Sehorn in 2005 published a complete, 150-page history of the works, *The Mills and Millers of Mud Mill Pond, Kent County, Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland: 1757 to the Present—A Documentary History*.

MURRAYS MILL (4)

See Linchester Mill.

NAGEL MILL(8)

Successor of Andrew Mill, q. v.

“NEW MILL, DENTON” (6 or 3)

The dam was washed out, but the mill-house and machinery escaped damage, *Denton Journal*, July 16, 1869. The owners decided to build a “tumble down” upstream to serve until the winter passed,” *Ibid.*, January 30, 1869.

NICHOLS MILL (6)

See Knotts Mill for the one near Hillsboro.

NICHOLS MILL (8)

For the J. Nichols Mill shown on Fowling Creek on the 1875 Isler map, see Andrew Mill.

NICHOLS SAWMILL (4)

Isler’s 1875 county map showed the J. Nichols sawmill on Bells Creek near the confluence with the Choptank, at Wings Landing. John Nichols of E bequeathed the mill to son John E. Nichols, who deeded “Nichols Saw Mill” to his mother Mary

E. Nichols, in 1875 (Caroline County deeds, JWT No. 37:58). The mill was then occupied by William Marine.

The property was ordered sold in the case of Nichols –vs- Nichols in 1877. The sale report described the mill as “Marine’s Mills” on the road from Gilpins Point to Dover Bridge. It was sold with 45 acres to William Marine for \$465 in January 1878 (Caroline County Chancery Records, Liber LHG 9:43, 48). Nichols Mill Pond is now dried up [1976].

NICHOLS SAWMILL (5)

The 1798 tax list of Fork and Bridgetown Hundreds showed John Nichols with a sawmill assessed at \$250 on the tract Addition to Rawley. John Nichols, son of Isaac Nichols, inherited a grist and saw mill from his mother, Mary Nichols, by her will made in 1791. The gristmill was in Caroline County, while the sawmill was in Dorchester, which then included part of Federalsburg. John Nichols was the Founder of Federalsburg and the town was laid out on his land.

NOBLE CANNERY (5)

“Factories” were founded at Ellenwood and Friendship by Fulton Noble and carried on by Charles Noble.

NUTTLE MILL ()

“We hear it rumored that new grist and saw mills are to be erected in our county. Mr. W. G. Horsey and Mr. T. Nuttle both contemplate erecting mills on favorable streams during the present year. We have an abundance of water power in the county but fear the grain and saw mills will soon cease to be a profitable investment. By a combination of capital a factory could easily be placed upon one of our idle streams. Who will start the enterprise,” *Denton Journal*, January 16, 1869.

NUTTLE SAWMILL (3)

This large sawmill on Lincoln Avenue, Denton, was operated by Nuttle Lumber Company [1976].

OLD BLOOMERY (8)

See Douglas Furnace.

OLDTOWN MILL (1)

Same as Goldsborough Mill.

PATTERSON SAWMILL (6)

The 1880 census of manufacturers listed Joseph L. Patterson with \$500 capital investment in a steam sawmill with 4 employees, 1 circular saw, and 2 boilers. Annual output was 100,000 ft (\$1500) over a 5-month season; some of the logging was performed by Patterson.

PATTON SAWMILL (4)

“Mr. Robert Patton has erected a fine steam sawmill in the neighborhood and is sawing a large quantity of Timber not only for the farmers around who have heretofore been inconvenient to water power,” *Denton Journal*, March 4, 1876.

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Patton as doing 33% of his own logging with 5 employees, a 20 hp steam engine, 1 gang of 3 saws, and 1 circular saw; capital investment was \$2600; annual output was 300,000 ft (\$3000) over a 4-month active season.

PEARAL HOMINY MILLS (4)

J. A. Wright and Brothers were listed in the 1887 State business directory as manufacturers of hominy and fertilizer at Choptank village.

PEARSONS MILL (3)

Pearsons Mills was shown SE of Denton on the map of mills standing in 1810, HCLN, p. 20. Possibly same as Anthonys.

PHILLIPS AND DOUGLAS MILL (4)

The Phillips and Douglas Mill in Preston, originally Whitelys, was built as a steam-powered mill to use scrap lumber from the adjoining sawmill as fuel. In the 1920s, it went into the business of supplying feed mixtures for broilers and the formula was first mixed on the floor using shovels, later progressing to a hand mixer. The mill is now [1976] a warehouse for the Esskay Poultry Growing Division, but the name S. E. Douglas was still barely visible on the wall. This rectangular, frame, commercial feed mill, was on Main Street near the railroad. This was one of the earliest mills to serve the broiler industry.

PHILLIPS AND DOUGLAS SAWMILL (4)

This sawmill was operating in Preston before 1900.

PIERCE MILL (3)

This mill was shown as W. Pierce's on the west bank of the Choptank, north side of the road to Denton on Isler's 1875 county map, a steam grist and saw mill.

PITMAN SAWMILL (5)

The A. B. Pitman sawmill was shown on Saulsbury's 1897 county map on north of Hynson on the east side of the present American Corner Road.

POOLS MILLS (3)

See Andersontown Mill.

POTTERS MILL (3)

A mill on Cokaises Creek (now Mill Creek) was leased by James White to Nathaniel Potter as early as 1778. The mill was rebuilt by General William Potter who started but never completed a ship channel to the mill from the Choptank, one mile to the west. The site is Potters Landing, and the mill pond on the east side of Md. 313 is known as Williston Lake.

The *Baltimore American*, August 30, 1843, quoting the *Easton Gazette*, reported that General Potter's Mill was among those mentioned as swept away by the heavy rain [or possibly it was only damaged]."

S. Liden's Mill was shown on the 1875 county map by Isler, and the 1880 census of manufactures showed S. F. Liden with \$5000 capital investment, 2 employees, 3 run of stones, and an 80 bu/diem maximum capacity. Some 90% percent of the business was custom trade. A 14-foot fall on "Choptank" ran the two 23-inch turbines at 216 rpm to develop 16 hp. Annual output was 600 bbl flour, 57.5 tons feed, and 45 tons meal (\$8250).

The 1887 State directory listed A. Anderson as miller at Potters Landing. The *Denton Journal*, December 14, 1889, reported, "Potters Landing . . . Mr. Will Stanton has succeeded Mr. Thomas E. Evans as a miller in Mr. Anderson's employ."

The *American Miller*, 21 (August 1, 1893): 616, reported, "Fred F. Lyden of Baltimore, has purchased the 'Williston Flour Mills' at Denton, Md., for \$4800."

The *Denton Journal*, April 18, 1896, reported, "*Williston* The work of digging out, preparatory to the building of an addition to Mr. W. C. Todd's mill at this place, is now being pushed forward. When completed Mr. Todd will have one of the finest roller mills in the county." The same paper on May 9, 1896, reported, "Mr. J. P. Brown has completed the stone-work for the foundation of Mr. W. C. Todd's new mill, at Williston, and carpenters are now erecting the building. Mr. Todd will have one of the best mills on the Shore." The *Denton Journal* of October 3, 1896, reported, "Mr. W. C. Todd will move to Williston at the end of the year to take charge of the new mill he recently built." The 1897 Saulsbury county map showed the William Todd mill there.

In 1920, the mill was operated by Willard C. Todd and was called Williston Mill, HCLN, pp. 20, 165, 247-249. *Rivers of the Eastern Shore* (1940) described a large warehouse or mill at Potters Landing but incorrectly related that building to the

actors, The Two Johns, and their now extinct dance pavilion and theatre which was at Keens Landing (p. 197). The mill suffered flood damage in 1919, losing 20 to 30 ft of the dam, HCLN, p. 348.

Mr. Todd sold some of his roller equipment to Frank S. Langrell, his hired miller, who installed it in his own business at Linchester. The red wooden mill was owned by A. J. Willis at the time of writing in 1976 and it stood in the yard of Todd's Former house. The house was disassembled and moved; it had originally been put together with pegs. The water entered by a large cistern from a broad mill race; since the mill was converted to turbines, there was no longer an external water wheel. A painting of the mill hangs [1976] in the Caroline County Clubhouse.

Theodore R. Hazen, mill restorationist, wrote to the author on August 30, 1999 that he had visited Potters Mill, "It appears to have been constructed around the 1880s. It had two pairs of millstones. Only one pair remains. The millstone gearing has been removed along with the roller mills. The water turbines and elevators, sack hoist, and a smutter and lots of parts remain." The author also heard from Gerry Brown of Federalsburg in July 1985 that a grandfather, William W. Harper (1860-1888) was a miller at Potters about 1884).

Ed Richards at the 2005 SPOOM Conference told the author that Potters Mill or Todds was at that time owned by himself and his wife. The brand name had been Silver Lake Roller Mill. The external wheel had been moved to Linchester. The Williston Mill was added to the National Register in 2002. This resource bears MHT Site No. CAR-47. Location was grid 15-B-7 in the ADC Street Atlas.

POTTERS TANNERY (3)

General Potter had a tannery at Potters Landing; the vats were still visible in 1920, HCLN, p. 248.

PRICE SMITH SHOP ()

A line drawing of Marshall E. Price's blacksmith shop appeared in the *Baltimore American*, May 3, 1895; Price had been convicted of murder at Denton.

PRITCHETT AND McNASH (4)

John R. Wright, Upper Hunting Creek, advertised the "well known and celebrated machine now in full operation" for the mixing and carding Merino or ordinary wool, *Easton Gazette*, October 3, 1829. Wright was appointed postmaster of Upper Hunting Creek in 1826.

The partners Pritchett and McNash advertised that their carding machine was operating and wool could be left at Easton or "at the machine at Upper Hunting Creek Caroline County," *The Whig*, Easton, July 2, 1839. John Becham advertised his carding machine at Upper Hunting Creek and announced he had employed an experienced carder, *Ibid.*, June 2, 1840. There was a carding machine in the

Linchester Mill when it was offered for sale in 1865. The Wright connection suggests that the carding mill was in the Linchester Mill itself.

PURNELL MILL ()

“Whereas I contemplate to erect a Grist Mill in Caroline County, at or near where Thomas Hardcastle, Esq., hath lately built a new bridge (to be turned by the water that may run down Choptank River) – Plan . . . to . . . apply . . . to . . . general assembly . . . for a law . . . to condemn such part or parts of the said stream Isaac Purnell,” *Easton Herald*, August 26, 1800. The same advertisement appeared again on August 24, 1802. The Caroline County land records show that Isaac Purnell of Baltimore City, Gentleman, acquired a number of tracts in this period.

REDDEN SAWMILL (3)

See Denton Flour Mill.

REPLOGLE MILL (7)

S. B. Replogle owned a gristmill, flour, and feed mill, at Ridgely in the 1887 State business directory.

RICHES MILL BRANCH ()

Same as present Tubmill Branch, *Origins of Caroline County*, Horsey, 1:84, 114.

RICKARDS MILL ()

See Sangstons Mill.

RIDGELY FLOURING MILLS (7)

The *American Miller*, 13 (January 1, 1885): 31, reported, “A grist mill is about to be built at Ridgely, Md. [entire text].” The *American Miller*, 20 (May 1, 1892): 369, reported, that J. D. Wilson of Ridgely, Md., had ordered four pair of Case rolls [which means that the project was a roller mill].

“James H. & Robert E. Smith are building a 40-barrel flour mill at Ridgely, Md.,” *American Miller*, 28 (July 1, 1900): 564. D. J. Wilson and Sons operated the Flouring Mills about 1900, *The Founding of Ridgely*, p. 20.

RIDGELY SUPPLY CO. (7)

Ridgely Supply Company in Ridgely was agent for Southern States feeds, DMM, 1968.

ROBERETSONS MILL (4)

See Linchester Mill.

RODGERS FULLING MILL ()

Michael Rogers had a fulling mill in Great Choptank Hundred in the 1798 tax list.

ROE SAWMILL)1)

C. J. Roe sawmill was listed at Goldsboro in the 1880 State business directory.

ROWER STILL ()

Thomas Rower had a still house 16 x12 ft on Wootens Choice on the 1798 tax list.

SAPP MILL (2)

James Sapp was listed as miller at Greensborough in the 1887 State business directory.

SANGSTON MILL ()

The *Manufacturers' Record*, 18 (January 31, 1891): 40, reported, "Burned—Denton, Md.—The flour mill of Dr. H. N. Rickrads." The *American Miller*, 19 (March 1, 1891): 199, reported, "Sangston's Mill,' near Denton, Md., owned by Dr. H. N. Rickards, was burned on the night of January 24. It is supposed that the fire originated in the office of the building, where a stove was kept, and before the miller was aware of the fire had made such progress as to make it impossible to put it out or to save any of the contents of the mill. The property recently sold for \$1,900, and considerable repairs have been made. The insurance is supposed to cover the loss. As the mill stream is considered to be among the best in Caroline County, it is likely that the mill will be rebuilt at an early date."

SANGSTON TANNERY (2)

The tan house and tannery of Charlotte Sangston at Greensborough were advertised in a collector's sale, *Denton Journal*, March 11, 1876.

SATTERFIELD AND MOORE MILL (2)

"Messrs. Satterfield and Moore's loss by the burning of their mill and factory at Greensborough on Friday is reported to be . . . \$25 or \$30,00 . . . \$15,000 insurance," *Denton Journal*, August 5, 1876.

The 1880 census of manufactures listed this works with \$15,000 capital investment, with 10 employees, 2 boilers, 60 hp steam engine, 1 gang of 5 saws, 1 each circular, Muley, and band saw. Annual output was 1 million ft (\$15,000) (\$10,000 of which was sash and door production). The *Maryland Directory*, 1880, noted under the entry for Greensboro, "There is a large steam saw and planning mill, cutting ship and building timber to order, the same mill produces immense quantities of fruit

baskets and crates; the enterprising owners of this mill have built to order on their own account sea vessels ranging from 300 to 700 tons.”

“Wm. C. Satterfield, Goldsborough, will rebuild sawmill . . . reported as burned contemplates adding a flour mill,” *Manufacturers Record*, 10 (January 8, 1887): 778.

SATTERFIELD SAWMIL (2)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed W. C. Satterfield with \$1000 capital investment in a sawmill with 2 employees; Satterfield did half his own logging. There was one each circular and Muley saw driven by a 10-foot fall on the Choptank; four 30-inch Diggins Patent wheels developed 12 hp to cut 200,000 ft (\$3000) annually.

SAWMILL (1)

A steam sawmill was shown at Melville on Isler’s 1875 map. Location was 5-A-1 in the ADC Street Atlas.

SAWMILL (5)

A sawmill was shown on Tanyard Branch in Federalsburg on the 1875 map by Isler.

SAWMILL (5)

A sawmill was shown on the south side of Md. 318, Rehobeth Road, east of Federalsburg on Saulsbury’s 1897 map; the mill was opposite the Villiard house. Location was 26-G-5 in the ADC Street Atlas. See Sullivan Mill.

SAWMILL ROAD (6)

On current road maps, Sawmill Road runs between Crouse Mill Road and Eveland Road. No mill was shown on the 1897 Saulsbury map. The east terminus of the road is at 7-B-12 in the ADC Street Atlas.

SAULSBURY MILL (2)

H. Saulsbury’s gristmill was shown on the 1875 map by Isler on Brodeys Branch at the election district line. That stream was called Broadway Branch on the 1950 topographic map. The 1880 census of manufactures listed Alex. Saulsbury with \$4000 capital investment in a mill with 1 employee, 2 run of stones, 80 bu/diem maximum capacity; all work was custom trade. A 14-foot fall on Choptank drove a 12 hp overshot wheel 14 ft broad at 9 rpm to produce 600 bbl flour, 170 tons meal, and 27 tons feed (\$7232).

SELBY MILL ()

The 1860 census of manufactures listed John P. Selby with \$2500 capital investment in a water mill with 1 employee and an annual output of 4000 bu corn, 1000 bu wheat, and 500 bu rye (\$5200).

SETHS MILL (6)

See Knotts Mill.

SEWELL MILL (2)

See Draper Mill.

SHOCKLEY MILL (1)

This 20th century commercial feed mill was operated at Goldsboro on the east side of Md. 313 by Howard Shockley, supplying Purina Chows (1968).

SISK CANNERY (4)

The A. W. Sisk formerly had a tomato cannery at Preston and built a corn cannery and brokerage business; there was also a branch office at Aberdeen, Md.

SMITH MILL ()

The 1860 census of manufactures listed Francis Smith with \$2500 capital investment in a water mill with 1 employee and annual output of 4000 bu corn, 1000 bu wheat, and 200 bu rye (\$5050).

SMITH MILL (1)

Nathaniel Smith took out a writ of ad quod damnum, April 15, 1720, in Choptank Parish on a branch at the head of great Choptank, partly the properties of the Lord Proprietor, of Richard Benentt, and of Vachel Denton, a tract then in Dorchester County (Chancery Records, Liber 3:520f, MSA). The mill was mentioned in *Laws of Md.*, Acts of 1834, Chapter 11 in relation to building a pond on the Tidy Island Creek, a stream entirely within the first election district.

SMITH MILL (3)

See Denton Flour Mil at Denton Bridge.

SMITH MILL (8)

About 1840, Samuel G. Smith bought a mill previously operated by James Wright and before that by Isaac and Levin Smith. The former Samuel G. Smith's Mills were sold by Thomas Roe and William H. Bullock to George W., William, and Eliza J. Lookerman in 1863 (Caroline County deeds, Liber RJ 30:543). The 1866 Assessment Record showed Thomas Roe with 40 acres, a dwelling, and a "grice & saw mill at Smithville, \$2600" (H. R. # 12,878, MSA).

Roe conveyed in 1871 to a trustee who deeded the mill to William T. and W. T. Hignutt in 1874. It was a saw, grist, and bark mill built of brick; both the Isler map of 1875 and the Saulsbury map of 1897 showed the W. T. Hignutt mill. The 1880 census of manufactures listed John W. Hignutt & Co. with \$1000 capital investment in a sawmill with 4 employees, one 15 hp engine, and one gang of 3 saws, plus a circular saw. Annual output was 150,000 ft (\$8342).

The gristmill represented \$4000 capital investment and had 2 workers, 2 run of stones, and 100 bu/diem maximum; some 12.5% of the business was custom work. A 9.5 foot fall on Nanticoke River ran two 2-foot turbines at 140 rpm to develop 15 hp. Annual output was 1000 bbl flour, 17.5 tons meal, and 37.5 tons feed (\$9680). [This mill was unusual for doing so little custom, or barter, business in that rural county.]

The 1887 State business directory listed as millers at Smithville both J. C. Brown and Sons and J. H. Thawley, although the Hignutt ownership continued. The *Denton Journal*, April 13, 1889, reported, "Mr. W. T. Hignutt shot and killed a wild goose on his mill-pond on Wednesday. It measured six feet from tip to top, and when dressed weighed 9-1/2 pounds." The same day the same journal also noted, "Smithville.—The saw mill of Brown Bros., a half mile distant, was burned on Saturday night of last week. The fire was supposed to have originated from sparks from the engine, as the mill had been running the day before. The flames were discovered in time to save the engine. Loss about \$175; no insurance."

The *Denton Journal*, October 12, 1890, reported, "Smithville,--Mr. William T. Hignutt has completed his flour mill, which has been undergoing a radical change. A new machine has been put in which will separate the bran from the flour in a much more satisfactory manner than the old method. A corn-crusher has also been added, which will be run as soon as the corn is dry enough. Hominy and buckwheat mills will also be put in soon. Mr. Joseph Elliott, a well known and first-class miller, has charge of the mill."

Smithville Lake is formed by a dam across Marshyhope Creek and was one of the few ponds where a reflection of the mill could be photographed, in this instance, a not particularly attractive view of a mill covered with sheet metal. Harold J. Elser in "A Preliminary Report of the Smithville Pond Drain Project 1955," reported that the age of the pond was 80 to 150 years and had been used until a decade ago [1946] to operate a mill. The pond was drained to inventory the fish; fish population was 63 pounds per acre in the 43 acre lake, *Maryland Conservationist*, 33 (May 1956): 5-7. The mill was closed and the broad wheel was rusting, the sheet-metal walls coming loose [1976]. It was in the 1970s property of Shirley J. Reed, Tax Map No. 50, Caroline County Deeds 172:607. The mill was still standing in 1977 when an inventory form was prepared for the MHT. The MHT Site No. is CE-82. Later Smithville Community Park was developed around the pond. The mill was at 20-K-4 in the ADC Street Atlas, on a small parcel belonging to the Idylwild Wildlife Management Area [2006].



Smithville Mill or Hignutt Mill.

SMITH SAWMILL (2)

The 1880 census listed R. C. Smith with \$3500 capital investment in a 35 hp steam sawmill with 10 employees, 1 gang of 4 saws, 1 circular saw, 3 boilers, and 3 engines. Annual output was 300,000 ft (\$5000). Smith did all his own logging.

SOUTHERN STATES COOPERATIVE (3)

This large modern feed mill was on Hobbs Avenue in Denton; there was also an abandoned warehouse on Market Street (1968).

SPARKS BROTHERS (2)

Sparks Brothers was a feed outlet on the east side of Bridgetown Road, just south of Marble Head Road.

SPRANKLIN MILL (6)

See Knotts Mill.

SPRING MILLS (3)

See Drivers Mill.

STANTONS MILL (8)

Stanton's Mill on Robbins Creek was mentioned in a deed of 1838 (Caroline County deeds, Liber JR 7:488).

STEAM SAWMILL (5)

“THE RESULTS OF A DRUNKEN SPREE.—William Parr, an Englishman and Engineer at the steam saw mill below Federalsburg, ended his days in a very sad

way on Friday night, the 1st instant,” *Denton Journal*, January 9, 1869. Parr fell out of a window to the brick pavement.

STEPHENS MILL ()

The late William Stephen’s 50-gallon “somewhat worn London Still with a large pewter worm” was advertised with his farm, *The Herald*, Easton, October 13, 1801.

SULLIVAN MILL (5)

The 1866 Assessment record listed Sylvester & William Sullivan with a dwelling and a “grice and saw mill and mill seat,” worth \$800 (HR # 12,878, MSA).

W. Sullivan’s grist and saw mill was shown on Tann Yard Branch east of Federalsburg on the 1975 map by Isler. The 1880 census of manufactures listed Sullivan and Bro. mill with \$1000 capital investment, 2 employees, 2 run of stones, and 50 bu/diem maximum capacity. One-eighth the business was custom. A 9-foot fall on “Nanticoke” drove a breast wheel 6 ft broad at 7 rpm, 10 hp. Annual output was 100 bbl flour, 16.2 tons meal, 4.1 tons feed (\$1975).

The William Sullivan property passed to Sylvester Sullivan, Celia Sullivan, and John H. Stack, and they conveyed to a partnership of Charles W. Jefferson, Sylvester Sullivan, and John H. Stack. In 1884, Sullivan sold his interest in the “Mills, engine, Lands, improvements and mill fixtures . . . located at the mills of Jefferson, Stack and Co.” (Caroline County deeds, LHC 49:136).

The *Manufacturers Record*, 8 (December 26, 1885): 646, reported that Stack and Jefferson were rebuilding their steam saw and flouring mills previously burned at Federalsburg. The *American Miller*, 14 (April 1, 1886): 203, reported that Jefferson & Stack of Federalsburg had ordered two circular reel flour bolts from J. H. McConnell of Greenfield, Ohio. The same issue, also on p. 203, reported that S. Morgan Smith of York, Pa., was supplying the burrs, machinery, etc., for a three-run mill of Jefferson & Stack, “which was recently destroyed by fire. The power will be furnished by two Success Turbine Water Wheels.”

Stack sold to Charles W. Jefferson in 1892. The mill passed to the Guarantee Building Association, which in 1909 sold it to Joseph W. Noble and William Eddington; the mill was “on county road from Federalsburg to Seaford, Delaware, improved by one grist mill called Dawsons Mill.” Eddington sold to James B. Wright in 1912. The site was at the present Chambers Lake, a park now within the town of Federalsburg on Md. 313, where a mill stone survived on the grounds in the 1970s. The mill was last known as Eddingtons Mill. Labeled merely “Sawmill” on 1897 Saulsbury map.

Chambers Lake was established as a park in 1938. In the 1970s, the Maryland Plastics factory was next to and SW of the pond on Md. 306. Location of the Sullivan Mill was the south side of present Md. 313 opposite the terminus of Wright

Mill Lane, at grid 26-G-5 in the ADC Street Atlas. Chambers Lake is at grid 25=E-5.

TANNERIES (-)

Tanneries existed at Choptank Bridge, Tuckahoe Bridge, Potters Landing, Hunting Creek, and Northwest Fork, ESMV, p. 1100. There was a tradition that the tanyard at Dover bridge made shoes and leather goods for the army, employing slaves as workers, ca. 1840. There was another tanyard at Williston Mill, and Tan Yard was given as a place name served by Bethlehem post office in *Industries of Md.*, 1880, p. 101. Tanyard village was at grid 17-C-8 in the ADC Street Atlas.

TANYARD BRANCH (5)

Tanyard Branch flows into Marshyhope Creek at Federalsburg, GZMD, 1041. A Mr. Wright, before 1940, had a tanyard on his farm 1.5 miles east of town. The main building was converted into a school. Mr. Henry Mowbray kept a store at "the Point" and shredded black oak tanbark, HCLN, p. 270. The stream crosses Md. 318 and Md. 315 at grid 26-H-5 in the ADC Street Atlas.

THAWLEY MILL (8)

J. H. Thawley and Brother were listed as milers at Smithville in the 1887 State business directory. The *Baltimore Sun*, July 1, 1889, reported, "The boiler of John H. Thawley's saw mill, in Caroline County, Md., exploded, killing James Rasin, colored." The Supplement to the same issue added, "Fatal Boiler Explosion . . . 5 miles east of Denton . . . at Burrsville . . . Rasin did not run in time . . . boiler had been inspected shortly before . . ." The *Denton Journal*, July 13, 1889, reported, "A FATAL BOILER EXPLOSION . . . at J. H. Thawley's steam saw mill near Chilton's camp ground . . . engine tore hold in the roof . . . James Rasin, fireman killed . . ."

THOMPSON GRISTMILL (4)

Same as Hog Creek Mill.

TODD MILL (3)

Same as Potters Mill.

TODD SAWMILL (3)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed Daniel Tood [sic] with \$1000 capital investment in a sawmill with 2 employees, 1 gang of 3 saws, 1 circular saw. A 10-foot fall on Choptank ran a 29-inch turbine at 150 rpm to develop 12 hp to cut 150,000 ft (\$2000) annually. The *Baltimore Sun*, July 21, 1896, reported the death of Daniel Todd aged about 70, a well known farmer and miller of Caroline County, father of four.

TODD SAWMILL (8)

Willard Todd had a sawmill 1.4 miles NE of Concord, 0.6 mile north of Beauchamp Road on the headwaters of Mill (Kokaij's) Creek. "While at work at W. C. Todd's sawmill on Tuesday last, Harrison Beulah, colored, fell into the saw pit and his right hand, coming in contact with the saw was lacerated badly," *Denton Journal*, December 6, 1890. Location was 16-C-9 in the ADC Street Atlas.

TOMATO CANNERIES (4)

Before 1910, there were (1) at Choptank the canneries of James Wright and James Wright, who also owned shirt factories; Walter Wright; Jehu Blades; and two factories of Blades Brothers. (2) About 1917, Frank Lednum had a cannery at Grove on Md. 16. (3) In Preston, there were canneries of Phillips and Douglas; Frank Lednum; J. T. Daniels; A. W. Sisk; Dr. Phillips cannery operating in the later 19th century; and the cannery of Short A. Willis, listed as the world's first tomato cannery.

TOWNS SAWMILL ()

F. W. Towns will rebuild his sawmill, reported last week as burned," *Manufacturers Record*, 20 (October 10, 1891): 38.

TUBMILL BRANCH (2)

Tubmill Branch, suggesting a former mill with an impeller driven on a vertical axis by the stream, flows into the Choptank River south of Greensboro, crossing Md. 313 en route. It was earlier Riches Mill Branch per Eleanor F. Horsey, *Origins of Caroline County*, 1:84, 224. [Tub Mills were called Swedes Mills or Norse Mills in Cecil County, credited to the Fenno-Swedish settlers of nearby Delaware, although such mills existed in Italy and the Balkans, not to mention Calvert County.] Tubmill Branch Road is located at grid 8-H-9 in the ADC Street Atlas.

TUFF MILL (4)

See Linchester Mill.

TUCKAHOE NECK ROLLER MILL (6)

Same as Knotts Mill.

TURPINS IRON MINE ()

"Turpins Iron Mine" was a tract surveyed for Solomon Turpin in 1764 on the north side of Robrium Branch opposite Thomas Hoopers Dwelling plantation (Dorchester County Rent Roll, 3:88, MSA). Iron Mind [sic] Branch was mentioned in a Dorchester County deed in 1767 (21 Old 345).

UPPER HUNTING CREEK MILL (4)

See Linchester Mill.

WEBSTERS MILL (4)

See Linchester Mill.

WHITELEY SAWMILL (4)

Rubin Wootins rented a sawmill owned by William Whiteley in Choptank Hundred on the 1798 tax list.

WHITELEY MILL (4)

The Whiteley Mill in Preston became Phillips and Douglas/Esskay feed mill.

WILHELMINA COLONY SAWMILL ()

The sawmill at Wilhelmina Colony in Caroline County cut 5000 board feet per diem, Catonsville *Argus*, February 13, 1897.

WILLIAMSON OLD MILL (3)

Elias Williamson had a mill on Pealiquor Point, 4 miles from Denton on the Choptank; illustrated in ESMV, p. 193.

WILLIAMSON SAWMILL (3)

E. W. Williamson was listed in the 1887 State business directory as a sawmiller at Potters Landing.

WILLIS CANNERY (5)

Short A. Willis is said to have started the world's first tomato cannery near Preston. He lived on an estate called Blairtown, previously owned by Charles Blair. An Indian village and African American settlement across the road from the farm house came to be called Blairtown. Willis' tomb, inscribed with a large Masonic emblem, is in the woods outside Preston. His son, Colonel Arthur John Willis, commanded Caroline County forces in the Civil War.

WILLIS SAWMILL (4)

Isler's 1875 map showed the steam sawmill of A. J. Willis on the road between Bethlehem and Fowling Creek post office. Willis also owned the Williston Mill, described under Potters Mill.

WILLIS SAWMILL (4)

See Douglas Sawmill.

WILLISTON MILL (3)

Same as Potters.

WILLOUGHBY SAWMILL (8)

J. A. Willoughby's sawmill was shown on Saulsbury's 1897 map on the north side of present Chippmans Lane just west of Marshyhope Creek. Location was 20-G-8 in the ADC Street Atlas, a setting now inside Idylwild Wildlife Management Area.

WILSON FACTORY (3)

Henry Wilson operated a plow factory at Denton in 1835 at the NW corner of Main and Fourth Streets; it was discontinued at his death, HCLN, p 228.

WILSON MILL (3)

See Hardcastles Mill.

WILSON MILL (2)

"James D. Wilson of Greensborough, Md., whose mill was burned recently, is rebuilding," *American Miller*, 13 (January 1, 1885): 31.

WILSONS MILL (6)

See Bradleys Mill.

WILSON MILL (6)

The 1880 census of manufactures listed James D. Eilson with \$4000 capital investment in a mill located on Bryans Creek. The mill had 2 run of stones, 2 employees, an 80 bu/diem maximum capacity and 75% of its business was custom. An 18-foot fall drove an overshot wheel 8 ft broad at 12 rpm to develop 30 hp. Annual output was 10000 bbl flour, 10 bbl rye, 55 tons meal, and 5600 lb hominy (\$9290).

WILSON SAWMILL (3)

Charles S. Wilson was listed as owner of a sawmill at Denton in the 1867 *Hawes Business Directory*, p. 534.

WILSONS SAWMILL (7)

When Ridgely was founded in 1867, the only industry was William Henry Wilson's sawmill on the road to Denton about 0.5 mile from the railroad. The 1867 *Bradstreet's Directory* listed William H. Wilson with a foundry and sawmill at Denton with a BB credit rating. The works was standing in 1883, but by 1912 had been replaced by the home of Mr. Hevalow, *The Founding of Ridgely*, p. 6. Saulsbury's 1897 map showed it on the north side of the present Holsinger Road, east side of the creek leading to Brick Wall Landing. Location was 11-K-1 in the ADC Street Atlas.

WOOD FOUNDRY AND MILL (1)

John W. Wood had a foundry and a sawmill at Marydell listed in the 1887 State business directory.

WRIGHT AND CORKRAN MILL (4)

See Linchester Mill.

WRIGHT CANNERY (4)

The vegetable cannery of John Wright was at Hynson on Md. 318 [1976].

WRIGHT MILL()

James Wright has "at sawmill, the house 16 x 16, mill house 28 x 22" on the tract Dry Savamma," in the 1798 tax list of Fork and Bridgetown Hundreds. Wright also owned the tract Mill Land Enlarged which had a 16 x 12 ft granary on the premises. The mill site was spelled Savanna in other records.

WRIGHT MILL (4)

The *Baltimore Sun*, April 23, 1886, reported under "Caroline County Affairs," headline of April 21 from Denton, "B. Wright's steam saw and hominy mill near Preston, Caroline County, was completely destroyed by fire today, together with almost 150 bushels of corn which was stored in the mill." Two traction engines near the mill were also damaged. B. W. Wright was listed as miller at Preston in the 1887 State business directory.

WRIGHT SHIRT FACTORY (4)

The 1896-1897 District 4 Assessment Ledger listed Jesse A. Wright with a shirt factory (folio 228, MSA).

VORHEES MILL (4)

Isler's 1875 county map showed the R. Vorhees sawmill on Hog Creek ME of Bethlehem.

ZACHARIAS MILL (2)

D. Zacharias gristmill was listed at Greensborough in the 1867 *Hawes Business Directory*, p. 517. The D. J. Zacharias mill was shown on Spring Branch near the Choptank NE of Brick Mill on the 1875 Isler county map. Also listed in the 1887 State business directory and shown on the 1897 Saulsbury map.

The 1880 census (Election District 3) showed D. J. Zacharias with \$6000 capital investment in a mill with 2 employees, 3 run of stones, 100 bu/diem maximum capacity, doing 50% custom business. A 19-foot fall on Vans Branch drove two 18-inch turbines at 300 rpm to develop 14 hp. Annual output was 1200 bbl flour, 80 tons meal, and 67.5 tons feed (\$10,900). Zacharias Mill Road is located at grid 8-G & H-11 in the ADC Street Atlas.

