

Chapter 1 : Water Mill – Walkern History Society

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The Cromer postmill, driven by wind on the ridge above the Beane valley, possibly came to be replaced or at least rivalled by the water mill in the valley. A seismic geological survey in about identified a deep fault of some 50 metres in the rock under the river at this point and the land drop reflects this. A millpond grew north of the mill. Behind the dykes and sluices a substantial enough store of water could be built up to power the original wooden waterwheels. The earlier mill would probably have been only two stories but, at various points in the nineteenth century, was enlarged to the four storey building that we see today with its typical mansard roof. In George David Pearman, who was a substantial local farmer, bought the mill site from the Garratts, and during the nineteenth century there were two or three enlargements. We found in the river a piece of marble cut to the size of a brick which has been roughly incised? At one time during the mid nineteenth century there was enough demand for the miller to build a second mill race and to run two large cast-iron wheels the two bricked up arches can be easily seen on the north wall of the mill and one of the mill races has been turned into a cellar under the mill. At Walkern water power had given way in part to steam by On the front of the Walkern water mill under the gables of the mansard roof overlooking the bridge a proud announcement was cut into the into a white panel in the glowing red brick: Pearman Flour Mills Somebody has scratched the dates , and in the spaces between the large figures, which were probably the dates when enlargements made. Following bad harvests in the s prairie hard wheat was imported into Britain for the first time and with it came the industrialised processes of steam baking. The soft white flour, used by the French to this day for their bread, went out of fashion. The degradation of British bread was on its way. Water power was no longer powerful enough to grind the new hard wheat. The Garratts and then the Pearmans boldly invested in the new technology, and by the bridge rose the brave new mill and from the southern corner emerged a dark satanic chimney almost twice as high as the substantial new mill building. At some time, probably in the early twentieth century, a grain silo was built into the corner of the mill which was rather higher than the mill itself. The mill stopped work before In , under the threat of German invasion, the Home Guard scratched out the name? The Home Guard used sandbags to build a sniper? Local people saw the working mill, and I would love to collect their memories. Please contact me through the Walkern History Society! Walkern Mill was converted for the Priestman and Currey families between and The derelict mill was being pulled into the river by the broken chimney. Clare Currey was inspired to save it and the architect Martin Priestman, with the designer Jane Priestman, produced two imaginative modern houses within the mature brick walls. Clare and James Currey have now lived at Walkern Mill for over thirty years. Dennis Hart, with his son Brian, did all the substantial timber-work to convert the mill into modern living. It was only recently that we learnt some of the reasons why the Hart? One of Dennis Hart? His Grandad Gordon drove wagon and horses for the mill, and his father, also Gordon, still a boy in , was taken on to work at the mill because the men were volunteering for the Hertfordshire Regiment at the beginning of the Great War. It is a classic Hertfordshire timber frame building which has a history stretching back before the great brick mill was built and enlarged during the nineteenth century. During the second world war and afterwards the cottage was used, with dormitories in the mill, as a foster home which was run by Mrs Stephens see photo opposite. The mill gradually decayed during the war and at some point the chimney broke in half and the bottom half, still the same height as the mill, began to pull the south-east corner over into the Beane. In the late fifties the mill and miller? Peter Bugge, a Norwegian, was a test pilot for de Havilland at Hatfield in the days of the development of the first jet airliner, the Comet. He loved working with wood and we came to call him? In they asked a young architect with a practice in Hitchin to draw up a plan for converting the whole mill and the miller? Martin Priestman rose to this commission with an elegant modern staircase sweeping up three floors. It was way beyond what even a test pilot could afford. And in any case Peter Bugge rather wanted to do the job himself and he continued to strip the mill. With the help of a young boy in the village he managed to

deconstruct the grain silo which occupied what is now the forecourt, and he restored the roof which slowed the decay within. Later the Bugges commissioned from a Hungarian woman architect a more modest plan for the mill to be converted into three flats; she provided an attractive design with three wooden balconies overlooking the river.

Chapter 2 : watermills | eBay

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Chapter 3 : - Discovering Watermills by John Vince

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Part of this land was near On one of the tributaries of the last named stream, he erected a saw mill The first [acres] extended down both sides of that branch to about Somerdale Road. The third [acres] continued down the west side of the creek to about the White Horse Tavern, but several miles from any part of Thorns Mill Branch. The relationship, if any, between John and William Thorne is uncertain. The quitclaim from Cheesman to Thorn, to divide the acres, was not recorded. The Clement maps at Vol. The sawmill tract was bounded approximately, north and south, by two streams which flow west to join at present Silver Lake, thence into Bottom Lake, and then into the main north branch of Timber Creek behind the fire hall in Clementon. The lower stream is usually known as Thorns Mill Branch. The Gloucester Township ratables show John Thorn being assessed for a sawmill for the following years: The deceased John Thorn owned not only the sawmill tract but also a homestead tract of acres, west of Kelly Drive and divided by the Blackwood-Clementon Road. Both tracts were divided among the heirs, but we are concerned only with the sawmill tract. The lots into which the sawmill tract was divided and assigned to the children soon passed out of the family, but the sawmill and 37 acres were set aside to be held in common. The subsequent disposition of these interests is a different story. Although she is not mentioned in the division, the decedent was in fact survived by a widow, Isabele Cheesman Thorn, who died in leaving a will H They were married 9 October Cheesman Family, p. No specific information as to such a sale has been found. On 23 June Jno. In June , son John [then of Philadelphia] sold his interest in the sawmill and 37 acres to Henry L. Thorn Camden, G , including the share he acquired by the death intestate of his sister Elizabeth Dodd. Henry died intestate, leaving his widow, Beulah A. Folwell, and they sold their interest in the sawmill, house and barn and 37 acres to Uriah Norcross Jr. There is confusion as to the correct names for the two streams, which are the approximate north and south borders of the acre tract. The southerly stream begins some distance east of the Old Egg Harbor Road in West Berlin and flows west through Rowand Lake, to be joined by the northerly stream as above. His Maps and Drafts Vol. The acre tract [Lot 8] was not divided but rather was to be held by the heirs in common in six shares, each share being entitled to one week of use, each son to have two [weeks] shares and each daughter to have one [week] share, and so on. Those were the intestate portions, between sons and daughters, in effect in New Jersey at the time. It is evident from the legal descriptions that the millpond extended up the southerly branch [nd would be approximately coextensive with present Silver Lake]. It is also probable that the dam would have been placed just below the confluence so as to obtain more flow and power. The result, however, would be to also back up the water on the northerly branch and that perhaps explains the location of the mill. The legal description is a little more elaborate than the one used in the division itself, and gives some helpful information: Clement published wrote p. In recent years the dam has been rebuilt, and the old millpond is now a beautiful site in the Camden County Park System. Neither of the quitclaim deeds was recorded. On the 4th day of the 8th month, [six years before Tice acquired title from Cheesman, according to the Map Plan op. The assessment date, however, suggests the mill must have been at some other location not now known. They held another sale on 1 June and Samuel Clement [the father] bought a acre tract with a sawmill [less a acre tract disposed of by Tice, and tracts of 95 acres and 20 acres disposed of by the assignees]. This was the tract which Tice bought from Cheesman in Since the division line with Thorn was Thorns Sawmill Branch, Tice had equal access to that waterpower, which is undoubtedly where his big mill was located. Thorns Mill was downstream. The Landing [Berlin-Clementon] Road ran through the tract. Clement was assessed for two sawmills in and , the other being the one at Clementon Lake Gloucester Township ratables. He died in His widow, Beulah [who was entitled to the profits of the estate for her life], apparently took control of the Tices Big Mill sawmill and land, since she was assessed for one sawmill, acres of improved land and 1, unimproved, for the years , , and Although some land was sold, the executors, in discharge of the bequests, eventually 14 November , Woodbury, H transferred the outlands remaining unsold

to the husbands of the daughters, that is, James Hopkins, James Wood and Joseph C. Unfortunately for the researcher, in lieu of a detailed description, the scrivener of the deed simply referred to those several tracts remaining unsold by the executors, without metes and bounds descriptions. Todd owned it for many years, his heirs losing it to Richard M. Cooper by a Sheriff sale, the deed being dated 4 June Woodbury, O He was assessed for a sawmill for the years , and Waterford township ratables. The writer has been unable to fix an exact location for the mill. The Todd farm has become the Woodcrest Country Club. There is a tiny pond in back of the clubhouse which may be the remnant of a millpond. He was probably already in possession when his father died. On this farm was an old brick dwelling [now known as 83 North Carver Avenue] where, according to Charles Shaylor History of Lindenwold, p. When James died intestate in D , the farm passed to Able and Hannah, who agreed on a division and executed quitclaim deeds to each other. Able took the eastern end acres , the deed to him by Thomas Scott and Hannah, his wife, being dated 5 April Camden Not much information has been found about the mill. Shaylor, who died in , had a recollection p. Clement shows the mill pond on his Map of Camden County. The deed from the Scotts to Able included a four-acre narrow strip along the northeast side of Timber Creek, from the Big Hollow [across the creek from the house] up to about Overbrook Lake, and referred to the stream which eventually created that lake as Gravelly Run [one of several North Branch tributaries of that name Waterways of Camden County, p. Tomlinson bought the strip so his mill pond [which has now long been down] could extend up to Gravelly Run. Son Benjamin, on 3 July , transferred part of his inheritance to his brother Charles W. Camden, , and on 15 April Camden, another part. On this latter date Charles W. Tomlinson sold to Virginia E. Ireland parts of those tracts in two adjoining pieces of Ireland died 11 December On 14 April Camden, , Robert H. In Old Mills p. That Isaac, however, was of a different generation and had inherited the tract on the west. This road would originally have been just a by-road for Isaac to get to the mill, and in the other direction, to get to Blackwood-Clementon Road. It probably was extended informally south to reach Erial, as it does now. It was officially laid out as a public road in by Cam RR The road is, and always has been, essentially unimproved for most of its length except for an impressive bridge over the mill race stream built by the Camden County Freeholders in The road has been neglected by both Pine Hill Borough and Gloucester Township, as well as by the county, and is impassable by automobile. As of April, , it is effectively blocked off by barricades, just west of the bridge. The millpond has been down for some years. All that remain are slight vestiges of the mill itself, which was apparently deliberately destroyed by trespassers. Tthe only evidence found of her death and intestacy is the cited deed, and another by Jacob to James, 2 November Woodbury, N The acres were located in present Glendora, and reached down to the North Branch of Timber Creek. Carding was one step in the processing of wool whereby teeth on cards were used to disentangle, straighten and interlace the fibers. The subject mill was located on a small unnamed stream which starts about Station Avenue and runs between South Hildebrand and Ridge streets to the North Branch. It probably used the tidal flow of the North Branch for power, but the topography would not have permitted much of a pond, nor would the stream have provided sufficient flow to power a paddle wheel. Within a few years, Jacob lost his property to Abel Nicholson by a Sheriff sale on a foreclosure of the Sterling mortgage deed, 24 December , Woodbury, EE , the deed repeating the above-quoted language. No other mention of the carding mill is found after the transfer to Nicholson, but the building is probably that shown on the tributary stream on Map B, There is an account of this establishment in Old Mills at page The following is from Discovering Watermills p. A rising tide brought the water to turn the mill and it was contained in a usually large mill pond. Watergates which allowed the water to flow in an upstream direction only held the water that could escape only through the millrace. The distribution of tide mills was limited to low-lying areas around the coast which allowed large ponds with a relatively low head of water to be created. Three or four hours would have to pass after high watermark before the miller could work the mill as the tide had to partly recede before a head of water was created. A mill could work for less than six hours before the head of water had been consumed and then the miller had to wait for the next flood to replenish his pond. To compensate for a usually low head of water tide mill ponds often extended for several acres.

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Vertical axle watermill in Dalarna , Sweden Engineers in the Hellenistic world used the two main components of watermills, the waterwheel and toothed gearing, and, along with the Roman Empire , operated undershot, overshot and breastshot waterwheel mills. For Demeter has imposed the labours of your hands on the nymphs , who leaping down upon the topmost part of the wheel, rotate its axle; with encircling cogs, [15] it turns the hollow weight of the Nisyrian millstones. If we learn to feast toil-free on the fruits of the earth, we taste again the golden age. The Roman encyclopedist Pliny mentions in his *Naturalis Historia* of around 70 AD water-powered trip hammers operating in the greater part of Italy. The stamps were operated as a batch of four working against a large conglomerate block, now known as Carreg Pumpsaint. Similar anvil stones have been found at other Roman mines across Europe, especially in Spain and Portugal. The 1st-century AD multiple mill complex of Barbegal in southern France has been described as "the greatest known concentration of mechanical power in the ancient world ". The capacity of the mills has been estimated at 4. They also seem to be indicated about the same time by the Christian saint Gregory of Nyssa from Anatolia , demonstrating a diversified use of water-power in many parts of the Roman Empire. The tangential water inflow of the millrace made the horizontal wheel in the shaft turn like a true turbine, the earliest known. A "Roman Mill" features a vertical wheel on a horizontal shaft. Greek style mills are the older and simpler of the two designs, but only operate well with high water velocities and with small diameter millstones. Roman style mills are more complicated as they require gears to transmit the power from a shaft with a horizontal axis to one with a vertical axis. Although to date only a few dozen Roman mills are archaeologically traced, the widespread use of aqueducts in the period suggests that many remain to be discovered. Recent excavations in Roman London, for example, have uncovered what appears to be a tide mill together with a possible sequence of mills worked by an aqueduct running along the side of the River Fleet. Ancient China, Korea and Japan A Northern Song era "water-powered mill for dehusking grain with a horizontal wheel The waterwheel was found in China from 30 AD onwards, when it was used to power trip hammers , [30] the bellows in smelting iron , [31] [32] and in one case, to mechanically rotate an armillary sphere for astronomical observation see Zhang Heng. The rectangular water mill has a thatched roof and traditional design with a small horizontal mill-house built of stone or perhaps mud bricks Muslim engineers adopted watermill technology from former provinces of the Byzantine Empire , having been applied for centuries in those provinces prior to the Muslim conquests , including modern-day Syria , Jordan , Israel , Algeria , Tunisia , Morocco , and Spain see List of ancient watermills. By the 11th century, every province throughout the Islamic world had these industrial watermills in operation, from al-Andalus and North Africa to the Middle East and Central Asia. Industrial watermills were also employed in large factory complexes built in al-Andalus between the 11th and 13th centuries. One solution was to mount them to piers of bridges to take advantage of the increased flow. Another solution was the shipmill, a type of watermill powered by water wheels mounted on the sides of ships moored in midstream. This technique was employed along the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in 10th-century Iraq , where large shipmills made of teak and iron could produce 10 tons of flour from corn every day for the granary in Baghdad. Tide mills In recent years, a number of new archaeological finds has consecutively pushed back the date of the earliest tide mills, all of which were discovered on the Irish coast: A 6th-century vertical-wheeled tide mill was located at Killoteran near Waterford. Remains of an earlier mill dated at were also found at the site. Noticeable is the preminent role of France in the introduction of new innovative uses of waterpower. However, he has drawn attention to the dearth of studies of the subject in several other countries.

Chapter 6 : Discovering series (Shire Publications) - Book Series List

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