



The York County Mill Research Consortium

**Adam Bentz - York County
History Center**

**Rick Resh - Heritage Committee
of West Manheim**

**Tom Yingling - Codorus Valley
Area Historical Society**

Welcome everyone.

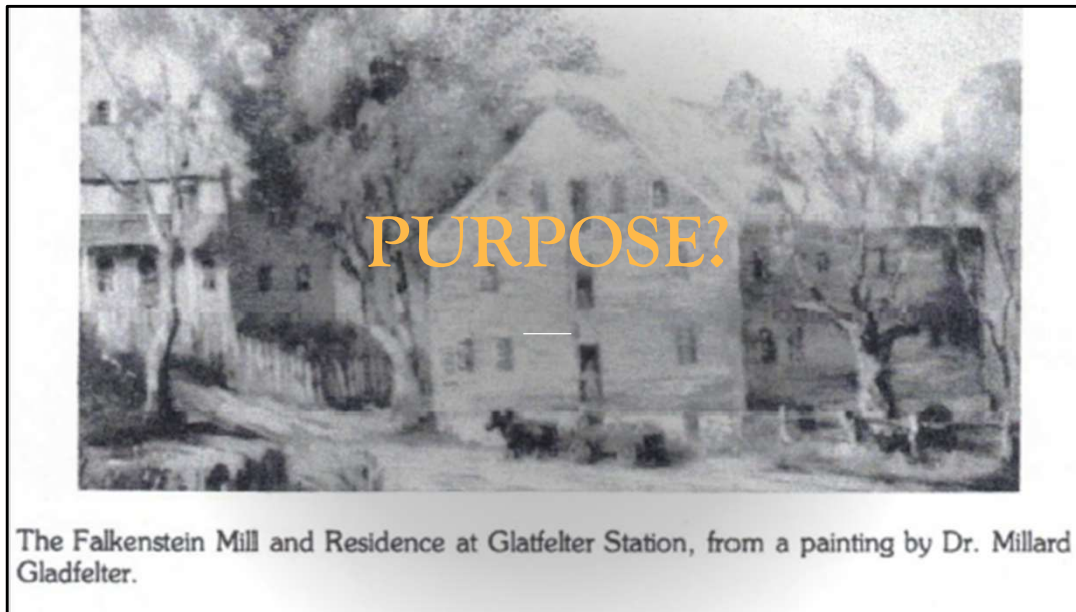
Introduce:

Tom Yingling – Codorus Valley Area Historical Society - co-leader

**Rick Resh – Heritage Committee of West Manheim Twp. & CVAHS
- co-leader**

Adam Bentz – York County History Center advisor

**Have everyone introduce themselves and organization they may
represent.**



Our purpose will be to review and update the list created by Grant Voaden from the 1940's through the 1970's. Grant Voaden was an engineer for S. Morgan Smith Co. & Allis Chalmers. You will hear more about him in a moment. One of his hobbies of collecting the history and photographing the many water powered mills of York County. Over 270 mills are in this list, yet there are mills and details to mills missing. Along with wrong information that we would like to research and add to the list. I say this not to discredit his work. It was a monumental job and he produced an incredible an incredible amount of data. There are going to be mistakes with something this big. I am sure some of his sources had wrong information that was passed along. Anybody that has done historic research can vogue for that. Plus, synchronize some other lists and others research, that we will talk about later. By working with the York County History Center and their expertise in archiving this will help make this effort more public and organized. Our goal is not to create a book, Rather it is to improve the tools Grant has provided us so future researchers can more quickly and accurately find the information they need before this information is lost also to stop parroting wrong information that happens too frequently within the history world. Our goal is to try to have the smaller historical society's have good information on the mills that were in their area, in their libraries. Adding greater value to your local organization as well as the county.



Grant Harvey Voaden

1902 to 1994

Hydraulics Engineer for
S. Morgan Smith Co.
and it's successor
Allis Chalmers, Inc.

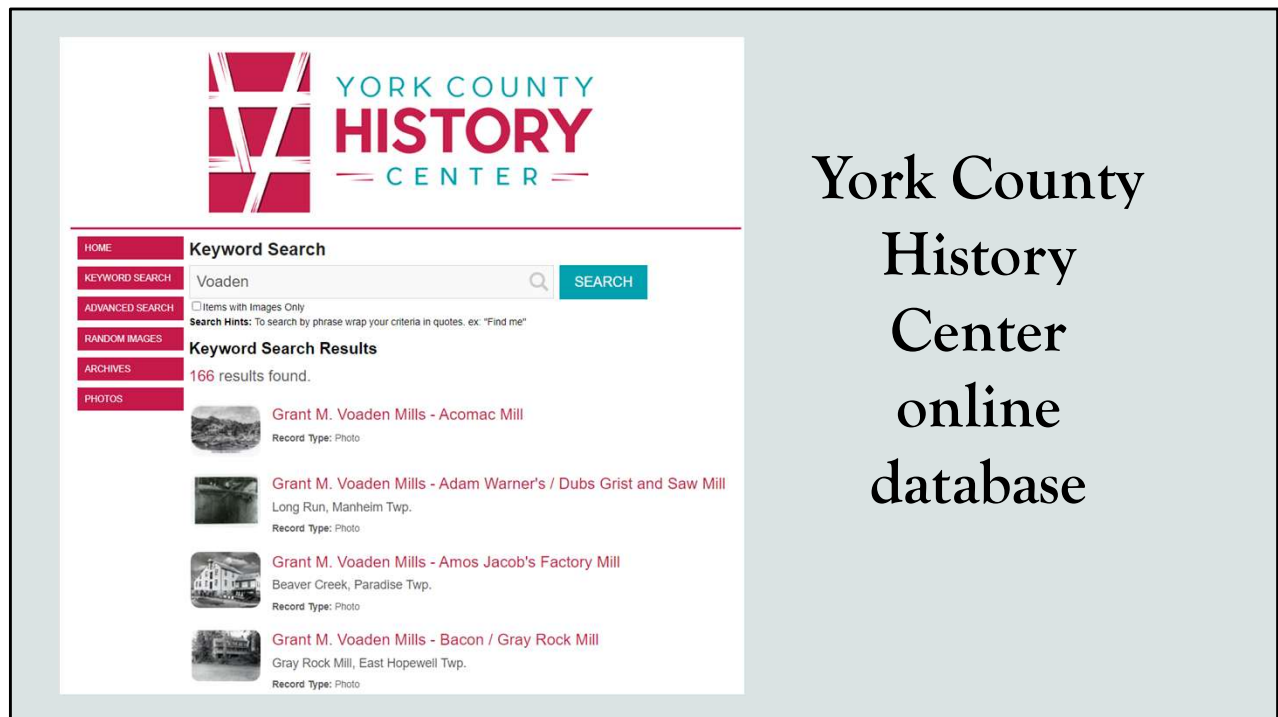


Grant Harvey Voaden was born in Ontario, Canada in 1902. After receiving his Bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of Toronto he moved to York County, PA in the 1920's to begin work at S. Morgan Smith Co.

S. Morgan Smith built water turbines primarily for the Hydroelectric industry by this time period. S. Morgan Smith Co. started off making water turbines for the milling industry in 1876. Water turbines were in use as early as the 1820's / 30's.

It was in York he met his wife Blanche K. Weaver, A local York Countian. They had one son. He was a member of the York Camera Club. Grant combined his interest in photography and the history of the turbine industry that employed him together to begin a new hobby. From the 1940's through the 1970's he began to collect photos and information on the old water powered mills throughout York and Adams County. He was able to talk to some of the last mill owner operator's to gather information. Gathering important information. His desire was to someday publish a book. Unfortunately that never happened.

In 1981 this collection was donated by him to the York County History Center.



If you haven't already searched the York County History Center's website. Please do so. Under their research section you can view the Grant Voaden Mill Collection. They have 166 mills listed out of the 270 mills he gathered information on. This online list falls short of the total number of mills in Voaden's inventory.



Mill Detail page view

Here is a sample page on the Accomac Mill. It has a more modern black and white photo and hand drawn sketch along with the name of the mill. As you can see very minimal information. I'm sure much of that is due to limitations in the software. You won't use this for a deep dive on information. However, you can use this to aide your search by being able to give the librarians the CATALOG NUMBER ahead of time to provide you with the information they have in their files on the mills you are interested in. For the most efficient use of your time and theirs, please contact by calling or email prior to your visit. That way they can have this information ready for you.

We will talk later about rules for taking photos, acquiring photo copies of photos and documents.

Spreadsheet of Mill Data

III Collection at the York County Heritage Trust Library/Archives										
YCHT ID	Common Name	Stream Name	Township/Location	Date Built	Status	Mill Type	Construction	Next Upstream	Next Downstream	Associated Names
GV-262	Acornac Mill	information missing								
GV-174	Adam Warner's	Long Run	Mathewm Tap	about 1774	Submerged in Lake Marburg	Unseeded Oil / Lumber / Whiskey / Cider / Flour / Feed	Logs / Frame	Dub's	Kraft	Dubs, Mitzel, Wiley, Metzger, Sine, Kinndorst, Warner, Keshner, Widson, Shuler, Pressel, Menges
GV-175	Albright's Paper Mill	Long Run	Mathewm Tap	1774	N/A	Oil Mill / Distillery	N/A	N/A	N/A	Albright, Trone, Hartman, Peterman, Snyder
GV-207	Alex Martin	Tom's Run	Lower Chanceford Tap	N/A	N/A	Saw / Shingle / Leather	N/A	N/A	N/A	McCaster, Hen, Martin, Smith
GV-131	Amos Jacobs	Beaver Creek	Paradise Tap	about 1772 / 1825 / 1870	Demolished about 1940	Clover Seed / Hemp / Timber / Lumber / Feed / Wool	Stone / Frame	Gobrecht	Swigart	Jacobs
GV-23	Anstine's Fuling Mill	Cabin Branch Creek	Lower Windsor Tap	1830	Demolished	Grist / Saw	Stone	N/A	N/A	Kinzer, Bergbill, Emig, Johns, Anstine
A-7	Arendt	Big Conewago Creek	N/A	1856	N/A	Flour	N/A	N/A	N/A	Bittinger, Smeiser, Wieman, Bell, Arendt
A-37	Arendt's	Big Conewago Creek	Franklin Tap	N/A	Demolished 1856 / Rebuilt	Saw / Flour	N/A	N/A	N/A	Bittinger, Smeiser, Wieman, Bell, Arendt
A-12	Asper's Mill	Opossum Creek	N/A	around 1813	N/A	N/A	Brick	N/A	N/A	Wright, Minck, Lehman, Dietl, Fossil, Ploutz, Hoffman, Eggleman, Gemill, Anderson, McAlister, Mizel, Smith, Cross, Bacon, Wilson, Baughman, Smyser, Emory, Ness, Saylor, Meckley
GV-197	Bacon Mill	Gray Rock Mill	East Hopewell Tap	1810 / 1852	Demolished about 1921	Buckwheat Flour / Fuling	N/A	Cross	Rambo	Anstine, Bahr
GV-27	Bahr's	Fishing Creek	Windsor, Bittersville	1811	Operating	Grist / Merchant	Stone / Cement	M. Anstine	Kohler	Dole, Jones, Davis, Snickler, Dietz, Bahr
GV-2	Ban Dietz	Kreutz Creek	Hellam Tap - Wrightsville	1750 / 1878		Grist / Saw / Flour	Brick	Lower Sprinkle	Wrightsville Power and Light	Wormsman, (Bodman?) / (Bodman), (Bodman), (Kraus), (Seyers), (Kramer), (Harscher), (Bemman), (Strayer), (Baker), (Wentz), (Rodkey), (Leathery)
GV-122	Baker	Bermudian Creek	Washington Tap	about 1830	Restored / Residence	Feed / Cornmeal / Timber / Lumber / Wood	Stone / Brick	Deardorff's	Myers	
GV-95	Bane's Mill	Fishing Creek	Nashberry Tap	1835	Bar and Restaurant	Flour	Stone	None	N/A	Prossel, Bane
GV-81	Bansinger	Bansinger Creek	North Hopewell / York Taps	N/A	Moved 1920	Flour	Stone	None ?	Yost	Kohler, Meyers, Ginn, Bansinger, Rayer, Dehoff
A-6	Basehiser	Branch Creek	Union Tap	1747 / 1845	N/A	Grist	Brick	N/A	N/A	Dugges, Will, Shriver, Mouse, Hill, Reff, Basehiser
GV-66	Baughter Wooten Mill	South Branch Codorus Creek	Shrewsbury Tap	N/A	N/A	Wool	N/A	N/A	N/A	Switzer, Baughter
GV-219	Baughter's Tannery	Unnamed	Codorus Tap	N/A	N/A	Tanned Leather	Frame	None	Bone Mill	Baughter, Friesman
GV-24	Beard's Tannery	Kreutz Creek	Lower Windsor Tap	1890	N/A	Tannery / Bark Mill	N/A	Selley's Wooden Factor	William Mundis	Hargre, Bann, Beard
GV-233	Beaver Creek Foundry	Beaver Creek	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
GV-257	Beaverdam Mill	Dogwood Run	Camel Tap	1820	N/A	N/A	Brick	M. Knapp Saw Mill	J. Williams Saw and Grist Mill	Russell, Krotzer, Williams
GV-21	Ben Mittel	Cabin Branch Creek	N/A	1825 / 1841	Standing	Golden Two Flour	Stone / Frame	Bahr	Fley	Slaymaker, Engels, Kents, Kincaid, Mittel
GV-124	Bertz	Bermudian Creek	Washington Tap	before 1860	Standing	Clover Mill / Wool / Grist / Saw	Stone / Frame	Berkheimer	Deardorff's	Prossel, Deardorff, Bertz, Stone, Tully
GV-125	Berkheimer	North Branch Bermudian Creek	N/A	N/A	N/A	Fuling / Carding / Wool?	N/A	Farance	Bertz	Berkheimer
GV-116	Bieseckers	Little Conewago Creek	Jackson Tap	before 1807	Demolished	Flour / Dog Food / Cornmeal	N/A	Appleman	Emig	Myer, Schwartz, Smith, Reicher, Weiss, Stouffer, Smyser, Stover, Gross, Julius, Eisenhart, Biesecker
A-16	Bolinger's	Little Conewago Creek	Conewago Tap	1738	N/A	Saw / Hemp / Clover / Huller	Brick	N/A	N/A	Penn, Kitzmiller, Heagy, Jenkins, Duferra (Puttara?), Bolinger, Miller
GV-71	Borbers Flour Mill	Trout Run	Shrewsbury Tap	1800??	Demolished	Grain / Flour / Feed / Meal	N/A	N/A	N/A	Anstine, Borber, Dietl, Rinks, Gantz
GV-143	Bowser's Cider Mill	Mill Creek	York Tap	1895	Standing - used for storage	Cider	Stone / Frame	Enterprise	Small Paper Mill	Rider, Bowser, Austin, Yost
A-10	Bram	Big Marsh Creek	Adams County	1775 / 1850	N/A	N/A	Stone	N/A	N/A	Cobean, Cunningham, Brown, Myers, Reagle, Beam, Plank
GV-86	Brillhart	East Branch Codorus	North Hopewell Tap	1826	Deteriorating	Flour / Feed / Meal	Stone	G & J McCann	M. Trout	Brillhart, Spitz, Nicholas, Myers, Nichols, Sechrist, Hartman
GV-73	Brodback's	Rock Run	Shrewsbury Tap	1830	Standing	Grist	Stone	None	Seitz	Markel, Thomas, Henschler
GV-218	Brooks Mill	South Branch Muddy Creek	Hopewell Tap	1880	Demolished	N/A	Brick / Stone / Frame	Luggett	Ed. Miller	Brooks, Jordan, Grove, Montgomery, Garrison
A-18	Butts	Big Marsh Creek	Franklin Tap	1777	N/A	Grist / Saw	Stone	N/A	N/A	Penn, White, Mark, Comfort, Butt
GV-185	Castle Fin Forge	Muddy Creek	Lower Chanceford Tap	1810	N/A	Forge	Stone	Castle Fin Shingle Mill	Paper Mill	Walters, Weble, Coleman
GV-184	Castle Fin Hydroelectric Plant	Muddy Creek	Lower Chanceford Tap	1810 or about 1825	Demolished 1948	Hydroelectric Power	Shingle Mill	Taber's Grist	Taber's Grist	Stubbis, Engles, Longprecher, Taber, Smith, Stephens
GV-129	Clearsprings Mills	Clear Spring Run	Franklin Tap	1809-1810 / 1886	Standing (no metal)	Feed / Cornmeal	Stone / Frame	None	Peter Wolford	Ernst, Miller, Dick
A-28	Cobean	Marsh Creek	N/A	1767	N/A	Grist / Saw	N/A	N/A	N/A	Cobean
GV-45	Codorus Flint Mill	Codorus Creek	Hellam Tap	1884	Needs repairs	Flint Mill	one / Frame / Slate Rd	Mundis	Codorus Forge	Bennett, Smith, Hamilton, Neil, Kittera, Grubb, Neil, Bates, Wambaugh
GV-44	Codorus Forge and Furnace	Codorus Creek	Hellam Tap	1785	Furnace Stands	Furnace and Forge	N/A	Flint Mill	None	Griegesch, Small, Lockard Bennett, Clark, Smith, Miller, Williams, (Saylor), (Bates), (Cramer), (Kramer), (Shipp), (Uhl), (Robertson), (Gieger), (Trogos), (Fellenger), (Lockard),

A major tool for any history buff to have on hand for mills is this Excel spreadsheet. Not sure who put this together, somebody with the York History Center. Ray Kinard (you will hear more about him later) had a hard copy of this that he acquired back around 2010 when he was doing mill research. He directed me to the York County History Center, who graciously provided an actual Excel file to me. This spread sheet does not replace the files the YCHC has on hand. But, it quickly provides you with some key data allowing you to quickly search and sort to find data. Often providing sufficient information for your research.

One of our major goals will be to add to and correct the many mistakes and missing data that are in this spreadsheet.

Grant assigned a unique number to each mill with a prefix of GV-#. You will see some with an A that stands for Adams County.

INDEX OF OLD MILLS IN YORK COUNTY PA.

NAME OF MILL (Presently most common) KRAFT
(Also known as)

NAME OF STREAM WEST BR BRIDGE WHICH FLOWS INTO CODRUS CR.

PRESSENT OWNER OF THE MILL OR PROPERTY GEORGE W. KRAFT ?

ADDRESS 313 SPRING GROVE
CHESHIRE, PENNSYLVANIA

DATE FIRST MILL BUILT 1796 BY MICHAEL LEIB

DATE PRESENT MILL BUILT " BY "

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBERS (Voaden File) 165-37 7/29/46
3/11/72

HEAD OF WATER 12 FT HP. OR OTHER RATING

TYPE OF POWER FITZ ST. OVERSHEET INSTALLED ABOUT 1960 AND
WAS STILL IN OPERATING CONDITION WHEN FOUNDATIONS FAILED
IN 1944. THE TURBINES WERE STILL THERE 6/30/46, FORCED
SID 3 SPS TURBINES PRECEDED FITZ BY 2 SPS TURBINES DO
NOT SHOW THEM (MAY HAVE BEEN 2ND HAND)
EQUIPMENT IN MILL 3 FLOUR ROLLS 16" DIAM.
3 STONES FOR FEED

PRODUCTS 25-30 BLS FLOUR/DAY

DATE LAST RUN BY WATERPOWER AUG. 1941 BY IRA C KRAFT

DATE LAST RUN BY ANY MEANS " BY "

DISPOSITION OF THE MILL BUILDING BEING TORN DOWN
MARCH 1972 SEE PHOTOS TAKEN 8-11-72

NAME OF NEXT MILL UPSTREAM " DOWNSTREAM "
CONSTRUCTION OF MILL 3 1/2 STORY STONE
(more)

**Sample of Grant
Voaden's Index
of Old Mills In
York Co., PA**

LIST OF OWNERS OF THE MILL PROPERTY & DATES

NAMES	PERIODS SERV AT LEAST ONE	FROM	TO
MICHAEL LEIB	1796	1796	1858
JOHN LEIB	1858	1873	1873
JOHN MUMBERT	1873	1873	1873
JOSEPH KRAFT	1873	6/6/1892	1892
WILLIAM G KRAFT (and wife)	6/6/1892	1940	1940
WILLIAM KRAFT ESTATE	1940	AFTER 6/30/46	

LIST OF OPERATORS OR RENTERS HENRY A FAY RENTED MILL FOR 1YR ABOUT 1896. CHARLES SPANGLER RENTED IT FOR 3 YRS AT LATER DATE.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION- PERSONS- IRA C KRAFT 7/29/46

PUBLICATIONS JEFFERSON SENTINIAL & SUNDAY NEWS

DEEDS SHOWN ME BY IRA KRAFT 7/29/46

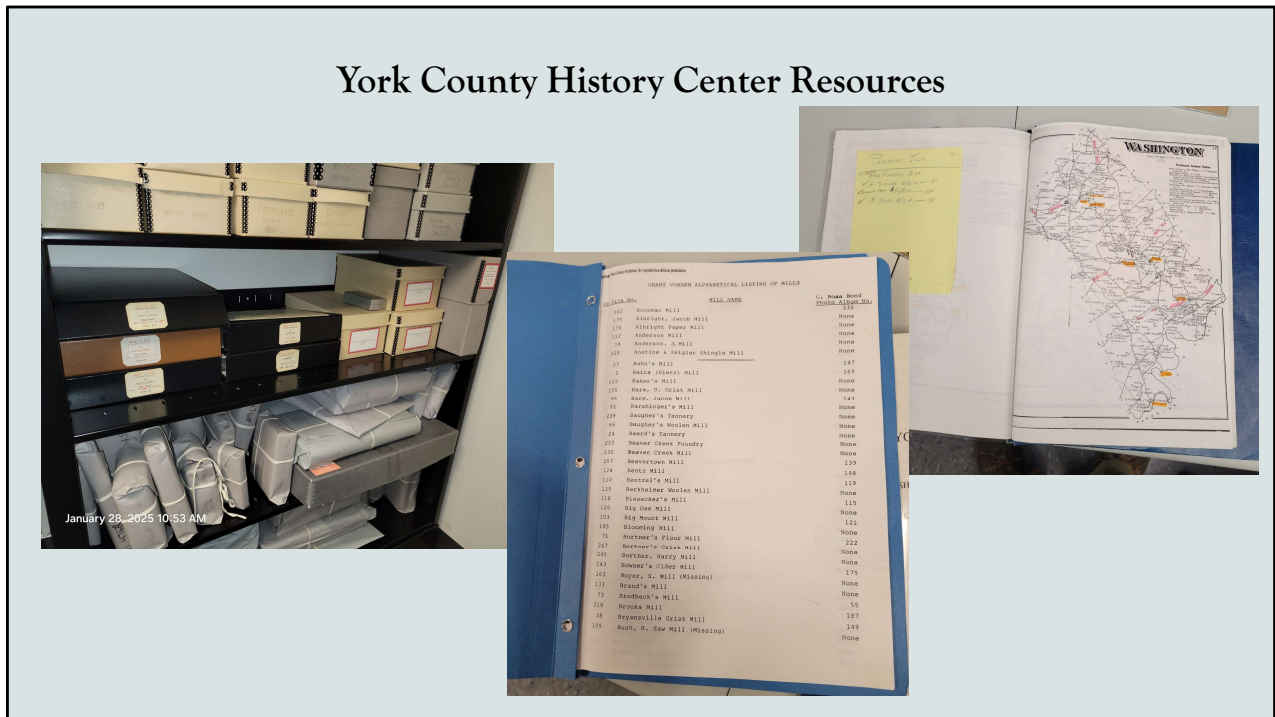
THIS PREPARED BY G.H. Voaden **DATE** 3/12/72

One key piece of information that should be in each mill file folder is this document. It would be important to acquire a copy of this document for each mill. Some mills may have more than one double sided sheet. Part of your homework will be to verify what is on this sheet to the best of your ability. This will be done by doing deed and township tax searches. Even auction notices on Newspapers.com. Before real estate companies existed property was often sold through auctions, if it did not get passed on to a relative.

If you can find an auction notice you can find a lot of information. The above 1823 notice reads: *43 acres more or less. The improvements are a large two-story STONE MILL with four pair of stones, a log dwelling house a log barn, and other necessary out-houses, and an excellent orchard. This farm is under good fences and in a high state of cultivation. Those wishing to view the property please call Michael Bucher or Christian Bucher.*

Voaden's info had Michael Leib as the builder and original owner. With this information I not only found the earlier owners names. The deed only had the trustee names. I found out details on what was there in 1823. The Bucher owners names were also verified on an 1821 York County map. I still haven't verified the 1796 build date.

York County History Center Resources



The photo on the left shows the Voaden photo collection as well as the G. Ross Bond (1888 to 1976) photo collection.

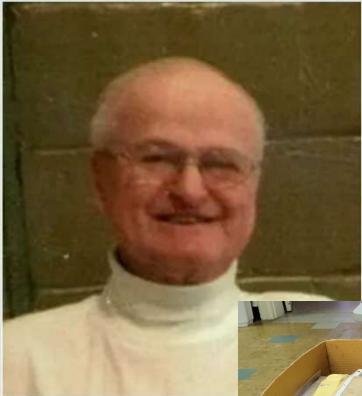
In the middle is a book that is an index of the photos the YCHC has. In alphabetical order it provides the Grant Voaden File Number and cross references the G. Ross Bond number for his photo, if it exists. Courtesy of the YCHC, this is available in a digital PDF version, I will make available to you.

The booklet on the right is a marked up 1876 map identifying the mills and creeks by township. This was created by Richard Wentz in 2001. This too is available in a digital PDF version, I can email to you.

I also have a digital PDF of a marked up 1821 map with the mills identified to share with you.

Ray Kinard

1935 to 2024



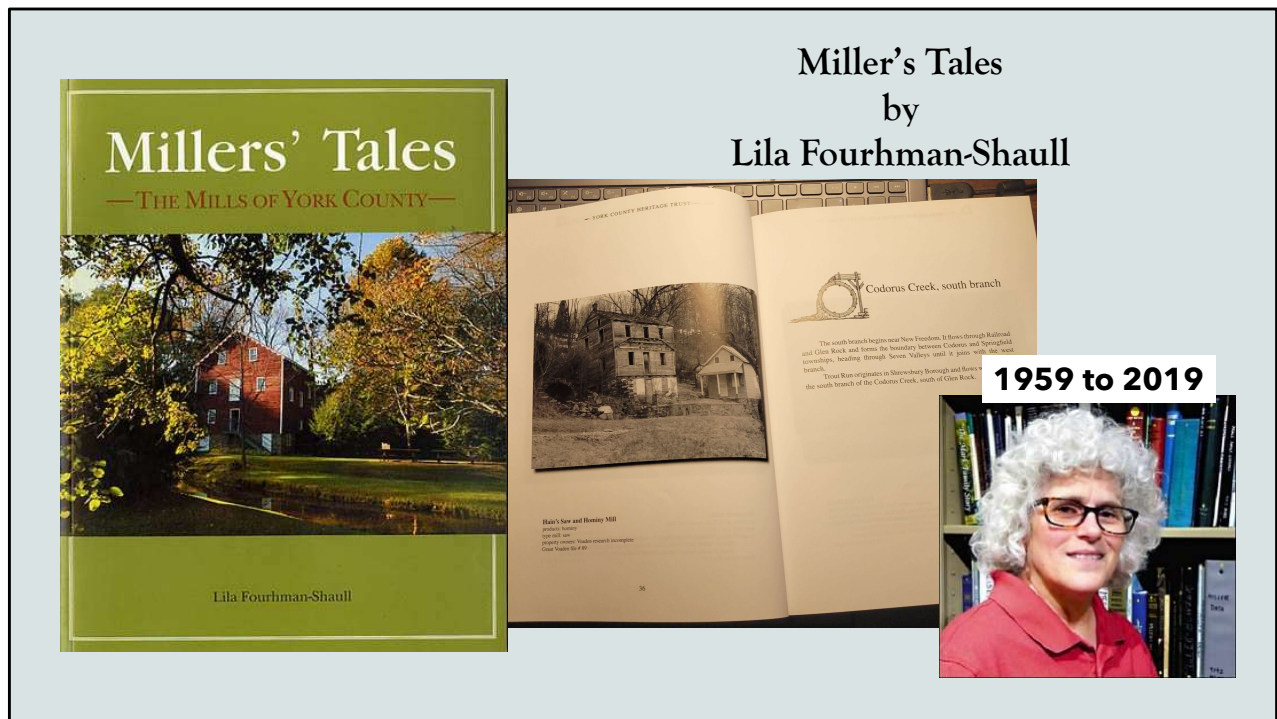
Terry Koller

1944 to 2017



Our predecessors, but after Grant Voaden. Ray Kinard and Terry Koller decided they wanted to collect information on mills. As far as I know none of there information they gathered ended up in the York County History Center. Back around 2010 Ray & Terry embarked on photographing, researching and traveling around to mills in York, Lancaster, Adams and Cumberland County, PA. They even went into Maryland in Harford, Baltimore and Carroll Counties. The became known as the Mill Masters of York County, they called their team the K K team. I didn't know Terry very well, but got to be good friends with Ray. Ray in particular collected all things history in York County and beyond. Particularly information on Lincoln, Kennedy and the Civil War. Ray had over 4,000 books and notebooks he made up in his house. I had the privilege to root through his books over a two day period. I pulled out 24 boxes of books to take back to our library. You would not have known I took anything when I was done. Six of those boxes were on mills. Three are shown above and these have been thinned out with duplicate and triplicate information removed. I knew he had some of this information but had no idea how much or what. Scott Becker and Rick Resh have had the pleasure of thinning and organizing this collection. We still do not know if they have any different information than what is already available. Certainly newer colored photos. Some of the photography is not very good though. My goal is to get this condensed down to a point where we can determine if it has any value for YCHC or any smaller historical societies. This will be an ongoing task.

Ray & Terry often used Grant Voaden numbering system, however, they also created their own.



MILLER's Tales

Historian and past Director of the library of the York County History Center, Lila Fourhman-Shaull published a book in 2010 from much of the information that Grant Voaden collected. It mentions 130 mills from around York County with B & W photos and a brief statement on the PRODUCTS, TYPE, OWNERS (from the past) and Grant Voaden's file #. It uses the most common name of the mill in the 1900's as the main identifier and sorts them by the creek it used as it's power source. It also includes some history on Voaden and a general mill history on York County mills. It's a wonderful 159 page book and is still available at the York County History Center.

This is not a comprehensive book for doing mill research but should certainly be included in your organizations library.

Society for the Preservation of Old Mills
PENNSYLVANIA MILL LIST

AKA: Mounds Mill
Type: Grist Mill
Condition: Nonoperational
Currently: Other Business
Latitude: 40.01549 Longitude: -76.69225
WaterSource: Codorus Creek
Reference: SPOOM

Location: (ADC 48 D6) (R 111) Go south out of Mount Wolf (a suburb of Manchester) On Rte. 24. The mill is just after crossing Codorus Creek, past the waste water treatment plant, on the corner of Glades Road.
Comments: The mill was formerly a flour and gristmill using buhrstones powered by an overshot waterwheel. It is now an office for the waste water treatment plant. No milling equipment remains. A 1 1/2 story stone mill with a door in the gable on the south end. It is in excellent condition.

GOTWALT'S MILL ID: PA-067-080 YORK Updated: 9/1/2014
AKA: RIEDER'S/BOWERS/MARTIN/AUSTIN/OLD MILL SHOP
Type: Grist Mill/Cider Mill
Condition: Nonoperational
Currently: Other Business
Latitude: 39.94739 Longitude: -76.66999
WaterSource: Mill Creek
Reference: Voaden#143

Location: On Camp Betty Washington Road (SR-2005), 3 miles south of Rt. 124 (Mt. Rose Avenue) near I-83 interchange.
Comments: 2 1/2 story, stone and frame building. Mill stopped running in 1951.

GREEN RIDGE MILLS ID: PA-067-198 BRODBECKS Updated: 5/8/2022
AKA:
Type: Grist Mill
Condition: Nonoperational
Currently: Other Business
Latitude: 39.7908 Longitude: -76.82627
WaterSource: Codorus Creek
Reference: Voaden#170

Location:
Comments:
HARRY MILLER MILL ID: PA-067-028 YORK Updated: 5/12/2022
AKA: CARLISLE ROAD/NEUMAN'S/WEIGELTOWN/WEIGLE/KURTS COHEN
Type: Grist/Flour Mill
Condition: Nonoperational
Currently: Other Business
Latitude: 39.58047 Longitude: -76.80651
WaterSource: Little Conewago Creek
Reference: Voaden#114

Location: (ADC 61 D1) (R 111) 2500 Carlisle Road, York. From US-30, west of York, take Pa-74 (Carlisle Rd) west. Pass the community of Shish and look for Church Road (Route 238). The mill is 1/2 mile past this junction, on the left, at the edge of the Little Conewago Creek.
Comments: In the 1730s, Martin Weigle emigrated from Germany to West Manchester Township and built a small stone grist mill about 1739. When local Indians came around, he gave them home-made whiskey, and they helped him dig the millrace. The family remained owners for many years. One family, who was not very patriotic, was censured.

3/15/2024 Page 1010 of 1062

SPOOM

or

Society for the Preservation of Old Mills

www.spoom.org

The Society for the Preservation of Old Mills also known as SPOOM, was chartered in Maine as a non-profit organization in 1972. Its members include mill owners, old mill buffs, museum curators, conservators, writers, teachers, artists, photographers, equipment supply firms, and institutions such as libraries. They have a large PDF document you can download for free of all the mills in the USA that they have on their list. Sixty pages of that document are for York County Mills. I can email you that list or you can go grab it yourself online.

SPOOM has their own numbering system they created which makes the most sense when looking at mills on a national basis. Thiers start with a prefix of PA meaning Pennsylvania then dash 067 which stands for the county. In our 067 is York County. This is followed by another dash and then a unique three digit number.

Once we verify and or correct the information on the mills we want to verify SPOOM information and add the SPOOM number to the spread sheet for the appropriate mill. Plus fill out a SPOOM form to submit to SPOOM to update their records. They are missing information as well as have wrong information. Don't forget to verify the GPS location.

One of things SPOOM wants is written directions. Ray and Terry have a lot of that information. The YCHC will not require that.



Tasks

Update & correct spreadsheet

Find missing mills

Determine GPS Location

Verify ownerships & add dates

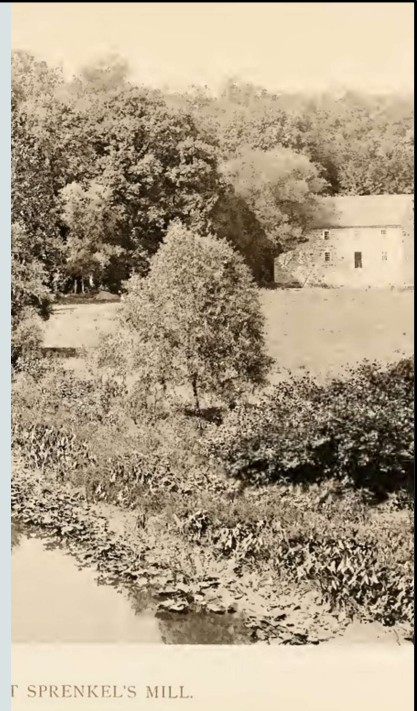
Source your information

Digitize

Current color photos of site, mill
race or dam (digital)

Definition of a Mill

- SPOOM's view of what a mill is (in regard to its mission) is any building or site at which milling of grain into human or animal food products was, or still is, performed and at which other products were made, most commonly called grist mills, flour mills, stamping mills, clover mills, oil mills, etc. The term "old mills" includes those that are deemed "historic" as well as those simply aged. Our focus is on water, wind, or animal powered mills, and those updated to diesel, steam or electric depending on what's left of the original physical components.



T SPRENKEL'S MILL.

SPOOM's view of what a mill is (in regard to its mission) is any building or site at which milling of grain into human or animal food products was, or still is, performed and at which other products were made, most commonly called grist mills, flour mills, stamping mills, clover mills, oil mills, etc. The term "old mills" includes those that are deemed "historic" as well as those simply aged. Our focus is on water, wind, or animal powered mills, and those updated to diesel, steam or electric depending on what's left of the original physical components.

Type of Mills	
Bark	Mill to crush Tree Bark used in the tanning process
Bellows	To power bellows for forge or furnace
Cider	Any kind of fruit cider
Flax	Mills which process flax. The earliest mills were developed for spinning yarn for the linen industry.
Flint	Mill to grind flint / quartz rock into powder
Forge	Mill to power hammer for forging iron and steel
Fulling	Or Woollen Mill in woollen clothmaking which involves the cleansing of woven cloth (particularly wool) to eliminate (lanolin) oils, dirt, and other impurities, and to make it shrink by friction and pressure.
Grist	Corn, Wheat, Barley, Flour Feed, Middlings
Hemp	Mill to produce hemp fibers
Hydro Electric	Water powered electric generators
Oil	Mill to press oil out of seeds, including hemp, clover, flax/linseed
Paper	Mill to make paper
Plaster	Mill for making plaster
Powder	Mill for making gunpowder
Pump	Mill for pumping water
Roller	Mill to power rollers for forming iron and steel
Saw	Mill for sawing logs, either reciprocal or circular saw method
Shingle	Mill to create wooden shingles
Silk	Mill for silk throwing or weaving

We are going to expand that definition that SPOOM has. Matter of fact they don't follow their own definition. I saw silk mills on their list.

Here is what we are going to include in our list. Where we will agree is with this part of SPOOM's definition.

Our focus is on **water, wind, or animal powered mills, and those updated to diesel, steam or electric depending on what's left of the original physical components.**

You will get a copy of this list.

Mill Research Resources

1. Tools for researchers
 - a. Forms
 - i. Deed Search
 - ii. Updated index of Old Mills Work Sheet form
 - iii. Tax record search
 - iv. SPOOM Survey Form
2. Resources to share:
 - a. Maps with weblinks that show mills
 - i. 1759 Map of Pennsylvania - Philadelphia; Sold by the author, Nicholas Scull, 1759. Library of Congress
1. <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3020.ar129495?c=9.438.0.309.0.141.0.007.0>
 - ii. 1775 Map of Pennsylvania - London, Printed for Robt. Sayer & J. Bennett. Library of Congress
1. <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3020.ar129600?r=0.108.0.115.1.111.0.009.0>
 - iii. 1821 Map of York & Adams Co. - D. Small & W. Wagner. Library of Congress
1. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2012592228/>
 - iv. 1860 Map of York Co. Philadelphia; W.O. Shearer & D.J. Lake, publishers. Library of Congress
1. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2012590161/>
 - v. 1876 Maps -Pomeroy & Whitman
 1. Available in book at the York County History Center
 2. Online digital maps
 3. <https://ancestrystacks.com/wp/home/free-resources/york-county-landowners/>
 4. https://alabamamaps.ua.edu/historicalmaps/us_states/pennsylvania/AtlasYorkCoPA.html
 - b. Maps paper or books
 - i. "Soil Survey Map" book on York County, previous to 1960, shows mills and old schools.
 - ii. More modern ABC style book maps. Look at index for roads with the name mill in it. You may have to look at other records to identify where mill was. Estimate by using creek and land features.
 - iii.
 - c. History Books
 - i. Carter & Glessbrounner, 1834 / Rupp - 1845
 - ii. John Gibson - History on York County - 1886
 - iii. George Prowell History on York County - 1907
 - iv. Township and community history books.
 - v. Odd ball histories, like church histories.
 - vi. Family genealogies will often state person that owned mill
 - d. Old Newspapers (Newspapers.com)
 - i. Look for mill names or community histories.

RESEARCH RESOURCES

2 Page listing of
resources,
plus
copies of forms we
want to use.

- You have been given one copy of these forms. I suggest you photo copy some blanks
- There are numerous links on this sheet. With a digital (PDF) version of this emailed to you can click on the links to get to the websites. Or search the titles.
- Some of the History books are available for sale at YCHC or you may use them in their library. Many of the smaller history centers also have these books in their library. Also a number of these old books are available for free online using PDF. Which can be real convenient to do a search.
- The YCHC can give you access to Newspapers.com as well as some of the smaller history centers.
- Deed searches can be done and read online. You can buy copies online or contact the York County Archives with the deed numbers you are interested in and they will email you after providing them with a credit card number.
- Tax records only available at York County Archives. Some Township tax records in the 1700's have a summary sheet at the back of the year. This will tell you how many mills are in the township along with some other summary information.
- Genealogies are probably not something you want to read a whole bunch of. But, possibly during your own genealogy research you may have tripped across such information.

**Emailed to you provided by the
York County History Center & Codorus Valley Area Historical Society**

- 1.PDF – Grant Voaden Index to townships and mills (65 pages)
- 2.PDF - Richard Wentz Index & York County Twp. Maps from 1876 showing mill locations. (73 pages).
- 3.PDF - Grant Voaden Alphabetical Listing of Mills (8 pages)
- 4.XLSX and / or PDF file of the Voaden Mill list
- 5.PDF – York County Township creation dates.

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Guidelines

1. **Access to YCHC Library & Archives:** YCHC members and non-profit reps are free; others would pay \$12/day or \$10 senior rate.
 1. If you are not a member of YCHC, we strongly recommend you support YCHC by becoming a member.
 2. It is best to call or email ahead of time the date and time you plan to be here for research. That way the library staff can have your information prepared. Taking the burden off the volunteer staff and making the most use of your time.
2. Due to limited space with YCHC library any research documentation and photos we create needs to be in digital form to present to them. You may keep copies of your research for yourself or organization.
 1. PDFs, Photos JPEG or TIFF
3. YCHC is acting as an advisory role only, a central place to meet and the eventual centrally located housing of this project. This is a volunteer effort only to document the York County Mills and YCHC will not have personnel available for research.
4. **GET PERMISSION** if you plan to step foot on the property.
5. Be respectful to property owners and YCHC or other historical society personnel

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York County Mill Consortium Schedule for 2025

- 1. April 12, 2025** – Training Workshop @ York County History Center
- 2. May 2025** - Volunteers to gather PIN numbers and current landowners names and addresses and schedule work sessions with historical societies.
- 3. July 2025** – Follow-up meeting with all participants to review progress and outline new spreadsheet format for new database.
- 4. August thru October 2025** - Fieldwork continues as needed.
- 5. November 2025** - Begin Data entry
- 6. December 2025** – Check initial work

