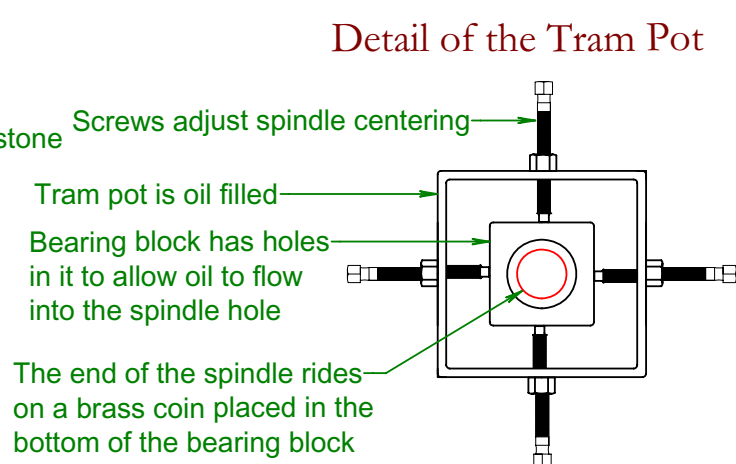
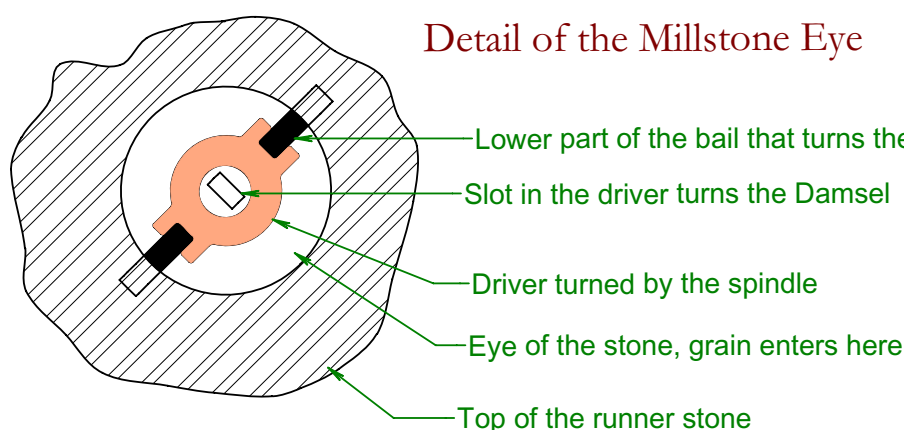
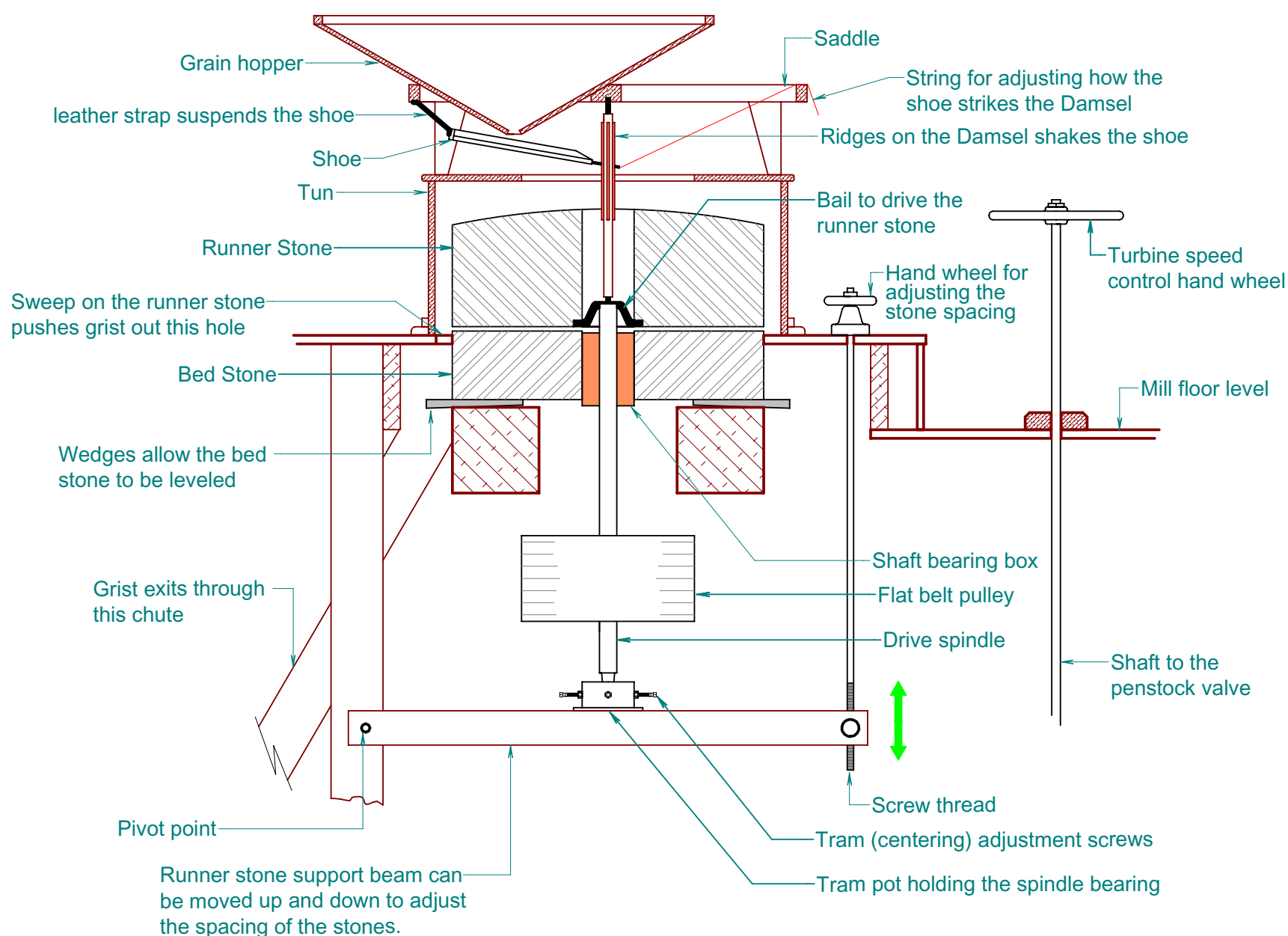


HOW MILLSTONES WORK

Ben Nye built the mill with three sets (called "runs") of millstones. We have evidence that they were 48" in diameter, a common size for mills that produced flour and feed. Sometime early on one run of stones was removed, as Pine Creek could not provide enough power for all three runs.

Pine Mill only has a run of millstones today due to the popularity of buckwheat pancakes in the late 1800's. Millers of that era felt that millstones did a better job of grinding buckwheat than modern steel roller mills could. Thus when Herman Huchendorf modernized the mill in 1890 he removed the two runs of now obsolete 48" millstones and installed one new run of 36" millstones.



Millstone Machinery Cross Section

Pine Creek Grist Mill's millstone installation is very much like the schematic drawing above. The Tram pot adjusting screws are used to bring the spindle into a perfect vertical position. The drawing shows the simple feed system using a Damsel that is used at the mill. The stones turn at 160 RPM and can grind 50 bushels of grain in eight hours.