

Mill News

Friends of the Pine Creek Grist Mill
Wildcat Den State Park
Muscatine, Iowa 52761



Notes From The President

By Tom Hanifan

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Mill Meetings:

9:00AM The 2nd.
Saturday each
month

Check our web
page for the
location

Plans for 2011 are beginning to pick up steam. Restoration activity is beginning to heat up again. Planning for the spring school field trips is under full steam. We are expecting over 1000 children and parents. In addition to our regular schools we are expecting Mt. Pleasant, West Liberty, and New Boston, IL. If you have questions call Julie Whitehall at 563-299-6024 or Ken Hyman at 563-262-9040.

We need your financial support to keep the doors open and to allow us to demonstrate the mill. We are only ½ way to our fund raising goal of \$13,000. Severe cuts to the Park's staff budget may prevent us from demonstrating the mill. We hope that a plan for reduced hours will not be needed. Many families have stepped up already. We have also received major corporate donations from WalMart, Kohl's Department Stores, H. J. Heinz Co., Muscatine Foods, 1st National Bank, Martin & Whitacre, MUSCO Lighting, Pizza Ranch, and the Muscatine Community Foundation.

On a more positive note, the mill area parking lot is much larger thanks to the DNR. This is a much needed improvement. A much needed new restroom building has been installed and should be ready this spring. These improvements will allow us to more easily host large groups such as school tours and bank tours.

And now for some trivia. A few years ago I used the Internet to find other working old mills west of the Mississippi. There are only two. But they are not on their original sites. The Jolly Mill in Missouri was being restored at that time. It was built the same year as ours (1848). They can now grind for demonstrations. I have also done some preliminary searching for old working grist mills west of the Rockies. There didn't seem to be any except possibly in California. We were recently contacted by the Bale Mill staff in California. This mill was built in 1846 and has been demonstrating for a long time.

Pine Creek Mill has been accepted as an Interpretive Center on the Great River Road. This should bring more visitors to the Park. The Road is a collection of visitor attractions along the Mississippi River from Canada to Louisiana. Only sites that interpret the Mississippi River in a significant way are part of the network. Some other Iowa attractions on the Great River Road include:

Effigy Mounds National Monument
Mines of Spain Interpretive Center
Muscatine History & Industry Center
Toolesboro Indian
Mounds & Museum
Old Fort Madison



Restoration Report

By David Metz



Our first wood flat belt pulley built by Scott Gibbs. 18" in diameter X 12" wide.



Scott and Bob Delong are assembling the hub blocks that will grip the line shaft.



A very precise 2.700" hole that will accommodate the line shaft is being bored on David Metz's lathe in the hub block.

Planning has begun for our 2011 restoration season. In March Jerry Kieth and myself made a short visit to the mill to make some measurements that we needed for building new pulleys. The mill looks in good shape. Ken Hyman's policy of storing all our grain in vermin proof containers has paid off in keeping the mill clean and the rodents at bay.

The only problem that we saw at the mill is that ice or a tree has hit the penstock gate structure again. The damage is repairable. I plan for repairing the gate to be our first task this spring once the mill is up and running. We will need to hire a welder to do the repairs as we did in the past. This time instead of working out of a boat we plan to rent a scaffold and suspend it from the railing above the penstock inlet. That will give us a safer, more stable work platform.

The only long-term solution for the problem we are having with damage to the structure is to remove it from the wall in the fall and reinstall it in the spring. Even though we went for years without the structure sustaining damage, it looks like now we will be repairing it every year. Currently the structure is designed to be easily removed with the park tractor. All we need to do is remove five bolts and lift it out. Next fall we plan to store the structure behind the park office.

I am very happy to tell you that our long-term pulley replacement program is finally underway. By the time you read this newsletter Scott Gibbs and Bob Delong will have built three new pulleys for the main line shaft in the mill's basement. The lumber for the

new pulleys was donated by the DNR from their Yellow River Forest sawmill. Our custom built pulley turning machine will be used to true up and crown the new pulleys. It is our hope that the new pulleys will eliminate some of the belt retention problems we have had in the past.

Once our penstock repairs are completed and the new pulleys installed, we plan to complete work on renovating the grist chutes that we started last year. When this work is completed it will allow us to store grain in bulk in the mill's bins again. The chutes in question were removed during the 1930's restoration work at the mill. Without them there is no way to move grain about the mill using the elevators. By being able to store grain in bulk in a bin, we can eliminate the cost and time consumed traveling to buy grain a few bags at a time.

This year we also plan to redo some of our past work to improve its historic appearance. One project will be to move the drive chain that currently operates the turbine valve under the basement floor. Now that we are allowing visitors to tour that area of the basement, we need to get that mechanism out of the way. Nor does it have the historic appearance that I would like visitors to see.

Another project that is on the "to do" list for 2011 is to have the boiler smoke box finally fabricated. The plans for it are completed and all that remains to be done is to have the fabricator double check the dimensions at the mill and then get it built. The doors on the smoke box will be made from cast iron. This will require us to make wood patterns for the foundry. Seeing as we have never done this before, this should be an interesting project.

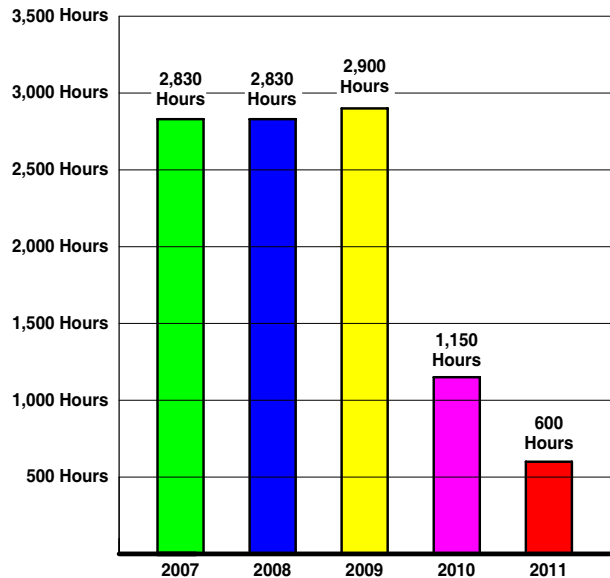
Iowa State Parks are Facing a Crisis! And That Means the Friends of the Mill are too!

Our Iowa State Parks are facing a crisis that will affect Wild Cat Den State Park and Pine Creek Grist Mill this year. Without the DNR interpretive staff that we had last summer, we may not be able to demonstrate the mill to the public. Over the last two years the budget for the Iowa State Park system has been severely cut, drastically affecting Wildcat Den State Park.

In 2009 there were 2,900 hours for seasonal staff. These are the folks that are hired for the summer to mow the grass, maintain the trails, shingle worn out roofs on shelters, clean toilets, help us with events and do all the many jobs in the park. From 2,900 hours in 2009 the number of hours has fallen to only 600 hours in 2011. You may notice Iowa's State Parks do not look as nice this summer.

Maintenance on the parks trails, campgrounds and other facilities can only be deferred so long. Years of budget cut backs have resulted in a backlog of work in all of our parks. We hear a lot of loose talk about *"cutting the fat out of government,"* well folks, the state park's fat is long gone. The bone is now being cut out. How bad is this problem? It is estimated by staff at DNR that if funding for our state parks were restored to 2005's level, it would take 20 years to bring the parks back to where they should be.

The Friends of the Mill will try to assist the park as much as we can but we are having trouble raising enough funds to keep the doors of the mill open. In our last election Iowa voters asked the



The bar graph above shows how funding for park summer help has decreased since 2007.

legislature to properly fund our state parks. Instead of increasing funding, the legislature cut funding further. And with the reductions in donations we are receiving, we may not be able to afford to hire as many tour guides as in the past and to be open as many hours. Remember that the mill's staffing during the summer is paid for by the Friends of Pine Creek Grist Mill, not the DNR.

The question becomes now what we can do to prevent our parks from deteriorating and to keep Pine Mill open this summer for the public?

Pine Mills Needs Tour Guides

Like the Old Mill? Enjoy talking to people? Want to make money? **We have just the job for you.** We need several new tour guides this summer. The tour guide job is just what it sounds like - giving tours to people in the mill.

If you are interested please contact:

Ken Hyman

562-262-9040

hymanken@gmail.com



Pine Mills “Excelsior Purifier”

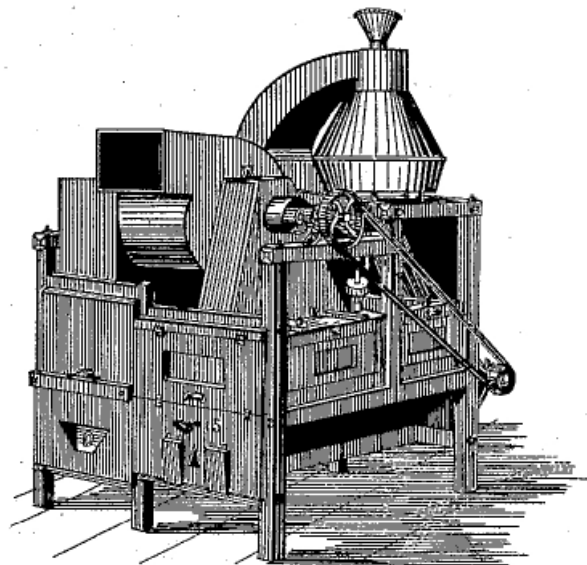
By David Metz

At Pine Mills there resides hidden away in a corner of the second floor what may be its most historically important machine. Most museum mills have an array of millstones, bolters and grain cleaners. Some even have an important machine called a middlings purifier. Pine Mills is notable in having one of the earliest models of this machine.

During the summer of 1877 Herman Huchendorf and his partner Beesly made a trip to Minnesota to visit the large merchant mills located there. The purpose of their trip to learn about the “New Process” system of milling hard winter wheat into high quality flour. The New Process being the greatest technical advance in milling in the last two thousand years. Basically the New Process involved grinding the wheat twice. The first rough grinding freed the wheat berries of their bran and broke the semolina (the part that makes white flour) into small chunks. The grist from the first grinding passed through bolters and then into the middlings purifier machine that removed most of the bran. The cleaned or “purified” middlings then passed through a second set of millstones that reduced them to flour.

One of the keys to success in the New Process was the miller’s choice of a purifier machine and the managing of its operation. For reasons we can only guess at Huchendorf and Beesly choose to purchase one of the first machines of this kind. One that worked very differently than the others offered on the market. Sometime after their trip to Minnesota they ordered an “Excelsior Disintegrating Middlings Purifier.” from the firm of Huntley & Holcomb in Silver Creek, New York. Huntley and Holcomb got their start building grain-cleaning machines that preceded the milling of wheat. They also imported and manufactured bolting cloth and other items used in mills.

All purifiers work by passing the grist over a shaking screen that has air flowing upward through it. As the bits of semolina pass over the screen they are tossed into the air, the bran separates and is carried away by the air stream. As the grist passes down the screen it is also sorted out (bolted) by size and directed to the next steps of processing. The H & H machine added its own unique twist to the process. When the grist first enters the machine, it passes through a cone shaped device that breaks



The Excelsior Purifier

A woodcut from the original 1875 patent application. The grist entered the machine through the funnel on the top of the cone shaped disintegrator. The exhaust duct on the front connected to the mill’s dust room.

up the grist further free the semolina from the bran. The dust produced by this step is fed into a small bolting reel on the side of the machine that salvages any economically useful flour.

Back to Pine Mills, since restoration work started at the mill I have known of this machine. It is located in the southeast corner of the second floor behind the quad scalpers and grain storage bins. It is impossible for the public to see (and us as well) unless you squeeze between the roller mill elevators and the scalpers to its corner. There it sits hemmed in on all sides by bins and machinery. The area is so restrained that I have never been able to get a decent photograph of the machine. Adjusting it while standing inches from the multitude of moving drive chains on the scalpers must have been a very risky experience for Huchendorf and the Missels!

Over the years as I researched the mill’s machines, it was obvious that the purifier we had at Pine Mills is a very different machine from what other mills had. I had thought that Huchendorf had installed

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Special Things Happening at Pine Creek in 2011

By Julie Whitehall

- May 4th:** Begins our month of School Field Trips. We are looking forward to hosting approximately 1200 students this spring.
- May 7th:** First weekend opened to the general public for the season.
- May 30th:** Opened Memorial for day for tours 12:30 - 4:30.
- June 1st:** Starts our summer photo contest. Check at our website for more information.
- July 4th:** Opened Monday July 4th for tours 12:30 - 4:30.
- August 31st:** Last day to enter your photos for the summer contest.
- Sept. 3rd:** First Day to sign of for Ghost of Pine Creek.
- Sept. 5th:** Opened Labor Day for tours 12:30 - 4:30.
- Sept. 10th:** Pine Creek Grist Mill's 5K Trail Run.
- Sept. 17th:** Heritage Days at Pine Creek Grist Mill.
- Oct. 8th:** Ghost of Pine Creek ...remember advanced reservations required to attend this event.
- Oct. 9th:** Last day Pine Creek Grist Mill will be open for the 2011 season.

facebook

By Tom Hanifan

Friends of the Mill has joined the social networking world of Facebook. If you are a member of Facebook, please become a "Friend" of our page. Please tell your friends about our page. Heather Shoppa of the Muscatine Convention and Visitors Bureau created the page and tour guide Justin Coleman added our video and Podcasts.

Why Facebook? First, it will help us promote the mill and the Park. People who like our Facebook page, the mill, or the Park, can easily tell their friends. Second, it will allow us to communicate timely information and breaking news. It will comple-

ment both our newsletter and Web site. Third, it allows interested people to ask questions. Fourth, it allows people to communicate with others about the mill. All of these things are already happening on our Facebook page.

How can you find us on Facebook? Facebook users can find us by searching "Pine Creek". There is a link on the front page of our Web site. You can also find our Facebook page by searching on Google. Check it out often. The site is still in development. And Facebook is changing the format and content of all user pages.

it in 1890 when he converted the mill to the present modern roller milling process. Recently while researching another machine on the web I accidentally discovered our machine. That got me thinking, could there be more information on it? Could it predate the 1890 modernization and be an early historically important purifier? I tried something new for me; I did a Google patents search and to my amazement found the original 1875 U.S. Patent for the Huntley & Holcomb Excelsior Purifier. The detailed patent description and drawings explained how the machine worked and confirmed it's dating. The mystery of this machine that had bothered me for years was solved.

And this brings us to our present day dilemma. The public cannot see one of our most historically

important machines, nor would anyone but someone interested in the minute details of 19th century milling technology be interested in it. What to do with the purifier? As time permits I plan to develop an interpretive display about the machine that could be displayed elsewhere in the mill. We can and need to do some conservation work on the machine. It needs to be cleaned and have a few missing parts (like belts) replaced. If nothing else we can ensure that our Excelsior Purifier is preserved for the future.

If you would like to learn more, go to Google Patents at: <http://www.google.com/patents> Search for patent number: 163,074. Huntley & Holcomb, Improvements in Middlings Purifiers.

The Traveling Miller

By David Metz

Built in 1843, Potter's Mill is advertised as the oldest flourmill in Iowa. It is housed in a striking bright red four-story frame building. The hardwoods used to build the mill are so valuable that the mill came close to destruction once just to salvage its lumber. Like many Iowa mills, Potters started life as a gristmill producing flour for shipment down the Mississippi River. In later years the mill survived as a local feed mill. The feed mill closed in 1969. In 1980 the Eggers family purchased the mill and began restoring it. For several years the mill had a new life as a restaurant and bed and breakfast. The restaurant and B & B are currently closed and the mill is up for sale.



The Mill is located on Big Mill Creek just yards from the creek's outlet into the Mississippi River. At one time the mill had six millstones in operation. Originally powered by a waterwheel, the owners converted it first to turbine power and then after the failure of the dam to a steam engine. Prior to its closing the mill's owners donated some of its remaining historic milling equipment to Motor Mill near Elkader, Iowa in Clayton County. If you are interested in Iowa's historic mills it is well worth

while to stop and see this magnificent mill if you are passing through Bellevue, Iowa.

Directions: Bellevue Iowa is located right on the Mississippi River on highway 52. Coming from the South on 52 you will see the entrance to Bellevue State Park high on the bluff above the mill and town. The high limestone bluff almost reaches the river at this point. As you pass it, you cross the bridge over Big Mill Creek and see the mill on your left to the East. You will have to turn East down one of the side streets to double back to the mill.



Some of the original machines can be seen on the first floor of the mill. The red machine to the left is the attrition mill used to grind feed. At its right can be seen the tun that covers the 48" millstone.

Bellevue is about one hour North of Interstate I-80 and 30 minutes South of Dubuque Iowa. The drive along the Mississippi River in this region is well worth your time. Dubuque has many attractions and to the East of Dubuque across the river on highway 20 is historic Galena Illinois, one of the most interesting historic attractions in the region.

Web Page: <http://www.pottersmill.net/>
E-Mail: info@pottersmill.net

IOWA LAND OF MANY MILLS

By Jacob Swisher

Jacob Swisher's book, *Iowa Land of Many Mills* published in 1940 is still the definitive history of milling in Iowa. Following is the last part of a shortened version he wrote in 1961. In it we hear how corn became king and how the milling industry declined.

From Wheat to Corn

The wheat-growing industry in Iowa began with the coming of the first immigrants. In 1840 one hundred and fifty thousand bushels of *wheat* were grown in Iowa* By 1850 Iowa was producing more than a million and a half bushels of wheat annually — ten times as much as it had raised a decade before. In 1856 the State had more than 380,000 acres of its fertile land devoted to the wheat crop, and in that year its wheat production exceeded five million bushels. By 1870 it had reached an annual production of twenty-nine million bushels — more than one tenth of the nation's crop. Iowa then ranked second among the wheat producing states of the nation, being surpassed by Illinois alone. In 1875 Iowa had reached its peak in the wheat-producing industry. The farmers of the State had sown more than three million acres to wheat and harvested more than forty-four million bushels of the golden grain.

One of the factors favoring the extension of wheat farming was the liberal land policy of the government. Moreover, wheat grew best on new land, and little capital was needed to begin wheat farming. With the passing of the years the introduction of improved farm machinery stimulated increased interest and constituted an important factor in the extension of the wheat-growing industry.

As wheat production increased, mills multiplied. In the decade of the seventies when Iowa's wheat production exceeded forty million bushels a year, mills became numerous. In 1879 there were 713 flouring and gristmills, and 1,002 water wheels and 287 steam engines in the milling industry. Iowa was indeed a land of wheat, and a land of mills.

There came a day, however, when a decline in the production of wheat became clearly apparent, and the number of mills likewise declined. There were a variety of causes for this change of conditions. The acquisition of government land at a low cost, which

had once been a boon to wheat culture in Iowa, came at length to be a deterring factor. Land prices in Iowa increased materially while cheap government land was still available in Minnesota and the Dakotas, Hence farmers interested in wheat culture tended to move into the Northwest, Soon it was discovered that wheat could be grown in other states, ground into flour, and shipped to Iowa more advantageously than it could be produced here. The extension of railroads into the Northwest tended to increase this differential.

Another factor that tended to reduce wheat production in Iowa was the ever-increasing interest and profits in the cultivation of oats and corn. In 1880 Iowa ranked second among the states of the Union in the production of oats, and twenty years later it ranked first. Likewise, in 1870 Iowa ranked second in corn, and attained first place in 1890, Iowa was fast becoming a land of corn, and more corn.

Not the least of the influences which contributed to a reduction in the growing of wheat and the operation of mills in Iowa, were the insects which ravaged the fields* While the Union and Confederate armies were fighting at Bull Run, in July, 1861, the Iowa farmers were fighting an army of chinch bugs. In 1871 twenty-one counties in southern Iowa

Reprinted from Jacob Swisher, "Iowa - Land Of Many Mills," *The Palimpsest*, January 1961. Copyright State Historical Society of Iowa. Used by permission of the publisher.

Dr. J. A. Swisher worked as a Research Associate of the State Historical Society. The material here he excerpted from his larger work, *Iowa - Land of Many Mills*, published by the society in 1940.

reported that spring wheat was “almost an entire failure” because of chinch bugs. Many fields in Washington, Appanoose, Monroe, Montgomery, and Madison counties were plowed up and planted to other crops. In 1874 grasshoppers visited the northwestern counties of Iowa, and in some areas, when harvest time came there was little to harvest.



The Iowa Flouring Mill located on the banks of the Iowa River at Iowa Falls in Harden County. The mill was built in 1857.

In 1879 the chinch bugs again infested southern Iowa, and in 1881 they were so thick throughout the Middle West that a “chinch bug convention” was held at Kansas City, where a resolution was passed “to abstain from the cultivation of wheat,” and to grow oats, buckwheat, clover, flax and hemp. The greatest damages were incurred, however, in 1887 when there was an estimated loss of \$25,000,000 because of chinch bugs. One of the best remedies seemed to be the abandonment of wheat culture.

As the mills had moved westward with the wheat industry in the decades of the fifties and sixties and had made Iowa a land of mills, so also mills followed wheat culture into Minnesota. Characteristically, wheat raising and milling were closely allied on a new frontier.

Thus it was that prior to the decade of the eighties, there was a gradual rise in wheat production in Iowa, and a corresponding growth and expansion in the milling industry. In like manner, following the eighties, there was a marked decline in wheat culture and a corresponding decline in milling. Hence, any history of the old water mill must be concerned with the rise and fall of wheat.

When wheat growing became difficult in Iowa, farmers learned that if oats were sown in fields where there had been chinch bugs, the crop might be damaged to some extent, but the bugs would probably not continue to breed there the following year. Hence oats and corn could be rotated without creating a favorable condition for the chinch bug. If a crop of clover or alfalfa became a part of the rotating program, the land would be strengthened for corn, and the insects would tend to disappear.

In his book, *I Remember, I Remember*, Cyrenus Cole commented upon the transition from wheat to corn, and the role that was played by the chinch bug. Mr. Cole remembered how his parents had suffered a complete failure of their wheat crop. As his father and mother walked through the blighted wheat field one day, he had heard the father say: “There will not be a loaf of bread in the whole field” The mother, wringing her hands, asked: “Then where will we get bread for our children?” Whereupon the father made the stately reply: “The Lord gave, the Lord has taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord.”

If the Lord did not provide wheat that year, He provided corn, which the chinch bugs had passed by. So when winter came, the Cole family “ate cornmeal mush in the morning, cornmeal mush at noon, and cornmeal mush at night — always with a great big tablespoon.” They also ate bread made from cornmeal, muffins and griddle cakes hot from the fire, with butter and molasses to spread over them. Indeed, they fared so bountifully that when they emerged from winter quarters the mother boasted that her children never before had been so strong and well.

Many years later Mr. Cole declared that perhaps his father was right when, in the devastated wheat field he gave thanks to the Lord. The chinch bugs had, indeed, “turned out to be a blessing in disguise.” At all events it seems clear that chinch bugs impeded wheat culture, and stimulated an interest in corn and livestock. If, then, we lament the decline in wheat culture and the passing of the old water mill, we may ascribe it, in part, to the invasion of grasshoppers and chinch bugs.

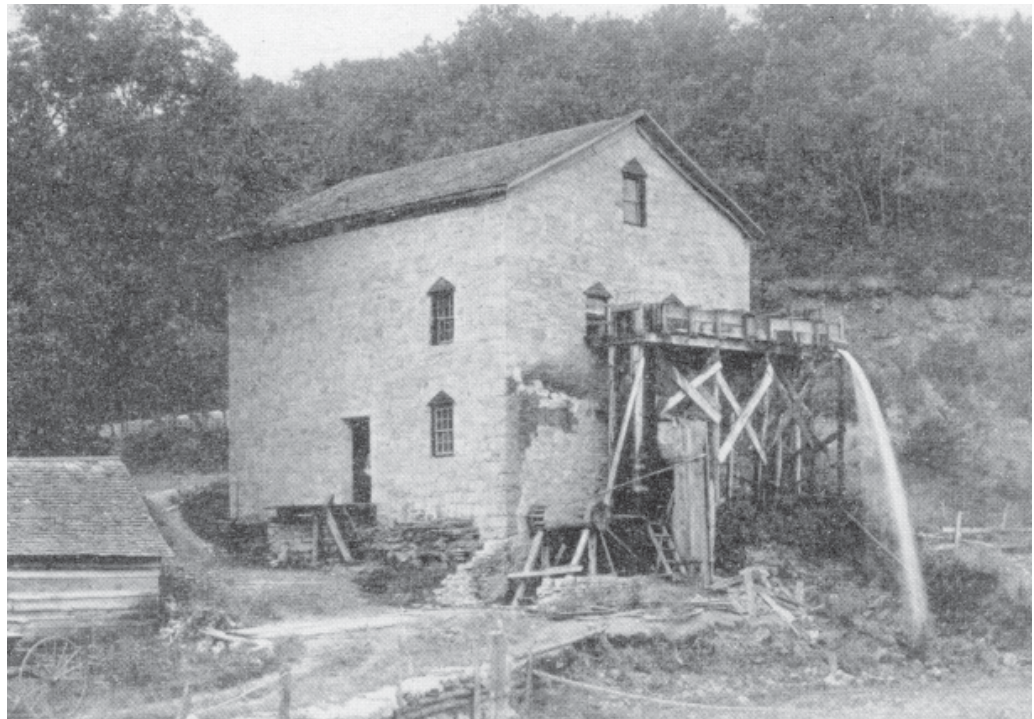
If Iowa has declined in its production of wheat, it has attained a place of high rank in the production of other agricultural products. It is widely acclaimed as the “State where the Tall Corn Grows.” It ranks first among the states in the finishing of fattened cattle. Meanwhile, old mills for the grinding of wheat have been superseded by new, larger, and more modern mills. A notable example of this has been the development of the Quaker Oats Company at Cedar Rapids, which

has come to be the largest milling industry of its kind in the world.

But despite the ravages of time, the changes in economic conditions, and the development of new and modern industries, there is yet a deep seated and affectionate interest in the charms of the old water mill.

The Old Mill: A Memory

And now a word in retrospect. The milling industry had its beginning in Iowa in the decade of the thirties. In some instances the sawmills came first. By the decade of the seventies much of the native timber had been cut and the lumber industry was concentrating in the big pine sawmills along the Mississippi. Flourmills developed and expanded in the forties, the fifties, the sixties, and seventies. Then the grasshoppers and chinch bugs came. Wheat moved out and corn moved in, Where there were once



Fountain Springs Mill near Greeley in Delaware County. A millrace and flume carried water from the spring on the hillside to the mill's overshot wheel in the valley below. At the time this photo was taken most of the overshot wheel is missing.

substantial and picturesque mills there are now cribs, and silos, and barns and government storage bins — visible evidences of accumulated wealth. The transition has been a dramatic incident in the story of Iowa.

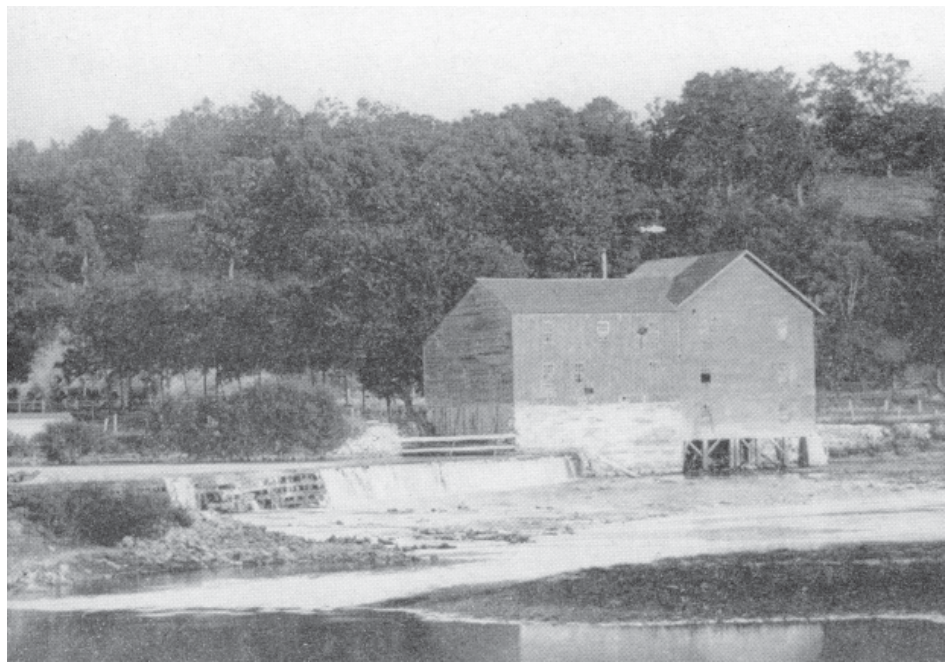
As historians and as students of art and culture and wealth, we look backward across the years and see Iowa again a great wheat country, a lumber and flour producing area, a land of a thousand mills - horse-power mills, steam mills, and water mills; mills along the banks of many rivers; saw-mills and gristmills; woolen mills and flour mills; mills, mills — everywhere mills.

In the accumulation of wealth, break not the charm of early days that live like a song in memory. Rather preserve the artistic and the beautiful. Cherish a memory of the old water mill, and build around it shrines that will endure through the years. Where are the mills that once lent picturesque charm to the valleys of Iowa? A few of them have become modern milling centers, but for the most part they are gone. In more than half the counties there is not now even a trace of an old water mill.

But look again, A few dilapidated old mills, some of them abandoned, are still to be seen. Weathered and worn though they are, these old mills have a historical value. Service has given them dignity; age has conferred prestige; and years of idleness have changed their character from workshops to resorts. Vine-covered and mossy though they are, some of these firm old structures may still be preserved. Pine Creek Mill in Muscatine County is within the boundaries of a State Park, Moreover; it has been remodeled and rebuilt to preserve its essential features.

About 1880 a “new process” of milling was developed, and roller mills were substituted for the ancient millstones. With the advent of this method

and the abandonment of the rotating stones, the old millstones came to be only a relic — a souvenir of the days that are gone. Many of the old stones have been lost in the mud of riverbeds, but some have been recovered and used as historical markers. At the town of Lowell in Henry County a French millstone has been mounted upon a substantial base to mark the site of an old mill In Shakespeare Garden of Crapo Park, Burlington, is one of the old millstones that was formerly used in Moffatt’s mill on the Skunk River in Des Moines County. And at Iowa City an old millstone on each side of the doorway adorns the entrance of



Walter Terrell built this large mill at Iowa City on the Iowa River in 1840. After operating the mill for 50 years the site and dam were donated to the University of Iowa. The University Hydraulics Laboratory and power plant are now located at the site.

the Hydraulics Laboratory, one of the University buildings. At Cherokee, Iowa Falls, and Hampton markers have been erected for old water mills.

When a good man serves his fellows, we honor him; when he retires, we give him praise. So may it be with the old water mill — honor for service, praise for the wheels that are still, and monuments of stone and bronze for the mills that are gone. In the printed page, in picture, in story, and in song the old water mill still lives.

Your Donations Keep the Mill Open!

Your donations are what keep the Friends of the Mill in action. While the dues you pay help, they do not even begin to cover the cost of our programs such as our school program, restoration and the cost of the tour guides salaries. Because of the funding cuts for the DNR that the state legislature has made this year we can expect even less support from the state. This is why on this page of the newsletter, we keep asking for donations.

As important to the Friends as your financial support is your time. We are a volunteer organization. We need more dedicated volunteers to support our mission. No matter what your skill set is or prior experiences, the Friends have a job for you. Besides supporting Pine Mill, you are

going to have a lot of fun! You can put in just as much or as little time as you want. If you are interested in volunteering, contact one of our officers.

Another way you can support the Friends is by attending meetings and providing material for the newsletter. We need your input and participation at our business meetings. By attending, you make yourself a key part of the Friends. We are also always looking for more material for this newsletter. Photos of Iowa's early mills and stories about the mills or pioneer times are always welcome. Contact the editor, David Metz by phone at 563-263-4222 or email: davemetz@machlink.com



Photo Contest Winners

From our 2010 photo contest, Melpine School's outhouse taken by Marissa Vcich. Pine Mill's dam taken by Jessica Mineart.

More photos in the next newsletter.



Would you like to sponsor a special day, week or month at the mill? Please fill out and return this card with your donation. Please indicate the date(s) and your name will be posted at the mill as sponsor. F.O.M. has been granted 501(c)(3) status by the Internal Revenue Service.

Name _____
 Organization _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Date(s) you wish to sponsor _____
 Person you wish to honor _____
 Amount donated \$ _____



Make your check to:
 Friends of the Pine Creek Grist Mill

 Mail to:
 Friends of the Pine Creek Grist Mill
 C/O Mr. Tom Hanifan
 Box 1205
 Muscatine, IA 52761



Pine Creek Grist Mill is on the Web!

See us at:

www.pinecreekgristmill.com

Don't want to receive this newsletter anymore?

Contact David Metz at
563-263-4222 or
davemetz@machlink.com

Friends of the Pine Creek Grist Mill

Pine Creek Grist Mill is located in Wildcat Den State Park, Montpelier Township, Muscatine County, Iowa.

"The mission of Friends Pine Creek Grist Mill is to restore, operate and maintain the Mill and to share the historical significance of the site through educational programs, public tours, and events."

Friends of the Mill Membership

2011 Membership

Membership is only \$20.00 per year, membership includes:

One year basic membership

Newsletter

An opportunity to learn more about a local historical treasure

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone number (_____) _____

Email address _____

Send this application and your check to:

FOM C/O Mrs. Gladys Mittman

323 Main Street

Muscatine, Iowa 52761

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