

MILLS OF THE WISSAHICKON

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Editor.

1933-1934.

Gloucester and was one of the "First Council Proprietors of West Jersey", in 1687. (2)

On June 15th 1685 he purchased from Thomas Rudyard 5000 acres of land in Pennsylvania, and in 1690 removed to Philadelphia, and in 1693 became a member of the Governor's Council.

In 1691 Robert Turner sold to Robeson and Saunders the remaining 449½ acres of Sumac Park.

Andrew Robeson Sr died in 1694, he, his wife, and son Samuel were all buried in the Friends' Burying Ground at 3rd and Arch streets, although they were not Friends.

In 1696 Samuel Robeson, executor for his father, sold his half interest in the 200 acres of western Sumac Park and the mills to his cousin, Andrew Robeson 2nd. The 300 acres of the eastern section were sold to Joseph and Benjamin Morgan. In 1703, Sara Saunders, widow, wished to sell her half interest in the 200 acres and mills to Andrew Robeson 2nd, but the Court decided that the 8 acres at the mouth of the Wissahickon could not be divided, so she retained her half interest in the 8 acres, but sold another 96 acres to Andrew Robeson 2nd. At this date a corn mill and saw mill were mentioned as "The Wissahickon Mills".

Of the 25 Colonial mills erected on the Wissahickon and its branches in Roxborough and Germantown Townships, but one building remains today, and that is the famous mill built on the above mentioned 8 acres of land at the confluence of the Schuylkill river and the Wissahickon Creek.

This mill was built before 1733 and then called "the Wissahickon Grist and Bolting Mill", but before 1748 it became known as "The Roxborough Mill". From 1703 until 1748, the 8 acres were owned jointly by the heirs of Andrew Robeson 2nd, and Charles Saunders. The mill is first mentioned in the will of William Saunders in 1733 "a grist mill-- two pair of stones under one roof--named the Wissahickon Mills, erected on 8 acres of land". In 1748 the mill was rented to Thomas Tilberry.

In a deed of 1752 an interesting of the Roxborough Mill, now Colady Castle, the headquarters of the Philadelphia Canoe Club. It said "A certain water corn, or grist mill, (being two grist mills with two pairs of stones under one roof) sometimes called Wissahickon Mills, now Roxboro mills. Which 8 acres of land, with consent of former owner, was left for necessary use of the said mills, messuages, stables, mill house, bolting mills, buildings and improvements, thereon erected, dam banks, water courses, mill race to said mills, also half an acre on west side of dam of said mills, to take away enough sand and rock to repair said mill dam or dams."

At this time there were no roads leading into the hidden valley of the Wissahickon; a great mass of rock formed a natural dam just above what is now Ridge avenue. A mill race, over 500 feet long carried the water from the dam through the mill and emptied into the Wissahickon near the Schuylkill river.

The part of the mill that contained the water wheel is now a large cellar-like stone room under the first floor of the Canoe Club. Even in the last few years the waters of the Wissahickon have risen above the top of the wheel room. From the club house porch at low water, can be see a stone in the middle of the creek that ~~marked~~ is marked with a circle. Tradition states that this stone was so marked by the Indians to indicate that fishing was very good in this vicinity.

In 1755 Hohn Vandaren purchased the mill and 8 acres.

A. C. Chadwick, Jr., editor of The Suburban press, and historian of the Wissahickon Valley Historical Society, says: "There is a legend connectd with this mill. A cseratina Doane, and his seven brothers, the ~~outlaws~~ who terrorized the inhabitants of Philadelphia and Montgomery Counties by their depredations, were siad to have used the old building as a rendezvous."

And verses, penned by the same editor and historian, go on to say:

(1)

MILLS OF THE WISSAHICKON.

By James F. Magee, Jr.,

Written Especially for

The Suburban Press,  
Roxborough,  
(A. C. Chadwick, Jr., Editor)

1933 and 1934.

Sumac Park, a 500 acre tract of land was the southern part of eleven division of land granted to the first settlers of Roxborough Township.

Robert Turner, a Quaker, native of Cambridge, England, later a "linen draper", of Belfast, Ireland, was with William Penn and others one of the Proprietors of the Province of East New Jersey, in February of 1681-82.

"William Penn by ye grace of God and King, proprietor of the Province of Pennsylvania, 20th day of the first month 1684" granted to Robert Turner, 500 acres of land called "Sumac Park" in Penn's Manor of Springettsbury (now Roxborough) at a yearly rental of 1 shilling for each ~~xxxx~~ 100 acres.

A street in this section ~~xxx~~ is now named Sumac street, and the sumach tree grows profusely on the hills above the Wissahickon.

Robert Turner was also a part owner, in 1690, of William Rittenhouse's first paper mill in America.

On June 19th 1686, Robert Turner leased for 101 years, 50½ acres along the Wissahickon to Joshua Tittery, a broad-glass maker, and Richard Townsend, a millwright, late of London; the partners agreeing to build mills and improve the property.

Richard Townsend embarked for Pennsylvania in the "Welcome", with William Penn, and stated that he brought with him the material for a grist mill, all ready to erect, and also mill stones.

The grist mill, saw mill and dwelling were erected before 1686 and in 1689 they are mentioned in a deed of that year when the new owners sold a third interest in the mill and land to John Tysack, a broad-glass maker of London.

The grist mill, with three pair of stones under one roof was to the south of the Wissahickon Creek, about where "Barnett's Garden" of 1933 stand, and marked "Flour Mill" on the accompanying map, and the saw mill was on the north. (Where the gas station at the foot of Wissahickon Hill is now located). In 1690 and 91 the several partners sold the two mills and land to Andrew Robeson, Sr. of West New Jersey and Charles Saunders, a millwright.

As the Robeson family for over 150 years owned the mills and the Robeson Mansion (Barnett's Garden) on Ridge avenue, their biography is of interest.

Andrew Robeson Sr., with his wife, Elizabeth, and nephew, Andrew, 2nd, arrived in West New Jersey in 1676. In this same year William Penn conveyed to him one share of the Proprietary rights in West Jersey. Robeson is mentioned in the deed as "the late ~~xxxxxx~~ London merchant, now of Clonmellin, Ireland".

In 1699 the heirs of Andrew Robeson Sr left most of estate to his two brothers, Thoma and David, in the Kingdom of Scotland, so it is probable that the Robesons were originally of Scotch ancestry.

In 1676, Andrew Robeson Sr was Surveyor General of West Jersey, and in 1687 was appointed one of three surveyors to lay out the line dividing East Jersey from West Jersey. He settled in the County of

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horseback from Philadelphia through Ridge road to Nowwistown. They were entertained at the Robeson Mansion, and in his diary the Duke gave the first account we have of the falls of the Wissahickon, as it was ~~not~~ before 1826, when a great mass of rock was removed where the Reading Railroad bridge now crosses the Creek. The diary reads: 2 "The Wissahickon flows between hills which are high and covered with wood. A fine waterfall of about 7 or 8 feet, and as broad as the bed of the rivulet supplies Robeson's mills with more water than would be required for running many more mills.

"The banks of the rivulet bear a wild and romantic appearance, and the brook meanders in the most beautiful manner through the woods and rocks, foram a grand yet gloomy prospect, which catches and delights the eye, and disposes the mind to pensive reflection.

"Robeson's estate consists of 250 acres; four oxen and two horses do the work of the farm. He is a skilled miller.

"The water from the Wissahickon turns 25 other mills before it reaches Robeson's. The mill has three separate mills, two for manufacturing and one for the public. He grinds yearly 45 to 50 thousand bushels of corn which is procured from Virginia, New York and some from Pennsylvania. The mill will hold 10,000 bushels of corn. Six horses are continually employed in carrying meal to Philadelphia and bringing back corn in return. The water of the Wissahickon is never frozen nor does the mill ever cease working."

The water that ran the mill was carried by a mill race that ran from the dam that is several hundred feet above the one at Ridge road.

In 1832 Fanny Kemble, the actress, wrote of her horseback rides along the Wissahickon, and of the great beauty of the mill, dam, bridge etc. "I stopped for a long time oppisite the Wissahickon Creek. The stone bridge with its great arch, mingled with the rough blocks of rock on which it rests, the sheet of foaming water falling like a curtain of gold over the dam among the dark stones below, on whose brown sides the ruddy sunlight and glittering water fell like splinters of light. The bright rich tufted cedars breaking in the warm glow, the picturesque mill, the smooth open field, along whose sides the river waters, after receiving this child of the mountains into the bosom, wound deep and bright and still, the whole radiant with the softest light I ever beheld, formed a most enchanting and serene subject of contemplation."

The bridge she describes must have been the Ridge avenue bridge, as the railroad bridge was not commenced until 1833, and the dam was not the artificial one we see today.

Peter Robeson's brother, Jonathan, and his father, Jonathan Robeson, were all members of the Friends' Meeting. Upon the death of Jonathan, his brother, Peter purchased his half interest in mills and lands.

In the early 1800's Peter Robeson built and gave to his son, Andrew 4th, as a wedding present, "Milverton" a double dwelling with large central hall, surrounded with unusually fine trees. It was afterward known as Riverside Mansion, a public hostelry.

Peter Robeson married first, Martha Livezey, daughter of Thomas Livezey, of "Glen Fern", now the home of the Valley Green Canoe Club. His second marriage was with Elizabeth Heath, also ~~the~~ of the Livezey family, Elizabeth was an able preacher in the Friends' Meeting.

Peter Robeson died on November 9th 1833, and willed his mills and land to his sons, Andrew 4th and Jonathan.

Andrew Robeson 4th settled in New Bedford, Mass., and was a manufacturer of cotton goods and connected with the whaling industry. His sister, Catharine, married Dr. John Moore; a sister ~~xxxxxxx~~ Sarah, married Joseph Lee; and his Aunt Margaret married Caleb Lownes; and the daughter of the Lees married George Minster. The Lees lived at "Milverton" (Riverside Mansion) until 1845; and the Minsters dwelled there until 1880. After the death of Peter Robeson, the Lownes' lived in the Robeson Mansion. (Barnett's Garden)

Mills.

Judge Andrew Robeson 2nd, and his wife, attended the Swedish Church. He died in 1719 and was buried in the churchyard of the Swedish church of St. Gabriel's, near Douglassville, Pa.

In 1706 a primitive road was laid out from Robeson's Mills to Philadelphia, following an old ~~xxx~~ Indian trail.

Andrew Robeson, 2nd, willed his Sumac Park land the the mills of Roxborough Milling and Bolting Company to his eldest son, Andrew 3rd, who lived from 1686 until 1740. The latter married Magdalen Rudman, the daughter of Rev. Andrew Rudman, the first minister of Swede's Gloria Dei Church.

The heirs of Andrew Robeson 3rd, in 1752 sold the Wissahickon Grist mill and saw mills, also the Roxborough Mills to Henry Shellenberg. In 1755 John Vandaren bought the three mills and added considerably to the estate by purchasing adjoining properties.

Before 1772 Nicholas Rittenhouse and he owned jointly the "New Mill" (below Hermit lane). In 1783 Rittenhouse sold his half interest to Vandaren---37 acres. corn or grist mill, bolting mills, mill dam, etc. This mill was on the original Sumac Park tract and stood on the site of the later Maple Springs Hotel, in 1794 Michael(?) Rittenhouse being the sole owner.

An important enagment between the American and Hessian troops took place at the Ridge avenue end of the Wissahickon, near the Vandaren Mills, during the Battle of Germantown, on October 4th 1777.

Captain Ewald, of the Hessian forces, gave the following account of the engagement: "The alarm of Washington's approach having been given, a battalion of German Jagers was hurried to the bridge over the Wissahickon. The Jager Corps was attacked by 4000 men with four 6 pounders (General John Armstrong's account states the Americans only numbered 1500 men and two field pieces) Ewald goes on "So the corps was forced to leave the bridge, but took position on the hill opposite, and defended this post with its rifles against the repeated attempts of the enemy to force it. The enemy's ~~xxxxxx~~ four cannon played constantly on the Jagers, while our 3 pounders could not reach the enemy. Meantime firing ~~xxxxxx~~ became general and very strong on the right wing, until about nine o'clock (a.m.) when Lieutenant General Knyphausen sent us word that the enemy's left wing had been beaten. Hereupon Lieutenant Colonel Von Wurmb attacked the ~~xxx~~ bridge again and drove the enemy both from there and from the opposite heights, under a heavy fire. As the attack had been made through a long defile the enemy had time to retire." (Note position of Hessian redoubts in survey of 1850) The mills were considered of great value by the British army, and that their right wing was around Lukens Mill on the Wangohocking, and their left on the hills above Vandarens mill, is a coincidence, for both had been built by Richard Townsend about 1686.

Before 1786 John Vandaren was the sole owner of four mills in Sumac Park; the Roxborough Mill, the grist and saw mills on Ridge road; and the "New" mill below Hermit lane. In this year he placed a mortgage of 2500 pounds sterling on the mills and 200 to 300 acres of land with Peter Care, the owner of the Monastery Mill, at Kitchen's lane.

On June 6th 1798 the mills and lands again came into the possession of the Robeson family.

At a sheriff's sale Peter and Johnathan Robeson purchased the fourteen adjoining pieces of property, in all 263 acres, for 5900 pounds sterling, subject to Peter Care's mortgage reduced to 2000 pounds. The land included the western part of Sumac Park, Falls of Schuylkill in Northern Liberties, and 20 acres across the Schuylkill in Lower Merion Township, of what is now Montgomery County.

Peter and Jonathan Robeson were the great grandsons of Andrew Robeson 2nd. In 1795 the Duke de la Rochefoucault, Liencourt, a Frenchman, and Caleb Downes, a brother-in-law of Peter Robeson, set out on

## "COLONY CASTLE"

"Revelers gather within the walls  
 Of a structure old in years,  
 Which once vibrated with toilsome sounds,  
 And the crunch of meshing gears;  
 For the waters that pass its aged door  
 Were harnessed to drive the wheels  
 For a miller, who ground the garnered grain,  
 Or a wright with his tensiled steels.

"An ancient heap of stones, 'tis true,  
 But romantic tales are told  
 Of events, enacted within its rooms  
 By men who were brave and bold,  
 It served, one time, as a hiding place  
 For a crew of thieves, who planned  
 To make the wealthy neighbors fear  
 The Doane Boys outlaw band.

"And sometime later, the fishermen  
 Of the State in Schuylkill Club,  
 Assembled under its fabled roof  
 And made the pile their hub.  
 And epicures, 'round the festive board,  
 Were wont to eat their fill  
 Of fish, and fowl and viands rare,  
 In the old and vine-clad mill.

"Though many years have run their course  
 It stands as though 'twas new,  
 In use by water-loving youths  
 Who ply the light canoe,  
 Where Wissahickon's spring-fed stream  
 Joins with the Schuylkill's flow,  
 Old Colony Castle conquers Time  
 While mortals come and go."

Mr. Chadwick states that this mill was the first cut nail factory in America, and also later the rolling mill of Amos Jones. In the survey of 1850 it is called a Logwood Mill.

In 1869 the mill and 8 acres were purchased by the city and are now a part of Fairmount park. From 1877 to 1887 the famous "State in Schuylkill" founded in 1732, occupied the building before moving to its present quarters at Andalusia, on the Delaware River.

Now let us return to the Robeson Grist and Saw mills on Ridge avenue.

Andrew Robeson 2nd (1654-1719) married in 1685 Mary Spencer. She is buried in Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) churchyard, Philadelphia. Her husband had been Judge of Gloucester County, West Jersey, in 1692, and Chief Justice of Pennsylvania from 1693 to 1699. After 1702 he lived near the mills at Sumac Park, where he brought up his eleven children.

He was a large landowner, purchasing more than 100 acres at the Falls of Schuylkill. Later on, this land ~~was~~ became the estate of Dr. William Smith, the first provost of the University of Pennsylvania; on which was also the Fort St. David's Fishing Club; Powers & Weightman's great chemical manufacturing plant, and the world-famed John and James Dobson textile mills.

In 1714 ~~Andrew~~ Robeson 2nd purchased 1500 acres of iron ore land near Reading, in Berks County. His daughter, Magdalena, married Thomas ~~sixty~~ Potts, and Andrew and his son-in-law helped to promote the newly-developed iron industry in that region. His son, Andrew 3rd, remained in Roxborough, and continued the business of the Wissahickon

and secured to them by screw-bolts. This work has rendered the bridge abundantly strong and a good coat of whitewash has improved its appearance.

"On the afternoon of August 12th 1862 the bridge over the Wissahickon Creek was entirely destroyed by fire. The bridge took fire from the mill adjacent, known as Robeson's Mill. An arrangement was immediately made with Mr. Stone for the erection of a trestle work as a temporary bridge. The whole work was satisfactorily completed in 13 days; and in 19 days the trains were passing over the bridge. Proposals having been invited for the construction of an iron bridge. The bids were few and exceedingly high (Civil War times) owing to the increased price of iron and the present difficulty of procuring it---and instead passed a resolution authorizing the erection of a substantial wooden one."

The present Philadelphia and Reading Railroad bridge was commenced in 1872, and proceeded therewith to build a double track stone railroad bridge over the Wissahickon Valley.

The bridge was completed in 1875, in time for the opening of the Centennial Exposition the following year.

In 1927 extensive repairs and renewals were made to the bridge, including a concrete safety wall on each side of the roadbed, and in 1932 the electrification of the line, including catenary support on the ~~bridge~~ bridge, were completed.

Locally this bridge is called "The Highbridge" and in his manuscript "Songs of the Wissahickon", A. C. Chadwick, dedicated theseverses to the structure:

HIGH BRIDGE

When engineers and artists met  
To raise a bridge of strength and grace  
On which iron horses; slaves of man;  
Might to their destinations race,  
They chose to show their finest skill  
Above the Wissahickon's spume,  
For there a giant causeway stands  
Though its erector's in his tomb.

Five arches, each of vaulting length  
Leap o'er the little river's vale,  
To form a roadway, huge and strong,  
Sustaining on its floor, the rail  
Which locomotives speed upon;  
And beauty, too, is in each span  
Which causes passers-by to praise  
The genius of the human clan."

In "The Wissahickon Velley" by F. B. Brandt, he describes the bridge as "A scene crowned by a magnificent span of arches worthy of a Roman causeway.

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This partnership of William Rittenhouse, a practical paper-maker, and William Bradford, the first printer, insured the infant industry of success.

It was agreed that Bradford should each year receive a certain quantity of writing, printing and blue paper for his exclusive use. In 1697 he was to have all the printing paper made for a period of ten years at ten shillings per ream.

A quaint doggerel, by John Holmes in 1693, mentions the mill:

"The paper mill is here hard by  
And makes good paper frequently,  
Kind friends when thy old shift is rent  
Let it to the paper mill be sent."

Also Richard Frame, printed by William Bradford, in 1692, said:

"Where lives High-German People and Low Dutch,  
Whose trade in weaving linen-cloth is much  
From linen rags, good paper doth derive,  
The first trade keeps the second trade alive.

"Without the first, the second cannot be,  
Therefore, since they two can so well agree,  
Also when on our backs it is well worn  
Some of the same remain ragged and torn.

"When of those rags our paper it is made,  
Which in process of time doth waste and fade  
So what comes from the Earth, appeareth plain  
The same in Time returns to Earth again."

About 1700 the paper mill was washed away by a great greshet. This was during the second visit of William Penn to Philadelphia. A certificate in his handwriting states that William Rittenhouse and Claus, his son, part-owners of a paper mill, has sustained a very heavy loss by a violent ~~xxxxx~~ and sudden flood, which carried away the said mill, with considerable quantity of paper, material and tools, whereby they were reduced to great distress, and therefore it is recommended to such persons as should be disposed to lend and to give the sufferers relief and encouragement in their needful and commendable employment as they were desirous to set up the paper mill again.

William Penn generously headed the list of subscribers with a contribution of 25 pounds.

It is interesting to know that last month, August 24th 1933, another great and violent storm visited Paper Mill Run and washed away the bridge and concrete walls of the run, between the Rittenhouse ~~xxxx~~ dwelling and where Mill No. 7 once stood.

The paper mill was rebuilt in about the same location. An indenture of 1705-06 states the other three partners sold out their interests in the paper mill ~~xxxx~~ and 20 acres to William Rittenhouse Sr.

William Rittenhouse Sr was a preacher in the Mennonite Church and in 1701 was ordained the first Bishop of that faith in the Colonies.

Rittenhouse, during his life, sold a three-quarter interest in the mill to his son, Nicholas, and upon his death in 1708 (he died intestate) his son became the sole owner.

David Rittenhouse (the astronomer) wrote that "for the manufacturing of paper in the mill they carried rags in bags on the backs of horses from School House lane, (earlier called Robeson's Mill road) and returned the paper in hampers in the same manner. The rags were brought from Philadelphia in carts and the paper returned to the city."

The exact location of the first paper mill of 1690, and the one that replaced it about 1702 at the same place, is determined from the



old deeds and surveys. It was built 330 feet above the present Rittenhouse dwelling along Lincoln Drive, on the opposite side of Paper Mill Run, on a tract of land marked 9½ acres on a survey of William Rittenhouse 2nd (the oldest son of Nicholas Rittenhouse Sr) made in 1772. This lot was southwest from the Germantown Township line, including Paper Mill Run, and the mouth of the little stream that runs from the south side ~~xxx~~ into Paper Mill Run. The first paper mill was just below this juncture, about 115 feet. Above the first paper mill, west of the 9½ acre lot, was an 8½ acre plot, arked "Jacob Rottenhouse" (1722-1811) Here was his paper mill No. 7 built before 1760. To the south of this, was a 14 and 1/4 acre tract marked "Nicholas Rittenhouse 2nd" (1719-1787) upon which was erected in 1707 the Rittenhouse dwelling. There was never a paper mill on this 14 and 1/4 acre lot; many writers claiming that the stable or smoke-house near the Rittenhouse dwelling as the first paper, but this is not coreect.

Nicholas Rittenhouse Sr. (1666-1734) increased the production of and the the quality of the paper manufactured, and both the "American Weekley Mercury", of Philadelphia, 1719; and the "New York Gazette" ~~1725~~ 1725, were printed upon paper showing the watermark of Nicholas Rittenhouse. We reproduce a tracing from the "Mercury"--one one sheet of which was the clover leaf and on the other "K.R." (Klaas Rittenhouse). The other watermark is from Weeks' "History of Papermaking".

In the possession of the writer is a piece of paper marked "H. R." (Henry Rittenhouse) who died in 1768. He must have had an interest in

Mill Nos. 7 ~~and~~ or 8 before he built the Red covered bridge (Shurs lane) grist mill (No. 9) in 1751.

Nicholas Rittenhouse Sr. died in 1734, willing the 20 acres and old paper mill to his eldest son, William Rittenhouse ~~Sr.~~ 2nd.

William Rittenhouse 2nd (1691-1744) owned at different times over 220 acres of the Vickris and Jannet tracts.

In all deeds of transfer he calls himself a papermaker, as does his son Jacob; the other three sons, Henry, Nicholas 2nd and ~~xxxxx~~ Abraham were also named papermakers until they built their grist mills

Benjamin Franklin, diplomat, inventor, ambassador and holder of many great honors and degrees, in his wills calls himself simply "Printer", so these early Rittenhouses in deeds and wills were proud to state they were "papermakers".

Before 1760 there were two paper mills on Paper Mill Run; the old Mill No. 8 and the paper paper mill No 7. We suppose the old mill became out of date, and the new more modern mill No 7, was built.

After the deathsnof Nicholas Rittenhouse Sr in 1734, the paper mill or mills, were continued by his son, William Rittenhouse 2nd, and grandsons, Jacob, Nicholas, Henry and Abraham. Jacob was the only one who remained a papermaker; the watermarl used being the clover leaf and "J.R." He was a member of the Minute Men of 1776; a generous ~~xxxxxxx~~ contributor to the Mennonite Church, and a prominent citizen.

On November 21st 1760 William Rittenhouse 2nd sold to his sons, Jacob and Abraham, 18 acres of land (old paper mill lot of 9½ acres and mill no 7 tract of 8½ acres)

The old yearly interest on ground rent was 5 shillings and one peppercorn and was to be paid to the heirs of Samuel Carpenter, now, for ~~22x~~ 920 years.

The deed mentions the old paper mill and in several other place "mills". They were also to have water rights of the two small streamss running into the 9½ acre lot and the privilege of cleaning out and keeping up the height of the water as it always had been, and when there was more than enough water to run the mills ~~theyx~~ the owners below were to have sufficient water to flood the meadows. The 18 acres were a part of the original 20 acres.

In 1769 Jacob Rittenhouse was assessed for a paper mill and 30 acres; Abraham for a paper mill and 30 acres; in 1783 Jacob ~~and~~ for a

paper mills and 31 acres. In 1785 Jacob and Abraham Rittenhouse sold the 9½ acres and old paper mill to William Rittenhouse 3rd, but the deed specified that Jacob was to retain the old paper mill with land upon which was built, also privileges to pass and repass, right of mill dam, mill race, also rights of two small streams running into Paper Mill Run.

A deed of 1815 states that the dam for ~~mill~~ the mill was to the northwest of where the two small streams ran into Paper Mill Run.

The illustration of "Dam of the Rittenhouse Paper ~~mill~~ Mill Run, near Rittenhouse street, in Roxborough Township" was published in Lockwood's Trade Journal.

Mills Nos. 7 and 8, and also Henry Dewees' plant were the only paper mills in Roxborough or Germantown townships during the Revolution, where there was such a great shortage of paper.

In July 1776 the papermakers of Philadelphia County wrote the Committee of Safety: "That if all the paper makers, masters, apprentices and journeymen within the ages aforesaid (16 to 50 years) should now leave the trade and follow the camp, then all the paper mills in Philadelphia County, making the majority of the paper mills of this continent must immediately be shut up and of course in a few weeks the printing offices even cartridge paper would soon fail."

On August 9th 1776 the Continental Congress enacted the following: The Honorable Congress having resolved that the paper makers in Pennsylvania be detained from proceeding with the Associators to New Jersey, all offices of this State are required to pay strict regard to same."

The American Philosophical Society offered a prize of 25 ~~xxxxx~~ pounds sterling to the person who collected the greatest quantity of linen rags for the paper mills, in order to excite them to greater diligence.

Jacob Rittenhouse died in 1811, without issue, and Enoch and Samuel Rittenhouse, sons of Jacob's brother, Abraham, inherited the mill. Enoch Rittenhouse died in 1855 and the mill, or at least the mill site, passed into the hands of Peter Rittenhouse, his cousin. After 1880 the twenty acres were purchased by the Fairmount Park Commission. We wonder if they still pay the heirs of Samuel Carpenter the yearly rental of 5 shillings and one peppercorn on the old ground rent for another 747 years?

Two other descendants of the first paper maker, Martin and W.H. Nixon, through their grandfather, Martin Rittenhouse, were until comparatively recently, the owners of the largest paper mills in Manayunk.

The "History of paper Making in the United States", by L. H. Weeks, gives an interesting account of the paper industry in the first paper mill, and as it was in the United States in 1916.

"Altogether there is an amazing comparison between the solitary Rittenhouse Mill in 1690 worth a few hundred dollars, employing three men, producing annually perhaps 1500 reams of paper, and supplying only the needs of a small community, and, at the other end of the line the great business of the 20th Century. The 700 establishments of 1916 with paper and pulp mills, represented an investment in capital of more than \$550,000,000; employing 100,000 persons; a daily capacity of about 20,000 tons of paper, and annually produced to the value of nearly \$350,000,000."

The Rittenhouse dwelling, on Lincoln Drive, built by W. C. R. (William and Claus Rittenhouse) in 1707 is still standing, and it was there that David Rittenhouse was born in April of 1732.

William Rittenhouse Sr. and Nicholas Rittenhouse Sr., lived and died there; the latter in 1734. William Rittenhouse willed his entire estate to his eldest son, William 2nd. (1691-1774)

In 1746 he sold the dwelling and 14 and 1/4 acres to his son Nicholas

2nd and in 1802 his son Martin purchased the same, but in these deeds there is no mention of a mill on this lot.

After 1880 the Fairmount Park Commission purchased this land.

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THE RITTENHOUSE MILLS.  
(Continued from September  
7th 1933.)

In 1769 Philadelphia County included the present counties of Chester, Delaware and Montgomery.

A tax list of that year records 317 mills powered by water upon the streams emptying into the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers in the old County of Philadelphia.

They were paper, saw, grist, flour, oil, fulling, and powder mills. Of these 169 were in Chester which then included Delaware county; 96 in Montgomery; and 52 in the present County of Philadelphia.

As we have already given the story of the first paper mill (No. 8) we will now continue with the other four Rittenhouse Mills.

Mill No. 5 was the Nicholas Rittenhouse (grist mill (2nd)), built in 1746. It was on the east side of the Wissahickon Creek on a long strip of land about 400 feet above Henry avenue and Hermit lane.

On the opposite side a great mass of rocks and trees ascended for more than 200 feet, and near the summit overlooking the ravine was the great promontory known as "Lovers' Leap", of Indian superstition and Colonial tradition.

Beyond Lower Leap was the Hermit's Glen where the mystics and members of Johannes Kelpius' followers dwelt in the quiet of the virgin forest prior to 1700.

On June 4th 1746 William Rittenhouse 2nd, the grandson of the first Papermaker, sold to his son Nicholas 2nd, papermaker, who had married Catharine Nice, 44½ acres of land beginning at the Sumac Park line and extending up the Wissahickon to include the mouth of Paper Mill Run, or Monoshone Creek. In the same year Nicholas Rittenhouse 2nd sold a half interest in 32 acres of this land to M. O. Hogermeed, Sr., a wheelwright who built the grist mill, and in 1767 he sold the mill to his son, Martin, for 2000 pounds. In a survey of 1772 the mill is drawn in as a 3 story building with a mansard roof. It was the largest of the five Rittenhouse mills at that time. Nicholas Rittenhouse Mill Road ran from near the Rittenhouse dwelling, or Paper Mill Run, down the creek nearly to the Sumac Park line. About 160 feet below this line was Mill No. 4 built by Nicholas Rittenhouse and John Vandaren in 1772, and called "the New Mill", but the road did not extend to this mill. In 1774 Martin Rittenhouse was taxed for a grist mill and 18 acres of land. It may be that he rented Mill No. 7 that belonged to his Uncle Jacob Rittenhouse, as that mill was on an 18 acre tract. In 1797 Martin Rittenhouse sold the mill to his brother, Nicholas, 3rd.

In 1865 Nicholas Rittenhouse 3rd and other heirs sold Mill No. 5 that had been altered into a 3 story woolen factory with mansion and eight tenant houses and 9 acres of land to Sarah Greenwood. In 1873 she sold the mills and lands, which included a burned factory, to the Fairmount Park Commission for \$42,500. On June 20th 1872 the Greenwood Mills were consumed by fire entailing a loss of \$20,000.

Mill No. 6 was built by William Rittenhouse 2nd before 1772. In that year he sold the grist mill and 10 acres of land on Paper Mill Run to his sons Jacob and Abraham Rittenhouse. It was below the Rittenhouse dwelling and about 350 feet above the mouth of Paper Mill Run.

In 1785 the brothers sold the mill to William Rittenhouse, with wife Anne, and in 1789 they sold to another William Rittenhouse with wife Margaret.

In 1811 Matthew McConnell, a papermaker, bought the mill and made it a plant for making paper. The real owner was Philip H. Nickel, a bookseller. This was in 1813.

On July 2nd 1853 James Lord Jr., bought the 10 acres and mill. In 1864 he sold the factory and outbuildings to Holmes ~~xxxx~~ Ammidown, or Ammerdown, of New York City, for \$75,000. The next year it passed to E. H. Ammidown, or Ammerdown, with all the factories, buildings and

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tenements. In 1872 the Fairmount Park Commission purchased the mill and land for \$115,000.

Mill No 7 was a paper mill on the 8½ acres just across the Paper Mill Run from the Rittenhouse dwelling.

It was sold by William Rittenhouse 2nd, to his sons Jacob and Abraham on November 21st 1760.

In 1772 Jacob was the sole owner. He lived to be nearly 90 years of age and died in 1811 without issue. He willed the mill to Enoch and Samuel, the sons of his brother Abraham Rittenhouse. It is said that the mill was rented at one time by Jacob Markle, a paper maker, who had married the widow of Isaac Rittenhouse, a brother of Jacob's.

In 1855 Enoch willed the mill then a woolen factory (rented to Alexander McKell and Bros) to Peter, a son of his cousin Peter Rittenhouse.

An oil painting shows the mill a 2 story structure with mansard roof as it was before being demolished by the Park Commission, after they purchased it in 1891.

Mill No. 9 is the Henry Rittenhouse (son of William 2nd) grist mill on the Wissahickon near the old Rittenhouse lane (Shurs lane) red covered bridge, since replaced by the present Blue Stone Bridge.

The mill was built in 1751, but before this date he is mentioned as a papermaker: He had a wife, Mary, and six children. The datestone of this mill, now in the Germantown Historical Society, reads: "Built in 1751, enlarged in 1787, rebuilt by Nicholas Rittenhouse 1859". In 1768 a road was confirmed from Henry Rittenhouse's mill joining the Holgate Mill road then up the hill to Roxborough, later the road is named Abraham Rittenhouse mill road.

Henry Rittenhouse died in 1768 and in 1769 his estate was taxed for a grist mill and 33 acres; also in 1783 for the same mill and 30 acres. After the latter date the mill was sold to his brother, Abraham, (1723-1815) who lived to be 92 years of age. He willed the mill to his 3 sons, the eldest, Enoch, purchased the shares of his two brothers. Enoch left the mill to his son Nicholas 4th, who rebuilt the mill.

The red covered bridge with the dam below, the old mill with the dwelling just across the road, made a very attractive scene. We have seven illustrations of this section.

The Park Commission purchased the mill and 26 acres for \$46,000 in 1873.

A. C. Chadwick, Jr., editor of The Suburban Press kindly loaned me his very interesting copy of "The Riversons", by E. S. J. Brewster, published in 1892. It is an old time love romance describing Mill No. 9, the nearby Rittenhouse dwelling and the red covered bridge as they were in 1845.

A great many Roxborough families are introduced and their amusements, pleasures and trials are told in a most interesting manner.

A young girl "Marion Riverson", presumably a Rittenhouse, lives in the house near the mill. She is the ~~xxxxxxx~~ grand daughter of Col. Riverson (Rittenhouse) the former owner of the mill. Upon the death of the grandfather it was discovered that he had left his family with a very small estate. It was known, however, that late in life he had sold several large properties, the return for which could not be found in his estate. One chapter is entitled "Marion Finds More Gold and a Lover". She is a somnambulist and in the morning upon awakening she finds in her pocket several gold pieces. This occurs quite often and to stop the gossip of evil minded persons who suggest that she obtains the money dishonestly, her fiance follows her, as she leaves home at midnight. Marion enters the old mill and descending to the lower floor remove a stone in the wall and takes out a handful of gold and places them in her pocket, replaces the stone and returns home--all while sound asleep.

In the morning Marion, her family, and the lover go down to the mill and discover the hiding place of the Colonel's 20,000 dollars in

gold. So many banks had failed that he placed the gold in the wall  
for safe keeping.

After solving the gold mystery the lovers were married and as  
the fairy tales have it, "lived happily ever after".

Mill No. 10: Holgate's Fulling Mill and Gorgas' Monastery  
Mill No. 11 Grist Mill.

We have given so far the history of the first nine mills on the Wissahickon and Paper Mill Run. We will now continue with Mills Nos. 10 and 11.

Holgate's Fulling Mill( about 1700) No. 10

John Jannett, one of the original eleven purchasers from William Penn in his Manor of Springettsbury (now Roxborough) purchased 200 acres of land in 1683, which was patented to him in 1685.

The tract adjoined the Vickris plot on the north and extended from the Schuylkill river to the Germantown line(Wissahickon avenue). The Wissahickon Creek ran about 1250 feet through the property, the southern line crossing the stream about 750 feet above the present Blue Stone Bridge.

On the 16th Day, 3rd month, 1698 Jannett sold the 200 acres to Matthew Holgate. Holgate came from England and sailed on the "Rebecca", of Liverpool, and arrived in Philadelphia, 31st day, 8th month, 1685, with his daughter, Mary. Shortly after arriving he erected a fulling mill said to be the first in Pennsylvania, on the west bank of the Wissahickon, below where the present Walnut lane bridge spans the creek. In a survey of 1772 the mill is drawn as a two-story building with peaked roof.

A fulling mill is one where wool is sent to be cleansed from oil and grease.

The Holgates were for four generations (Matthew Sr., Matthew Jr., John and William) owners of fulling mills on the Wissahickon and Cresheim creeks.

In 1729 Matthew Holgate Sr., conveyed 100 acres and the mill to his son, Matthew Jr. In 1729 a petition was presented to the court asking for the confirmation of a road passing the mill. "There has been for many years a road leading from Ridge road over a ford on the Wissahickon, called Holgate's Ford, running up over the hills to Germantown. The said road by long experience has been found very convenient and necessary to said inhabitants." Again in 1768, "road over Wissahickon to Holgate and Snyder's Fulling and Leather Mill, through Holgate's land and road leading to Henry Ritterhouse's Mill to Roxborough".

part of the ruins of the mill were still standing in 1760, and at this ~~point~~ point once crossed a much used road which was at that time a direct highway between New York and Baltimore. Traces of it can still be seen on the top of the hill.

In 1762 Matthew Holgate Jr., conveyed the mill and land to his son, John, who sold half an interest to Christian Snyder, a skin dresser. In 1769 John Holgate was taxed for a fulling mill and 130 acres; in 1774 for the same; and 175 acres; and in 1775 Holgate and Snyder for the fulling mill.

Christian Snyder also owned a fulling mill and grist mill with 36 acres in Germantown, in 1769.

In 1782 and 83, the mill was sold to William Rittenhouse 3rd; and in 1783 he is taxed for the fulling mill and 10 acres.

In 1785 Rittenhouse sold the mill to Abraham Rittenhouse, who changed it into a grist mill. At this time Abraham also owned the Red Bridge Mill (No. 9)

By will he left the mill to his three sons, one of whom, Jacob Rittenhouse, became sole owner in 1817. After this date the height of the mill dam for Mill No. 9 was raised, so the Mill No. 10 was rendered useless.

William Holgate, the son of John Holgate, in 1770 purchased from the heirs of John Conrad, the fulling mill on Cresheim Creek, and in 1804 it was transferred to Jacob Holgate. 17

Mill No. 11.

John Gorgas Jr's, grist mill No. 11. (1747)

This mill was on the site of one of the most romantic, historical and interesting spots along the Wissahickon. On the hilltop above the mill was the Monastery, built by Joseph Gorgas before 1752. The baptisms of the Dunkards took place in the Wissahickon near where the present Kitchen's lane bridge passes over the creek. Before 1860 a lonely old red-voered bridge stood there, and in 1844 Edgar Allen Poe wrote that his favorite approach to the Wissahickon was down the lane from Ridge road to this region. Here he received the inspiration to write his "Mopping on the Wissahickon" and here while "floating in a skiff on the bosom of the Wissahickon" he penned the story of the "Elk".

Just below the Gorgas Mill was "Mom Rinker's Rock" upon which the late John Welsh erected and gave to Fairmount Park, "Toleration", a statue of William Penn.

"25th Day, 2nd Month, 1684. William Penn sold to Francis Fincher 500 acres of land, Mary the widow disposed of 200 acres to Thomas Hill in 1687. He sold the same in 1691 to Weckart Levering. In ~~XXXX~~ 1701 Levering transferred 160 acres to Peter Conrads; his son John sold 82 acres to Johannes Gunre sr., Johannes Jr., in 1742 sold to Benjamin Shoemaker, and in 1746/7 twenty seven acres were passed to John Gorgas Jr. a skin dresser of Germantown. On November 27th, 1747 Gorgas with his wife Mary sold a quarter interest each to Michael Pilsner and Jacob Simon, millwrights of Lancaster County. They built the grist mill.

John Gorgas Jr was a great grandson of William Rittenhouse Sr. who built the first paper mill in America, through his son Nicholas Rittenhouse. Also a grandson of Wilhelmina Dewees, sister of William Dewees, who built the second paper mill, as she married his grandfather Nicholas.

The Gorgas family owned in part or entire, at different times over six mills in the Wissahickon Valley and its branches. John Gorgas Jr in 1713 purchased a quarter interest in the second paper mill; he and William Dewees on about the same location, in 1828 started the manufacturing of paper resembling ass's skin, from a species of rotten stone. (Asbestos?)

Joel Munsell, in his "History of Paper Making in the United States", 5th edition, states that this was the third paper mill in the Colonies. Before his death, in 1741, Gorgas built and owned a fulling mill on Cresheim Creek. His son, John, Jr., owned a grist mill and an oil mill on Oil Mill Run, that empties into the Wissahickon at Gorgas lane.

There is a Gorgas ~~in~~ street in Germantown, and a Gorgas lane in Roxborough, also the beautiful Gorgas Park given to the city authorities by the late Susan Gorgas and yet there has never been a history written of this interesting family.

In early days the Gorgas' were members of the Mennonite meeting but later they joined the Dunkards or seventh Day Baptists. In 1741 John Gorgas Jr's sister, Mary, was living in the Monastery at Ephrata, in Lancaster County, where the Brotherhood of Dunkards established their paper mills and printing press. John's three brothers before 1749 followed their sister. Benjamin and Jacob were paper makers and Joseph a skin dresser. They resided in the Brotherhood settlement.



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Joseph Gorgas, however, returned to Roxborough, and in a deed of 1752, it is stated that before that date he had erected at his own cost and expense a three-story stone building. This building was the Monastery erected on a 2 acre tract, a part of the 27 acres. We suppose this 2 acres was the site of the old John Gumre homestead. In 1752 John Gorgas Jr sold his half interest and Simon and the Widow Pelsner their quarter interests in the 2 acres and three-story building to Joseph Gorgas. At this time Joseph was the leader of a group of Dunkards or Seventh Day Baptist who held their religious meetings in the Monastery.

The Gorgas Mill was operated by water power from a small stream running onto the Wissahickon, just above the Kitchen's lane bridge.

In 1752 Joseph Gorgas bought a quarter interest in the grist and saw mill, and also 33 acres of land. In 1759 he bought his brother John's half interest in the mill and by 1761 he owned the entire property. In this year he, (late of Roxborough, but now of Germantown) sold the mill and land to Edward Milner. Jacob Gorgas died in 1766 leaving a widow Julianna, but no issue.

In 1761 Edwin Milner's mill road was confirmed. It started at Roxborough or Wissahickon Great Road (Ridge Road) toward Philadelphia, along the present Roxborough avenue, over the Wissahickon creek to the mill then up to Germantown road over the present Kitchen's lane and Carpenter street. The survey gives a diagram of the Monastery and the mill with a large water wheel. The Wissahickon is colored in silver and the new road in red.

Edwin (or Edward) Milner, the new owner of the mill, was a land speculator. During the Revolution he bought in 1780, from the Court, the confiscated 278 acres, dwelling house, grist mill, saw mill, powder mill and oil mill from the estate of the late John Roberts, miller of Mill Creek, Lower Merion Township. It is said that the proceeds of the sale went to the University of Pennsylvania for educational purposes. In looking up the deed, however, we find that the University received only 67 9/10 bushels of wheat every 6 months forever, and within four days Milner transferred the property to a syndicate.

In 1775 Peter Care bought the grist corn or merchant mill. John Livezey became the owner in 1792 with elevators and all conveniences for the manufacturing of flour in an extensive scale. In 1808 John Conrad, a bookseller, changed the mill to a paper mill. It was sold at sheriff's sale for \$17,000 in 1815 to Gavin Hamilton, then another sheriff's sale with 82 acres of land to the Pennsylvania Company.

It passed through several hands until 1852 when it was purchased by William G. Kitchen, who in 1873 sold the same to the City of Philadelphia.

Mills No. 12 and 13: Gorgas Grist Mill,  
Gorgas Oil Mill.

These two mills and the Thomas Livezey mill were all erected upon the tract of 500 acres that William Penn sold to James Claypoole in 1684. Claypoole was one of Penn's Commissioners; his brother, Sir John Claypoole marrying Elizabeth the daughter of Oliver Cromwell.

In 1695 Hugh Roberts of the Welsh Tract, in Lower Merion, bought the property for 40 pounds. He was one of the founders of the Merion Meeting House, and a large speculator in real estate. His 625 acres in the Welsh Tract was adjoining the present Meeting House lane, where the Belmont Race Track was located until recently. In 1750 this road was Levering's Mill road, and connected Merion Meeting with Jacobb Levering's mill on Gulley Run, in West Manayunk.

In 1705-06 the Roberts heirs sold 400 acres to George Evans. In 1708 John Linderman 2nd, 14 1/2 acres for 20 pounds; and in 1738 John Bald bought some of the land.

In 1746 John Gorgas Jr. bought 85 acres with dwelling, at the corner of a great road by Livezey's lane to the Wissahickon.

John Gorgas' Grist Mill (No. 12) 1746-1764.

The grist mill was erected on 42 acres of the above 85 acres and was run by the waters of the the little creek known as Oil Mill Run, that flows into the Wissahickon at the foot of Gorgas lane.

A blueprint of 1833 shows the mill race running from Oil Mill Run to a corner of the mill and then into the Wissahickon. The mill was built between 1746 and the confirming of Gorgas lane, in 1764, as the grist mill is mentioned in this road-deed.

Horatio Gates Jones, vice president of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in the 80's, stated that the land extended from the Ridge road to the Wissahickon and the dwelling house conveyed was most likely that situated back some distance from Ridge road and now (1861) occupied by Lewis Hinkle. Gorgas lane, after reaching the Wissahickon crossed the creek on a low bridge, the square holes in the rocks that held the supports can still be seen just above Allen's lane Bridge on the Germantown side.

It is said that iron chains were attached to the bridge so that when the water rose during freshets the bridge would not float away. Later a red covered bridge spanned the creek high in the air above the water.

John Gorgas Jr. was the great grandson of wilhelmina Dewees, who married Nicholas Rittenhouse Sr.

Her will, written in 1737 in the Holland language, gives to the grandchildren several interesting family heirlooms: " I give Peggy Rittenhouse my spinning wheel. To Susanna Gorgas I give a tea pot and china. To Mary Gorgas I give my sugar bowl and small iron pans. To Scyntia Gorgas I give the under feather bed and a pillow and also a brass kettle."

The will was written on Rittenhouse paper containing the watermark of the clover leaf.

John Gorgas died in 1781 and willed the mill to his son, Benjamin, who had married Julia the grand daughter of peter Rittenhouse, who owned the creshelm Grist Mill of 1700, which in 1817 was owned by Peter gechtel.

In 1783 Jacob and Benjamin Gorgas were each taxed for a half interest in the mill. In 1795 Benjamin Gorgas sold the mill to his brother, Jacob, who had married Catharine Horrtter, daughter of Jacob Horrtter Sr., and Maria Magdalene Rauch. On April 1st 1796

the mill was sold was sold to John wise, Sr and his son-in-law George Hortter. 20

Hortter street in Germantown was named after this man's brother Jacob Jr., who always spelled the name with two "t's".

In 1800 George hortter , who in 1806 owned the old Evans-Jones (1744) mill, in Gwynedd Township on the Wissahickon, sold his half interest in the mill to John Wise Sr.

Wise, is given in the tax list of Roxborough in 1774. He married about 1771 Catherine, the daughter of his employer. In 1774 he purchased from George Hocker, a grist and saw mill on the Wissahickon, in Upper Dublin, for which he paid 1750 pounds.

Tradition states that he had a brother would settled in Virginia, and that John was in reduced circumstances until he married Catherine, the daughter of a miller in Roxborough. Through marriage the descendants of early wissahickon millers retained their interests in the industries through many generations. Many were the intermarriages between the Rittenhouses, Dewees, Farmers, Robesons, Gorgas' Pauls, Livezeys, Wises, Streepers, Hortters, Mechtels and Scheetz'.

John wise's son, John wise Jr., in 1812, purchased the William Dewees paper mill of 1731, that later became the lower Magarge paper mill at wise's Mill Road. His sister, Anne, married William Streep, of the Wissahickon valley family of millers.

A quaint advertisement of March 8th 1803 reads; "Thirty dollars reward. Ran away from the subscriber on the night of the 6th, a German servant named Joseph velekr about 5 feet 6 inches high, of dark complexion he had on a new wool hat, blue coate, olive colored velvet pantaloons, and took with him sundry other clothing. He carried a sword cane and a silver watch, with a tortoise shell case. Is by trade a miller and speaks very little English. Roxborough. John Wise."

Tradition says that Wise was a Mennonite preacher, and the account of his death in his mill, on July 15th 1803, is from Poulston's "American Advertiser": "On Thursday last Mr. John Wise, a reputable miller on the wissahickon creek, 8 miles from this city, in examining the sindle of the trunnel wheel in the mill when in motion, his head was caught between the great cog wheel and the wollowers, which after closing upon it gave sufficient space for his body to pas below. His son who was near the mill observed the works to be deranged; closed the water gate; and on searching for the cause found his father's body."

John wise Jr purchased the mill, which he sold in 1812 to Peter Adams. Jacob Wise, John's brother, became the owner in 1815, and upon his death in 1828 it was sold to Thomas Yardley. In this year the property was advertised for sale. "The Improvements are a large grist ~~xxxx~~ and merchant mill, stone dwelling, barn, number of out buildings, about 8 miles from Philadelphia".

There were four principle reasons why the industries of the Wisahickon mills decreased about this time; fires, the steam engine, freshets and sheriff's sales.

In 1834 the sheriff sold the mill to George Moyer; then another sherritt's sale brought the mill to William M. Weigley in 1847. The mill was entirely destroyed by fire in 1856. J. Edgar Thomas bought the land in 1860 and resold in 1866 to Matthew W. Baldwin, of Baldwin's Locomotive Works.

In 1864 John Livezey purchased part of the land. At this time his family owned all the land on the west side of the Wissahickon from here up to Wise's Mill Road. In 1872 the land all came under the jurisdiction of the Fairmount park commission.

Gorgas Oil Mill No. 13.

This mill was built upon 43 acres of the 85 acre plantation by

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John Gorgas Jr., in 1746. It was probably erected in the 1750's about 400 feet above the Wissahickon on Oil Mill Run and Gorgas lane.

The caves of the Wissahickon are upon this property? The largest of these excavations is to the north of Gorgas lane about 300 feet from the Wissahickon. Oyl mill Run, as it is called on early maps, rises in a valley running up near Shawmont avenue and Wise Mill road above the 8th milestone on Ridge road and was named after the Gorgas oil mill.

Horatio Gates Jones stated that the Gorgas mill was called "the haunted mill" and that while owned by Matthias Gorgas the mill and dye house of his cotton factory had been on fire 35 times and that the factory itself wholly, or in part, was burned eight times.

John Gorgas Jr married first, Mary, and then Regina (Rachel) He had nine children and upon his death in 1781 he left the oil mill, to his son, John 3rd. The mill was owned for more than 130 years by the Gorgas family.

John Gorgas 3rd, changed it into a grist mill. For many years Joseph Carr, of Cresheim grist mill, which was built by Gerhard Ritterhouse (1674-1702) owned the the Gorgas Oil Mill. ~~xxxxxxx~~ Later on Matthias Gorgas changed it into a cotton wadding factory. Jones, the historian, wrote: "The old mill with its ancient mansion situated at the base of a hill covered with laurel, with the small stream running in front, was quite picturesque and I am glad to ~~xxxx~~ know that Mr. John Gorgas, of Wilmington, Delaware, has a fine oil painting of the old mill as it stood before the hand of modern improvements depleted it of its ancient beauty."

In the Park Survey, of 1868, the Gorgas mill buildings are given and adjoining them were the vineyards of Matthias Gorgas, was was greatly interested in the cultivation of the grape.

The mill land was just beyond the property the park purchased and in 1886 J. G. Haley's Dye Works were located there, and to prove that the mill really was haunted, it was on December 17th 1886, again entirely consumed by fire, the loss amounting to \$20,000.

Mill No. 14: Thomas Livezey's Grist Mill,  
Thomas Shoemaker 1745-6

The Livezey Mill was built on a 500-acre tract of land deeded by William Penn to James Claypoole, in 1684. It was on the east side of the Wissahickon a few hundred feet below Cresheim creek close to the Livezey Colonial dwelling, which is now used as the home of the Valley Green Canoe Club.

The title of the property is as follows: Claypoole to Hugh Roberts, 500 acres, 1695; Roberts heirs to George Evans, 400 acres, 1705-6; Evans to Jonathan Conrads, 82 acres, 1709; Conrads to Johannes Gumrie, 82 acres, 1719/20; Gumrie to Henry Sellen in 1716 (Sellen owned the first oil mill in the Wissahickon valley, on the Cresheim Creek, which in 1801 was Peter Bechtel's paper mill) 44 1/2 acres, 1733.

In the deed a building is mentioned for the first time, so that the foundations for the present Livezey House may date back to that period. Henry Sellen sold the property to John Harmer, messuage, plantation with over 100 acres, in 1739, for 205 pounds; from Harmer the property was sold to Thomas Shoemaker. It consisted of 20 acres, and 3 acres and 18 perches, in 1745-6, for 106 pounds.

This Thomas Shoemaker built the mill before October 10th 1747, as on that date he sold to Thomas Livezey 3rd: "the said Thomas shoemaker hath erected a certain water grist mill with two pairs of stones under one roof on the tract."

In later years the Livezey family owned over 500 acres in the Valley of the Wissahickon, but from a survey of 1833, kindly sent us by John T. Campbell, of the Germantown and Roxborough survey office, we learn that the 20 acres mentioned above is the only parcel of the land of interest to us. On this 20 acres are drawn the corn mill, dwelling, smoke-house, coach house, barn, ice house, garden, mill race and bridge across the Wissahickon.

Now we have traced the 20 acres from William Penn to Thomas Livezey 3rd. Let us take up the ancestry of Thomas Livezey 3rd, as he was for the most part the really interesting member of his family.

Charles Harper Smith, of Hatboro, the historian of the Livezey Family, has kindly given me part of the following data:

Thomas Livezey, Sr., the progenitor of the family in America, came from Norton, or Morton, County of Chester, in England, about May 1680. He purchased from William Penn 750 acres of land in Lower Dublin Township, with a house lot in Philadelphia, which was on the south side of Chestnut street between 4th and 5th streets. In 1683 Thomas Livezey Sr. and Hugh Marsh sold this lot containing a house (it must have been a dog cabin) for 46 pounds and 10 shillings. On March 3rd 1681 William Penn deeded to Thomas Livezey Sr (Lease and Release) 250 acres, but the exact location of the land was not noted until patented later. Fourth Month, 20th, 1686 Livezey bought 500 more acres adjoining the other 250 acres. For this he paid one shilling a year on each 100 acres. Under the release of 250 acres Livezey was required to pay one peppercorn yearly and 5 pounds. The 500 acre tract is located on Holmes' Survey of 1681-88, on Dublin Creek, known by the Indians as "penneypak". It was along the southern line of Abington Township.

Thomas Livezey, Sr., was a member of the Grand Jury January 11th 1682, at the first Court held in Philadelphia. He died in 1692, in his will he left his son, Jonathan, a life interest in 250 acres for his grandson, Thomas 2nd. (1689-1759) This Thomas 2nd, married Elizabeth

Heath. They had ten children, of whom the eldest, Thomas 3rd, bought the Wissahickon valley mill in 1747. He is mentioned in deed as a miller of Cheltenham Township, where he had been an apprentice.

Thomas Livezey 3rd was born "first month, 25th 1723, and married Martha Knowles, of Abington Meeting, in 1748. His sister, Mary, married Joseph Paul and his daughter, Martha, married Peter Robeson of the Sumac Park mills, and his second cousin, Susannah Livezey, married Joseph Magarge, grandfather of Charles Magarge, of the famous Magarge paper mills. The Paul family, of which his brother-in-law was one, owned at different periods over ten mills in Philadelphia County. Later, in giving the history of the Dewees, Pauls, Wises, lower Magarge paper mill at Wise's mill lane, etc. we will give the story of the Paul family. Thomas Livezey 3rd was a prominent man in his day; a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly from 1765 to 71 and a member of the American Philosophical Society.

The June term of Court in 1746 confirms a road beginning at Paper Mill Road in Roxborough. This was a road below the present Wise's Mill road that in 1742 was confirmed and laid out, connecting with the paper mill of York and Maris, which later became the Magarge Paper Mill.

The road leading to the new mill is now Livezey lane. It ran down to the Wissahickon and over a bridge to the Shoemaker mill, and continued on to what is now Allen's Lane, to Cresheim street. The deed states that at this corner there was a log house "lately built". It was specified that Shoemaker should keep the road in repair. It was likely confirmed to give better access to the mill.

In 1747, 1748 and 1749, Thomas Livezey 3rd sold a quarter interest of his mill and 20 acres to Captain Jacob Leach; a quarter to Deborah Paul; and a quarter to Wallace Moore.

On October 5th 1765 Thomas Wharton wrote to Benjamin Franklin, then representing the colonies in London, that seven of their party had been elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly, including Thomas Livezey. On October 15th 1771 the Pennsylvania Assembly appointed Benjamin Franklin agent in Great Britain for the ensuing year; also Thomas Livezey on the Committee of Correspondence.

On November 18th 1767 Thomas Livezey 3rd wrote to Benjamin Franklin, in London, informing him that he has sent him by Capt. Falkner, twelve bottles of wine made from wild grapes on his own place. "Despair of a change of Government until after the death of Thomas Penn; wishes he could be prevailed upon to die for the good of the people, and thus make his name as immortal as Samson's death did his."

On February 2nd 1768 Franklin replied: "I received of Capt. Falkner your welcome letter of November 18th, with a very welcome present of another dozen bottles of your wine. The former has been found excellent by many good judges; my wine merchant in particular was desirous of knowing what quantity of it might be had and at what price."

Thomas Livezey 3rd, of Roxborough Township, Philadelphia to Benjamin Franklin, London, on November 18th 1769: "Though I have not the happiness of an intimate acquaintance with thee, yet time I hope will alter that circumstance and bring us better acquainted. I only know thee from some of thy writings, the author of which I greatly esteem. As thou art one of the agents for this province in Great Britain, I sent a dozen American wine by Capt Falkner the last time he went from here to London, which I am pleased

to hear was safely delivered. It was made by myself, from our small ~~xxxxxx~~ wild grape, which grows in great plenty in our woodland, and as I have some of the same sort now on tap, which I think rather better, I have sent a dozen more.

I heartily wish it may arrive safe and warm the hearts of every one who tastes it, with a love for America, and would it bring about a change in government but one month sooner, I would gladly send all I have.

However I do not despair of the change yet; it will take place at the death of Thomas Penn.

I do not know whether some people in this province will not be in the same condition as a German wife in my neighborhood lately said, 'nobody could say she wished her husband dead,' but said she ~~xxxxxx~~ 'wished she could see how he would look when he was dead'.

Thomas Livezey 3rd, in 1769, was assessed for a grist mill and 106 acres; in 1783 for a grist mill and 75 acres.

In 1770 John Potts, of Valley Forge, sold to Joseph Paul and his wife, Mary, 103 acres of land in Whitemarsh Township and across the Schuylkill in Lower Merion Township (this included the famous Spring Mill built by David Williams in 1715).

On December 21st 1770, Paul sold one half interest in the lands and mills to his brother-in-law, Thomas Livezey 3rd. In 1777 when the American troops were encamped at Valley Forge General Washington frequently purchased flour for his military family and grain for his horses at the Spring Mill. (From History of Montgomery County.)

In 1783 the Spring Mill passed into the possession of Thomas Livezey 4th.

There is a stone built in the ruins of the Livezey mill, said to contain a date as early as ~~xxxx~~ the 1700's, but there is nothing on the stone which can be read.

Horatio Gates Jones, Roxborough historian, wrote in 1888: "Mr. Livezey was a member of the Society of Friends and when the British were in Philadelphia and our troops used to go about seeking provender, he sunk a number of barrels of wine in his dam in the Wissahickon, where it remained until the close of the war. Some of the wine was bottled and preserved by the late John Livezey, a grandson of the said Thomas, until a short time before he died in 1878. He gave me a small bottle of this Revolutionary wine, which I shall place in our Society". (Horatio Gates Jones was Vice President of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and it was here that he sent the bottle of wine.)

There are several Revolutionary traditions regarding Thomas Livezey 3rd; one that he sat on a fence at the top of the hill and watched the battle of Germantown; another that he cared for ~~xxxxxx~~ wounded soldiers in his house; and still another that a party of fourteen Hessians were lined up in front of the garden wall and shot.

The facts are that Thomas Livezey and his two older sons were arrested by Washington's soldiers the second night before the Battle of Germantown, and he was not allowed to return home for eight months.

During the war there was very unjust persecution against those who were conscientiously opposed to conflict, and

Thomas Livezey 3rd died in 1790, leaving a widow, Martha, and sons, Thomas 4th, Samuel, Joseph and John. To the two latter he gave his mill and lands in Roxborough.

In 1833 Joseph and Thomas 4th had a survey made of the land, which totaled 235 acres. is

In 1864 one of the mill/ listed as an oil mill, and in 1868 the mill was called the Glen Fern Mills. In the 1870's a large suspension bridge carried a great water pipe over the Wissahickon

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valley from the Roxborough water works to provide water for the resident of Chestnut Hill and Germantown. This Pipe Bridge was removed many years ago and now the water is conducted through a large underground pipe line.

The Suburban Press of October 22nd 1931, gave such an interesting account of the removal of the old pipe bridge and water pipe just above the Livezey Mill that we beg quote a few of the incidents. The bridge became unsafe and a contractor, George W. Schultz, agreed to pay \$1500 for the privilege of removing the same, and he was permitted to have all the iron, etc, that composed the bridge.

A red covered wooden bridge crossed the Wissahickon Creek at the Livezey House and mill until about 1905.

In the loft of the Livezey House is the original datestone of the old red bridge, marked "1839".

The old dam still remains and also the ruins of the great mill and the piers of the old bridge. The Valley Green Canoe Club occupies the house at the present time.

In writing of the Livezey House, F. B. Brandt, relates: "What is it that conspires to make the ravishing charm of this old Colonial stone structure, hidden in the heart of the glen, adopted companion of friendly trees, and held in the embrace of clinging vines and shrubbery, would be difficult to say. But the Livezey House surely, for stately rusticity is matched only by the rough-hewed wilderness home of John Bartram".

Over one hundred acres of the Livezey land through which the Wissahickon flows, were taken over by the park Commission in 1873.





# JOHN R. LIVEZEY

PHILADELPHIA, GLENWOOD AVE., WEST OF 22ND ST.  
BALTIMORE, 119 SOUTH STREET

REPRESENTING  
ARMSTRONG CORK AND INSULATION CO.

APPROVED CONTRACTOR FOR  
KEASBEY & MATTISON CO.

NONPAREIL CORK PIPE  
COVERING FOR BRINE  
AMMONIA, ICE WATER AND  
COLD WATER LINES

ALL GRADES OF  
STEAM AND HOT WATER  
COVERINGS

HOUSE INSULATION

INSULATING BRICK

CONTRACTOR  
FOR  
COLD STORAGE  
INSULATION

BOILER AND PIPE  
COVERINGS

CORK BRICK FLOORS

CORK BOARD  
GRANULATED CORK

PHILADELPHIA, PA. Oct. 16, 1933.

The Suburban Press,  
6100 Ridge Avenue,  
Roxborough, Phila. Pa.

Gentlemen:-

I am enclosing you herewith six cents (.06) in stamps.  
Will you kindly send me as many copies as you can for this amount  
of the Thurs. Oct. 12th edition of your paper.

Mr. Magee sent me a copy of this issue in reference to  
the Livezey mill, etc. on the Wissahickon and I would like several  
more copies.

Thanking you for your kindness, I am

Yours very truly,

JOHN R. LIVEZEY

JRL::ACM-112-Enc.

The stone chimney stack and ruins of the great dam still standing about 1800 feet above the devil's Pool on Cresheim creek is the site of this ancient industrial plant.

Cresheim creek rises in Springfield Township and flows westwardly for about two and a half miles, passing under Germantown avenue in the 7700 block, at Cresheim road drive and continuing under the Pennsylvania Railroad bridge, McCallum street bridge, and empties into the Wissahickon at the devil's pool.

In Colonial times there was a large amount of water flowing through this most beautiful dell, or valley, and about six mills were located on the little stream.

On May 2nd 1684 a warrant was issued to Francis Daniel Pastorius for 5700 acres of land forming the German township. This was divided into four villages: Germantown, Cresheim, Sommerhausen, and Crefeld.

The village of Cresheim (Kriesheim or Creesam) was east to west, Wistar street to Roxborough line (Wissahickon avenue) north and south, from Mermaid lane to Mount Pleasant avenue, and contained 1166 acres.

"The History of Germantown", by Dr. Naaman H. Keyser, states that 297 acres of the northern part of this village was owned by Gerhard Rittenhouse, the youngest son of William Rittenhouse, America's first papermaker. Matthias Zimmerman's survey of 1700, locates 175 acres of this tract as belonging to Hans Graf.

Cresheim Road existed as early as 1700 as it is marked as running nearly parallel with Germantown road and strange to say, there were thirteen houses drawn in Cresheim and one one on Germantown road.

In 1715 J. H. Sprogel conveyed to Henry Sellen 100 acres of land at the western part of the tract, through which the Cresheim Creek ran, and in another deed of 1717, Henry Sellen is mentioned again as an oil miller, so he must have built the mill about 1715, this being the first oil mill in the Wissahickon Valley.

Sellen also owned in 1733 the 20 acres upon which the Livezey mill was built in 1746.

The oil mills ground the oil from the flax or linseed. Considerable flax was then grown in Germantown and Roxborough, from which the housewives spun very fine quality of linen ~~xxxx~~ for cloth.

Now the title of the property from Sellen to Peter Bechtel runs as follows: 1735 Sellen 50 acres and oil mill to Matthias Weaver; 1741 to M. Barenstine; 1769 to Jacob Nice (after whose family Nicetown is named) 1773 Peter Pubicam; 1783 Julius Kuper; 1792 Jonathan and Titus Yerkes; 1793 Michael Billmeyer, the well known printer of Germantown, who erected a grist mill on the property. In 1801 Billmeyer sold the two mills to Peter Bechtel, Sr. a paper maker from Lower Merion, and he changed the mills into plants for making paper.

Peter Bechtel, Sr., was I believe, descended from John George Bechtel, who settled in 1743 near Potts Grove, now Pottstown, Pa. We cannot prove that Peter ever owned a paper mill in Lower Merion but in 1798 he purchased 13 acres there next to John Righter, upon which Jonathan Robeson built a paper mill. He possibly was employed in that mill.

Rushrod W. Hagy, Jr., of Tennessee, who is interested in watermarks, writes that he has an old deed of Philadelphia county, in which appears the watermark of J. Robeson, and what looks like a sheep.

Peter Bechtel Sr., operated this paper mill and after 1817 the

upper paper mill also, which had been the ancient (1700) Gerhard Rittenhouse grist mill and later became the Joseph Carr cotton factories. 28

Peter Bechtel Sr. died at the mill in March of 1838. His son, Peter Bechtel Jr., came into possession of the paper mill and married Margaret Rex Hortter, daughter of Jacob Hortter Jr and Ann Rex Hortter, of Chestnut Hill. In a survey of 1833 the paper mill is given as a substantial two and one half story building on Paper Mill Road that ran east into Levering's Mill road, near Allen's lane. In the other direction it ran from the mill north to Gresham road near where the McCallum street bridge now crosses the creek.

Peter Bechtel Jr died in 1842 at the age of 45 years, and for a time Hogan & Thompson, paper dealers in Philadelphia, sold the products of the mill. Later they were the owners of the mill until after 1852.

The Bechtel family was a large one, and in a deed of 1839 we find these who were paper makers: Jacob, Henry B. , Paul I., Joseph B., William and George Bechtel.

The only one we are interested in is Peter Jr's son, Jacob Hortter Bechtel, born in 1822, who was employed at the age of 17 in the paper mill and also in the Philadelphia office of Hogan & Thompson.

In October of 1839 he started his very interesting diary, now in the possession of his son, Theodore A. Bechtel, of Roxborough. The diary is beautifully written for a young boy, and he illustrated it with about 30 humorous drawings in colored inks. The book of 289 large pages is dedicated to his brother, George Hortter Bechtel.

Under date of January 4th and 5th 1840, he drew a picture of the great water wheel covered with ice. It is ~~XXXXXX~~ of course an overshot wheel. At one side of the wheel Father Bechtel may be seen with a hatchet cutting ice away, and at the other side an iron pipe from the boiler is forcing steam over the wheel to thaw it out.

January 28th 1840 "Attended church. The sermon was especially for the young men, but so many women were present most of the men, including myself, had to stand."

Feb. 1st 1840: "This evening I took passage on the big sleigh and arrived in Germantown almost crushed to death by the number (23) who had to find room on four seats, holding 4 persons each. Sleighbing delightful."

May 16th 1840: On this date the diarist made a good drawing of the Bechtel home near the mill. He did not reach home until midnight and finding the house locked up, he is shown entering a third story window from the roofs of lower floors.

May 31st 1840: He and his brother, George, in the evening went down the creek and drew in red, blue and black and red ink, an attractive sketch of the Bechtel dwelling and paper mill. The smoke stack was then all brick, but it must have been rebuilt later as the stack there at the present time is of stone and at least 50 feet high.

June 15th 1840. "A large meeting of whigs took place at the State House, upward of ten thousand attended. Everything seems to be for Harrison, log cabin breast pins, hard cider buttons, Tippecanoe canes and handkerchiefs". There he gave drawings of these political campaign emblems.

June 21st 1840: "Attended Grace Church where heard the same preacher and the same sermon that I heard four weeks ago at Christ Church."

June 24th 1840: "I attended a meeting of Mormons opposite our house and after the meeting was over I stopped to speak with an old schoolmate who had joined them."

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July 3rd 1840: "After supper we began to set off our fireworks, rockets, etc. At 11 o'clock we dismissed a large balloon! The drawing shows the two brothers on a foot bridge over Cresheim Creek, with the balloon and a new moon in the sky.

Sept. 20th 1840. "Brother George and I walked to Roxborough; a heavy wind and rainstorm overtook us; we went into a farm house until evening. They loaned us a lantern as it was pitch dark! The drawing shows the boys with the lantern approaching the Livzey covered bridge. At that time the bridge was only one year old, as it was built in 1839.

October 4th 1840 " Attended church in Roxborough. The Rev. Mr. S. J. Bumstead preached." (This preacher was the father of the author of "The Riversons", a romantic story of the Rittenhouse family and the grist mill at the old Red Doved Shurs lane bridge.)

October 13th 1840. "The great election commenced and continued until midnight; the turbulent spirit is such that persons had to tight their way to the ballot boxes. (The final result was Harrison 234, Van Buren 60.)"

October 30th 1840: "About midnight the Harrison headquarters were attacked by a gang of rowdies and almost torn to pieces."

January 21st 1842: His father, Peter Bechtel, Jr died after a short illness. The boy diarist gave a drawing of the scene; such as we see in so many old prints, of the family in great distress gathered around the bedside.

Jacob Bechtel, in his diary, provides us with interesting descriptions of visits to Girard College, the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Old Franklin Institute, Laurel Hill Cemetery, and Chinese Museum, ninety years ago, when these places were so different from what they are today.

One of the quaint drawings pictures a visit, with his little sister, to Girard College, in June 2nd 1842, of which he said, "And taking 'Siss' by the hand we jogged along. We arrived at Girard College, 'Siss' was tired and perceiving a swing when we had got to the 3rd story under the roof, wished me to give her a swing, which I did and she appeared to enjoy it highly."

Before leaving the subject of the diary we must state that Jacob Bechtel was a very broad-minded churchgoer. He must have attended every church of every denomination in Philadelphia County. Here are a few of his notes: "The church was packed to the doors. I had to stand. The seats were all occupied. This morning I attended Christ Church; in the afternoon St. John's Catholic Church; and in the evening Dr. Albert Barnes' 1st Presbyterian, the sermons were all excellent and the attendances large.

Now let us return to Peter Bechtel Jr's paper mill. Hogan & Thompson continued the paper mill for many years, but in 1871 the mill belonged to Joseph Hill.

Samuel F. Houston, of Chestnut Hill, informs me that his father the late H. H. Houston, bought the property from the George Hill Estate and a man named Keely remodeled it as a paper mill, supplying Buchanan & Company, near 5th and Market streets, with what we call today, building paper.

It is due most entirely to the Houston family that today the valley of Cresheim Creek, from the Wissahickon to Germantown avenue, a distance of nearly two miles, ~~exists~~ is today one of the most romantic spots in the Wisahickon region of Fairmount Park.

6

About 1834 one of the relatives of Peter Robeson made a black and white sketch from the Montgomery County side of the Schuylkill, of the mouth of the Wissahickon creek, showing the Roxborough Mill, the long approach and wooden bridge of the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad. To the left is shown Milverton with seven of the Lee (or Lea) children on the porch.

On August 13th 1862 the Robeson Mill was destroyed by fire. At the time it was owned by Andrew Robeson 4th, and rented to John and James Dobson, who were making blue woolen cloth for the soldiers of the Union Army. Shortly after this ~~Robeson~~ the Dobsons purchased the property and erected a large modern stone woolen mill. It was in the centre of the present Wissahickon Drive a few feet above the Ridge road.

In 1869 the city purchased for Fairmount Park all of the land through which the Wissahickon flowed, and removed the Dobson Mill.

Fortunately the Roxborough mill was left standing as a reminder of the early industries and Colonial days.

In closing let us refer again to the glories of the Robeson Mansion (Barnett's Garden) and the superbly designed railroad bridge.

It is very probable that a dwelling was erected on the site of the present Robeson Mansion (Barnett's Garden) as early as 1689---a deed of that year mentioning a building, grist mill and saw mill. A dwelling is again mentioned in deeds of 1703, and 1733. Scull and Heaps' map of ~~1750~~ 1750 give the position of the dwelling as just below the Robeson Mill. The House is also mentioned in many other deeds down to the present time.

Another descendant of Peter Robeson drew a black and white sketch of the grist mill and Robeson ~~Mansion~~ Mansion about 1834, in front of the dwelling is passing a Conestoga wagon and to the left is a large oak tree. For over 150 years many of the Robeson family were born, lived and died in the old homestead.

In the early 1870s Mr. and Mrs. ~~Robeson~~ James Dobson resided there. It was afterward sold and conducted as "The Highbridge Hotel" by William Iowa, and it is now known as "Barnett's Garden". (The latter, H. F. Barnett made a fortune selling soft drinks at Willow Grove Park in its heyday and we suppose expects to continue his enterprise here at the ~~Robeson~~ mouth of the Wissahickon in Fairmount Park.) The dwelling has been greatly added to (principally by porches) and modernized, but the 3rd story and the hip roof are the same as it appeared 100 years ago.

The Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad Bridge, over the Wissahickon, was contracted for on September 25th 1833. The first bridge was completed on October 1834. Regular ~~traffic~~ traffic to Manayunk began October 20th 1834. The first locomotive and passenger cars started from the 9th and Green streets terminal.

The account of the first trip, as related in the Germantown Telegraph, is as follows: "Cars at length approached the magnificent structure over the Wissahickon at Robeson's Mill. The construction of this viaduct in the firm and substantial manner in which it appears to be built is certainly an extraordinary undertaking; and has been accomplished on a manner which has given entire satisfaction to the railroad company. Height is about 70 feet above the surface of the water, and length 473 feet, and cost of construction about \$30,000."

The bridge described was of wood, with trellis work frames, on the sides of the hills resting on stone piers.

An extract from the annual report of the railroad company, ~~1842~~ on November 1st 1842, says: "A track of edgerail, supported upon continuous bearings of white oak timber has been laid upon the Wissahickon Bridge, together with a new floor of hemlock planks; and that important structure, about which so much solicitude was felt has been greatly strengthened by additional braces, by arches of white pine in all the spans, added on the outside of the lattice frames

## RITTENHOUSE MILLS.

William Rittenhouse, Sr., (1644-1708) was born near Mülheim, and in 1678 he was a paper maker in Amsterdam. We first learn of him in America in 1687, when he purchased 50 acres of land in Germantown, where the Mennonite Church is now located. (below Tulpehocken street, on Germantown avenue.)

He arrived with his two sons, Nicholas, (or Claus or Klass) and Garrett (or Gerhard) and also a daughter Elizabeth, who married Heivert Papan.

In New York City Nicholas Rittenhouse married Wilhelmina Dewees, the sister of William Dewees, who erected the second mill in America on the Wissahickon near the Springfield Township line. The marriage record states that Nicholas Rittenhouse was "a young man of Arnheim, living on the Delaware river".

In 1689 William Penn granted the 446 acres tract adjoining Sumac Park on the north, to Richard Vickris (or Vicaris) of Chemagua, England; and on this land the five Rittenhouse mills were erected.

Before the coming of William Penn to Pennsylvania the land in which Roxborough and Germantown are located was occupied by the Indian chiefs, Meneshicken and Malebore. By treaty of date 14th day of 5th month, 1683, William Penn purchased from the chiefs all of their title and interests in the lands betwixt Manaiunk (the Schuylkill river) and Pemmapecka (Pennypack Creek) ~~and~~ so far as the hill called Cpnshohocken on the River Manaiunk and from there by a northwest line to the river of Pemmapecka. The consideration paid the chiefs was 150 fathoms of wampum, 15 guns, 15 blankets, 3 great kettles, 15 small kettles, 15 coats, 15 shirts, 60 yards duffils, 6 drawing knives, 20 gilets, 7 pairs of shoes, 15 pair of stockings, 15 pair of scissors, 31 pounds of powder, 15 aules, 18 small glasses, 10 boxes, 6 capps, 3 papers of beads, and a paper of red lead. The treaty was with the Leni-Lenape or Delaware Indian tribe.

In describing the five Rittenhouse mills we will number them as follows: ~~Maxson's~~ (the Robeson and Vandaren Mills being ~~1, 2, 3 and 4~~) No. 5 Nicholas Rittenhouse 2nd Grist Mill of 1746; No. 6, The William Rittenhouse 2nd Grist Mill before 1772; No. 7 the Jacob and Abraham Rittenhouse paper mill before 1760; No. 8 The William Rittenhouse Sr paper mill of 1690 (the first paper mill on the American continent) and No. 9 the Henry Rittenhouse Grist Mill of 1751. The numbering is made thus in the order of their locations from the mouth of the Wissahickon Creek.

Mills Nos. 5 and 9 were directly on the Wissahickon, while Nos. 6, 7 and 8 were on Paper Mill Run, which was called by the Indians "Monoshone Creek".

In this article we will give only the history of Mill No. 8 and the Rittenhouse dwelling, now on the Lincoln Drive near Rittenhouse street. (At a later date we hope to give the history of the other four Rittenhouse Mills) Note by A.C.C. This information of the other mills is to be found in the article which immediately follows this one.

In 1690 Samuel Carpenter owned a part of the Vickris tract and 20 acres of this land he leased for 999 years at a yearly rental of 5 shillings and one peppercorn to Robert Turner (of Sumac Park), William Bradford (the first printer of the Colonies) Thomas Tress and William Rittenhouse Sr. The agreement was that they should erect a paper mill.

The 20 acres ran from the Wissahickon Creek in Roxborough 110 perches to the Germantown ~~Township~~ Township line (now Wissahickon avenue) and 35 pecrehs on this line, which included both sides of Paper Mill Run (Monsohone Creek).

10-6-1933

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My dear F. W. Chadwick;

I thank you for Burgess Mills article the  
picture is most interesting and adds greatly to the attractiveness  
of the article in all O.K. Thank you.

I think it would <sup>add</sup> greatly to the attractiveness  
of Burgess Mills article for next week if you  
could add the following.

That A. Bechtel of Kankabongh grand son of Peter Bechtel  
owner of the two paper mill on Cushman Creek in the  
early 1800's, has kindly loaned me the diary written by  
his father Jacob Hartter Bechtel in 1839 to 41. The  
latter was born in 1822, so that he was only a gun  
bug of seven or eight years of age when starting the diary.

He writes in his boyish way, draws in the diary  
many interesting incidences described in the diary,  
and the illustrations are colored. In the diary we find  
the earliest known picture of the old Burgess House & Mill.

Under date of Sunday May 31, 1840 he writes; 'This  
evening I went across the creek and with chairs for desks  
took off a picture of the place (Burgess House & Mill) which I  
have now in my possession. The drawing in the diary  
is in black, blue, <sup>brown</sup> & red ink, fairly executed as are the other  
score of illustrations depicting scenes on the Kankabongh  
and Cushman Creek, that would appeal to the humor  
of a gun bug.

Later in describing the Peter Bechtel paper mill, we will reproduce several of the quaint old drawings.

31

We must mention in the Livelyly article about that  
eschadeng model made by the party in Roschornig  
whose name & address you kindly sent me. (I cannot find it)  
Try and add of man name to the article below.

(add name)

\_\_\_\_\_ of Roschornig, as a labour of love  
constructed the most unique large model of the  
Livelyly house, grounds, trees, adjoining houses etc.

The house all comes apart, <sup>in sections</sup> and each room is furnished  
in detail, in spare <sup>hours</sup> time he must have devoted  
months of time in preparing this remarkable re-  
production of the most interesting and ancient of all  
buildings still left standing in the hidden valley  
of the Nisichikan.

Thanks again

J. P. Wuzeeff.

Mr. Pill of Photo Camera Club, has given me quite  
a fair lot of matter relating to Rellenhouse 1690 mill  
and other marked paper etc. I have written  
him a short account of this mill which he is  
having printed, and we are both to receive a copy.

Mr. Teo Bechtel called last evening and left me the  
diary of his father J. H. Bechtel, it is really a gem.



October 16th 1933

Mr A. C. Chadwick, Editor  
"The Suburban Press"

Dear Sir:

Have found the Articles on Local History by the different Contributors to your paper, very interesting. Especially so are the Series of Articles on the "Mills along the Wisabuckow" by Mr Magee.

Have not received a copy of your publication through your distributors during the past four weeks, but was furnished one at the Office when I applied.

To insure receipt of next edition, I am enclosing 10¢ in postage stamps for five copies. The price named at head of paper. Will you please direct the Carrier to leave them at 6245 Ridge Ave. ? and oblige

Yours truly

Theo. A. Dechtel

Matthias Zimmerman's map of 1700 diagrams this mill as a two and a half story building just west of Cresheim road, and Scull & Heaps' map, of 1751, called it the Cresheim Mill.

In Germantown there was considerable confusion in the granting of land. There were two commissioners. One granted this particular tract of land to Gerhard Rittenhouse. The other granted the same tract to Hans Graff, but in 1715 the latter conveyed the land to Rittenhouse.

The tract extended over a mile and a half from the Roxborough Line (Wissahickon avenue) to the Springfield line.

In early wills and deeds the name is spelled "Gerard", or "Gerhard", but his descendants spelled it "Garrett".

Gerard Rittenhouse was the son of William Rittenhouse, Sr., and was born in Holland, near the German border, in 1674. He lived until 1742. He erected his first grist mill at a very early date about 1700.

The mill was situated just below the present McCallum street bridge over Cresheim Creek, and the dam was between the mill and the bridge.

His will is dated 1742, and at the age of 68 years he records that he was aged and indisposed of body. He bequeathed to his eldest son, William Rittenhouse, all of his land situated "northeast of the highway leading from Germantown to North Wales. (now Germantown avenue). His youngest son, Peter Rittenhouse, and wife Ann, received a life interest in the grist mill and the plantation where he then lived "in Creesham", from (Germantown avenue) to the "Roxborow Township line". After the death of Peter and Ann the land and mills was to pass to Gerard's six grand children. The executors account shows that ~~at xxnxxnxxnxxnxxnxxnxxnxxn~~ ~~xxxxxxnxxnxxnxxnxxnxxnxxnxxnxxn~~ this time the mill was rented to a tenant. The will is in ~~xx~~ English and in the inventory there is mentioned seventeen small Dutch books.

Peter Rittenhouse was born in 1696 and died in 1748. He lived on Germantown road, west side, near Mount Airy.

Within a year of Peter's death, his widow, Ann, married Peter Heysler, and he operated the mill for the heirs.

Susannah Rittenhouse, one of the six grandchildren, married Justus Rubican. Their children continued the old tradition of intermarrying with the families of millers: Catharine married a Scheetz (the father of Gen. Henry Scheetz who owned the Farmer-Deweese-Cleaver mill on the Wissahickon below Flourtown); Margaret married John Gorgas 3rd; and Julia married Benjamin Gorgas, who in 1817 sold this mill (no. 16) to Peter Bechtel.

Now we must dispose of the shares of the two grandsons, Jacob and Garrett Rittenhouse, 2nd.

Jacob and his wife, Susannah, in January 1749, sold to Lewis Stephen, of Frederick County, Va., a miller, one quarter of the grist mill and 103 acres. The deed mentions grist mill, mill dam, mill pond, mill race, mill house, bolting mills, and buildings, purchase price 150 pounds. In Dec of 1749/50 Garrett 2nd sold his quarter interest to Lewis Stephens also for 150 pounds. In 1750 Lewis Stephens borrowed 125 pounds on a mortgage on his half interest from Thobold End of Germantown, a sadler.

In 1771 the Court was asked to confirm a new road from mill No. 16 east of Cresheim Creek to a new grist mill just erected, called Hinkle's Mill, the road to turn north passing the mill and joining Paper Mill road and Cresheim road. A survey of the road

made the Hinkle mill near where the Penna. R. R. Bridge now crosses Cresheim valley. It also gives a very long mill race, running from the new road and the Hinkle mill, at least 300 feet south between the creek and the new road to Cresheim mill No 16.

At a much later date the dam above the mill must have been made much higher, as in the 1900's Carr's great millpond covered much of the land through which the old mill race ran in 1771.

Ann Heysler, the widow of Peter Rittenhouse was still living in 1761, and her husband Peter Heysler, ~~xx~~ continued to run the mill. From this date until 1782 there are many heirs interested in the other half of the mill.

Mary, one of the daughters of Peter Rittenhouse, married Lewis Stephens, now of Stephensburg, Virginia. She inherited one eighth of the mill and 103 acres of land.

On October 14th 1778, Stephens and his wife, Mary, sold five-eighths of the property to Issac Zane, ironmaster, of Marlborough Iron Works, Frederick County, Virginia, for 1000 pounds. Zane must have secured the other three-eighths, as on February 9th 1782 he sold to Jacob Gominger, a miller of Cheltenham Township, for 829 ppunds. The mill and 50 1/2 acres land of late Peter Rittenhouse called "the mill tract" with all mills and mill rights.

In 1783 Jacob Gominger was assessed for the grist mill and 52 acres. On February 9th 1871 Zane sold to Jacob Lash, Germantown powder maker, 13 acres in Cresheim, part of late Peter Rittenhouse's mill tract, with privileges of road up Cresheim Creek through Zane's other land to Peter Rubican's Oil Millroad, to be laid out later.

~~xxxxxx~~ In 1774 Jacob Lash (or Losh) was taxed for the powder mill and 10 1/2 acres. This lot was on the Roxborough line (Wissahickon avenue) south of Mill No. 15.

The mills were so close together on Cresheim Creek that the millers often held a conference or brought suit, so that one could not raise the height of his dam, thus cutting off the water power from the others.

Jacob Gominger, William Wilson and John Rikard settled their troubles in this way: "William Wilson's present water wheel to be 2 inches longer and to come 2 inches nearer the floor at bottom than originally. The upper side of the top sill of said mill dam to be levelled 1/4 inch lower than a dreatin mark to be made with an augur hole in rock northwest side of same, the centre to be the height of said mill dam, and to remain forever. Also agreed that the said banks shall not be less than 22 feet in case of high water."

On September 1, 1800, Jacob Gominger sold to Benjamin Gorgas, of Germantown, for 2225 pounds, a stone dwelling, grist mill and four pieces of land.

Gominger must have greatly improved the property as the price paid was a large one for this time.

After purchasing Gorgas converted the mill ~~xxxx~~ into a paper mill and on April 1st 1817, he and his wife, Julia sold the land and paper mill for \$9100 to Peter Bechtel, Sr., paper maker also owner of the lower paper mill (No. 15)

The Rickard mill, upstream, was then owned by William Wilson, and in 1817 was David Hinkle's grist mill.

Peter Bechtel Sr died in March 1838, and on April 4th 1839 his widow, Margaret (Hortter) sold to Joseph Carr, of Roxborough the paper mill and five lots of land for \$6000, subject to a mortgage. Joseph Carr changed the buildings into a cotton mill.

There is a map of Roxborough and Germantown dated 1851, in the Free Library, on the Franklin Parkway, and around the sides which form the frame are illustrations of old landmarks, one of which is a lovely sketch of this mill marked "pleasant Mills, Cresheim, Joseph Carr. Proprietor". Three mill buildings are shown with a large dwelling.

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We possess fine illustrations of this mill showing the ruins, in the last only the great water wheel is left standing. Although there was no paper mill here until after 1800, one print states: "Here the paper used in printing the Declaration of Independence was made". A postcard showing the wheel and part of the dam just below the McCallum street Bridge reads: "Blankets were made here during the Civil War."

About twenty years ago we took a photograph of Carr's millpond which must have covered several acres and was a favorite skating place for persons residing in the locality.

We believe the Houston Estate purchased the property before it passed into the possession of the park Commissioners.

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Mill No. 17: John Gorgas Fulling Mill on Cresheim Creek.

This mill was northeast of the old Gerhard Rittenhouse mill which was described last week.

It stood upon a very interesting parcel of land, first granted to the Frankford Land Company which was formed by a group of purchasers from Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany. Francis Daniel Pastorius was the selling agent for the Company, but in 1700 three other agents were appointed and Pastorius resigned. Then two of these agents refused to act and one, D. Falckner, said to be a very unprincipled man, was appointed sole agent. He sold the land still in the hands of the Company to J. H. Sproegell.

Many of the settlers of Germantown were very uncertain of the titles to their properties, so a friendly suit was brought against Sproegell, to test the title, and the Court decided in his favor.

The first record we have of John Gorgas Sr. residing in Germantown, is in 1709, when his name appears with many others as being naturalized: This was done to give them the right to hold and enjoy land and plantations in the Province.

The log church of the Mennonites, on Germantown road, was built about this same year, and Johannes ~~Sproegell~~ Gorgas was one of the early members. William Rittenhouse, the first paper maker of the Colonies, the grandfather of Gorgas' wife, was the preacher.

J. H. Sproegell sold a tract of land in Cresheim to Ludwick C. Sproegell and in 1718 he sold to P. C. Zimmerman 30 acres with a dwelling thereon. In 1725 Zimmerman sold to John Gorgas Sr., a skin dresser, the land and house.

A skin dresser was a tanner. An inventory of his estate included 37 dressed buck skins and several deer skins.

In 1713 Gorgas bought, with his father-in-law, Nicholas Rittenhouse and two others, the paper mill of William Dewees, on the Wissahickon, near City Line. He built, between 1725 and 1741 the fulling mill (No. 17) which was upon land on the southwest side of Cresheim road, near where the McCollum street bridge passes over the creek. It was a very narrow strip of land from the Roxborough line over a mile past Cresheim road and only 205 feet long.

In 1728 William Dewees and he manufactured a imitation of asses skin paper, from a species of rotten stone, for memorandum books, which was well executed. Joel Munsell, in his "History of Paper Making", states that this was the third paper mill in the Colonies.

We believe this mill was on the same tract of land, if not the same paper mill, which William Dewees erected in 1710 and sold in 1713.

Frank J. Keeley, Conservator of the Mineralogy Section of the Academy of Natural Sciences, tells me that he believes the rotten stone use to make the paper was a species of feldspar called anthophyllite, a strata of which rock crops out on the hills of the Wissahickon in the Cresheim district.

John Gorgas Sr., died in 1741, leaving to his three sons, Jacob, a clockmaker; Benjamin, a paper maker, both of Lancaster; and Joseph, who built the Monastery on Kitchen's lane, the fulling mill.

Before 1766 Joseph Gorgas purchased his brothers' shares in the property.

The fulling mill stood upon a small tract of 1 acre and 35 perches. It was a very small mill as, in 1766, it was valued with the land at only 105 pounds.

Joseph Gorgas died in 1766, leaving his wife, Julia, but no issue. We do not find the mill mentioned again after the death of Joseph, so suppose it was dismantled.

The next industry on Cresheim Creek above the Gorgas Mill was Grist Mill No. 18, of John Conrad, on which which erection started in 1769.

It was near where the Pennsylvania Railroad bridge now passes over the Cresheim valley.

Before 1700 Cornelius Sevirt owned 75 acres in the village of Cresheim, beginning at the Springfield-Germantown boundary line, and running over 3500 feet southwest along Mermaid lane to the mill lands of Gerhard Rittenhouse.

In 1719 Sevirt sold the tract to John Conrad Sr., who died in 1756 willing the property to his son, John Conrad Jr. This latter persons died in 1769, at which time a water grist mill was being erected on 10½ acres of land. Jhon Jr's widow, Barbara, in 1770 sold the water grist mill to William Levering, of Roxborough. In the same year Levering sold one-half interest in the place to John Hinkle.

They made a petition in 1771 to the Court, stating that there was no road to the new mill(erected by Hinkle) and requested that such a road should be laid out. It was to be an "L" shaped road running northeast from Mill No. 16, then north to the new mill and connecting with the Cresheim road.

It was agreed that this mill and William Holgate's mill, above, should have equal water rights of the waters of the Cresheim Creek.

In 1774 Levering and Hinkle sold the mill to John Rittenhouse (1742-1796) the deed stating that water grist mill was then completed and "also includes mill dam, mill race and forebays"

John Rittenhouse was a brother of Nicholas Rittenhouse Jr; William Rittenhouse 3rd; Jacob Rittenhouse; Abraham Rittenhouse and Henry Rittenhouse, the well-known millers of paper Mill Run (or Monsohone Creek) in the Wissahickon valley.

John Rittenhouse, in 1783, sold the grist mill for 900 pounds to William Wilson, of Germantown, a miller. In 1783 Wilson was taxed for the grist mill and land.

At a sheriff's sale in 1788 John Rickard of Montgomery County, purchased the property for 675 pounds, described as follows: "A large two-story stone messuage and water grist mill land in German-town, corner of W. Holgate's fulling mill land to the late Peter Rittenhouse's land, 10½ acres."

In 1804 John Rickard sold to Joshua Hollowell, who in 1809 transfered the grist or merchant mill with 7 acres for \$2900 to David Hinkle.

John and David Hinkle in 1863 sold the property to France Brothers, who established here their carpet and dye mill; they having sold their former mills (No. 19) on the west side of German-town avenue.

Mill No. 19: Conrad--Holgate Fulling Mill.

If you look down Cresheim Creek from the bridge over Germantown avenue (in the 7700 Block) just below Cresheim road Drive, you will obtain a most beautiful view of the sylvan dell where this fulling mill was erected before the Revolution.

It was upon the same 75 acres as Mill No. 18 occupied and belonged, in 1700, to Cornelius Sevirt.

In 1719 it was the property of John Conrad Sr., who died in 1756, when the mill is first mentioned. It contained 33 acres and in 1769 John Conrad Jr was taxed for the fulling mill.

In 1770 Barbara Conrad, the widow of John Jr., sold the fulling mill and 22½ acres to William Holgate, clothier, of Roxborough, for 500 pounds. The deed stated that the mill was on the west side of the Great Road from Philadelphia to Chestnut Hill.

As stated in the description of Mill No. 10, this William Holgate was the fourth generation in the fulling industry.

During and after the Battle of Germantown the land owners in Chestnut Hill and Cresheim valley and village met with heavy losses. The British Troops sacked the dwellings, and barns of valuable live stock, and provender, and then burnt the buildings. Later the American government reimbursed the owners for their losses. Holgate's fulling mill received 123 pounds. It does not state it was for loss of buildings, live stock, or cloth. Tradition has it that there were several skirmishes near the Livezey Mill, but there was no financial loss. The heaviest losses were at Mill No. 15, owned by Julius Kerper, in 1783. His loss was 1740 Pounds, a large amount of money for the time. Wigard miller, the father-in-law of John Wise Jr., who owned 100 acres between Willow Grove avenue and Cresheim road, was reimbursed with 680 pounds.

William Piper, of the Piper family who later owned the William Streeper grist mill, which is now through the generosity of the Morris family the Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, received 250 pounds. The Rev. Michael Schlatter, who in 1759 owned the paper mill on paper Mill road, near Chesnut Hill, received 501 pounds for the burning of his home.

On Germantown avenue, at Mermaid lane, opposite the Holgate mill land, was the Mermaid Hotel, which was used as a public inn after 1795. It was on the original 75 acre tract belonging to John Conrad Sr.

In 1804 he (supposedly William Holgate) sold the 20½ acres and mill that is by this time a grist mill, to Jacob Holgate, he to have equal water rights with the owner of Mill No. 10.

He (supposedly Jacob Holgate) transferred the mill and 22½ acres in 1817 to William Weaver, a gentleman from Northern Liberties, for \$7950. The mill is now a cotton factory. In 1837 Weaver had become an ironmaster, of the Buffalo Forge, Rockbridge County, Virginia, and sold the cotton and carpet factory called "Cedar Dale" to John and Ervin France, of Germantown.

An advertisement in the Germantown Telegraph, at the time, stated: " J. & E. France announce to ~~xxx~~ country dealers and the public, that they keep continually on hand at their manufactory at Cedar Dale, Chestnut Hill, a general assortment of domestic carpeting, flax, tow, and cotton carpet chain of assorted colors, suitable for carpet weaving; also cotton yarn, candle wick and cotton laps. Wholesale or retail."

They sold the factory in the 1860's to David Hey.

We beg to state that "History of Early Chestnut Hill" by the late John J. MacFarlane, has been of great assistance to us in writing the story of the Cresheim and Chestnut Hill mills.

Last week we finished the history of the Cresheim creek mills, so let us now go up the Wissahickon creek, on the western bank, passing valley green inn and springfield avenue bridge, to the Hartwell avenue bridge.

At this point we ~~xxxxxxxx~~ come to a triangular plot of 45 acres starting on the west side of Hartwell avenue bridge, then 2900 feet northwest along the Roxborough-Germantown line (Wissahickon avenue, or at least on a continuation of it) up the steep hill to a heap of stones, 600 feet above the first drinking fountain. The second leg of the triangle is from the heap of stones northeast 1700 feet to a point on the Wissahickon from where you can see the Rex avenue bridge and the statue of Tedyuscung, the Indian chief. The third leg of the triangle is from this point along the east bank of the stream to the place of beginning.

The heap of stones mentioned was a survey mark on the Roxborough-Germantown line, which divided the villages of Sommerhausen and Orefeld. All of the land in this locality starts from this heap of stones. It is first mentioned in a deed of 1702, and then again in all transfers through 169 years when it is again recorded in the Nagarge deed, transferring the 45 acres to the city in 1871. We have spent several hours in trying to locate this heap of stones without success, as ~~xxxxxx~~ the entire hillside is covered with rocks, in fact the name of Roxborough was first called, in 1704, "Rocks-Burrow".

We are now in the village of Sommerhausen, named after the town where Francis Daniel Pastorius was born. It comprised 975 acres, belonging in 1689 to the Frankford Land Company. In 1702 this company sold it to                     . In 1731 William Dewees sr. purchased the northwest corner of the village and in this 45 acres, for which he paid 42 pounds, he built a paper mill.

This was the fourth paper mill that he had erected in Germantown township. He was a man greatly respected in state and church.

In April 1736 he conveyed the paper mill to his son, William Dewees, Jr., who married Rachel Farmer, the daughter of Edward Farmer, whose family owned two grist mills on the Wissahickon and 5000 acres of land comprising the greater part of Whitemarsh township. In the early 1700's the Farmer family gave the land for the erection of St. Thomas' Church, where the present church now stands.

William Dewees Jr., in 1749 purchased from his brother-in-law, Peter Robeson, one of the Farmer grist mills near Flourtown, and later he was elected sheriff of Philadelphia.

On February 1st 1742 William ~~xxxxxxx~~ Dewees sold the paper mill buildings, wheels and gears to Colonel Thomas York, of the French and Indian War, and Matthias Maris, a papermaker. Colonel York was a very large landowner and a great admirer of the Robeson girls. He married three of them; an aunt and two nieces. Maris married Magdalena Levering, the niece of Jacob Levering, who owned the grist mill on Gulley Run, West Hanayunk, in 1750.

At the court of January 1742 York & Maris petitioned the court setting forth that they some time ago erected a paper mill on Wissahickon creek, and are under difficulties to get their paper from the said mill to the city; and rags from there to the said mill; that a common road may be laid out from the mill to Roxborough road that leads to Philadelphia; without injury to anyone; the distance being about a mile and very little if any improved lands between the said roads. The September Court of 1742 stated that the road had been laid out between the Wissahickon and "end of rocky hill", then four courses up the hill to



Roxborough road. Nearly 200 years later (1933) this little path way leads through the woods below Wise's Mill road and the Hartwell avenue bridge, and today finds the territory still without any improvements from the park line up the hill to Ridge avenue. 40

About 1748 the mill was sold to Peter Koch, who owned several hundred acres in Sommerhausen.

Peter Kalm, a native of Sweden, in his "Travels into North America" referred to this mill, as follows: "September 21st 1748, in the afternoon, I rode with Mr. Peter Kock, who was a merchant, born at Karkscron in Sweden, to his country seat, about nine miles from the town, to the northwest. The country on both sides of the road was covered with a great forest. The trees were covered with annual leaves and I did not see a single fir or pine. Most of the trees were different sorts of oaks. But we also saw chestnut, walnut, locust and apple trees.

"October 10th. Mr. Kock had a paper mill on a little brook (Wissahickon) and all the coarser sorts of paper are manufactured in it? It is now annually rented for fifty pounds Pennsylvania currency."

Peter Kock died in 1749 and in June 26th 1753 the 45 acres and the paper mill were sold by the sheriff to John Johnson, the highest bidder, for 320 pounds. Kock owned also two other lots of adjoining land. These were sold to John Gardner and Henry Schleydon and before the sale the three buyers agreed to turn over for the purpose of a two perch road a strip of land called paper mill road, running down to the paper mill on the Wissahickon. The road was to be open at all times and seasons for horses, cattle, carts, and carriages. This road, until 1852 was called Wise's Mill lane, but is now Hartwell avenue.

On December 6th 1757 John Johnson sold out to Nicholas Hasselbach, a papermaker, the 45 acres with messuage and mill building and improvements now there erected, and all wheels, gears and implements to the paper mill. The deed was signed in German by Nicholas Hasselbach, and his wife, Catharine Louisa.

A deed dated 1761 mentions the road leading to a paper mill now also a grist mill, late Peter Kock's, then John Johnson's, now N. Hasselbach's. The latter was the first printer in Chestnut Hill, and in 1763 he printed a German almanac for the year 1764.

The late Dr. MacFarlane stated that the almanac was printed in the barge house (John Sarge owned the Spruce paper Mill (No. 21), on a location now identified as 8502 Germantown avenue) It is also supposed that Samuel Sower (Sower), son of Christopher Sower, Jr., used the Barge house as his printing office in 1790.

In 1757 Hasselbach bought 17 acres of land in Whitmarsh and erected a paper mill, which he sold in 1760 to Henry Katz, the mill adjoined the paper mills of Jacob Hagy. These mills were on the stream that runs into the Schuylkill river at Miquon station (formerly known as "Lafayette") This is today the site of the great paper manufacturing plant of William G. Hamilton and Sons. The founder of this latter firm was the manager of the Magarge paper mills along the Wissahickon.

In 1766 Nicholas Hasselbach, late of Germantown, but now of the Province of Maryland, sold the paper mill to Joseph Paul 3rd, of Whitmarsh, miller, for 1450 pounds. Besides having an interest in the Spring mills, he was the largest taxpayer at this time in Whitmarsh Township. Joseph Paul 3rd was born in 1727 and married in 1761, the widow of Samuel Bolton one Mary Livezey, who was the sister of Thomas Livezey 3rd.

Joseph Paul 3rd was the grandson of Joseph Paul Sr., of Ilminster near Taunton, Somersetshire, England. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ The latter arrived in America in 1685 and purchased nearly 1000 acres of land in Oxford and Lower Dublin townships. It was a large

family and they owned many forges and mills in Pennsylvania. Joseph Paul 3rd's brother, Jacob, in 1794 purchased from Isaac Potts, the historic Washington's Headquarters at Valley Forge.

Upon purchasing the Wissahickon valley property in 1766 Joseph Paul 3rd changed the paper mill into a grist and merchants mill.

In 1752 the mills of Philadelphia exported 126,000 barrels of flour and in 1774, 165,000 barrels. Owing to the large quantities of flour manufactured in the mills along the Wissahickon it was no uncommon sight to see, on the various mill roads, a long ~~xxxx~~ line of teams carrying the flour to the city.

In 1783 Joseph Paul and his brother-in-law, Thomas Livezey 3rd, made a petition to the court for a reconfirmation of the road from their mills to Roxborough; that the said road had become very useful for transporting large quantities of wheat brought from the back countries to said Joseph Paul's mill, as well as large quantities of firewood, stove coal, etc. to the inhabitants of Germantown.

Paul added many acres to his holdings, adjoining his other mill lands on the Wissahickon in Roxborough Township. These lands included what was the plantation of the late Thomas E. Mitten, Philadelphia traction magnate, on Wise's mill road. On the top of the hill Mitten built an outdoor swimming pool, lined with green tile. His son, Dr. A. A. Mitten, now lives on the property and has added extensive kennels for the breeding of prize-winning dogs.

These Roxborough mill lands were granted by William Penn in 1681 to Charles Jones; 1711 to Edward Shippen; 1730 to Samuel Powell; 1768 to Joseph Potts; and in 1770 to Joseph Paul 3rd.

Joseph Paul 3rd died in 1805 and left his mills and land to his nephew, Joseph Paul 4th, son of his brother Jacob Paul.

On April 1st 1812 Joseph Paul 4th sold to John Wise Jr the mills and 80 acres of land in Roxborough and Germantown for \$21,000.

Wise also added to his holdings, including a lot on the Schuylkill river, upon which he built a wheathouse to give the mill better facilities for receiving grain from up the river and for shipping flour to the city.

Domino lane, just below the 3th mile stone on Ridge road, ran down to Flat Rock on the Schuylkill. It is said that the drivers of teams often had long waits at Flat Rock until the canal boats arrived with grain, and while resting they played dominoes, ~~xxxxx~~ the house where they played became known as "the Domino House", hence the name of the lane.

John Wise Jr., (1774-1839) married Mary Miller, daughter of Wigard Miller. They lived at the southeast corner of Germantown and Willow Grove avenues. His sister-in-law, Anne, married William Streeper, whose father owned the Streeper Mill, now on the Arboretum property of the Un. of Penna. This old Revolutionary grist mill, just over the county line adjoining the Whitemarsh Country Club, was rebuilt in 1834, but the mill race of 1761, is today carrying water to turn a wheel that pumps water from a nearby well to the University buildings.

John Wise's older sister, Catharine, married George Mortter, who owned the mills on the Wissahickon; and his brothers Joseph and Jacob, were both owners of mills.

There must have been a ford or low bridge over the Wissahickon in the time of William Dewees near the mill, and in 1830 Wise petitioned the court to rebuild the bridge at this place. He stated that the year before the bridge was washed away by a freshet, and that twice before it had been destroyed in the same way. The county rebuilt the bridge at a cost of \$3000.

Some time after 1742 the York & Maris paper mill road was abandoned, and a road nearer the mill much less hilly was opened to Ridge avenue. This is the present wise's mill road.

John Wise, Jr was an expert miller and carried on an extensive flour business. He had previously owned his father's mill (No.12) at Gorgas lane. four lots of

In 1826 John Wise jr sold/his Roxborough holdings to Isaac shoemaker, which included the grist and merchant mill, all buildings, dam, mill race, etc, for \$22,750.

He died in 1839 and was buried in the charchyard of St. Michael's Lutheran church, Germantown.

On December 4th 1843 the bank of Germantown took over the two mills and 80 acres of the estate of shoemaker. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~. In 1844 Charles Magarge rented the property and converted it into a paper mill. In 1848 Magarge was elected president of the bank of Germantown and in 1851 a director. John Farming Watson, the author of "Watson's Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania" was the cashier of this bank at that time.

Tradition states that the Magarges came to Pennsylvania from Belfast, Ireland, and in early deeds the name was spelled Magargel. Charles Magarge's grandfather was Joseph Magarge, who married Susannah Livezey, daughter of Jonathan Livezey.

Joseph Magarge, in 1794 bought Richard Townsend's grist mill (1685) in Bristol Township on the Wingohocking creek. At a later date Hugh Roberts also bought a grist mill from the Townsend estate. Which one of these two mills, both on the original Townsend tract in 1731, was the original townsend grist mill, I cannot tell.

Charles Magarge's father was named Samuel. He was a papermaker and paper dealer, from Bristol township. He had wife, Mary.

Charles Magarge was born on September 30th 1804 and married in 1834, Anne Hicks, and in 1844 Lydia D. Knorr, and had sons Edward and Henry E. The latter was superintendent of the paper mill.

I have a memorandum that Charles Magarge also operated the Rose Glen paper mill on Mill creek, which was destroyed by fire, but have been unable to verified this statement.

In the fall of 1844 William G. Hamilton, who had been the manager of the Wilcox Ivy mill on Chester creek, installed the paper making machinery in the Magarge mill.

Charles Magarge was the financier and organizer; Sylvester Magargee distributed the product and Hamilton managed and equipped the mill with the most up-to-date machinery. The mill soon became the best equipped and most noted paper mill in Pennsylvania. This did not occur until after 1853, when Charles Magarge & Company purchased the property outright from the bank.

The Germantown Historical Society have a large oil painting of the Magarge paper mills and ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ warehouses. On the right is the office building, the only building that still stands. The roof is now partly caved in and the windows broken, but we hope that when Old Man Depression (the Hoover panic) leaves us, the Park Commission will repair the building. A datestone reads "C.H. 1857".

In the painting back of the large tree in the foreground is the old Paul-Wise pointed roofed mill.

A reproduction of this old mill is the frontispiece of the charming book of poems composed by Mrs. Sylvester Magargee, the wife of one of the partners of the firm.

The first poem in the collection is entitled "The old paper mill".

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In 1854 Charles Magarge built above the dam the first drinking fountain in Philadelphia County, marked "pro bono publico, est Perpetua". My friend, William R. Dixon, (a former Philadelphia councilman, who introduced the bill for the construction of the Walnut Lane bridge over the Wissahickon valley) tells me that he remembers when a very small child, seeing the masons build the foundations (of the spring fountain) His father was employed in the Magarge mill from 1844 until 1860. In 1858 an ice gorge swept away the Hartwell Avenue bridge. The Dixon family lived on the east side of the Wissahickon, just above Hartwell Avenue. The creek rose so high that he (William Dixon) could put his hand out of the second story window and touch the ice as it floated by.

The father (of Dixon) placed a plank out of the second story back window so that the boys could leave the house to go to school in Chestnut Hill. Dixon also told me that in the early 1860's H. J. Hartwell was with the boys the most popular man in Chestnut Hill. The racetrack there was enclosed with a high fence; there were big trees on Hartwell's adjoining property; and he allowed the lads to go up the trees and see the horse races without paying any admission fee.

There are on the Magarge property two very clear springs; one on the east side above Hartwell Avenue; the other on the west side just below Wise's Mill Road.

A settling tank to collect the pure water for making white paper was built beside each stream; the water from the east side spring was pumped under the Wissahickon and ran directly into the mill building. Years afterwards when the city dismantled the plant Dixon had the contract to remove the iron pipe.

So that the soot and ashes from the boiler room smoke stack would not settle over the white paper, a tunnel ran from the boiler house away up the hillside to a great stone smoke stack. This stack and the one at the Peter Bechtel Mill, on Cresheim Creek, are both standing today. (That is, part of the Magarge stack is still standing, for Mr. Magee, the writer of these mill articles and A. C. Chadwick, Jr., editor of the The Suburban Press, made a journey to the place in 1934, particularly to find the old smoke stack.)

In 1851 Edwin R. Cope was a member of the Magarge firm. In 1853 Charles Magarge bought from the Bank of Germantown the mills and 51 acres of land for \$20,000. The deed stated that Owen Sheridan is to have permission of crossing creek and right to a bridge near line of John Peter's land, also erecting a dam below the said bridge not exceeding 6 feet, also to cut ice on the Paper Mill Dam.

Charles Magarge was the president of the Bank of Germantown (in 1864 the National Bank of Germantown, and now the Germantown National Bank and Trust Company) from 1848 until 1866, when he resigned. A retrospect, published by the Bank reads: "Mr. Magarge's ripe experiences and ability having started the business on the onward course, his resignation was received with regret, and resolutions of a highly complimentary character were tendered him by the Board."

Weeks' "History of Paper Making", (1916) states "that among others, Magarge & Bro. were in 1853 the first to use wood pulp in the manufacturing of paper in the United States."

Two of the grandsons of early members of the firm tell me that they do not believe that wood pulp was ever used to any great extent.

L. H. Weeks, the paper maker chronicler, also wrote: "The house of Charles Magarge was established in 1830, and was one of the most flourishing concerns in the business" The Magarge Wissahickon mill

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was one of the finest of its time. It had a long and honorable career, passing through many hands, before it came into the possession of the Magarge's about 1850.

In 1871 the city of Philadelphia purchased from Charles Magarge the mills and 51 acres of land for \$65,000 cash and \$100,000 more to be paid when he vacated the premises, anytime within the following ten years.

The Magarges continued the business until the 1880's when the city took over the property and demolished the buildings. Charles Magarge died about this time.

The only reminders of past glories left standing since William Dewees erected his paper mill in 1731 on 45 acres of land, are the picturesque Wise Mill dam; the "Pro Sono Publico" fountain; built in 1854; the Magarge paper mill office of 1857; and part of the great chimney stack on top of the hill; and the path below the present Wise's Mill road, that in 1742 was the York & Maris paper mill road.

The friends of the Wissahickon have been told that the valley through which the Wissahickon flows is 90,000,000 years old. Some of the rocks today form peculiar shapes, such as a bear's head, an Indian head, and the huge balanced rock on Robeson's Knoll, just below the mouth of the Wissahickon had been called "the Quaker Bonnet", and at times, "the Phoenix head".

In the Jellett collection at the Germantown Historical Society, is a print of the Goddess of Liberty, below the Pro Sono Fountain. It is silhouetted in black and white, on the east bank of the Wissahickon, but can only be seen from the west bank of the creek, at a point opposite the apple tree below Magarge's quarry. I have asked many old timers and park guards just where the Goddess can be seen, but have never been able to locate the apparently lost emblem of liberty.

This week we have not been able to collect all of the facts required to tell the story of the next mill of the Wissahickon Valley, so we will write the history of a few watermarks occurring in American-made paper.

The illustration of watermarks accompanying this article are tracings made from the originals in the collections of Mr. Barry Hepburn and the writer.

The watermark is impressed in paper by a fine light wire, with a wire-woven pattern. This is placed over the wire gauze on which the pulp is spread.

Today watermarks are registered in the patent office, but in the old days several paper mills often used the same design.

Watermarks Nos. 1 and 2 are the clover-leaf design used by the Rittenhouse paper mills, on paper Mill Run, Roxborough. No. 1 is the handiwork of Nicholas, the son of William Rittenhouse, who erected the first paper mill in America in 1690. It is on paper written upon in 1729. The same device occurs in an invoice written by Benjamin Franklin, stating the amount of paper (329 reams) he had purchased between June 1740 and March 1741. The grades purchased were large printing, small printing, and large coarse.

No. 2 is on a receipt, dated 1780, from the Jacob Rittenhouse paper mill; (the third of these mill which was built about 350 feet below the mills of 1690 and 1702).

The clover-leaf is also the emblem of the Town seal of Germantown.

Benjamin Franklin, in 1737, purchased paper from the William Dewees, Sr., mill (No. 26) on the Wissahickon, where Mount St. Joseph's College is now located. The receipt reads: "Philadelphia, October 17th 1737. Received of Benjamin Franklin on account of Mr. William Dewees, the sum of 40 shillings. (signed) Henry Anty." Until 1738 Henry Anty was the partner of Dewees. The receipt is on a piece of coarse white paper without the lines of wire gauze showing, and contains the watermark of the Dewees mill; two single lines arranged horizontally with a line connecting them on top. It looks like a pair of eye glasses.

Watermark No. 3 is that of the Willcox Ivy, or Dove, Mill, built by Thomas Willcox in 1729, on a branch of Chester Creek, in Concord Township, Delaware County. The dove holding the sprig of ivy in its bill, was on one sheet, and on the other "T. M. W." (Thomas and son Mark Willcox).

The paper containing his dove emblem is dated 1779; an invoice made to the owners of the schooner "Hawke". It mentions ten quires of cartridge paper, two hundred weight of grape shot, one St. George and one Spanish jack flag. The bill was paid by Mr. Richard Somers. Somers was a colonel in the militia during the Revolution and fitted out, with others, at least ten privateers from Philadelphia and Egg Harbor, N.J. They captured British vessels on the high seas and divided the profits among the owners. Their cargoes consisted mostly of extra sails, rigging, rudders, powder, cannon balls, pork, bread and great quantities of liquor and rum.

Before the Revolution Benjamin Franklin sold to Captain Sibbold, for the great cannon, 124 pounds of double cartridge paper and seven quires of single.

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Another Dove watermark "M. W." (Mark Willcox) son of Thomas, who died in 1779, is dated 1781. This is another statement of Somers' privateering, and shows a nice profit made by the schooner "Rattlesnake", and the brig "Franklin".

In 1760 the British placed a heavy stamp tax on colonial paper; so as to avoid paying this tax our Pennsylvania paper-makers "bootlegged" British watermarks, and used them in American made paper. This is the reason we find so much American made paper of that particular period containing the English watermarks.

No. 4 is the Posthorn marked "P. B.". Bechtel's mill is our Mill No. 15, on Cresheim Creek, Germantown. This was the lower paper mill that in 1715 had been the oil mill of Henry Sellen. Bechtel owned the mill from 1801 until his death in 1838.

Our tracing is from a document dated 1805, affirming that a cargo about to be shipped from Philadelphia to Canton, China, is the property of Taylor & Newbold.

The ruins of the great dam and stack of the old Bechtel mill are still traceable.

has

No. 5, /the letters "I. B.", with a Liberty Bell between them. The letter in which this watermark appears is dated July 26th 1776, and states that "C. Roope, of Great Egg Harbor, Gloucester, has sold to Job Somers, for 72 pounds sterling, an eighth interest in the good slopp "Teunety", of 65 tons."

In old deeds the letter "I" is often used instead of "J", so the paper may have been made by James Boles, of Milton, Mass. His first two mills were destroyed, but his third was in operation from 1771 until 1782, when it, too, was burned.

In the collection of watermarks there are liberty bells from the mills of Samuel and William Levis, 1787, and William Levis, 1793. These mills were on Ridley Creek, Chester county, Penna.

Watermark No. 6 shows the tulip plant and urn and is marked "H.K." (Henry Katz 1780) Katz was the well-known German paper-maker of Whitmarsh Township, who in 1760 purchased from Nicholas Hassenebach, the first printer of Chestnut Hill, the paper mill that the latter had erected in 1758.

In July of 1776 Henry Katz was chairman of a Committee of Pennsylvania papermakers who sent a petition to the Committee of Safety, as follows: "If we the papermakers, masters, apprentices and journeymen should now leave the trade and follow the camp, then all and every papermill in Philadelphia, making the majority of the paper mills on this continent, must immediately be shut up, and of course, in a few weeks the printing offices, even cartridge paper, would soon fail." Shortly after this Congress ordered the papermakers to leave the army and return to the paper mills.

The paper of 1780, containing the Katz watermark, is on an inventory of the cost in Continental money of fitting out the American sloop of war "Hornet", William Moore, commander. Here are the values of some of the equipment: "20 dozen cartridges, \$300; liquor for the people, \$306; one bag of bread \$300; 15 gallons of rum \$1750; one square sail, \$350; one barrel of pork \$600; 127 barrels of tar \$12,000; The total expense of equipping the Hornet was \$110,000.

"February 6th 1777. The Continental Congress, Marine Committee, John Hancock, president, appoints Robert Robinson an

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officer on board the sloop Hornet." W. Moran, on December 6th 1777 wrote from Dunkirk, Scotland to Benjamin Franklin. He sailed from Philadelphia as a first lieutenant aboard the Horbet, a Continental sloop. He was captured and imprisoned by the English but escaped from prison "and now appears to B. Franklin for aid." On August 10th 1778 J. Leveux, from Calais, wrote to Benjamin Franklin, informing him that Edward Leger, lieutenant on the Hornet, escaped from an English prison. The writer of the note paid the lieutenant's expenses to Paris, and begs that Franklin will give him aid.

Watermark No. 7; an eagle "P.W." (Peter Wallover) 1807. Wallover was a papermaker of Lower Merion Township, Pa.. In 1802 Paul Jones sold to George Helmbold a paper mill in "the tenure of Peter Wallover" and 19 acres of land on Gulley Run in West Manayunk. This mill was just above the grist mill and saw mill (1752) of Anthony Levering, at the mouth of Gulley Run. This mill later became the Ashland Paper Mills which manufactured paper for the Philadelphia Record, at the time it was owned by William Singerly. A mortgage of 1758 calls the run "Gellie Run". This was evidently the Welsh name for the stream. In 1807 Blair McClenachan sold to Peter Wallover a paper mill on Mill Creek, Lower Merion. This mill had been the property of the confiscated estate of John Roberts, the Tory miller who was executed in Philadelphia in November of 1778. At the time it was agreed that the buyer should pay to the University of Pennsylvania, for educational purposes, 68 bushels of wheat every six months forever.

Now, our sheet of paper containing the eagle watermark was made in either the Gulley Run, or the Mill Creek paper mills.

We are indebted to Charles K. Barker, who wrote for the Penn Magazine in 1926, "Old Mills of Mill Creek, Lower Merion", for information relating to these two mills.

The eagle was a very popular emblem among the Pennsylvania papermakers after the Revolution. In the collection are many eagles from the Delaware Mill (1801) and William Lewis Mill (1802) on Ridley Creek.

The letter containing the eagle, of 1807, is written by Wm. Montgomery of Philadelphia, to Captain Hays of the brig "Superior", instructing him upon reaching Havana, to exchange the ten bales of Flemish linen for good coffee at not over 22 cents, or good quality new crop sugar at 12 reals, or brown at 8½ reals.

Watermark No. 8 shows the Rose watermark (1789) by "B. B.P. and G. F." We do not know who these two papermakers were. It occurs on the paper upon which was printed "The Perpetual Law of Massachusetts". The printer to the court was Captain Thomas Adams, owner of the "Independent Chronicle", of Boston. He was second cousin to President John Adams.

Joseph Hergesheimer in "Foolscap Rose", now appearing in "The Saturday evening Post", tells a fascinating story of a paper mill in Chester County; a paper journeyman and a mill owner; and the writer mentions a rose watermark in his interesting romance.

A peculiar incident occurs in the Massachusetts Law Book (1789). All of the nearly 500 pages contain the rose watermark, except two sheets, and in one of these is a picador pointed on a prancing steed, armed with a lance, and on the other sheet is the watermark of a ferocious bull, head down, charging to the attack. This bull-fight emblem is evidently the workmanship of a Spanish paper mill.

Watermark No. 9, is that of a two-mast square rigged ship of olden times. The letter "B" in the centre of the ship is likely



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the first letter of the name of the one who made the paper, and the flag flying at the stern is more American than Spanish. It is on paper without a date (but written from Havana) but evidently about 1800, written to Captain John Barry, who was the commander in the United States Navy during the Revolution. He died in 1803. His nephew writes that he "leaves Havana in a few hours after an embargo has held the good brig "Sally" in port for 24 days."

Next week we will continue our story of the Wisshickon mills.

Mill No. 20. William Dewees Jr's paper mill, later Magarge's mill at Wise's Mill lane.

January 26th 1739-40 William Dewees Jr writes to Benjamin Franklin: "I sent you last week a quantity of paper and now send you by same bearer more, to be placed to your credit."

On account of the great shortage in paper Franklin, in 1747, tried to buy from Spanish mills. In 1754 paper seems to have been more plentiful, as William Daniell, of Kingston, Jamaica wrote Franklin, "acknowledging receipt of 10 reams of paper, and asking for 50 more, as he really is much in want."

#### WATERMARKS OF EARLY AMERICAN-MADE PAPER.

Mrs. Boyd Nixon, who is interested in collecting historical data for the State Library at Harrisburg, has introduced me to Mr. Barry Hepburn, a Philadelphia attorney. He has a collection of over 800 letters and papers written by Admiral Barry, other Revolutionary heroes, and Philadelphia merchants. These letters show at least 400 early watermarks on American-made paper of that period. Mr. Davis, of the Franklin Institute on the parkway, has agreed to exhibit the choicest samples in the room where the paper-making machine is located.

Of the 800 specimens about half are early American; the balance English, Dutch, French and Spanish. The American papers containing watermarks were produced in the Rittenhouse, Willcox, Katz, Brandywine, Delaware, Levis, Matthews, Turkey, Gutler, etc paper mills.

One of the Gilpin(?) Brandywine watermarks is that of a plow, marked "work and grow rich".

The most interesting one to us, however, is that of the early German paper-maker, Henry Katz, the design of which is a tulip plant in full bloom, growing out of a very ornate urn; the paper dated 1780.

Before the Revolution Henry Katz and Jacob Hagey owned adjoining paper mills on the little stream running into the Schuylkill river, near the present site of the W. C. Hamilton Paper Company, in Whitemarsh (Note by A.C.C. I believe this to be Springfield) Township.

This mill was on the wissahickon, east bank and just below Spruce Mill Road, which was garge's Mill Road until 1784, and is now familiar as thomas mill Road.

The last of the old red covered bridges spanning the creek, is still here, and we trust it will never be replaced by a modern structure. The other four old wissahickon red covered bridges have been removed; these being the Rittenhousestreet (or Shurs lane) above Paper Mill Run (or Moneshone creek) the Kitchen's lane bridge (or Monastery avenue) the Allen's Lane and the Livezey's lane bridge.

THE BRIDGE AT THOMAS MILL ROAD.

By A. C. Chadwick, Jr., 1928.

As I come to the bridge at Thomas mill road,  
Where for years wissahickon's waters have flowed,  
I gaze on its timbers, which once painted red,  
Made easy access o'er the creek's rocky bed  
For the men and their beasts, who hauled grist to the mill;  
And although they have gone, the bridge is there still;  
A sturdy reminder of things which have gone,  
And a sign of the progress of men struggling on.

The trees of the forest gave wood for its beams,  
To carry the weight of the grain-laden teams  
Which carted the loads to the ponderous wheels  
Of the old Thomas mill, to be ground into meals.  
Its sides are still boarded, its roof casts a shade  
O'er the splintered old roadway which artisans laid  
With many a thought of the draughts to be borne  
And the strain with which man-made structures are torn.

Now, it's concrete and steel which are used for the spans  
That cross streams and lowlands when men make their plans,  
And the day of the bridge which was once formed of wood  
Has left us forever, as time willed it should,  
But the reverence I feel for the things that are old  
Crowds into my heart when the story is told  
Of the old covered bridge, which at Thomas mill road  
Still stands where the waters of ages have flowed.

After leaving the village of Sommerhausen and the lower magarge paper mill we journey up the Wissahickon past the Rex avenue bridge and statue of Regyuscung and find ourselves in Crefeld, now Chestnut Hill, or the upper end of what was once ~~xxx~~ a part of Germantown.

Crefeld is the name of the town in Germany, which was the home of the thirteen Mennonite families who founded Germantown. They sailed on July 24th 1683 and reached Philadelphia on October 6th of the same year.

Between the lower and upper magarge mills we pass through the deepest gorge of the wissahickon; on the Chestnut Hill side the hills are 400 feet high, and nearly the same on the Roxborough side.

Here is given the facts of the title of our Mill No. ~~21xx~~ 21 and the 147½ acres surrounding it: 1689 Frankford Land Company; 1708 John H. Sproegell; 1712 Thomas Tress; ironmaster who in 1690 owned one quarter of the William Rittenhouse's first paper mill: 1717 Thomas Carvel Sr.,

The grist mill was built between 1717 and 1736 and in 1737 Thomas Carvel Jr., sold the mill and land to Joseph Woolen Sr., a miller of Germantown.

In 1737 Joseph Woolen applied for a road from Roxborough to Chestnut Hill, known as Spruce Mill road. He stated that he had recently built a new grist mill and wished the road already in use to be confirmed. The petition was granted.

In 1738 Woolen and his wife, Mary, stated that John Barge, (the son of the wife, Mary, by a previous marriage) had been of great assistance and help and a trust was formed for two years. Andrew Robeson Sr., of Sumac Park Hills, Wissahickon, and Jonathan Robeson, were made trustees. At the end of the period one half of the grist mill and land was to be given to John Barge, who married Elizabeth, the daughter of Joseph Woolen, Sr.(his step-sister).

Joseph Woolen Sr. died in 1739, so that the other half of the estate passed to Joseph Woolen, Jr.

We will leave the mill for a moment to describe the "Historical Map of Chestnut Hill" designed and drawn by Joseph P. Sims, an architect. All the early roads, with dates of confirmation, the four Wissahickon-Chestnut Hill mills, the ancient houses, including the position of the dwellings of John Barge, Rev. Michael Schlatter, who built the paper mill on Paper Mill road in 1759; John Piper's barn where when the Indians were holding their pow-wows at Council Rock were given food and shelter; the farm of 1702, that included the 45 acre lower Magarge tract, a jockey riding a horse on the race tract, and an old mill road which is now Highland avenue.

All of these landmarks are near Mill No. 21.

We must mention a few other scenes on the map, further away from the mill. General Washington and his staff marching down the Bethlehem Pike through Chestnut Hill to attack the British in Germantown; a fanciful drawing of the William Dewees paper mill of 1710 with a great undershot wheel in the foreground; the arms of Penn and Pastorius; and to these Joseph P. Sims has added scores of other historical facts.

The grist mill, at this date, was owned by John Barge and Joseph Woolen, Jr. in 1750 the latter married Deborah, the widow of Jonathan Paul, of Mill No. 22. As stated before she had an interest in three of the Chestnut Hill mills, also the Thomas Livezey Mill, in Roxborough.

The widows and daughters of the millers generally married young and often. The millers were the largest owners of property in the community. At times a very nice dower went with the bride as in the case of Widow Deborah Paul.

In 1754 Joseph Woolen Jr., became financially embarrassed and at a sheriff's sale his brother-in-law, John Barge purchased one quarter of Mill 22 and 61 acres containing the grist mill, house, etc for 335 pounds. Also 194 acres and one half of the grist mill No. 21 thereon erected, for 900 pound.

John Barge died in 1755 and his will mentions his Spruce Mill which was a paper mill and 243 acres of land which he left to his widow, Elizabeth and their children.

He left the house in Chestnut Hill (at 8502 Germantown ave) to his mother, Mary, providing she stayed away from "her present husband". She seems to have done better in her first two marriages than she did in her third.

In 1766 Mary Dewees, wife of Famer Dewees, and daughter of John Barge, sold a quarter interest in the mill and land to Joseph Mather, who had married Elizabeth, the widow of John Barge. In 1774 Joseph Mather was taxed for the mill and in 1783 the miller was taxed for a grist mill(one quarter)

To Joseph Mather and three quarters to Andrew Barge, the son of John.

In 1784 the heirs sold the property to Daniel Thomas, a

Miller from Moreland Township. The present name of the road, Thomas Mill Road, takes its name from this purchaser. The mill was owned by the Thomas family for over 50 years and in 1839 it and 25 acres were sold to Franklin A Comly, and at a sheriff's sale in 1844 it passed into the possession of William Lukens. An earlier William Lukens, of this family, was the ancestor of President Theodore Roosevelt, and the present Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, wife of the present President of the United States.

In 1851 the place was purchased by Edwin R. Cope, a paper maker, who in the same year was a partner in the firm of Magarge & Cope. In a map of the name is also given as Megargee and Cope.

In the early 1850's Cope left Magarge and purchased the Riverside Mills, at Lafayette, (now Miquon) in Whitemarsh (Springfield) Township. Cope sold that mill to W. C. Hamilton in 1865. In 1859 a sheriff's sale disposed of Cope's Wissahickon mill to Charles Magarge, and in 1867 Magarge sold it to his brother, Edwin Magarge. His widow, Sarah R. Magarge sold the site to the Fairmount Park Commission in 1872 for \$77,500.

The old mill dam is just above the bridge; the springs in the adjacent hills supplied the water to make paper. This spring water was stored in reservoirs from which it was conducted into vats by means of 2100 feet of pipe. Some of the reservoirs were 50 feet higher than the mill and their ruins can be seen on the path leading along a small stream which flows into the Wissahickon just above the road. The paper made at this mill was noted for its whiteness, due to the purity of the water used in its making.

In the early 1870's the red covered bridge was washed away in a freshet that created much damage along the Wissahickon. (see illustration)

Tradition states that this mill was named at the time it was the upper Magarge mill, the "Handwell Mill", after the section in England from which the Magarges originally lived. It may be that one of the wives of a Magarge came from Handwell, but the men themselves were of Irish extraction.

As stated before the grandparents of Charles Magarge were Joseph and Susanna Livezey Magagre. In 1794 the father purchased a grist mill on the Wingohocking that in 1731 has been the grist mill on the Richard Townsend property of 1685-6. Hugh Roberts after 1794 also purchased a grist mill that in 1731 had also been erected on the same property.

The father of Joseph Magarge was Patrick Magargel, a native of Ireland, who came to Pennsylvania early in the 1700's. He married Margaret Waterman, a descendant of Captain Humphrey Waterman of the Barbadoes, and later a large landowner in Abington and Lower Dublin Townships. She died 10th mo. 10th day, 1739 and in 1714 he gave a mortgage on 33 1/2 acres of land in Abington Township and no wife is mentioned.

But before 1747 he had married Rebecca, as her name appears in a mortgage of that date in Lower Dublin. He and Rebecca deeded this land to their son, John Magarge in 1770. In 1783 the Orphans Court granted administration of his estate to Jacob Magarge.

Three of the sons of Patrick Magargel sr., were in the Pennsylvania Militia during the Revolution: John, Jacob and Joseph Magarge.

In a mortgage of 1752 Patrick Magargel signed the deed before Benjamin Franklin, which was a justice in that year.

Many of the later Magarges resided in Bristol Township near

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the old mill on the Wingohocking Creek. Miss Mary Anna Jones, a descendant of Joseph Magarge wrote me "My mother when a little child lived in the house still standing on Church lane, across the road from the old Roberts Mill."

Two of the grandsons of members of the firm of Charles Magarge & Co., in 1850, are today member of the firm of the Curtis Paper Company, of Newark, Delaware, and Mount Holly Springs Pa.

In our illustration of the ten dollar note of the Bank of Germantown(1848) note the portraits of Charles Magarge, the President, and John Farming Watson, the Cashier, and author of "Watson's Annals".

We beg to thank samuel F. Houston for th the illustrations which have greatly added to the interest of the lower and upper Magarge mill articles and also for others to come later.

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Mill No. 22: Jonathan Paul's Grist Mill  
Tedyuscung Woolen and Cotton Factory.

After leaving the Upper Magarge paper mill we have a three quarter of a mile walk through the deep rocky gorge of the Wissahickon to Bell's Mill Road Bridge.

There are but few automobiles here. All is quiet and restful. Our miniature illustration shows quite a collection of buildings of the Tedyuscung Mill of 1870 that stood upon the site of the ancient Howell Grist Mill of 1710. The background you notice how the hidden valley of the Wissahickon is opening out into the plains of Springfield and Whitemarsh townships, once a fertile agricultural country, but now covered with the greens, fairways and attractive clubhouses of many golf clubs.

It has been proposed by the good people of Roxborough and Chestnut Hill that another great high bridge such as the Walnut lane and Henry avenue structures should span the Wissahickon valley in this section.

In the future when the Cathedral Church of Christ, being erected in Roxborough just beyond the 9th milestone on Ridge road, is completed better transportation avenues will be required to reach the great fane and its beautiful surroundings.

If the old time Indians who once were housed in John Piper's barn could return today to the Wissahickon they would be terrified to see such improvements as golf course and cathedrals occupying the site of their happy hunting grounds.

In the small section of J. P. Sims large map of "Historic Chestnut Hill", that we reproduce this week, you will find the exact location of this Paul mill, and a description of the village of Crefeld, the upper section of the four divisions of Germantown.

Also please note the fox hunter following the hounds riding down the hills from Roxborough and about to pass over the bridge; and the settlement known as pumpkinville in 1840.

The other four inserts of the Dewees Mill, General Washington, Sowers Printing office and the Indian encampment give the text under each, describing the scenes reproduced.

Now we must return to the subject of the contents of the old musty deeds and surveys which tell us the early history of the ancient grist mill.

In 1684 J. I. Van Bebber is granted 61 acres in the village of Crefeld, from the Springfield (northwestern city) line to the Sommerhausen line.

Nearly all the grants in Germantown were long narrow parallelograms and this particular tract was about 1650 feet long and only 400 feet wide; with the Wissahickon Creek and Bells Mill road bisecting the plot.

In 1704 Van Bebber sold the plantation to Thomas Rutter and Samuel Savage, the former being said to have built at Manatawny in 1717 the first iron forge in Pennsylvania. It was attacked by Indians in 1728 but they were repulsed with great loss by the workmen.

The next owner of the property was Daniel Howell, in 1710, and he it was who built the grist mill. His son, Benjamin, purchased the mill in 1730. He married Catharine Papen, the grand daughter of William Rittenhouse Sr., the original paper maker of the Colonie.

In 1733 a petition for the confirmation of the line of a road to Benjamin Howell's mill, stated that a grist mill had been in existence for over 20 years where this road crossed the Wissahickon; that the road was now obstructed and asked that the road be confirmed from the north side of Chestnut Hill to Robeson or Ridge road. The petition was accepted. The road has had many

names, including Howell's Road, Paul's Mill Road, Widow Paul's road, Bell's Mill road, Thorp's lane, and now again Bell's Mill Road. The present bridge was built by Isaac Bell in 1820.

In 1738 Howell sold the mill and 61 acres of land for 1800 pounds, to Jonathan Paul, son of John and Mary Paul, of Abington. Jonathan married Deborah Kenton. He died in 1748 and she married Joseph Woolen, Jr., in 1750.

In 1739 Jonathan sold one-quarter of the mill and land to Jacob Leach, and in 1758 he sold the same to Thomas Livezey 3rd. In 1739 Jonathan sold one quarter to Charles Heaply and he in turn sold it in 1752 to Joseph Woolen Jr.

The first mention of a school in Crefeld (Chestnut Hill) was in 1745. It was on Paul's Mill road about 800 feet west of the mill, and was for the accomodation of the inhabitants of Germantown, Whitemarsh, Springfield and Roxborough Townships. Four of the millers were trustees: Jonathan Paul, John Barge, Garrett and Henry Dewees.

At the time of a sheriff's sale in 1754 Joseph Woolen, Jr to John Barge, the latter procured half of the mill.

The deed of sale stated that John Vandaren was occupying this mill in 1754. In the next year vandaren purchased the Roxborough Grist Mill (No 1.) located at the mouth of the Wissahickon, and the old Robeson Grist and saw mills (Nos. 2 and 3) on Ridge road.

Jonathan and Deborah Paul had a daughter, Mary, who inherited one half of Mill No 22. She married her cousin John Paul, who was the brother of Joseph Paul who owned Mill No. 20. In 1758 the Livezey quarter was sold to John Paul. In 1769 the latter was taxed for a grist mill and 272 acres; and in 1774 for the mill and 102 acres.

The Suburban Press, on June 22nd 1933 published a short account of this Mill No 22, but it ~~related~~ related mostly to the fact that General Armstrong led his Pennsylvania Division of Washington's Army, on October 4th 1777, from Chestnut Hill to attack the Hessians at Vandaren's Mill, over the bridge that is now Bell's Mill Road bridge.

On the subject of the Revolution we want to state that there were losses sustained by the millers of the Wissahickon and Wingochocking creeks. The amounts which they received as reimbursement from the American government after the war were: George Dannenhower who owned a grist mill on the Wingochocking and who it was that guided General Armstrong's army down for vandarens from its Skippack camp on October 4th 1774, received 434 pounds. Peter Hinkle who owned a Cresheim Valley grist mill 256 pounds; Jacob Lash (Losh) the powder maker of Cresheim Valley 239 Pounds.

As we have mentioned Piper's barn several times we beg to quote Dr. J. J. MacFarlane as follows: "For several years after the settlement of Germantown the Indians gathered at Council Rock, and while engaged in their pow wows, which sometimes continued for a month, they made their headquarters at the barn of John Piper, whom they considered their friend, and who gave them both food and shelter. The Piper property, later owned by C. A. Newhall, was between Chestnut Hill avenue and Rex avenue, west of Seminole avenue."

John Paul the owner of Mill No. 22, died in 1783 and left the mills and 204 acres to his sons, John and Joseph M. Paul.

In 1801. they sold the merchant mill and land to James and Isaiah Bell, millers of Germantown. In 1812 James sold his half to Isaiah. In 1835 a sheriff's sale disposed of the property to William and Samuel Bell and they transferred it to Catharine Thorp, wife of Isaac Thorpe, and in 1844 she sold the mill and 140 acres to John M. Thorp. Another sheriff's sale passed it back to Catharine Thorp. At this time it a large three-story calico



printing, dyeing and bleaching establishment, with other houses and dwellings.

In Smedley's map of 1862 the mills were called "Tedyuscung Wool and Cotton Factory".

In 1864 they were purchased by Bishop & Kelly, then another sheriff's sale in 1866 passed them on to John B. Bishop, and about 1870 the city purchased the tract, demolished the mills and added the land to Fairmount Park.

Frank R. Watson, the architect of the Cathedral Church of Christ, Roxborough, between Ridge avenue and Hagy's Mill road, informs us that the site of the great fane is 417 feet above sea level, one of the highest points in Philadelphia County.

"Lady Chapel" a unit of the cathedral, facing Ridge avenue, is already complete, and from the windows one can see the great Delaware River suspension bridge, Bryn Mawr, and the vallies of the Schuylkill and Wissahickon.

When completed the tower will be 22 feet high from the floor of the nave.

Last week we visited the site of Paul's Grist Mill at Bell's Mill Road, Before going up to the next mill let us retrace our steps to the lower Magarge paper mill.

Last Sunday week A. C. Chadwick, Jr., editor of The Suburban Press, of Roxborough, and I made a search for the lost Goddess of Liberty, and we found her on a rock facing almost south, on the east side of the Wissahickon, between the Pro Bono Publico Fountain and Wise's Mill Dam.

It takes, however, a great deal of imagination to see anything that resembles the noted emblem of freedom.

We also took photographs of the path through the woods just above Hartwell avenue bridge, that in 1742 was the York & Maris paper mill road; also the old Magarge chimney stack that is about 300 feet above the present office building.

Now let us start out again from Bell's Mill Road and walk about half a mile up the Wisahickon to the sharp bend of the creek.

The Andorra Nurseries, are on the left, and Lehman's map of Crefeld (1751) gives us the position of Henry Dewees paper mill. It is about 200 feet further up the creek than the position given on Sims Historical Map, as reproduced in The Suburban Press last week.

In our walk the hills on both sides of the creek have become smaller, and the gorge is opening out into the plains of Springfield and Whitemarsh Townships on the other side of Northwestern avenue.

Henry Dewees owned a farm and dwelling over the border in Springfield Township, on the road to Barren Hill, and today three golf courses; the Roxborough Country Club, the Marble Hall Golf Course, and the Whitemarsh Country Club, with their greens, fairways, etc are located on the old farms, and add greatly to the charm of the scenery.

The paper mill was on a small tract of only one half an acre, with a frontage of 66 feet on the Wissahickon and running back about 450 feet. This small tract would not allow for a dam on the Wissahickon, so the mill must have been built ~~xxxxxx~~ on the creek that flows down from Whitemarsh and enters the Wissahickon at this point. A small stream passed through Andorra Nurseries and joins the little creek near Northwestern avenue.

The half acre we are describing was in Crefeld village; part of an 81 acre tract that Thomas Trese purchased in 1703. He sold it in 1734, to Peter Knous, and in 1747 Garrett Dewees purchased 42 acres. Garrett was the son of William Dewees Sr who inherited one half of his father's Mill No. 26.

On December 9th 1747 Garrett Dewees, a miller, with wife Agnes, sold to his brother Henry Dewees, a paper maker of Springfield Township, one half acre and here, before 1751, Henry Dewees built his paper mill.

Now the 1747 deed states that Henry Dewees was a paper maker, and Dr. MacFarlane records in mentioning the Cleaver Mill, near Flourtown on the Wissahickon, "the adjoining tract belonged to Henry Dewees who had a paper mill there before the one which he built at the end of the Creek".

Henry Dewees (1716-1801) married Rachel, and had six sons one of whom, Henry Jr., we will meet later.

Henry Dewees St. in making a petition for a road states that he owned two tracts of land not far distant from each other "the one where the dwelling house standeth is situated in Springfield Manor, and the other on which a paper mill is built is in German-town township".

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Henry Dewees Sr., was taxed in Springfield as follows: 1769 paper mill and 120 acres; 1774 for 160 acres.

The Dewees family book states that in this mill Henry manufactured cartridge paper during the Revolution for the use of the American patriots.

Regarding the shortage of paper during the Revolution, L. H. Weeks relates: "Printers and publishers paper stock, used and unused was drawn upon and a great deal of hot shot was poured into the ranks of the enemy wrapped in equally hot sermons, tracts and political addresses".

Weeks also mentions that a large number of sheets of paper from Fox's "Book of Martyrs" and the last edition of the Sower Bible of 1776 were confiscated and used for the same purpose.

There were also confiscated about 2500 copies of a sermon upon "Defensive War", discovered in the garret of a house where Benjamin Franklin had previously conducted his printing business.

In 1767 and 1768 Henry Dewees Sr purchased about 30 acres of land adjoining the half acre mill land.

In 1792 Henry Dewees Jr sold the above 30½ acres of land to Mary Paul, the widow of John Paul of Hill No. 22. The Chestnut Hill Riding and Driving Club now occupies a portion of this land.

This deed of 1792 mentions buildings but there is no paper mill on the half acre so we suppose this mill was discontinued at the bend of the Wissahickon.

The historical map in our article of November 23rd gave the location of the 100 acres of land upon which this mill was built.

The plantation is now owned by the Mount St. Joseph College, and is bounded by the Wissahickon Creek, Germantown avenue, and Northwestern avenue.

In 1684 the 100 acres was owned by Jacob Telner and Dirck Sipman. In 1701 and 1702 Heivert Papen purchased the tract. He was born in 1655 and came to America in 1685, and about 1690 married Elizabeth Rittenhouse, the daughter of William Rittenhouse the first paper maker of the Colonies. Papen died about 1708.

William Dewees purchased from the Papen heirs, in 1710, the 100 acres that began about 500 feet east of where the Wissahickon crosses City Line, and ended about 300 feet west of Germantown avenue.

It is said that William Dewees and his brother-in-law, Nicholas Rittenhouse were apprentices in the first paper mill in America, on Paper Mill Run (Monoshone Creek) Roxborough.

Dr. J. J. MacFarlane, ~~xxxxixxxxx~~ in his history states: "The existence of this mill as early as 1710 is shown by extracts from the records of the personal accounts of Rev. Paulus Van Vleet, a Dutch Reformed minister in Pennsylvania. The following entries are scattered through the church records of the congregation: They begin with December 18th 1710: \*Received from William Dewees 4 quires of paper at 7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>d</sub> per quire. wine paper 10 at 9d per quire; 5 quires of paper at 6d per quire, 5 quires of paper at 7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>d</sub> per quire. etc"

We mentioned William Dewees Sr. before when he built the paper mill on the 45 acres in Sommerhausen that later became the lower Magarge mill.

Dewees was born in 1677 in Lievwarden, Holland. He arrived in New York in 1688 and soon afterward settled in Germantown. In 1704 he was sheriff of Germantown.

In the early 1710's there were but three dwellings in Grefelt (Chestnut Hill) one of which was that of Dewees. It stood ~~xxxx~~ on the west side of Germantown avenue between City Line and the Wissahickon. After 1890 it was demolished.

Plymouth settlers spoke of having to go through "the wilds of Germantown" on their way to the city.

The Whitemarsh Reformed Church, organized on 1710, was the first congregation in Chestnut Hill. For 31 years the members held meetings in the home of William Dewees. He was one of the early elders. In 1711 his wife, Christina Meels, was a member.

What is now Germantown avenue was opened in 1687 as a cart road from Front street Philadelphia to Plymouth Township (west of Whitemarsh on the Schuylkill river)

A low bridge likely crossed the Wissahickon at an early period.

On March 3 1729/30 William Dewees and others petitioned the court as follows: "The humble petition of William Dewees and other inhabitants of the county of Philadelphia. Humbly sheweth that your petitioner, William ~~xxxxxx~~ Dewees has been an inhabitant in German Township for many years by past and has been encourager of trade and benefactor to the county by his mills, constantly going to furnish part of the city and county about him; that not only empty of the said mills but your petitioner's communication with the neighborhood in the upper parts of the county is much hindered by the stoppage in an old accustomed road hereafter mentioned for many years past for travellers travelling these parts to the great damage of your petitioners and the county within some miles of the said place. That your petitioner with several others hath by voluntary subscriptions built and erected a bridge over Wissahickon creek near unto Dewees Hills for the convenience of said road and better accomodation of travelers that travel in this part of the county which is thought to attribute much to the country's good; And that

your petitioners having been at great charge and expense for the convenience of the said road, humbly requests the honorable court to appoint a jury to lay the said road open. It leading out of North wales or Plymouth road on Chestnut Hill down to the daid mills from thence to Andrew Robeson's or Rocksburrow road and leading up the Manatawny and the upper parts of this country and to make the sam an established road et, etc. And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray."

In 1713 Dewees sold the mill and 100 acres to Nicholas Rittenhouse w. streper xx A. Tunis and John Gorgas. The first three were the executors of the estate of H. Papen, from whom Dewees had bought the 100 acres in 1710.

John Gorgas married Psyche Rittenhouse, a the daughter of Nicholas Rittenhouse.

Now we know nothing of the paper mill from 1713 until 1729, in which year Dewees again purchased 93 acres of the 100 acre tract that he had once secured in 1710, which contained a paper mill, grist mill, etc.

In his petition for the road in 1729 Dewees stated that his mills "constantly going to furnishing part of the city and county about him."

From this we would suppose that from 1713 until 1729 Dewees continued to carry on the paper mill and also added a grist mill.

But we will see next week that when he purchased the property in 1729 he and his son-in-law, Henry Antes, appear to have built a new paper mill and a grist mill on the 93 acre just purchased.

We believe the site of the 1710 paper mill was adjoining or on the same spot as the mills of 1729.

Since Historical map, Lehman's Chestnut Hill map of 1750, and his Grefeld Township map, of 1751, all locate the mill on the mill race north of the Wissahickon creek and Germantown avenue.

If today you stand on the Germantown avenue bridge between the mill race and the Wissahickon creek, about 150 feet to the northwest you will see a square mill house marked "1753-1869". The waters of the ancient mill race now turn a wheel that pumps water from a nearby well (see illustration) to the buildings of Mount St. Joseph college that are on the hillside to the left.

We are greatly interested in the weather vane of a fish on the top of the covering of the well. Possibly that may have decorated one of the previous old mills. Lehman's map, of 1751 decorates this mill with a weather vane that might have been a fish.

The catfish is so often mentioned in connection with the Wissahickon creek that the emblem may have some local significance.

A. C. Chadwick, jr., editor of the suburban press, showed me the other day, on top of the Falls of schuylkill branch of the Free Library, at midvale avenue and warden Drive, a weather vane designed as a catfish, with waffle irons.

Our next article will describe the paper mill and grist mill that were here in 1729.

MILL No. 25: William Dewees and John Gorgas(1728)  
Rotten Stone paper(Asbestos or Hornblende)

We have before us a United State Geological Survey map, giving the contour lines of the twenty miles through which the Wissahickon flows.

At the Mouth of the Wissahickon where mill No. 1 was situated, now the Philadelphia Canoe Club, the height above tidewater of the Wissahickon is 25 feet. Seven miles above (Northwestern Avenue) ~~XXXXXXXX~~ were mills nos. 24, 25, and 26, located on the Mount St. Joseph College property. Here the creek was in the 140 level.

The Wissahickon rises near Lansdale where the height is 360 feet above tidewater, so that the fall from source to mouth through the twenty miles is about 335 feet.

A peculiar feature of the Wissahickon is that it REVERSES Nature's general scheme for a water-course. INSTEAD OF STARTING IN A HILLY COUNTRY AND THEN FLOWING THROUGH TO ITS END AT A FLAT PLAIN, IT RISES AND MEANDERS IN A SLUGGISH MANNER THROUGH FLAT LANDS FOR FOURTEEN MILES UNTIL IT REACHES BELL'S MILL ROAD AND THEN ENTERS THE DEEP, HILLY GORGE FROM THERE TO THE MOUTH OF THE CREEK.

Last week we told the story of William Dewees 1710 paper mill. Joel Musell, paper making historian, states that "it was erected on a small stream that emptied into the Wissahickon Creek near the Manor of Springfield" This is the stream that crosses Paper Mill Road and the Bethlehem Pike and enters the Wissahickon near the present Dewees Dam. On this creek and the present Paper Mill road in 1759, the Rev. Michael Schlatter built his paper mill No. 28.

We know that in 1713 Dewees sold the paper mill to four men, one of whom was John Gorgas. So we suppose that this mill No. 25, was the one where Dewees and Gorgas manufactured paper made from rotten stone. In 1729 when Dewees asked for the confirmation of the road past his mills he stated that the mills were "constantly going" so that he must have continued operating the mill after selling it in 1713.

Paper made from asbestos is mentioned by a Jesuit priest in 1646, and in 1727 a German naturalist had four of his books printed in that material. In 1854 E. Maniere obtained a patent in England for fire proof paper, the asbestos was rendered very fine and pulpy, and was mixed with the pulp of rags.

Isaiah Thomas, the first historian of American printing, wrote that "as early as 1728 William Dewees and John Gorgas had a mill on the Wissahickon where they manufactured an imitation of asses' skin paper for memorandum books, which was well executed." John Brighter, an aged paper maker in Pennsylvania, and who gave this account, observed that this kind of paper was made of rotten stone, which is found in several places near and to the northwest of Philadelphia, and that the method of cleaning this paper was to throw it in the fire for a short time when it was taken out perfectly fair.

The Academy of Natural Sciences, in Philadelphia, have a specimen of asbestos at least twelve inches long from the Lieper Quarries near Chester, Pa.

Another interesting case of adding a mineral with paper is that on which was printed American Colonial money as early as 1758, printed by Franklin & Hall, also Delaware and Maryland notes of 1770 to 1776. If you turn the paper around in your hand in the sunlight you will see that it is alive with small particles of mica, or isinglas. This mineral was added to make it more difficult to counterfeit the note, and it read "counterfeit is death".

In 1774 ~~XXXXXXXX~~ this country was on the gold standard; a dollar note printed in Annapolis, Md., could be exchanged in London for gold and silver at the rate of four shillings six pence per dollar.

William F. Willcox, of the Willcox Ivy Mill, Chester Creek, Delaware County, tells me that some of this colonial money was made in

mills of his ancestor,

As so much mica is found in the rocks along the Wissahickon it is very probable that some of this Colonial paper was also made in the mills of this section.

At a much later period the Willcox Ivy Mills also made the note paper used by the government and the American Bank Note Company, in the printing of United States notes, but they worked into the paper silk strands to make it more difficult to counterfeit the same.

It is unfortunate that there are no deed, surveys, mortgages, or wills to give ~~xxx~~ any positive information regarding the history of this paper mill (no. 25) between 1713 and 1728.

WILLIAM DEWEES PAPER AND GRIST MILL NO 26. (1739)

On March ~~xxxx~~ 26th 1729 the heirs of Heivert Papen sold to William Dewees Sr., 93 acres of land, grist mills, two pairs of stones, a paper mill and tract of land, messuage or tenement and mill buildings. This ~~of~~ land was a part of the 100 acres that Dewees bought in 1710 and sold in 1713.

An agreement made on February 2nd 1730 between William Dewees and wife Christina Meels, with Henry Antes (Deweess' son-in-law) the mills were built by and erected at equal cost and expense of William Dewees and Henry Antes. Digging and making dams and mill race, providing gears, of the the paper mill, were at charge of William Dewees. For money and labor expended H. Antes and 25 pounds sterling he received one half interest in two acres and mills, the paper mill is only to be run with surplus water, when there is more than enough to supply the grist mills. Antes sold in 1738 his half interest in the grist mill, boultin mills, and mill house, at the corner of bridge extending by late William Dewees, with two acres of mill races and sufficient standing place and accommodations for horses, carts, carriages, beasts of burden, wheat flour casks, timber or other things for use and service of said mills, not to exceed two acres; to Joseph Woolen Jr, miller of Germantown. After selling his interests in the mills Antes bought a mill near Perkiomen Creek in Hanover Township.

We quote again from Dr. Macfarlane's "History of Early Chestnut Hill": "William Dewees was a man of noble character and considerable force--in / Germantown he held almost every office in the gift of the people. Henry Antes, his son-in-law, was one of the most prominent men of his time and was active in all religious and philanthropic movements that took place in the eastern part of Pennsylvania. His associates were such men as Zinzendorf, Whitefield, Muhlenberg and Wesley. Whitefield, who preached at his home on Swamp Creek in Frederick Township, in 1740, called it a Dutchman's plantation. The Rev. Dr. Dubbs, in speaking of Antes, said, 'He stood by the side of Whitefield,

And prayed in a German tongue,  
When the clarion voice of the preacher  
O'er the hills of Frederick rung,  
They know not each other's language,  
Nor did they need it then,  
For the one cried "Alleluja!"  
And the other said, "Amen!"

William Dewees died in 1745 and was buried, as were later his wife Catharine and sons Garrett and Henry, in the upper Germantown Burying Ground.

He willed one half of his mills and land to his son Garrett; the bequest also reading; "the running gear of the paper mill for so long a time as the heirs shall think fit to keep up a paper mill there in the millhouse". The other son, Henry, may have managed this paper mill, as when he bought a half ~~xxxxxxx~~ acre and erected a paper mill (No. 23) at the bend of the creek, in 1747, he was named in the deed

as a papermaker.

For a few years now we will find that these mills (No. 26) are owned one half by Garrett and one half by Joseph Wollen Sr. Let us dispose of the Dewees interest first.

Lehman's Map of Chestnut Mill (1750) marks the location as Dewees mill, a one-story building with a large pointed roof.

Garret Dewees married Agnes Streeper, the sister of William Streeper, who owned Mill No 27, just over ~~XXX~~ Northwestern avenue, that is now the property of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1751, Garret sold to William Streeper all of the mills and lands. He only owned a half interest however, and in 1760 Streeper sold the two half interests to Nathaniel Sheppard. In 1761 it is discovered that Streeper only had a half interest to sell, so the deed is corrected and Sheppard only received a half interest. In Lehman's Map of Crefeld, 1751, the mill is marked Streeper's Mill, and on the top of the mill is a weather vane.

In 1767 Sheppard sold, at auction, his half interest to Jonathan Paul, brother of Joseph Paul, who owned Mill No. 20 at Wise's Mill lane.

"To be sold at the Coffee House (Front and Walnut streets, Philadelphia) one equal half of a stone grist mill, dwelling house and stable, with about two acres of land thereunto belonging, lately called or known as Dewees Mill. Also one tract of 44 acres a part of which has good meadow and in which is a good orchard situated on the north side of the Wissahickon Creek about 11 miles from Philadelphia, bounded by the great Road leading from Philadelphia to Reading. Likewise one tract or piece of land situated on the south side of said creek and adjoining the above described premises, in which is a good stone house and a young orchard containing about 9 acres. The whole will be sold together or separate to suit purchasers. The two tracts of land and the moiety of the mill are under lease at 85 pounds sterling per annum."

In the deed of transfer the land sold was 124 acres and a half interest in the mill and 2 acres, the price paid was 1008 pounds.

The "good stone house" mentioned in the auction sale, may have been the William Dewees Dwelling where for 33 years the services of the Whitemarsh Reformed Church services were held. It was torn down after 1890.

Now let us return to 1738 and ~~follow~~ follow the other half interest of the mill. It would appear that Henry Gntes only owned a half interest in the mill and two acres. Joseph Wollen, Sr., bought this interest. In 1750 Joseph Wollen Jr., who had inherited the half interest and Deborah Paul, widow of Jonathan Paul, entered into a marriage agreement. The wedding shortly to take place.

For five shillings ~~Deborah Paul~~ Wollene deeded to her, or her heirs, one half interest in the grist mill, boulding mills, millhouse, and one half of two acres of land, as a marriage settlement. The tax list records of 1769 show Jonathan Paul, grist mill 115 acres; 1774 same; 1783 Jonathan Paul half of grist mill and 60 acres; John Trump Estate half of grist mill.

Deborah Kenton-Paul-Wollen, before 1773 married again to John Trump, of Lower Dublin (what a woman!) as in that year they placed a Mortgage with the "Corporation Relief to Destitute Master ~~xxxxxx~~ of Ships" upon the half interest in the grist mill and two acres, boulding mills, mill house, dams, and mill race are also mentioned. The mortgage and interest was paid off in full in 1776.

In 1800 Jonathan Paul (must have been a son of Deborah's) sold his half interest for 3000 pounds to his brother Jacob Paul, miller of Germantown. (Jonathan, Jacob and Joseph were all brothers). Stone messuage, grist mill, also other land mentioned.

Jacob Paul, you remember was the one who in 1794 purchased from Isaac Potts, the house that Washington used as headquarters while at Valley Forge.

Paul ~~must~~ also have purchased the other half interest belonging the the Trumps, as in his will of 1806, he left the entire mill and land



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to his son, Samuel Paul. A nephew, Jacob Paul Jones, iron merchant, in 1839 sold to Joseph Middleton, of Germantown "the messuage, mill, and three lots of land of over 43 acres, dam rights, said mill to keep dam up to mark it was in William Streepers time."

Joseph Middleton in 1839 built an attractive dwelling on the hill above the mill and named it "Montecello", after the home of Thomas Jefferson.

The dwelling occupied the site of the centre college building (Mt. St. Joseph's) (see illustration). The small one-story house in the foreground on the left was the site of the William Dewees paper and grist mill of 1729. Today the mill race carries the water from the old Dewees dam in to the mill building and turns a wheel that pumps the water from a nearby well, which we illustrated last week. Middleton rented the mill as on a map of 1840, it is called "Ely's Mill", and on one of 1854 "Holloway's Mill".

In 1858 Joseph Middleton sold the mill and three lots of land for \$15,750 to the McSherrystown Academy. In 1869 it was changed in name to "Mount Saint Joseph's Academy" and today is Mount St. Joseph's College. During the winter season 1100 young girls received education and in the summer the same number of Sister-Teachers ~~xxxxxxx~~ are at the College.

Over the doorway of the pumphouse a datestone reads "1753-1869".

I believe that one of the Sister-Teachers is preparing a history of the College also a short history of the mills of the earlier period.

(Note : Several subscribers of The Suburban Press have written requesting information regarding the genealogy of the Wise and Smick families, as follows: About 1853 or 54 a Mr. Wise, of Roxborough married Emma R. Repsher. She was the daughter of Leonard Repsher, of Camden, N.J.J. The Christian name of Mr. Wise is desired. Lloyd Smick, born 1810, Deputy Sheriff of Philadelphia, 1846 to 1852, died in 1854. The name of his parents and first wife are wanted.)

now (1941)  
Chestnut Hill  
College

After leaving the Dewees mill on the property of Mount St. Joseph College described last week, we follow the Wissahickon Creek over Northwestern Avenue and enter Springfield Township in Montgomery County.

William Penn gave this Penn's Manor of Springfield to his wife, Guilielma Maria Springett. It is so marked on Holmes' map of 1681-1688. (See our survey of Roxborough in July 27th article.)

Madam Penn requested an outlet from the manor to the Schuylkill river and so a strip about 250 feet north of Germantown and Roxborough was given to her. On this strip about 200 feet north of City Line William Streeper Jr built before 1761 a grist mill and a saw mill.

Mrs. Lydia T. Morris died on January 24th 1932 and willed to the University of Pennsylvania the tract of 73 acres "Bloomfield", in Springfield Township, which contains the Streeper Mill, and 85 acres "Compton", south of City Line, ~~including~~ extending to Millcrest Avenue, Chestnut Hill. The gift is known as "The Morris Arboretum" of the University of Pennsylvania. A description of the gift, printed in 1932, mentions the old mill "on the east bank of the Wissahickon on a portion of the estate known as Bloomfield, stands a picturesque grist mill on the site of an earlier mill which antedated the Revolution. Driving a huge waterwheel, this old mill up to recently ground grain supplies for the cattle on the farm of the estate."

The Compton estate in Chestnut Hill was also a part of the Streeper grant of 1684, and Papen tract of 1701. It is on this tract that the Arboretum is located. The printed account reads: "The Morris Arboretum at its very birth was a full-fledged botanical garden. The University of Pennsylvania which was, it is said, the first university in this country to have a department of botany, has, as it builds upon this new foundation, potentialities in this field such as few educational institutions have ever been given at a single time."

Today a turbine wheel driven by the waters of the Wissahickon, passing through a mill race, gives the power to turn the wheel and pump the water from a spring or well into the farm buildings at the Arboretum tracts of Bloomfield and Compton.

This is one of the very few of the 48 Wissahickon mills that today are still running.

Let us now take up the history of the Streeper family. William Streeper Sr., was one of the founders of Germantown. He came from Grefeld; sailed on the "Concord" and reached Philadelphia October 6th 1683. William Streeper received 100 acres from his brother Jan, who did not come to the Colonies.

James Claypoole, one of Penn's commissioners, says xxx of the passage: "The blessing of the Lord did attend us so that we had a very comfortable passage and had our health all the way".

On August 3rd 1683 Francis Daniel Pastorius arrived in Philadelphia and built a half-cave house along the banks of the Delaware in downtown Philadelphia. Later he journeyed out to Germantown where the land of the Frankford Land Company were located.

An agreement signed by William Streeper and six others in October 1683, read in part: "as well as we ourselves in the cave of Francis Daniel Pastorius, at Philadelphia, did cast lots for the respective lots which they and we then began to settle in Germantown."

William Streeper, Sr., in 1684 owned 50 acres and in 1698 116 acres of the Grefeld village, bounded by the present Stenton Avenue and Northwestern Avenue.

William Streeper Sr died in 1717 and in his will he calls himself "of Sommerhausen, Germantownship" He left 250 acres each adjoining properties in Whitmarsh, Springfield and Germantown townships, to his sons, Peter and Lenert; also 50 acres in Grefeld "along the Swamp", to his son, John.

Compton is an ideal location for an arboretum as two good sized streams flow through the plantation; the one on the north rises near Cheltenham township, crosses paper mill run, where in 1759 the Rev. Michael Schlatter erected his paper mill, just east of Bethlehem Pike. The Wheel Pump there was a saw mill on this stream; where it joins the Wissahickon just south of Northwestern Avenue is situated the site of William Dewees 1710 first paper mill. The second small creek irrigating Compton starts near the Pennsylvania Railroad station at Chestnut Mill. Temple and Swan ponds on this Compton estate utilize the waters of the stream and add to the charm of the natural scenery.

In 1685 Streeper married the widow of John Simons and their son, John Streeper married Elizabeth Arets, whose son, William Streeper, 2nd, married Magdalene Castner, who were the owners of the land in Springfield Township where before 1761 William Streeper 2nd built the grist and saw mill. In 1769 he was taken for a grist mill, saw mill and 250 acres. Tradition tells us that this mill supplied General Lafayette and his soldiers with flour when he was encamped at Barren Hill, which was between Ridge road and the mill in Whitemarsh Township. (note by A.C.C. This hardly seems correct, as Lafayette was only encamped one night at Barren Hill, but sufficient flour may have ~~xxxxxxx~~ been obtained for one or two meals).

In 1783 William Streeper 2nd's widow was assessed for the same mills and 100 acres. In 1783 the heirs of Streeper sold the mills and 19 acres to a son, George Streeper, who settled in Charleston, South Carolina; and a daughter Hanna, who married John Piper. In 1789 John Piper purchased the mills. He died in 1844. The grist mill was rebuilt during his ownership as the datestone on the present mill reads: "Springfield Mills, 1834".

In 1845 Henry A. Piper continued as owner until his death in 1881.

In 1892 Howard Ritter (or Kitter) sold the mill to George C. Thomas for \$10,000.

In 1909, the year of the illustration, the turbine wheel along side of the mill pumped the water from a well into the pond in the foreground. Trout were raised here for the markets and sold to the Bellevue-Stratford, Union League, and other clubs and hotels at 50 cents a pound.

George C. Thomas sold 100 acres of his holdings to the Whitemarsh Country Club and a part of the Wissahickon ~~xxxxxxx~~ flows through this gold course.

Thomas sold the farm to Judge Mitter, of Norristown and it then passed to John T. Morris, and then to the latter's sister, Lydia T. Morris.

As the University of Pennsylvania now owns this old Colonial mill through a gift, let us give a short history of another colonial grist mill the school purchased as an investment.

At ~~xx~~ a meeting of the trustees of "the college, Academy and Charity school", by which title the U. of Penna was early known, Dr; William Smith, a resident of Indian Queen Lane, Falls of Schuylkill, who was the first provost of the university, and acted as chairman at this particular meeting, "acquainted the board in consideration of a difficulty which they find in investing the large sums of money which lately have been paid into them by borrowers, and desiring to save interest he had lately purchased for the college from Col. John Bull, for 6000 pounds sterling that valuable plantation and grist mill at Norriton (Norristown)."

The Norristown mill was formerly owned by Charles Morris, (for whom the community was named) and it was agreed that John Jones, a millwright, be employed to repair the mill that was on Stoney Creek at the Schuylkill river.

The mill had only one pair of stones and an extensive mill dam to keep in repair, so it was suggested that it would be more profitable to enlarge and improve the mill. It was also proposed that they would try and rent the mill for 250 bushels of wheat and the same rental

for the plantation. A certain amount of chestnut logs could be used for heating the college building during the winter. 67

In 1779 the charter of the college was withdrawn by the state assembly, and the "University of the state of Pennsylvania" was incorporated.

In Bean's "History of Montgomery county" is this description of the Norristown mill: "Charles Norris had built a grist mill here several years before 1771. It was propelled by water from the Schuylkill river, by means of a dam erected from the north shore to Barbadoes island. It later passed into the hands of Col. John Bull, who made additional improvements, so that on the sale thereof to Rev. William Smith, in October 1776, it was stated to include a grist mill, powder mill and other buildings, which were all burned by the British. Later it was sold to John Markley, in 1801. It contained merchant flour mill, saw mill besides two extra mill sites."

In 1784 it was proposed by member of the new university that they move the institution to the site of the mill and plantation at Norriton. They had so much trouble trying to obtain a revenue from the plantation that they evidently believed it would save money to permanently locate there.

After the assembly virtually confiscated the college, they added to the funds of the new corporation large amounts of money received from the sale of confiscated property, but in 1789 they restored the charter again to the college, and in 1791 the university of Pennsylvania was formed, by a union of the old college and the Pennsylvania state university.

In 1780 Edwin Milner, owner of mill no. 11 at Kitchen's lane along the Wissahickon, purchased the confiscated mills and lands of John Roberts, of Mill creek, in Lower Merion; the deed stating that the university of the state of Pennsylvania was to receive forever 67 and 9/10 bushels of wheat every six months.

Many of these rentals and confiscated estates were later returned to the original owners.

MILL No. 28: Rev. Michael Schlatter's Paper Mill.

This mill was built on the stream that rises east of Chestnut Hill and crosses Paper Mill Road (which must have been named after the mill) Bethlehem Pike, near Wheel Pump and through Comptom, as described last week, into the Wissahickon near the Dewees dam.

It was located in Springfield Township, Montgomery County, and on Holmes' Map of 1681-88, it is marked "Gulielma Maria Penns' Manor of Springfield". It is said that William Penn visited the place and gave the tract to his wife.

At an earlier period H. Groethausen settled on 500 acres here without a deed. To obtain title he journeyed to London, interviewed Madam Penn and she instructed the Court of Pennsylvania to grant him a deed to the property. Henry Schleydon purchased 135 acres of this tract. He owned several other large estates in Sommerhausen and was one of the three owners of land there who in 1753 dedicated a two perch strip of land for a road that was later called Wise's Mill road, but is now Hartwell avenue. In 1759 Scleydon sold the 135 acres to his son-in-law, Rev. Michael Schlatter. The latter was a native of Holland and in 1746 was sent to Philadelphia to organize the Reformed congregation in America. He was minister of the Market Square German Reformed Church from 1746 to 1749. His dwelling named "Sweetland" was burned by the British after the Battle of Germantown, and the American government reimbursed him for the loss, amounting to 501 pounds.

In 1759 Schlatter leased for sixteen years 2 1/2 acres of this land to John Scheetz, a paper maker, of Springfield, with the understanding that he was to erect a paper mill and to furnish the same with proper utensils for making paper. In 1760 the paper mill was partly erected but Scheetz to complete and equip the mill, placed a mortgage on the property for 300 pounds, with Jacob Hagy, a paper maker from White-marsh Township. In 1769 Hagy owned two paper mills and a saw mill in Whitemarsh, adjoining the paper mill of Nicholas Hasse/bach, 1758, and Henry Katz, 1760.

Jacob Hagy, in 1769 also purchased a paper mill on Mill Creek in Lower Merion, formerly the paper mill of Christopher Robins, who in 1758 petitioned the Court for a road from the mills to the Conestoga road and also another road over the Schuylkill to Norrington (Norristown) road. After 1769 the roads were named Hagy's Ford Road. They are so called today; one begins at the old Gulph Road back of Nerberth, between the properties of S. S. White (Dental manufacturer) and the Magee (James F. Magee, the writer of these articles) Farm, then down to Mill Creek and beside the same to the Schuylkill river, which in the old days connected on the east side of the river with what is now Port Royal avenue, to the Ridge road, Port Royal avenue was also known in early times as Ship Lane. It ~~xxxx~~ joined the Ridge at the ninth milestone.

In 1850 the Hagy residence was in this neighborhood and what is now the Roxborough Presbyterian Church was known as "Hagy's Church". In our illustration of the Episcopal Cathedral, of November 23rd, Hagy's Ford Road, or Hagy's Mill road, is in the foreground parallel with Ridge road. Bushrod W. Hagy, of Kingston, Tennessee, a descendant of Jacob Hagy Sr., wrote me that his great grandfather John Hagy, in 1814, resided at the 9th milestone on Ridge road, and that he believed he owned the old Ship Tavern.

Now let us return to the paper mill of Rev. Michael Schlatter, which had been rented for 16 years to John Scheetz. on March 3rd 1761, a petition was made to the Court, praying that a lane be opened from the road to William Dewees Mill (Germantown avenue) to the Great Road leading to North Wales (Bethlehem pike) to Church Road. Before 1765 the road now Paper Mill Road, had been laid out and in the Road Docket Room, at City Hall, a very interesting survey is on record giving the road, trees, and houses, but no mill is designated. John

Scheetz died on 1768 and I cannot trace the mill after that date. A map of 1874 gave a saw mill on this stream just before it crosses Bethlehem pike near the Wheel Pump. 69

If any reader can give us any further information regarding this old paper mill we would be greatly indebted.

This mill was on the upper Wissahickon, in Whitemarsh township about one mile and a quarter above the Streeper University Arboretum Mill (No. 27).

On January 31st 1683 Major Jasper Farmer, or Farmer, of the British Army, residing in Cork, Ireland, a personal friend of William Penn, bought from the Proprietor, 5000 acres of land, which was the greater part of what is now Whitemarsh Township.

The Major died before sailing from Ireland, but his widow, Mary, son, Edward, and other children and servants to the number of fourteen arrived in Philadelphia in 1685.

They settled on their plantation, cultivated the land, and erected dwellings for themselves and servants. They lived in great influence and associated with the best people of the Colonies. For many years the plantation was named "Farmerstown", an Indian village was located on the tract, and Edward Farmer acquired a knowledge of the Indian language, and was often employed as an interpreter for the governors of the lands.

John Fanning Watson, in his "Annals", tells that a minute of Council is recorded as follows: "21st of 5th month, 1685, several Indians made complaint that the servants of Jasper Farmer's plantation made them drunk and laid with their wives, and then quarreled with them all. A warrant was issued for them to appear, but the messenger returned, having lost his way in the woods! Trial was put off and when the time arrived the servants being present, found no accusers, for all the Indians had been made drunk at home."

The lower Farmer, and upper Farmer (Skippack road and Bethlehem pike) grist mills were built in the early 1700's. Great quantities of lime were also quarried here, and Edward Farmer from 1735 until his death in 1745, furnished flour and lime to Thomas and Richard Penn, at Springettsbury.

In 1703 the Great Road to North Wales (now Bethlehem Pike) was ordered opened. This was from the lime kilns in Whitemarsh to join Germantown road in Chestnut Hill. In the 1700's Edward Farmer gave the land to the custody of the church on Bethlehem Pike, where St. Thomas' Church now stands.

Edward Farmer died in 1745 and his sons-in-law, Peter and Jonathan Robeson were executors of the will. They were the sons of Andrew Robeson, 2nd, who owned Mills Nos. 1, 2 and 3, at and near the mouth of the Wissahickon Creek.

William Dewees, Jr. married Rachel Farmer, daughter of Edward Farmer.

In 1747 the executors of Edward Farmer sold to Col. Thomas York (or Yark) of Mill No. 20, 952 acres of land for 3000 pounds, in Whitemarsh and Springfield townships, adjoining land of William Streeper and Henry Dewees. The Wissahickon ran 2600 feet through the property. The day following the sale it was placed in the name of Peter Robeson, an inn-holder.

In 1750 William Dewees, Jr. purchased the old grist mill, dwelling, improvements, and 218 acres of land. In this year the Court accepted a petition to open a road (Blue Bell) from Bethlehem Pike below the present Flourtown, crossing the Springfield Whitemarsh line westward, passing Dewees' grist mill, through the land of Joseph Farmer to Peter Robeson's road.

The son of William Dewees Jr, Colonel William Dewees 3rd, was owner of the Valley Forge flour mill, at Valley Forge, during the Revolution.

In 1764 William Dewees, Jr., and his wife, Rachel, sold the grist mill (No. 29) and 17 acres of land to Joseph and Richard Mathers. Joseph was the man who married the widow of John Barge, and owned one-quarter of Mill No 21, at Thomas Mill Road.

In 1767 William Dewees Jr sold 201 acres of land, the balance of his holdings at Whittemarsh, to Jacob Katz. 71

The Pennsylvania Packet, of March 1789, advertised the mill for sale in this manner: "Valuable merchant mill on the Wissahickon, 12 miles from Philadelphia between Bethlehem Pike and Reading road. 2 pair of stones (French burr) all in order for making flour, 20 acres of land. Apply to Peter Robeson, living at Vandaren's Mill."

About 1800 Nicholas Kline bought the property and erected a new mill, the second on the property. The mill then passed through the ownership of Daniel Morgan, Daniel Beckel, Henry W. Schultz, and then to Silas Cleaver. The Cleavers rebuilt the mill as one of the finest in Whittemarsh Township. On a map of 1851 it is marked "Cleaver's Mill" and is mentioned again in 1871 as owned by J and S. Cleaver.

In 1906 the mill was destroyed by fire. We have a photograph of the ruins taken in 1909.



This paper mill was on the Wissahickon in Springfield Township, Montgomery County, between Streeper's Mill (no. 27) and the Farmer-Dewees Mill (No. 29).

Henry Dewees was the second son of William Dewees Sr., and Anna Christina Meels. He was born in Germantown in 1716. In 1738 at the age of 22 he purchased from the proprietors, John, Thomas and Richard Penn, 120 acres of land in the Manor of Springfield.

It started at a corner of Edward Farmers land on Whitemarsh line, southwest along this line 3465 feet to a corner of Henry Snider's land, then southeast 1518 feet to Germantown line, then on this line 3465 feet northeast, then northwest 1518 feet to the place of beginning. Some time before 1747 Henry erected a paper mill. On July 14th 1768 he bargained for a mortgage from Peter Turner, for 200 pounds, which was repaid with interest in 1772, on thr two lots of 120 acres in Springfield and  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre in Germantown, that he purchased in 1747. The mortgage cites these improvements in the security: "houses, barns, stables, garden, orchard, ways, woods, trees, creeks, dams, mills, mill-houses, water courses, meadows and marshes."

When petitioning for the road, he mentions the dwelling house in Springfield manor and a paper mill in Germantown Township.

In deed of 1747, mortgage of 1768, and a deed in 1788, he is named a papermaker, but in his will of 1800, he calls himself a yeoman. A re-survey of the 1738 purchase records 128 acres in this tract; no paper mill is mentioned and he only leaves 100 acres and dwelling in Springfield, so that ~~xxxx~~ between 1772 and his death, he must have sold 28 acres and the paper mill.

Henry Dewees's tax list reads: Springfield 1769, 120 acres and paper mill; 1774, 160 acres, no mill mentioned. In list of 1781 and 1783 he is not mentioned. In 1781 Christian Friend, a papermaker owning 40 acres, and in 1783 a paper mill and 94 acres, in Springfield, is recorded on the tax list. It is possible that he first rented and then purchased the Henry Dewees paper mill, but we cannot find any record of such a sale.

In his will he left to his son, Henry Jr., a quarter interest in a four-acre "lower" island, and shad fishing rights situated below Rees op Edwards' ford in the Schuylkill River, opposite the land of David Davies and Hugh Roberts, with boat and fishing tackle. The Edwards ford was from the mouth of Mill Creek in Lower Merion across the Schuylkill river to Roxborough Township. This island was surveyed in 1767 at the request of William Dewees 3rd, and Jonathan Robeson. Henry Dewees, William Dewees, 3rd, and Peter Streepr, in 1788, made the purchase from the late Honorable Proprietor John Penn Sr. and Jr., for 70 pounds.

Henry Dewees died in 1801, leaving a widow, Rachel, and three sons and five daughters. The inventory mentions a wind mill, and old paper moulds out of fashions, etc.

In 1802 Charles Dewees, executor for his father, Henry, sold to John Huston, the Dewees dwelling on the Great Road from Chestnut Hill to Barren Hill, called "Manatawny Road".

This mill was on the Wissahickon Creek in Whitemarsh Township, about one mile above the Cleaver Mill (No. 29) and a half mile above Flourtown, just to the west of Bethlehem Pike.

As Henry Dewees' Mill (No. 30) and Henry Scheetz, of this mill have both included in the inventory of their estates a wind mill, let us digress for a moment and take up the subject of wind mills.

The first industrial establishment in what is now Pennsylvania was a wind mill for grinding corn, erected by the Dutch (Hollanders) before 1643.

This first wind mill was built on Cobb's Creek (70th street and Woodland avenue, Philadelphia) by the Dutch before the Swedes under Governor Printz settled along the Delaware in 1643.

In 1646 Printz erected here a water grist mill and a report to the West India Company, which he wrote in 1647, reads: "This place I have called "Mondal", building a water-mill working it the whole year long to great advantage for the country, particularly as the windmill formerly here before I came would never work and was good for nothing."

One hundred years ago in the low countries of Sussex, Essex and Kent, in England, there were over 100 commercial windmills. In "Old Watermills and Windmills", by R. Thurston Hopkins, he relates: "More than this, on a shadowy autumn morning I have stood on the brow of the Sussex Downs and watched the twirling sails of nearly 30 windmills against a background of greens and purples, under a blue sky in which white strips raced while the southwest wind stirred my blood".

From City Line to Whitemarsh, the Wissahickon flows through a very flat country, no hills; which would be just the place for windmills.

The two small windmills belonging to Dewees and Scheetz were not commercial but probably used to pump water into the dwellings or barns.

Dr. Johannes Jacob Schutz, the progenitor of the Scheetz family, did not come to the colonies, but in 1684 purchased 428 acres of land from the Frankford Land Company.

The first miller of this family was Conrad Schutz, whose grist mill is given as in Lower Merion Township, on Scull and Heap's map of 1750.

Conrad Schutz purchased in 1748 this fulling mill from David Davis, and made it into a paper mill. It was on Mill Creek. In 1769 he was taxed for two paper mills. Tradition states that paper for Continental currency was made in the Schutz Mills. Conrad was a brother of Henry Schutz (Scheetz) whose mill we are now describing.

Nicholas Scull, one of the early surveyors for the Penn family, received large grants of land as payment for services rendered.

One of these (over 320 acres) was in Whitemarsh Township. In 1721 and 1725 he sold 100 acres of this land to Benjamin Charlesworth, and in 1741 Joshua Thomas and others bought, who resold in 1758 to Henry Scheetz Sr., a paper-maker, from Springfield Township. The 100 acres bordered the Whitemarsh Springfield line for over 3100 feet, and westward about 1100 feet, extending from the Cleaver Mill to well above Flourtown, near the Bethlehem Pike.

The Pike was the result of a petition made in 1698 by Nicholas Scull, connecting the limekilns at Whitemarsh with what is now Germantown road, at Chestnut Hill. The road was opened in 1703.

Scheetz erected here a paper mill soon after 1758, to which he later added a saw mill. Henry Scheetz, Sr., married Catharine

Rubicam, the grand daughter of Peter Rittenhouse, of the Cresheim Mill (no. 16), who was the grandson of William Rittenhouse the first paper maker on the American continent.

In 1774 Scheetz was taxed for a paper mill and 100 acres. He died in 1793 and left his Whitemarsh paper mill to his son, General Henry Scheetz (1761-1848) and his Springfield Township paper mill to his second son, Justice Scheetz, who was sheriff of Montgomery County for several years. The General's mill was valued at 2450 pounds and the sheriff's at 2125 pounds.

Henry Scheetz, Jr. was a general in the War of 1812, and a prominent citizen of Montgomery County. He expired in 1848, and left his old farm of 60 acres, dwelling and mill to his sons, Jacob and George. A silver mounted smooth bore rifle is listed in his estate of \$40,000.

The mill, then a grist mill, was sold to his son-in-law, Jonathan Wentz, who was an expert miller. The property then passed into the ownership of John Shafer, who built another new mill; Isaac Yeakle; Jacob Day who was the owner of the mill in 1851; Joseph B. Comby; William Ambler; Chalkley Ambler; and by 1909 the mill had been dismantled.

In the early days large amounts of lime were burned for commercial purposes in the limekilns on the Scheetz' property.

This mill, first mentioned in 1708, is one of the oldest in Montgomery County. Situated on the Wissahickon Creek about one mile above the Cleaver Mill (No. 31). It was on Skippack road, just west of Bethlehem Pike; Church road and St. Thomas' Church adjoined on the east.

Homes' Map of 1681 to 1688, locates the 5000 acre tract as "the Major Jasper Farmer plantation".

The Wissahickon Creek is called "Whitpain's Creek", named after Richard Whitpain, who owned large tracts of land in what is now Whitpain Township. The Farmer tract ran from the Wissahickon west to the Schuylkill river, including Conshohocken.

Major Jasper Farmer purchased from William Penn, in 1683, 5000 acres of land to be laid out in Pennsylvania. He died before sailing, but his widow and sons and daughters, and a number of servants arrived in Philadelphia, in 1685.

John Scull, brother of Nicholas Scull, one of Penn's early surveyors, preceded the family by a few months and was appointed overseer of the Widow Farmer's plantation.

There were large deposits of lime on the Farmer tract, and Nicholas Scull and others made a petition to the Council held at Philadelphia, on May 19th 1698, requesting that a road be allowed from the limekilns for carting lime to Philadelphia, extending from the said limekilns to Plymouth Road (Ridge avenue) near Cresheim, where there was neither improved land, hills or water to impede.

The Umbilicamense (Indian) Tribe had a settlement on the Farmer plantation and in visiting the Indians William Penn with surveyors and friends on horseback, passed through the dense forests that then covered the region.

The Court records of Germantown are evidence that on March 9th 1702 a committee was appointed to confer with Edward Farmer, of Whitemarsh, concerning the cost of a road to Philadelphia.

In 1703 what is now Bethlehem Pike was confirmed and shortly opened. The grist mill was built shortly after and by 1713 the mill had an expensive reputation. The eldest son, Edward Farmer, inherited the mill and 3750 acres of the plantation.

On May 12th 1712 a council of Indians was held at his dwelling, with the Governor and the Indian chiefs being present. Edward Farmer acted as interpreter for the conference.

In 1708 the settlement was known as "Farmerstown". Edward was 14 years old when he and the family arrived in Philadelphia. After becoming of age in 1693 he was a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly and a very prominent citizen of Whitemarsh.

In 1713 the inhabitants of Skippack asked for the confirmation of a road "down to the wide marsh (Whitemarsh) or Farmer's Mill." here was a broad expanse of meadow, generally subject to overflows and from its miry, wet nature, was known as "wide Marsh". The present name of Whitemarsh is a corruption of the early name.

In 1722 a well-traveled path from Neshaminy Creek through Graeme park, the residence of Governor Sir William Keith, lead down to Farmer's Mill.

Last summer we had the pleasure of visiting the Keith mansion, one of the best preserved and most historic Colonial houses in Pennsylvania. The weather vane upon the house was marked "W.K" 1722. Two great brick chimneys divide the house into three sections, so that each room had a fireplace. Two iron firebacks still remain in the fire places, dated about 1750. Mr. and Mrs. Welsh Strawbridge, who now own the mansion and large estate, told me that an expert had made borings of the plates to test the percentage of silica, magnesia, etc in the iron, and that it

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agreed with the grade of iron that was used in the Oxford Furnace, of Oxford, N.J. The Oxford Furnace was erected in 1741, by Jonathan Robeson, who married Elizabeth Farmer, the daughter of Edward Farmer. Jonathan Robeson was the son of Andrew Robeson who owned the three mills near the south of the Wissahickon.

The slaves of Governor Keith's plantation probably ground the corn for use of Sir William's family, and farm requirements, as in front of the house is a large stone pestle weighing several hundred pounds. This was revolved in a great stone mortar to crush the grain.

The wainscoting lining the walls of the rooms is wonderfully well preserved and a few years ago a snug sum of money was offered for the same by a well-known Art Museum.

Sir William Keith was Queen Anne's surveyor General of the Royal Customs in America, and afterward Deputy Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania. His stepdaughter married Dr. Graeme.

General Washington was entertained on October 21st 1777 in the Keith Mansion by Elizabeth Graeme. Dr. Benjamin Franklin was also a visitor there upon several occasions.

Now let us return to the story of the Farmer Mill.

In 1744 Henry Bartles, of Upper Dublin, petitioned the court stating that his father forty year before had purchased land in Whitemarsh from Edward Farmer on the side of the Wissahickon; settled and improved the same; and has now lived there about 20 years, and had the use of a convenient fording place and road over the creek and other land of Farmer's into the Great Road leading to North Wales and Philadelphia.

Farmer had stopped the road and moved the petitioner to a more difficult place which Bartles used for about ten years.

The petition went on to say, "Now Farmer has also stopped that passage and the petitioner is obliged at great expense in cutting down a great bank where the water was so deep that in small freshets he could not pass. Under these difficulties he has struggled for five years, which road he has now stopped so that there is no access to mills or markets."

Edward Farmer died in 1745; his daughters marrying as follows: Elizabeth to Jonathan Robeson; Sarah to Peter Robeson; and Rachel to William Dewees 2nd; the latter being owner of Mills Nos. 20 and 29.

His son, Joseph, and sons-in-law, Jonathan and Peter Robeson, were executors of the will and the large plantation was divided and sold.

Peter Robeson, in 1746, bought the Farmer dwelling; the grist mill was sold to Samuel Morris and upon his death in 1772 the mill and 350 acres of land passed to his brother, Joshua Morris.

Jacob Edge operated the mill for the Morris family and in 1774 purchased the same. It was in his possession during the Revolution and on a map of 1777 is marked "Daniel Morris and Jacob Edge's Mill". In a tax list of 1774 Jacob Edge is given as the owner of the mill and 228 acres of ground.

Edge's Mill is mentioned in the military report of the Battle of Germantown. To the west of the mill, on the Skippack road, was the house of John Wentz, whose house was occupied by General Washington on October 3rd, 1777, the night before the Battle, and his army was encamped close by.

Here is the translation from a German inscription on the wall of the Wentz dwelling:

"Jesus come into my house,  
From thence never to depart;  
With Thy blessed favor come,  
And bring peace into my heart."

In the evening of October 3rd 1777, the American took up their line of march (at 7 P.M.) down the Skippack road, past

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Edge's Mill to the Bethlehem pike, and arrived in Germantown to do battle early the next morning.

Jacob Edge died in 1784, and his widow, Mary, and brother-in-law Jacob Paul were executors. He instructed that the mill be sold. The estate then contained 183 acres. He left four daughters, but no sons. The inventory mentions five spinning wheels which were to be given one to each daughter and the other for the widow.

Isaac Mather, son-in-law of Joshua Morris, purchased the property and erected the present mill. In 1837 a tornado spent its force here, scooping up the water in the mill dam, breaking trees and damaging the mill. The mill then passed through the ownership of William Miller, Samuel Comly, W. H. Witss, and Charles Oterson.

The mill is still standing in well kept condition, with attractive grounds adjoining the home of the present owner. The mill has not been in use for many years.

Mill No 33. Henry Daub's Grist Mill 1791; Conrad's Augur Works, 1864; American Legion Post No. 10. of Fort Washington, in 1930. 78

This mill , on Sandy Run, the largest tributary of the Wisahickon, just east of Bethlehem Pike above Fort Washington in Whitemarsh Township.

A spring house , now part of the mill property, contains a datestone marked "1714".

Through the patriotism of the late E. E. Dungan, the old grist mill has been preserved and the William Boulton Dixon Post No. 10, of the American Legion now uses it as headquarters.

In 1684 William Penn patented to Thomas Harley 5000 acres of land in Pennsylvania. Harley sold the patent to Thomas Fairman, deputy to the surveyor General, and in 1706 Silas Pryor sold to Joseph House, a carpenter, of Springfield, the buildings and improvements on both lots; the consideration being 100 pounds sterling as a mortgage. No mill was mentioned.

On August 16th 1770 the House estate was sold by the sheriff; from tracts of land in Whitemarsh about 49 acres in all; one 11 acre, but mostly woodland containing a wooden dwelling, bounded by the Great Road (Bethlehem Pike), 13 acre lot containing a small dwelling and a 13 acre tract having a spring house thereon. John Kinner, or Kinnard, a tavern keeper being the highest bidder, secured the property. He established here a messuage commonly called "the Sandy Run Tavern".

The tavern was the wooden dwelling on the wooded lot and was on the east side of Bethlehem Pike. The Sandy Run Inn was in 1801 rebuilt, and again enlarged and is at present a well-built gray stone building. The datestone on the building now reads "H.C.D. 1801. Rebuilt 1858, Sandy Run". The H. C. D. was for Henry Daub and his wife Catherine.

Scattered along the highways these wayside inns were a great convenience for the weary traveler journeying either for business or pleasure.

"The first regular stage line passing through Chestnut Hill was that of George Kline of Flourtown, which in 1783 ran from Philadelphia to Bethlehem. It started from the King of Prussia Hotel, on Race street, and ran to the Sun Hotel, in Bethlehem." Early History of Chestnut Hill.

The Sunday Public Ledger, of January 20th 1934, gave a very interesting sepia sketch of the Bethlehem coach as of 1820, in front of the hay scales at Market Square, Germantown.

What a godsend the Sandy Run Tavern must have been to Washington's Army from October 30th until December 11th, when it was encamped at Fort Washington, a few hundred feet below the tavern?

In 1791 Kinnard sold the Sandy Run Tavern and plantation of 50 acres to Henry Daub, an inn-keeper, and he erected there a grist mill between 1791 and 1813. Henry Daub's will, dated 1813, mentions a "house, corn mill and other improvements". He died in 1816, and the property remained in the family until 1835 when Henry Daub Jr., sold 35 acres and the grist mill to Levi Wentz for \$4313.

In 1837 George Kenderine, a millwright, purchased the 27 acres and grist mill, mill dam, mill race on Sandy Run; also the water rights to the mill race that flows through the adjoining property of Dr. George Martin.

He sold the grist mill, in 1848 to William H. Ball for \$8000, and in 1864 Ball's executor sold the same to Albert Conrad, an augur manufacturer, who for many years conducted a successful business. Sandy Run is a peculiar stream, clean and refreshing.

The bottom seems to be filled with what looks like sand, but as it comes through the lime deposits in Upper Dublin Township, where in 1693 Thomas Fitzwater worked his lime quarries, it is likely that it is particles of lime that we see in the bed of the run.

During the Whitemarsh encampment General Washington made his headquarters in the fall of 1777 at the Emelen House, near Oreland, where a part of the old Fitzwater estate was an adjoining tract, but as the Fitzwaters had a very early grist mill (No. 36) here near the source of Sandy Run, we will give that story later.

E. E. Dungan (or Dugan) before 1930 purchased the old mill and every Memorial Day a parade and service is held here at Fort Washington.

The Sons and Daughters of Liberty, Order of Independent Americans, Order of Odd Fellows, the fire companies, boy scouts, and public school children all take part in the exercises.

We quote the following from the American Legion Post No. 10 Bulletin, published in 1931:

"From October 30th 1777, until December 11th, 1777, the American Army, under the command of General George Washington was encamped along the hills stretching from Fort Washington eastward along Camp and Edge Hills. The redoubt at Fort Washington, where we hold our memorial exercises, was thrown up in defense against the British army in control of the City of Philadelphia, after the Battle of Germantown. We hold these exercises upon this historic spot to commemorate the noble deeds of American patriots who fought to establish and perpetuate this government in the War of the Revolution, War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish War and the recent great World War.

"Let usever be mindful of the great and valiant services rendered these men in the cause of American liberty.

"Thus this old fort in its silence  
Speaks to us while here we pause;  
Tells of men who brave undaunted  
Struggled e'er in Freedom's cause."

If in motoring out Bethlehem pike, and you are interested in a quaint old mill building and relics of the late World War, call at the Post, the boys will be sure to give you a glad welcome.



MILL No. 35: Jacob Coliday (1739) Henry Friend's (1776)

Reverting back to Mill No. 35 in our narrative of the early industrial plants of the Wissahickon Creek and its tributaries, we will now discuss what has been known at various periods as the Jacob Coliday paper mill (1739); Henry Freind's paper and grist mill (1776) and is now the Feli-Van Rensselaer Mill.

This is the oldest paper mill in Montgomery County, and is still standing in good ~~condition~~ condition today. Until about 5 years ago it was used to grind grain for the Spring Dell Farm requirements.

The ancient structure is located on Sandy Run, in Springfield Township, near the Dresherytown road and Camp Hill Station of the North Penn railroad, on part of the Feli-Van Rensselaer property.

This township, on Holmes' Map of 1681-88 is marked "Gulielma Marie Penn's Manor of Springfield". The manor was given by William penn to his wife. In 1738 Richard Penn still owned there 1600 acres, which had not yet been sold by the heirs of Penn.

In 1739 Jacob Coliday bought from the penn heirs 94 acres of land containing the Royal lime quarries of the proprietors, south of the Springfield-Upper Dublin line, and in 1740 he secured 200 acres adjoining the other tract, north of the above line in Upper Dublin.

In tracing the title of the Spring Dell Farm (Mill No. 35) we found that the original deed was in Harrisburg, and as this writer's friends, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Henry Fehr reside there, they copied the document for use in this article, which reads as follows: "John, Thomas and Richard Penn on November 10th 1783 by virtue of a warrant issued to Edward Farmer, 94 acres of land within our manor of Springfield, allowing 6 acres for roads" June 16th 1739 by a deed poll Farmer sold to Jacob Coliday the 94 acres and the latter "prayeth that the Penns will be pleased to present him with a confirmation thereof". This they did for a consideration of 50 pounds sterling, and a yearly rental of a halfpenny, on each acre, payable in London or Philadelphia.

The proprietors also claimed "three full and clear fifts parts of all Royal mines, free from all deductions and reprisals, for digging and refining the same, and also one-fifth part of all other mines delivered at the pit's mouth, only excepted and hereby reserved."

In another deed the property is named in "Manor Springettsbury" and in another as located "in Germantown".

After buying the mill tract, in 1739, Coliday built the paper mill and greatly improved the property. In 1746 Coliday sold the mill, lime kilns, houses, mill houses, quarry of limestone, dam, mounds, mill race, flood gates, sluices and plantation of 94 acres for 667 pounds sterling to Lynford Larner, attorney and deputy for Richard Penn. In 1754 Coliday lived at Germantown and Highland avenues, in Chestnut Hill. In 1745 Coliday sold his 200 acres in Upper Dublin to George Emlen, Jr., a Quaker merchant of Philadelphia for 625 punds. The mill race, over a mile in length, ran mostly through the Emlen tract, so that in 1746 Larner purchased from Emlen the mill pond and race, including one perch on each side of the pond and race, so that he could control the water rights to conduct his mill.

Larner died in 1777, but before that time the mill was sold ~~for~~ on a mortgage of 1200 pounds to Christian and Henry Friend, paper makers. The will stated that if the mortgage and interest were not paid promptly the mill and plantation should revert to Larner's son, John.

Before the Revolution a portion of the paper mill was used as a hrist mill, for in 1776 Henry Friend was taxed for a paper mill and grist mill. In 1783 Christian Friend was taxed for a paper mill only. It is probable that during the war a part of the plant was used for preparing rations for the American patriots.

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As Washington's headquarters were less than half a mile from the mill, and the mill race passed in front of Emlen's Hall, it would appear a certainty that Washington during his six weeks' residence at Camp Hill must have visited and inspected this mill and also Mill No. 34 which was nearby.

About 1786 Henry Scheetz Sr., purchased the paper mill, as it is recorded that when he expired in 1793 he left it to his son, Justus Scheetz, sheriff of Montgomery County. The inventory at that time gave the value of the mill as 2125 pounds.

The military strategic value of the hills to the north of Sandy Run was evidently the reason that Washington selected his locality for a stopping place for his army, but at least a dozen grist mills on the nearby Wissahickon and its branches were also a great asset to an army.

Before 1760 the British place a heavy tax on all Colonial-made paper, so that the American markets were flooded with English goods, and the papermakers so impoverished that many of their mills were altered to grind grain. After the Revolution papermaking was revived and in ~~1787~~ 1787 there were in Pennsylvania 48 mills and in Delaware 15 mills.

Justus Scheetz acquired his mill in 1793. It was later changed to a grist mill and the property remained in the Scheetz family for almost a century. James A. Scheetz, the last heir, died in 1881, and he appointed his sister, Emma C. Van Winkle as executor of his estate. In a modern deed the 1746 water rights that Larner purchased from Emlen, are mentioned.

On July 15th 1886 Spring Dell Farm and mill were purchased by John R. Fell and are owned by his heirs today.

Accompanying this article is an illustration of the ancient mill as it looks in 1934. It is a long 3 story building, to the right of the headrace over a mile long which brings the waters of Sandy Run to the pond or forebay in front of the structure. The great wheel was at least 16 feet above the cellar of the mill, where after the water had turned the wheel, the tail race carried the water 600 feet further on where it once again joined ~~suburban~~ Sandy Run.

In recent year a turbine wheel replaced the old overshot wheel. About 5 years ago the waters backed up in the mill so that it was necessary to shut the plant down, but the gears, shutes for conveying grain, and all the apparatus required for such a mill are still in the building.

As today is Washington's Birthday, we beg to include in this story of Mill No 35 a short history of Washington's headquarters during the Whitemarsh encampment period, from October 30th to December 11th 1777. Colliaday, the Germantown miller, owned the 200 acres plantation from 1740 to 1745, upon most of which Washington's army was encamped. George Emlen Jr., built, about 1747, his "Baronial Hall" sometimes called "Emlen's Folly". Today "Mistfield Farms" on which the Emlen Hall was located is the property of Mr. and Mrs. Radcliffe Cheston Jr.

In 1740 Jacob Colliaday purchased from Edward Farmer the 200 acres of land, including dwelling, lime quarries on both sides of Sandy Run. The deed states in Germantown, but it was in what is now Upper Dublin Township, north of the Springfield Township line. In 1745 George Emlen bought the 200 acres and built his handsome Colonial stone mansion. The present datestone in the 3rd story wall, is much weatherworn but the last figure looks like a seven, so that the dwelling was erected either in 1747 or 1757.

Emlen was a very large land speculator and bought and sold over one hundred properties during his business career. This mansion was his summer residence. B. J. Lussing, the historian, states that "Emlen, its wealthy owner, at the time of the Revolution, dispensed hospitality to all who came under its roof".

Washington's headquarters from Oc. 20th to 30th 1777 was at James Morris' dwelling in Whitemarsh, about 2 miles west of what is now

Ambler.

On October 30th the army moved down to near Whitemarsh, in the locality of what is now known as Camp Hill. (See Dr. S. Weit Mitchell's "Hugh Wynne") There were supposed to be about ten thousand men in the encampment. These generals were with the army at that time: His Excellency the Commander in Chief; Sullivan, Greene, Stephens, the Marquis de Lafayette, Brigadier Generals Maxwell, Know, Wayne, Muhlenberg, Conway and Pulaski.

The first letter written by Washington from the Emlen House was dated October 30th, 1777, and reads: "Headquarters near Whitemarsh". It was addressed to Major General Gates and said: "By this opportunity I do myself the pleasure to congratulate you on the signal success of the army under your command in repelling General Burgoyne and his whole army to surrender, etc"

A record in the Quarterly Book reads: " Since the General left Germantown in the middle of September he has been without his baggage and on that account is unable to receive company (Washington's Whitemarsh headquarters) in the manner he could wish. He nevertheless desires the Generals, field officers, and brigadier generals to dine with him at 3 o'clock, November 7th 1777".

Washington wrote several letters to General Howe, who was in Philadelphia, regarding the exchange of prisoners. He also suggested to Congress the Marquis de Lafayette should be given a higher rank in the army. This was agreed to and the youthful Frenchman was given the command of a division.

November 8th: "If we can get our ragged and half-naked soldiers clothed, I think General Howe will be forced out of Philadelphia."

November 11th: "Upwards of 2000 men remain unfit for service for the want of clothing."

General Washington crossed the Schuylkill river and viewed in person the enemy's position before Philadelphia, and at a council with his generals, was advised against the attack. Eleven Generals were opposed to the attack while four were in favor of immediate action.

Of the affair, Washington said: " I have had officers out for the purchase of voluntary collection of necessities without success. Our distress still continues and is growing greater. General Howe had withdrawn himself close within his lines near Philadelphia, and we have fallen down with the main body of the army to this place, 13 miles from the city. Our light parties are much nearer and cut off all communications between county and city."

On December 2nd, he wrote: "I am about fixing the winter cantonment of the army, but find so many objections to each proposal made."

December 10th. " I am happy of informing you that in the past week from many sources I have reason to expect that General Howe is expected to give us a general engagement."

"Accordingly on Thursday night he moved from the city with all his forces and arrived the next morning in Chestnut Hill, without three miles of our right wing. On Friday night the enemy changed their ground and moved over to our left wing, a mile from our line, where they remained quiet the whole of the next day. On Saturday they moved still farther to our left. In this maneuver their advance and flanking parties were attacked by Colonel Morgan. On Monday afternoon they filed off from their right in full march for Philadelphia."

December 11th: "General Howe making great preparations to drive us beyond the mountains, came out with his entire force, but after maneuvering departed very hurriedly for Philadelphia."

The above quotations were all written in letters from the Emlen House and headed "Headquarters, Whitemarsh". While staying in this house, Washington offered a reward of ten dollars to "any person who shall by nine o'clock Monday morning produce the best substitute for shoes made of raw hides."

Lydia Barragh, when she overheard British officers plotting to surprise Washington at Whitemarsh, conveyed a message to an American

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officer, who notified Washington of the proposed British attack. When the British ~~xxxxxxx~~ marched out for the fight, on December 5th 1777, they found Washington prepared.

Sally Wistar, a bright and charming Quaker girl, sixteen years of age, kept a diary of the happenings during this period of the Revolution. She was visiting at the Foulke residence, adjoining the ancient Willia, Foulke grist mill (No. 47) along the Wissahickon near where Penllyn station is now located. This was in Gwynedd Township, just half a mile above Samuel Wheeler's mill (No. 46) which during the Revolution was used as a forge, where it is said swords were fashioned.

Miss Wistar wrote in her Journal, under date of December 5th 1777: "Oh! Gracious! Debby I'm all alive with fear. The English have come out to attack (as we imagine) our army. They are at Chestnut Hill; our army only three miles away, this side. What will become of us, only six miles distant? We are in hourly expectation of an engagement. I fear we shall be in the midst of it. Heaven defend us from so deardful a sight, etc."

December 7th 1777: "In thr afternoon we distinctly heard platoon firing. Everybody was at the door; I, in the horrors. The armies, as we judged were engaged. Very composedly the Major (Stoddard) said to our servant (Will you be kind enough to saddle my horse? I shall go!"

On December 14th Washington wrote from his headquarters: "On Thursday we marched from our old encampment to pass the ford at Mattson's Ford." (Conshohocken)

After the event Washington made the statement which passed into history: "You might have tracked the army from Whitemarsh to Valley Forge by the blood of their feet."

In February 1778 Miss P. Fishburn, the sister of Mrs. George Emlen spent a week with Sally Wistar, writer of the famous diary. "After enjoying a week of her agreeable company at the mill, I returned with her to Whitemarsh. We went on horseback, the roads were bad. I think Sally Emlen, (Mrs. George Emlen, Jr.,) is one of the most beautiful women I ever saw, etc."

First Day Eve; February 1778: "This morning my charming friend and self ascended the barren hills of Whitemarsh, from the tops of which we had an extensive prospect of the country round. The traces of the army which encamped on these hills are very visible---ragged huts, imitations of chimneys, and many other ruinous objects, which plainly showed they had been there."

The illustration of the Emlen headquarters at whitemarsh, which appears with this article was made in 1848, and appears in the "Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution", by B. J. Lossing, 1859.

Some time in the early 1850's Lossing visited the Emlen dwelling and his account, in part, follows: "arrived at the spacious stone mansion, tottering with age and neglect, where Washington made his headquarters. The house stands upon the edge of a wet meadow, at the head of a fine valley, and was a sort of baronial hall in size and character, when Emlen its worthy owner lived there. The roof was falling in when I visited it. The old steps are of fine soapstone, neatly wrought and in many particulars the beauty exhibit marks of fine elegance.

"The American encampment was upon the hills north of Emlen's mansion; its right wing rested upon the Wissahickon and the left wing upon Sandy Run. They had no other entrenchments then two small redoubts, one on each hill near the headquarters."

Early this month (February 1934) this writer (James F. Magee, Jr.) paid a visit to the historic old mansion. Mr. and Mrs. Radcliffe Cheston Jr., the present owners of the dwelling ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ showed me two photographs as it was in 1902. It was then called "Devereaux House". The structure then looked just as it did in 1848, except that a front porch had been added.

Today the house has been modernized and greatly added to, but the exterior of the old mansion remains as it was during the revolution. Washington is supposed to have slept in the second story front room.

The ancient mill race that has been carrying water to Mill No. 35 for nearly 200 years still flows in front of the house, as it did in 1848. Now mallard ducks make their habitat on and near its placid waters.

Stoney Run is south of the race and when the onlooker stands on the terrace and gazes at the mill race it appears as though it were running uphill, but the race leaves the run at least half a mile above the house and flows on a level, while the run descends the hill and at this point to ten to twelve feet below the race. At the mill a half mile below, there is still a greater distance in height between the race and the run.

On the floor of the terrace there is an attractive colored ~~xxx~~ tile showing Revolutionary soldiers, marked 1777. It was designed and manufactured by Joseph H. D. Allen, of Paper Mill road.

The west room of the first floor contains a very fine old fire place and some of the original wainscoting of the walls is well preserved. F. B. Brandt, in "Byways and Boulevards", reproduced two illustrations of Mrs. Cheston's beautiful sunken garden in full blossom, but when I saw it, all was covered with snow and ice.

To Mrs. Cheston this writer is indebted for an inspection of that now quite rare volume, "Sally Wistar's ~~xxxxx~~ Journal".

Mill No. 34. Scheetz' Whitemarsh paper mill 1769. J. Gillingham Fell's grist mill 1865.

This was one of the four industrial mills in the valley of Sandy Run. The stream, over six miles long, rises near Rubicum, Abington Township, then passes through Fitzwatertown, settled by Thomas Fitzwater who arrived on the sloop "Welcome", with William Penn in 1682. On the way across the Atlantic his wife and two children died of small-pox.

Thomas Fitzwater established here a grist mill (No. 36) and worked the lime quarries. The property extended through the Manufacturers golf links and the George Emlen plantation (later called "Mistfield Farm", where in 1777 General Washington had his headquarters in the Emlen dwelling. On the adjoining Spring Dell Farm was the ancient 1743 Jacob Colliday paper mill. (No. 35). Sandy Run then passes under the North Penn Railroad bridge, near Camp Hill station, and crosses Valley Green road into Whitemarsh township, then through the 100 acre "old Mill Farm" where Mill No 34 is located and will be described later.

Continuing on the Run passes Dreshertown road under the Trenton Cut-Off, circling Fort Hill and bridge and emptying into the Wissahickon creek just beyond Bethlehem Pike, where Mill No. 33 and Sandy Run Tavern were located.

The north branch of Sandy Run rise in the farm of Arthur McCalla Frazer, at Garrettown, and meets the Run near Fort Hill.

So much for the valley near the four mills, but on the heights starting at Fort Hill, 280 feet, Camp Hill 320 feet; present site of Manufacturers' Club House, 380 feet extending to Willow Grove, 420 feet. thus making five continuous miles of hills, all formed by nature.

About half a mile above Mill No. 34, on the top of a circular hill 320 feet above tidewater is Camp Hill, where a part of Washington's Army was encamped during the Whitemarsh campaign.

The hill is the point where Whitemarsh, Springfield and Upper Dublin township interest. On the top of the hill is camp Hill Hall, the residence of the Fell-Van Rensselaer family.

From a window in the Hall on a clear day can be seen the white marble cross in the family burial lot at St. Thomas' church.

The hills, camp Hill, Fort Hill and Fort Washington, where Washington's troops were encamped in the fall of 1777, on the north above Sandy Run, almost became the Valley Forge of the winter of 1777-78. The Generals were more or less harassed by the British while encamped at Whotemarsh, so it was decided best to remove the encampment to valley Forge.

Now let us return to Henry Scheetz' paper mill, built in 1768, according to the datestone in the west gable of the mill.

The old mill tract of 100 acres William Penn sold to Nicholas Scull. Much of the surveying was done under the supervision of Nicholas Scull. The Scull burying ground is located on the side of Camp Hill, a square plot, surrounded by a stone wall. It is still kept in good condition. In 1721 Scull sold the tract to Benjamin Charlesworth, and in 1741 Joshua Thomas purchased and in 1758 re-sold to Henry Scheets, Sr., a paper maker of Springfield township; who built the paper mill in 1769.

The members of the Scheetz family owned five paper mills in Montgomery County; Conrad two in Lower Merion, on Mill Creek; John the ~~xxxx~~ mill on paper mill Road, above chestnut Hill; and Henry this mill (No. 34) and in 1786 mill no. 35.

When Scheetz purchased the property he borrowed from his adjoining neighbor, George Emlen Jr., 100 pounds sterling on a mortgage, the deed mentioning buildings and improvements. Before building his

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paper mill in 1769 he managed the adjoining mill (No. 35) for  
Lynford Lardner.

The extreme northeast angle of the 100 acres bordered on  
Upper Dublin and Whitemarsh townships, including the crest of  
Camp Hill; and also the present Camp Hill Hall. Scheetz was  
deputy and sheriff of Springfield in 1767.

Henry Scheetz, Sr., died in 1793 and the mill was inherited  
by his oldest son, General Henry Scheetz, Jr., listed in  
annals of the war of 1812. Jacob and George Scheetz, executors  
for the General, their father, sold the mill and lands to John  
Shaffer, and in 1865 the mill (then a grist mill) and 58 acres  
were sold to J. Gillingham Fell. In 1881 the heirs sold the  
property to H. C. Cochran, who in the same year sold the mill  
and 58 acres for \$20,000 to John R. Fell.

The grist mill continued running; grinding corn for the Fell  
farm requirements. There was a large hweel within the mill, as  
was the custom of the old mills.

About five years ago the van Rensselaers gave the Boy Scouts  
of Whitemarsh the privilege of using the mill as a rendezvous  
and meeting place, and while in the boys' use the building was  
entirely consumed by fire.

The topography of where this mill stood is considerably  
changed, the great long mill and tail races having been filled  
in, the ground has also been raised, but xx a great old  
buttonwood tree by the side of the mill is still standing, showing  
the scars and burned branches from the fire.

Near the site are two grind stones, bound with iron tires.

Our readers are indebted to Gouverneur Cadwalader, of Camp  
Hill for the illustrations of the old mill; also for the  
loan of a blueprint of the property giving positions of the  
mills, races, farms, Camp Hill, etc of the John R. Fell  
estate.

This week we will leave the Gwynedd and Ambler Mills and retrace our journey back to Fort Washington. Here we leave the Wissahickon Creek, pass along Sandy Run through the Camp Hill plantation of the Fell-van Rensselaer family, where Mills Nos. 33 and 34 are located.

We walk along the mile-long mill race of Mill No. 34, past the Washington headquarters, and reach Fitzwatertown, which is in Upper Dublin Township about three miles east of Fort Washington.

Here we find "Millhouse", the attractive home of Dr. and Mrs. Leighton F. Appleman. The Applemans purchased the old Fitzwater grist mill in 1926. The roof and floors had fallen and in building their dwelling they used the four stone walls of the mill, so that the present exterior of the home is the same as was that of the one-time mill.

Thomas Fitzwater, Sr., was the first of the family to settle in Pennsylvania. He was born in Hanworth, Middlesex, southwest of London, England. He, with his wife and several sons, sailed from Deal, on the "Welcome", with William Penn, and 116 other passengers. Before reaching the capes of the Delaware small-pox broke out and thirty passengers died; among them the wife and two children of Thomas Fitzwater.

Fitzwater purchased from Penn a large tract of land in what was then Bucks County, but now Upper Dublin Township of Montgomery County. He also purchased 100 acres of land in Philadelphia, along the Delaware river, and here, on Front street, he erected a dwelling in which to live.

John Fanning Watson, writer of "The Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania", tells us that the Orphans Court met in Philadelphia "fourthday, 1st month, 1693 and among those present were the Governor (William Penn) and five justices, one of whom was Thomas Fitzwater". The latter died in 1699.

Thomas Fitzwater, Jr., inherited the Upper Dublin plantation, and Fitzwatertown was named after him. In 1705 he petitioned the Court asking that a road be laid from his lime kilns to the Pennypack Mill. This was not done, however, until 1725.

Dr. MacFarlane, in his "History of Early Chestnut Hill", states "as early as 1693 there was a road from the lime quarries of Thomas Fitzwater, in Upper Dublin, to Haines street, Germantown. This was what is now known as Linekiln pike".

Dr. Appleman states that the remains of the old lime kilns are still to be seen on the farms adjoining the old mill.

Thomas Fitzwater, Jr., died in 1748, and was buried in the Fitzwater burying ground at Fitzwatertown.

He may have built the grist mill before his death. If not it was erected shortly afterward by his son, John, who inherited the property. He, ~~xxx~~ John, was taxed from 1769 to 1783, for 300 acres of land and the grist mill. John was born in 1715 and died in 1794. The property passed on to his son, Matthew, who operated the mill. Matthew enlisted in the 4th Battalion of Pennsylvania Militia, and saw service at Trenton, Brandywine and Germantown.

Before 1826 the grist mill and 118 acres came into the possession of George Fitzwater, as in that year it was sold for \$9000 to William Jarrett, after whose family Jarretown was named.

The deed mentions "the right to raise the water in the mill race at the mill to two certain marks on the mill wall on the woth side of the sluice, which carries the water from the mill r race on to the water wheel; the one a cross marked on a stone in the wall, and the other an iron driven into the wall".



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Jarrett died the following year leaving five daughters. One of these, Mary, married Israel Hollowell, who operated the mill for the heirs. In 1852 they sold the mill and 75 acres to John Price, a miller of Upper Dublin. Price sold the mill for \$5000 to Catharine A. Price, (wife of William W. Price), who in 1869 sold the mill to Samuel Conrad. After running the mill for 33 years Conrad became financially embarrassed and the sheriff sold the property to the Bucks County Trust Company, and in 1908 for \$2550 this firm passed it on to Charles L. Martin, who in same year found a purchaser in the Urban and Suburban Real Estate Company.

At some time during these sales the great overhead water wheel was disposed of, and the power is supplied by a hydraulic wheel, such as is used at the Mount St. Joseph's College mill, (No. 26), and the U. of Pa., Arboretum mill (No. 27.)

In 1926 Edith W. Handshunk bought the dismembered mill and 5 and a fraction acres, and in the same year it was purchased by the present owners, Dr. and Mrs. Leighton F. Appleman.

The Doctor showed us several photographs of the old mill, and the four stone walls of the ancient building are now the attractive "Millhouse" as seen today.

The mill race can be traced through the property, although there is no water running through it today.

Miss Margaret R. Fitzwater, of Chestnut Hill, has promised to send us some additional history of the mill which we will quote later.

John Fitzwater a descendant of this family was an extensive limeburner and real estate owner died at Fitzwatertown, May 13th 1857, in his 84th year, and is buried in the family burying ground. He was owner of a portion of the Emlen estate, on which is a large mansion used by Washington as his headquarters while the army was in the vicinity of Whitemarsh.

In 1810 the limeburners of the country formed themselves into an association: Alexander Crawford, President; John Fitzwater, Sec'y.

The Fitzwater burying ground is on our farm; on the hillside; most of the dates of the old stones are worn smooth, but I believe that each generation from the first there---

Fitzwatertown is situated in the southern part of Upper Dublin on Limekiln Pike; in the midst of the fertile valley of Sandy Run, abounding in limestone and iron ore. At one time it contained a store, hotel, wheelwright and blacksmith shop, grist mill, and about 12 houses. The post office was established in 1858.

Dr. and Mrs. Appleman are certainly to be congratulated for building their attractive summer home on the site and retaining the walls of the ancient mill, and thus preserving this Colonial landmark of Montgomery County.

Just as we were about to mail this article to A. C. Chadwick, Jr, editor of The Suburban Press, we received a letter from Mrs. Appleman, containing the above indented notes.

These were two very successful county mills, situated in a good farming district and through the nearly 200 years of their history we find no sheriff's sales.

Each of the many owners managed the mills successfully, improved the property, paid their taxes promptly, and left a profitable business to their heirs.

After leaving the Fitzwater mill we go north on Limekiln pike (one deed mentions it as "the road to Jenkintown") over the 300 foot high hills to the north of Sandy Run, down the hills to the ancient Susquehanna road that passed from Germantown to North Wales.

Here we come to Dreshertown, where the ancient mills were nestled down snugly on a branch of Sandy Run. To the west of the mill an old cart road ran northbound to the Horsham meeting house, or as another deed has it, "the road to Oxford Church".

It must have been quite an engineering proposition for the first settler to go into the wilderness; dig a mill race nearly a mile long; erect two small and one great dams, and conserve the water flowing from three bubbling springs; and erect two mill and equip them.

In the Recorder of Deeds office, at Norristown, we find a survey of the mill lands. Both the mills were one-story frame buildings; the saw mill was quite small, but the grist mill was large and on the front were two doors and five windows. The power was received from the same mill race. The great dam was on a branch of Sandy Run; one small dam was on a tiny branch from the west; and another small dam on a little trickle called Mine Run, running from the east into the mill race near the saw mill.

Every gallon of water in the locality was utilized to run the mills, but today the bubbling springs seem to have dried up, and there is very little water in the stream that is so carefully marked out on the survey.

These two mills were erected by Bastian Houpt, in Upper Dublin Township, sometime before 1769, as in that year Houpt is taxed for a grist mill and a saw mill, and also a plantation of 20 acres.

In 1774 Conrad Gerhart owned the mills and 28 acres; also the mill race, including one perch on each side of the race that runs through the land of John Robeson. In this year Henry Bergee, of Gwynedd, purchased the property, subject to a mortgage of #75 pounds sterling, held by Bastian Houpt. In 1777 Jesse Trump of Upper Dublin, purchased the mills and in 1781 he sold the same to George Dresher, of Dresheryown, and the road connecting the mills with Whitemarsh were, and are still, named after him.

Dresher died in 1804, and the mills passed to his sons.

In 1834 Abner Spencer and John Fitzwater purchased the mills and in the same year sell the property to Levi Dresher. Levi expired in 1843 and the mills and 14 1/2 acres were sold to Charles S. Conrad, for \$3785. The following year Cornelius, the father of Charles S. Conrad, secured the mills. In 1858 Isaac Conrad paid \$5750 for the property.

We are told that the ancient mill buildings have been modernized into an attractive dwelling. In a later article we will describe the present condition of this old industrial plant.

John Burk, 1744; Edge-paul 1748; Jacob Reiff 1885;  
Joseph Lukens 1838; Flues'silk 1864.

This old grist mill was erected upon a little parcel of 30 acres of land in Upper Dublin into which the Wissahickonwaters passed and crossed the Whitemarsh line, above, and near the present town of Ambler, below Mill No. 38.

In 1688 Zachariah Whitpain, the son of Richard Whitpain, of London who owned the great house on Front and Walnut streets, in Philadelphia, owned several thousand acres here, and in 1688 he sold a tract to Nicholas Scull who was the overseer of Edward Farmers plantation below. The deed states it was upon Susquehanna road, on the west side of "Wesseheguen" Creek. In 1698 Scull sold to Edward Burk 300 acres containing a house, for four score pounds sterling.

In 1733 Edward Burk, on account of his natural love and affection borne for his son, John, sold the dwelling, but no mill, for five shillings. We first learn of the grist mill in 1744 when John Burk made a petition to the Court to open a road past the mill he had lately erected. In 1748 the heirs of John Burk sold the mill and 30 acres to Jacob Edge and James Paul. The latter was of the family who owned so many mills and forges in Pennsylvania.

In the same year Archibald McClean also sold to the partners 15 1/2 acres adjoining in Whitemarsh Township. In 1755 James Paul sold to Jacob Edge 183 acres adjoining on the south, also his half interest in the other two lots and Mill No. 37. Paul and Edge were brothers-in-law and both attended the Gwynedd Meeting.

In a tax list of 1774 Jacob Edge was taxed for a grist mill in Upper Dublin and 228 acres.

We are sorry to state that in describing Farmer's Mill (No. 32) we erred in stating that Jacob Edge owned that mill.

In that article the five paragraphs relating to Jacob Edge all relate to Mill No. 37.

The Farmer Mill article should have read Joshua Morris sold that mill to his son-in-law, Isaac Mather.

Spencer Boneall's map of the Battle of Germantown, drawn September 1877, one hundred years after the battle, marks the mill at Skippack and Bethlehem Pike as Daniel Morris' and Jacob Edge's Mill. Neither one of them ever owned that mill, and that was how the error occurred.

Rev. Francis Heyl, in "The Battle of Germantown" states: "Here they remained until evening and at 7 o'clock took up their line of march down the Skippack road past Edge's Mill to the Bethlehem turnpike."

Now Edge's Mill was on Morris road, near Bethlehem pike, over a mile above the Skippack road, so if the army did pass by Edge's Mill it must have come down Morris and not the Skippack road.

From 1755 until 1784 Jacob Edge was the sole owner and upon his death, in 1785, the mill was sold to Jacob Detweiler Sr., who owned Mill No. 38, and Jacob Reiff, Jr.. The latter was the son-in-law of Detweiler and brother of Mary Reiff, who had been married first to Joseph Wise, of Mill No 39, and later to Joseph Lukens, of this mill. The inventory of Edge's estate mentions five spinning wheels; one for the widow and one for each of the four daughters. There were no sons.

In 1813 Reiff also purchased Mill No. 39.

In 1790 Joseph Detweiler Jr., sold his half of this mill and land to Reiff.

Sometime between 1790 and 1838 the old stone mill (No. 37) fell into decay, and a new grist mill (No. 37-A) was erected

further down the Wissahickon, in Whitmarsh Township, on the land that Edge and Paul had purchased in 1748.

In 1833 Detweiler and Reiff had a dispute regarding Reiff's milldam so high that the water from Detwiler's tail race did not flow properly. Arbitrators were appointed and a friendly settlement was reached.

In 1838 Reiff sold to Joseph Lukens, the 50 acres in Upper Dublin (upon which was the grist mill now going to decay) and two lots of land in Whitmarsh upon which the new mill (No. 37-A) had been erected. One of the clauses in the deed says that Lukens was to be allowed to use the stone of the old mill to repair his dam is so desired.

The consideration paid was \$18,100, which included mansion house, merchants' grist mill, and saw mill and 89 acres of land in Upper Dublin and Whitmarsh Townships, but all the buildings were in the latter township.

Joseph Lukens and wife, Mary, lived in the mansion house very happily for many years. He could not have been kinder to the six Wise children that his wife brought with her from her first marriage, if they had been his very own.

January 14th 1863, Joseph Lukens and wife, Mary, sold Mill No. 37-A, (which was a merchant grist and saw mill) to Amos Heller, for \$10,000, subject to a mortgage of \$8,000. It was on a public road adjoining land of Jacob Wentz, and the Wissahickon passed through the property for over 1750 feet.

In 1864 Amos Heller sold the mill and 89 acres to Eberhard Flues, of New York City, and here the latter established his silk mill.

When Dr. Mary P. H. Hough, of Abbler publishes her history of the Flues Silk Mill, we will have the story of the mill up to date.

ADMIRAL JOHN BARRY'S LETTER BOOK.

Admiral Barry's statue stands in Independence Square, Philadelphia. After the Revolution (in 1787, he was in command of the merchant sailing vessel "Asia", owned by Willing and Robert Morris, sailing from Philadelphia to Canton, China.

The letter book of over 100 pages gives a record of the voyage and also the business transactions.

In running over the book looking for water-marks, the present owner, Mr. Barry Hepburn, was surprised to find that 50 pages of the book contained an English watermark and the other 50 pages of the same was made of paper carrying the American watermark of "TAW", with the Dove with sprig of ivy in its bill. This was made by the firm of Thomas and Mark Willcox, of the Dove Ivy Paper Mills, (1729) at Concord, on Chester Creek, in Delaware County.

When Thomas Amies, former superintendent of the Willcox mills purchased the old concord-Sheetz paper mill (1749) on Mill Creek in Lower Merion Township, he also took over their name "the Dove Mills", and also their dove watermark. We have seen many watermarks of the Amies Dove Mills.

Benjamin Franklin, printer and patron of the papermakers, if he is quoted correctly, gave support to eighteen paper mills, mostly in Pennsylvania. We know that in 1752 he made a loan to Conrad Scheetz and also have learned that in an earlier loan he made, of 100 pounds sterling to a little paper mill and fulling mill, in Amity Township, near Reading, in Berks County, which in 1749 was a part of Philadelphia County.

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March 1749-50 Daniel Womelsoof, papermaker, of Amity Township secures 100 pounds sterling, on a mortggge from Benjmain Franklin, printer, of Philadelphia. Daniel must have built the paper mill between 1736 and 1749, as on the first date he purchased 200 acres of land upon which the mills were erected, from Edmund Reese. (In 1736 his name is spelled womelsdorf, occupation Smith, as Amity Township was rich in iron ore, he likely worked in a forge.)

The Holland papermaker was honest, as he repaid the mortgage and interest in full in 1752.

If Franklin made loans to papermakers in Massachusetts, New Jersey, or Delaware, they would be recorded in those States, but if he made other loans in the old County of Philadelphia, which took in nearly all of the southeastern section of Pennsylvania, we will find them.

Judge Andrew Robeson 2nd, who owned mills Nos 1 to 3, at the mouth of the Wissahickon, in 1714 purchased 1500 acres of iron land near or in Amity and Robeson Townships. Robeson died in 1719 and was buried in the churchyard of the Swedish Church of St. Gabriel's in Berks County.

These libraries have complete scrap books of the Wissahickon Mill stories, as printed in the Suburban Press: Historical Society of Pennsylvania; 13th and Locust streets; The Montgomery County Historical Society, Norristown, Pa.; The Germantown Historical Society, Germantown; The Library of the State Capitol of Pennsylvania, at Harrisburg; The Free Library of Philadelphia, at 18th street and the Frankling Parkway; <sup>and</sup> The William B. Stephens' Library, at Manayunk;

This mill was built before 1731, on the Wissahickon creek near the present southwest corner of Butler Pike and Morris road, Ambler, in Upper Dublin Township.

William Harmer built the mill on Richard Whitpain's tract in the present townships of Whitpain, Upper Dublin and Whitemarsh.

A deed of 1698 states that the Susquehanna road passed through the plantation, but it could only have been an Indian trail, as there were no regular road at that time.

A later deed mentions the same as "the road to North Wales", so it must have been a part of the present Bethlehem Pike.

The tract was named "Whitpain's Creekland" and included the Wissahickon, Rose Valley Run and Pine Run. Eight mills, (Nos. 37 to 43) were later erected here. All early maps and deeds before 1700 name the Wissahickon, "Whitpain Creek", after Richard Whitpain, the friend of William Penn.

Whitpain's great house, on Front Street below Walnut in Philadelphia, mentioned in a letter written in 1687 by William Penn to Robert Turner who owned Sunach Park (now part of the 21st Ward) is as follows: "Taking into consideration the great expenses of Richard Whitpain to the advancement of the providence and the share taketh here (England) on all occasions for its honour, I can do no less than recommend to you for public service (meetings of the Pennsylvania Assembly) his great house in Philadelphia, which being too big for his private use, would provide you a convenience above what my cottage affords."

In 1714 John Whitpain conveyed to William Harmer 202 acres mostly in Upper Dublin but partly in Whitemarsh Townships. Harmer died in 1731 and before that date he have greatly improved the 100 acres of ~~xxxxx~~ the above tract by erecting a dwelling, water-powered corn mill, or grist mill, bolting mill, fulling mill, mill ponds, mill dams, etc. With all of these improvements it is only reasonable to suppose that at least one of the three mills was built long before 1731.

In 1733 his executors and trustees sold the 100 acres and mills for 400 pounds sterling, to Morris Morris, of Abington Township. In 1734 Morris also purchased from the Harmer estate 308 acres of land adjoining, in the plantation named "Whitpain's Creekland", now the township of that name.

We believe the fulling mill mentioned above was the mill (No. 41) that in 1769 to 1783 was owned by Arthur Broade, and one of the other mills may have been the Wise Mill (No. 39). In 1734 Morris sold a quarter interest in the 408 acres and mills to John Dellwin.

In 1746 he makes a verbal gift of one-half the same to his eldest son, Samuel Morris, who owned mill No. 32, at Skippack and Bethlehem Pikes, in Whitemarsh, and one-quarter of the mills and land to a younger son, Daniel Morris.

In 1739 a petition was made and granted by the court to lay out a road from Garrett Clemens grist mill in Salford Township, to Samuel Morris' mill (No. 38) in Upper Dublin.

Samuel ~~xxxx~~ sold his half in estate for 1000 pounds sterling to his brother Daniel, and John Dellwin also of his quarter interest so, that upon Daniel's death, in 1756, he owned the entire 408 acres and the mills.

David's (Daniel's) widow Tacy, and brother Samuel, are instructed to dispose of the estate and in 1759, 84  $\frac{1}{2}$  acres in the three townships, with grist mill (No. 38) was sold on a mortgage to John Stevens; and 82  $\frac{1}{2}$  acres in Upper Dublin and grist mill (No. 39) were sold to Windle Wideman. The fulling mill (No. 41) we

will discuss later.

In 1771 John Stevens sold the grist mill and bolting mill to Joseph Morris, a grandson of Anthony Morris Jr., of Philadelphia. (Anthony Morris, Jr., a Philadelphia brewer, in 1725 owned a grist mill in Moreland Township.)

James Morris (1753-1795) the son of Joseph Morris, lived in the old dwelling near the grist mill. He married, at the Gwynedd Meeting 10th month, 1st, 1772, Elizabeth, the daughter of Abraham Dawes, Jr., who owned the adjoining plantation, "Dawesfield", where General Washington had his headquarters in October 1777.

An interesting story is told of the first meeting of James Morris and his future wife.

"One day whilst riding along the Morris road James Morris was met by a lady coming from its opposite direction on horseback, who tried in vain to prevent her horse turning around to go in the same way as James Morris. Blushingly she apologized for the conduct of her horse, and after explaining that it was its habit to go the same way as any other horse it might meet, she asked him to oblige her by escorting her as far as her father's house. The young man gladly and gallantly complied with her request and the acquaintance with Miss Dawes, thus accidentally formed, ripened into a friendship which speedily resulted in their marriage in 1772."

The couple lived in the mansion until 1785 or 76, when they removed to Dawesfield. James Morris was a lieutenant in the Pennsylvania Regiment in 1777; captain of Montgomery County Light Horse in 1782; president Judge of the court in 1785; and a Brigadier General of the militia in 1793.

In 1775 Joseph Morris sold to Joseph Detweiler for 2000 pounds sterling the 84 1/2 acres, dwelling, water power and corn or grist mill, and mill plantation, etc.

Samuel Morris died in 1773 and in his will left a bequest and half acre of land to establish a school near his mill (No. 32) at Skippack and Bethlehem pikes. Of the trustees appointed to manage the school, three were owners of mills: Henry Scheetz; Jacob Edge and Joseph Lukens.

The Detweiler family owned the grist mill for several generations. It was demolished in 1887, but the family resided in the old homestead until quite recently.

ADDENDA: BENJAMIN FRANKLIN , IN 1752, HELPED FINANCE  
CONRAD SCHEETZ PAPER MILL, SO THAT THE  
FRANKLIN & HALL PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT WOULD  
RECEIVE A GREATER QUANTITY OF PAPER.

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Since June 22nd 1933 we have told stories, in The Suburban Press, of the 38 mills in the Wissahickon valley, and this week we suggest that we state new information regarding the mills already described.

Mill No. 33, Post No. 10 American Legion, at Sandy Run on Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington.

Mrs. Ada C. Hammel, the daughter of Albert Conrad, who owned the augur industry writes: "The lower story of the mill bordering on Sandy Run was where they started the augurs and bits, cutting the desired lengths from long bars of steel, heating them red hot at the forge, then flattening them under the tilt hammer (a large hammer worked with a lever) then they were sent upstairs to be polished and ground out on the emery wheel. The large wooden water wheel was on the opposite side of the picture of the mill I am enclosing. I remember the wheel was discarded long ago, and a new turbine water wheel installed in place of the old one. At the time of the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, the firm of A. and I. Conrad had a display of their augurs and bits there. They received first prize, a gold medal."

Robeson-Van Daren mills nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

As grist mill no. 2 and saw mill no. 3 built between 1686 and 1689, the oldest of the fifty mills in the Wissahickon Valley, and the old Robeson dwelling, on ridge avenue just below the grist mill, the foundations of which were built as early as 1689, any information relating to them is of interest.

During the Revolution John Vandaern owned the four mills. He was a large land speculator in Roxborough and the Falls of Schuylkill. In 1785 he became mentally deranged and his mills and land were sold at a sheriff's sale in 1789 to Peter and Jonathan Robeson.

Vandaren expired in 1788 and his will, dated 1785, mentions the Robeson mansion and garden. He gave to his wife, Sussannah, the use of the best parlor and chamber above, her choice of furniture, including "all my plate and tea urn, one good new single horse chaise, the upper half part of the flower garden, and the front half part of the kitchen garden, or garden over the way; the plantation wherein I now live and the mill thereon erected; my chaise horse and the chaise house."

The inventory mentioned "an old Bible with needlework covering".

He left six children, the youngest, Tacy, became the wife of Thomas Smith.

Last week in quoting from Sally Wistar's Journal, under the date of June 2nd 1778, we noted that Captain Dandridge, who was staying at the Foulke Mill, stated he was courting Tacy Vandaren and that they to be married soon.

The Scheetz Family of paper Makers: Mills Nos. 28, 34 and 35.  
Benjamin Franklin gives financial aid to Conrad Scheetz.

Henry Scheetz who owned the two paper mills on Sandy Run was a brother of Conrad Scheetz who owned two paper mills on Mill Creek, Lower Merion Township. They were the son, or grandsons of John Jacob Schutz (Scheetz).



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In early Colonial times the great scarcity of English and Dutch paper in America induced the printers to assist the papermakers in erecting their mills and they agreed to purchase their products.

William Bradford, the first printer in Philadelphia, owned a quarter interest in William Rittenhouse's first paper mill, (1690) and he was the largest consumer of their paper.

Christopher Sauer (Sower) Sr., the noted Germantown printer, never owned a paper mill, but in 1772 his son, Christopher Jr., built a paper mill on Falls Creek, near 4100 Ridge Avenue, at the Falls of Schuylkill. (Note: Hagner Mill, article in last week's issue of The Suburban Press.)

Sower, the elder, was one of the leaders of the Dunker faith and purchased most of his paper from the Ephrata Brotherhood, in Lancaster County. The paper used in printing his 1743 Bible, (the first printed in America) shows the watermarks of the Ephrata mills. Russell L. Davis, of the Franklin Institute, informs me they have one of the Sower Bibles, printed in Germantown, in 1743; also a Bible printed in Ephrata. They also exhibit an original printing press upon which the Ephrata Bible was printed.

Conrad Scheetz, in 1748 purchased a fulling mill and 100 acres of land on Mill Creek, Lower Merion (late the Dove Paper Mill) from David Davis, and here erected a paper mill. To finance the erection and purchase of materials, he borrowed, in 1749, from William Allen, 100 pounds sterling.

On February 7th 1752, to increase his production of paper, he again borrowed from Benjamin Franklin and David Hall, printers, another 100 pounds sterling. The property then contained 100 acres, a paper mill and other improvements. The deed stated that the paper mill had lately been erected in upper Merion.

The printing firm evidently invested the money in the paper mill to obtain paper. Franklin & Hall purchased paper from the Scheetz mill, the following year, as on July 23rd 1753, Franklin wrote to his son, from Boston: "I hope the co. team paper, law size No. 2, which I ordered Schutz (Conrad Scheetz) to make for Mr. Hollemak, here, is come down from the mill before this time. Send it per first vessel to that gentleman."

Franklin & Hall, for the times, were large book publishers, and in the 1750's they received the contract for printing the Colonial paper currency. This was printed on paper containing mica or isinglass, to prevent counterfeiting. Tradition states that the paper used was made in the Conrad Scheetz paper mill, and the above facts would seem to prove the statement. Conrad Scheetz expired in 1771, and there is no record of the loan having been paid.

Franklin wrote from London, October 7th 1772: "I am surprised that Scheetz has paid nothing of what I furnished when here. I am afraid I do not grow wiser as I grow older."

On January 20th 1773, Richard Bache, Franklin's attorney, wrote to him, "Fearo will have to sue Scheetz estate for the amount of my note".

Rittenhouse Paper Mill (No. 7) on Paper Mill Run, Roxborough. Opposite the dwelling where David Rittenhouse was born in 1732, on Lincoln Drive just west of Wissahickon Avenue.

There is today on exhibition in the Franklin Institute, at 20th Street and The Parkway, a reproduction of this paper mill, Paper Mill Run, surrounding trees, mill race, etc. A motor inside the mill propels the overshot water wheel. This remarkable and artistic reproduction has just been completed by H. C. Hammes, of Roxborough, who last year also built a model of the

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Thomas Livezey Colonial dwelling on the Wissahickon, adjoining Mill No. 14.

On the same floor at the Franklin Institute there is a miniature Fourdriner paper manufacturing machine. One can see the paper being made; passing from pulp to finished product; The attendant will present the spectator with a sample of the paper that is made.

Officials of the Institute also exhibit some original Rittenhouse paper, showing the cloverleaf watermark, made in 1729; also sample of the colonial paper money printed by Benjamin Franklin in 1759, showing mica mixed throughout the paper. This paper, it is said, was made in Conrad Scheetz' mill.

Mill No. 21. John Barge's; Spruce Mill paper Mill; Later Magarge's upper mill, at Thomas Mill Road, where the wooden-covered bridge still stands.

John Barge died in 1755 and was buried in the churchyard of St. Thomas' Church, at Bethlehem Pike and Church Road. This is the inscription on his tomb:

"Life is a cheat,  
And always shows it,  
I thought so once,  
And now I know it!"

Dr. Mary P. H. Hough, of Ambler, writes me: "I have nearly finished the history of the nine mills which once existed in the present locality of the borough of Ambler. Two were on the boundary line. One of them was converted into a silk mill, a history of which I have. When I complete the work I will be glad to give it to you."

There were so many mills on the Wissahickon Creek in this part of Upper Dublin due to the great number of springs furnishing large volumes of water that it is difficult to tell the exact location of each. We hope the Doctor's history will provide the desired information.

Gorgas Mills Nos. 12 and 13. on The Wissahickon at Gorgas lane.

We have just seen two mortgages that give us a better idea as to when these mills were erected. A John Gorgas deed, of 1752, mentions a fulling mill and an oyl mill. A mortgage of 1754 records a fulling mill oyl mill and a grist mill, so that the grist mill (No. 12) was built in that year.

Next week we hope to continue our stories of the Wissahickon Valley mills.

This mill, rebuilt in 1843, is still standing but has not been running for many years. It is on Butler pike, in Ambler, Upper Dublin Township, where the Rose Valley Run enters the Wissahickon. On the adjoining farm of James Morris, one mile west of the mill between the Skippack and Morris roads, is still standing "Dawesfield", the headquarters of General Washington in October of 1777.

The mill was operated by the waters of the Rose Valley Run, a number of springs on the run forming a large pond that is now used by Keasby & Mattison, near their asbestos works.

In a map of 1852 the road to the mill is called "Clover Mill Road".

The springs gave this run a continuous large flow of water, many of the old deeds making mention of the springs on the farms. The best known spring in Montgomery County was the "Great Bubbling Spring", also named "Great Fountain" or "Mill Spring", at Spring Mill, Pa., in Whitmarsh Township, near the Schuylkill river. The grist mill erected there in 1715 by David William and owned by Joseph Paul and Thomas Livezey during the Revolution, was of special value, as the water from the spring never froze.

Bubbling Spring, on account of its volume and purity, was of considerable commercial value. William C. Hamilton later purchased the spring and carried the water through an eight inch underground pipe to the present Hamilton Paper Mills, at Miquon station (on the Reading Lines) a distance of two miles.

This extreme end of Upper Dublin Township (on which Mill No. 39 stood, and which is being described in this article) was purchased from William Penn by William and George Harmer before 1688.

The grist and saw mills were built before 1768, as in that year Lewis Kynear sold the property to George Hocker, and the deed reads: "messuage, grist mill, saw mill, and plantation, all buildings, improvements, boulding mills, mill pond, mill dams, banks, races, streams of water and springs, 82½ acres in Upper Dublin and Whitpain Townships, corner of Gwynedd and Whitpain townships, crossing creek east end of bridge by fulling mill lane."

March 12th 1774 George Hocker sold the above mills and acreage for 1750 pounds sterling to John Wise Sr., of Roxborough, a miller. This was the same John Wise Sr., who in 1796 purchased the Gorgas grist mill (No. 12). John Wise added to his land by shortly purchasing 98 acres in Gwynedd, adjoining his other property.

John Wise Sr., was a private in Lieutenant William Dean's Philadelphia company of militia, recruited from Upper Dublin Township in 1777.

Within a mile and one half from the Wise mill there were at least eight other mills in the early days. There must have been a much larger flow of water than there is today. We have not as yet been able to trace the titles of these mills.

Let us make the sign of the Latin cross, pointed north and south, with the Wise mill as the centre, in the southwest corner of upper Dublin township. The right arm is Rose Valley Run, on which was the Evans grist mill, on Bethlehem pike. The Wissahickon makes the north and south arms. On the south arm was Grist Mill No 38, given to James Morris in 1771, and below this the Joseph Lukens mill (No. 37). On the west arm, on Pine Run, in Whitpain Township, was grist mill No. 40, built in 1777 from lumber taken from the trees that were felled by the American Army to build fortifications and log huts. On the north arm of the supposed cross were Thompson's mill, Mather's grist and saw mill and Wheeler's mill and forge (No. 46). Arthur Broade's fulling mill also adjoined the Wise mill property, but we have not been able to locate it properly as yet.

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There are several authentic statements that many of the trees on the farms in this section were cut down for military purposes, and the wise and rather saw mills must have worked overtime in October of 1777.

General Washington wrote from Headquarters on October 30th, 1777: "The long residence of the Army in this quarter has proved very distressing to the inhabitants, as forage must be drawn from their substance."

Between the north and west arms of our imaginary cross was the 350 acre plantation of James Morris, later a Brigadier General. Here was the mansion "Dawesfield", built in 1736, which served Washington as his headquarters during the Whitpain encampment from October 20th to 31st, 1777. At the Court Marshal of General Wayne (he was acquitted with the highest honors) these generals held their Court: at "Dawesfield": His Excellency General Washington, Major Generals Sullivan, Greene, Stephens, Le Marquis de Lafayette, Brigadier Generals Maxwell, Knox, Wayne, Muhlenberg, Conway and Pulaski.

At letter, written at this time, by Washington, was headed "October 25th, Skippack Road, 15th milestone". This was about one mile south of the headquarters.

On October 30th, (1777) the headquarters and encampment removed from Dawesfield to Geprge Emlen' Jr's. Baronial Hall, on Sandy Run, south side of Camp Hill, now the property of the Fell-Van Rensselaer estate.

On this date Washington wrote two letters; the first headed: "Headquarters, James Morris, 12 miles from Philadelphia, Skippack road". The second letter was headed: "Headquarters near White-marsh, 15 miles from Philadelphia".

Next week, in describing Mill No 35, that adjoined the headquarters at Camp Hill, we will give an illustration of the Emlen Hall, showing Sandy Run and the mill race in front of the mansion.

The Wise mill received its water power from a long headrace ~~in~~ passing between Rose Valley Run and Butler road.

In 1789 Wise rebuilt the old dwelling on Butler road, a double three-story stone house, under the eaves the Datestone reading "J. C. W. 1789". On the opposite side of the road a barn was marked "J. C. W. 1797". In 1909 these buildings were in good condition but since Keasby & Mattison purchased the property they have been demolished.

John Wise Sr was accidentally killed in his Roxborough Wissahickon Mill, (no. 12) in 1803.

In 1804 the mill and farm was valued at 3175 pounds, and was purchased by John's second son, Joseph. The oldest son, John, Jr., purchased the old Gorgas Mill (No. 12) and in 1812 bought the Paul Mill (No. 20), that later became the lower Magarge mill.

Joseph Wise (1780-1818) married, in 1805, Mary Reiff, and in 1813 he sold the mill to his brother-in-law, Jacob Reiff, for 5000 pounds. The widow, Mary, married Joseph Lukens, of Mill No. 37. Reiff rebuilt the grist mill as it is today; a large four-story modern stone mill. A datestone under the eaves reads "Jacob and Ann Reiff, 1843".

In 1786 Jacob Reiff purchased Mill No 37, which he sold in 1838 to Joseph Lukens, his brother-in-law.

It is ten years since we have visited the old mill, and it was then occupied by Italian families. The mill race had been filled in and the other buildings and barns demolished. It is now a part of Ambler.

In visiting this section today, where in Revolutionary times at least nine industrial plants furnished the three townships

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with flour, corn meal, lumber and linen, or wollen dyed cloth and yarn (also possibly swords from the forge at Mill No 46) one can hardly believe that here. in October of 1777, ten thousand American patriots were encamped in log huts, barns, and farmhouses of the inhabitants.

Since writing the story of the ancient Evans-Wheeler-Hortter-Mumbower mill and forge (No. 46) in The Suburban Press on January 25th, we have come across an interesting advertisement on the Pennsylvania Gazette of January 28th 1770, as follows: "Samuel Wheeler, cutler, at the Sign of the scythe, sickle and Bar Iron, at his shop in 2nd street, a few doors above the Church, opposite Mr. William Whitebread's Tavern, makes and has for sale for the ensuing harvest, a quantity of good scythes, and sickles, likewise steel yards, scale beams, steel stamps, iron work for mills of any kind, for carts wagons and ploughs, iron axels, and bill hooks for the West Indies, spades hoes, axes, hatchets, plane irons, andirons, fire shovels and tongs, smiths work for houses, also makes and grinds razors, cleans and repairs surgical instruments, etc. He undertakes any kind of iron work that any business requires. N. B. Any of the above articles may be had at his house in Church Alley at the sign of the scythe and sickle."

Samuel Wheeler did not buy Mill No. 46 and set up his forge there until 1777, but Peter and John Troxell, German millers, who owned the mills in 1706, and worked the mills for Wheeler after he purchased them, more than likely practiced the work of iron and forgemen.

Grist Mill. No. 40. James Morris, 1777; Adam Werstner, 1798; Albert Werstner, 1868.

This mill was in Whitpain Township, on Pine Run that rises about two and one half miles southwest of Ambler. The run flows into the Wissahickon Creek just opposite where Rose Valley Run also joins the larger creek, near Butler avenue.

The mill was on a small plot of 14 1/2 acres on the Whitemarsh and Upper Dublin dividing line.

The little parcel of land was a part of the great tract of 4000 acres that William Penn granted to his friend, Richard Whitpain, of London.

Whitpain died in London and his estate in Pennsylvania consisted of "the Great Mansion", 60 x 56 feet, near the banks of the Delaware and a parcel of 4000 acres known as "Whitpain Creek Land", 100 acres in "Liberty Land", 2500 acres in Chester county, and 500 acres not yet laid out. Portions of the estate were owned by his son, Zacharia; grandson, John Whitpain; John Blackal, a linen draper; and William Aubrey, both of the latter were also of London.

About 1716 the entire estate, with the exception of the 500 acres tract, was sold to Reese Thomas, a Welsh Quaker, of Merion, and Anthony Morris, Jr., of Philadelphia. The latter was the grandfather of Joseph Morris, who owned Mill No. 38. Reese Thomas married the daughter of William Aubrey, the executor for Whitpain, Sr.

In 1725 Thoma and Morris sold to Abraham Dawes, Sr., 350 acres of the Whitpain Creek plantation. In 1775 Abraham Dawes, Jr., sold the tract to James Morris (his brother-in-law), who built Mill No. 40, in 1777.

On this plantation was Dawesfield, the dwelling, that was George Washington's headquarters in October of 1777.

The Morris genealogy relates that the mill was partly constructed from wood taken from the trees that were cut down by the American troops in building fortifications and huts for their use when they were encamped there in 1777.

James Morris died in 1798, and in 1798 Elizabeth, his widow, and their daughter, Hannah, sold to Adam Werstner, for 1000 pounds sterling, the water-powered grist mill and 14 1/2 acres of land.

The deed mentions the grist mill, mill dam, mill pond, and mill race over 1600 feet long.

The Morris estate placed certain restrictions on the property; the water gate from the mill race was to be kept in good order, and any excess of water required for running the mill was to be run over the meadows of the Morris property; a small notch was cut in a cornerstone in the west side of the mill, and the water never allowed to go above that point.

Either Adam Werstner, or his father, had been a soldier in the Hessian Army and after the Revolution decided to remain in Whitpain and not return to the domain of the Electorate of Hesse.

Adam Werstner was well educated; an experienced miller; and purchased several other parcels of land in Gwynedd and Upper Dublin; a second grist mill (No. 40-A) and a town house in Philadelphia, in 1795, at the southeast corner of 6th and Cherry streets. He died in 1831 and left two grist mills; one on 17 acres (Mill No. 40-A) to his son, Joseph; and the other (Mill No. 40) to his

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son, George, in trust for his heirs. At the time of his death, George was residing on the mill property and conducting the business. The son, George Werstner, died in 1867, and the mill and 14 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres were sold, in 1868, to Joseph Detweiler, of Mill No. 38, and in the same year Detweiler sold the mill for \$7000 to Albert G. Werstner, the son of George and the grandson of Adam.

This mill was demolished in 1887.

(Note: Last week Mr. Barry Hepburn saw a very interesting watermark. On one sheet was a whale spouting water and on the other a mail rider mounted upon a horse blowing his post horn. The name of the papermaker was Andrew Rogge. The letter was dated 1776 and written by Robert Morris.)

The more one studies the history of the so-called Whitpain Creekland, of Upper Dublin and Whitpain Townships through which the Wissahickon Creek and its branches flow, it would appear that a mill of some description must have been erected on each bubbling spring in the locality.

We have yet to account for five more mills in these two townships, owned by Conrad, Dresher, Thompson, Tyson and Mathers.

The fulling mill (No. 41) which we are about to describe, is, after the ancient Matthew Holgate fulling mill (No. 10), in Roxborough, (about 1700) the second oldest, cleaning, dyeing and pressing woolen yarn and cloth mill in the Wissahickon Valley.

This William Harmer fulling mill was on the same parcel of land that contained his other three mills. (Nos. 38, 39 and 42)

John Whitpain, in 1714, sold 100 acres of land to William Harmer. The latter died in 1731, and two years later his executor sold to Morris Morris 100 acres in Upper Dublin, containing a dwelling, water powered corn mill, or grist mill, bolting mill (flour) and fulling mill. These mills were built by Harmer some time between 1714 and his death in 1731. Before 1756 Daniel Morris, the son of Morris Morris, owned the 100 acre plantation and the mills of 1731.

In 1759 Tacy, the widow of Daniel Morris, sold to Arthur Bradis (Brode) the fulling mill and 24 acres.

The mill was on Rose Valley Run, which enters the Wissahickon near Butler Pike, and Morris Road, where Wise's Mill (No. 39) and Morris' Mill (No. 38) were located. The following year Bradis placed a mortgage for 100 pounds sterling upon his purchase, the deed stating that it ran to Gwynedd Township line, adjoining the lands of John Trump and Edmund Burk, and that the race to the mill was 300 feet long.

The fulling mill was taxed as follows: (1769) Arthur Broades, 34 acres; (1774) 25 acres, (1783) 24 acres.

In 1787 the present Montgomery County was separated from Philadelphia County, so after this date we must go to Norristown to continue the title search on the properties.

After the tax list of 1783 we were unable to find any further record of the fulling mill.

Grist Mill No. 42 was also one of the William Harmer mills, built before 1731, on the 100 acre plot of ground in Upper Dublin Township. The mill was on Rose Valley Run, as was also Mills 39 and 41. In 1755 it was jointly owned by Daniel Morris, his wife Tacy, and John Trump, with wife, Anna. John Trump was a millwright of Upper Dublin, the son of Henry Michael Trump.

John Trump married for a second time, before 1773, Deborah, the widow of Jonathan Paul, who owned the Paul Grist Mill (No. 22) at Bells' Mill Road on the Wissahickon. Through her second marriage to Joseph Wollen, Jr., she had received as a dower a half interest in the ancient William Dewees mill (No. 26.)

In 1755 Morris and Trump each sold their half interests in Mill No. 42, with 80 acres of the land, to Lewis Stanert (Stewart) a miller of Upper Dublin. He is given under several names on the tax lists from 1769 to 1783 as owning the grist mill and 80 acres.

Lewis Stanert died in 1794 and he appointed his son John, a school teacher living in Germantown, as executor of his estate.



In 1795 the executor sold to Andrew Gilkeson, an innkeeper of Upper Dublin, the grist mill and 80 acres for 2850 pounds sterling. Andrew Gilkeson had a daughter, Edith, who married Jacob Wise, son of John Wise, who owned Mill No. 39. 104

Gilkeson's inn was at Gilkeson's Corner, where a branch of Rose Valley Run crosses Bethlehem pike, in Ambler.

Andrew Gilkeson died in 1814, but his will makes no mention of the grist mill.

Haage's Grist Mill No. 43.

On a map of 1852 this mill was located on Rose Valley Run, where the main run passes Bethlehem Pike, over a half mile above the Gilkeson Mill, in Upper Dublin Township.

In 1815 Haage purchased from Louis Brooks eight acres of land on the east side of North Wales Road, and the west side of the run. Here he built a grist mill. He was of the Haage family who owned the paper mills in Whitmarsh and Lower Merion Townships.

George Haage (Hagy) died in 1824. In 1846 the mill was sold to Justus W. Acuff, who re-sold it two years later to Jacob S. Evans for \$6200.

Mills No. 44, 44-A and 45. Three Grist and two saw mills in Whitpain and Gwynedd Townships.

This week we return to the plantations of the Bubbling Springs, which in 1688 was called "the Whitpain creek lands". They included parts of Upper Dublin, Whitpain and Gwynedd Townships.

Here, within a area of four miles, there were on the Wissahickon and nearby streams over fifteen mills. In several places one mill race supplied the water to run as many as two or three mills.

In 1769 the water power derived from the many streams in what is now Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties created such a hive of industry that over 317 water powered mills were producing paper, flour, ground grain, oil, powder, fulling of wool and yarn, also iron and steel implements from the forges.

We have compiled the list of the mills from the tax list of 1769, so it must be correct. This article will include the history of these mills----Thompson Grist Mill No. 44; Tyson's Grist and saw mills, No. 44-A; and Mathers' Grist and saw mills, No. 45.

Mill no 44 was the grist mill mentioned in the will of Adam Werstner, the Hessian soldier, who remained in Pennsylvania after the Revolution and became a very worthy and successful citizen.

He died in 1831 and left his mill and 17 acres to his son, Joseph, and mill no. 40 to his younger son, George.

We gave the title of the land in describing mill no. 40, but when Anthony Morris and Reese Thomas purchased, in 1716, from the estate of Richard Whitpain the great land holdings of the latter, it appears that Zachariah Whitpain objected, as one of the heirs to the estate, to the sale and later he was given one third of the plantations. This Whitpain's widow, Sarah, married Charles Saunders, a millwright, who with Andrew Robeson, Sr., (1690-91) purchased from Robert Turner the 500 acre tract of Sumach Park, in Roxborough Township, where mills Nos. 1 to 4 were erected. In 1775 Abraham Dawes sold his 350 acre Whitpain tract to James Morris. Sometime before 1800 Adam Werstner purchased from the Morris heirs the grist mill which was inherited by his son Joseph. Before 1835 John Hoover purchased the mill, as in that year he sold the same to Samuel B. Davis, a miller of Whitpain township. In 1838 Davis sold the 17 acres and mill to Thomas Thompson, a miller from Upper Dublin, for \$4000. Certain dams and water rights are mentioned in the deed. Thomas Thompson, Jr., was the owner of the mill before 1891, as in that year he died and left the grist mill and 17 acres to his son, John G. Thompson.

The Tyson grist and saw mills (No. 44-A) were in Gwynedd Township, on a small stream rising in the high hills near Upper Dublin, about a mile and a half north of Ambler, which flowed south and entered the Wissahickon in Whitpain Township. This was a portion of the great tract that William Penn granted to Robert Turner in 1681. In 1698-99 the tract was sold to Thomas Evans, and others, of mill no. 46.

In 1761 John Holman sold to Mathias Tyson, on a mortgage of 250 pounds sterling, 56 acres of land mostly in Gwynedd, but partly in Whitpain Township. Upon this land Tyson built a grist mill and a saw mill. The mortgage states that Cornelias, the father of Mathias, who owned a mill on Stony Creek, in "Morrington" (now Morristown) was also bound by the deed. In 1767 the mortgage was increased to 422 pounds sterling on account of the improvements. 106

In 1774 John Tyson owned the grist mill and 161 acres. In 1776 Jonathan Tyson was taxed for the mill and 123 acres.

The mills remained in the Tyson family for over 100 years, as a map of 1871 locates the grist mill, on the same stream, and owned by Dr. John L. Tyson, who died in 1898.

Mather's Grist and Saw Mill (No. 45) on the Wissahickon Creek in Whitpain Township, was west of the Thompson Mill. These mills were built in 1809 by Charles Mathers. The land was owned at first by Richard Whitpain, a part of his large grant of "Whitpain Creek lands". John Whitpain sold, in 1714, three hundred and eight acres to William Harmer, whose heirs in 1734 conveyed the plantation to Morris Morris. Daniel the son of the latter, died in 1756 and in 1759 his widow, Tacy Morris, sold 90 acres of this tract to John Roberts. His son, Job Roberts, inherited, and in 1809 Job's son-in-law, Charles Mathers purchased the tract, but no mill is mentioned in the deed.

Certain water rights are mentioned in this conveyance: "And right of a mill race and three dams now erected on the other land of Job Roberts to bring the waters of the Wissahickon and one other small creek through the hereby granted land for the purpose of driving such mill or mills as may hereafter be erected."

Mathers' Grist Mill was well built; equipped; and managed; and was one of the most noted of the many in this section. It remained in the Mather family for several generations, being owned later by Job, and then Job R. Mathers.

Last week we gave the story of the Farmer Mill (No. 32) at Skippack and Bethlehem Pikes, concluding all of the thirty-two mills in the Wissahickon Valley, from Mill No. 1 at the mouth of the Wissahickon to this point.

As there were fifty mills all told, in Colonial times, along this highway of industry, we still have eighteen more establishments to describe.

As yet we have not been able to compile the history of all these mills, so from now on we will tell the story of those mills whose records we have been able to compile.

After leaving the Farmer Mill, the Wissahickon passes through Whitmarsh, Upper Dublin and Whitpain townships, into Gwynedd township, and here is located Mill No. 46, which will now be discussed.

The fulling and saw mills were on Swedesford road and Wissahickon Creel just north of the Whitpain-Gwynedd township line, and about one mile south of North Wales.

Gwynedd was an early Welsh settlement and in 1681 William Penn patented 5000 acres here to Robert Turner. The latter had at one time over 10,000 acres in Pennsylvania. This included the 500 acre Sumac Park tract in Roxborough; a quarter interest in William Rittenhouse's first paper mill and land; and also William Penn's Governor's Grist Mill, at Upland, on Chester Creek.

In 1703 Turner sold 1034 acres of this tract to Thomas op Evans (1651-1738) a Welsh quaker. A Sarah Evans, niece of Thomas, married at the Gwynedd Meeting in 1711, John Hank, of Whitmarsh. Their son, John Hank, Jr., removed to Fayette county, Kentucky, where his daughter married Thomas Lincoln, and here was born to them, ~~xxxxxxx~~ Abraham Lincoln, twice president of the United State.

Thomas Evans and his three brothers were born at Merionethshire, Wales, and all settled in Gwynedd Township before 1700.

The Gwynedd Meeting was formed in 1699, and the addresses were made in both the Welsh and English languages.

In 1713 Thomas Evans sold to his son, Evan Evans, 226 acres of his plantation on the Wissahickon and the Whitpain line. Evan was a preacher in the Gwynedd Meeting and it was he who built the fulling mill and saw mill between 1713 and 1744, as in that year Evan conveyed ~~xx~~ to his son, Abraham, 29 acres including a 2 perch wide, 98 perch long strip, for the purpose of digging a race to lead water to a saw and fulling mill. Evans died in 1747, and the two mills passed to Abraham.

Of the fifty ancient mill sites on the Wissahickon, the present Mumbrower's Grist Mill is the only site containing a mill still continuing in the business of grinding wheat and corn for the farmers of Gwynedd Township.

The mill-sites of the Streeper-University Arboretum mill (No. 27) and the Dewees-Mount St. Joseph's College mill (No. 26) are today using water from the old mill races to turn turbine wheels, but these are not for commercial purposes.

In 1746 Abraham Evans built a hi-roofed house near the mill, which stood for 98 years and was demolished in 1844. Shortly after 1744 the mill became a grist mill, and before 1762 the 29 acres and mills were owned by Jesse Jones, who in that year sold the property to Z. Neiman. In 1765 Martin Tyson purchased. In 1768 he sold mills and 76 acres to Peter Trocell, a German miller. In 1771 John Troxell owned the mills. In 1777 Samuel Wheeler, a Philadelphia cutler who is said to have forged swords here curing the Revolution, purchased and improved the property.

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In this year he added an iron forge and in 1780 rebuilt the grist and saw mills, also adding to his plantation, so that he then owned 224 acres. The grist and saw mills were taxed as follows: Peter Troxell 1769; John Troxell 1774; Samuel Wheeler 1783. In 1782 Wheeler dug a well through 23 feet of solid rock adjoining the dwelling.

Wheeler supposed that coal might be found upon the land and deeds reserved the right to mine coal if discovered. Troxell continued operating the mills after selling to Wheeler. In 1798 Wheeler sold the mills and 11 acres of land to Christian Weber, who in 1806 re-sold the property to George Hortter (1769-1840) of Upper Dublin. Hortter paid \$8866 for the grist and saw mill, including dam, mill race, flood water gates, etc. Hortter was eighty years old at the time of the Battle of Germantown (October 4th 1777) he then living in Germantown. The mother took the five children; the youngest only four years of age; on the day of the battle into the woods of the Wissahickon, and returned home again in the evening. A Hessian soldier watched over them and compelled the family to bake bread for the Hessian soldiers.

In 1793 Hortter married Catharine Wise, daughter of John Wise, Sr., who owned Mills Nos. 12 and 37. Her brother, John, owned the lower Magarge Mill from 1812 until 1836.

In 1814 George Ingel purchased, who re-sold in 1823 to John Keef. He rebuilt the mill as it is today, the date stone reading "J. and E. Keef, 1835".

The mill was sold at a sheriff's sale and in 1858 was owned by Henry Mumbrower (or Mumbower) a miller from Bucks County. He died in 1898 and his son, David, now owns the grist mill and five acres of land.

The Mumbowers placed a steam engine on the lower floor to furnish power when the mill race was filled with ice and snow.

The present water wheel is about 80 years old. When it was new it possessed about 45 horse power, but is not now over 40. With this can be ground about two tons of wheat or corn a day.

We have not visited the mill in the past fifteen years, so what we have written here at this time, was the condition of the mill about 1919.

This mill was built in the early 1700's and remained in the Foulke family for nearly 200 years. It was demolished in 1896. It was located along the Wissahickon near the present Penllyn station of the Reading Railroad, and about one half mile above Samuel Wheeler's mill and forge (No. 46).

Edward Foulke (1651--1741) came to Pennsylvania in 1688.

Gwynedd Township was settled very early by the Welsh Quakers. In 1681 William Penn granted a patent of 5000 acres here to Robert Turner and in 1685, 25000 acres to John Gee. In 1698 and 1699 the tract of 7500 acres was sold to Thomas op Evans (Of Mill No. 46) and William op John. From these two owners Edward Foulke purchased 400 acres and a re-survey shows that it contained 712 acres and in 1702 Foulke paid for the surplus acreage 57 pounds sterling to William Penn.

"Edward Foulke, in 1702, wrote an interesting account in Welsh, of his emigration and of his line of descent from a Welsh chieftain of the 12th century, Rhirid Flaidd, Lord of Penllyn, in Merionethshire."----H. M. Jenkins, Gwynedd.

Edward Foulke probably built the grist mill and Foulke dwelling before his death in 1741.

The dwelling was a short distance east of the mill. Swedesford road passed by the Evan-Wheeler mill (No. 46) and close to the Foulke mill (47).

Bethlehem Pike is said to have been an Indian trail before the arrival of Penn. This was one half mile to the east.

When William Dewees, in 1729, petitioned the court to confirm the road that had been opened for many years over the bridge at the Wissahickon to his mills (Nos. 24, 25 and 26) he stated that the road connected with that of North Wales, or Plymouth Road.

This road also passed near the Foulke Mill.

In 1739 the court was requested to open another road through Gwynedd, which was granted within a few years. This road was more than ten miles long and connected Garrett Clemens mill on the Skippack Creek, in Salford Township, with the mills of Samuel Morris, later Wise Mill No. 39, and Mill No. 38, on Gutler road, at Ambler. The petition stated that the road passed through Salford, Towamencin, Gwynedd and Upper Dublin Townships. This, we believe, was the Morris road, over which Washington's Army passed, within a half mile of the Foulke Mill, on October 19th 1777, when the Continentals removed their encampment from Skippackville to "Dawesfield", James Morris' dwelling in Whitpain Township.

In the early days of the settlers most of the roads were opened to give better access to the mills, meetings houses, fords, limekilns, and the cartage of rags to the mills and the mill products to the Philadelphia markets.

William Foulke, a grandson of Edward Foulke, owned the mill at the time of his death in 1775 and his widow, Hannah, and son, Jesse, then came into possession.

In September of 1777 Sally Wistar, a bright and charming Quaker girl, sixteen years of age, began to keep a sort of journal or diary, while visiting Hannah Foulke, at her dwelling in Gwynedd Township. She often refers to the nearby Foulke grist mill.

"Sally Wistar's Journal," by Albert Cook Myers, Philadelphia, 1902, relates most of the story that we give below:

After the defeat of the American Army at Brandywine, Sally left her home in Germantown, and resided for several months at this secluded place on the Wissahickon, among the hills of Gwynedd.

"To the Foulke mansion came General Smallwood, commander of

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the Maryland troops; Colonel Wood, of Virginia; Major Ogden, of New Jersey; three future governors of their States, and many other important figures of this crucial period in the Nation's history. Generals, colonels, majors, captains, resplendent in their red and buff and blue, and glittering in sashes, swords and epaulets, pass and repass before the unaccustomed and dazzled eyes of the Quaker maiden, and are quaintly portrayed in her pages.

"In spite of her Quaker training she takes not a little worldly pride in her dress and appearance. We are fully informed of her various costumes and we thus gain a valuable picture of the dress of a young girl of that day. When she hears that officers are coming to the house she and her friends put their 'dress and lip in order for conquests'. The next day she must wear her 'chintz and look smarter than the night before'. She is much mortified to have Captain Dandridge find her wearing her greenish skirt and dark short gown. Provoking! She is skilled in 'needle wisdom'. She sets 'a stocking on the needles and intends to be mightily industrious'. She is 'darning an apron'. One day she rises at half past four, in the morning and irons industriously till one o'clock. Here evenings are spent in reading and chatting.

"That part of the house which was standing at the time of the Revolution is built of stone, now coated with plaster, and is two stories high. It was probably erected by Hannah's husband, William Foulke (1708-1775) and occupies the site of an earlier dwelling built by Edward Foulke. A short distance to the west of the house, near the Wissahickon, was the ancient Foulke mill, so frequently mentioned by Sally. It finally fell into disuse and was removed in 1896. When I visited (A. C. Myers) the place a few months since (1902) all that remained to mark the site were a great opening in the earth and two stone mill-burrs."

The following are quotations from Sally's Journal:

"Sept. 25th 1775. About seven o'clock (evening) we heard a great noise. To the door we all went. A large number of waggons with about three hundred of the Philadelphia Militia. They begged for drink and several pushed into the house. One of those that entered was a bit tipsy, and had a mind to be saucy. I then thought it time for me to retreat; so figure me mightily scared, as not having presence of mind enough to face so many of the military, running in at one door and out another, all in a shake of fear; but after a while, seeing the officers appear gentlemanly and the soldiers civil, I called reason to my aid. My fears were in some measure dispelled though my teeth rattled, and my hands shook like an aspen leaf. They did not offer to take their quarters with us; so, with many blessings, and as many adieus, they marched off."

"September 25th 1775. Owen Foulke came here in the evening and told us that General Washington had come down as far as the Trappe, and that General McDougale's brigade was stationed at Montgomery, consisting of about 16 hundred men."

"September 26th: I was standing in the kitchen about 12, when somebody came to me in a hurry, screaming 'Sally, Sally, here are the light horse!' They rode up to the door and halted, and enquired if we had horses to sell; he was answered negatively. 'Have not you, Sir, two buck horses?' 'Yes, but have no mind to dispose of them!' What made us imagine them British was that they wore blue and red, which with us is not common."

"Oct. 19th: Now for new and uncommon scenes. As I was lying in bed, and ruminating on past and present events, Liddy came running into the room and said there was the greatest drumming, fifing and rattling of waggons that ever she heard. What to make of this we were at a loss. We dressed and went down stairs in a hurry. Our wonder ceased. The British had left Germantown

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and our Army was marching to take possession. We went about half a mile from the house, where we could see the army pass. They will stare at my going, but no impropriety in my spine, or I would not have gone. We made no great stay, but returned with excellent appetites for our breakfast."

(In this march to the Whitpain headquarters the Army probably turned down the Swedesford road, past Mill No. 46 and then east on Morris Road to the headquarters.)

"Oct. 19th. Afternoon. Cousin Prissa Foulke and myself were sitting at the door. I in a green skirt, dark short gown, etc. Two gentle men of the military order rode up to the door. 'Your servants, ladies, etc' and asked if they could have quarters for General Smallwood. Hannah Foulke thought she could accommodate them as well as most of the neighbors, and said she could.

"One of the officers dismounted and wrote 'Smallwood's Headquarters' over the door, which secured us from straying soldiers. After this he mounted his steed and rode away."

"Oct. 20th: Well here come the glory, the Major, so bashful, so famous, etc. I at first thought the Major cross and proud, but I was mistaken. He is about nineteen, nephew to the general, and acts as Major of brigade to him; he cannot be extolled for the graces of person, but for those of the mind he may justly be celebrated. He is large in person, manly, and engaging countenance and address" (The Major was William T. Stoddert, of Maryland, one of her special admirers, but Captain Alexander S. Dandridge, whom she met in June, was her best friend.)

(Continued on next page)



"June 2nd (year?) The first officer marched up and down the entry ~~Prissa~~ Foulke came in. What's the name of this man? What does he say? Why that he will kiss me when he has dined! Singular, I observed, in so short and acquaintance. His name is Alexander S. Dandridge. His person is more elegantly formed than any I ever saw; tall and commanding. I cannot better describe him than by saying he is the handsomest man I ever beheld. He asked if I knew Tacy Vandaren. Said he courted her, and that they were to be married soon. Observed my sampler, which was in full view. Wished I would teach the Virginians some of my needle wisdom; they were the laziest girls in the world. We sat down in a sort of a summer house. He asked, 'Miss Sally, are you a Quaker?' 'Yes!' 'Then you are a Tory!' 'I am not, indeed!' Then flying away from that subject, 'Will you marry me, Miss Sally?' 'No, really; a gentleman after he has said has not sufficient to maintain himself, to ask me to marry him.' 'Never mind what I say, I have enough to make the pot boil, etc!'"

Tacy Vandaren to whom Dandridge said he was engaged, was the daughter of John Vandaren, who during the Revolution owned Mills Nos. 2, 2, 3, and 4, near the mouth of the Wissahickon Creek. Tacy afterward married Thomas Smith, and Dandridge married Anne Stephen, daughter of General Adam Stephen.

Sally returned to Philadelphia after the evacuation of General Howe, and remained single throughout her life.

"Sally Wistar's Journal", by A. C. Myers, is beautifully illustrated, the reproduction of the old Foulke Mill is especially pleasing; a great fruit tree in blossom towers above the four story structure. It also contains a portrait of Mrs. George Emlen, Jr., the hostess of General Washington at the Whitemarsh headquarters.

Sally Wistar visited the Emlens in February of 1778, and she wrote in her Journal: "I think Sally Emlen is one of the most beautiful women I ever saw, agreeable, affable, sensible to the true sense of the words." On March 1st, 1778, Sally wrote: "At my old habitation at the mill".

As stated before the mill was demolished in 1896. The old Foulke house, which still remains in a good state of preservation was for its time a large and imposing mansion. In 1902 Mr. and Mrs. J. Albert Caldwell were the occupants of the Foulke Mansion at Penblyn, Pa.

our hike this week to the mills of the Wissahickon takes us up near the source of the stream in Upper Gwynedd Township, above the town of North Wales.

These mills were in the so-called Gwynedd Welsh tract, where William Penn's friend, Robert Turner, one of the wealthiest and best known of the early settlers, owned over 1000 acres of land. In 1703 Turner sold his plantation to Thomas op Evans, of Mill No. 46, and William op John.

The two mills we will describe are Grist Mill No. 48 and the adjoining saw mill (No. 49), both on the Wissahickon.

The grist mill was built by George Howell between 1737 and 1750. Benjamin Rosenberg was the next owner of the mill and 18½ acres of land. In 1762 he sold the mill to Jacob Geified, who in 1775 passed it on to Bernard Beaver. By 1783 Beaver had added to his property so that he owned 59 acres. A very long mill race carried the water to the mill. Dr. Mary P. H. Hough, of Ambler, as we stated before writing the history of the Ambler mills, states that she is preparing a map on which will be located the exact sites of the mills and the mill races that supplied them with water for power. "The course is easily defined in some places, but uncertainties arise because one race in some cases supplied two or three mills, and in one case we think replaced the natural course of the stream. The map will show the country as it was when the mills were all in operation."

Grist mill No. 48, in the course of years, passed through the hands of the Sheriff of Montgomery county. In 1822 it was sold to Peter Garner for \$710 subject to the payment of the dower right of Susanna Beaver, the widow of Barnabas Beaver. The 19 acres is mentioned as containing a small grist mill. In 1827 Garner sold the mill and 18 acres for \$1500 to Henry Pruner, and in 1844 the property was purchased by Silas Garner, and at a sheriff's sale it was bought by Samuel Gross. In 1847 J. N. Baker was appointed by the Court as guardian to the minor children of Samuel Gross and stated that the mill "is in a state of dilapidation and decay" and was given the right to sell the same, and the widow, Elizabeth Gross, bought to the property for \$2200. In 1849 she disposed of one-half of the mill to Enos Stilwagon, who also rented the mill. In 1852 the mill was again sold by the sheriff to Henry Freedley. In 1854 John Levering Heist purchased the mill, paying \$2440 for the same. In 1884 the mill was in operation and had repair.

Saw Mill No. 49 was built upon 35 acres, part of a tract of 136 acres that David Cumming sold in 1762 to Abraham Dannenhower. The mill was not built, however, until after 1798, in which year Henry Dannenhower, the son of Abraham, purchased the 35 acres. In 1831 Henry Dannenhower, Sr., sold the saw mill and tract to John S. Dannenhower, the deed also mentioning log wagons, hook bars, and machinery for the mill. A road leading from the North Wales meeting House to Philadelphia, passed through the land. On 1864 the saw mill was sold to George H. Hollman for \$45000. The next owner was Henry S. Rosenberger, who in 1866 sold to Jonathan Lukens, a lumber merchant, and large landowner in that section. The deed mentions several privileges the buyer is to enjoy, such as running his mill race and keeping the channel of the Wissahickon cleaned, as it flowed through adjoining property. This plant was afterward owned by Allen Thomas and was called "the West point Steam Saw Mill". It was on the turnpike northwest of West point avenue.

This week's Wissahickon Creek story is confined to two saw mills, which we have designated Mills Nos. 50 and 51.

These plants were quite small and not far from the source of the Wissahickon. Matthias Lukens' mill (No 50) was on the Wissahickon east of North Wales and south and west of the present railroad in Gwynedd Township.

Before 1769 Lukens owned the saw mill and an 80 acres plantation and was also taxed for the same as late as 1774.

Before 1783 Joseph Shoemaker, calling himself a sawyer, owned the mill and 96 acres. Shoemaker died in 1823 and his son, Jesse Shoemaker sold the place to Emanuel Stille, a blacksmith. It is said that about this time John Pennypacker sawed logs here. The mill was demolished many years ago.

Mill No. 51 was in Montgomery Township of Montgomery County, between Lansdale and Montgomery Square.

The only history of the mill that can be discovered is that Cadwalader Roberts owned a saw mill and 50 acres plantation as related in the tax lists of 1769, 1774 and 1783.

This article completes the histories of more than fifty mills that existed at various times in the Wissahickon Valley. The series started in The Suburban press in its June 22nd 1933 issue, nearly a year ago, and had appeared continuously in each issue.

The writer expresses his thanks to A. C. Chadwick, Jr. for the encouragement and valued assistance he has rendered the author in compiling the narrative.

Before closing we beg to mention several mills in the valley that we have not been able to locate. In 1783 George Bisbing owned in Whitpain ~~now~~ Township an oil mill, located on a plantation of 200 acres. Bisbing died in 1808, but the mill is not mentioned in the inventory of his estate.

In 1762 Matthias Tyson sold to Valentine Shearer, a water grist mill and 50 acres in Whitpain Township. In 1769 and 1774 Shearer was taxed for the grist mill. He died in 1808 but further trace of the mill cannot be found.

In reference to the Scheetz mill No. 31) we would make a correction. This mill was in Whitemarsh Township, about a half mile about Flourtown, and west of the Bethlehem Pike.

Moses Hall built a grist mill here on a plot of ground consisting of 79 acres. before 1771. In that year he sold the same to Robert Waln. It remained in the family for many years and in 1812 one of the heirs, Anne Morgan, sold the mill and land to General Henry Scheetz (son of Henry Scheetz Sr.) who owned before his death Mills Nos 34 and 35. And Daniel Hitner. The same year Hitner sold his half interest to General Scheetz.

The mill then passed through the ownership of Jonathan Wentz, John Shafer, Isaac Yeakle, Jacob Day, Joseph B. Comly, William Ambler and in 1895 was owned by Chalkley Ambler.

The ruins and foundation of the mill still remain, showing that at one time it was a large industrial flour and grist mill.

Finis.

All of the foregoing notes were written from the original handwritten manuscript of Mr. Magee, late in 1937, to prevent the material which is considered valuable from being lost.

In the time that had elapsed between the printing of the

stories in The Suburban Press, and the compilation of these notes in this typewritten form, ~~many~~ several of the newspaper clippings had been lost or mislaid.

On the following pages are pasted the clippings which still existed, including the pictures which illustrated the articles. The clippings are therefore, duplications of the notes herein contained, but are added in order to preserve the the pictures which were collected with considerable trouble.

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