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Kreybill's mill was located along Spring Creek, about half a mile above Galbraith's mill. The first mill was of stone and two stories high. This mill was probably erected as early as 1730. For some years prior to 1773 it was owned by George Clingan. In the year 1773 he sold the mill and seventy-six acres of land to Abraham Stauffer, who, in the year 1784, sold it to Jacob Kreybrill, miller, of Rapho township, for \$3,000. The old stone mill was torn down about sixty years ago. Before that time, in the year 1830, Mr. Kreybill built a three-story brick mill across the road from the old mill. This mill had the reputation of making the best flour in that end of the county. In my boyhood I took many grists to this mill. As early as I can remember, I had curiosity to know what a grist mill was and what was the meaning of tolling the grist. I was told that the miller took out one-tenth of the grist for grinding the grain. Some of the men employed about the farm told me that the miller had a wooden scoop with which he took out the miller's share, after which he threw it against the ceiling. If it stuck fast he did not toll it again, but if it came down, he tolled it a second time to make sure that he got his share. This seemed a strange proceeding to my youthful mind, so I begged to be allowed to take a small grist to the mill and I would wait until it was ground. I watched the miller very closely, but I did not see him take out any toll ; and when I came to return I found that the bag I took the grist in

would not bold the flour, middlings and bran, and I had to borrow another bag. This was a mystery to me. I asked no more questions about the "grist" or the miller.

This mill is now owned by Mr. Nissly, a relative of the Kreybills. Jacob Kreybill, a grandson of Jacob Kreybill, is living in the West. On the northeast branch of Swing Creek the first mill was

Zook's Factory,

of which I have spoken. A short distance above was Worke's tannery, of which I have also written.

A mile above Worke's is a very old corn mill, built of stone, which was known eighty years ago as Breneman's mill. The mill is very old and probably dates many years beyond the Revolutionary period.

At the head of Spring Creek we find

Nissly's Grist and Saw Mill.

This mill stands upon land taken up by John Wilkins, Indian trader, as early as 1721 or 22. He died in 1741, and his son, John Wilkins, and other heirs sold some of this land to Nissly in or about the year 1762. He built a grist mill about the year he purchased the property. It is still in the name of the family and in full operation.

John Gardner settled at the mouth of Chickies Creek, in 1720, and built a

Hemp Mill,

which stood on the east side of the creek, which was in full operation for a hundred years. The saw mill at the mouth of the creek was built by Henry Haldeman about the year 1826. The large stone merchant mill at the mouth of Spring Creek was built by Christian Haldeman, sixty years ago. Like many other merchant mills in the county, it is idle.

At the junction of Big and Little

Chickies Creeks Henry Shearer built a very large stone merchant mill, also idle. At the lower point of Rapho township, at the junction of the two Chickies creeks, a

Carding Mill

was erected by Christian Martin one hundred and fifty years ago. The ditch for the head race is all that marks the spot upon which it stood.

Half a mile above the mouth of Little Chickies Creek, Abe Hiestand had a

railing and Saw Mill

ninety years ago, and it was probably built many years before that time.

Rhoddy's Grist and Saw Mill

were built as early as 1721 or 1722. They stood where Risser's Mill now stands. The present brick mill was built by Mr. Houtz about eighty years ago. The stone building behind the brick mill is part of the Rhoddy Mill, and after the erection of the new mill the old one was used as a clover mill. Joseph Worke, before mentioned, married a daughter of Mr. Rhoddy, who died in the year 1733. He directed his executors to build a grist mill along Conewago creek for his son, Alexander Rhoddy, within two years after his death.

In 1745, James Rhoddy, son of above, sold the mills and 350 acres to John Forry and Joseph Sherrick. The Sherricks owned some of this land until within a few years ago.

Tobias Miller owned the mill above, which I have described. There were seven or eight mills further up the stream which, for want of space, I cannot describe.

Patrick Hays built a

Carding and Fuliing Mill,

which stood above the stone arch bridge at Myer's, about the year 1730. A few years ago the stone walls of the old mill

fell down, and nothing but the foundation walls mark the spot.

Jacob Brubaker, grandson of the pioneer settler, Hans Brubaker, built a

Fulling Mill

on Little Chickies creek before the Revolutionary War, which stands below **Mas-**tersonville.

The first grist mill above Rhoddy's was built by David Hays about the year 1730. John Hamaker, Esq., purchased this grist mill.

In the year 1772 Mr. Hamaker was one of the County Justices and was a prominent man in his time.

This mill was a log structure and is now used in part for a dwelling. John Hertzler purchased the farm and mill about ninety-years ago, and built a new mill of brick four stories high and about seventy feet square. He made a tunnel through solid rock from the dam to the new mill. The Hertzlers sold to Shenk, and the mill is now owned by Michael Moore, who in recent years has converted it into a roller process mill. Under the latter's ownership the mill has done a large business. When other mills were going down this one held its own and prospered.

" Commodore " Greider built a large stone grist mill about the year 1804. This is the first mill above M. Moore's, and is now owned by his brother, John H. Moore.

About forty-eight years ago John Gamber built an

Anthracite Furnace,

which he named Sarah Anne, after his wife. Gamber sold the furnace to David R. Porter, then Governor of the State. A cinder pile and a blacksmith shop are all that remain to mark the spot where the furnace stood. Above this mill was

Musselman's Mill,

owned by him ninety years ago. The date of its erection is much earlier. In late years it was called "Bender's " mill, and still later Barr's mill. The latter also had a distillery in connection with the grist mill.

Above Barr's mill at the crossing of the old Paxtang and Conestoga road Samuel Scott located and built a

Grist and Saw Mill

on the west side of the creek about the year 1729 or 30 ; after the above road was built, in 1732 he built an

Ordinary,

which became a famous tavern during the French and Indian wars, and during the Revolutionary period. When the officers and troops marched to join Braddock's and Forbes' armies they invariably halted at Scott's tavern to dine, it being a convenient distance from Lancaster. Mr. Scott's first wife was a Miss Beyd. His second wife was Hannah Polk, an aunt of President James K. Polk. He died in 1777. He gave the mills and tavern to his nephew, Captain Hugh Pedan, a Revolutionary soldier.

Alter Mr. Pedan, the tavern and mills passed to his son, John. The tavern was rented to the late John Guy, who also ran a line of stages from Lancaster to Harrisbnrg. Henry Shenk bought the mill and water right and built a very fine stone grist and merchant mill on the east aide of the creek. The mill is now owned by Mr. Garber, who does a successful business.

The Shawnee Corn and Grist mill

was built of stone, near the mouth of Shawnee Run, about the year 1730, by Samuel Blunston and James W right, who settled where Columbia is, in the year 1726. During Braddock's war and after-

wards, when General Forbes was organizing his army at Fort Rays, or Bedford, 1758, James Wright supplied these armies with dour packed in kegs and carried to Bedford on pack horses. He also supplied the Indians on Turkey Hill with flour.

An Interesting Legal Case.

Herewith I present to the Society an opinion of the Supreme Court, which gives a history of this mill. In this paper there is much which would interest the legal profession.

In 1796 Samuel J. Atlee built a tan yard a short distance above this mill. Fifty years ago Shawnee Furnaces absorbed most of the land and water belonging to the tan yard. About a mile above the tannery George Getz had a grist mill. I remember when a boy of going into the mill to look at the water wheel and found Mr. Getz treading the wheel. The stream of water was very small. The wheel was about twenty-eight feet in diameter. When the turnpike to Chestnut Hill was built, forty years ago, the mill was torn down.

Abram Hess, of Conestoga, purchased several hundred acres of land from James Logan about the year 1730, which was located along and near the creek, which empties into the river above "Vinegar's Ferry." Mr. Hess, who was a miller, built a

Grist Mill and Saw Mill

soon after his purchase of the land. In the year 1760 he sold the mill and land to John Grove (Groff), miller, also of Conestoga. In the year 1787 John Grove conveyed the grist and saw mill to Henry Grove, a son of John, and in 1795, for £3,800, Henry Grove sold 100 acres and the mills to Abram Shook, who came from Manor township.

After the Revolution, Conrad Ziegler purchased a farm above Shock's Mill.

About fifty-five years ago sons of **Mr.** Ziegler built a large stone grist mill.

Prior to that Huber had a grist mill at or near where Ziegler's mill is. At or near where Ziegler's mill stands, James Le Tort, Indian trader, had a store and trading post, and was followed by James Lowrey and Captain James Paterson, Indian traders.

In the year 1750 Jacob Downer, the founder of Maytown, built a tannery upon the same stream where the road from Galbraith's mill to Conoy creek crossed.

At the mouth of Conoy creek, a hundred years ago, Melchoir Brenneman, and his son-in-law, John Haldeman, built a large stone merchant mill and saw mill and still house. The grandfather of the late Bayard Taylor did the stone work. The farm and mills are now owned by Henry M. Wiley.

All of the land from the mouth of Conoy Creek, for about one mile and a half, was settled by John Galbraith, Indian trader, before spoken of.

About a mile above the Wiley mill, in the year 1756, Conrad Wolff purchased fifty-four acres from John Galbraith and built a grist and saw mill.

Dewald (David) Wolff, son of above, sold one-third of the mill to George Bambaugh, of Derry, and in the year 1709 Bambaugh sold his interest to Henry Nissly, miller, of Rapho, who sold to John Engle and Adam Brenneman. Engle sold his interest to Brenneman. About the year 1798 Brenneman built a new mill of stone. Of late years it was known as

Erb's

It has been idle for some years. Alexander Hutchinson built a grist and saw mill about a mile above Erb's mill. In the year 1749 the Hutchinsons sold to John Wilson who sold to John Engle in

the year 1770. In recent years this mill was known as

Horst's Mill

A. mile further up the stream there was another mill known ninety years ago as

Horst's Mill

The next mill above was called

Bruhaker's Mill

Next above was

Root's Mill

Next one

Gish's MM.

Philip Gloninger built a grist and saw mill on Conoy Creek where either Bruhaker's or Root's mill was, as early as 1740. In 1749 Gloninger sold the mill to Martin Nissly.

On the west side of Conoy creek, where Elizabethtown now is, Captain Thomas Harris established an Indian store and trading honse, and built a tavern about the year 1730, called the

Bear Tavern.

In the year 1731 or 1732 the Paxtang and Conestoga road was laid out and constructed from Paxtang to his tavern, and in a year or two the road was finished to Scott's Tavern (before mentioned) and extended to Lancaster Townstead in two or three years. This tavern was one of the headquarters for the Indian traders. Harris was Captain of a company of Rangers in the year 1748. In 1749 he sold his farm and tavern to Lazarus Lowrey, another Indian trader, who resided on Senator J. D. Cameron's farm in Donegal. In the same year Mr. Lowrey rented the tavern to Captain Barnabas Hughes, who purchased the tavern and farm in 1750. In the following year he laid out a town and named it after his *wife*, Elizabeth. Mr. Hughes was Captain and Commissary of Subsistence in the French and Indian wars. He was the first person to bring the news to Carl-

isle of the disaster to Braddock's army. He was also at the battle of Loyal Nonnon in 1758. He moved to Baltimore in the year 1765, and became largely engaged in the iron hnsiness. His sons, Colonel Daniel, Colonel John and Colonel Samuel, were all prominent officers in the Revolutionary war. They all became extensive iron masters in Western Maryland and in Harford and Cecil counties. The sons sold the tavern and farm and ground rents in Elizabethtown to Captain Alexander Boggs.

At a point where the road from Hummelstown to Harris' tavern crosses Conewago creek, Captain Harris purchased a

Grist and Saw Mill

from Captain Samuel Smith in the year 1750. The latter moved to the Juniata Valley and became one of the Judges of Cumberland county. The ditch which carried the water to this mill is all that remains to mark the spot where it stood.

The Harris family moved to Deer Creek, Baltimore county, Maryland, in the year 1766. The sons were prominent officers in the Revolutionary War.

The first mill on Conewago Creek was called

Nissly Mill

as early as 1815. There was probably a grist mill there long before that.

The Grubbs built a forge where the Pennsylvania railroad crosses the creek, about the year 1800, and in the year 1820 they bnilt

Mount Vernon Furnace.

Some years later they built a grist and saw mill.

Patrick Allison built a grist and saw mill below where Colebrook Furnace is as early as 1740.

I **have** only noticed the earlier mills, in a small portion of the county.

There has been a wonderful depreciation in the value of grist and merchant mills within the last fifty years. The water wheels in many of them stand still,

Hemp, oil, clover and carding mills are seldom to be seen.

Another industry has gone the same way. When I was a boy, and driving along the turnpike from Marietta to Lancaster, I could count twenty-three still hones. There is not one to be seen there now.

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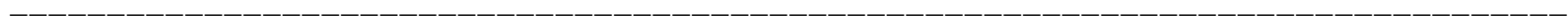
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