

Warwick Township Mill History

(excerpts from <http://millpictures.com>)

Compass Mill – Earlier log mill 1756, this mill 1775 Watersource: Lititz Run

The first grist mill was built on land purchased by George Kline from Hans Bender, whose sons had built the 700' headrace and 900' tailrace to supply an earlier saw mill. The 1756 log mill built was by the Moravian Brethren with water power obtained from Lititz Run.



Located along PA 772/Rothsville Road about 2 miles SE of Lititz on Lititz Run.

Millport Roller Mill – Earlier mill c. 1816-22, this mill 1892

Watersource: Lititz Run

The flour and grist mill was fed by the waters of Lititz Run, dropping 12' from the dam as it traveled through the 1700' headrace, a 2500' tailrace returned the water after turning the two turbines to produce 50 barrels/day of flour.



Located five miles SE of Akron, PA. Make an angled right turn from PA 272 onto PA 722, a couple hundred yards north of US 222. Turn right on Becker Road after 0.25 miles, go about 1.5 miles, turn left on E. Millport Road. The mill is on the right in less than a half mile, after passing Warwick Road junction on the right.

Rome Mill – pre 1785 mill, this mill 1885

Watersource: Lititz Run at mouth of Huber Run

A hemp and an oil mill were in operation at this site from pre 1785 through the first decade, at least of the 1800's, owned and operated by Christian and Susanna Hess. The mill was also used for grist, corn meal, and as a distillery upon occasion.

In 1884, the stone mill was consumed by fire; but it was rebuilt with the first story stone foundation used for a 2.5 story frame mill structure. David Huber later operated the mill, as did his son, John Huber after him.



Located at the east end of Lititz, turn left just past Oak St. off of E. Main St./PA 772 onto Lititz Run Road. The mill is at the first corner, 0.2 mile off PA 772.

Pfoutz's Mill/Rothsville Mill – 1793 Watersource: Lititz Run (Carter Creek)

Jacob Geyer had a hemp & oil mill on Pfoutz land in pre 1772. Johannes Pfoutz (Pfautz) built the present 2.5 story limestone mill with basement to 40' X 60' or less dimensions in 1793. Pfoutz owned the first mill from 1786, and he and his son owned the current mill through 1814.

After going through a couple of different owners, J.K. Krantz bought the mill in 1870. Krantz operated the flour, grist, and saw mill with a production of 10 barrels/day of flour thru 1875. Two turbines operated the machinery, fed by a 50' headrace from the dam 8.5' higher upstream. The waters were released back to Lititz Run via a 50' tailrace. Ben Flory had the mill in 1883, although Hess and Pfoutz were also credited with ownership at the same time.



Located on Rothsville Road 2.5 miles SE of PA 501 in Lititz, PA. The mill is at Rothsville Road and N. Heck Road just east of Lititz Run bridge and Warwick Road junction.

Millway Mill – Earlier 1760, present 1832**Watersource: Hammer Creek**

This 50' X 75' limestone 3.5 story grist mill was built in 1832 by Jacob Shaeffer. It was later owned by Levi Brubaker, Jonas Nolt, and E.H. Shenk. In 1908, James S. Moore sold the mill built on Hammer Creek just west of where the joined Middle Creek and Cocalico Creek merges with Hammer Creek, and Cocalico Creek continues to flow to the Conestoga River, to John H. Reitz who in turn sold to L.S. Wither, the last operator. The mill interior was rebuilt after a 1908 fire. The mill was probably closed in the 1920's or 1930's. In 1999, the mill was in fair condition with a large hole in the southeast side, probably to make an implement access, and was used for storage.



Located in Rothsville on PA 772 eastbound, take a left on Rothsville Road towards Akron, PA. Turn left onto Meadow Valley Road, continue over the Conrail tracks, past Cocalico Road and the mill is on the right side of Meadow Valley Road.

Willow Bank Mill/Snavely Mill – 1st mill 1750, 2nd mill 1796, this mill 1850

Watersource: Hammer Creek

The first mill, of logs, was built by Christian and Elizabeth Mayer Eby in about 1750. A new log grist mill was built in 1796 by Johannes and Maria Witwer Eby, which passed to Elias and Elizabeth Erb Eby. This mill burned in 1850 and was not rebuilt because it was uninsured.

The present mill was built in 1850 on the opposite side of the road from the first two mills, this time in Warwick Township, of native limestone 3.5 stories high and measuring 54' X 96'. An occurrence was recorded in 1889, when the mill became so overloaded with grain that the third floor dropped down through the rest of the floors. The walls were reinforced and the mill continued business after the grain was cleaned out of the Hammer Creek spillway.

The mill is still operating as large merchant mill enterprise. It has changed greatly from 1987 to 2004, with much more technology and increased productivity. The 4200' headrace from the 8' dam upstream, with 2 turbines and 1 overshot wheel succeeded in producing 85 barrels/day of flour in the mid 1850's. Flour, grist, corn meal and a cooperage were main uses of the mill.



The location from PA 772 in Lititz; go north on PA 501/N. Broad St./Furnace Hills Road for about 3.25 miles, turning right onto Snavely Mill Road. Go another 2 miles to the mill on the right just before Hammer Creek.

Brunnerville/Snavely Mill (Elizabeth Twp./Warwick Twp. border) – log mill-1792/stone mill-1855
Watersource: Hammer Creek

This 45' X 60' very attractive mill of 4.5 stories in height was constructed by Martin D. Grube in 1855, as is evidenced by the datestone on the northeast side between the third story windows.

Two turbines turned the millstones to grind flour (12 barrels/day), grist, and corn meal. It was also utilized as a saw mill and cooperage. By 1969, it was being used for storage and by 1987, it was as it appears today, converted into a residence on Hammer Creek in Lancaster County. This mill is one of five, out of seven, that is still standing along the banks of Hammer Creek in Lancaster County.



Location: starting at PA 501 in the town of Lititz, take PA 772 for ¼ mile, turn left on N. Water St. for ¾ mile. After the Newport Rd. intersection, the road becomes Brunnerville Rd. Proceed for 2.5 mile. Brunnerville is reached in 1.5 mile, then continue for another mile to Snavely Mill Rd. Turn left, the Brunnerville Mill is located at the corner of Snavely Mill Road and Brunnerville Road.