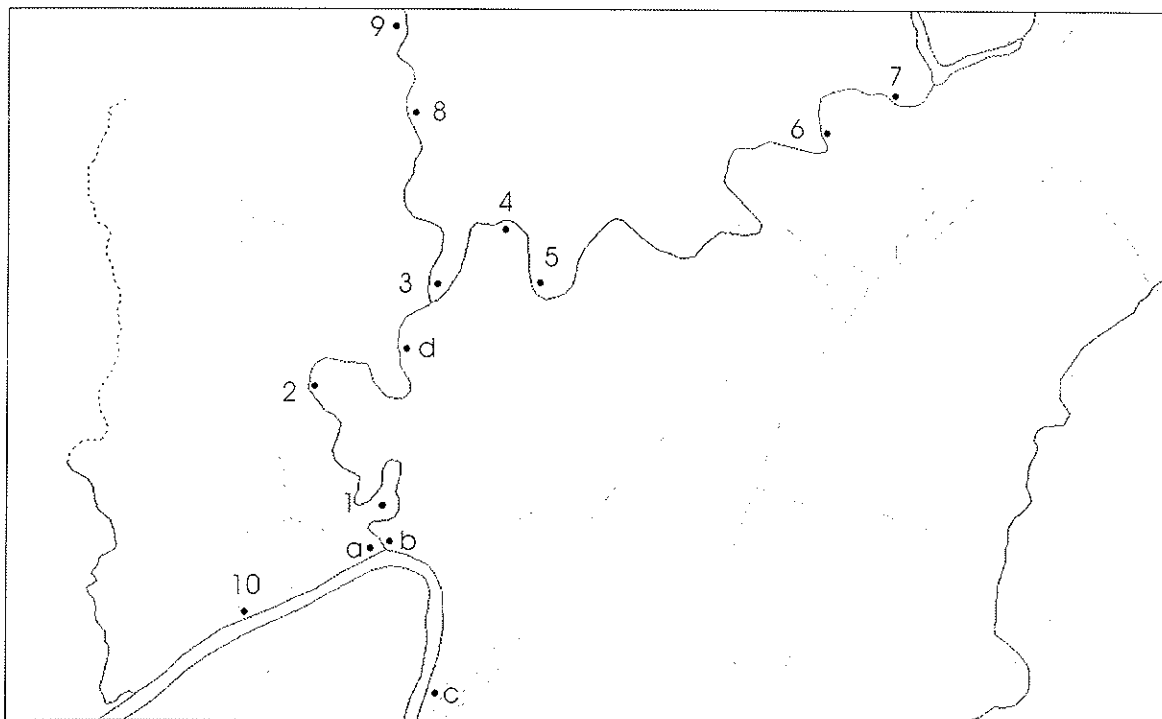


Mills and Other Early Industrial Sites on Lower Howard's Creek

by Harry G. Enoch



Mills

1. Combs (sm/gm)
2. Martin-Holder-Bush etc. (gm)
3. Taylor (gm)
4. Bryan-Taylor (gm/fm)
5. Martin-Reed-Halyard etc. (sm/gm)
Vivion's woolen factory
6. Rees-Wills (gm)
7. Wilkerson-Tate (gm)
8. Smith-Didlake (gm)
9. unknown
10. Calmes & Adams-Martin (sm/gm)

Other Sites

- a. Holder's warehouse
- b. Holder's boatyard
- c. Bush's warehouse
- d. Bush's distillery

Not Located

- Taylor's distillery
Trimble's distillery
Hockaday's distillery

sm—sawmill; gm—gristmill; fm—fulling mill

Mill Sites

1. Samuel R. Combs

gristmill and sawmill, west side of Lower Howard's Creek near the mouth, opposite Jonathan Bush

1823	OB 6:568	<i>aqd</i> ¹ ("a water Grist and saw mill on Howards Lower creek near the mouth")
1824	OB 6:674	road from "mouth of Howard's lower Creek up same to Combs Mill"

2. John Martin

gristmill, east side of Lower Howard's Creek

c1788	Ambrose Coffee]	John Martin
c1790	deposition]	John Holder
1799	DB 7:282, 283	Matthew Patton
1806	DB 7:282, 283	Jonathan Bush
1850	Manuf. Census	Jonathan Bush flour mill
1857	by descent	William T. Bush
1860	Manuf. Census	William Bush mill
1861	DB 42:310	James F. McKinney
1867	DB 45:593	Alexander S. Hampton
1870	Manuf. Census	A. S. Hampton flour & grist mill
1880	Manuf. Census	Alexander Hampton flour & grist mill
1891	DB 58:66	John W. and Joel T. Hart

3. William Taylor

gristmill, at the confluence of West Fork and Lower Howard's Creek

1809	OB 4:327, 337	<i>aqd</i> ("a water grist mill on his own land")
1814	by descent	Edmund T. Taylor
1850	Manuf. Census	Edmond T. Taylor flour mill
1860	Manuf. Census	Edwin T. Taylor mill
1870	Manuf. Census	E. T. Taylor flour & grist mill
1880	Manuf. Census	Edmon Taylor flour & grist mill

4. Jonathan Bryan

gristmill, later a fulling mill, on the south side of Lower Howard's Creek

1793	OB 1:5	<i>aqd</i> ("a water Grist Mill on his own Land on Howards Creek"—this was the first request for a mill in Clark County)
1797	DB 6:131	William Taylor (built a fulling mill)
1815	WB 3:367	Hannah Taylor
1847	DB 33:286	Edmund T. Taylor

¹ *ad quod damnum*: obtaining a writ of *ad quod damnum* from the county court was the first step in the process of getting county permission to build a water mill.

5. Orson Martin

sawmill and gristmill, later a woolen factory, on the north side of Lower Howard's Creek

1796	OB 2:113	<i>aqd</i> ("a water gristmill on Howard Creek near his sawmill")
1812	DB 9:147	James Reed
1813	DB 9:352	John Halyard
1829	DB 23:605	Ambrose Christy
1838	DB 28:468	Thomas Vivion (built a woolen "Factory")
1849	DB 34:274	Edmund W. Hockaday
1850	Manuf. Census	Isaac H. Hockaday wool manufactory
1856	DB 38:118	James P. Lyddane & George O. Wiggard
1860	Manuf. Census	Lyddan & Wygart woolen factory
1866	DB 42:369	James F. McKinney
1874	DB 45:438	Robert Bush, of color ("Old Factory Place")

6. John Rees

gristmill, on Lower Howard's Creek below Wilkerson/Tate Mill

1805	OB 4:5, 13-14	<i>aqd</i> ("near his own house ... at the Edge of the great road")
1811	Processions, p. 68	"M Willses old mill dam" (John Rees purchased 38 acres from Matthew Wills in 1806. DB 7:214, 216)

7. John Wilkerson

gristmill, on the north side of Lower Howard's Creek just below Waterworks Road

1811	Processions, p. 68	"Major Wilkerson's Mill dam"
1818	DB 15:28	William Tate
1838	DB 28:426	Tate mortgages the tract "where said Tate lives and where Tates mill is situated"
1857	by descent	Zachariah Tate
1861	<i>National Union</i> , February 1, 1861	"Nathaniel Ragland . . . ½ mile from Tate's mill"
1870	Manuf. Census	Zachariah Tate's horse mill

8. Samuel Smith/Robert Didlake

gristmill, on the east side of West Fork

1796	OB 2:86, 119	<i>aqd</i> (Samuel Smith—"one fourth mile below the Big Spring")
1806	OB 4:94, 103	<i>aqd</i> (Robert Didlake—"at or near a Mill Seat formerly condemned for Samuel Smith")

9. unknown

mill site on West Fork, about ½ mile or less upstream from Smith/Didlake

10. Henry Calmes Jr. and Lewis Adams

1861	E. A. Hewitt map	steam sawmill and gristmill near Combs Ferry Landing
1864	DB 42:476	Willis F. and John W. Martin buy steam mill and blacksmith shop
1870	Manuf. Census	Martin & McDonald steam sawmill and gristmill
1877	Beers & Lanagan map	J. W. Martin steam gristmill near Combs Ferry Landing
1880	Manuf. Census	Martin & Bros. steam sawmill

Other Mills—Site Uncertain

Isham Allan

1796	OB 2:118	“road from Orson Martin’s sawmill near Isham Allan’s mill”
------	----------	---

Edmund Hockaday & Benjamin Exum

1845	OB 11:332	<i>aqd</i> (“a Saw mill on their lands ... Jonathan Bush being the proprietor of the land on the opposite side of the creek”)
------	-----------	---

William Wilkerson

1822	OB 6:316, 321	road “from William Wilkersons mill on the west fork of Howards creek to John McCalls mill on Boons Creek”
------	---------------	--

Smith’s Mill

1827	DB 23:485	sale of a tract “on howards creek opposite <u>Smiths Saw mill</u> , thence with Philip Bush and Robert Clarks line to the road leading from Boonsborough to Strodes Station”
------	-----------	---

Webb’s Mill

undated		“A short distance up West Fork was Webb’s Mill. This was limited in capacity and the water power was uncertain, hence it did not amount to much.” <i>Clark County Republican</i> , April 15, 1916.
---------	--	---