

SPOOM

Mid-Atlantic Chapter

Spring 2014



View From the Headrace

By Bob McLaughlin

We continue to evolve as an organization and will continue to review our relationship with SPOOM. I will put together a proposal before our next meeting this fall.

As I said at the last meeting we need to find ways to spend some funds to support mill preservation. I would welcome any suggestions. Some suggestions I have already received are:

Explore ways to update the online mill map project.

We are pursuing this with Northern Virginia Community College to see what the costs might be.

Provide some support for a person to attend the National Conference. This could be a essay contest or a research grant.

I will apply for an EIN for the organization so we can move funds to a new bank account.

It is time to elect new officers. I have asked Marlene Lufriu to serve as the Nominating Committee chair to gather names for candidates for the offices. Anyone interested or if you know of anyone who might be interested please contact her at ivamar@netzero.net or (717)359-4363. Also, we are still looking for a newsletter editor and a chapter photographer. Anyone who is interested in either of those positions can contact me at rlm101@verizon.net.

April 2014 Meeting

Bob McLaughlin

The Spring 2014 meeting of the Chapter was held at Colvin Run Mill on April 3rd through 5th.

Thursday evening was a meet and greet dinner at a local diner. 16 people signed up for this event.

Friday was a day at Mount Vernon and the George Washington Mill and Distillery. 25 were registered for the day at Mount Vernon.



The Hopperboy in action at the George Washington Gristmill. Photo credit: Carol Joyce.



Two of the three stills at the George Washington distillery. Photo credit: Carol Joyce.



The 16 sided barn at Mount Vernon. Photo credit: Carol Joyce.

April 2014 Meeting

Bob McLaughlin

Saturday after the meeting at Colvin Run Mill a car caravan trip to Locke's Mill was made to see the restoration that Jon and Carol Joyce have done. Those of you that have followed the progress of this project will remember that Jon was always within 2 weeks of running the mill. Well, it actually ran while we were there, grinding some corn.



Colvin Run Mill in the early morning sun.
Photo credit: Bob McLaughlin



Locke's Mill in the afternoon sun.
Photo credit: Bob McLaughlin

Burwell-Morgan mill was open and grinding on Saturday afternoon. Colvin Run Mill was open and grinding on Sunday afternoon.

Minutes of April 2014 Meeting

Judy Grove

Mid-Atlantic Chapter April 5, 2014

Society for the Preservation of Old Mills Semiannual Meeting

Location: Colvin Run Mill
10017 Colvin Run Rd
Great Falls VA 22066

President Bob McLaughlin opened the business meeting at 9:30 AM. Bob and Marge Lundegard, Mike Henry, Mason Maddox and Nick Yannarell, our hosts from Colvin Run, were introduced. Since Colvin Run already has a county map, Bob presented a county mill map to Jon and Carol Joyce.

Minutes of the August 2013 meeting hosted by Kemps Mill in Williamsport MD were approved as distributed. The balance in the treasury is \$6,470.81. See Attachment B for a detailed report.

As of April 3, 2014 memberships include 44 chapter/SPOOM (\$10), 0 non-SPOOM members (\$15), 23 sustaining memberships (\$25), and 9 organizational memberships (\$50) paid in 2014. Four additional organizational memberships are still in effect, since these run for 12 months rather than on the calendar year. This gives a total of 80 memberships in good standing.

Project Report: Ivan Lufriu

- . Brenneman-Turner Mill in Harrisonburg VA received a SPOOM grant for their restoration project
- . Requirements for SPOOM grant applicants are: membership in SPOOM, nonprofit organization, and open to the public
- . Jason Boyer has equipment to dispose of from his mill in Woodsboro MD. Steve Spring photographed the equipment from the upper floors which is for sale for advertising in Old Mill News
- . Dan Campbell forwarded a report his firm had done earlier on Udree Mill in Oley Furnace, Berks County to the current owner, Mrs. Kimberly Beyer.

Minutes of April 2014 Meeting (cont.)

Judy Grove

SPOOM Chapter Incorporation: Bob McLaughlin reported on the teleconference with SPOOM Board members and chapter presidents. No final decisions have been made regarding the extension of 501(c)(3) status and liability coverage to chapters. Currently we are an unincorporated association. A motion by Bob Lundegard, seconded by Terry Koller, to obtain an EIN and open an account as the SPOOM Mid-Atlantic Chapter passed. A motion to form a committee of chapter members to draft a recommendation on the relationship between chapters and the national organization to present to SPOOM board members prior to their October meeting in Michigan (with an amendment to include a SPOOM board member either Ivan Lufriu or Charles Yeske) was made by Bob Lundegard, seconded by Ken Weaver, and passed by the group. This recommendation would address the formal process for chapters to use the name, the 501(c)(3) status and liability coverage of the national organization for a set fee.

2014 Fall Meeting: Ken Weaver named Plains Mill (Zach Grande), McCormick Mill and Wades Mill as possible sites for inclusion on the October 4th tour hosted by Brenneman-Turner Mill, Harrisonburg VA.

Nominations Committee: Marlene Lufriu will serve as chair of nominations. Jon Joyce, Vice President; Ivan Lufriu, project coordinator; and Steve Spring, photographer and website photo gallery manager, will be ending their terms this year.

Website Advertising: On a motion by Carol Joyce, with a second by Jon Joyce, the group agreed to provide one ad per member at no cost and charge \$50 for businesses to place ads.

TIMS: Charles Yeske provided information on the benefits of a \$43 annual membership to The International Molinological Society, including two technical publications per year and access to symposiums.

Minutes of April 2014 Meeting (cont.)

Judy Grove

Suggestions for Use of Treasury Funds: Scholarships to SPOOM meetings, extension of the mapping project to additional counties (Bob L will check with Mike Krimmer on the cost), funds to SPOOM for project grants to mills within our chapter, reserve funds for process to formalize relationship between SPOOM and chapters.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Grove, Secretary
717-741-4366
JudyGrove@Verizon.net
March 27, 2012

Minutes of April 2014 Meeting (cont.)

Judy Grove

Upcoming Chapter Meetings:

October 3-5, 2014 Brenneman Turner Mill near Harrisonburg VA (contact: Ken Weaver) is the only surviving grist mill in Rockingham County VA which is fully equipped. On October 6, 1864 Union soldiers set it on fire during General Sheridan's attempt to destroy the 'Breadbasket of the Confederacy'. This will be reenacted as part of the Civil War Sesquicentennial. For more info on the Mill, check our web site at www.vbmhc.org/btmill

St Vincent Gristmill in Latrobe PA and **Union County Mills PA** with Tom Rich were requested as potential hosts for 2015.

Other Announcements

SPOOM Mid-Atlantic Newsletter: The position of editor is open. If interested or to submit articles, contact Bob McLaughlin RLM101@verizon.net. Newsletters will likely only be published twice a year. Time sensitive information may be submitted at least two weeks ahead of the event to Judy in paragraph form for posting on the website.

Mid-Atlantic Chapter Report in Old Mill News: Vice President Jon Joyce sends a quarterly chapter report. Send information on events of general interest to jonjoyce@msn.com by the first of February, May, August and November deadlines. Pictures may be sent to Steve Spring at millfoto@aol.com.

Chapter Member Contact Information: A few days prior to the event names of attendees will be sent by Email to those who pre-registered. Contact information for individuals may be requested from the secretary when needed. Information related to milling topics or events may be submitted to the secretary for distribution via Email alerts upon approval by the board.

Minutes of April 2014 Meeting (cont.)

Judy Grove

SPOOM MID-ATLANTIC TREASURER'S REPORT
Attachment B

AS OF: APRIL 1, 2014

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$6470.81

TOTAL DEPOSITS: SEPTEMBER, 2013 – APRIL 1, 2014: \$1847.50

CHECKS WRITTEN:

AUGUST CONFERENCE EXPENSES: (SEPTEMBER 22, 2013)

HARRY ANDERSON: \$150.00

RICHARD NYE: \$650.00

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE: \$200.00

WEBSITE: 4TH QUARTER, 2013 \$119.85 (DECEMBER 2, 2013)

1ST QUARTER, 2014 \$133.60 (JANUARY 5, 2014)

JUDY GROVE (POSTAGE): \$18.40 (FEBRUARY 5, 2014)

APRIL CONFERENCE PRE-PAY: (MARCH 27, 2014)

MT. VERNON INN: \$675.00

MT. VERNON ESTATE: \$322.00

A boat mill discovered in the Doubs, at Sermesse, France

Submitted by Susan Langley

Annie Dumont, Ministry of Culture (DRASSM) and UMR6298 ARTeHIS

Philippe Moyat, ETSMC and UMR6298 ARTeHIS

Agnès Stock, CNRS, Chrono-environnement Laboratory of Besançon, UMR 6249

The Doubs drains the massif of Jura and is the main tributary of the Saône. Its flow is very irregular with a rainfall regime to rain-snow. The high waters occur in winter (268 m³ / s), from December to April inclusive, then the flow falls gradually to its lowest level in summer; early July to September.

As this river is ruled by strong flow variations for short periods, it was not possible to install fixed mills along its banks. Also, since the Middle Ages until the early 20th century, the boat mill was the structure favored by residents to grind grain.

Archival texts, dated respectively from the late sixteenth and late seventeenth century, describe orders of mills. We learn that the boats supporting the floating mills, although they do not differ much from other boats navigating in the same river, were specifically built for this use, and that carpenters who specialized in this type of construction were installed on the banks of the Doubs.

Maps sometimes show these installations in detail, as for example at Pontoux, dated to the early nineteenth century. In this case, the dike made out of wooden stakes and a stone, for directing water to the mill wheel during low water occupies all the channel of the river. Underwater excavations have shown that it is built on piles of a Roman bridge!

Until now, we had no archaeological evidence of these floating mills. Underwater survey between Sermesse and Saunières, in the department of Saône-et-Loire, uncovered for the first time, the well preserved remains of a floating post-medieval mill.

The Sermesse mill consists of two rows of piles (called *bouchot*, *benne* or *banne* in old French), and two boat hulls (Corte and Forain) which supported the mechanism. Seven radiocarbon dates from wooden piles show the coherence of the whole set and are within the range of the fifteenth century to the first half of the seventeenth century. A sample taken from one of two boat hulls dates to the same time range.

The boats are well preserved and are caulked with moss; a common technique throughout the basin of the Saône in the Middle Ages and modern times.

The species has been identified: it is *Anomodon Viticulosus*, chosen for its robustness. The moss was held in place by small metal clips called "appes."

A boat mill discovered in the Doubs, at Sermesse, France

Two small test excavations conducted in 2012 in the two hulls of boats recovered metal wares and other objects which suggest an accidental sinking. The mill could have sunk during a violent flood or a jam, when the river was frozen. The records document that such accidents were frequent. Excavation will provide unpublished data on milling techniques and shipbuilding used before the industrial era and after the middle Ages. These data are still very rare.

The boat mill of Sermesse will be completely excavated from 2014. The site will accommodate diving archaeologists. If you wish to come or if you have information on similar findings in Canada or the United States, thank you to write to this address:

annie.dumont@u-bourgogne.fr

I am looking for sponsors to save this mill.

A boat mill discovered in the Doubs, at Sermesse, France



Fig. 1. Map of France : location of the boat-mill. Document P. Moyat.

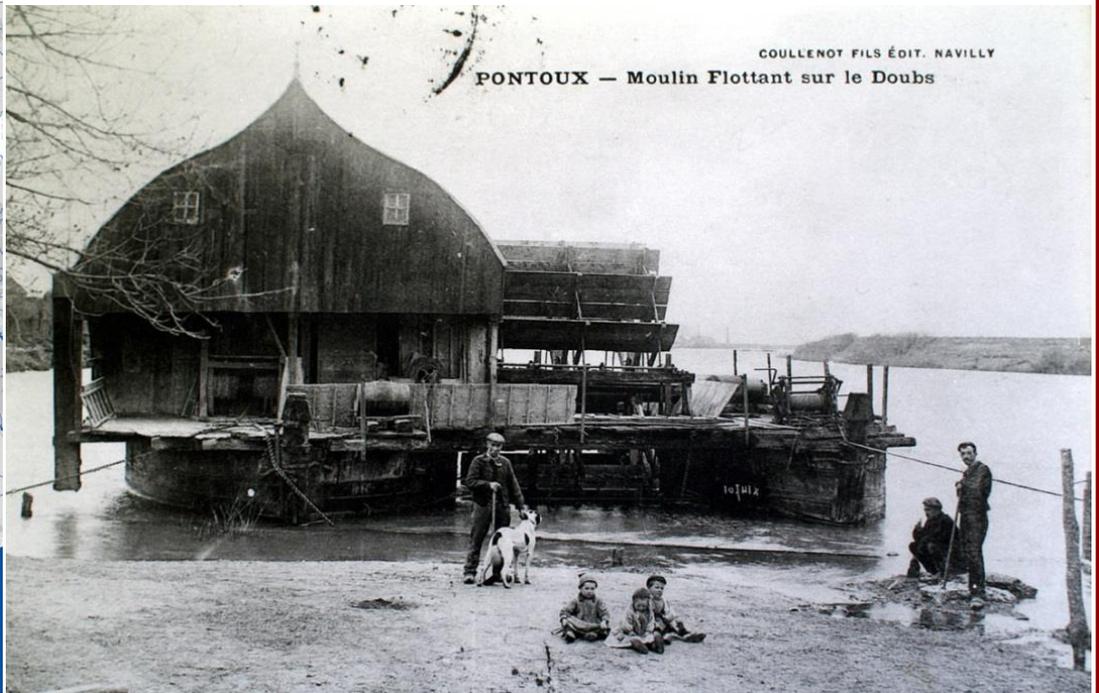


Fig. 2. Postcard from the early XIXth century showing the boat mills of Pontoux on the Doubs. Photo credit : A. Dumont.

A boat mill discovered in the Doubs, at Sermesse, France



Fig.3. Model of a boat mill from the early XXth century. Eco-museum of the Bresse Burgundian, Pierre-de-Bresse. Photo credit : A. Dumont.

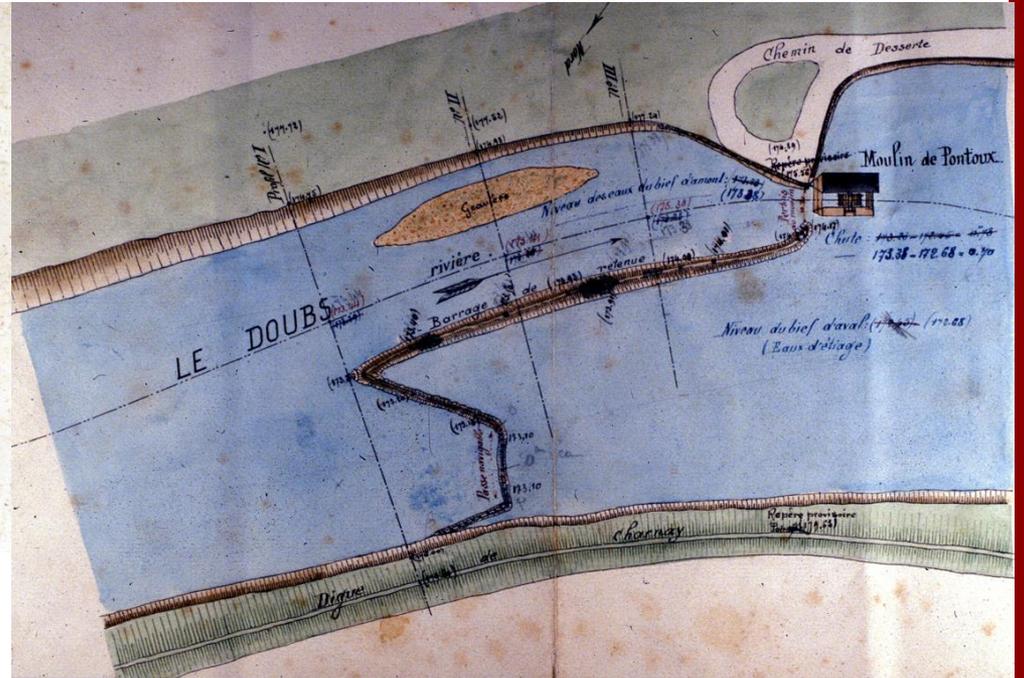


Fig.4. Mill plan of Pontoux.
Document of the Departmental archives of Saône-et-Loire.

A boat mill discovered in the Doubs, at Sermesse, France

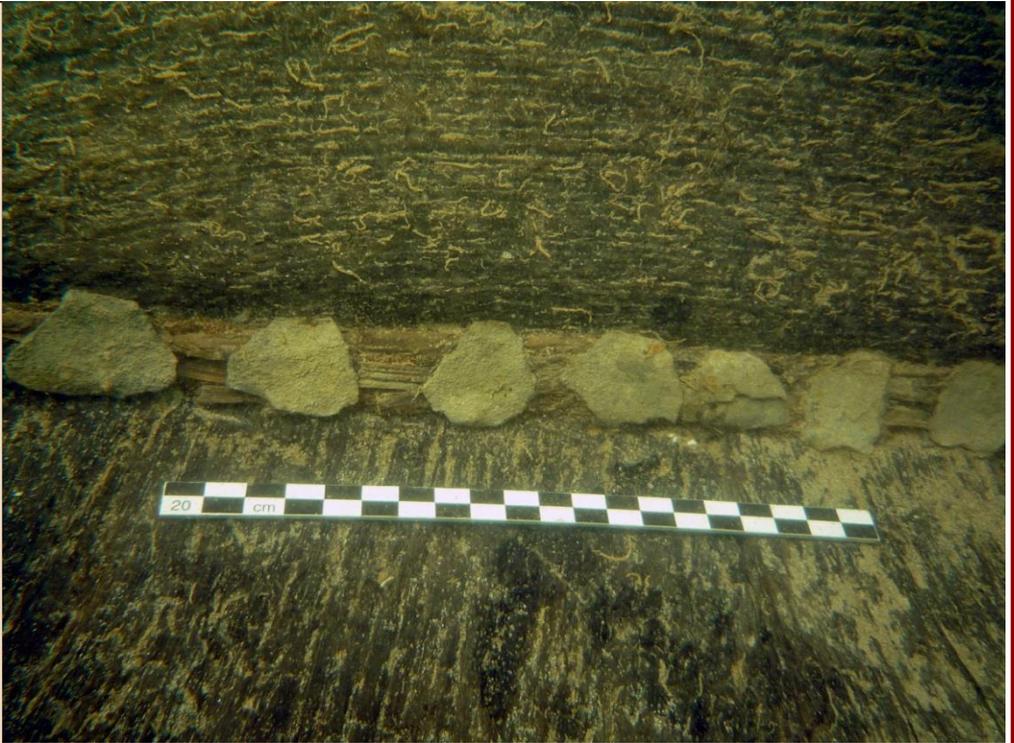
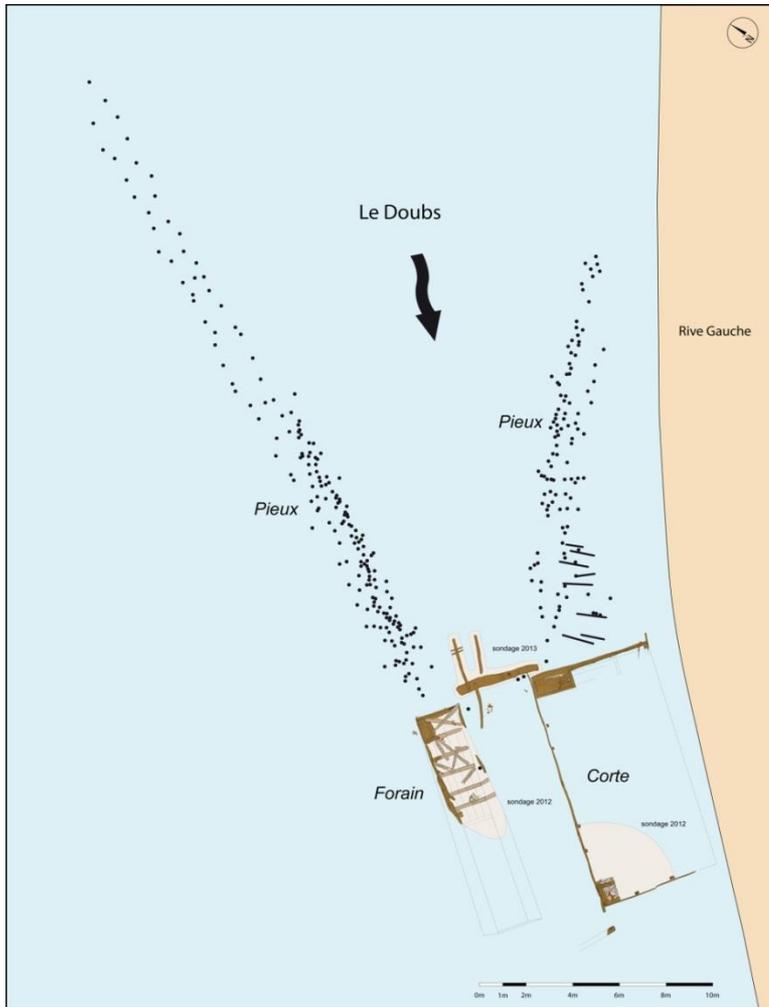


Fig. 6. Photo credit : P. Moyat.

Fig. 5. Plan of the structure. Document : A. Dumont, P. Moyat.

A boat mill discovered in the Doubs, at Sermesse, France



Fig.7a. Pitcher. Photo credit : P. Moyat



Fig.7b Pitcher Photo credit : C. Abonnat

A boat mill discovered in the Doubs, at Sermesse, France



Fig.7c Pewter bowl, without awl.
Photo credit : C. Abonnat.



Fig.7d. Steelyard which was probably for weighing fish baskets, dated from the sixteenth and seventeenth century. Photo credit : C. Abonnat.

\$\$ MEMBERSHIP DUES \$\$

SPOOM Mid-Atlantic Memberships run on the calendar year. If you have not already paid your dues for the current year, please use the attached form to do so or pay online from the Membership page on our website, www.spoommidatlantic.org. Additional forms may be downloaded from our website. Payments for each year may be sent beginning January 1. Individual memberships are \$10 with current SPOOM membership or \$15 without. Sustaining Memberships of \$25 provide additional funds for the support of mill restoration efforts within the chapter. Organizational memberships are available for \$50 and provide sponsor listing on our website. Each membership provides the quarterly newsletter, information on mills and seminars, tax deductible dues, and invitations to mill tours and semi-annual meetings. Please submit your payment promptly so you can continue to enjoy your membership benefits. Encourage like-minded friends to consider joining as well. Also check out our website for more pictures and information.



Newsletter

Articles, photographs, and upcoming events are due to the newsletter editor by November 1st, 2014 for the next newsletter. Don't forget photo credits/captions. Please use Word documents and jpgs whenever possible as pdf's are very difficult to use. Also, please remember to let everyone know about Fall Fairs and Christmas Festivities, Craft Sales, Pancake Breakfasts and all the fun and fundraising activities out there, as well as all the news and events related to your mills or mills in your neighborhood. Email to: rlm101@verizon.net.



MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please enroll me as a member of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for the Preservation Of Old Mills

Please Print

Name: _____

Milling Connection: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____ E-mail Address _____

(newsletters are emailed or posted in web site when possible to save postage)

New Subscription Renewal

Please Check One:

Individual, Member of SPOOM - \$10.00

Individual, Not Member of SPOOM - \$15.00

Sustaining Membership - \$25.00

Organization Membership - \$50.00

Please indicate level of membership and mail this form with your check or money order to

Membership Manager, 613 Green Valley Road, York PA 17403. Please make your checks out to Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Online membership payment is available through the membership page of our website www.spoommidatlantic.org as well. The Mid-Atlantic Chapter is a member in good standing of the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills and serves MD, DE, PA, VA, and DC.