TIMS E-NEWS

The International Molinological Society

Spring/ Summer 2025 Issue 38

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Intro

New Horizons : 2025-2027

Dear TIMS Members and Mill Friends,

The highlight of TIMS is always our Symposium. For those of us who were present in Portugal, this will certainly have been the case. The participants were offered a varied molinological feast. Windmills, watermills and horse mills were on the programme. The Symposium has now been over for half a year. Our editor Graham Hackney is busy bundling all contributions into a new Transactions. In addition, TIMS members can soon expect a BM on the windmills of South Africa, with an emphasis on the restored windmill named Mostert's Mill near Cape Town. This mill burned down on April 18, 2021. With the help of volunteers, the mill was rebuilt. You will have followed the progress in our digital mill magazine E-news.

The compilation, translation and layout of our E-news is in the hands of volunteers. They ensure that E-news arrives in our mailbox twice a year. We would therefore like to thank Leo van der Drift, Holly Parton and Katerina Toutouza in particular for their efforts.

By the end of this January, fifteen contributions for E-news had already been received. One comes from Portugal, among others, where Leonel Pedro tells us about his mills and family history. There is also restoration news from windmills in the United Kingdom (Heage windmill, which we visited during a TIMS Mid-Term excursion) and Gradzkie, in Poland. Also take a look at the many mill days planned for 2025. These are often good times to study mills, not only in your own country, but also abroad.
For example, take the opportunity to go to the Czech Republic and visit their wind and watermills on the first Czech open mill day!

We have now started the Zoom meetings again, with lectures about special watermills in the Black Forest and about mill conservation in Estonia. We want to continue these meetings in 2025 and I would like to invite members to give us a presentation about mill research or other topics via Zoom.

In 2025 it will be 60 years since the first TIMS activity took place. The first mill Symposium was held in Portugal under the leadership of Dr João Miguel dos Santos Simões (1907-1972). He was a Portuguese art historian and he was known as an expert in the field of the tile, the so-called azulejos. He was one of the founders of the National Tile Museum in Lisbon. The initiative of 1965 has continued and after 60 years TIMS is still alive and kicking.

Ton at windmill De Hoop in Bavel near Breda, where he is active as volunteer miller.

In 2025 we want to reflect several times on 60 years of TIMS. The Council Meeting, with a delegation of the council and correspondence members, will take place in the Netherlands this year. In the coming years, members can look forward to a Mid-Term excursion to Belgium in 2026. Eddy De Saedeleer will welcome us there. The next Symposium will take place in 2027, when we will be guests in the Muzeum Młynarstwa in Jaracz, in the Wielkopolska province in Poland. I hope and know that many are already looking forward to this. You can find more information on the TIMS web-site.

I wish all members of TIMS and our mill friends around the world a good molinological 2025.

Ton Meesters, President

Not a member of TIMS yet? Well, it is easy to enroll, just complete the on-line application form.....
Enjoy reading E-News !!

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AGENDA

At the time of writing, most National Mill Days are in preparation. **For the latest information it is important to check the websites before travelling anywhere.**

National Mill Days 2025

Austria, Saturday 14th June, Second Austrian National Mills Day.
More information on Facebook ("Mühlen in Österreich") and Instagram ("muehlen_in_oesterreich").

Belgium (Flanders), Sunday 27th April https://www.molenforumvlaanderen.be/
European Heritage Day, Sunday 7th September.

Czech Republic, Saturday 10th May, FIRST NATIONAL MILLS DAY, see invitation below.

Denmark, Sunday 15th June, https://danskmoellerforening.dk/dansk-moelledag/

France, Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th May (European Mill and Millstone Heritage Days), https://www.journees-europeennes-des-moulins.org/

France, Friday 27th, Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th June (Journées du Patrimoine de Pays & des Moulins), https://www.moulinsdefrance.org and https://www.patrimoinedepays-moulins.org/
European Heritage Days, Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th September.

Germany, Monday 9th June (Whitsun Monday)
Over 1,000 wind- and watermills are open to the public.
An index of all mills that participate in the National Mill Day will be published on the internet site of DGM, https://www.deutsche-muehlen.de/deutscher-muehlentag/
European Heritage Day, Sunday 7th September.

Italy, Saturday 17th & Sunday 18st May (European Mill Days), https://www.aiams.eu/

Netherlands, Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th May Molendagen | De Hollandsche Molen (molens.nl)
European Heritage Days, Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th September.

Portugal, Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th April https://www.moinhosdeportugal.org/ws/

Switzerland, Saturday 31st May (Saturday after Ascension Day), Schweizer Mühlentag - Mühlenfreunde (muehlenfreunde.ch)

UK, Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th May https://www.spab.org.uk/mills/national-mills-weekend
The National Mills Weekend takes place across the UK every May. More than 300 windmills and watermills will usually be open to the public to celebrate our milling heritage. For more information, please consult the website.

Regional Mill Days 2025

Sweden, Sunday 6th July, Skåne, "Möllornas Dag",
https://www.hembygd.se/foreningen-skanska-mollor/

Invitation to the First Annual Open Mills Day in the Czech Republic.

Following the successful pilot event last year, which saw nearly 50 water and windmills open their doors to the public, we are delighted to announce the first official annual Open Mills Day. This unique event will take place on Saturday, 10th May 2025, and we warmly invite all enthusiasts of technical heritage, history, and natural treasures to join us!

The pilot edition last year attracted between 20 and 300 visitors to individual mills, with the highest attendance recorded in the town of Stod, where more than 300 people participated. The event not only received an excellent public response but also received attention from the Czech media. Encouraged by this success, we are determined to establish Open Mills Day as an annual tradition.

The date, 10th May 2025, is carefully chosen to coincide with the anniversary of the legendary Battle of Chlum in 1116. According to the legend, Jiřík of Doupov earned the right to bear three red stripes in his coat of arms during this battle, a symbol that later became part of the millers' emblem. This blend of history, engineering, and legend adds a special dimension to the event.

The purpose of Open Mills Day is to remind the public of the importance of water and windmills as one of humanity's greatest inventions, while also sharing the fascinating stories connected to these structures. Moreover, we aim to open many mills that usually are not accessible to the public, offering visitors a rare and memorable experience. It will be up to the mill owners to decide how to participate—

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whether by offering reduced entry fees, enhancing guided tours, or opening parts of the mill that are normally closed to visitors.

The greatest draw for visitors will undoubtedly be those mills that are rarely or never open to the public. This event provides a unique opportunity to explore these technical marvels and enjoy an unforgettable day.

For detailed information about the participating mills and the event programme, please visit www.vodnimlyny.cz and www.povetrnik.cz from April onwards.

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing in the celebration of the heritage and splendour of our water and wind-mills!

National Mills Day No ZERO at Kalinův Mill in Stod (Czech Republic), photo by Michal Primák, 2024.

During the European Heritage Days in September, a lot of mills are open to the public as well. The programs for this event are not yet available. Always make sure to check details before you go!

Other Events

Invitation to the Second Iberian Molinology Days
15 – 17 May 2025 at Vila do Conde (Portugal)

This event brings together a group of researchers of Portugal and Spain to share studies and reflections on the molinological heritage of the Iberian Peninsula.

The focus will be on the preservation, safeguarding and valorisation of molinological heritage at risk of disappearing, based on multiple interdisciplinary views in the areas of architecture, landscaping, archaeology, history, biology, ecology, hydraulics, geography, water resources, energy, etc.

The event is organised by the Centro de Estudos de Arquitectura e Urbanismo of the Faculty of Architecture of Porto University, and the Câmara Municipal de Vila do Conde.

It will be held at the Vila do Conde Memory Center between the 15th and the 17th of May, 2025.
Centro de Memória | viladoconde.com

For more information and registration, please consult Home | Jornadas25

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TIMS Online Presentations
by Leo van der Drift

Since early 2021 TIMS organises online presentations. Initially, this was meant to offer the membership a platform during the pandemic. However, they were so successful that it was decided to continue these zoom meetings. So far there have been 24 presentations, most of these were given by TIMS members and cover a wide range of topics.

These include Development of the English Windmill, The Mills of Olymbos, Karpathos (in Greece), Watermills of Western Romania, new Insights into Persian Windmill Technology, Drop Tower Watermills in Southern Italy, and Farm Corn Mills in the Black Forest, to name a few. The most recent one was held on 1 February 2025, on the topic of Windmill Preservation in Estonia, and was presented by Mihkel Koppel, mill restoration architect. More than 50 people attended it.

All presentations can be found in the online TIMS library, where they can also be downloaded.

TIMS members are automatically invited to attend.
Non-members are advised to check the TIMS homepage at https://www.molinology.org regularly for new announcements, or follow us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/Molinology . Should you like to attend, then you can register via Facebook and get the link you need. The online presentations are free, there is no fee required.

The next presentation is scheduled for Saturday 5 April 2025.

Just now we mentioned the Black Forest.

If you visit the Black Forest, this concise digital guide will take you to the 41 finest mills of the area. Make sure that you don't miss the historic mill of TIMS member Eberhard Glatz in Seelbach (No 15 in the brochure). It comprises a corn mill, a saw mill, a set of stamps, a bread oven and a distillery. You are very welcome! [Check here]

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WORLD NEWS

PORTUGAL

The Story of our Family Mills
by Leonel Pedro and Tomé Pedro.

This is the history of my wind and water mills, all starting with the windmill that belongs to my mother's family; my grandfather was the miller.

My mother's family, my grandfather and grandmother in the middle and all their sons, my mom is the first one from the right.

When my grandfather António and my grandmother Ana died, my mother and some sisters inherited the mill.

My grandfather António and my grandmother Ana.

Since then, the mill stopped being used and began to deteriorate over the years, the process accelerating when the roof collapsed.

Many years passed until my father Leonel Pedro (I have the same name) became interested in the mill. He reached an agreement with my aunts, leaving my parents with the mill.

From the old windmill has been preserved the crown wheel and the

carriage and some wooden beams which were used in the stone house next to the mill.

The entire restoration process then began. It took some time and was always monitored by my father.

Some of the original wooden parts.

Below the mill square, a workshop with a toilet was built to provide a space for technical support to the mill.

Below the mill square there is a small workshop used for technical support to the mill.

The house that was next to the mill, where my grandparents stored cereals and had chickens, was also in ruins and all the original stones were used to rebuild it.

The house near the mill and a chicken, they used to have their nests in the walls.

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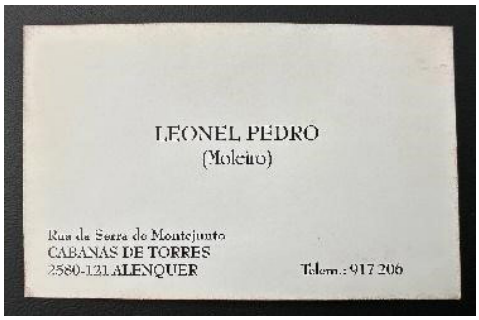
My father, who was in the Portuguese navy, perhaps found points of contact between the mill and the boats. He began to learn the miller's arts and in recent years I learned to work with him.

My parents wedding and their mom and father by their side.



My father's miller's card and my father in Portuguese navy uniform.

After this great adventure, my father found out about a watermill that was abandoned not far from the windmill, and, perhaps because he liked the restoration project so much, he contacted the heirs of the watermill. At first they would only sell the entire inheritance and not just the watermill. After trying in vain several times, he finally succeeded in buying just the watermill. It is called Farelo's Watermill, after the family who sold it.

Then began the project to restore the watermill, which was also in a terrible state, in ruins. Part of the team that worked at the windmill collaborated in the reconstruction, and once again with success.

After a few years, my father was called to the Municipal Council of Alenquer, and honoured as an honorary citizen of the municipality for his work in rebuilding this heritage, as well as the hectares of trees he planted next to his native village.

The fully functional watermill.

Honorary citizen of the municipality of Alenquer.

During a large part of this process I supported my father, by helping to take care of the business we had in Lisbon, so that he would be free to focus on the restoration. For this reason I didn't follow the whole process very closely.

Unfortunately, in 2017, my father passed away and the "herança" [inheritance] was left to my mother, my brother and me. Since then we have kept everything exactly as he left it, taking care of the necessary maintenance to keep it in good condition.

Right now, I'm trying to preserve all the work that my father did with the recovery of the mills, and trying to find financial sustainability so they can continue in the same or even better condition. At the same time, I'm trying to share the mills with more people so that they can appreciate these ancient machines of timeless engineering.

Last month I participated, together with my son Tomé Pedro and his girl-friend Maria Bastos, in the 16th Symposium that took place in Portugal. I hope to continue learning from all the members, and raise my son's awareness of this heritage that has been in our family for so long.

My son Tomé Pedro and his girl-friend Maria Bastos.

Tomé and I are learning how to get the windmill to work and we hope one day to be able to do it alone, with a not too strong wind.

O Nosso Moinho | milldatabase.org
Azenha do Farelo | milldatabase.org

Lisboa, 14th October 2024

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UNITED KINGDOM

Heage Windmill, Derbyshire : Work Begins on the Stone Tower
by Alan Gifford

Work started in Autumn 2024 to repair and refurbish the distinctive ironstone tower at Heage Windmill, the only six sail, stone towered windmill in the UK and the last working windmill in Derbyshire. Built from locally quarried ironstone (on site actually!), the exposed tower has eroded significantly and was in need of major re-pointing[1] to limit water ingress. Permission to work on the Grade 2* mill was obtained and planning went ahead.

A view of the scaffolding structure hanging beneath the fan stage (picture by Roger Hatcher, October 2024)

The squat tower is approx. 23'0" tall to the curb and 21'0" feet diameter at the base. The initial approach considered was to scaffold the entire mill to be able to access the upper half, but this was known to be a time consuming, costly exercise. Of even greater concern, it would prevent the cap, together with its full complement of shutters, from being kept into the wind. After discussion with our listed building craftsman, Andrew Churchman, it became clear that he only needed the scaffold for the upper half and could do the rest from ground level. The idea emerged 'Why not suspend a support from the fan tail staging?' This could then be turned progressively round with the cap, weather permitting, but also easily moved to windward if strong winds were forecast. In liaison with the scaffolding contractor, a tubular steel tube structure was designed, which hung clear of the lower half of the tower and provided two working platforms at working height and covered approximately 15% of the upper stonework. We did not mill whilst this was in place although it would have been possible. No problems were met in keeping the sails windward when the mill was not manned.

A general view of work in progress (picture by Roger Hatcher, October 2024)

The structure was quickly erected, at a much lower cost than full scaffold would have been, and Andrew was able work safely, using of course traditional lime mortar. A team of our volunteers were on hand at all times to turn the cap and staging as the work proceeded. The upper part of the pointing is now completed and the scaffold cradle has been removed. There will now be a pause during the winter months before the lower levels are treated, since the process is best done in warmer weather, and the job is expected to be completed by late spring this year. Milling has now been resumed to meet popular demand for our flours.

The work has been possible through the efforts of our fundraising team, who obtained grants from the AIA (Association for Industrial Archaeology) and the Headley Trust, with support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The upper tiers of stone have been re-pointed and the difference from the lower levels, yet to be done, is very evident (picture by Roger Hatcher, October 2024)

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NOTE :
The work followed on from the replacement of the sheers at the windmill the previous year, which was described by John Boucher at the 2024 TIMS Symposium and will be published in the Symposium Transactions.

[1] Pointing is the English term used for refurbishing stone work or brickwork and replacing mortar holding them together.

UK

The Story of Wind Energy Across Europe: A Journey Through Time

Introducing a new project by the Mills Archive Trust (UK), and how you can add to the story.
by Elizabeth Bartram, Director The Mills Archive Trust

Wind power has a rich history, shaping Europe's energy landscape for centuries. From the first windmills of the medieval period to the cutting-edge electricity-generating technologies of today, wind energy has been central to humanity's drive to harness nature's forces.

While many of us are already aware of the importance of windmills, there is still the opportunity to raise awareness among the public, to show how milling history is relevant and worthy of study and appreciation. This new project, 'Mills to Megawatts', is one attempt to do just that, while working to produce information that we hope is also interesting for the most accomplished mill expert.

With support from the Council of Europe and the European Union, The Mills Archive Trust is working in collaboration with the World Wind Energy Association, the Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy and the German Wind Power Museum, to showcase important advances in wind power over hundreds of years, including current inventions and innovations.

We are in the process of creating an interactive map showing key people, events, inventions and achievements across Europe. **It is still very much a work in progress, growing as we receive input from people throughout Europe and around the world.**

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1920s electricity-generating windmill in Thatcham, UK, designed by engineer Edward Lancaster Burne (Rex Wailes Collection, The Mills Archive Trust).

We need your help to choose what to feature on the map. If you know of a significant person, invention, location or event relating to wind energy at any point in time within Europe that we have not included, do let us know. This story and the map will continue to grow and be shaped and refined by public contributions. You can find the map here: https://new.millsarchive.org/mills-to-megawatts/. Keep checking back to watch how it grows.
If you would like to get in touch with any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact us at: outreach@millsarchive.org
Thank you!

POLAND

Restoration of Grądzkie Tower Mill
by Kees van Beek

In the town of Grądzkie in northeastern Poland, near my hometown, a group of enthusiasts is planning to restore the old mill. I have seen myself that the mill is in a horrible condition at the moment, with much of its interior "piled up" inside. I myself am planning to follow the whole operation. But at the moment it is only preparations.

All photos by the author.

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AUSTRIA

Rotary Pot Quern – and Many Unanswered Questions
by Harald Marschner

A year ago, the millstone museum in Perg, Upper Austria, was able to acquire an extremely interesting rotary handmill. This richly decorated pot quern is made from a porous reddish stone, which we assume to be porphyry (Fig. 1).

Fig. 1

Based on the decoration, this mill can probably be dated to the Baroque period, 17th or 18th century. The owner must have been very artistic, as he ordered this beautiful stone carving for a very ordinary kitchen utensil!

Fig. 2

The bedstone rests very sturdily on three oval ‘spheres’, two of which are crowned with a leafy capital (Fig 2). Two opposing decorated ‘handles’ allow the mill, which weighs around 30 kg, to be lifted and carried.

Fig. 3

A really special thing about the bedstone is the opening for the flour, which is shaped like a grotesque head (Fig3). Similar heads are actually only known as bran spouts on early modern bolting reels.

Fig. 4

Fig. 5

The runner stone is of course also decorated, especially the opening for the turning handle (Fig.4). The fixed rynd of the runner stone is still there, but not the vertical shaft fixed in the bedstone (Fig. 5).

As far as we know, such a mill is largely unknown among experts. The mill comes from a Slovakian collector from Piešťany and was allegedly mentioned in a Slovakian brochure written by Mr Kulich in the 1950s.

We very much hope that readers of TIMS will be able to provide us with further information on similar millstones. Please contact the Millstone Museum *Steinbrecherhaus* in Perg at steinbrecherhaus@gmail.com

Harald Marschner - Chairman Millstone Museum
Herrenstrasse 4
4320 Perg
Austria

All photos by the author.

GERMANY

When a Mill Turns into a Classroom
by Reimar Ott

Marie van der Wilt often wears a bright red coat. Her long grey hair is tied up in a knot. With a familiar hand movement, she takes the key of the mill from the nail on the kitchen door and quickly leaves the house to unlock the watermill next door. Inside, she pulls a large lever to start the turbine. The millstone begins to move, and the whole building vibrates. I watch as the grain slowly disappears into the hopper. The scent of wheat fills the air, and the tick-tick of the mill creates a steady clattering noise.

Marie van der Wilt at the entrance of Steinbeck Watermill, which dates back to 1723. The picture was taken around 1980.

I still remember that time, 44 years ago. However, with my grandmother's sudden death in 1981, our family's knowledge of milling disappeared and the grinding stones came to a standstill.

For the 300th anniversary of the Steinbeck Mill, situated in northern Germany, the building was freshly painted and decorated in early September 2023. On the open day, I proudly showed visitors the machines inside the water-powered mill and roughly explained their function. I mistakenly referred to a large, slightly rusted, oil-scented metal machine beside the grinding aisle, as a "wheat chair." In fact, it's a roller mill. What it's used for and how it works remains a mystery to me at this point.


The author and volunteer miller Reimar Ott, inside Steinbeck Watermill.

Shortly afterward, I called Johann Hüneke. He told me about a training program to become a volunteer

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miller. Together with the baker Franz Cloer and the Diepholz Adult Education Center, he offers a course that teaches the basics of working with historical wind and water mills like mine.

The roller mill in Steinbeck Mill is standing still for more than 40 years.

Two weeks later, I found myself with 12 other milling enthusiasts at the Fehsenfeld Windmill in Martfeld, 25 kilometers south of Bremen. The group includes Katrin, Ute, and the students Gerrit and Johann. Course 15 is a colorful mix.

Inside Steinbeck Mill : before the cleaning of the 1st floor. Countless pipes, mixers, elevators, and grain storage facilities can be seen.

"Glück zu," says Johann, welcoming the group. I like the traditional German miller greeting because it feels as if luck has just fallen on me. The coming year feels promising.

Johann climbs up the sail of the Feldmühle in Martfeld, to fix the cloth.

"Okay, let's head to the top," suggests Franz. Half the group follows him up the wooden staircase into the increasingly narrow roof space of the windmill, known as the cap. A massive wooden wheel dominates the space - the brake wheel. I gaze around in awe as Franz explains everything in technical terms to us.

Ute pulls the chain to unlock the brake at Exter Windmill near Vlotho.

On the gallery, we attach a wooden plate, the size of a dining room table, to the outer ends of the sails. It's called the wind board. Johann and Gerrit work quickly, hooking the storm boards into place. "A storm board absorbs 30 percent of the sail's energy," Franz explains. I make a mental note. A year later, this will be one of the exam questions.

Johann Hüneke explains the danger of getting caught between the wheels inside Ennigerloh Windmill.

Then the sail cloths are set. There's a small hook next to the cast iron poll end where a rope must be fixed. We look down into the depths, feeling our knees weaken.

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"Well, then, the old man has to do it," Franz says dryly, leaning out of the hatch. Andy holds him from behind, and it looks like a Mission Impossible stunt.

Katrin and Michael examine the machinery inside Labbus Windmill near Sulingen.

The wind blows, and the brake can be released. This happens from the gallery of the reefing floor. Uwe has power in his arms and pulls hard on the long hanging chain - clearly, it's not his first time. Eckhard and Peter help push the sails, and slowly they begin to turn. No buttons were pressed, and the sails gain speed with the invisible power of the wind. We can faintly hear how the wooden wheels interlock. The beams creak under the load, and outside, the sails hiss in the wind. Incredible!

Gerrit, Björn and Johann lift the runner stone at Exter Windmil using the millstone crane.

But how do you slow down a windmill? Without sight of the workings inside, the chain on the outside of the mill must be carefully lowered. The brake lever moves down into the cap and mechanically pulls several pieces of wood together around the large rim of the brake wheel. The wood presses against the brake wheel, creating friction, which slows it down. Very carefully, with precision, Johann demonstrates the technique. As the sails slow down, they reach the 'scissor position'. "Well, that wasn't quite perfect," Johann admits, "but I'm a water miller, not a wind miller," he jokes. A good excuse.

On one of the lower floors, Johann shows us stalks of grain and seeds. "Well, who can tell me what type of grain this is?" the miller asks, looking at the puzzled faces. Only Johann, the youngest at 23, studying agriculture, knows exactly what each type of grain looks like. I feel a little embarrassed to admit that I can only identify corn (maize) with certainty.

Slowly, we start getting familiar with the various machines in the mill, like the aspirator and the the fanning mill. What was once standard and taken for granted a century ago is now history.

Silvio is dressing the bedstone at Exter Windmill. He uses a bill to carve out the furrows.

In June, the course members visited my mill, the Steinbeck Watermill. I spent weeks cleaning the upper floors and old machines, hoping to pass muster with Johann and Franz. A marten made its home there for some years and had left a real mess. On the middle floor, my wife Andrea helped me to move a

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pile of boards aside, revealing countless pipes, mixers, elevators, and grain storage facilities. It's a small, intricate work of art made from metal and wood, that I'd never noticed before. The confusion was overwhelming at first, but after a long look into the pathways of the downpipes and shafts, things started to make sense. Obviously, there is no operation manual for my 300 year old watermill, so I began by drawing a drive-and-grind diagram. The secrets of the winding belts and the grain paths slowly revealed themselves.

Johann Hüneke explains to his students the feeding shoe, crook string, the shoe handle and the damsel, at Lübberstedt Windmill in Northern Germany.

All the way at the top of the mill, directly under the roof, my course colleagues Michael, Björn, Silvio, and Bernd, lift the plansifter with a jack and secure it in place. The plansifter, suspended by bamboo sticks, moves with a circular motion. Inside, sieves of varying fineness filter the flour. Even today, plansifters are used in large mills for sifting flour.

A little further on, Andy focuses on the sack hoist. After studying the wood, chains, and wheels for a while, the solution dawns on him. He pulls an inconspicuous lever, and the hoist is perfectly positioned to complete its task. When he shows me how it works, it feels like an epiphany. It's so simple, yet I had never made the connection.

In Lübberstedt, where we spend another Saturday, learning at a windmill from 1859, we disassemble the pair of stones and sharpen them. The vat, hopper, and shoe are quickly removed with the help of many hands. Next, we lift the runner stone with the stone crane. Andy and Uwe quickly begin sweating. With combined effort, the several-ton stone is turned and placed down for dressing. The bush hammer is then put to use. With its serrated surface looking like it's made for pounding meat, the bush hammer is actually used to roughen the worn surface of the stone. All by hand. Finally, the furrows in the stone are carved with a bill, a metal hand-held chisel, designed specifically for this purpose centuries ago. We all take turns sitting on the stone and chiseling the furrows until sparks fly. It's incredibly tiring work, and my respect for the miller's craft grows.

A millstone crane is used to move the runner stone at Lübberstedt Windmill.

Jan Müller-Scheeßel starts the 90-horsepower, single-cylinder engine from 1936, at the Scheeßel Watermill.

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Preparations for lifting the runner stone inside a mill of the historic Museum Village in Cloppenburg.

In Barßel, a town outside of Oldenburg, the Ebken'sche Windmill is surrounded by fields and a modern housing estate. We don't waste any time and just get to work. Our training must be sinking in. Franz sets the massive stones of the roller crusher in motion. They break the small rapeseeds, creating a paste from which the oil is then pressed.

Björn and Silvio lower the quant inside the eye of the millstone.

Later, Franz takes out old wooden boxes containing brass containers and instruments. This is how the moisture in the grain is determined. It's an important indication, as grain that is too moist will turn into pulp when ground. We watch with excitement. This is new territory for everyone. We also learn how the type designation for flour is based on its ash content when burned — a perfect blend of theory and practice.

In Scheeßel at the Wümme, half way between Bremen and Hamburg, Jan Müller-Scheeßel, a man with the word 'miller' and the name of the town Scheeßel in his name, shows us his working watermill. Gerrit explains how the Francis turbine operates, running day in and day out, virtually maintenance-free. Amazing technology.

The mystery of the roller mill is revealed here. The roller mill is the modern version of the grinding mill. Instead of stones, metal rollers crush the grain. We even see an old version with porcelain rollers. Johann adds, in a matter-of-fact way: "Yes, Dad bought them all. He's got a whole barn full of these things."

Then the 90-horsepower Herford engine from 1936 is started. Jan Müller-Scheeßel skillfully lubricates the metal beast with an oil can before taking two levers in hand and introducing compressed air. The large flywheel next to the single-cylinder engine begins to turn slowly. It hisses and clacks in time. The flywheel speeds up, pulling the belt faster, and the transmission in the basement drives the other wheels. Like children in front of a model train, we watch in awe.

After over 160 hours of these hands-on lessons, we gradually become specialists. We are equipped with the technical vocabulary and understanding of how these traditional 'machines' work for milling flour, the way it was done for centuries before electrification.

By the end of the summer, there's a bit of melancholy in the air. Over the year, we've become a tight-knit group — thirteen people united by a shared interest in preserving the miller's tradition. Soon, it will be time to say goodbye, but we plan to stay in touch and exchange ideas. Now,

we must act on what we've learned, in our own mills across northern Germany.

Franz and Johann, our mentors and teachers, gave us the necessary tools. Their enthusiasm, humor and relaxed approach, created a very special year for us, one that will, no doubt, stay with us for a long time.

The milling craft has been recognized as an intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO, and it is now our responsibility to preserve and pass on this knowledge for future generations. My grandmother would be happy to know her watermill will be operated again in the future.

All pictures by the author.

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CYPRUS

Mill Heritage of Cyprus on the Internet

Dear Mill Friends,

It is with great pleasure that we would like to share with you and all TIMS members, the link for the online platform of our two-year project **GraMiC: "Recapturing, documenting, digitizing and promoting the Mill Heritage of Cyprus. The grain-grinding mills: animal-driven mills, windmills, watermills" (16th-20th century)**, which focuses on recapturing, documenting, digitising and promoting the mill heritage of Cyprus. The project provides an example of how diverse source material, can be used to reconstruct the mill heritage in

Please, feel free to forward the link https://mills.ucy.ac.cy/home to any person interested in mill heritage in Cyprus and beyond.

With best wishes for the new year,
Frosso Egoumenidou

US VIRGIN ISLANDS

Successful Research Visit Helps Build St Croix Mill Website
by Bill Cleveland

The website https://www.stcroixwindmills.org/ continues to grow. A week-long research trip to St. Croix in July 2024, enabled visiting 70 locations and meeting with many people interested in Virgin Islands' history. Thousands of photos and videos, at 53 locations, provided documentation of the current condition of various structures. Images were collected at a few animal mill locations, a couple of steam mills, and dozens of windmills.

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The unique animal mill at Mt. Washington, above, in the northwest corner of St. Croix, is easy to visit. This was my first visit to this location with its impressive intricacy and accessibility to the full extent of the ruins.

Images & Videos Added to the Website

So far, over 900 photos have been added to the website, along with 70 videos. These images illustrate 102 of the 147 estates with a windmill, along with 3 of the 47 estates with an animal mill. Individual estate pages have as many as 56 photos and 6 videos, depicting the current state of structures. The image below is of the windmill tower at Cotton Valley on the far east end; this, and many others await exploration.

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Steam Mill Photos added to the Website

Remnants of a few steam mills are found around St. Croix. The chimneys are easily visible from a distance. In the last 30 years, several chimneys have collapsed. It is nearly always the west side that collapses first. Why this may happen will be covered in an upcoming blog. In addition, some of the machinery survives. Legend has it that during war time, a concerted effort was made to collect iron for the war effort and this resulted in a lot of the old machinery being taken off the island. I'm not sure if this is true or not, but from exploration of the ruins, there is certainly not much sugar refining, metal equipment remaining.

The steam mill at Estate Annaly includes the boiler and crushing machinery. Curiously, no steam chimney remains.

To find estate pages with photos, go to the Finding Windmills>Quarter Index page and select a link to one of the nine quarters under The Quarters Are, illustrated below. If the estate listed on the quarter page has a photograph as the featured image, there are photos and maybe videos on the page. If the featured image is a map, no photos.

Quarter boundaries delineated by dotted lines and named at the north and south shorelines at the boundaries.

The Quarters are:
West End
Prince's
King's
Queen's
Company's
East End A
East End B
Northside A
Northside B

As an example, in the snippet below from Prince's quarter index page, both Estate Adventure and Estate Betty's Hope have photos, while Beck's Grove does not.

Estate Adventure

Estate Becks Grove

Estate Bettys Hope

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Plans for the Website in 2025

In 2025, plans to update the website include adding at least 6 blogs, discussing various aspects of the sugar industry on St. Croix. Some of the existing blogs may be moved to a new section discussing features of the windmills. This section would also include videos that have been discovered of sugar crushing windmills in operation on Barbados, giving a better idea of what these towers looked like in operation.

Another project is to identify the location for thousands of photos of the windmills taken around 1990. After optimizing the images, they will be added to each respective page. Thankfully, photo indexes exist for many of the photos.

SOUTH AFRICA

Jib Sails ("fokwieken") for Mostert's Mill
by Andy Selfe

As Pilot John said in his excellent interview on Fine Music Radio, we are finding that the bigger millstones we fitted after the fire need a lot of wind. We have also discovered the effect of the oaks on the other side of the M3 highway which are blocking the Northwester, basically preventing us from milling in the winter. Many mills overseas have this problem with buildings and trees cutting their wind off.

However, when the Southeaster is blowing, our prevailing summer wind, we have already found that we can easily mill, sometimes having to reef in some of the sail cloths.

In the 1940s, one engineer P L Fauël experimented in the Netherlands with what he called 'fokwieken' but we will have to call them 'Jib Sails'. They catch the wind just ahead of the 'main sail' as it turns and direct it behind the sails adding extra driving force. His experiment was with actual jib sails.

▲Den Arend met de proeffok van Fauël.

(picture from Molenwereld, 2012, No 1)

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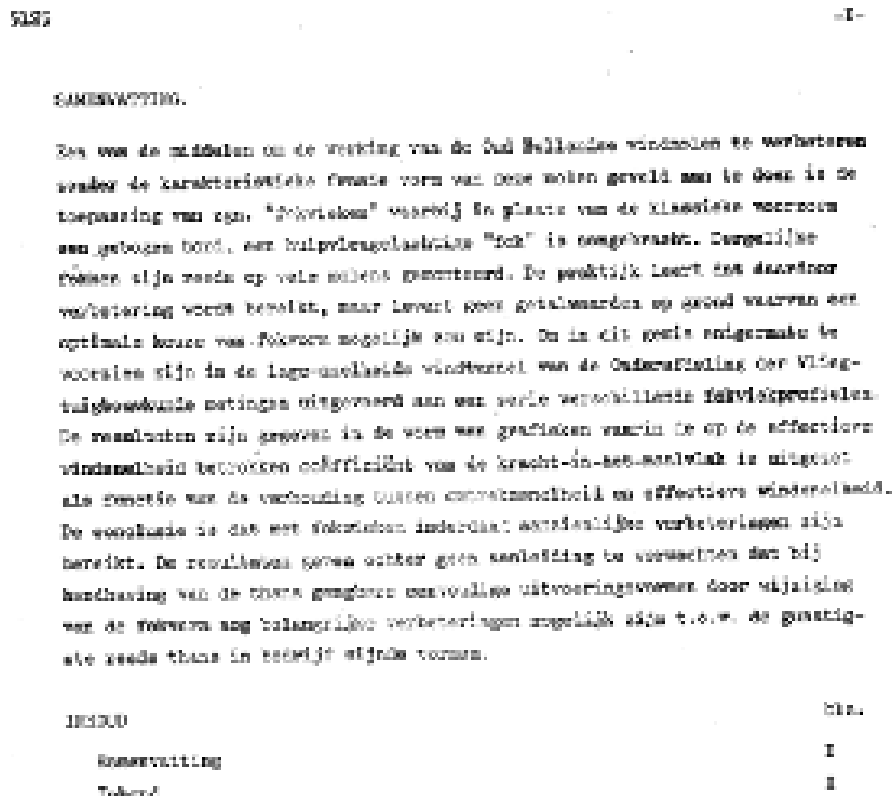
(picture from Molenwereld, 2012, No 1)

More recently, in 2012, Willem Roose, a miller in Bergambacht in the Netherlands, experimented on the very same windmill, Den Arend, again it seems just at the tips of the outer sails.

They developed into full length jibs, now for ease of maintenance, normally made of aluminium. Sven Verbeek has full length jibs on his outer sails at De Twee Gebroeders.

Full length jibs on one pair of sails at De Twee Gebroeders in Wijk & Aalburg (with automatic brakes)

In Fauël's introduction, if I read it correctly, he set out to improve efficiency of the sails without spoiling the appearance of a traditional mill.

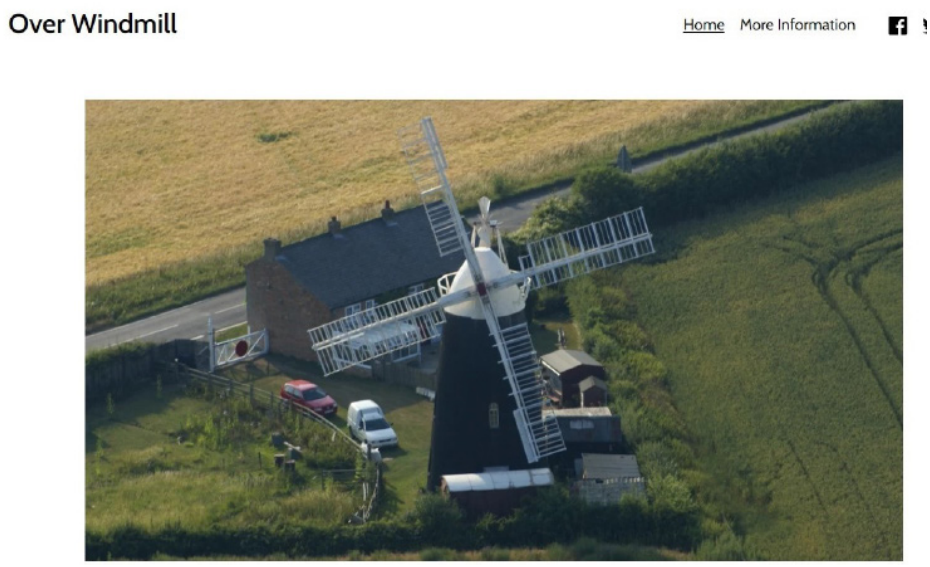


SAMENVATTING.

(Delft University paper, 1974)

Recently I came across a picture of an English mill, at Over, where the recently deceased miller/millwright Chris Wilson had fitted them, apparently successfully, also on the tips of the outer sails only. These were later removed by millwright Paul Kemp, who wrote: 'I ended up

fitting 6” wide windboards to them in the end. Chris did say that they really increased the power when he fitted them back in the late 80’s, made it easier to start in lighter winds as well.’



Over windmill in Cambridgeshire, showing jib sails at the tips of the outer sails only (Over website)

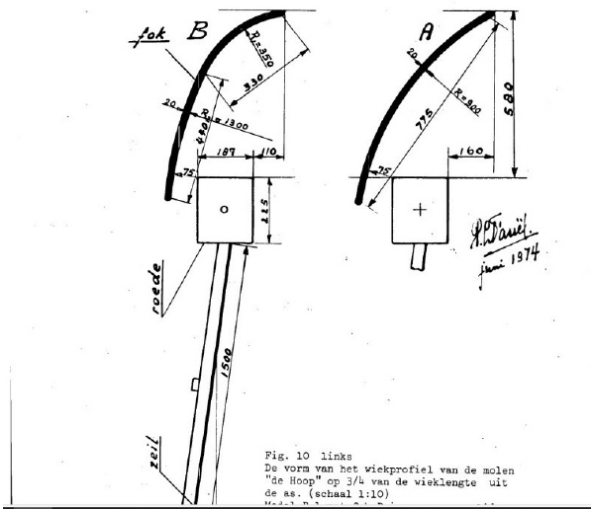
Another interesting mill using this idea is the drainage mill at Breuklen, Utrecht, The Netherlands, where the jibs are demountable. From the *Molendatabase*:

‘This mill has never been fitted with a blade improvement. However, this mill used to have ‘kites’ and these were restored to their former glory during the recent replacement of the sail stocks. These kites were secured to the leading ends of the sails when there was just too little wind. Please note: if the wind then increased significantly, the kites had to be removed, otherwise they would only work against you!’

This is exactly what we wanted to do, because when our strong summer Southeast wind blows, we don’t need them.

A winter scene at the draniage mill at Breukelen showing four removable jibs.

At the end of his paper, the result of wind-tunnel testing on models, Fauël drew a picture



(and signed it!):

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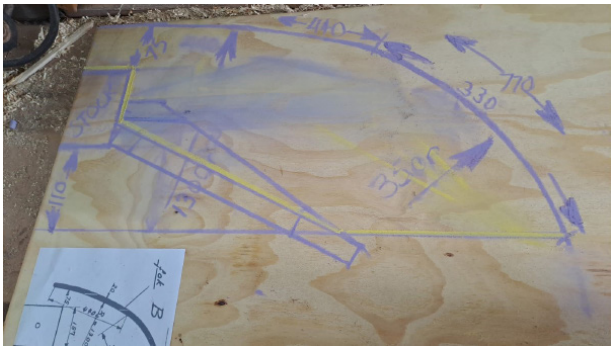
I chose the left hand shape and drew it out full size, over a drawing of our sail, using the measurements from his drawing.



Fauël's drawing, blown up full size on a board, over the shape of our sail stock and leading edge.

I asked permission from Pilot John and more importantly, Clive Thorpe our treasurer, to spend a modest sum to experiment. PJ suggested putting some figures together which I did quickly from the internet:

1 sheet thin ply for the patterns	R300
1 sheet 22mm marine ply for the formers	R2675
1 sheet 4mm bending ply	R575
(if successful we would need a second one for the inner sails)	
2 trips to Cape Town and back, as you have been paying me up to now	R840

So with some screws etc, we were talking about R4500 for a pair on the outers, the other sheets should be enough for patterns and formers for them. Permission was given gladly.

The jibs worked out, according to the spacing of the sail bars, at 2.2m. This is longer than the leader boards which are 1.8m long, but as a sheet of ply comes in 8-foot (2.44m) lengths, we decided to use most of the full length.

Marking out with the stencil made of hard-board, six times on thin plywood.

I cut six patterns in light ply, then clamped them together and sanded the curve, making sure the registers of all six, which were to bear against the sail stock, were exactly in line. Then I glued blocks of wood on at right angles to one another at the register corner, using a straight-edge, lined up with datum lines drawn on all of the sheets in exactly the same place.

Sanding the six thin ply patterns clamped together.

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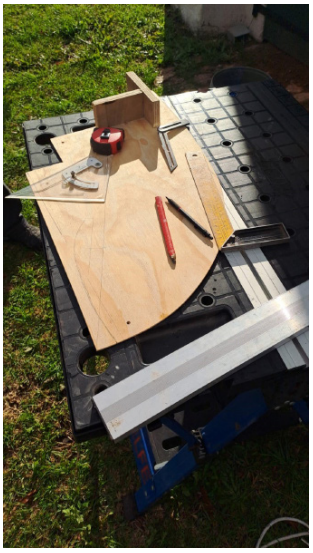
Wooden blocks clamped and glued to the patterns in the register corner, to make it easy to clamp them to the stocks.

Five of the six patterns ready to go to the mill.

We advertise that Mostert is 'open' on the third Saturday of each month, so on 20th July 2024, I went to the mill with the six patterns. There was no wind so it was the ideal opportunity to fine-tune each pattern to a particular sail bar. The outer former is attached to the outermost sail bar, the intermediate on the fourth from the end and the inner one on the eighth, so the intermediate one is not half-way. The full length of the plywood board would not reach the ninth sail bar. The outer edge of each former is cut to hook over the leading hemlath, to reduce the number of fixings, to just two per jib.



Marking out one of the patterns.

Testing the first pattern on the outer sail bar on stock No 2, an outer.

Straight Jon with a straight-edge! There was a small amount to take off the intermediate pattern.

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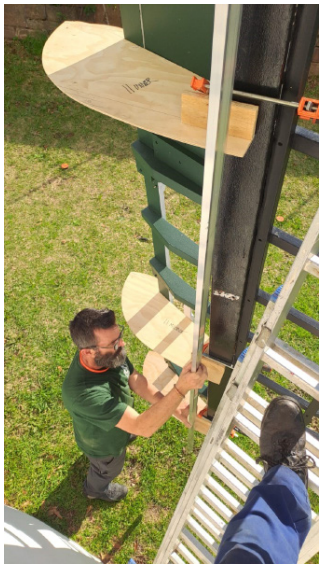

Stock No 4 worked out even better!

Each pattern was marked according to which sail bar of which stock it belonged, so I could bring them home and mark out and cut the six formers out of 22mm Marine Ply. I made sure there was enough space left on the board for six more formers, for a second pair of jibs, if this experiment was found successful.

Laying out the patterns on the 22mm Marine Ply board.

All six formers clamped together to sand the curved faces for the jibs together.

I was concerned that the hooks which locate the formers over the leading hemlath might break, so I had stainless steel profiles cut to reinforce them. I fixed them on both sides over the full length of the leading edge.

Stainless reinforcing profiles.

After a coat of pink primer, they were ready to be tested in position and if all went well, to attach the 4mm plywood sheet, so I went through with everything I could think I might need (I live 66km away!).

Outer former fitted to stock No 2.

I drilled through the former and the sail bar and fitted a captive nut. That was easy on the outer, but there wasn't room for the drilling machine between the sail bars on the inner one so I used an angle-drive. I had to remove the wind boards for access too.

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Drilling the inner former and sail bar with an angle drive.

I tested alignment with a long straight-edge and initially thought the plywood would flex to allow for a slight low area I noticed on the intermediate former. However, once the plywood is bent it becomes very stiff! I had to do some filling later with sawdust and glue to fill a 3mm space. When all three were in place, with the intermediate one just clamped to its sail bar, I nailed and glued the leading edge to the formers.

The leading edge glued and nailed to the three formers.

Then using ropes tied to the hemlath and wrapped around the plywood sheet, I was able to pull in the ply against the formers, glueing and using a pneumatic nail-gun as I progressed. I then attached pine cover strips to the leading and trailing edges. The top and bottom edges of the ply could then be trimmed off level with the formers.

Using ropes to pull the ply against the formers.

Top and bottom trimmed off and cover-strips attached.

I took it home and tidied it up and gave it coats of pink primer and universal undercoat. On the next visit, we tested it. It slipped over easily but we found it difficult to align the bolt holes exactly, so we removed the captive nuts and drilled 9mm holes for the 8mm bolts and used longer bolts and wing nuts. We left it on while we worked on the second jib.

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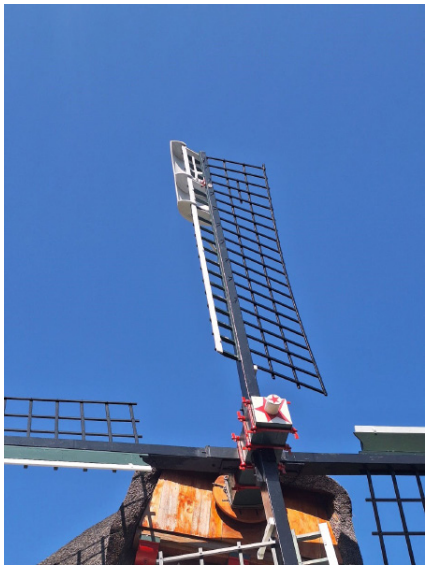

First jib attached while we worked on the second.

Having learned to be more careful with alignment of the three formers, we decided to attach a strip of wood to the intermediate former of the second set to bring them in line. There was still some trimming to do on the outer former to align all three throughout their lengths.

The second jib taking shape, this time using three ropes.

I took the second one home to trim the edges, to add woodscrews so we weren't relying on the glue and the nails from the gun, and to prime and undercoat it. As soon as we could all get together, I returned to the mill with it and we tested the first pair in a weak Northwester. We were sufficiently impressed, and made the decision to make two more. With practice, the second pair went more easily, it was just more difficult to load and tie down two at a time on the van!

Two Jibs, well tied down on the van at home, ready for the 66km trip to Mostert.

On 19th October 2024, I went through with the'second pair and we were able to test Mostert with four jibs, for the first time. The wind was actually from the south-east but light. We had an eye on the forecast which predicted the wind becoming stronger by midday. We were again impressed by the effect of the jibs; easier starting after a lull, perhaps less variation in speed from changes in the wind strength. It was difficult to gauge their exact effect. By noon, the wind had become stronger as expected and Pilot John gave the instruction, not to reef in the sail cloths, but rather to remove the jibs. This was actually quicker to accomplish than reefing in! One bolt to remove, by hand, no tools required, by some-one part-way up the sail, one from the ground and the whole jib could be slid off forward and upward, and put away. We continued to mill without even refitting the leader boards for an hour or more, until we packed up.

Testing with four removable jib sails for the first time.

We are satisfied with the outcome of our experiment and will continue to use them when needed.

Andy Selfe
October 2024

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TIMS MILL DATABASE

The International Mill Database: an Introduction
by Leo van der Drift

Some of you may know the International Mill Database, even use it every now and then, whereas others have not given it any attention. The aim of this article, the first in a series, is to make the database more well-known and explain how it works, enabling you to get the most out of it. The database is offered free to use for everybody, no user registration is needed.

The idea of composing a worldwide mill inventory is at least as old as TIMS is : 60 years!
Already in 1965, at the First TIMS Symposium, inventory sheets were proposed and discussed (Fig. 1). In 1973 this aim was also laid down in the TIMS Constitution.

Fig. 1. An example of a mill inventory sheet, presented at the First Symposium on Molinology in Portugal in 1965 by the organiser Dr João dos Santos Simões.

Unfortunately, there was no real follow-up. The inventory sheets were quite detailed, so it proved very time consuming to fill them out. As there were no computers, it also proved difficult to share the collected data and to find in them what one was looking for.

Fortunately, times have since changed. Computers make it easier and faster to compile data, and it is very easy to share these. The International Mill Database project started about 15 years ago. It is a collaboration of three parties: the German Mill Society (DGM), who took the initiative, the Swiss Mill Friends (VSM / ASAM), and TIMS. As a consequence, the database is bi-lingual, in both German and English.

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Apart from serving as their National Mill Database, the first two parties have an additional aim: to inform visitors about their National Mills Day. They indicate which mills participate, the activities they offer, etc.

As for TIMS, the idea is to make a worldwide inventory. Not by accumulating as much data for each mill as possible, but, and this is very important, to serve as a portal, offering links to national and regional mill databases, homepages, etc, where further information is available.

This allows us to record only a limited amount of data for each mill, thus keeping the workload manageable. A major asset of our inventory is recording the exact location for each mill, making it possible to plot them on a map.

Until now, we have focussed mainly on mills that still exist, whether complete, incomplete or surviving remains. The scope can be enlarged to include mills that have disappeared however, and a number of this latter group have already been registered. This is especially true for Germany.

To give you an idea of what can already be found in the database, here are some figures:
We now have over 46,000 mills registered, of which

- 22,500 windmills
- 21,000 watermills
- 2,500 other mills (animal driven, engine driven, etc)

For each mill, we try to add at least one picture. These can be recent ones, but we have also added a number of historic pictures. In all, about 45,000 pictures have been uploaded.

Some more figures. At this moment the database contains:

- mills in 87 different countries
- 40 construction types
- C. 175 different functions

Let's have a first look at the interface. Here is the address (make sure it is in your list of Favourites):

https://milldatabase.org/search/international?lang=en

The page you will be shown is the Search Page, in which you can specify your search details.

In the top right corner you'll find a toggle to change between languages (German and English).

The Search Page consists of three sections, corresponding with three different ways to conduct a search (Fig 2).

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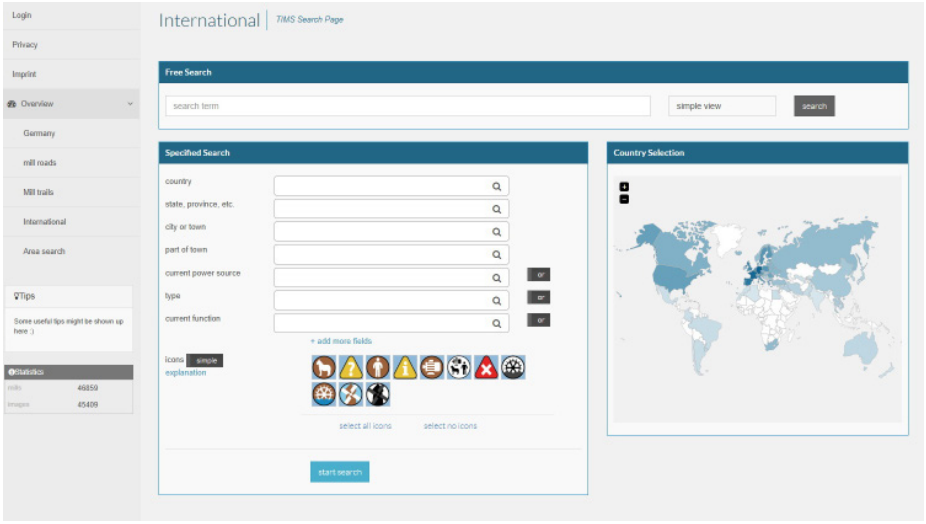

Fig. 2. The initial Search Page showing the three Search sections.

The first section can be found at the top of the page: the Free Search section.

This is essentially meant for performing a quick search. You can enter any word that you would like to search on, then press the black “search” button on the right-hand side. The computer will search across all registered data to find what you are looking for, even in the descriptions. It is both case and diacritic insensitive, so your search term doesn’t need to have any capital letters nor any diacritics. To see the result of your search, simply scroll down. Below the map, on which your selection is plotted, the number of hits is given, followed by a list of these.

For more information on a particular mill, just click on the name of the mill. A page will be shown containing detailed data and (in most cases) one or more pictures at the bottom.

The second section, the Specified Search, can be found immediately below the Free Search section. Here, you can compose a search by filling out one or more fixed fields.

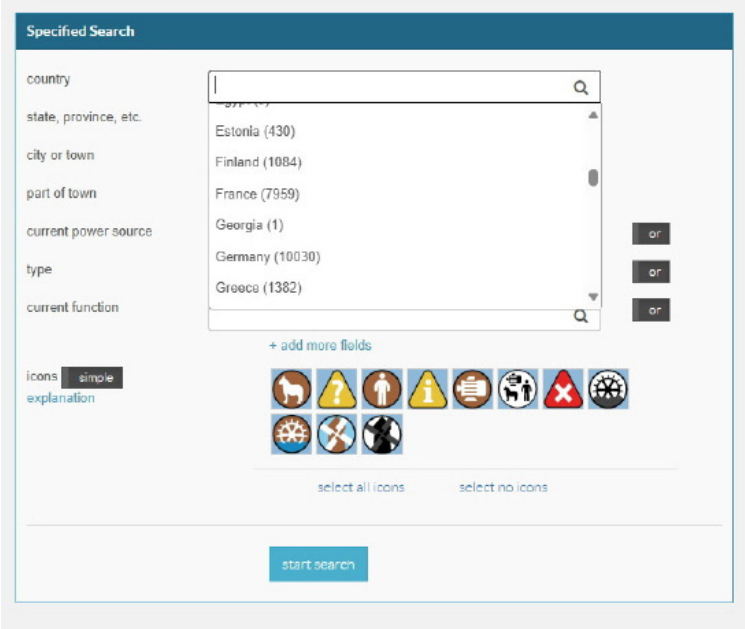

Fig. 3. Part of the list of possibilities for the field “country”, shown after clicking the field.

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There are two ways to fill out a field:

- by clicking in the field; a list of possibilities will appear, of which you can choose one (Fig 3).
- by starting to type your search term; a list of most probable options will appear of which you can choose one, or alternatively you can just finish typing your search term.

Please note that behind each possibility a number in brackets is given. It is the number of hits for this possibility, and it will give you an indication of how many hits your search will count, depending of course on the number of search terms that you enter.

It should be pointed out here that the names of all countries are in English. Other geographical names, like those of states, counties, provinces, cities and towns, are basically in the language of the country concerned.
For instance: Lower Saxony is registered as Niedersachsen, Cologne as Köln, etc.

Once you have filled out the field or fields of your choice, click the blue "start search" button at the bottom of the section, just below the icons. Again, the result of your choice will be shown down the page, so you have to scroll down. You will see the map first, showing the selected mills

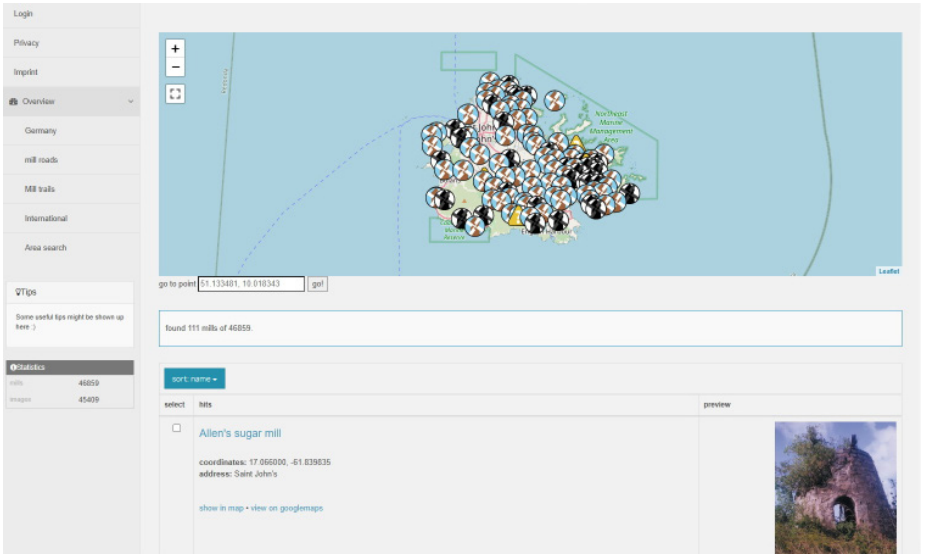

Fig. 4. The results for the search of the country of Antigua & Barbuda, showing the map with the 111 mills plotted (the number is given below the map, on the left-hand side), followed by a list of these 111 mills.

plotted, followed by a list of these mills. Just below the map, the number of hits is given (Fig 4).

Then we come to the third and last section of the Search Page: the Country Selection.
The world map for that can be found on the right-hand side of your screen. Please note that it can be enlarged to a certain extent.

This is a relatively easy way of making a selection, especially when you are interested in the mills in a particular part of a country. All countries where we have mills recorded are in blue.

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It works by simply moving the cursor across the map, the names of the various countries will appear and become green (Fig 5). Just click on the country of your choice and an overview will be given showing the main administrative divisions (in alphabetical order), and the number of mills recorded for each of these. By clicking on one of the names of the given states/provinces, you will get the list of mills for that particular state or province. Just give it a try!

Fig. 5. The "Country Selection" section, showing the cursor pointed at South Africa.

There is a lot more to say about the database, but at least you should be able to make a start now. In the next issue of E-News additional topics will be discussed.

This database is maintained on a daily basis. For any questions, corrections and additions, please contact the author at lvddrift@telfort.nl

Posts from the Tide Mill Institute

Posted on January 15, 2025:
Long Island Tide Mill Owner Gets Preservation Award
Long Island Tide Mill Owner Gets Preservation Award

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YOUTUBE VIDEOS

Portugal

In September 2024, the 16th TIMS Symposium took place in Portugal. A full report was published in International Molinology of December 2024. One of the participants, Gerald Bost from Berlin, Germany, produced two videos on this event. It gives a fine impression of the interesting visits we made and the pleasure we all had!

https://youtu.be/LzgtUaZ5R4E?si=S6CjCL6wbeP0x-3E
https://youtu.be/0L-ZMo0-JY8?si=ACK-wmysB0Xrm5tD

Poland

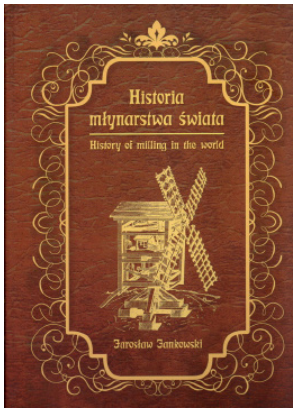
The Museum of Milling in Jaracz near Poznań, which will be visited during the 17th TIMS Symposium in May 2027, has produced a number of videos on the museum and its activities:

Muzeum Młynarstwa w Jaraczu - YouTube

Book Corner
by Leo van der Drift

This edition of the Book Corner starts with two publications from Poland. In addition, we have seven more books from four different countries: the Czech Republic, Portugal, Germany and The Netherlands. Please note that as usual prices are indicative and postage always comes extra, unless stated otherwise.

1. **Historia młynarstwa świata / History of Milling in the World,** *by Jarosław Jankowski.*



The author has been passionately involved with historic windmills and watermills for a great number of years. He carried out several restorations, published many articles and founded the Museum of Milling and Agriculture at Osieczna, which has three fine post mills.

This book combines the combination of his two skills, knowledge and practice, and brings together what he collected during several decades. It is essentially a pictorial journey through the history of milling, the pictures being drawn by the author himself in black and white. Presenting both illustrative scenes and technical details of various types of mills used by people over many centuries and in various cultures, with particular emphasis on Poland, it is a pleasure to browse the pages. The drawings are interspersed with short text sections on various subjects.

As the title indicates, the book starts with a chapter on early finds of simple rubbing stones in Mesopotamia, China and Central America, the

rotating querns of the Middle East, to the animal driven mills in Rome and the early horizontal windmills in Seistan.

The next chapter is on watermills and waterwheels (both horizontal and vertical) and the many functions these could perform, like saw mills, oil mills, hammer mills, toy marble mills, etc. Even a water lifting wheel is presented. Millstones and their dressing, and mill bills are not omitted.

This chapter is followed by one on windmills. Many types are presented, starting with early medieval ones, post mills, smock mills, tower mills and American windmills. There is even a mobile windmill!

The last chapter is devoted to the mills in the author's homeland, the province of Wielkopolska (Greater Poland) in the west of the country. The predominant type here is the post mill. Although many have disappeared over time, there are many efforts to save them and today we can still see this type of mill in a number of places.

Bi-lingual Polish and English.
Size: A4, 138 pages, hard cover. Richly illustrated with black and white drawings.
Leszno, 2019. ISBN 978-83-930068-1-4.
Price 85,00 zł (about 20 EUR).

2. **Memory of stones. The motif of millstone production from erratic boulders in folk narrations from northern Germany and Poland: between a memory of craft and an object of memory,** *by Robert Piotrowski and Violetta Wróblewska.*

fabula 2024; 65(3–4): 334–355 DE GRUYTER

Robert Piotrowski, Violetta Wróblewska

"Memory of stones"

The motif of millstones production from erratic boulders in folk narrations from northern Germany and Poland: between a memory of craft and an object of memory

https://doi.org/10.1515/fabula-2024-0017

Abstract: This article attempts to interpret folk narratives featuring the motif of producing millstones from erratic boulders and their subsequent reuse in new functional contexts. According to our assumptions, in folk narratives originating from the northern regions of Germany and Poland, where these motifs are present, one can find references to the methods of obtaining stone materials characteristic of these areas. These narratives also include information about the occurrence of erratic boulders – consistent with the geomorphology of regions affected by the last glaciation, and residual information regarding the distribution of millstones as well as semi-finished products. Thus, folk narratives can often serve as an interesting point of reference not only for ethnologists and folklorists but also for geologists and geographers.

Zusammenfassung: Der Beitrag soll zum Verständnis von Volkserzählungen beitragen, in denen die Herstellung von Mühlsteinen aus Findlingen sowie ihre spätere Wiederverwendung in neuen Funktionszusammenhängen als Motive vorkommen. Volkserzählungen aus dem Norden Deutschlands und Polens, in denen diese Motive vorkommen, berichten unserer Annahme nach von Methoden, für diese Regionen typisches Steinmaterial zu gewinnen. Die Erzählungen geben zudem

Note: This article is an output of two projects entitled: "The memory of stones. Origin, use and socialization of millstones embedded in walls of Gothic churches within the Southern Baltic Lowlands" (grant no. 2019/35/B/HS3/03933), funded by the National Science Centre, Poland. Project leader: Dr Dariusz Brykała, and "The Heritage of Frost Giants. From the Geomythologies to the Cultural Geomorphology of Erratic Boulders in the Young Glacial Area of Poland" (grant no. 2023/49/N/HS3/02181), funded by the National Science Centre, Poland. Project leader: Dr Robert Piotrowski.

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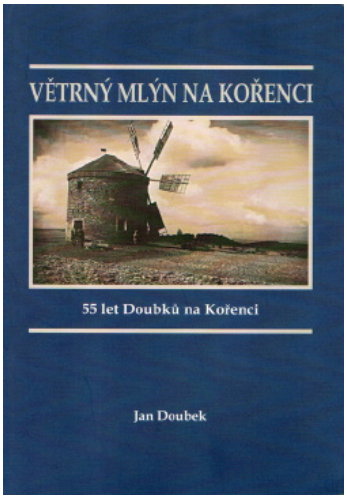
This article attempts to interpret folk narratives featuring the theme of producing millstones from glacial boulders and their subsequent reuse in new functional contexts. According to our assumptions, in folk narratives originating from the northern regions of Germany and Poland, where these themes are present, one can find references to the methods of obtaining stone materials characteristic of these areas. These narratives also include information about the occurrence of glacial boulders – consistent with the geomorphology of regions affected by the last glaciation, and residual information regarding the distribution of millstones as well as semi-finished products. Thus, folk narratives can often serve as an interesting point of reference, not only for ethnologists and folklorists but also for geologists and geographers.

In English. With abstract in German.
Open Access, A4, 22 pages, 2024. With seven illustrations in full colour.
Free download : https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/fabula-2024-0017/html

3. **Větrný mlýn na Kořenci. 55 let Doubků na Kořenci [Kořenec Windmill. 55 years of the Doubek family in Kořenec]**, *by Jan Doubek.*



TIMS member Jan Doubek has published several books and articles on the windmills in his homeland, the Czech Republic. This is a smaller volume, dedicated mainly to a single mill: the cylindrical tower mill at Kořenec, that he owns, situated in the municipality of Boskovice, north of Brno. The front cover has a fine historic picture showing the mill in its working days, equipped with six boarded sails. Today, the tower still stands carrying its original conical cap, windshaft and brake wheel. Conservation works were carried out several times, most recently in 2020.

After a short introduction on windmills in the Czech Republic, with special attention to its tower mills, the author describes the history of Kořenec Windmill, built in 1866 by Jakub Veselý, the then mayor of the village, on a 620m high hill just south of the village. The six sails were damaged in a storm in 1944, and replaced by four boarded sails. These lasted until 1953, then a diesel engine provided power for some years. In 1967, the mill was sold to the Doubek family who made it into their summer cottage and who still own the mill. The next chapter is a yearly account of the activities and maintenance that they have carried out at the mill over 55 years. Major maintenance work, for instance, was carried out in 1972, 1995, 2008, 2013 and in 2019-2020. The mill is very well cared for!

The concluding chapters are on mills in the vicinity (both preserved and lost), an archival account on Kořenec Windmill, and a summarising chronological account of the mill from the year it was built (1866) until today.

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In Czech.
Size: 15 x 21 cm, 82 pages, soft cover. Richly illustrated in black and white.
Praha / Býkovice , 2022. ISBN 978-80-88215-70-7.
Price 12,51 EUR. Available online, e.g. from this book shop: Větrný mlýn na Kořenci - Jan Doubek - za 12,51 € | Vydavatel.sk

4. **Mühlenhochburg Heppenheim. Daten und Fakten zu 800 Jahren Mühlengeschichte**, *by Dr Hermann Müller.*

This book, by mill researcher Dr Hermann Müller, is the first comprehensive presentation of the mills and millers in Heppenheim, a town in Germany's Rhine Valley. As a documentation and reference work, it is intended to provide information and to remind people of the bygone mill era.

The study is based on many years of sorting, transcribing and evaluating numerous archives and collecting contemporary witness reports, maps, plans and photos. It contains data and facts about the mills as well as the mill owners, tenants, millers, mill-hands and millwrights. The result is an impressive 1,000+ page volume with more than 2,250 illustrations and numerous tables covering 800 years of mill history.

In the main part, the mill lexicon, all information on around 130 mills, at more than 80 different mill locations, is presented in detail. The following miller's lexicon contains brief information on over 1050 millers, mill owners and millwrights with a connexion to Heppenheim. The author uses many detailed examples to illustrate the history of the individual mills and the people who worked in them.

(text translated from the website of the *Heppenheimer Geschichtsverein*).

In German.
Size: 22 x 30.5 cm, 1006 pages, hard cover. With more than 2,250 illustrations.
Published by the *Heppenheimer Geschichtsverein*, Heppenheim, 2024. ISBN 978-3-926707-24-6.
Price 85 EUR.
Available from the author, email : dr.hermann_mueller@t-online.de

5. **Moinhos de Água. Paisagem, Território e Património**, *by Manuel Nunes (ed.).*

Lousada is a municipality about 40 kms NE of the city of Porto, in Portugal. This detailed study is essentially an inventory of the watermills in the territory of the municipality. Apart from field research, the study is also based on archival research. With a total number of 242 mills, the municipality has a rich molinological heritage.

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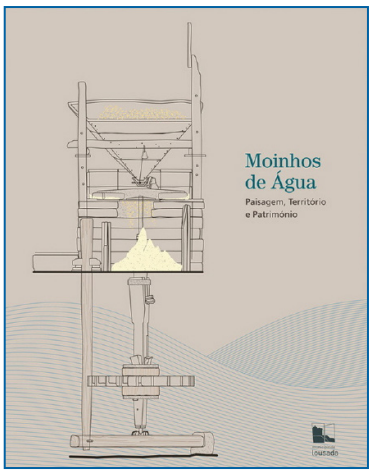


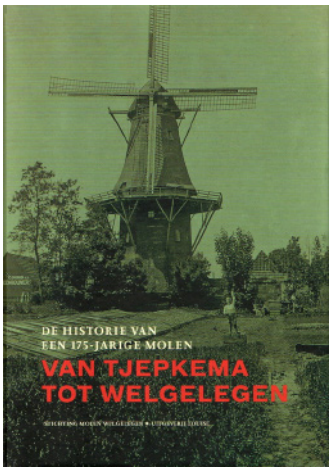
The mills are described (and shown) in detail. The majority of these are horizontal mills with a single waterwheel driving a pair of stones. The mills are built of local stone, often with pantiled roofs. Few are still operational, most are left abandoned or in ruinous condition.

There is a special section dealing with the inscriptions that were found on the mills. Most frequent are crosses (in a wide variety), to protect the mill, followed by dates (of construction).

Worth a special mention are the fine drawings, produced by TIMS member Bruno Matos. These include the drawings on the front and back covers. This study is regarded as the starting point for the municipality's policy for the preservation of its many watermills.

In Portuguese.
Size : 24 x 29 cm, 368 pages, hard cover. Richly illustrated (mainly) coloured photographs, maps, drawings and diagrams.
Câmara Municipal de Lousada, 2021. ISBN 978-972-8787-38-7. Price unknown.
Available from the publisher, Lousada municipality, CM Lousada

6. **Van Tjepkema tot Welgelegen. De Historie van een 175-jarige Molen**, *by Martine van der Linden.*



Heerenveen is a town and municipality in the north of The Netherlands, in the province of Friesland. Today a major town and important regional centre with c. 50,000 citizens, a century ago it was still a small village. It was founded in 1551 at the crossing of two canals.

Of the dozens of mills Heerenveen has known in the past, only the tall smock mill *Welgelegen* is still standing proudly. In 2024, the corn mill celebrated its 175th anniversary. The *Welgelegen Mill Foundation* took this opportunity to publish this book, which deals with the mill's turbulent history, in more or less chronological order, from its erection in 1849 to the present day. From 1872 until 1920, miller Tjepkema worked here for almost 50 years, hence the mill is also known as *Tjepkema's Molen*. During the 1930s in particular, the mill's existence was in great danger, but in the end the mill was saved. Today this is a working mill run by volunteers and a vital element in the centre of town.

The book contains dozens of previously unpublished photos and documents. This makes this a unique book, for both Heerenveen residents and mill enthusiasts.

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In Dutch.
Size : 21.5 x 30 cm, 148 pages, hard cover. Richly illustrated, with a mix of modern and historic photos.
Heerenveen, 2024. ISBN 978-90-83-36611-1. Price 22,50 €.
Available from the publisher Louise in Grou: Uitgeverij Louise: Van Tjepkema tot Welgelegen

7. **De Apeldoornse Watermolens in Heden en Verleden**, *by Henk Weltje.*

In Apeldoorn and the surrounding villages, in the Dutch province of Gelderland, there have been watermills for centuries. These were driven by the many spring streams that the area has to offer. Most were dug especially for this purpose. The oldest mill was probably the corn mill at Beekbergen, that was written about in the year 1294. From the beginning of the 17th century there was an enormous growth in the number of watermills, due to the paper industry. As early as 1629, there were at least 12 paper mills, and that number would increase considerably to 59 eventually. In addition, there have also been many other mills, such as copper mills, oil mills, and fulling mills for cloth and leather. A total of 96 have been counted.

Although research into the Apeldoorn watermills has been carried out in the past, it is either outdated or not carried out to completion. The author focusses especially on the spatial and environmental context and makes use of the material collected in the past, supplemented with recent development, thus creating a complete picture. The mills are described one by one in great detail. The many illustrations make it also a pleasant work to browse.

In Dutch.
Size : 17 x 24 cm, 514 pages, hard cover. The book is illustrated with almost 1,000 pictures, drawings and map fragments in b&w and colour. With bookmark ribbon and separate bicycle map.
Published by the author, Apeldoorn, 2024. ISBN 978-90-833991-0-2. Price 35,00 €.
Available from several bookshops in Apeldoorn.

8. **De Opwettense Watermolen**, *by Piet-Hein van Halder.*

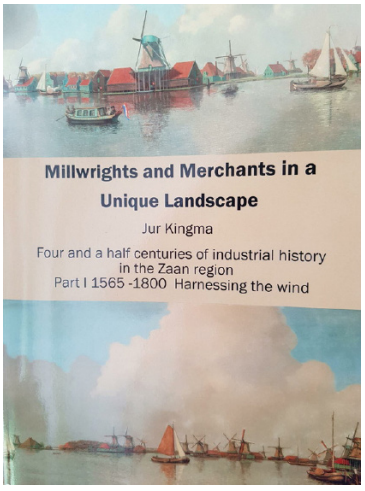
After his book *Watermolens in Noord-Brabant*, past and present (2010), in which the 83 watermills this Dutch province has known are described, the author has now published a book on just a single mill: the *Opwettense Watermolen* near Nuenen, not far from the city of Eindhoven.

This mill is world famous because it was painted by Vincent van Gogh, who lived in Nuenen from 1883 to 1885.

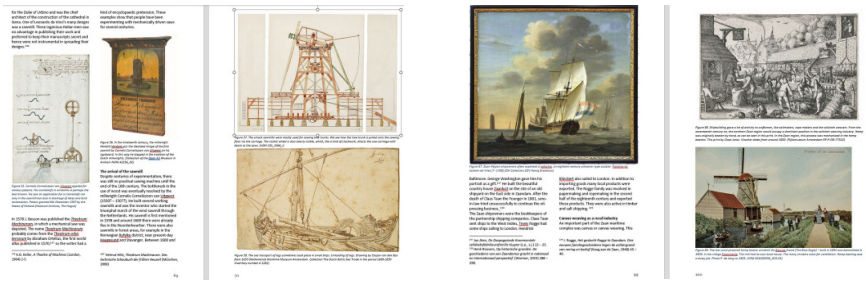
That this, all wooden watermill with its two large-diameter waterwheels (9.3 and 7.5 m respectively) is indeed beautiful and picturesque, is shown by the magnificent photography in the book. Being essentially a pictorial publication, with photos, drawings and diagrams accompanied by short explanatory texts in an inspiring layout, makes it very much an eye-catching publication. A clear timeline of a historical overview of events, owners and millers completes this work.

In Dutch.
Size : 21,5 x 30 cm (oblong), 176 pages, hard cover. Richly illustrated in full colour.
Published by the author, 's-Hertogenbosch, 2021. ISBN 978-90-9034593-2. Price 25,00 €.
Available from the author at phvanhalder@hetnet.nl

9. **Merchants and Millwrights in a Unique Landscape. Four and a Half Centuries of Industrial History in the Zaan region**.
Part I : 1565 – 1800 Harnessing the Wind;
Part II : 1795 – 1914 From Great Wooden Engine to Steam Mill,
by Jur Kingma.



In 2019, the author published a major study on 450 years of the economic and technological developments in the Zaan region, entitled *Vernuftelingen en Kooplieden in een Bijzonder Landschap*. The Zaan region in The Netherlands, as most mill friends will know, was the first industrial area in the world, working exclusively with windmills for the first 250 years until c. 1850, when steam power was introduced.



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In order to reach a wider audience, Jur Kingma has translated his study into English, and even added four more chapters.
For a more detailed description, please consult the links below. The English version is in two parts.
The author has also created a website on the subject that is certainly worth checking out : The Great Wooden Engines – A passion for sharing knowledge

In English.
Part I : size: A4 , 164 pages, soft cover, 2021. ISBN 978-94-93226-72-2.
Price 29,50 EUR.
Part II : size: A4 , 180 pages, hard cover, 2023. ISBN 978-94-93357-03-7.
Price 25 EUR.
With numerous illustrations in b&w and colour.
Available from the online bookshop of the Zaan Mill Museum "World of Windmills":
Part I Merchants and Millwrights in a Unique Landscape – De Zaansche molen
Part II Merchants and Millwrights in a Unique Landscape 1795-1914 part II (Eng.) – De Zaansche molen

Please remember to send us details on the books that you would like to see here next time!

MESSAGE FROM THE E-NEWS TEAM

Dear friends, we really hope that you have enjoyed reading this issue of E-News. Please remember that we are still collecting mill news from all around the world and also a great number of new mill publications. We are dedicated to spreading this information to all mill friends. If you have news items, short articles, books, announcements or something else that you want to share, please send them to the editor, Leo van der Drift, e-mail:
lvddrift@telfort.nl .
This Newsletter cannot exist without you!
Please be informed that the next issue of E-News will be sent out in October 2025.