

*Friends
of the* **Stockdale Mill**

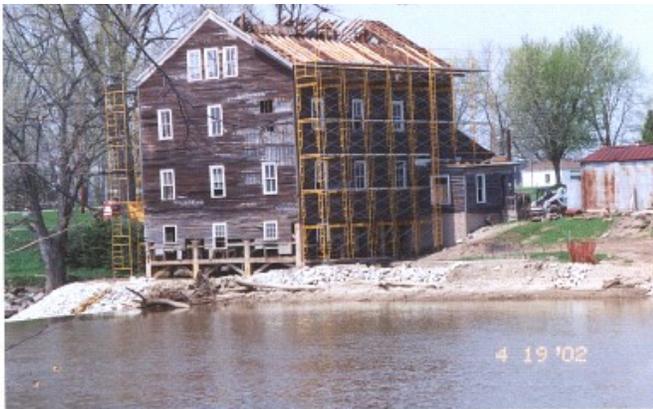
www.stockdalemill.org



Around the Mill

After remaining silent since its closing in 1964, the year 2002 saw a rebirth of the spirit of the Stockdale Mill. To step inside the Stockdale Mill is to begin to understand an earlier time. Gone are the employees who took special care to provide the surrounding area with flour, corn meal and animal feed. Remaining are the pulleys, the elevators and the turbines that allow the water of Eel River to provide the necessary power. Gone are the farmers hauling their grain, remaining are the machines, the sifters, and the chutes that brought their crops from the top floor to be bagged and sold on the main floor. Here is the opportunity to view and experience the ingenuity and foresight that allowed for the intricate workings of a thriving mill. We welcome you to experience the preservation of history at the Stockdale Mill.

This mill was built between 1855 and 1857 and contained buhr stones to grind local grain. The later part of the 1880's saw the grinding buhrs converted to four "breaks", machines with rollers that crushed wheat into flour, hence the name "Roller Mill". In 1909 and 1910 turbines were purchased to replace the original power source.



The "weigh shed" was added on the north side in 1904, and the concrete dam was built up against the original timber dam in 1915. The flour mill continued to operate until 1964. Feed production ceased in 1972. For years the mill sat idle with all of the equipment remaining in the building.

"If restoration had not begun when it did, the mill would have fallen into the river by now." That is the consensus of all who knew the condition of the mill as it stood in the year 2001. Today the mill stands tall and proud as a lasting testament to the days of generations past.

A team of tour guides was organized to lead visitors through the mill beginning in 2003. By the Fall of that year, the three water turbines had been rebuilt and put back into use. A Visitors Center was added along with restrooms and a new well. Many hands have helped in the restoration over the past 13 years. Hands are still needed for ongoing maintenance, and restoration, greeting visitors, and the many tasks that are required to illustrate bygone years.



*Photos from
early restoration
during the
Spring of 2002*



Community Foundation

The Stockdale Mill Foundation was initiated as a non-profit institution by Susanne and Dwight Fouts. Their dream was to stabilize the structure to save it from the deteriorating effects of weather and time. Like many old barns and factories that had outlasted their intended usefulness, it was fading into oblivion. The river, the dam, and the mill formed a picturesque scene too beautiful to let fall by the wayside. The Foundation purchased the mill site in 2002. The community quickly responded with on-site volunteer help and donations of skills and services.



The supporting concrete and wooden timbers under the mill were renovated. The structure was “squared-up”. Following being brushed by a tornado, a new roof was put in place. Siding was restored to the original “board and batten.”

New electrical wiring was placed alongside the primitive wires. Flooring was laid where needed. Dozens of projects large and small brought the mill back to life. Within a year organized tours were being conducted. Within four years machinery was operating on all four floors.

Today the Stockdale Mill is among the most authentic water powered mills in the nation. Over 130 pieces of original equipment and related artifacts are on display. Visitors have come from all fifty states and dozens of foreign countries to visit our local treasure.



Water Turbines

They sit quietly beneath the basement floor. They are hidden in a bath of five feet of water. They seldom need attention. When a tour guide uses both hands and some body weight to turn the control shaft, they are what brings the mill to life. Water rushes past their gates and onto their impellers causing them to spin. Water power is transferred to their power shaft and up into the mill to gears, pulleys, and belts. The mill rumbles and shakes. Water turbines are what separates a working mill from an idle structure.

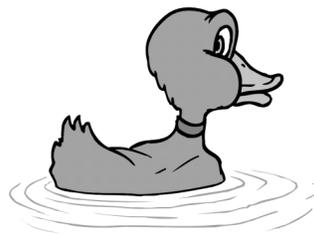
The Stockdale Mill has three Leffel turbines that generate a combined 75 horsepower. During 2015 one has been down for maintenance. Unfortunately, high water levels have hampered progress on it throughout the Summer.



Mill water turbine exposed during initial restoration.

Great Eel River Duck Race

Sponsor a Duck - Support the Mill



Wanna race ?

SPECIAL HOURS

Roann Covered Bridge Festival

tour hours:

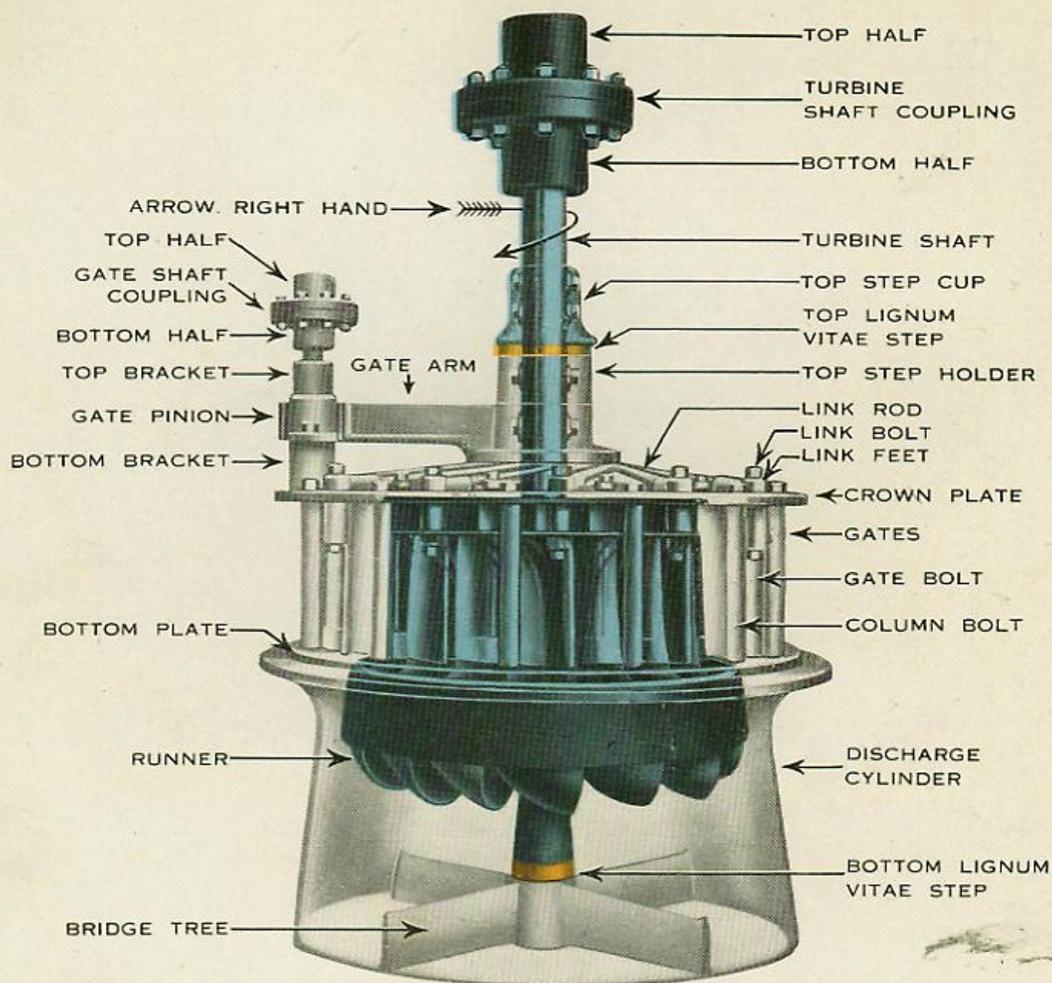
Saturday Sept 12 10-6

Sunday Sept 13 12-4

THE JAMES LEFFEL & CO

Vertical Standard Samson Turbines

These turbines are built strong and substantial, and equipped with our exclusive design double steel bucket runners fitted on steel shafts. Large top and bottom lignumvitae step bearings for carrying the revolving parts of these turbines, including the weight of extra upright shafting and gearing. Also, balanced swing-type gates with separate adjustable steel connections. Each gate removable independently. All bearings of large dimensions and special material. Bolted couplings.



NAMES of the different turbine parts given above.

All revolving parts of these turbines are colored BLUE.

Top and bottom lignumvitae step bearings colored YELLOW.

The arrow on turbine shaft shows turbine revolving RIGHT HAND.

Turbines revolving opposite to this arrow would revolve LEFT HAND.

We BORE and KEYSEAT the upper half turbine and gate shaft couplings.

POWER TABLES of these SAMSON turbines on pages 10 to 13, inclusive.

CONSTANT SPEED table these SAMSON turbines page 5, Holyoke Test No. 1892.

CORRECT installment dimensions of these turbines on opposite page 7.

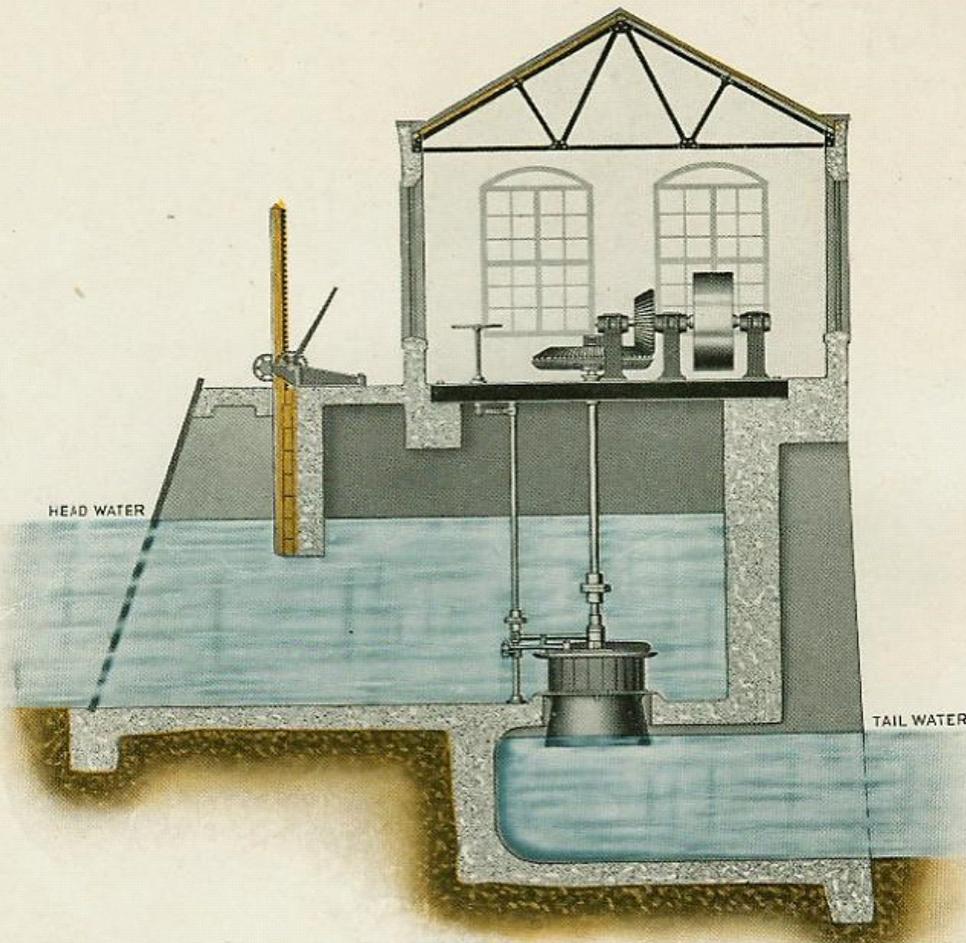
We also build SPECIAL SAMSON, TYPE F, TYPE J, TYPE K turbines.

We furnish special particulars regarding these SPECIAL SAMSON turbines.

We also build these STANDARD and SPECIAL SAMSON turbines horizontal designs.

THE JAMES LEFFEL & CO

Vertical Samson Turbines in Open Penstocks



Design 40

This illustrates the installment of our vertical SAMSON turbines with top gate operating ring in open penstock. The vertical gate shaft rotates 45° to 60° full gate movement. We sometimes build these turbines with gate operating ring located below the turbine gates as illustrated, page 22. These vertical turbines are usually furnished with our regular design conical discharge cylinder as illustrated. Frequently we build these turbines with short base rings for special draft tubes.

We also design and build all sizes and arrangement of power transmission machinery, shafting, couplings, bearings, gearing, cast iron bridge-trees, steel beam construction, belt and rope driving pulleys. All shafting made of open-hearth steel, large shafts forged steel. All gray iron castings made of the very best grade of pig iron. All materials used by us in the construction of our turbines and machinery are of the highest qualities throughout. We analyze and test all materials used by us in the construction of our work.

We also furnish all styles and sizes of head gate hoisting irons.

*** * DONATION CARD * ***

Stockdale Mill Foundation
c/o Pam Musselman
5432 E SR16
Denver, IN 46926

Donation by: _____

Amount: _____

Note :

Stockdale Mill Impressions

Reminiscing with Betty Dawald

My aunt Della (Morris) Deck was my mother's oldest sister. They were two of twelve kids. Grandpa was one of twelve and he wanted twelve and this he got! Della married Jimmy Deck who ran the mill at Stockdale. They lived on the northwest corner of the road crossing just north of the mill, a part of the village of Stockdale.

Since Jimmy was my uncle by marriage (he was always "Uncle Jimmy") he probably allowed us kids more privileges than others. He taught us how to tie a miller's knot – that's the tie he used on his flour sacks, 5 pounds up to 25 pounds. It was a special knot. He was proud of the design on his flour sacks for his Roann Roller Mills. The art work for White Loaf Flour was created by his mother.

I remember how vital the mill was to the surrounding communities. People used to bring their wheat from miles away to be ground into flour. Women cooked on wood and coal stoves and the ovens were always warm so the women used to bake bread and a lot of food that took flour. Store-bought bread was rare even at ten cents a loaf wrapped in wax paper. We used that bread wrapper until it fell apart. We lived the barter system as most people did. We had a huckster wagon in the country three days a week. We exchanged chickens and eggs for our groceries.

My cousins and I loved to swim and play near the dam. I remember going to Marian Deck's graduation in a church at the south end of Roann. She was always so musical – she played the piano for her own graduation. Whenever I wanted to go some place, all I had to do was to give Norma Deck a call and she was ready.

note: many people have paintings created by Betty including several of the mill she has made.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Beacon Credit Union announces: "Project Spotlight is our community support program designed to discover worthwhile projects in each area that Beacon serves. Our hope is to be able to support community projects both large and small, and bring awareness to the many good things happening in our communities every day.... Prizes of \$2,500 will be split between the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th place winners in *each* of our 11 communities."

You may help our mill by voting online. You may **vote once each day** through the **end of September**. Go on the web to:
www.beaconcu.org/project-spotlight
And select: *Wabash County (City of Wabash)*.
Select "*Stockdale Mill.*" *psssst – pass the word*

*Our old mill could use some new FRIENDS
How about you joining our team?
Become a host or tour guide
Cut some grass - Swing a hammer*



Stockdale Mill Foundation
c/o Ron McColley
6836 N SR15
Roann, IN 46974

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #5
ROANN, IN
46974

RETURN REQUESTED

**Stockdale Mill Foundation
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Mike and Linda Campbell
Dwight & Susanne Fouts

The Stockdale Mill Foundation is a non-profit Indiana corporation with the purpose of preserving the Stockdale Mill. We are a 501(c)(3) organization, enabling donors to deduct contributions. All donations are used 100% for historical preservation and restoration. We invite you to come experience what our dedicated volunteers have prepared for your visit.

E-mail us:
info@stockdalemill.org

Find us on the web:
www.stockdalemill.org

Answering machine:
(765) 833-2019



Regular tour hours are
Saturdays
Noon to 4PM
May through October

**Special tours may be arranged for
your family group or organization.**

SUMMER 2015