

SOME OLD HOMES  
in  
Frederick County, Virginia

Prepared for  
The Farmers and Merchants National Bank  
Winchester, Virginia

By  
GARLAND R. QUARLES  
1971

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Drury D. Clevenger died May 18, 1956 leaving his wife Edith M. Clevenger and three children: Evangeline Clevenger Bierer, Genevieve Clevenger McCormas, and C. Stanley Clevenger. (F.W.B. 63 - Page 209). He named Edith M. Clevenger as his executrix.

On July 5, 1960 the other heirs of Drury D. Clevenger conveyed to C. Stanley Clevenger their interests in the 611 acre tract, partly in Frederick and partly in Clarke County, on which the old home stands which we are considering in this write-up. (F.D.B. 265 - Page 51).

The ford in the Opequon near "Cleridge Farm" has been historically an important crossing on the main road from Winchester to Charles Town. As late as the time of the Civil War it was known as Ridgeway's Ford. It figured during that War particularly as the route of General Milroy's retreat after the Second Battle of Winchester on June 14, 1863 and of Cavalry action in the Third Battle of Winchester on September 19, 1864.

The old house was no doubt built by some member of the Ridgeway family prior to 1800. It has fourteen rooms and seven fireplaces, and certainly the most beautiful and interesting mantles we have ever seen. Tradition has it that it was once called the "Opequon Inn" where cattle drivers on their way to Baltimore would stop. Immaculately kept by its present owners, Mr. and Mrs. C. Stanley Clevenger, it is one of the show-places of northern Frederick County.

THE RIDINGS - McCLUNN HOUSE  
NO. 121

LOCATION: On State Route 636 and 709 about 3 miles southeast of Vacluse.

Standing high on a bluff overlooking West Run, this interesting old brick mansion shows evidence of having been constructed in at least two stages. It is at present owned by W. Leonard Weyl of Washington, D. C., and is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Wayne A. Snyder, former owners. The old house is built on land which was granted to Adam Nicodemus by Thomas Lord Fairfax on June 3, 1765. (F.D.B. 18 - Page 252).

On December 1, 1766 Adam Nicodemus gave a deed of trust on the tract to George Bowman, it being described as containing 447 acres and adjoining Lawrence Snapp, Andrew Hackers, Thomas Barrow, John Larrick, and George Larrick. Personal property was also conveyed including "a still and worm tube." (F.D.B. 11 - Page 306). The mention of personal property in this deed leads us to conclude that the first house on this land had been built by this date.

On February 22, 1779 Henry Nicodemus, son of Adam Nicodemus, who had acquired the interests of the other heirs of his father, conveyed to Thomas McClunn the 447 acres on West Run which we are considering. (F.D.B. 18 - Page 252). The last name of the aforementioned purchaser appears in the records of the times spelled many ways: McLun, McLunn, McClung etc. He was a Quaker from a family in North Frederick and an active member of Hopewell Meeting. He owned the property on West Run for over 40 years and no doubt built the older part of the house which stands there today soon after he acquired it. He must have been a stone mason by trade because he built the Hopewell stone meeting house in 1759. (*Friends History* - Page 147).

In his will Thomas McClunn devised his home place to his wife Hannah for life and directed that at her death it was to be sold and the proceeds of the sale divided among his children. On June 5, 1838 Amos Lupton, executor of the estate of Thomas McClunn, conveyed to Edwin B. Ridings 151 acres of the property, including the mansion house, lying on both sides of West Run. (F.D.B. 66 - Page 455).

Edwin Brotherton Ridings was the son of Dr. Peter Ridings, who was born in England in 1775, married Mary Brotherton and came to America in 1800. In addition to being a practicing physician, Dr. Peter Ridings was a manufacturer. He settled first near Winchester and operated a woolen mill. Later he moved to a site east of Middletown where he started another mill. He made the initial agreement for the purchase of the McClunn property and built the mill on West Run. His son, Edwin B. Ridings took over the payments and became the owner.

Edwin B. Ridings was born in England in 1798 and died in Frederick County in 1878. He added to the woolen mill on West

Run a saw mill and a grist mill and is alleged to have invented a threshing machine which was a distinct improvement over the old "flail and threshing floor" method. (Norris - Page 720).

The Ridings family was the victim of almost unbelievable cruelties at the hands of the Yankees during the Civil War. Peter Ridings Jr. was taken from his home by Union Cavalry and shot dead while he was on his knees praying. His sick wife and little children were removed from the house and it was burned as they looked on. The wife of John W. Ridings, grandson of Dr. Peter Ridings and the son of Edwin B. Ridings, was killed by volleys from Sheridan's cavalrymen in her home on the Middle Road. (Cartmell - Page 487).

Although he was a Methodist and not a member of the denomination concerned, on December 3, 1877 Edwin B. Ridings and Eliza his wife conveyed to the trustees of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ a tract of land for a church to be known as Riding's Chapel. (F.D.B. 94 - Page 382). He also contributed substantially toward the building of this church which stands today as a memorial to his generosity.

Edwin B. Ridings in our judgment built the major portion of the brick house which stands on the hill overlooking the old factory site today and no doubt shortly after he acquired the property in 1838.

Following are the transfers of this estate since its ownership by Edwin B. Ridings:

F.D.B. 121 - 371 — June 20, 1901 — Riding's estate to J H. Keller & Co.

F.D.B. 124 - 382 — Jan. 20, 1904 — J. H. Keller & Co. to Martin L. Bauserman

F.D.B. 132 - 582 — June 17, 1911 — Martin L. Bauserman to J. R. Beatty

F.D.B. 146 - 140 — March 16, 1920 — J. R. Beatty to D. B. Burcham

F.D.B. 153 - 592 — Sept. 22, 1925 — D. B. Burcham to E. C. Higgins (Evidently this sale was not completed)

F.D.B. 156 - 333 — Nov. 9, 1927 — D. B. Burcham to Federal Land Bank

F.D.B. 184 - 559 — Jan. 28, 1942 — Federal Land Bank to J. W. Ballowe

F.D.B. 185 - 503 — June 17, 1942 — J. W. Ballowe to William R. VanBuskirk

F.D.B. 224 - 555 — Sept. 2, 1952 — William R. Van Buskirk to Carl V. Hughes

F.D.B. 233 - 201 — Sept. 23, 1954 — Carl V. Hughes to Wayne A. Snyder

F.D.B. 272 - 122 — July 13, 1961 — Wayne A. Snyder to C. B. Runyan

F.D.B. 323 - 513 — July 5, 1966 — Mary A. Tucker, widow of C. B. Runyan to W. Leonard Weyl.

THE RITENOUR - MILLER HOUSE  
NO. 122

LOCATION: On the west side of Route 11 in the north end of Stephens City.

This fine brick mansion, now owned by J. A. McCormick stands, of course, on land which Lewis Stephens laid off to constitute the Town of Stephensburg, also called Newtown and Stephens City. On October 3, 1734 Peter Stephens, the father of Lewis and one of the members of the Yost Hite group obtained from the colonial government a grant of 674 acres on the north branch of Crooks (Crooked) Run on the western side of the Sherrando (Shenandoah) River. (O.D.B. 16 - Page 336). On April 28, 1738 Yost Hite conveyed to Lewis Stephens 339 acres near the head of Crooked Run. (O.D.B. 3 - Page 42).

For details concerning the Yost Hite Grant the reader is referred to Write-up No. 76 of "Springdale", the John Hite House.

On May 2, 1755 Peter Stephens conveyed to Lewis Stephens 424 acres of the 674 acre grant he had obtained. (F.D.B. 4 - Page 38). Three years later, on October 12, 1758 the Virginia House of Burgesses at the request of Lewis Stephens passed an act establishing a Town on his land, a tract of about 900 acres. (*Journal of Virginia House of Burgesses for 1758-1761* - Page 45).

In his will, proved April 1, 1805 Lewis Stephens devised to his son, Lewis Stephens Jr. a number of tracts of land in and adjacent

*Frederick County, Virginia:  
History Through Architecture*

*Maral S. Kalbian*

Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society  
Rural Landmarks Publication Committee

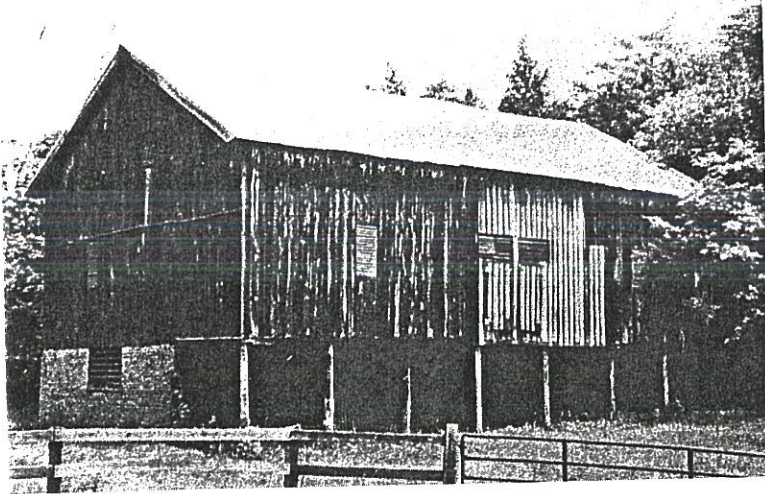


Figure 4.8

It is highly probable that the brick for the foundation of the barn at the Ridings-McClun House was fired at the same time as that used for the main house. The superstructure of the barn dates to the late nineteenth century, while the foundation appears earlier.

(Photo by Jessica Perkins; courtesy of Rural Landmarks Survey)

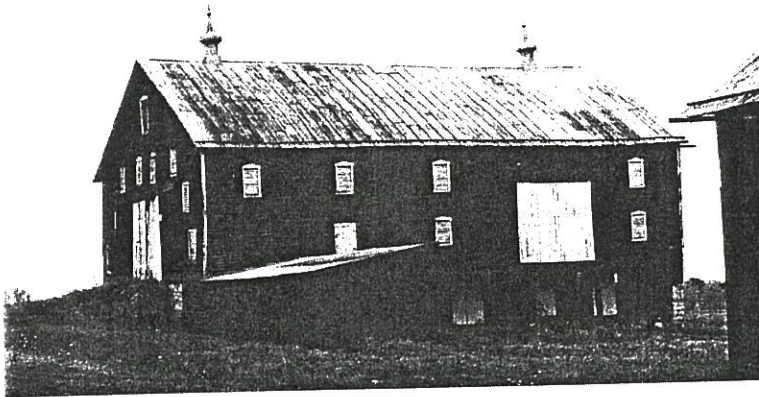


Figure 4.9

Two earthen ramps, one on the end and one on the side, are the unique features of this bank barn at the Wright-Barton House.

(Photo by Ben Ritter)

agricultural operations during this period. Although farms varied in size, they were usually characterized by a barn and a main house. Many farmers replaced their old agricultural buildings during this period, so it was common for the house to be the oldest structure on a farm. When barns were rebuilt, they often reused the stone foundation of an earlier structure.

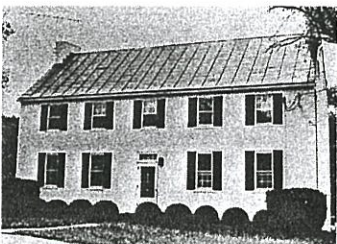
The traditional Pennsylvania bank barn continued to be the most popular barn type, generally constructed of heavy timber with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints, a gable roof, and a limestone foundation.<sup>12</sup> The bank barn at the *Ridings-McClun House* is one of the few examples where a brick foundation is used (Figure 4.8). The interior organization of bank barns included a lower banked story divided into stalls and pens for horses and cattle, a main floor accessed by an earthen ramp and divided into a central threshing area flanked by hay mows, and a secondary level that usually contained more hay storage areas. A metal hay fork and track attached to the ridge pole was another common feature. The bank barn at the *Wright-Barton House* is unusual because it contains not one but



**House, Mountain Falls (34-194)**

*early 19th century, with later addition*

The earliest portion of this eclectic house in Mountain Falls appears to have been constructed of log in the early nineteenth century. It has undergone many alterations and additions, making it large enough to be used as a tavern/hotel in the mid- to late nineteenth century. Part of the stately appearance of this house is due to the two-story Colonial Revival-style porch with fluted columns and the unusual mansard roof on the front tower. Much of the building has been covered with synthetic siding that hides its architectural history.



**Ridings-McClunn House (34-73)**

*early 19th century*

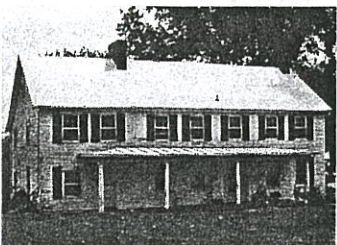
Thomas McClunn was a stonemason who built *Hopewell Meeting House* in 1759. He acquired this property, located east of Middletown, in 1779, and probably constructed the Federal-style dwelling in the early nineteenth century. It is a two-story, five-bay brick dwelling built directly on a split-level brick basement. A one-and-a-half-story rear ell with stepped cornice and central brick chimney was probably built by Edwin Ridings, who acquired the property in 1838. Both sections are laid in five-course American-bond brick. The interior woodwork of the house suggests late-Federal styling and is mostly intact. Surviving is a fine frame bank barn, one of only a few in the county with a brick foundation. The 1885 *Lake's Atlas of Frederick County* notes that a sawmill and the Ridings Factory were also located near the house and were likely related to it.



**Dr. S. J. Smith House (34-480)**

*early 19th century, mid-19th century, late 19th century*

One of the oldest structures in the area around Gore, this log house along U.S. 50 was built in several stages. By the end of the nineteenth century the house had achieved a Folk Victorian appearance with its two-story pedimented porch with fluted columns and a sawn balustrade. The two-story, six-bay house is clad in weatherboard and has a gable roof of standing-seam metal.



**J. Fred Thwaite House (34-534)**

*early 19th century, with later additions*

This house is composed of a small two-bay log building with a large two-story, five-bay side log addition. A double rear porch is partially enclosed and a modern wood deck has been added. The house has beaded weatherboard siding except for the rear, which is covered in vinyl siding. The old orchard office, carriage shed, stone springhouse, frame and stucco meat house, frame chicken house, and other frame sheds remain on this property, which is located along U.S. 522. For many years it was the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Fred Thwaite, prominent orchardists. The property is now owned by Robert Solenberger, a grandson of the Thwaites.





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A History of the Woolen Industry  
In the Top of the Shenandoah Valley

by

Wilbur S. Johnston

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Wilbur S. Johnston', slanted downwards from left to right.

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he came in nearly frozen and stood by the fireplace turning front and back, but he couldn't get warm. He was miserable, and Grandmother didn't forget to remind him that now he knew how it used to be.  
*(Letter to the author, January 15, 1986)*

Even though very little remains at the factory site, enough remnants emerge to allow mapping the system. The Smelser house sits close along the west side of Mountain Road, with Green Spring Run flowing northward in the floodplain behind the house. Crossing a narrow flat by the run we find the residue of a cinderblock shed against the foot of the hill. This structure, which was destroyed by fire, stood precisely on the site of the Old Woolen Factory foundation, residuals of which remain in the rear wall built into the hillside with original building stones fallen around the perimeter. The millrace is quite prominent along the foot of the hill. Beginning at the southern (upstream) end of the floodplain where a rise along the creek's edge indicates the likelihood of a former dam, the race continues an equal distance below the mill site to rejoin the main stream.

## RIDINGS MILL

Peter Ridings, born on June 25, 1775, at Bolton, Lancashire County, England, was the eldest of the twelve children of John and Mary Morris Ridings. Peter, like his brothers, learned the textile business from his father who was a weaver. On September 11, 1797, when Peter was twenty-two, he married Mary Brotherton, age nineteen.

In 1801, with two sons aged two and three and a wife pregnant with their third child, Peter Ridings emigrated to America. Sarah Ellen was born on September 7 during the Atlantic crossing. The family first settled near Winchester and Peter built a woolen mill. (Norris p720) About 1810 he moved to the Middletown vicinity and built a second mill. This mill burned on October 16, 1810, with the tragic loss of his infant son Cyrus. The source of information on this double disaster was Paul Elgin Ridings, great-grandson of Peter. (Cramer)

Dr. Peter Ridings was one of the best physicians of his time. (Norris p720) He apparently took up the practice of medicine prior to 1812, according to Cartmell (p487) who says that in that year a Dr. Peter Ridings swore allegiance to the United States. Having no formal training, Ridings was a self-taught physician. He was a popular and well-respected country doctor in his neighborhood.

Events in the middle years of Peter Ridings' life, based on facts as well as inference, lead us to play detective in piecing the puzzle. Laid out chronologically, here are the facts, their sources, and some conjectures.

Much of the uncertainty surrounds the purchase and occupancy by Peter Ridings of a 62¼-acre tract from Thomas Barrow. This parcel was sold by William Barrow to Thomas Barrow on June 15, 1816, and its survey matches others we shall cite. (FCDeedBk 38p578) A deed dated December 4, 1841, passes this land from Thomas Barrow to Peter Ridings in what is apparently the final act in an earlier contract between Barrow and Ridings. (FCDeedBk 71p194) The mystery is that we do not know when

this earlier contract occurred. Peter's will, written February 10, 1843, refers to the "...farm on which I now live purchased from Thomas Barrow." (FCWillBk 21p167) Once he occupied the Barrow tract, Peter Ridings made it his home for life and never left it. After his death the property was put up for auction, the highest bidder being Peter's son Edwin B. Ridings who took ownership on May 24, 1844. (FCDeedBk 72p489) Throughout these transactions the survey description is repeated verbatim, proof that it is the same tract.

Joseph L. Cramer, one of the contributors of data to Carla Varrial's excellent work on the Ridings family, visited the area in 1961 and researched the lands and mills of the Ridings. Cramer, a geologist quite familiar with maps and land surveys, discovered a house site and dug well on the Barrow tract. Elmer Evans, a knowledgeable native who died in 1989, directed Cramer to the site of the well that Peter Ridings dug. Evans knew that the well was close to the house, and his directions led Cramer to find the site easily, but only mounds of earth on which buildings had stood remained of either the house or outbuildings.

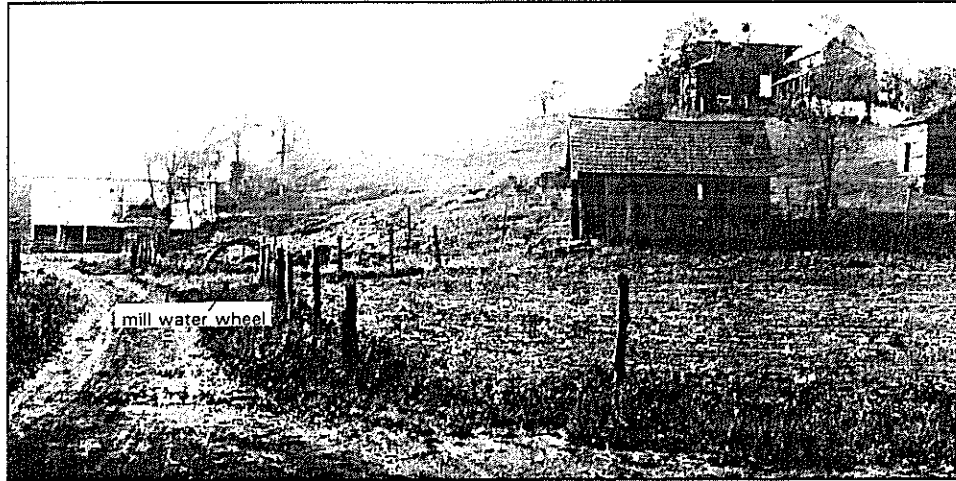
Apparently a common practice at that time, Peter contracted the purchase on February 9, 1821, of another tract without benefit of deed until his son Edwin took over payments in 1838 when Peter deeded it to him. (FCDeedBk 66p452) This 151-acre parcel lay up West Run to the north of Peter's home. It was conveyed to him from the estate of Thomas McClun and contained the now-historic McClun house. On this land granted to him by Thomas Lord Fairfax in 1765, Adam Nicodemus built a house which is no longer in existence. Adam's son Henry conveyed the original 447 acres to Thomas McClun, and it was no doubt McClun who constructed the older portion still standing on the hill above West Run. In the judgment of Garland Quarles, it was Edwin Ridings who expanded the original McClun house and brought this fine Georgian-style mansion to its full size. (FCDeedBk 66p452; QuarlesFred pp244-247)

Although the survey of the McClun parcel bordered lands of Thomas Barrow, the establishment of the geographical relationship between this and the Thomas Barrow land that became Peter Ridings' homeplace remains elusive. All those involved in the research (Evans, Cramer, Varrial) believe that it lies over a mile down West Run close to the Warren County line.

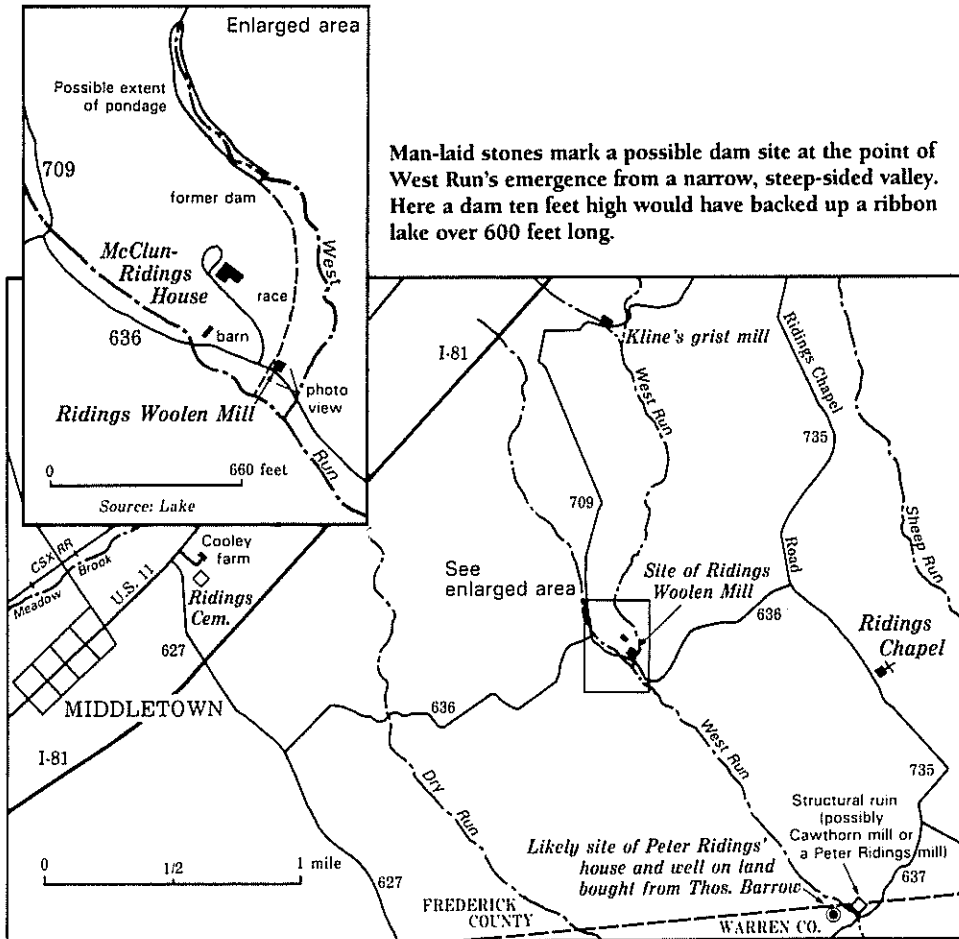
If the 1810 mill that burned stood on the Barrow 62¼-acre piece, and if Peter rebuilt the mill there, then Peter continued to be a fulling miller. He certainly would not have built a mill on land that he only leased and did not own, and therefore he must have arranged for the purchase of this land prior to 1810. It is entirely possible that Thomas Barrow had contracted with William Barrow for the tract and let a sub-contract to Peter Ridings. This would explain the late date of the final deed from William to Thomas Barrow in 1816.

Cramer pinpointed the location of Peter's homeplace, as found by him in 1961, up the slopes of the right bank of West Run above its crossing of Route 637 near the Warren County boundary, which at Peter's purchase was Frederick County. Near this point stood the Cawthorn Mill. (Scheel) Although Scheel shows the mill on the southwest side of West Run—and this may well be true—,there is a 50-by-20-foot stone structural remnant on the northeast (left) bank of the Run. If all conjectures are true, the Cawthorn mill could have been located on or near the site of Peter's mill.

**RIDINGS WOOLEN MILL**



Ridings Mill Site: McClun house on hill, mill wheel standing in race. Two sheds at right gone; barn standing in 1989. Time: circa 1900-1918. (Courtesy G. Gary Ridings)



Man-laid stones mark a possible dam site at the point of West Run's emergence from a narrow, steep-sided valley. Here a dam ten feet high would have backed up a ribbon lake over 600 feet long.

If these findings do not converge somewhere near the truth, then Peter Ridings was simply a farmer and had no woolen mill after the 1810 fire until he built one on the McClun parcel after purchasing it in 1821. However, the Ridings family was always involved with machines, both farming and milling. Peter's son Edmund, for example, is thought to have invented a threshing machine. (QuarlesFred p246) Skills of various family members were shuttle-making, weaving, iron-working, developing and operating machinery; mechanical vocations are extensive among the Ridings family throughout its lineage. Any interest in farming was certainly secondary. Circumstantially, then, we believe that Peter Ridings had a mill on the Barrow-Ridings tract during this interim period, either at the Cawthorn site or another nearby.

After purchasing the McClun property, Peter's milling business flourished with the addition of facilities to saw lumber, grind grain, and make barrel staves. All this in addition to healing the sick truly made him a very industrious man! Meanwhile, Peter and Mary increased their brood to eleven (not including the lost Cyrus).

When his son Edwin came to settle on the McClun property in 1824, Peter gained strong assistance in the expansion of his enterprises. Aging in the 1830s led to Peter's sale in 1838 of the 151 acres to Edwin. The following year Peter's wife Mary died. He lived until 1843 when he, too, died at the age of sixty-seven. Both are buried in the Ridings cemetery on the Cooley farm just east of the intersection of Route 627 and Valley Pike.

Edwin Ridings paid off the debt on the McClun tract and received title to the 151 acres in June 1838. He had previously bought at public auction in April 1831 the William Barrow tract of 195 acres adjoining the property that his father had purchased from Thomas Barrow. (FCDeedBk 58p4) Now he owned the McClun land that bordered the other two. Edwin at this time held 346 acres; by 1848 he increased his property to 585 acres, holding that amount for the rest of his life. (Varial pp58-59)

There were three wives in the life of Edwin Ridings, but his first child, Edmund, was born in 1820, out of wedlock, to his father's nineteen-year-old housekeeper, Betsy O. Barton. (To bed but not to wed. Edmund was born and raised in Peter's household until Edwin established his own home. Betsy remained in Peter's home through his lifetime, then in 1844 married Peter's brother, John, he aged sixty-one and she forty-four.) (Varial p53)

In 1824 Edwin married Lydia Rhoades and left his father's home to make his way on the Indiana frontier. There Lydia gave birth to Jacob Peter and two years later to John William on June 14. On August 6 Lydia died. Edwin buried her near the Wabash River. With his two infant sons he returned to Virginia, arriving in the fall of 1826 to begin life anew. He married Susan Painter in 1828. She, a Quaker, was disowned for this marriage contrary to the discipline. (Hopewell p521) Susan gave Edwin five children, one of which lived only a few days and another his first daughter, Sarah Ann. Twenty days after giving birth to George Edwin, Susan died on September 11, 1835.

The count is now two wives deceased and seven living children, the oldest fifteen. Within three months Edwin married twenty-four-year-old Eliza Barrow who was his wife for Edwin's remaining forty-three years of life. She brought into the world his next five children, two of them girls. Now with twelve living children, Edwin had matched

his father in number of offspring. Eliza outlived Edwin by nearly sixteen years and is buried beside him in the Ridings cemetery.

Edwin's life was one of success and wealth built on his father's beginnings and gained through his many milling and farming operations. Most of this good life was achieved prior to the Civil War which opened when Edwin was sixty-three years old. He lived a long and full life until he died in 1878 at age eighty. (Varrial pp51-62)

In December 1877, seven months before his death, Edwin Ridings deeded land on Route 735 for the construction of a church of the United Brethren in Christ. (FCDeedBk 94p382) He made sizable contributions toward the church's construction but did not live to see it completed. Edwin made these grants while remaining a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which in 1939 merged with the United Brethren to become the United Methodist Church. The original building was replaced in 1909 with the present-day structure. Ridings Chapel is today an active congregation. On the inside rear wall of the Chapel is a memorial marker which reads:

"To the Memory of E. B. Ridings and Eliza his wife  
Founders of Ridings Chapel U. B. Church building A. D. 1878  
Bequest of their Daughter Mary C. Smith"

The Ridings family members were solid Confederates during the Civil War. Five members of Edwin's family joined Lee's army: Edmund, John William, and Frederick William, all Edwin's sons; Edwin's nephew Thomas, son of James Ridings; and Benjamin Smith who later became Edwin's son-in-law by marrying his daughter Mary Ridings. Edwin's home was not in the main line of battle but sat just out of range when the Battle of Cedar Creek raged around brother James' home in Middletown.

Mariah, wife of John William Ridings whose home was on Middle Road, was wounded in the right leg by a stray bullet as she stood in the doorway watching northern troops move toward her. The Captain of the company, E. D. Woodbury, was distraught over the accident. He kept up with Mariah's well-being after the War, and upon his death his widow notified her. The bullet and letters were donated to Handley Library. (Varrial p71) (QuarlesFred p246 reports this wounding as an attack on the house which fatally shot Mariah. No doubt the erroneous source is Cartmell p487.)

Mary Catherine Ridings, who was between ages twenty-two and twenty-five during the War and who after the War married Benjamin Smith, is reported in stories retold down through the family that when Union soldiers came to the house to take its provisions she beat them off with a club. (Varrial p75) Peter Ridings Bell, the son of Mary Ridings and John Bell and grandson of Peter and Mary Ridings, was shot to death by a squad of Union soldiers at his home on November 30, 1864. His ailing wife and five children were removed, and they watched as the soldiers torched their home. (Varrial pp31-2; Norris p720; Cartmell p487; QuarlesFred p246) (Quarles reports this as Peter Ridings Jr., which should be Peter Ridings Bell. Cartmell calls Jacob Peter, son of Lydia and Edwin Ridings, two persons: Jacob and Peter. This may have led to the confusion that Dr. Peter Ridings had a grandson Peter. Nevertheless, there was no Peter Ridings Jr.)

Although we have no data concerning the operation of the mills after Edwin's death in 1878, the Ridings retained the property until 1901 when the estate conveyed

out of family hands. (Varrial p65; QuarlesFred p246) The mills likely disappeared sometime during the first two decades of this century. The photograph shown here, taken in this period, reveals the water wheel sitting vertically in the millrace with its upper half visible, but no mill buildings remain.

Seven years after Edwin's death the Lake Atlas was published. It labels the McClun house "Mrs. E. Ridings", and it portrays the sawmill, woolen factory, and its tailrace. Some distance upstream at the narrowing of the deep defile of West Run are man-laid stones that no doubt formed the dam. By checking the height of the remnant mound, it is possible to estimate the size of the earlier ponded water which backed up a narrow lake some 600 feet.

In 1971, when Quarles published *Some Old Homes in Frederick County*, the last owner of the Ridings Mill property was an Arlington, Virginia, surgeon, Dr. W. Leonard Weyl. He and his wife purchased the house and seventy acres in July 1966. (FCDeedBk 323p513) Retaining some fifty-seven acres, the Weyls sold nearly thirteen acres with the house, barn, and former mill site on June 11, 1973, to Daniel F. Carney Jr. and his wife. (FCDeedBk 411p198) Dr. Weyl died in 1987, but his widow holds the remaining acreage. Subsequent transfers of ownership of the mill site were:

The Carneys to David H. Conway and wife, 1977. (FCDeedBk 474p829)

The Conways to Frederick J. Rowan and wife, 1980. (FCDeedBk 510p328)

The Rowans to Theodore L. and Bonnie Garrett, 1981. (FCDeedBk 531p524)

The Garretts hold an option on the remaining Weyl tract.

## THE HOLLINGSWORTH MILLERS

Arising near the confluence of the Town Run and Abrams Creek are some of the most powerful natural springs in the Shenandoah Valley, which make for first rate mill sites. Here at Abram's Delight, the site of Winchester's first settler, the Hollingsworths became operators of several mills. Jonah Hollingsworth, grandson of Abraham the founder of Abram's Delight, developed, in addition to flaxseed oil and grist mills, a carding mill, which he operated until his death in 1801. (QuarlesWinc pp236-7) Jonah also operated a fulling mill at this site with George Mathews in the years just after the Revolutionary War. (Cartmell p153) A newspaper notice in 1789 relates that Joseph Hollingsworth had built a fulling mill, "Raw cloth designed for it may be left at the store of Amos Jolliffe, sign of the Blue Ball." (Morton p117) Again, in the same year, "S. & D. Hollingsworth have a fulling and dyeing mill", evidently Solomon and David. (Morton p120)

Although reference to locations of the mills is not revealed by these secondary sources, most likely they were in the section just south of the town along Abrams Creek. This area had become known as Milltown for the several mills along the creek