PRESERVING LOCAL HISTORY: THE WILSON COLLEGE FULLING MILL PROJECT

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The Wilson College
Fulling Mill
The Timeline of The Siloam Mill
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The Siloam Mill
The Siloam Mill was first built and owned by the Lehman family in 1796 through 1871. The first Lehman, Moses Lehman, came to America from Germany. The Lehman’s built the mill, which was known as Daniel Lehman. During this period, the mill was used as a sawmill and a flour mill. In the mid-1800s, women during this time period typically were not allowed to own property. Daniel Lehman employed Abraham G. Beck for fourteen years, until his death. Christian B. Goll, born in the late 1790s, Christian Goll was elected from Lebanon county who worked in the mill with his son, Henry Lehman Goll, for roughly three years. Around this time, Wiman Cullinger was established in 1848 about a half a mile downstream from the mill. Raw sewage from the cattle was drained into the Conococheague creek, due to the lack of a sanitary sewer system.

On January 1, 1857, Christian B. Goll sold the Siloam Flour Mill, found on Salem Church road, and it’s dam to Chambersburg’s Water Department, who converted it to supply the city with water. The mill’s water wheel was used to pump water into a new reservoir known as Wiman Reservoir, but this plan was unsuccessful. The mill later became known as the Siloam Printers after the Wishing-time steam driven pump was installed in 1859 to pump water near quickly. In 1871, the mill pumped an average of 5,000,000 and a half gallons of water a day to the community. However, more times around with records from the town made the plan’s selling water unusable. This led to the water department changing to both mills in the valley above Gambrill Park, giving them pure water by 1871. In 1880, the dam on the Siloam Park, upstream of Siloam Road Bridge that crosses the East Branch, was torn down.

The very first owners of the Siloam mill, according to the old tax records of Franklin County, are Samuel and Christian Lehman. F. Lehman acquired the property. They owned 11 acres. Their gross annual value of the mill was $35.08. The amount of waterworks they had from the dam to be able to own the mill was $35.08.

The last tax document reveals that the Siloam mill, from the Franklin County Historical Society about the Lehman family owning the mill was the 1892 tax record of Chambersburg. Paul Lehman Jr. and Christian Lehman were the owners of the property. The mill pump is still in place today, but the waterworks that once supplied the town have been removed. The memory of interest was split between Christian who had 21,390 and Paul who had 580.

The Mill Today
Today, only remnants of the mill remain. The remains of the mill are located on the interpretive trail, which runs through the Wilson college campus along the Conococheague Creek. But in the town, there are many moving through the structure. But one can still clearly tell when the mill stood. In 2012, the Siloam family planted a letter box by the mill, containing letters that encourage people to take a moment to stop and appreciate their surroundings.

Introduction
The fascinating mill located at the Pitsenbarger Farm, also known as the Siloam Mill, has been around since the 1790s. The mill is located about two miles south of Chambersburg and lies on the east branch of the Conococheague Creek.

The Life of the Mill
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Throughout the years, the Siloam mill continued to be passed down through the Lehman family tree, in the last will and testament of the Lehman family from their father Daniel Lehman. It stated that all 14 children of Daniel Lehman shall receive a portion of the property, and they may do anything with the property that they receive from their father. At least one of the children chose to keep the mill property that they had received from their father.

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The History of the Mill: A Brief Timeline
1768-1846 - The Lehman family owns the Siloam mill, sawmill and flour mill.
1853 - The mill is given to Salem Horse in a will.
1864 - The mill is recorded in a deed as a woolen mill.
1869 - Wilson College is established.
1893 - Christian B. Goll owns the mill.
1911 - Christian B. Goll sells the mill and it’s dam to Chambersburg’s Water Department.
1895 - Wishing-time steam driven pump is installed.
1897 - The mill pumps a million and a half gallons of water a day to the community.
1911 - The Water Department changes to Beck Run in Gambrill Park giving them pure water.
1934 - Wilson College obtains ownership of the mill when it buys the farm property.
1985 - The mill’s dam for the Siloam plant is torn down.

Conclusion
Mills were a very popular way of protecting goods such as wood or grain during the 1800s. In this case, however, the Siloam Mill, which was first built and owned by the Lehman family, continues to be a part of the town’s history. There were many mills found throughout South Central Pennsylvania at this time, the Siloam Mill was one of the most well used mills in Chambersburg, serving as a woolen mill, a flour mill, and to transport water for Chambersburg’s Water Department.

Works Cited
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Interpretive Trail

The Wilson College interpretive trail was founded in 2000 and began with a Growing Greener Grant ($24,000) from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

The interpretive trail is a ¾ mile nature trail that runs through several distinct habitats. The trail begins along the Conococheague Creek, then winds its way through a meadow to a forested area. All along the way, trees are marked with informative signs, and walkers have the opportunity to view wildlife, birds, and numerous plant species. Students and community volunteers alike can experience land stewardship in action here. Best of all, the trail is a great place for quiet recreation on the edge of Chambersburg.

Projects:

- Native Plant Rehabilitation: South-Central PA is home to many beautiful native plant species. Students and staff of the FCSS continually work to protect and rehabilitate native species in an effort to promote biodiversity on campus.
- Invasive Plant Control: Exotic invaders are unfortunately a big problem in the area. Aggressive species like Honeysuckle, Tree of Heaven, and Multi-flora Rose crowd out native species. FCSS staff have developed a program to control and remove the invasive plants in order to make room for native plants and trees.
- Trail Maintenance Projects: Keeping the path clear of fallen trees, managing the trail, and improving the footpath are all important to making the trail a pleasant place to walk and learn.

VOLUNTEERS are welcomed and needed to help with plant projects and trail upkeep. Youth groups looking
The Letterbox

Peaches
Mistakes of legal and ethical proportions
Sitting by your side
Watch them collide.
You call me baby
You call me Ball
No, call me
something original
Like peaches?

Behind it all, you're a
clever, wiser wonder
hands around my waist
you're more, the wiser.
I'll pull yourifting

Behind it eyes

Just nibble my neck
and call me your

Wait no,

— Call me peaches,
Under this chilly wastelands
moons.

Nearly half edify you get mine,
Until be this poster us by.
Just don't forget to call me peaches
When you force out the goodbye.

-AE
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