

**Mills Archive Trust :**  
**– W Minchinton Collection.**

Contents Listing by David Plunkett, 2010.

**U S A.**

**New England States:**  
**General Notes & Correspondence**  
**Peverel Meigs.**

**Listed by marked open folder contents: Copy inserted into each completed box.**

**Rhode Island – (buff folder)**

Tide Mill Sites in Rhode Island: a working List -

As listed by Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 4/2/93.

Barrington (Warren River).

Warren (Kickamuit River).

Bristol (Windmill Point).

Bristol (Mill Gut, Poppasqaush).

Warwick (Mill Cove).

Warwick (Hardig Brook/Apponaug Cove).

Warwick (Mill Creek).

The last "Tourgee Mill" - was in operation after 1915 but destroyed by the 1938 hurricane.

Reply letter from : Naval Historical Collection, Department of the Navy, Naval War College, Newport.

Does not contain any information on tide mills. 25 May 1993.

Extracted from un-named source – copy p56. IV. BIBLIOGRAPHY (RI)

- (1) Warwick Mill Cove – (package)
- (2) North Kingstown – Tourgee – (package).
- (3) Bristol - Mill Gut – (package).
- (4) Bristol, Windmill Point – (package)
- (5) Bristol, Warren, Kickamuit – (package).
- (6) Warwick, Apponaug – (package)
- (7) no ?
- (8) Newport History. Vol. 65, part 1. Number 222, 1993.  
Newport – Long Wharf – (package).

List of Historical Records Repositories - (RI).

Two, Road Maps of Rhode Island.

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**Connecticut - (buff folder)**

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Tide Mill Sites in Connecticut State: a working List - (Bruce Clouette, c. 1977).

Not a defined listing – none on Connecticut or Mystic Rivers!

Mixed selection of copies , notes & correspondence of various (named) sources in most cases.

One, New England Road Map, (1973) - some red highlighter.

## **Massachusetts - (red folder)**

Tide Mill Sites in State: SPOOM listing (ex- David Plunkett).  
Also part county listing with towns and some dates.  
Other SPOOM extracts – c.1977 +

Boston area – (package).  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Archives Division. Vol. 17, p19.  
Tidemill at Roxbury mentioned 11<sup>th</sup> August 1698.  
Correspondence of 1986 with extracts.

Peveril Maigs, 'Energy in Early Boston', reprint from –  
New England Historical and Genealogical Register. Vol.CXXVIII, April 1974. pp.83 to 90.  
Other Boston published copy extracts.

Revere, Slade Spice Mill – (package)  
– including copy of, The Story of the D & L Slade Company.  
– Also Peveril Meigs, 'Ancient tide Mill in Revere, Mass'. Printed abstract (illustrated by 14 slides and a map).  
– as presented at the Sixth Meeting , EHGA, Boston University , on 3 & 4 November 1972.  
- and other extracts and press cuttings.  
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Salem area – (small package) Includes  
– Beverley, extract note of 11<sup>th</sup> September 1797 – (in pencil)

Manchester on Sea..  
Frank L Floyd, 'Manchester on the Sea' - pages 80 & 83.  
Four saw mills were located at the Cove.  
The most famous tide mill site was where the police station now stands.  
A tidemill owned by John Perry Allen was located on the dike at Masconomo Park. Destroyed by fire, in 1848.

Copy picture of Hodgkins Tide Mill, near Gloucester only.

Quincy – (package).  
'Ocean Tides as energy source , nothing new'. by Dr George R. Horner – original pub' by Quincy Hist Soc.  
- also by Mass Archaeological Society Newsletter, Vol 4, number 1 – March 1978.  
- Souther Tide Mill & Blacks Creek Mill – extracts by H Hobart Holly & note of Peveril Meigs death.

No large maps.

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## **New Hampshire - (green/grey folder)**

Hampton – two maps. Including New Hampshire Flood Plain map of 1975.  
- Notes - Two mills identified – one originating from c.1688.

Portsmouth – possibly two sites mentioned.

Rye- single item- good photograph of Sale Notice – two miles from Portsmouth.  
- Consisting of a grist mill, saw mill and shingle mill. March 10 1842.

Portland – Casco Bay & Mill Cove – sites

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## **Maine - (buff folder) Thick folder.**

Historic Engineering record, 1974 – ASME Northern New England Section.

- Listing of recorded Tide Mill Sites.- 13 No. + other pencil notes.

Other part listings based on - Old New England 1954 & Water Power of Maine by Walter Wells

Another listing in pencil with total of 77 sites. – [*but Winnegance makes up 16 mills.*]

Vertical file – (package).

- largely various press cutting and copies.

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Notes and press extracts on the following : - -

Arrowsic – (1931)

Bowdoinham – (1932)

East Boothbay – (package)

Kennebunkport – (Perkins Tide Mill)

Lubec - (1927)

Milbridge - (1980)

Phippsburg - (small package with notes and maps)

Portland - (small package).

Seal Cove – Mount Desert – (single extract)

South Harpswell - (small package).

Winnegance – (Morse Mill package)

Tide Mills of Maine and Beyond, compiled & edited by George M. Carlton Sr.

- 27 sites over 27 pages with pictures.

Henry M. Western (1829) and Henry B. Fernald (1835) – Copy – Letters Patent.

Extract – “The Tidal Water Power of Maine” – Chapter VI, pp 33 & 34.

Extract – David C. Smith and Anne E. Bridges. ‘Salt Marsh Dykes as a Factor in Eastern Maine Agriculture’, from Maine Historical Society Quarterly – Vol.21, No.4, (Spring 1982) pp 219 – 226.

Walter Wells, ‘Water Power of Maine’ 1869. Extract – copy part of selective pp 154 – 511. [*lots of information*]

Correspondence – (package)

Maine State Library – 1977.

Maine Historical Society – 1977.

Maine Historic Preservation Commission – 1988.

University of Maine –

Maine Maritime Museum -

The International Society for Geothermal Engineering, Inc. – 1978.

Various Maps.

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## **New England + – (blue folder)**

Wide ranging, various illustrations: -

Winnegance – 1877

Long Island Wind and Tide Mills – minor extract only

B&W photo – Saddle Rock. NY.

Hodgkins - measured dwg (HABS).

Perkins – Kennebunkport – extract two pages. + b&w photo.

Gerritson – Brooklyn, NY. – b&w photo.

Poplar Grove, VA – b&w photo (1981). Copy – older photo (A4).

Nova Scotia Museum – b&w photo only.

## **Peveril Meigs – (buff folder).**

*Probably the best tide mill researcher of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in USA.  
There had been correspondence exchange with WM since c.1971.  
PM had a heart attack in 1975 but recovered well. Then he had a cancer.  
PM died in September 1979*

Letter to WM – Sept 26 1972: Admits to being an SPAB member in England etc.  
Grant No. 814 – Johnson Fund - \$1.800 (1970), 2pp. For Historical geography of tide mills on the Atlantic Coast. . . .

Letter from WM – 10 Jan 1976. Asking various questions, see reply below.

Important letter to WM dated Jan 19 1976 –

He has researched from Nova Scotia to Georgia.

He had recorded 317 tide mills in all.

Most in one state: was 95 in Maine.

US mills in operation from 1630's to about 1930.

One is operating now - a rebuilt mill operating for tourist in Long Island, NY.

Also copy of this letter –

Copy of PM letter to, Charlotte C. Donnell, Wiscasset ME. – Feb 5 1976.

Copy of letter to PM – 1 Jan 1977.

Letter to WM – Feb 14 1977. In reply to letter above. Confirms Saddle Rock as only US tide mill working.

Letter to WM – March 6 1977. Arranging a meeting with PM in Boston on April 16<sup>th</sup>. WM is preparing a TIMS paper for Matlock Symposium. PM is a TIMS member.

Copy letter to PM – 20 April 1977. Thanking for the meeting together the previous week – etc.

Copy letter to PM – 4 August 1977. He enclosed copy of pamphlet on Windmills in Devon.

Letter to WM – Sept 22 1977. Feed-back on pamphlet – plus Slade Mill extract for WM.

Copy letter to PM – 27 Feb 1978. States his England and Wales listing is now 169. Queries whether a joint article for a publication was possible.

Letter, plus copy to WM – March 27 1978. Thanks for previous letter and contents of February above. Just been through the worst winter blizzard for 100 years. His article on Slade Mill not finished – more data to add. Joint article on American tide mills not considered as he has other third party considerations. PM in better health currently.- his chemotherapy seems to be working.

Letter to WM – March 20 1979. In reply to WM letter date of a month before. He has been working on his income tax and sorting out papers – but he states he is still well. Be patient – wait a while – still not made maps of tide mills in America – will develop them eventually.

Letter to WM – July 25 1979. Reply from PM to request to write on tidal power for 'History Today'. He accepts with suggestions and notes. Admits to other deadlines ! ?

Letter from PM's daughter (Nancy) to WM – September 21 1979. My father died suddenly last Sunday.

Copy letter to Mrs Meigs – 1 October 1979. Very sincere condolences. Walter states that MP hoped to leave all his papers on tidemills to him when he died. Could he come and see her when in America next April?

Letter to WM from Yvonne L. Meigs (Mrs Meigs) – March 16 1980. Thanking WM for copy of 'History Today'. PM died on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Needs time to settle husband's estate. Then decide on how best to use the tide mills collection but it goes to no-one at this time. Ends by stating, bad error by WM within article on Sea Power – relating to Meuse River in Belgium, having Rupelmonde tide mill? Wrong river – should be Schelde River. ! !

Copy letter from YM to WM – March 24 1981. Begins by stating she will be at home on 21, 22 & 23 April. She has gone over PM's diaries from late 1976 – Nowhere did she find any mention of his wish to give WM papers on tide mills after he died. Ends by stating – coming here to talk, would be a waste of your's and my time.

Letter from YM to WM (at NW University, Evanston, Illinois – May 23 1982. In reply to WM letter of May 17<sup>th</sup>. A frosty reply to a request to meet her next June (11<sup>th</sup>) – Never free on Saturdays. She has two grandsons who are familiar with field research and will eventually tackle the Tide Mills.

Copy letter to YM – 26 May 1986. MW states he is still trying to write up his tidemill material and hopes to publish it in a volume to be issued by the University here this summer. Has gaps in his American information – can only get about 200 out of 350 sites information. No information about SC and Georgia and little for Virginia. Help ? Lists four articles he has from PM in the past.

Letter from YM to WM in reply – June 18 1986. Sorry cannot help you at this time.

Last item – is a Brown University Memorandum - dated April 14 1993. Dinner and after reception in the History Department. If you are interested cost is \$6.00 ASAP.

Copy of "Tide Mills on the Atlantic Coast" by Peveril Meigs – from Old Mill News. April 1979, pp.6 & 7.

## **Tidemills USA – Lists & drafts – (buff folder)**

Draft article with title of – ‘Tidemills in North America’. 8 pages with list of 11 illustrations. No date.

Draft articles with title of - ‘Tidemills of the Mid-Atlantic Seaboard of North America: from the Delaware River to North Carolina,’ by Walter Minchinton . 11 pages but no figs. or illustrations stated. Marked in pencil for TIMS and Kiel Conference 1989. - *Was this published ?*

Draft article with title of - ‘ Tidemills in Southern New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina,’ by Walter Minchinton. 4 pages of text only with added pencil notes. No date or publication source.

Second copy of above draft – with added pencil notes – 5 pages.

Pencil listing (numerical only) of tidemills in American States, totalling 317.

Draft notes in pencil & text – Headed as N. America Bibliography- 3 pages.

Draft notes, 3 pages – List of Tide Mills in North America – Nova Scotia , New Brunswick and Maine only.

Draft listing (4 pages) - Maine text.

Draft listing (1 page) - New Hampshire text.

Draft listing (1 page) - Massachusetts text.

Draft listing (1 page) - Rhode Island – 3 entries only.

Draft listing (1 page) - New York text.

Draft listing (1 page) - New Jersey text.

Draft listing (1 page) - Delaware – single entry.

Draft listing ( 1 page) - Maryland text.

Extended draft listing (4 pages) – Virginia – largely from D Plunkett data provided.

Draft listing (1 page) - Georgia text.

Copy of SPOOM Tide Mill listing with pencil notes by DP. 6 pages.

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## **USA – General Admin’. – (blue folder)**

Copy listing – Letters regarding tidemills in America sent to: - All eastern seaboard States.  
Copy - letter to above.

Copy – part of D Plunkett, Tide Mills of Chesapeake Bay, MRG Proceeding of 1986, pp 58 & 59.

Reply letter from - University of Kansas – 29 June 1986.

Various mixed notes and references, largely hand written.

Copy – ‘Tide Mills in New England’ by Alfred Elden. From, Old Time New England - Vol. XXV April 1935.  
Pages 117 to 127. Good b&w photographs included.

2nd copy of above on A4 paper.

Copy – Little Old Mills – by M N Rawson, 1935. VI. Tide Mills – pages 91 to 99.

Copy – Peveril Meigs – Grant No. 814 - (1968).

Copy – ‘Tide Mills’ by Stephen Straight in OMN. Vol. XVII. No.3, Summer 1989.

Copy – ‘Tidal Power’ extract from the National Fisherman. Based on Morse tide Mill , Winnegance. Pages 83 to 90.

Copy extract – Tide Mills on the Atlantic Coast, by Peveril Meigs in OMN April 1979.

Copy extract – Reports on the water power of the U.S, from the Tenth Census , 1880, vols 16-17. 2 pages.

Copy extract – OMN, Summer 1989 – cover & pages 3 & 4 only.

Copy extract - cover only of ‘A History of ‘Industrial Power in the United States, 1780 – 1930. Vol ume one: Waterpower in the Century fo the steam Engine by Louis C. Hunter. With single page Appendix 5. Tidal Power along the Atlantic Seaboard. – (*incomplete*).

OTAR. Waterbouwkundig Tijdschrift. No.5, November 1955, (Dutch language Journal).  
Incorporating copy pages 113 to 116 – ‘Getijmolen in Noord-Amerika’ Incorporates water, wind and tidemill distribution maps of period - Europe, Essequibo, Suriname on 113. And New England marked maps from Maine down to New York on page 114. And detail map of Brooklyn (Breukelen), southern Long Island and Jamaica Bay on page 115. Also small scale time line diagram of tidemills from N to S- dated 1492 to 1953.

Copy extract of MRG (1988) pp 53 – 59. Tidemill Research within the Chesapeake Bay , USA. By David Plunkett.

Historic Engineering Record, Northern New England Section , 1974 (Original In whole). [*Lots of good data*]  
Parcel of collected papers marked “Patents”  
Largely Patent Office publications and data - but includes the noted Thomas Rowlsnd - Specification of Letters Patent No. 4,843 dated November 10, 1846. – with one drawing . Followed by three of four others of less merit in my view.  
Two road maps of c. 1974 for New Jersey and for Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. Ends this box.