

MOTOR MILL Annual Report 2022

Visitors Summary compiled by Abbey Harkrader showed total visitors 1,227 from 18 states and four (4) foreign countries and number of vehicles over the bridge from 4/12/2022 to 11/8/2022 was 18,544. Abbey's report with a map has been distributed

January 18, 2022 Meeting

Pollock reported that Zichal, Beck, Stone & Schoen meet with her on January 13th to discuss ideas to present to RC&D planners.

1/18/2021 Update on Master Interpretive Plan meetings with (Jared Nielsen, Paul Berland Josh Dansdill with Northeast Iowa RC&D)

Discussed self-guided tour ideas and costs - Pollock said the means to make self-guided tours available will be part of the interpretive plan. A possible option might be for visitors to use their phones after the Inn work is complete and wi-Fi becomes practical.

Discussed video updates and if we want a new end of tour video Discussed Motor Mill Promotion and I wrote a letter to Brian Gibbs, Dave Beck and Jean Marie Hall (see attached)

John, Larry, Dan & Jenna attended the Supervisors meeting and the Supervisor voted on 1/18/2022 to appoint Ray Peterson as a representative to TRRC with Steve Doeppeke as alternative.

Chris Grau called with 5 12x12 inch posts we need for basement support along the road. Swales concrete pads for the posts to sit on are ready and I called Aylsworth Bros to let them know we are ready for them to install the posts. This installation will complete the foundation under the Motor Mills six stories and our volunteers will assist in this installation.

I note that we wanted to do a video using historical records from CCHPC and the Motor Mill plus those still living to highlight the "Early Days of Motor" and the Klink Farm. This could be another video for tours recording the history of the Motor Mill Site. This is the time of year to do a strong advertising in all media to bring together all who can contribute to this effort.

A meeting at GEAR Elkader was held on 1/27/2022 to discuss a trail and pedestrian bridge project suggested in a visioning plan prepared by Trees Forever.

Jennifer met with Mike Tucker and an electrical engineer to discuss plans for the Inn restoration. Tucker hopes to have final plans to submit to the National Park Service by the end of January. Clayton County Conservation will be responsible for installing the septic system for the Inn.

February 15th 2022 Meeting

Turbine restoration - Schoen shared an email from Maryland that they had treated the intact turbine, but are unable to deconstruct it. The board discussed leaving the complete turbine intact and deconstruct the damaged one. Schoen will discuss the option further with the conservator.

Alysworth house movers began work on the posts in the basement on 2/14/2022. The only volunteer help they will need will be to cut the posts to the correct lengths.

Martin-Gardner architecture has completed plans and submitted them to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the National Park Service for review. This process could take 60 to 90 days. Pollack said required changes have been made. Pollock remains hopeful that we may be able to have a bid letting at the end of March.

Pollock reported that we have about \$300,000 in grants and donations toward the Inn project with an estimated cost of \$450,000. She plans to apply for an Iowa Great Places Grant through the Turkey Recreational Corridor. It's also possible there could be money available from Clayton County's share of the American Rescue Plan.

Pollock hopes to get bids to replace the Stable roof. The board discussed metal roofing and whether to use to different colors on the different slopes of the hip roof. Pollock will check with State Historical Preservation Office. (SHPO)

The Clayton County Historical Preservation Commission (CCPC) is planning a banner identifying museums in Clayton County and the Motor Mill will certainly be included.

UNI history students are once again being offered between late February and mid April if we want to request them.

The Motor Mill Endowment balance as of 12/31/2022 was \$16,600 with \$400 of that available to use, if desired.

February TRRC meeting was cancelled

Pollock will apply for the Clayton County Foundation for the Future (CCFF) grant for \$1,000 to help pay for the interpretive plan.

A public "Coffee Talk with Motor Mill Foundation" will be held at Osborne on March 3rd at 10 AM and 6 PM. The public will be invited to share expectations, likes and dislikes about Motor. Staff from Northeast IA RC&D will be there to discuss the interpretive plan.

The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque will host a regional roundtable on "Outdoor Assets" at Osborne from 10 AM to 2 PM on April 21st. At least some of the group may want a tour of Motor Mill. Pollock asked Foundation members to try and be available.

Brian Gibbs has entered a photograph of a rainbow and Motor Mill in the Keep Iowa Beautiful Photo Contest. There are links to vote on the Motor Mill and Clayton County Conservation Facebook pages.

Pollock met with Zichal, Beck, Schoen, Slagel and RC&D staff on February 10th to continue discussion of the new Motor Mill interpretive plan,

March 15, 2022 Meeting

Central School Volunteers - Stone & Zichal met with three Central Community High School students about an earth day project to help clean at the mill. The group plans to have about 25 students at the mill from 9:00AM to 2:30PM on Monday April 11th. Kenny Slocum, resource manager for the Conservation Board will supervise some of the students on trail and other work around the Motor Mill site. Foundation volunteers are asked to bring push brooms and other cleaning materials.

Nikolai reported no additional progress since Alysworth House Movers began work in the basement on February 14th.

2022 intern? Harkrader said the Conservation Board has been unable to hire a seasonal Motor Mill intern. There is some

chance that a previous intern may be able to help with tours part-time.

2022 Tour Schedule - The consensus was to open Saturdays from noon to 5:00PM from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. After Labor Day tours will be offered Sept. 17th, Oct. 1st, and October 8 & 9th which is Heritage Day weekend.

Coffee Talk Discussions - About 20 people met at Osborne for two March 3rd discussions, about developing a master interpretive plan for the Motor Mill Site. Topics include the take away message for visitors which might focus on architecture, agricultural, natural, Native American history geology and geography.

Would a goal to be have full-time staff at the site? Should we eventually try to have working models?
How do we entice more visitors- such as water trail users - to stop at the mill?

We need to strike a balance between providing interpretation that is accessible all the time without encroaching on the historic and secluded atmosphere.

Northeast Iowa RC&D will draft an interpretive plan for further input from the Motor Mill Foundation, The Conservation Board and the public.

Volunteer projects for 2022 - The board suggested a number of volunteer projects

March 15, 2022 Continuation of Motor Mill Annual Report 2022

New Business

Volunteer Projects for 2022:

1. Build "Furniture" around one of the millstones
2. Inventory milling equipment that has been donated and determine which items would be appropriate to display
3. Provide better access to the basement windows to allow easier removal in case of flooding
4. Install lighting in the Stable
5. Arrange for replacement of the windows in the Stable
6. Develop "Hands on" activities for children
- 7.

Blueprints of Motor Mill Buildings - Nikolai brought copies of "as-Built" drawings of the mill produced by Gardner Architecture in 2006

Dan Slagel has learned of a technology that could produce a 3-D scan that could be used to give a virtual tour of the interior of a building. Zichal moved to authorize Dan to do more research on 3-D scans and report the results to the foundation. Schoen Seconded! Motion approved!

Merchandise - Morine asked what t-shirts and other clothing we want to have for sale at the mill and Iowa room? The members agreed to continue with items most popular in the past namely caps, adult t-shirts and hoodies all in soft fabric and blue and gray colors.

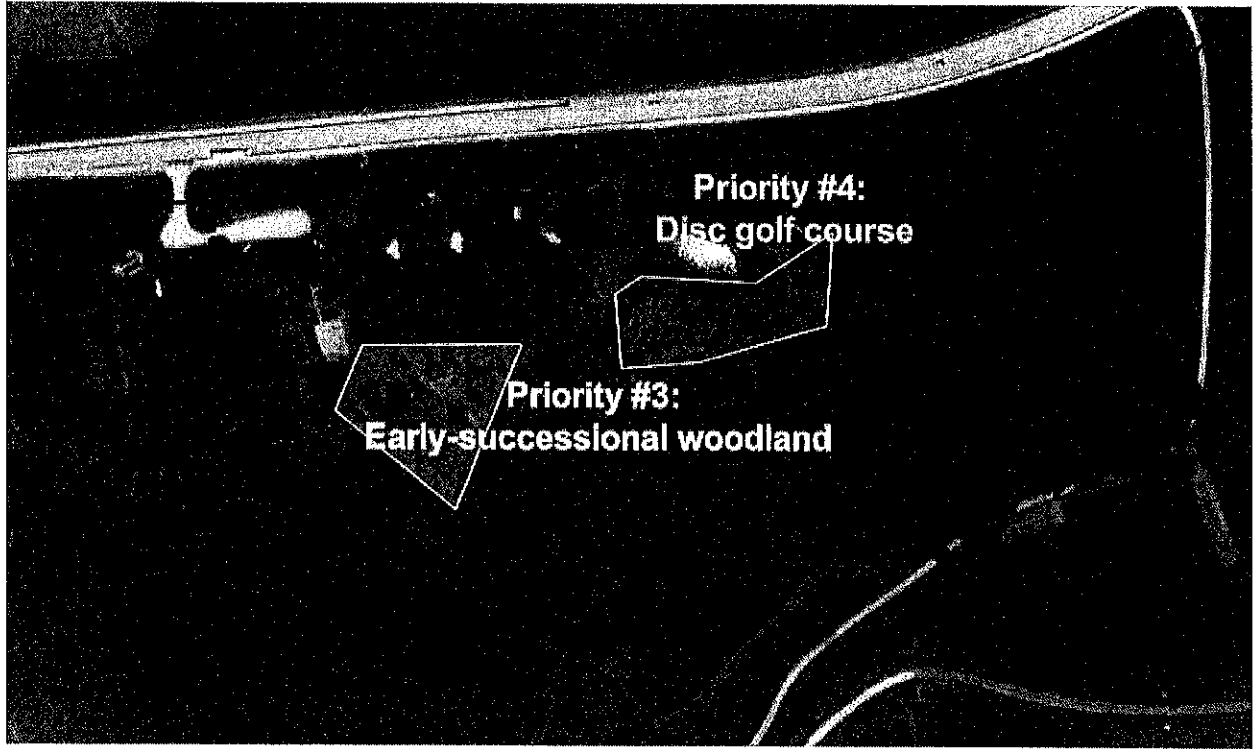
Water in Basement - Nikolai has attempted to reach John P. Moyna to discuss ways to keep water and silt out of the basement.

Reports & Updates - Schoen and Slagel attended the Turkey River Recreational Corridor meeting on March 1st. Motor Mill again will be included as a stop on the Turkey River Safari. The Des Moines Register annual REGBRAI will overnight at West Union on July 29h.

Motor Mill Foundation Endowment - Nikolai shared a statement that the Motor Mill Foundation has a balance of \$16,263.07.

April 19, 2022 Meeting

Central School Volunteers - Stone reported about 30 students from Central Middle School worked to help clean the mill from 9 to 11:00 AM on April 18th. The students swept, vacuumed, cleaned



agreed to help Slagel to prepare a request for proposals to give to potential bidders on the project.

Visits to other mills - Zichal reports that Schech's Mill near Caledonia, MN doesn't open until June 10th. He will try to arrange a group tour after that. There was no response yet from the Pickwick mill.

2022 Tour Guide Schedule - Harkrader distributed a tour guide schedule for Saturday afternoons from May 28th to October 8th, 2022.

Preserve Iowa Summit - Nikolai, Lenth and Schoen plan to attend the Mason City, IA Preserve Iowa Summit June 2nd to 4th.

Marketing - Metcalf has spoken with the owner of Rivals in Strawberry Point who is offering to design Motor Mill graphics for t-shirts, sweatshirts and other items that Rival would sell online. There would be no cost to Motor Mill but we would receive a part of the profit. After discussion the board was generally receptive, but had several questions (contract involved, image copyright and images based on photos). Metcalf agreed to get more details from Rivals and report at the May meeting.

TRRC - Schoen and Slagel attended the Turkey Recreational Corridor meeting. Much discussion about RAGBRAI stopping overnight at West Union on July 29, 2022.

Light Switch in Mill - Moring and Lenth moved to remove the remote switch and have a hard-wire switch at the electrical panel on the 1st floor. Motion Carried!

Log from Original Motor Mill Dam - Pollock will arrange for staff to make new interpretive signs for the log salvaged from the old dam.

May 17, 2022 Meeting

Basement Progress - Nikolai reported that the basement walkway access to the windows is finished and the excess wood removed. The board discussed installing a window in the floor to allow visitors to see the turbine shaft that remains. The consensus was not to add a window, but to point out the shaft from another place along the walkway by a tour guide.

Turbine Restoration - Schoen has not received a report.

Signs for Beam from the Dam - Morine moved to approve purchase of interpretive signs for the beam salvaged from the old dam at a cost of \$140 from think. Zichal seconded. Motion carried!

Reports and Updates

TRRC - Schoen and Slagel attended the Turkey River Recreational Corridor meeting on May 3rd. TRRC has agreed to apply for an Iowa Great Places grant to pay for Inn restoration. Pollock mentioned that the Great Places director visited Motor Mill on May 6th.

Community Foundation Grant - Pollock said the Motor Mill Foundation has received a \$1,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque. It will help pay for the new Interpretive Plan.

Interpretive Plan - Pollock said that NE Iowa RC&D has proposed a number of elements for the new interpretive plan including a new logo, a marketing brochure, a photo library, wayfinding signs, ways to use the Coopers, limiting access to upper floors of the mill except with guided tours, devices to provide audio messages when activated by visitors, a backpack of materials to assist tour guide. The draft of the final plan may be presented in June.

June 21st, 2022 Meeting

Lumber from Mill - Slagel said most of the excess lumber has been removed from the upper three floors. Some was taken to the campground for fire wood, some hauled to Osborne, some saved and some will be sold.

Turbine Restoration - Schoen has received no new report

Fifth Floor Joists - Nikolai said volunteers plan to splice in (sister)new floor joists to weaken weak ones on the fifth floor of the mill.

Inn update - Pollock said the Conservation board has about \$300,000 in grants and donations for the Inn restoration project. She also plans to apply for an Iowa Great Places grant with pre-application due in August. She's waiting to solicit more donations until we've requested bids and the final costs are more certain.

TRRC - Schoen and Slagel attended the Turkey River Recreational Corridor zoom meeting on June 7th. Much of the discussion was about the Inn project at Motor and the Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa (RAGBRAI)

Pollock noted that the Clayton County Supervisors has agreed to contribute \$5,000 to TRRC and supervisor Steve Doeppke has begun attending TRRC meetings.

June 19th 2022 Meeting

Lumber from the Mill site - Finished inventorying the lumber and designating some to save for various projects. We are getting costs from Crystal at Meuser Lumber in Gutenberg.

Turbine restoration - Schoen has received no new report

Sistering Motor Mill rafters - Nikolai said that volunteers moved wood and planned to wait for cooler weather to splice in rafters to strengthen weak joists on the 5th floor

Fifth Floor replacement of flooring - Lumber has been set aside to replace flooring along the river side of the 5th floor . Volunteers will either move the smutter or work around it to replaced damaged flooring.

Interpretive Plan - NE Iowa RC&D met with the committee Thursday for partial review and hopes to have the final draft of the interpretive plan by the end of the month. A new logo was reviewed and several changes wee suggested to the outline and arches in the graphic. Interpretation and flow of traffic in the Mill was reviewed and suggestions made to add stairs and safety guides to the grinding platform area to aid interpretation. A children's area upstairs with buildings to create a town plus a turbine exhibit area. The committee also reviewed ideas for furnishing the Inn and which era to focus on.

New Video - Nikolai suggested creating a new video with a collection of interesting stories and reminisces. Pollock suggested holding off as this is the type of thing that the new interpretive plan will guide and help with.

Lenth mentioned that we need a way to better interpret how the water flowed from the Turkey River into the mill and down through the turbines.

Historic Photo Project - Nothing new to report from Stone.

Turbine Restoration - Schoen has not received any more information from Maryland

Master Interpretive Plan - Pollock has not received the final plan

Mill Visits - Zichal will contact Schech's Mill to propose September 10th as a possible date and hopes to visit Pickwick Mill on the same date

Video showing river path through turbines - The board agreed to consider video ideas when visiting other mills.

Nikolai urged Stone to compile photos to show restoration progress at the Motor Mill

Inn Restoration - Pollock reported that the Conservation Board approve a contract with Steege Construction of Waverly to renovate the Inn, however, the \$639,450 bid was 35% above the architects estimate of about \$473,000. Pollock said the Conservation Board already has about \$300,000 in grant and donations and she voiced confidence that it will be possible to raise the rest. An example is an Iowa Great Places grant which requires a one to one match. Another \$25,000 pledge would allow the Conservation Board to apply for a \$325,000 grant which would mean the projects cost would be covered. Schoen moved that the Motor Mill Foundation pledge \$25,000 toward the Inn project. Stone seconded. Motion carried!

TRRC - Schoen attended a TRRC meeting via ZOOM. Discussion about RAGBRAI passing through Northeast Iowa and reports on the repair of Elkader's Keystone Bridge and the Elgin to Elkader trail

September 20th meeting

Master Interpretive Plan - Pollock asked Foundation members to review the draft and send comments and edits to herself or Abbey. Zichal suggested a pizza party in November to meet and review the plan.

Pollock noted that the plan does not include Interpretative videos and may suggest adding that. The board suggested making a video or picture board showing renovations and progress of work at the site.

Pollock and Harkrader are seeking funding through UNGC and SILOS To implement some of the interpretation suggestions in the Master Plan.

Lumber Sale - Schoen & Morine say excess lumber we hope to sell on October 22nd has been sorted, stacked and priced. It's in the Cooperage and on the 2nd & 3rd floors of the mill. No early sales and buyers must pay on the 22nd and pick their purchases up by November 2nd.

Heritage Days - The board agreed that Heritage Days went well with good weather. Fifty+ Mill visitors on Saturday and 80+ on Sunday. Pollock said the Conservation Board expects to have a special event for the 50th anniversary for Heritage Days in 2025.

Turbine Preservation - Schoen received notice that the turbines are ready to be picked up as soon as the Conservation Board pays the Maryland historical department. Nikolai & Schoen have not decided on a travel date.

Water in the Mill basement - Nikolai is still attempting to reach John Moyna to discuss a way to prevent water from the road and mill roof from running into the basement.

Shingle repair - Lenth has tried without success to get the Amish to replace missing shingles on the roof of the Mill.

Visit to Minnesota Mills - Several MMF members and spouses were able to visit Schech's Mill and Pickwick Mill on September 24th despite the complications of road detours. It was interesting to compare the differences between the mills.

Inn Water and Septic - Schoen reported that the septic and leach field have been installed at the Inn. He monitored the process to watch for historical artifacts but discovered nothing of significance. Pollock has been in contact with James Handke and Shawver Well about options to repair the old well or drilling a new one. She emphasized that this is the Conservation Board's responsibility and not a matter for Foundation members.

Elections - Morine moved to re-elect the following board members whose terms are expiring specifically: Beck, Metcalf, Nikolai, Schoen, de Neui, Zichal, Mark Yackel Juleen; Slagel seconded motion carried!

Zichal moved to reelect the current officers: Nikolai Chair, Zichal Vice Chair, Stone Secretary, Morine Treasurer, Slagel seconded. Motion approved!

Stone Structures - The board briefly discussed partnering with Clayton County Historical Preservation Committee (CCHPC) to promote the "Stone Structure" website

Destination Iowa grant - Pollock requested that the Motor Mill Foundation sign on as a co-applicant for the \$150,000 grant the Conservation Board is applying for to help pay for Inn restoration. Slagel moved that the foundation join the application. Morine seconded. Motion passed

Well News - Pollock reported that she has been in contact with Shawver Well and Fehr-Graham Engineering about options for a well to server the Inn. The choices are a new well or horizontal drilling through the bluff from the campground well. She will investigate further.

Schoen noted that the State historic Preservation Office (SHPO) may have concerns about a well house not to be appropriate close to the historic buildings.

Materials to Store at motor in Winter - Morine says he plans to take all the merchandise and clothing to Osborn but probably will leave brochures and ohedisplayiems.

Special Tour - Morine will give a tour to the Jerry and Sandy Kramer family on November 25th.

Holiday Walk - The Conservation Board's annual Holiday Walk will be Dec. 1st at Motor. It will feature people portraying characters involved in Motor Mill History.

Interpretive Master Plan - Most board members stayed after the foundation meeting to review the Interpretive Master Plan to prepare for a final meeting with Northeast Iowa RC&D on 12/15.

December Meeting December 20th, 2023

Turbine Preservation - Schoen said we need to monitor the temperature and humidity fluctuations of the wooden turbines that were preserved in Maryland. There also must be protected from dust and insect pests.

Zichal suggested building a plexiglass display case. The boards consensus was to keep the turbines in a case on the 1st floor of the Mill making sure the turbines are a foot or more above the floor to avoid the level of water in the 2008 flood.

The board also discussed ways to reduce the amount of dust entering the mill. One idea was to cover the arches with tarps hung on the inside of the basement wall. That would reduce the winds blowing through and stirring up the dust. Slagel advocated

2023 Events - Pollock and Harkrader said several STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) camps for students are planned for Motor. A group has also inquired about holding a "ghost camp". Pollock and Harkrader also recommended reviving the Motor Mill Art Show. Tentative tour dates e Saturdays from Memorial Day to Labor Day with the option of occasional special events.

Work Day Projects - Top priority may be moving the restored turbines on to the first floor of the mill and building protective cases. He group also discussed ways to close off the arches and enclosing the stairway between the 1st and 2nd floors Slagel also is continuing to work on a furniture for one set of millstones and perhaps a model to demonstrate how millstones work.

Apparel -Since RC&D is designing a new logo for The Moor Mill Historic Site the board agreed to delay ordering any more shirts or other apparel until that design is available.

Insurance - Morine said our liability insurance premium is due in February but the company says there will be coverage changes. Pollock said she will contact Gifford Insurance as well as other Clayton County insurance carriers to arrange a presentation at the January meeting.

2023 Intern - Pollock says there has been at least one applicant for the summer intern position at Motor.

Letter RE-Turbine Project - Schoen shared by email a letter he has drafted to Nichole Doub, head conservator at the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory thanking them for their conservation work and also to comment on things he found insufficient with regard to heir conservation report and packing of the turbine #1. The board praised Schoen for his concern and the content of the letter and agreed that he should send the letter as a representative of the Motor Mill Foundation.

2022 Motor Mill Visitor Summary

Motor Mill was open for tours Noon-4:00pm on Saturdays from May 28 - September 3 and then every other weekend through October 9th for a total of 18 Open Saturdays. Events were well attended and traffic through the park was high again this year with a rise in visits by side-by-side vehicles. Several youth camps were also well attended over the summer. Internet presence also saw an increase in Facebook and Webpage visits.

Visitation

Total Number of Visitors **1,227** from 18 different states and 4 foreign countries.

The car counter counted **18,544 cars** across the bridge April 12 - November 8

2007: 858	2015: 1439	
2008: 504	2016: 1054	15,860 cars
2009: 634	2017: 1507	16,250 cars
2010: 788	2018: 1287	14,751 cars
2011: 683	2019: 1088	14,294 cars
2012: 575	2020: 805	19,827 cars
2013: 1492	2021: 1415	19,592 cars
2014: 1246	2022: 1132	18,544 Cars

MMF Events

- Bridge Lighting - **75**
- Motor Mill Coffee Talk Attendance - **17**
- Motor Mill Coffee Talk Attendance - **7**

Conservation Board Events

- Motor Motor – **95**
- Night Hike - **11**
- Holiday Walk – **46**
- Motor Mill Seed Harvest - **0**

Educational Programs

12 Programs at 2 Camps and 3 Fieldtrips
6 Classroom visits off-site– Histories Mysteries Trunk
293 participants

Volunteerism

57 volunteers
1362 hrs

2022 TOTAL VISITORS 1,227

- 4 FOREIGN COUNTRIES**
 1 - RUSSIA
 1 - ARGENTINA
 1 - SWITZERLAND
 1 - JAPAN

