

## Coming this Spring

Throughout the fall and winter, the museum staff has been completing work on two grant projects scheduled to debut this spring.

"From Forest to Frieze" is an improved school workshop that has been developed to reach a greater number of students by introducing new subject areas. With funding in part from the New York State Council on the Arts, Arts in Education Program, Oneonta area teachers, museum educators, and architectural specialists have worked with museum staff to identify innovative ways to use the museum's educational resources.

As its name suggests, "From Forest to Frieze" will take students through the process of turning a log into a marketable finished product. Meanwhile, students will examine how villages like East Meredith and factories like Hanford Mills helped each other grow. A number of hands-on activities will help visiting teachers focus on curriculum goals such as cultural history, change through time, community interdependence, and roles in the community.

An intensive conservation seminar for museum staff is also scheduled for this spring to investigate the best ways to care for the museum's collections. With funding in part from the Institute of Museum Services, conservators from the National Park Service, the New York State Historical Association, and the New York State Bureau of Historic Sites will present a week long session that will examine such critical issues as museum environments, historic materials, and preventative care.

The visiting conservators will help museum staff develop a training program designed to address the unique conditions faced at Hanford Mills. This program will include audiovisual materials and a written manual that will be used in the ongoing training of the museum's permanent and seasonal staff.



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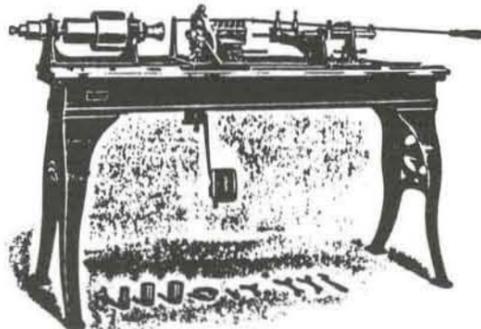
## 1987 Visitation Sets Record

More visitors enjoyed the museum's programs and events during 1987 than in any previous year. A total of 10,247 visitors came to Hanford Mills last year, up a healthy 25% from 1986. Of that total, 1,711 were school children (a 75% increase over 1986), 3,564 people enjoyed our special events (a 10% increase), and daily visitation totalled 4,972 during the May 1 to October 31 season (a 20% increase). This rise in overall visitation demonstrates the museum's growing popularity among schools, local residents, and tourists. It also reflects the increasing involvement and commitment of museum members. Thanks for your support.

## Duplicating Lathe Added

In October 1987, an important piece was added to the operating machinery collection when a 1912, No.3 Waymoth "self-centering and self-adjusting variety wood turning lathe" was donated by the Mystic Seaport Museum, in Mystic, Connecticut. According to its former owner, William Hull, this versatile duplicating lathe was last used in the Hull-Evarts tool handle factory in Madison, Connecticut.

The lathe is still in excellent condition and will be used to demonstrate the capabilities of the Hanford's turn-of-the-century tool handle manufacturing business. The museum has been searching for a Waymoth lathe for the past 5 years.



In 1901, the Hanfords bought the 1870's version of the Waymoth No. 3 lathe to increase their production capacity. With their new lathe on line, tens of thousands of handles could be produced each month. Figures from the month of May, 1903 indicate the output and cash value of turned products from the mill's several automatic lathes as follows:

261 gross file handles	\$110.49
2,000 No.1 broom handles	28.00
100 No.2 broom handles	1.00
7,870 can opener handles	13.77
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$153.26</b>

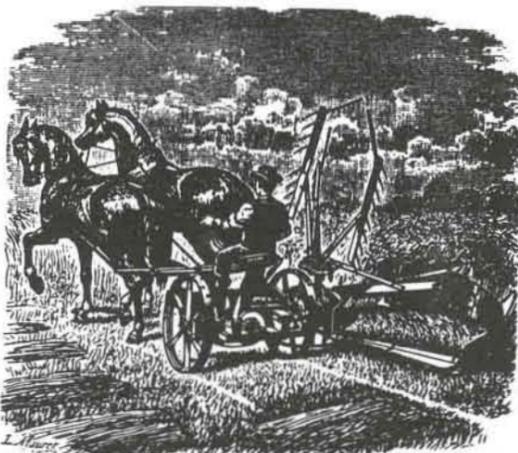
With the installation and operation of the museum's "new" Waymoth lathe following last winter's installation of 5 other original machines, the mill is recapturing the crowded look and feel of the Hanford era ownership.

Demonstrations of the Waymoth lathe will give visitors a more accurate picture of the Hanford's mass production capabilities.

## 1988 Special Events

An exciting new event has been added to the 1988 summer season. In cooperation with the newly organized Delaware Valley Draft Horse Club, the museum will present a two day work horse show on June 4th and 5th.

Throughout the weekend, teams of draft horses and their drivers will demonstrate what it was like to farm before gasoline powered tractors were commonplace. Spectators are sure to discover why work horses are regaining popularity as they watch these powerful teams plow and disc, plant corn and oats, cut and bale hay, and draw logs to the sawmill.



With luck and a good growing season, the Delaware Valley Draft Horse Club will return in the fall to put on a horse drawn harvest.

Of course, all our most popular annual events will also be presented, including the second Fall Lumberjack Festival. So get ready for a fun filled summer season. Make note of the dates listed below and look for more details on these and other events in upcoming issues of **MILLWORK**.

May 1	Opening Day
June 4 & 5	Draft Horse Days
July 4	Independence Day Celebration
Aug. 14	Children's Fair
Sept. 24 & 25	7th Annual Antique Engine Jamboree
Oct. 9	Fall Lumberjack Festival



## Be A Friend

If you are not a member, or if your membership has lapsed, check the category of your choice and join the **Friends of Hanford Mills** today:

___ Student	\$ 5
___ Individual	\$ 10
___ Joint (2 person)	\$ 15
___ Family	\$ 20
___ Contributing	\$ 50
___ DJ Hanford Society	\$100

Please make checks payable to Hanford Mills Museum and mail to: Hanford Mills Museum, P.O. Box 99, East Meredith, New York, 13757.



Springboard chopping was one of the many exciting events at Hanford Mills' first Fall Lumberjack Festival.

Photo by Keith Bott

## The Twenty Year Switch

The 1899 coming of the railroad to East Meredith had a great impact upon the surrounding community as well as upon the Hanfords' mill operations. The railroad provided faster means for importing and exporting a larger selection of goods to and from the Mill, especially in bulk quantities. It also enabled the Hanfords to sell mass-produced items to a wider wholesale area, and to have an even more versatile business operation, as it did by providing the opportunity for a coal trade which lasted from 1901 into the 1960's.

Anticipating the railroad's arrival, plans to add a switch, or siding, to run from the main track to the mill's workshops and store rooms began in the late 1880's. In 1887, D.J. and Sarah Hanford conveyed land to the newly formed Delaware and Otsego Railroad Company "for its right of way over and across certain premises owned and occupied" by D.J. Hanford. Then in 1889, the railroad agreed to "build and maintain for the benefit and use of D.J. Hanford, a switch ... from its main tracks to a point at or near the Mill of said Hanford".

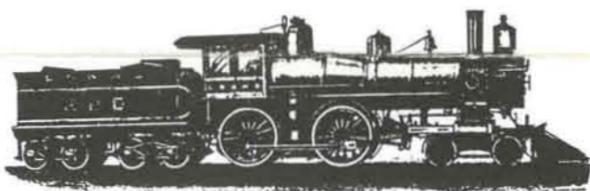
The Delaware and Otsego was slow getting started, however, and in 1891 its rights to Hanford's land and its agreements with D.J. Hanford were leased and assigned to the Ulster and Delaware Railroad Company.

In November of 1900, the Ulster and Delaware wrote to the Hanfords explaining that it could not "build a switch this fall as we have considerable work to do on the main line between the Summit and Bloomville." The railroad company closed the letter promising to try to accommodate the Hanfords.

In 1901, the Hanfords again pressed the Ulster and Delaware for their switch that year. In June, the U&D told the Hanfords that it had been "a physical impossibility to take up work previous to this time. We are now very busy with some additional switch work made absolutely necessary by the increase in traffic. At the earliest opportunity we will try and arrange to place your switch."

Finally, in 1906, the Ulster and Delaware Railroad and the Hanfords reached agreement in regard to the switch. The railroad agreed to extend and maintain, at its own expense, a switch leading from the main tracks "to a certain large tree in the vicinity of the mill property." This seventy-five foot extension was due for completion on, or before, June 30th, 1907, nearly 20 years after the first agreement.

In addition to the switch, the railroad constructed and maintained a pipeline "to conduct water to supply the water tanks of the railroad." Restrictions covering the construction of the pipeline stipulated the maintenance of automatic float valves in the water tanks to prevent an over flow and that water piped from nearby Kortright Stream was only to "supply locomotives operated over its line" and "for station use at East Meredith." Any other use of the water was prohibited.



One of the last mentions of the railroad switch is in 1946 when Horace Hanford received a letter from the New York Central System terminating the 1906 agreement with respect to the side track and pipe line. By this time, the Hanford Brothers' business had been sold, and Horace directed the railroad to close their business with the new owners, the Pizzas Brothers. The Pizzas continued to use the railroad and the switch into the 1960's.

Today, visitors to the Hanford Mills Museum can still walk along the railroad bed which runs behind the mill buildings and remnants of the water pipe can still be seen in the bottom of Kortright Creek.

## 1987/88 Annual Fund

November, 1987 marked the initiation of the museum's first Annual Fund appeal. In less than two months, more than two thirds of the Fund's \$15,000 goal has been raised. We anticipate meeting this goal by the end of the current appeal in May, 1988. Many thanks to those who have already contributed including:

Mrs. Raymond C. Abbott	Regina McVay
William G. Armstrong	Mallory Construction
Robert L. Bishop	Karl Miller
Jonathan Collett	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas B. Mills
Lenard H. Conklin	Mr. & Mrs. Donald Nelson
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William E. Lewis	



## Welcome

This past year, many new persons joined the Hanford Mills team for the first time and demonstrated their commitment to preserving our site and broadening our programs. New members since July, 1987 include:

<b>Student</b>	<b>Family</b>
Salvatore J. Canino	Mr. & Mrs. James Frame
Penny Church	Mr. & Mrs. Alfred J. Froeschl
	George Hansford
<b>Individual</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Howarth
Allen E. Caswell	Richard Kathmann
Virginia Gregory	Mary Beth Kelly
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Robert J. Kalmbacher	Michael S. McClure
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