

REEDS MILL

When described on a deed by name, the names vary as follows; Beamer Mill, Morgan & Curry Mill, McDowell Mill and lastly Reeds Mill. Early deeds just mention that there was a grist mill and some mention a grist mill and saw mill or just mills.

The earliest owner of record in the Monroe County Courthouse is Archibald McDowell. It is referenced that he had the parcel surveyed in 1789 and is listed as being in Survey Book 3/234. This survey describes this property as being 380 Ac. in Greenbrier County on Second Creek, a branch of the Greenbrier River joining the land of Robert Knox. 250 Ac. of this was by virtue of Certification from the Commissioners for the District of Augusta. The remaining 130 Ac. was acquired by land office Treasury Warrant No. 12097 dated 29th of May 1782. The original amount of this Treasury Land Grant was 1398 Ac.

Deed Book A/306 1/17/1804

Archibald McDowell sells some property to John McDowell that joins the property that the mill is on. It states the survey was on 10/4/1791

Will Book 1/232 Settlement of Archibald McDowell Est. 8/2/1813

He left the plantation they lived on and the "mills" to his wife for her lifetime, then to his son Wally(Walter)McDowell. The rest of the children got a monetary settlement from the dispersion of the Negroes and remaining property.

Deed Book "K"/206 12/12/1832

A Trust Deed between Walter McDowell and Andrew Campbell & Robert Campbell (I am not sure at this point what this was for, but Andrew Campbell was noted as a money lender and large land owner)

Deed Book "M"/137 2/28/1837 153Ac.

Andrew Campbell sells the property for himself and the remaining McDowell heirs to John and George Beamer. This is first mention of a Grist Mill and Saw Mill. This is only a portion of the original Archibald McDowell Property as some was sold to pay off Archibald children. Also I cannot determine just how Andrew Campbell acquired an ownership here unless something went haywire in the above mentioned Trust Deed. (I now understand that he was probably an in-law and may have had a vested interest of some sort.)

Deed Book "V"/557 2/18/1873 60Ac.

The John Beamer Estate sells to Nicholas Vanstavern. Although there is no mention of the fact George Beamer appears to have retained his 1/2 interest in the property and the property amount is greatly reduced though it still contains the mills.

(Need to find a will for the Beamers to find out exactly what happened)

Deed Book "Y"/518 12/31/1883 60Ac.

Nicholas Vanstavern sells his 1/2 interest to Joseph Morgan.

HERE IN BEGINS SOME TRUST DEEDS BY JOSEPH MORGAN.

(The first two seem to be where the mill may have been rented out.)

Trust Deed 2/466 10/7/1893

Joseph Morgan to Corbett Mill and Machine of Washington, DC.

Trust Deed 4/37 10/5/1896

Joseph Morgan to William H. Miller.

This deed mentions the Dooley property, once owned by Humphreys, adjoins mill property.

Trust Deed 4/274 5/31/1898

Benjamine, Margaret & Martha Beamer to Mary Crawford. This appears to put property up to cover a loan with the Greenbrier Bank.

(These are possibly the descendants of George Beamer and may account for missing 1/2 interest. Again a George Beamer will is needed to verify this)

Deed Book 38/187 3/18/1904 60Ac.

Joseph Morgan deeds his 1/2 interest to James E. Crawford (Related to Mary Crawford above??)

Deed Book 38/334 5/23/1904 60Ac.

James E. Crawford deeds his 1/2 interest to C.C., L.G., E.R. & E.C. Currie.

Deed Book 46/196 6/3/1909 60Ac.

The Curries sell to John W. McDowell. This transaction is handled by Eunice B. Walkup(Currie) and the rest of the Currie clan one of which is a Hogshead.

There is no mention in this Deed of the 1/2 interest.???

Deed Book 46/199 1/6/1913 60Ac.

Nancy H. McDowell sells her 1/2 interest to Sallie Haynes and W.H., Homer, R.C. & C.L. McDowell. (It was assumed that Nancy was the wife of John W. McDowell??? But after the next deed I am not sure. Need to find a will book)

Note: The 1/2 interest situation seems to disappear at this point for good. However, there is so much intermarriage and that it may have been absorbed never to surface again.

Deed Book 54/83 10/23/1919 60Ac.

J.W.McDowell Jr., (Son of John W.) & Nancy H. McDowell sells to J.W. & Selina Reed

Deed Book 59/ 109 2/27/1925 60 Ac.

J.W. Reed sells to M.L.Boggs

Deed Book 60/185 4/15/1926 3 Ac.

M.L.Boggs sells to A.F. and A.W.Reed Mill related property only.

Deed Book 60/59 4/15/1926 57 Ac.

M.L.Boggs sells to H.W. and F.B. Thomas balance of above property.