



Schlict Mill in Pulaski County dates back to 1844, located on a spring that runs through a secluded ozarks hollow, into the Gasconade River. Schlict Mill was originally named The Gasconade Mill operated by Jefferson Strain who took four years to cut and shape the limestone for the building's foundation.

In 1876, John Schlict took over the mill until it closed. Age has set in and the 19th century building is now beginning to collapse...but Schlict Mill will give new life to three of Missouri's state-run mills.

According to Gary Walrath of the Department of Natural Resources, more than 30 pieces of antique equipment were donated to the state by the owner of Schlict Mill, Bernie Schermer of St. Louis. The equipment includes a "cyclone collector" which was a device used to separate and collect flour and bran, an 1885 steam engine and several roller mills.

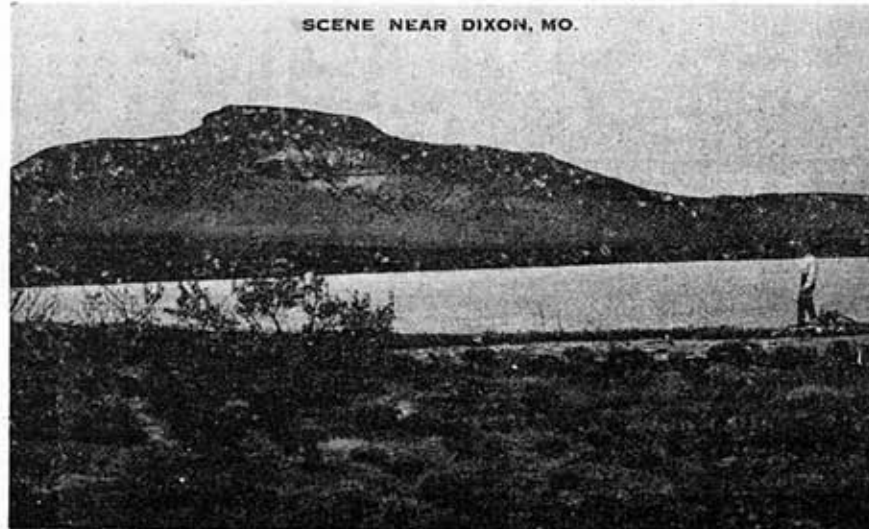
The Schlict Mill escaped wartime confiscation since it did not close until 1945. Equipment from Schlict Mill will put new life into mills like the Dillard Mill and Montauk mills. Dillard Mill is located in Crawford County south of Rolla, Montauk is located in Dent County and Bollinger Mill is in Cape Girardeau County in southeast Missouri.

Montauk's original milling equipment was used by the government during World War II. A few pieces of equipment going to the Bollinger and Dillard Mills will demonstrate additional operations that the mills could do.

Only a few of the 872 mills in Missouri during 1880 have been preserved, according to Walrath, and the state operate four mills that run from tiny, isolated, community oriented mills to large commercial mills.

Dillard Mill has a romantic legend of a ghost that haunts the mill. The spirit of an embittered immigrant reportedly sits

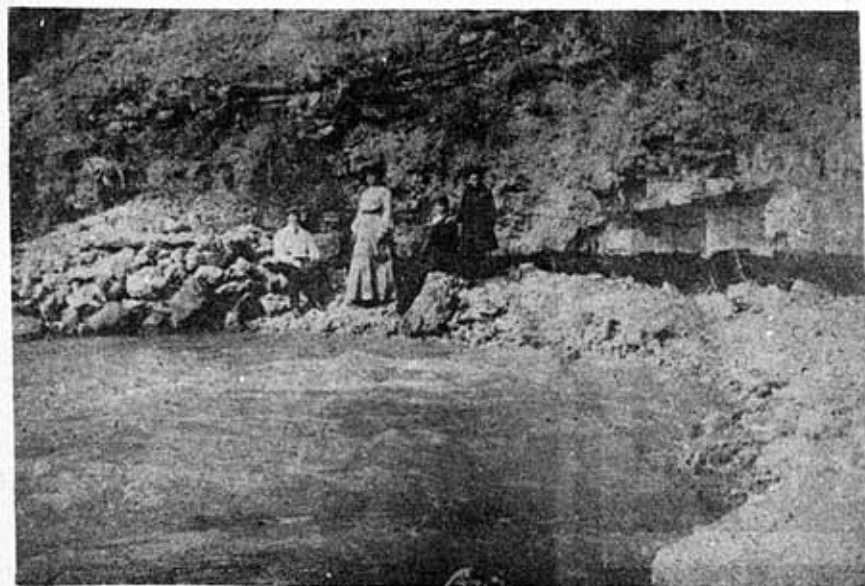
on a rock overlooking the Indian and Huzzah creeks and talks in broken English about the mill he built with his own hands.



This postcard shows an "airbrushed" cave near a river close to Dixon.  
(Photo courtesy of Violet E. Gaddy)



River scene near Dixon.  
(Photo courtesy of Violet E. Gaddy)



People enjoyed the Big Spring at Waynesville.  
(Photo courtesy of Mae Johnson)



Another view of the Waynesville Spring. (Photo courtesy of Mae Johnson)

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