

continue to ride.

At the July 16 planning commission meeting, more than 150 people, primarily ATV riders, showed up to plead their case before commissioners.

ATV riders argued that they need a safe and legal place to ride their all-terrain vehicles, and many pointed out that a county task force has determined that the county needs an ATV facility.

riding park.

But Nokesville residents complained about the noise, saying the site is too close to their homes.

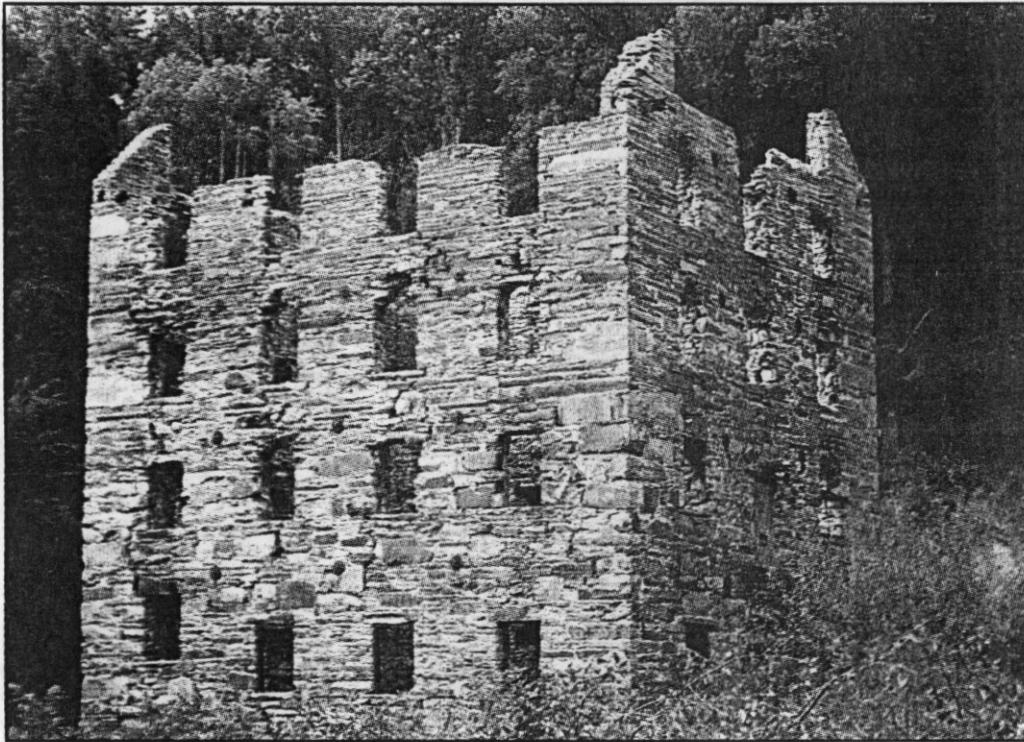
In response to the pleas of Nokesville residents, the commissioners put a series of restrictions on the site. The facility must be closed on Sundays (it has been open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday). In addition, commissioners insisted

banned racing and competitions, as well as grills, campfires, camping and concession stands.

The planning commission's decision was a recommendation that can be accepted, rejected or changed by the Board of County Supervisors on Tuesday.

But, even if the board grants the special use permit, the battle is

See ATV, Page A11



REBUILDING: Renovations are set to begin on Beverley Mill, which was damaged by arson in 1998.

Times Photos/Jason Jacks

Mill stabilization to begin

Historic Thoroughfare Gap structure to be renovated

BY JASON JACKS
Times Staff Writer

Engineers are set to begin the first phase of stabilization of one of Prince William and Fauquier counties' most historic structures.

Beverley Mill, located in Thoroughfare Gap on the border of both counties and right off Interstate 66, will have its south wall stabilized this fall. Engineers from Wales-based Cintec International will employ a stabilizing anchor system used on

numerous historic buildings throughout Europe, including England's Windsor Castle.

"The system originates in Europe and is a stainless-steel internal reinforcement for historic properties. The system works wonderfully with fire-damaged historic masonry buildings like the Beverley Mill," said Keith Matney, general manager of Cintec International's Washington, D.C., office.

In October 1998, while the Turn the Mill Around Campaign was

negotiating the purchase of the mill from a private owner, an arsonist set fire to the structure.

The mill had long been a hang-out for teenagers, and investigators first believed juveniles had started the blaze. That theory was later discarded, but no one was ever charged with the crime.

The 6 1/2-story building was almost completely destroyed, along with the machinery inside. The

See MILL, Page A10

HISTORIC SITE FILE: BEVERLEY MILL
PRINCE WILLIAM PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
RELIC/Bull Run Reg Lib Manassas, VA

The Fairfaxville Times August 29, 2003 [Picture in article]

Page 1

History of Beverley Mill

Beverley Mill was built in 1742 by brothers Jonathan and Nathaniel Chapman.

Chapman Mill, as it was originally known, was a successful business for the brothers for many years and prominent in developing the agricultural industry of the Shenandoah Valley in the mid-1700s.

Corn and wheat ground at the mill has fed American troops in seven wars: the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II.

During the Civil War, Confederate troops used the mill as a meat-curing warehouse. To keep the meat and the mill out of advancing Union hands, Confederate troops burned the meat and the mill.

Following the war, the Beverley family purchased, renamed and restored the mill. Beverley Mill continued milling operations until 1951.

In the mid-1960s, the mill was threatened by the construction of Interstate 66. However, public outcry forced the rerouting of I-66 just south of the site.



Times Photos/Jason Jacks

REMAINS OF THE MILL: What's left of the old mill wheel still remains at Beverley Mill, located in Thoroughfare Gap on the border of Prince William and Fauquier counties.

MILL

From Page A1

structure was later condemned, and estimates indicated a total restoration would cost more than \$12 million.

Rather than restore the building entirely, the campaign aims to stabilize the walls to allow visitors to come inside the ruined building.

As well as maintaining the structural integrity of the building, the internal system will ensure the mill's appearance is not obstructed, said Eileen Vroom, executive director of the Turn the Mill Around Campaign.

Stabilizing the south wall is the first step in the preservation of Beverley Mill. However, as Vroom pointed out, the plan is not to completely renovate the mill but to instead maintain the mill's

current appearance following the 1998 fire that ravaged its interior and roof.

"We are not doing a complete restoration because the amount of machinery and internal joists to replace would be too huge of a project," Vroom said. "Nothing else can be done until the building is stable. After that, the rest of the project will be easy."

She added, "Our ultimate goal is to stabilize and interpret the site and the Thoroughfare Gap and to make a historic and educational park."

Stabilizing and preserving historic buildings like the mill have unique challenges, according to Matney, whose company also stabilized the nearby Aldie Bridge.

"The toughest challenges are finding contractors in the area who have experience on these types of buildings," he explained. "Also, working with so many different federal,

state and private historical organizations makes it difficult in finding the funds."

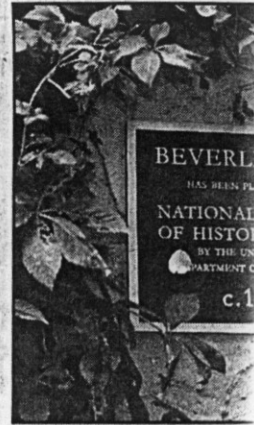
Future plans for the mill include building walkways with interpretive signs, reconstructing the 29-foot mill wheel and restoring the old mill store into a kiosk for interpreting the history of the site and the surrounding area.

In 1998, the campaign received a \$300,000 TEA-21 federal matching funds grant to start the stabilization process. However, according to Vroom, this money will fund only the stabilization of one or two walls. Currently, the campaign receives no money from Prince William or Fauquier counties.

The campaign has another TEA-21 grant application pending to help complete the stabilization.

Vroom said she is keeping her fingers crossed until the application is approved.

"I don't like to think about the application not passing. I don't know what we will do if it doesn't," she said.



OLD MILL: Built in was originally known

AROUND TOWN

Church of the Word to hold community festival

Episcopal Church of the Word in Gainesville will be holding an all-day community festival Saturday, Sept. 6. The event will start with a yard sale at 9 a.m. and conclude with an auction at 4 p.m. There will be live music throughout the day, food and a moon-bounce for children. The community is welcome to attend.

Church of the Word is at 14215 Lee Highway next to the Gainesville McDonald's.

Gainesville artist's work on display

"Flor-Abundance," the watercolors of Gainesville resident Naomi Gianopulos, will be on display through Monday, Sept. 29, in Colgan Hall at the Manassas Campus of Northern Virginia Community College.

Exhibit hours are 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. A reception to meet the artist is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Colgan Hall exhibit space.

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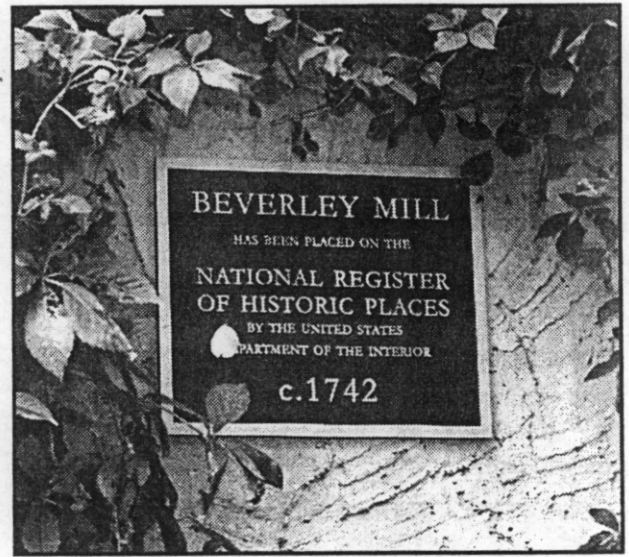
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Times Photos/Jason Jacks

OLD MILL: Built in 1742, Beverley Mill was originally known as Chapman Mill.

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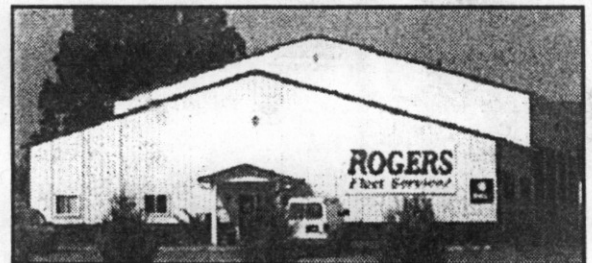
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Dale City VFD Auxiliary needs help

The Dale City Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary is seeking volunteers. The auxiliary hosts annual bazaars, bingo concessions, caterings and a spaghetti dinner.

The auxiliary is open to anyone over the age of 18. The group meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Hillendale Fire Hall. For details, call Doris at 703-583-4966 or Lori at 703-221-5879.

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