



Beverley Mill in 1946, its last year of operation. Water from Broad Run supplied the power. The end of the wooden loading platform shows at the rear of the building (left). The county line ran through the building and since the office (at the rear corner beyond the automobile) was in Prince William County, the mill was taxed as Prince William property. The Manassas Gap RR runs at the rear of the building on what was the original wagon road. (Photo by Charles Nett)

Beverley Mill to be Restored

In the July 1971 issue of *Echoes of History* we published a lengthy article on the old grist mill which has stood in Thoroughfare Gap since the 1740s. It was

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built, owned and operated until the Civil War by members of the Chapman family. After the war it was bought by Robert Beverley, who lived nearby at Avenel. Since that time it has been known as Beverley Mill.

The mill was bought by Charles Craig Furr, Jr., in 1903. Mr. Furr and his son-in-law, James Newton Kerr, ran it until 1946 when it was sold to Walter Chrysler,

Sad Thoughts at a Little Inn

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Douglas,

I feel compelled to comment on the theme of "Sad Thoughts at a Little Inn" (May 1973). Without a doubt Mr. Viorst's observations are pertinent and accurate. This underlines the fact that we who are parents have an obligation to share our interest and delight in history with our children. Children need to realize that the loss of a tree, artifact, building, document, or "atmosphere" that is irreplaceable cannot be undone.

We often hear that those of us fortunate enough to live in Southeastern Virginia are surrounded by history. This does not imply that all other areas are devoid of history. Indeed, all one needs to do is look at one of the historical guides published to see that we are surrounded by history — whether we live in the North, South, East, or West.

The problem, then, is not the lack of historical sites, but our use of them, particularly our use of them as educational tools. Unfortunately many parents view history as something learned in school out of books. To them history is dead. However, history can live. It can be seen, touched, and even sniffed. It is this "living history" that we, as parents, must foster in our children.

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Jr. Mr. Chrysler operated it for about four years and sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Mack J. West, of McLean, Va., who did nothing with the mill, but operated an antique shop in the miller's house built by the Furr.

Mrs. Morton W. Smith, of Middleburg, Va., the new owner as of August 1, 1973, hopes to see the day when this grand old mill will again be in full operation. ●●