

braces are all hewn out, not one piece of timber in the frame is sawn, the sills and posts are of white oak, and all the other timber is white wood.

During the war of 1812-14, when the Americans had possession of Fort George and Niagara, there were several skirmishes in or near the town, out at the Ball Farm and the Cross Roads, (now Virgil), the wounded all being taken to the mill which was used for a hospital for some length of time.

At this time the Americans went out from Fort George and were met by the militia who were lying in wait for them, but were too few in number to hold their own, and had to retreat farther into the country, and in order to do so quickly they threw over one hundred American muskets and bayonets which they had captured, into the mill pond, to prevent them from again falling into the hands of the Americans. The arms all sank into the mud and remain there until the present day.

In 1810 the mill became the property of Abraham Secord, and in 1815 the late Samuel Street became owner, who in 1818 sold it to the late Wm. S. Servos, and in 1859 it became the property of Alexander Servos, the writer of this short sketch. In 1893 he sold the property to Wm. Chaplin. The original owner Benjamin Pickard, was buried in the graveyard on the farm where there were a great many of the first settlers buried. After it became the property of Mr. Chaplin he caused all the old tombstones to be removed and ploughed the graveyard, levelling down the graves and cultivated it as the other land, many of the bodies had, however, been previously removed to St. Catharines cemetery. The mill still remains standing and is in a good state of repair.