

# Spencerville Mill

*The South Nation River's Last Historic Mill*

**Mill open July to September**

**Gardens open April to October**

In the early 1800s, Spencerville was a small town with a large surrounding agricultural community. In 1812, Peleg Spencer built a saw mill on the South Nation River and later added a grist mill to serve the influx of settlers immigrating to the area.



*Photos ©Spencerville Mill*

Over the years, Spencer's family continued as millers and built onto the old structure using stone building materials and installing a steam engine to allow the mill to operate throughout the year. The mill was plagued with fires in 1859 and 1884. Both fires resulted in the mill either being completely destroyed or gutted.

Ownership of the mill changed hands many times during the late 1880s and into the 1900s. In 1912, J. F. Barnard bought the mill and throughout the Barnard's ownership, the mill steadily expanded and even added a hardware store in the 1950s. The mill was run by the Barnard family until 1972 when the mill closed for good.

Today, visitors are invited to explore the last remaining mill on the South Nation Watershed. The Mill has numerous hands-on exhibits for visitors to see what life was like working at a mill in the 1930s. The Mill's knowledgeable staff also offer daily demonstrations to really see how a grist mill worked by getting the mill's turbine fired up.



Don't forget to bring a picnic – the Mill is the perfect place to sit and relax by the river or in the beautiful gardens as well.

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[www.spencervillemill.ca](http://www.spencervillemill.ca)



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