

## Fun Facts

- The grist mill itself on the first floor came from the Cagle family of Pope County and dates back to 1828.
- The large mill rock on the first floor bear “picking” (deepening of furrows on the face to increase their grinding capacity) dates to 1823 and 1840.
- Two mill rocks on the second floor and the building’s corner stone came from the plantation of Tom Knobble, T. R. Pugh’s grandfather.
- Two milestones on the old road to the mill etched with the numbers “1” and “4” were moved here from a military road laid out in the 1830s by Lt. Jefferson Davis (later President of the Confederacy). Along this road, the Cherokee and Choctaw Indians traveled from the present town of Dardanelle into the Indian Territory, now Oklahoma.
- Three sections of a hexagonal wrought iron shaft protecting the “Broken Tree Branch” were cut from the stern wheel of a passenger steamboat which traveled the Arkansas River in the 1800s.

## Quotes

“In sponsoring the rebirth of a once familiar Arkansas institution, which is rapidly losing itself in the invasion of modern inventions, we have endeavored to produce something that would preserve in a picturesque manner, the memory of Arkansas’s pioneers.”

– Justin Matthews, Developer of the Lakewood Neighborhood

Having grown up in Lakewood, “my first visit to the Old Mill is one of my earliest childhood memories. It seemed then that it was a place graced by magic and all these years later, it still seems that way to me. I urge anyone visiting our beautiful city to make it a must-do in your sightseeing list. You’ll never see anything quite like it.”

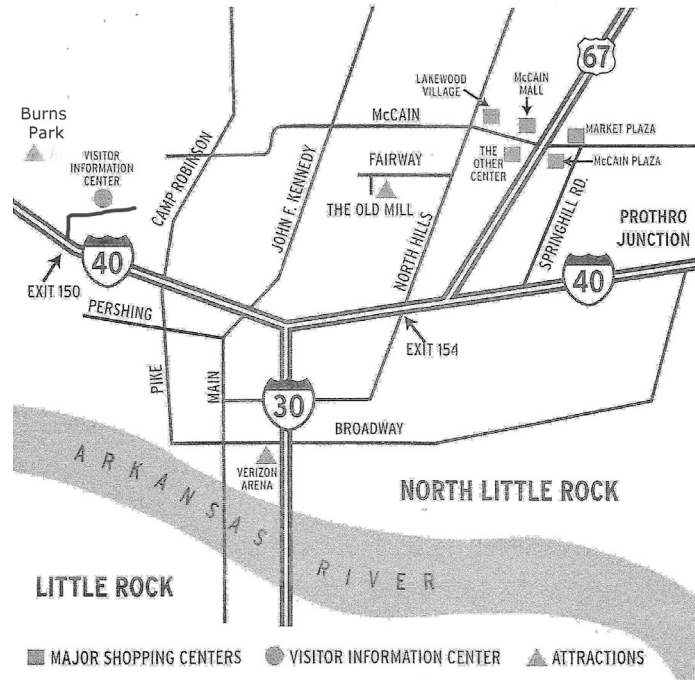
– Mary Steenburgen, Academy Award Winning Actress

## The Old Mill

Located at Lakeshore Drive and Fairway Avenue,  
3800 Lakeshore Drive  
North Little Rock, AR 72116  
As a North Little Rock City Park, the Old Mill is free and open to the public year round.

## Park Hours

April 1 – October 31: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
November 1 – March 31: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.



To schedule a group tour, please contact the  
North Little Rock Convention & Visitors Bureau:  
(501)758-1424  
Info@NorthLittleRock.org

To make a contribution\* or volunteer, contact the  
Friends of the Old Mill:  
(501)758-1424  
Info@NorthLittleRock.org  
PO BOX 5511, North Little Rock AR 72119

\*Your tax-exempt donations will be used to  
maintain flowerbeds, sculptures and park  
infrastructure.

# The Old Mill at T. R. Pugh Memorial Park North Little Rock, Arkansas





## The Story

The Old Mill, built in 1933, is on the National Register of Historic Places. Lakewood neighborhood developer Justin Matthews contracted for the construction of a replica of an old, water-powered grist mill as a tribute to Arkansas pioneers, and christened it in honor of his friend T.R. Pugh. Never a working mill, The Old Mill is designed to resemble early Arkansas grist-mills. It is intended to appear abandoned – absent of doors and windows due to thieves or decay – just as old mills that were in service in the early 1800s had become by the 1930s. Today, The Old Mill is recognized as the last standing structure from the film classic, *Gone with the Wind*, and is a popular location for weddings and photo shoots.



## Weddings

Because of its romantic beauty, The Old Mill is the site for about 200 weddings per year. It is extremely photogenic in all seasons and is a frequent backdrop for school, engagement, family, prom and Christmas card photos. Join the thousands of visitors who enjoy remembering the vanished era that has truly “gone with the wind.”

For wedding information, contact the NLR Parks & Rec Dept. at (501)791-8537.

## Grounds

Senõr Dionicio Rodriguez designed the wood-like bridges, benches and structures throughout the park. Rodriguez called his style rustic, but it is better known today as faux bois, or “fake wood.” He was so secretive about the process by which he produced his work that no written plans or mixture formulas exist. His secret techniques, applied using ordinary kitchen implements, are so detailed and exacting that tree species are identifiable in most of his work.

The T.R. Pugh Memorial Park is maintained and landscaped by Friends of the Old Mill, the Pulaski County Master Gardeners and the North Little Rock Parks & Recreation Department. “Friends of the Old Mill” is a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to improving and maintaining the integrity and beauty of the park.

## Silver Screen Star

The Old Mill was featured in the opening scenes of the Academy Award-winning film classic, *Gone with the Wind*, which was released in 1939. Although it is not known why producer David O. Selznick chose the Old Mill, it was certainly reminiscent of the historical southern landscape as you see it pictured below. The Old Mill was honored on the film’s fiftieth anniversary and was the site of the unveiling of the *Gone with the Wind* commemorative postage stamp.

