

# Carroll's Pond Mills

Carroll's Grist Mill  
Parkhurst Woollen Mill  
Waterhouse Woollen Mill  
Waterhouse Knitting Mill  
Thames Valley Knitting Mill  
Apex Knitting Mill



**1846**

Daniel Carroll's Upper Dam diverts water from the Thames River into an artificial Carroll's Creek and his Lower Dam on the Creek creates Carroll's Pond with water power for two mill seats before returning the water to the Thames River.

- Daniel Carroll (1795-1873) builds a grist mill at the Lower Dam
- Charles Parkhurst (1801-1867) builds a carding and fulling (woollen) mill at the Lower Dam

**1865**

Waterhouse family ownership begins. James Waterhouse (1832-1916) and Fred Bradbury (1826-1888), brothers-in-law, buy the Parkhurst woollen mill.

James runs the sales department, and Fred, the husband of Hannah Waterhouse Bradbury, manages the mill.

- The Carroll family continues to run the grist mill.

**1878**

The Woodstock to Ingersoll Credit Valley Railway Extension runs its track through Ingersoll down the very centre of Carroll's Pond.

**1887**

Carroll's Grist Mill burns and is not rebuilt.

**1898**

Thomas (Tom) Waterhouse (1855-1920), a nephew of James Waterhouse and Fred Bradbury, acquires the woollen mill and forms T. Waterhouse & Co.

**1906**

The Town grants Tom Waterhouse a \$20,000 loan to build a knitting mill alongside the woollen mill. The enlarged business employs 73 hands, a majority of them women.

**1907**

Fred Bradbury disposed of his interest and the business is now carried on by T. Waterhouse & Co., who also purchased the retail clothing business on Thames Street, from E. F. Waterhouse.

**1920**

Tom Waterhouse dies. Successive owners are the Thames Valley Knitting Mills, 1921-1922; the Apex Knitting Company, 1922-1928; the James A. Cole Furniture Company, 1929-1937; and the New Idea Furnace Company, 1937-1949.

**1949**

This year marked the end of Carroll's Pond. A provincial flood-control project "straightened, widened, and deepened" the Thames River between Beachville and Ingersoll. Carroll's Upper Dam was "blown up," and "the old Carroll property" — the creek, pond, and Lower Dam — vanished forever.

**1977**

The woollen and knitting mills were demolished to make way for a shopping centre.