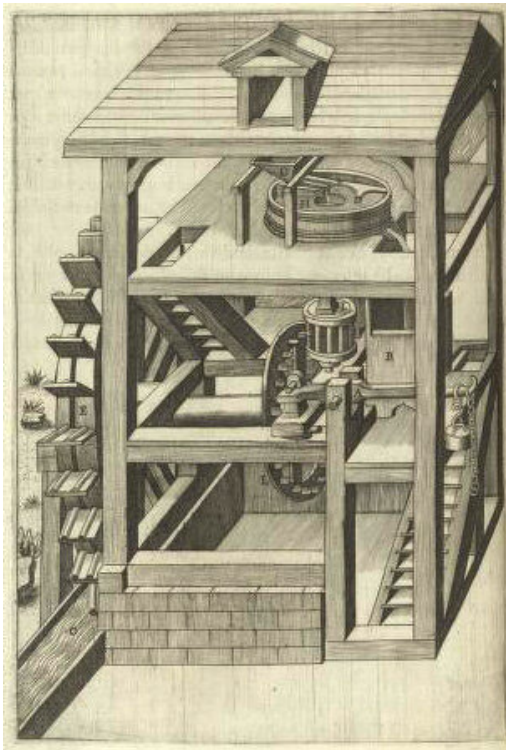


GRISTMILL STONES



This historic artifact was used to grind grain into flour. There was a waterwheel to power it, that moved a runner stone over a stationary bed stone. Runner stones and bed stones had grooves etched in elaborate patterns, like the bedstone pictured here. The grooves

helped to move the grain from the center of the stone outward.



This drawing of a water powered gristmill from 1588, shows an entire Gristmill, with the bedstone and runner stone on the third floor. The processed grain pours through a chute in the floor to the second level where it is further refined. The waterwheel outside the building powers the gears that run the machinery. (*Drawing From "Le Diverse et Artificiose Machine" by Agostino Ramelli.*) Stop by the IHC to see our moving diorama of a gristmill in action!

DESIGN YOUR OWN RUNNER STONE!

Materials:

2 Paper plates

1 ruler

Scissors

1 brass fastener

Markers

1. Cut the center circle out of one paper plate.
2. Using markers, design your runner stone on the circle with symmetrical grooves/lines going from the center to the edge. See sample patterns below for ideas.
3. Place your runner stone circle in the center of the other paper plate (which represents the bedstone) and fasten with a brass fastener.
4. Spin your runner stone!

