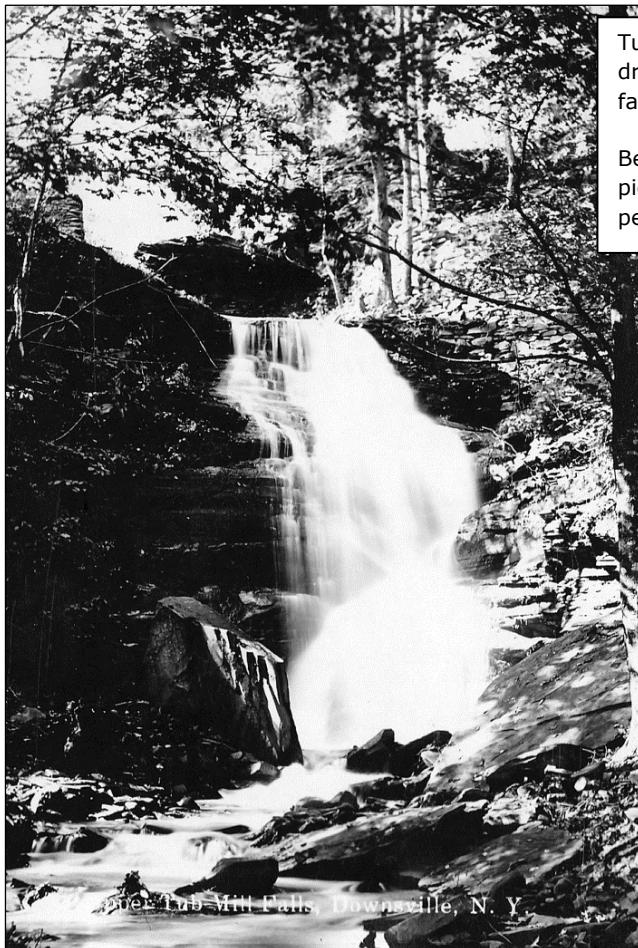


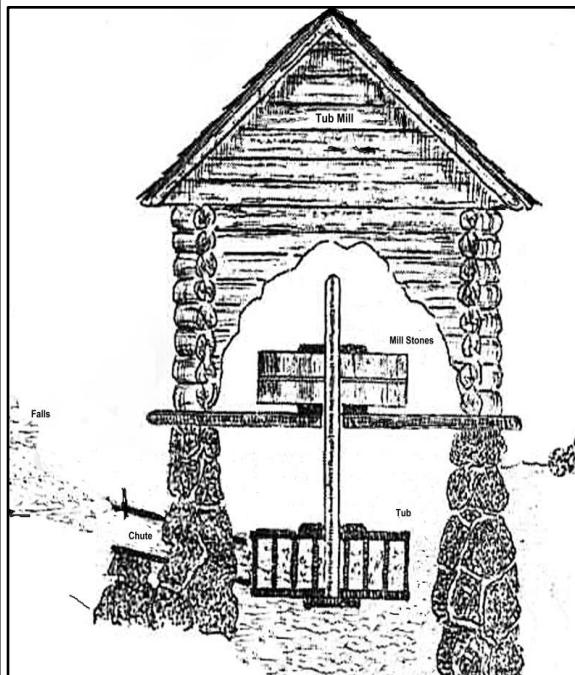
Tub Mill Falls



Upper Tub Mill Falls, Downsville, N. Y.

Tub Mills Falls is really two falls with a small stream dropping over a thirty-foot ledge. Only one of these falls can be seen from the highway.

Between the two falls is a large flat soft slate rock, pieces of which pioneer school children used as slate pencils.



An early settler, William Rose, lived a mile below Downsville and was the first to harness the falls water power to run the primitive tub mill that he built at this site.

Local lore tells that in 1780, during the Revolutionary War, Rose was at this tub mill grinding corn when his family homestead was surrounded by Mohawk Chief Joseph Brant's raiders. They left Rose's wife and younger children; burned the wheat stacks and captured his eldest son William Jr. They also stole four of the Rose's milk cows. The raiders crossed over the top of the falls without discovering Rose or his Tub Mill. Just past this area one of the cows broke loose and ran for home. Willy was sent to bring the cow back and returned home begging his mother to let him stay. Mrs. Rose fearing the raider would return and not leave without their bounty scalps, forced the boy to return to his captors.

William Rose returned home with his grain, only to find his wheat stacks burning and the sad news that he had lost his son.

William Rose Jr. was taken to the Brandt Raider's Ouleout hideout and then marched to Canada, where he was conscripted into the British Army. Three years later, after the Revolution was over, he was discharged and walked back to Downsville from Canada. He later became a successful local businessman and married Mary Gregory, another founding family's daughter. Descendants of this family still live in Colchester.