**Search terms**

Mill:

* Stem RḤY:
  + رحىً (singular)
    - رحاه (his mill)
    - رحاها (her mill)
    - رحاهم (their (m) mill)
    - الرحى (the mill) (الرحا – see later)
    - رحا\رحًا (this spelling error shows up regularly)
  + أرحية (plural)
    - أرحيته
    - أرحيتها
    - أرحيتهم
    - الأرحية
  + أرحاء (plural)
    - أرحاؤه\أرحائه\أرحاءه (nom/gen/acc)
    - أرحاؤها\أرحائها\أرحاءها
    - أرحاؤهم\أرحائهم\أرحاءهم
    - الأرحاء
  + رُحي (plural)
    - رحيه
    - رحيها
    - رحيهم
    - الرحي
    - رحيًا (accusative)
  + أرحٍ (plural) 🡪 no finds
* Stem ṬḤN:
  + طاحون (singular)
    - طاحونه
    - طاحونها
    - طاحونهم
    - الطاحون
    - طاحونًا (acc)
  + طاحونة (singular)
    - طاحونته
    - طاحونتها
    - طاحونتهم
    - الطاحونة
  + طواحين (plural, diptote)
    - طواحينه
    - طواحينها
    - طواحينهم
    - الطواحين
  + طحّانة (plural)
    - طحانته
    - طحانتها
    - طحانتهم
    - الطحانة
  + مطحنة (singular)
    - مطحنته
    - مطحنتها
    - مطحنتهم
    - المطحنة
  + مطاحن (plural, diptote)
    - مطاحنه
    - مطاحنها
    - مطاحنهم
    - المطاحن

Most dictionaries (such as Lane (L), Hava (H), Wehr (W)) describe the term دولاب (dūlāb, plural دواليب\dawālīb) as an irrigation wheel/water wheel. Similarly according to Lisān al-cArab (L-A): على شكل الناعورة (‘It looks like a noria’). However, in e.g. al-Muqaddasī it is not used exclusively in this respect, often it is connected with a mill. An example:

فجعل عليه من الجانبين عشرة دواليب ... وتحت كل دولاب رحًا.

‘He built ten water wheels on both sides [of the river] … with under each water wheel a mill [stone?].’

The relationship between *dūlāb*/*dawālīb* and mills is somewhat unclear, though it seems as if primarily water wheels were meant. This term was not searched. If someone might want to use it for a search, it concerns the following search terms:

* Stem DLB:
  + دولاب (singular)
    - دولابه
    - دولابها
    - دولابهم
    - الدولاب
    - دولابًا
  + دواليب (plural, diptote)
    - دواليبه
    - دواليبها
    - دواليبهم
    - الدواليب

In Basil Anthony Collins’ translation of Al-Muqaddasī the term دواميس (dawāmīs (plural)) has been at least once translated as ‘mills’, though the justification for this is unclear. The various dictionaries (H, W, L-A, (no entry in L), all give translations such as grottoes, ‘hunter’s hut’ (H), tunnels, catacombs, tombs (دياميس). From the text a connotation of ‘mills’ is not at all straightforward or inevitable – tunnels, for instance, would be equally possible. (It is a rather vague sentence: ‘There are strange *dawāmīs*.’, etc.)

Furthermore all terms have been searched with the و in front, just as the various prepositions (بـ، لـ، فـ etc.); just as the combinations thereof (ولـ، وبـ، فبـ، فلـ), not forgetting the prepositions with articles.

The database does not include figurative uses of the term ‘mill’ (somebody enters a ‘mill of *fitna*’ at a certain moment), but the explicit mention of a missing mill somewhere (where the author found it necessary to remark on this) has been included in the database (the number has then been indicated as 0). Also quarries of mill stones have been included. Whenever the term ‘mill’ is part of a place name and does not say anything about the absence or presence of mills, it is not included.

Concerning the use of cranes: no mentions were found in the secondary literature. The lack of cranes in the secondary literature may not be as relevant as it looks at first sight. It does, however, indicate that there are few references to base the terminology for a search on.

Among the few terms found in modern references and online, there is one that can be excluded immediately because it is an English loanword (ونش, *winsh*, from the English *winch*. A few (online) references suggest *burdj al-ḥaf ,*but this seems to have been mainly used in derricks (which also is the literal translation). What rests are various variants of the stem [RF‘] (رفع). In Hava’s dictionary of classical Arabic nothing was found, in Lane only *mirfa‘* (مرفع) is mentioned with the definition: ‘A thing with which one raises, elevates, or takes up.’ In the Wehr (Modern Standard Arabic) a number of options was found. Combining these finds, the following list was constructed (for which per term all previously described variants will be searched (possessive pronoun, cases, prepositions, etc.):

* مرفع
* مرفعة (مرافع)
* مرفاع
* رافع (جهاز رافع، آلة رافعة)
* رافعة (رافعات، روافع)