AL-V-B-079
Ford Saw and Grist Mill
Ford's Crossing
1910

A good example of practical commercial architecture of the early twentieth century is the Ford Saw and Grist Mill, near Corriganville, Maryland. This low, two story wooden structure housed a grist mill on the second story and a saw mill on the ground floor. A local resident recalls working there as a young man when farmers from a wide area would bring their wheat to have it cut by the special "french burrs" of the mill into buckwheat. Although is ceased operations during the twenties the Ford Saw and Grist Mill stands as a reminder of the resourcefulness of local businessmen during the early twentieth century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST AL-V-B-079

MAGI-0104274711

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Ford Saw and Grist Mill

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Ford's Crossing

CITY, TOWN
Corringanville x VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Sixth

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	X OTHER Storage

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Herbert Witt - Home Improvement Contractor Telephone #: 264-3472

STREET & NUMBER
Mt. Savage Road

CITY, TOWN
Mt. Savage x VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland, 21545

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: 405
Folio #: 428

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Allegany County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN
Cumberland

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	X DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ford Saw and Grist Mill is located on the north side of Ford's Crossing Road near Corriganville, Allegany County.

The old mill basically consists of a low two story, rectangular shaped, frame structure. A one story gable roof port abuts the main block on the east side and is supported by wooden piers. The main block is enclosed with verticle boards; some having battens, and is supported by a low stone foundation. The roof of the structure is gabled and is covered with the original tin materials. Eaves exhibit soffit and frieze on the verges and rafter ends on the remainder of the structure. Windows in the mill include single sash frames with six lights and double hung wooden sash frames with six-over-six lights.The entrance to the grist mill portion of the structure is found in the front south side and features the original verticle boarded door. The entrance to the saw - mill portion is on the east end and is simply an opening on the ground story level. A shed roof hood is located on the front south side. The hood is supported by square posts and a straight flight of stairs leads to the landing and entrance level. One circular metal smokestack is located to the interior of the building, as well as a protruding square wooden ventilator.

The building is in structually poor condition and is scheduled for demolition , however, it retains most of its original appearance.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	X INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1910 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Henry W. Ford

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1910 Mr. Henry W. Ford erected this combination saw and grist mill. Leo P. Ford recalls working here as a young man when farmers from a wide area would bring their wheat for preparation on this mill. A special set of "french burrs" utilized in this mill cut the grain into buckwheat flour. Other grist mills in the area ground the wheat into finer flour. The grist operation in the second floor of the building ended in 1921. The saw mill on the ground floor was in use for a few more years until it was transfered to Pennsylvania.[1]

The main part of the building is enclosed with verticle boards some with battens. The gabled roof of the structure is covered with the original tin material. The eaves of the building exhibit both soffit and frieze and exposed rafter ends. Entry to the grist mill on the second story is through the original verticle board door. The saw mill portion at ground level is entered through a large opening in the wall.

This unique combination of saw and grist mill is in structurally poor condition but still retains most of its original appearance. It is an example of the practical style of commercial architecture to be found in Allegany County. The Ford Saw and Grist Mill stands as a reminder of the resourcefulness of local businessmen of the early twentieth century.

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1. Interview with Leo P. Ford, L.P. Ford Drilling Supply Co., Corriganville Maryland, 16 August, 1977

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AL-V-B-079

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records Cumberland, Maryland 21502

Ford, P., Leo. L.P. Ford Drilling Supply Co., Corriganville, Maryland, Interview, 16 August,1977

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 10.23

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
John Nelson , William Pratt and Dave Dorsey

ORGANIZATION
Allegany County Historic Site Survey

DATE
6/14/77

STREET & NUMBER
507 National Highway

TELEPHONE
777-5967

CITY OR TOWN
La Vale

STATE
Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

PS-1108

INVENTORY NO: AL-V-B-079 DATE: 6/14/77

405/428
10.23 Acres

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Ford Saw and Grist Mill

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Ford's Crossing

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: South

NAME OF OWNER: Herbert Witt - Home Improvement Contractor

ADDRESS: Mt. Savage Road

Mt. Savage, Maryland 21545 264-3472

[illegible] X [illegible]

[illegible]

DWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

(X) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
( ) BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
( ) STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
( ) LOG
( ) OTHER: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others

FOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone

WATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded Brick

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1( ) 2/2( ) 6/6(X) 9/6( ) 9/9( ) other( )
pegged( ) nailed( ) wide( ) narrow( ) mitred( ) pediment( )

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: East - open
HARDWARE: original(X) replaced( )
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN
Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)
original(X) replaced( ) rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architrave

ROOF: Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Flat, Dormers #
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt; original(X) replaced( )

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed(X) hip( ) gable( )

Smokestack

CHIMNEYS: Number: 1 Brick( ) Stone( ) Corbeled( ) original( ) replaced( )
Location: Flush end( ) Inside end( ) Outside end( ) Central( ) Interior(X)

ARCHES: Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

USE: Vacant
SIGNIFICANCE: Industry
DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1910
CONDITION: Poor - scheduled for demolition

INTERIOR

FLOOR PLAN:

( ) CENTRAL HALL: Two rooms, each side; double parlor, one side
( ) SIDE HALL: One room deep, two rooms deep
( ) IRREGULAR

STAIRWAYS:

( ) ENCLOSED: Single flight, two flights with landing
( ) OPEN: Single flight, two flights - one landing, three flights - two landings
( ) DOG-LEG
( ) DOG-LEG with WINDERS
( ) SPIRAL
( ) WINDER
( ) [illegible]

WALL FINISH:

( ) PLASTER
( ) PANELED: original; replaced
( ) BOARD PARTITION: baseboard, cornice, chair rail, wainscot

FIREPLACES:

NUMBER _____
LOCATION: parallel to walls, diagonal
MANTELS: wood mouldings, pilasters, columns, masonary, marble

DOORS: paneled, board and batten, flush
HARDWARE: original; replaced

DOOR & WINDOW TRIM:

( ) PLAIN
( ) ARCHITRAVE
( ) SYMMETRIC with CORNER BLOCKS
( ) FLUTED
( ) FLUTED with CORNER BLOCKS
( ) ARCHED OPENINGS: eliptical, tudor

NOTES:

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AI-V-B-079
Ford Saw + Grist Mill
Ford's Crossing, Corriganville
USGS - Cumberland Quad
1:24,000
1949
AI-V-B-073
AI-V-B-074
AI-V-B-072
AI-V-B-075
AI-V-B-076
AI-V-B-077
AI-V-B-078
AI-V-B-079
AI-V-B-090
LITTLE
Branch
Jennings
Corriganville
PENNSYLVANIA

Al-V-B-079

Ford Saw + Grist Mill

Ford's Crossing, Corriganville

John E. Nelson

6/14/77

Northwest