

CAR-47

Williston Mill, Potters Mill

Circa 1810

Williston

Private

A Mill on Cokiases Creek (now Mill Creek) was leased by James White to Nathaniel Potter as early as 1778. The mill was rebuilt by General William Potter who started, but never completed, a ship channel to the mill from the Choptank River (McGrain, J. Molinography of Caroline County). Subsequent owners were S. Liden and William Todd. Willard Todd called it Williston Mill in the 1920's. He sold some of its equipment to Mr. Frank Langrell, his miller, who re-installed it in Linchester which he operated for over fifty years.

The present mill building is composed of two separate structures, one dating from the early 19th Century and the other from the late century. It was originally an undershot wheel, with the race running beneath the mill.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Williston Mill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 16 and Williston Rd., (S.W. corner)

CITY, TOWN

Williston

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Caroline

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: VACANT

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Irl A. Daffin

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1592

CITY, TOWN

Lancaster

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

PA 17604

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Caroline County Courthouse

Liber #: 144

Folio #: 240

STREET & NUMBER

Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Denton

STATE

Maryland 21629

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Williston Mill is a two part frame structure located on Md. Rt. 16 at Williston Lake, Mill Creek, a branch of the Choptank River. The building stands upon a foundation of granite and concrete and the race runs thru the lower part of the building. The latter is the earlier part of the mill. All sides are covered with board and batten. The windows are boarded up.

Its interior is divided into three spaces and like most old mills, the framing is exposed throughout. Most of the timber in the older part are hewn while the other part is sawn. The mill stone is in place and the hoist above is champhered. Beneath the main floor is a basement and finally the race. It apparently had a turbine prior to its being shut down.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CAR-47

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Williston Mill is an important survival of a milling structure dating in part to the 19th century with parts older and newer. The grist mill was a very important industry in the early days of Caroline County, even before the county was created in 1774.

POTTERS MILL (3)

A mill on Cokiases Creek (now Mill Creek) was leased by James White to Nathaniel Potter as early as 1778. The mill was rebuilt by General William Potter who started but never completed a ship channel to the mill from the Choptank one mile to the west. The site is Potters Landing and the mill pond on the east side of Md. 313 is known as Williston Lake. It was shown as S. Liden's Mill on the 1875 Isler map and as Wm. Todd's on Saulsbury's 1897 map.

In 1920 the mill was operated by Willard C. Todd and called Williston Mill, HCLN, pp. 20, 165, 247-249. The mill suffered flood damage in 1919, losing 20 to 30 feet of the dam, HCLN, p.348. Mr. Todd installed rollers; he sold the hominy equipment to Frank S. Langrell, his miller, who set it up in his own business at Linchester. The red, wooden mill is now owned by A.J. Willis and stands in the yard of Todd's former house. The house was disassembled and moved; it was a structure put together with pegs. The water entered it from a broad millrace; there was no external waterwheel. A painting of the mill hangs in the Caroline County Clubhouse.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

McGrain, Milinography of Caroline County.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

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

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

June, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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



page 36

CAR 47

Williston Mill

Williston

J. Getty 4/77



CAR-47

Williston Mill

MOB

6/70