

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Christie Mill/Rowlandville Mill/Davis-Christie Mill
AND/OR COMMON
Rowlandville Mill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Route 308
CITY, TOWN
Rowlandville
STATE
Maryland
VICINITY OF
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
COUNTY
Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
STREET & NUMBER
Tawes Office Building
CITY, TOWN
Annapolis, Maryland
VICINITY OF
Maryland 21401
Telephone #:
STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Cecil County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Elkton
STATE
Maryland
Liber #:
Folio #:

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN
STATE
—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rowlandsville Mill, located along side Octavara Creek in Cecil County off Route 308 in the village of Rowlandsville, is a frame, gable roofed structure of three stories plus attic. The bottom story and foundation are constructed of rubble fieldstone, with concentrations of large local stones at the four corners suggesting quoining. In recent years the mill has been reroofed in asphalt shingles.

The four-bay wide, chapboarded east facade which faces the road contains the following openings on the basement level (reading from SE to NE corner): A window boarded up by a shutter made of vertical planks secured on one side by two large strap hinges; a bolted door; a small rectangular opening nearly at ground level intended probably as a ventilator window; another window partially boarded up; a second door encased in subsequent vertical planking, featuring a slightly projecting narrow wooden strip lintel; and attached to the northeast corner a small brick shed addition with eastern doorway. All of the windows possess simple timber surrounds with narrow, slightly projecting timber sills. The second story contains a similar sequence of window, wider door (for loading vehicles below with sacks of flour), window, regular sized door--all detailed in the same manner and boarded shut. The third story varies slightly: window, regular door, window, window; two of these windows retain their 6/6, double hung sash with assorted muntions in situ but all panes of glass missing. The northeast corner window is open, missing all of its sash.

The north gable end features two boarded up windows on the second story surmounted by two similar open windows in the third story (still with vestiges of sash, no glass), and two smaller windows in the gable shadowed by the deep overhang of the eaves. The stone first story flares out at an angle nearly a foot to create a massive watertable by the thicker walled foundation below. The brick shed addition with asphalt roof covers less than a quarter of the basement wall.

The west side of the mill facing Octavara Creek is articulated by two stories of windows corresponding to those elsewhere on the building (top story open with marginal sash members). Due to the slope of the ground toward the Creek, the stone portion on this facade accommodates two levels of three windows each.

On the south gable end where the undershot wheel was located and where evidence of the millrace exists in the depression extending several feet in front, and where part of the drive mechanism still exists in situ, the fenestration resembles that of the north facade except for the stone basement level. There, at the southwest corner is a doorway, and at the opposite corner a window. The top four windows are open with little or no sash left. This facade is suffering most from deterioration; plywood patches have been applied between the door and second story window, but the studs are exposed where the clapboarding has rotted away at the southeast corner. The same corner suffers from poor drainage as is evidenced by a serious crack in the stonework from below the wooden sill diagonally to the ground on the east facade.

Although the interior floorboards are missing in several locations between the basement level and the second story, the structure is sufficiently sound to bear the weight of most of its original machinery.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE-789

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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1840 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following recapitulates John McGrain's research on Rowlandsville Mill, carried out in conjunction with his Maryland Molinography:

A mill known as the Rowland Mill was shown at this location on Hauducoeur's map of 18 . The 1850 manufacturer's census listed John Christy (sic) as the owner of a water mill: \$2,000 capital investment; 2 employees, 2 run of stones, 1 saw, and output of 220 barrels of flour, 1,000 bushels of meal, 300 bushels of corn and oats, and 150,000 feet of timber. The 1858 Martenet map notes the Rowland and Christie mill at the confluence of Octoraro Creek and Basin Run.

John McGrain lists two references to the village of Rowlandsville that appear in newspapers in the winter of 1851-52 along with the following data about the mill's increasing prosperity:

- (1) Cecil Whig, December 27, 1851, p. 1 "Sketch of New Valley", contains information about the shoe peg factory at Harmony with no data on Rowlandsville, but a Mr. Shermer of New Valley is credited with "having a church erected in the place" . . . a Methodist Protestant Church.
- (2) Cecil Whig, January 17, 1852, p. 2: "Letter from Rowlandsville. . . The mills here are frozen up and standing still. The Octoraro is frozen close, and the Susquehanna is in a very rough condition owing to the hard freezing . . ."

The atlas of 187_ showed Davis, Christie and Company as millers at Rowlandsville on Basin Run and they were also atlas patrons. The atlas spelled the stream name "Bason" and some colonial records had spelled it "Bastard". Moses N. Gillespie was miller and atlas patron.

The 1880 census of manufacturing (also at Hall of Records) listed Davis and Christie's capital investment as \$15,000; production was \$17,000 per annum, including 1,934 barrels of flour. Now with 3 run of stones, the mill was doing 25% custom work and had 60 bushel per hour elevator. A 60-foot fall on Basin Run drove 2 turbines at 280 rpm to develop 44 horsepower.

1880 Md. State Business Directory listed George M. Christie and Davis, Christie and Co., at Rowlandsville.

The periodical, American Miller, Vol. 10 (July 1, 1882), p. 317 notes that "Davis & Christie of Rowlandsville, Md., are increasing their capacity, and have put in Garden City Purifiers, furnished by the Garden City Mill Finishing Co., Chicago, Ill."

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

CONTINUATION SHEET

Rowlandsville Mill (Significance)

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

Ultimately the mill was sold to the State of Maryland by Ralph Hostetter.

Directly across the Octaroro Creek from the mill was Frey's Forge, an ironworks built at the end of the eighteenth century. Quoting again from John McGrain's Molinography:

Frey's Forge was built about 1795 by John Churchman and Samuel Hughes on a 3,000 acre tract. It came into possession of John Jones and Thomas Rogers and passed to John Frey and Matthew Irwin in 1801. It was located on Horseshoe Bend of Octaroro Creek and came to be called Frey's Forge. Iron had been made here before 1795 by John Jones and Thomas Rogers, later by John Frey, Matthew Irwin and Joseph Roman. It was sold to McCullough Iron Company in 1859 and continued until 1892. The trademark was "Harvey's Patent Sheet Iron". A drawing of ruins of "McCullough Iron Co. . . . First mill site in 1795 [reveals] McCullough Iron Co. bought the mill in 1859 and made sheet iron. [It was] destroyed by fire. Backroading Through Cecil County, Md., 1977, p. 54.

Finally, the industrial complex that was nineteenth century Rowlandsville was completed by the Octaroro Rolling Mill, built in 1828 at the mouth of the Octaroro Creek and described by McGrain as follows:

The 1850 census listed Joseph Roman and Co. rolling mill and bark mill with \$26,000 investment, 23 employees, and 1 water powered furnace. Output was 240 tons sheet iron and 150 tons ground bark (\$28,000), made from 300 tons pig iron, 250 tons coal, and an additional 14,000 bushels coal.

The works was acquired by Parke and Son of Rising Sun, and later McCullough Iron Company. By another account, the works had 1 each puddling and heating furnace and 1 train of rolls driven by water power; in 1856, the mill produced 262 tons sheet iron. Shutdown took place in 1893, RIOM, p. 175.

(RIOM - Report on the Iron Ores of Maryland with an Account of the Iron Industry, Joseph T. Singerwald, Jr., Md. Geological Survey, Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, Baltimore, 1911.)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Alice E. Miller, A Study in Local History, C.&L. Printing Specialty Co., Elkton, Md., 1949
George Johnson, History of Cecil County, published by author, Elkton, 1881.
John McGrain, The Molinography of Maryland: A Tabulation of Mills, Furnaces and Primitive Industries, Towson, Md. 1971.

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

Ellen K. Coxe, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

DATE

Sept. 1979

TELEPHONE

269-2438

STATE

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

The Rowlandsville Mill has suffered substantial deterioration due to the collapse of the two-story stone foundation wall on the south gable end. This wall along the millrace has completely fallen in except for approximately four feet at each corner. Because of this collapse, the framing section at the south gable end is severely sagging.

The interior of the mill contains mostly machinery from late nineteenth century renovations in the mill. From the early period, there remains one set of stones with associated machinery and occasional pieces of hardware. The set of stones has a chair and hopper that appeared to be original. Strap hinges on two exterior shutters and several interior doors are from the period of construction of the mill. Of particular interest is the long strap hinges on the upper section of a door on the east facade and the wood box lock on this section of the door (the lower section of the door has been removed). The attached inventory lists other mill machinery found within the structure.

ADDENDA

In 1984 the Department of Natural Resources contracted with Joe Getty to conduct a follow-up survey of selected historic properties on DNR lands. DNR funded the field survey and photography but did not prepare finished copy. The attached photocopy pages were forwarded to the Maryland Historical Trust to supplement existing files. All original material and photographs remain in the possession of the Department of Natural Resources under the supervision of Ross Kimmel (x3771).

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CE 184

Magi No. CE-789

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Rowland Mill, Christie Mill, Davis-Christie Mill

and/or common Rowlandsville Mill

2. Location

street & number Route 308 ___ not for publication

city, town Rowlandsville ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Cecil

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Department of Natural Resources

street & number Taxes State Office Bldg telephone no.: 269-3771

city, town Annapolis state and zip code MD 21401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cecil County Courthouse liber

street & number folio

city, town Elkton state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title DNR Survey

date September 1979 ___ federal state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records Department of Natural Resources

city, town Annapolis state MD

7. Description

Survey No. CE -789

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair

- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

ADDENDUM TO ~~FORM~~ 1974 SURVEY FORM

8. Significance

Survey No. CE-789

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CE-789

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

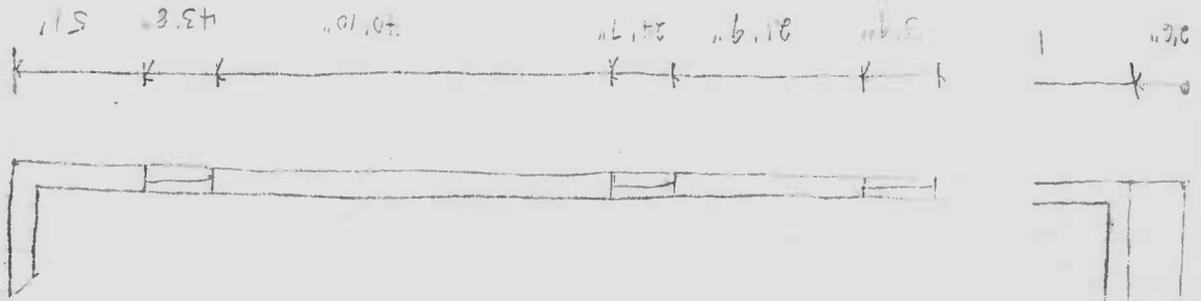
name/title	Joe Getty	date	February 1984
organization	Department of Natural Resources	telephone	3 269-3771
street & number	Taves State Office Bldg	state	MD
city or town	Annapolis		

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.

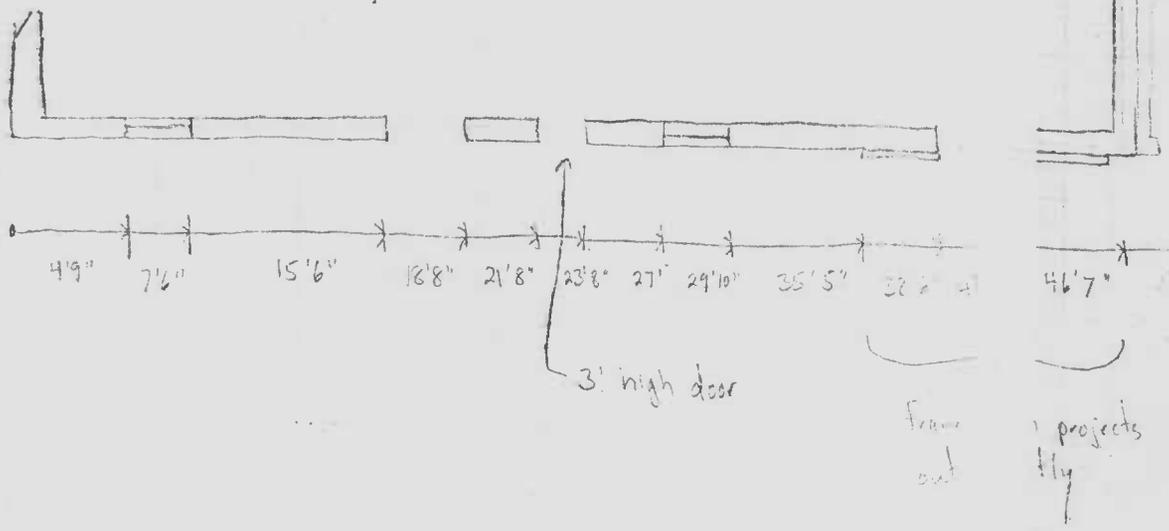
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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 (301) 269-2438

CE-789



Circle foundation wall collapsed →

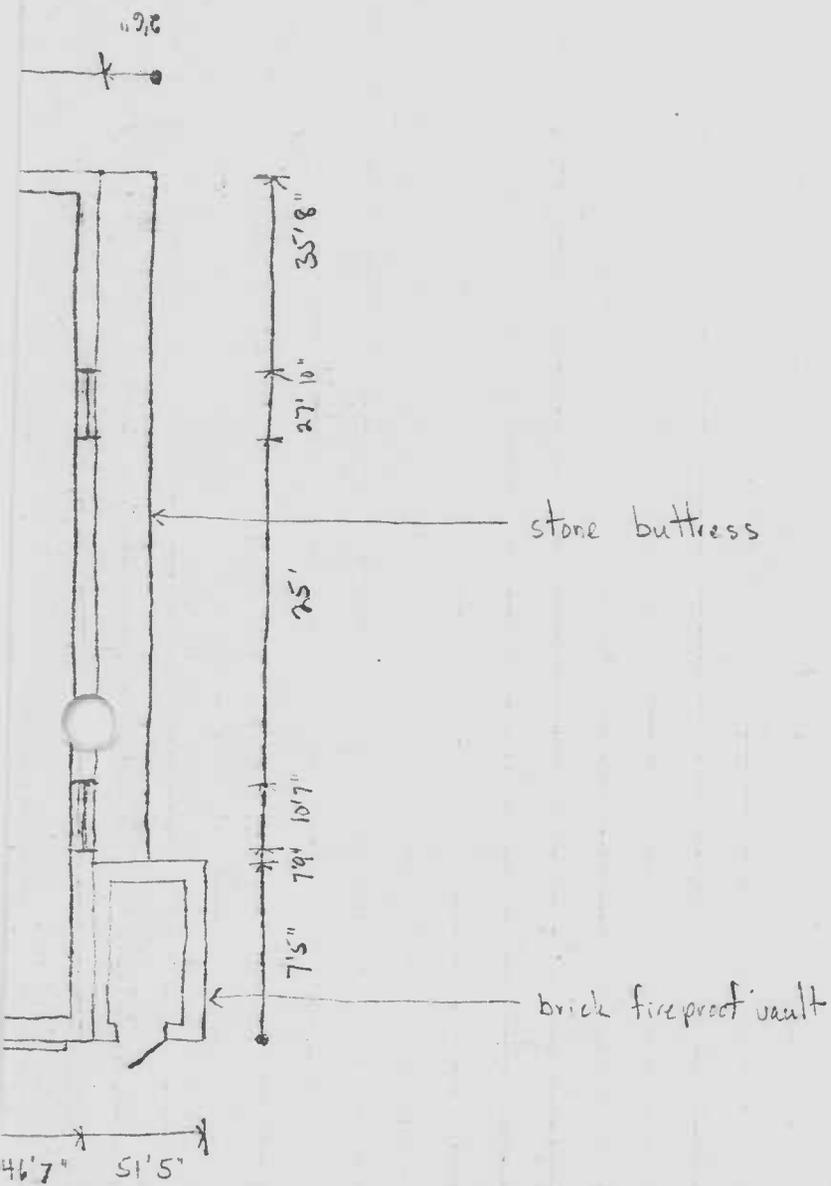


CE 789

ROWLANDSVILLE MILL

ROWLANDSVILLE

First Floor Plan



projects
by

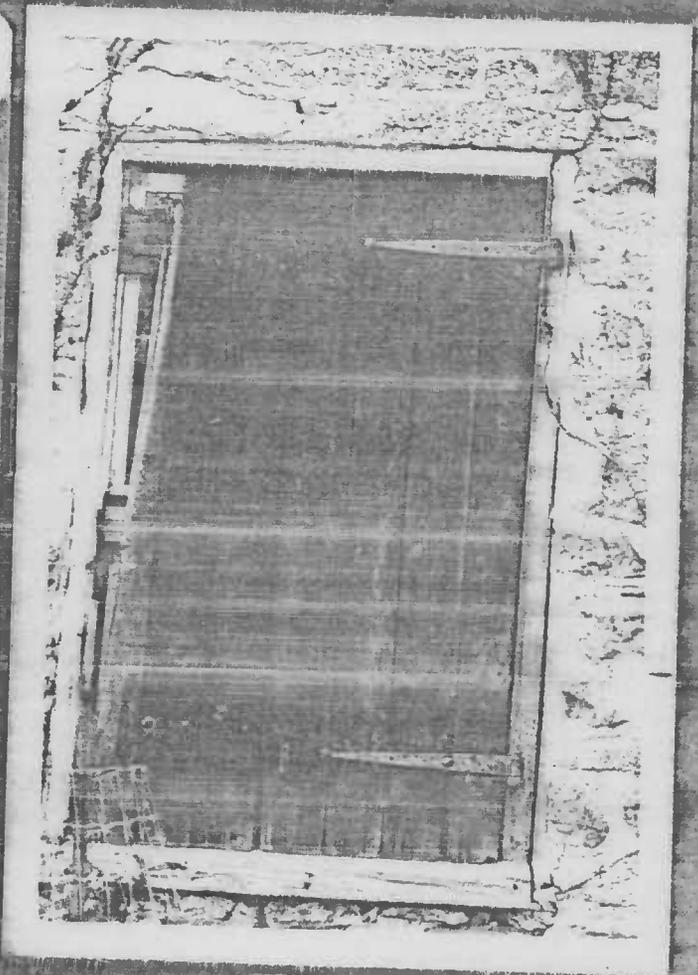
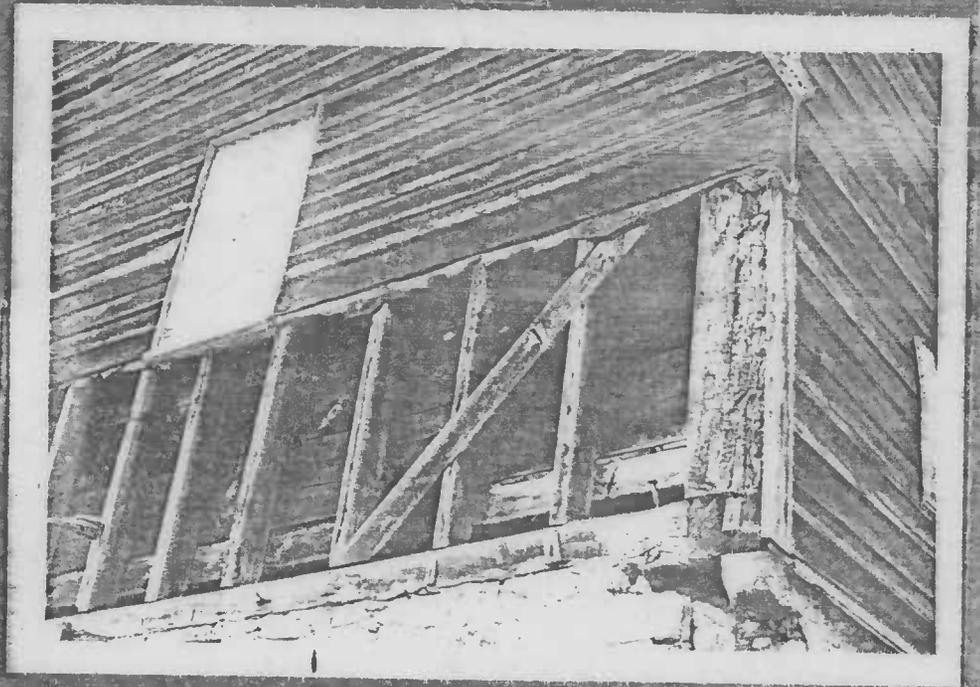
2/84

J. Betty

CE-789 Rowlandville Mill
top - South & East Facades
center - East & North Facades
bottom - South & West Facades



LE-789 Rowlandsville Mill
top - South Facade Framing
left - North Facade
right - East Facade - Shutters

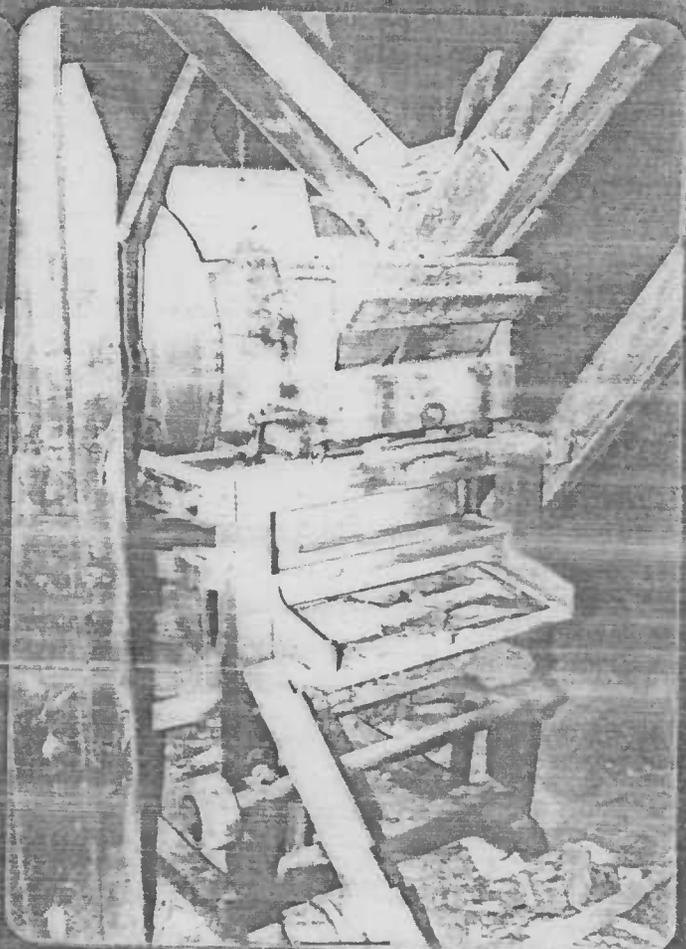
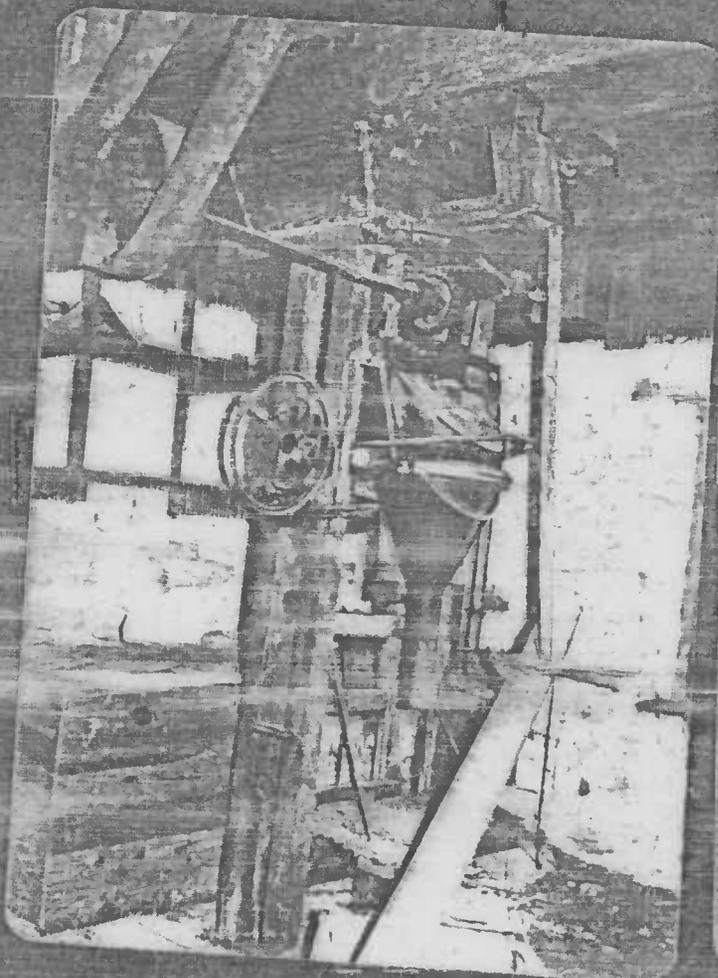
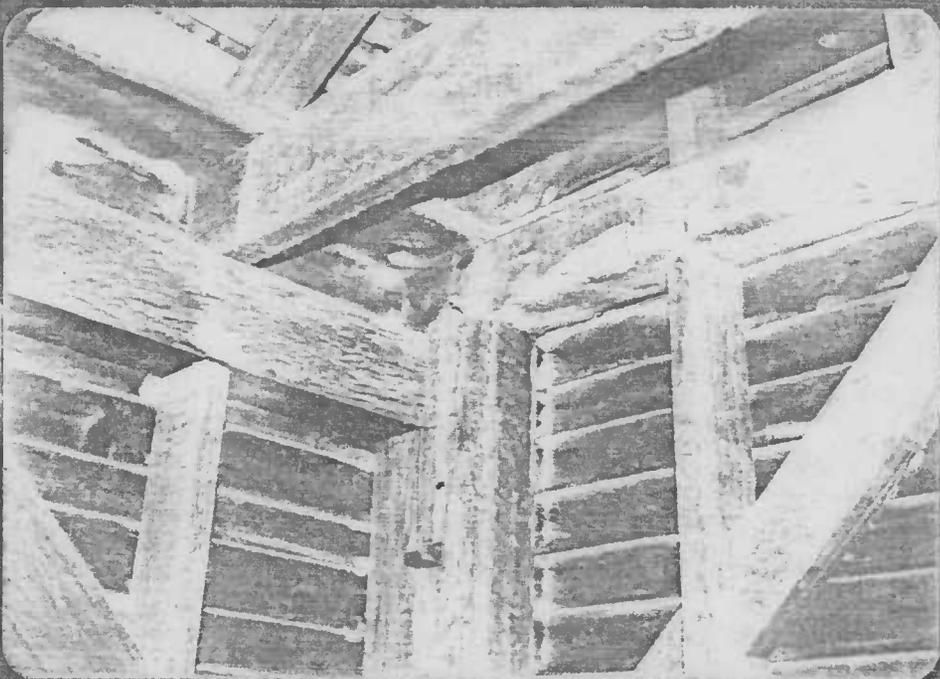


CE-784 Rowlandville Mill

bp - Interior framing

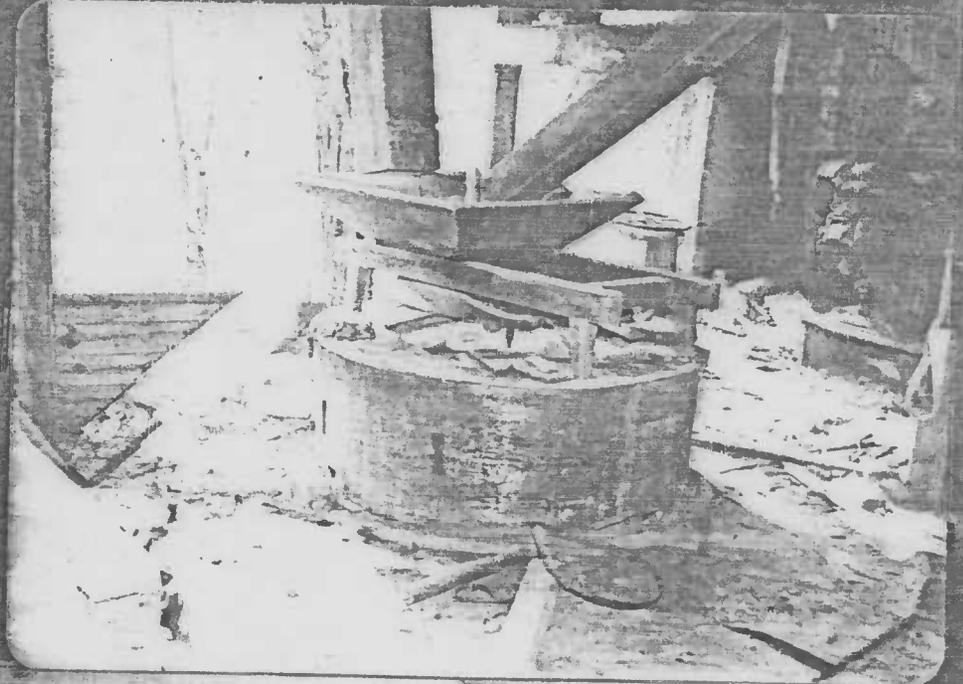
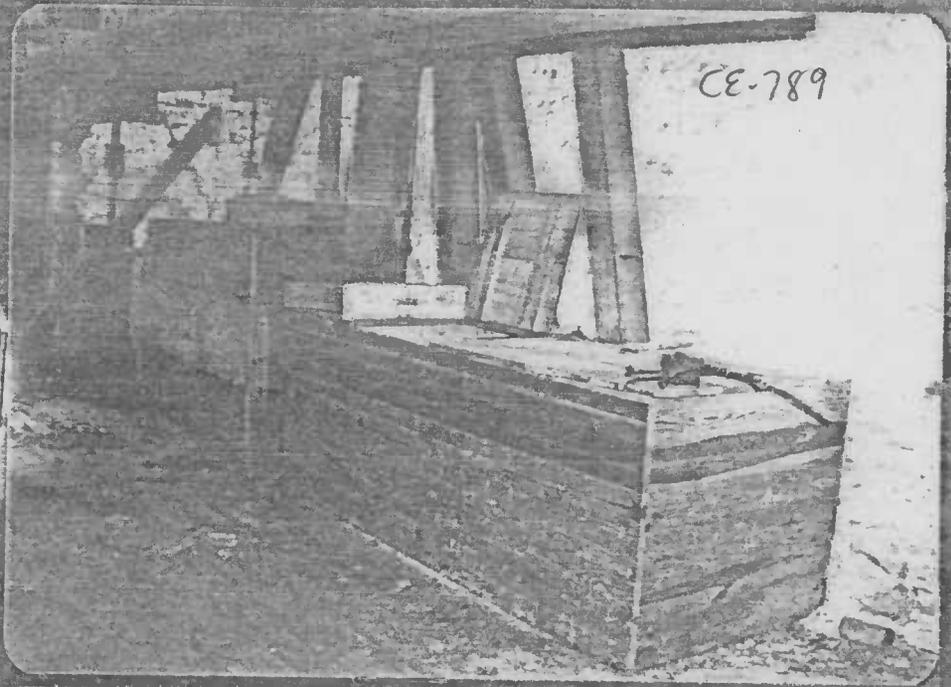
int. left - 1st floor - flour packer

int. right - 2^d floor - separator



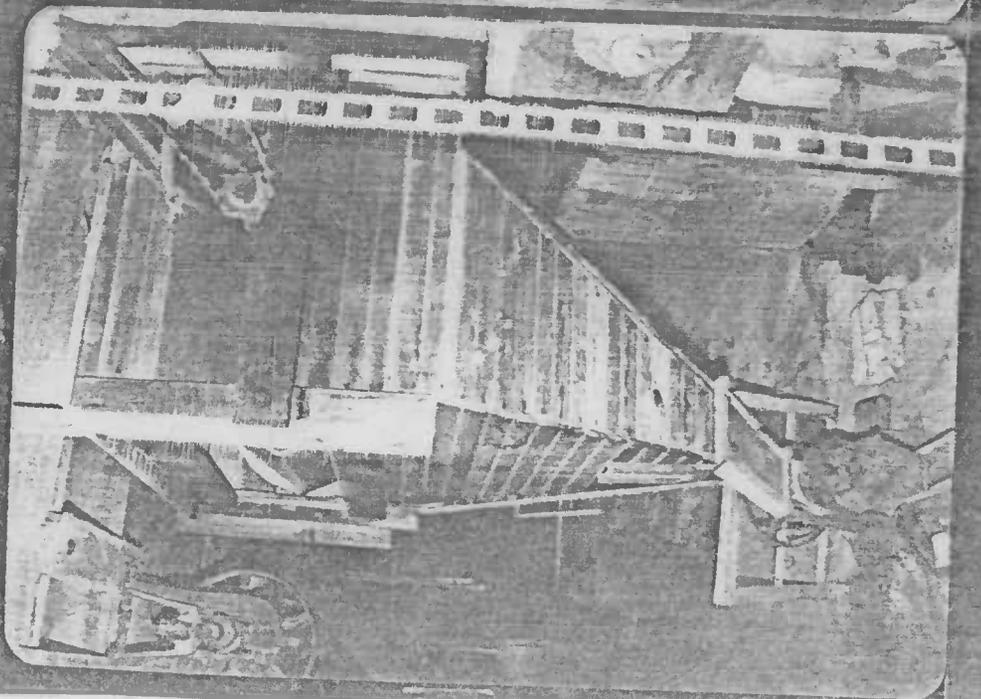
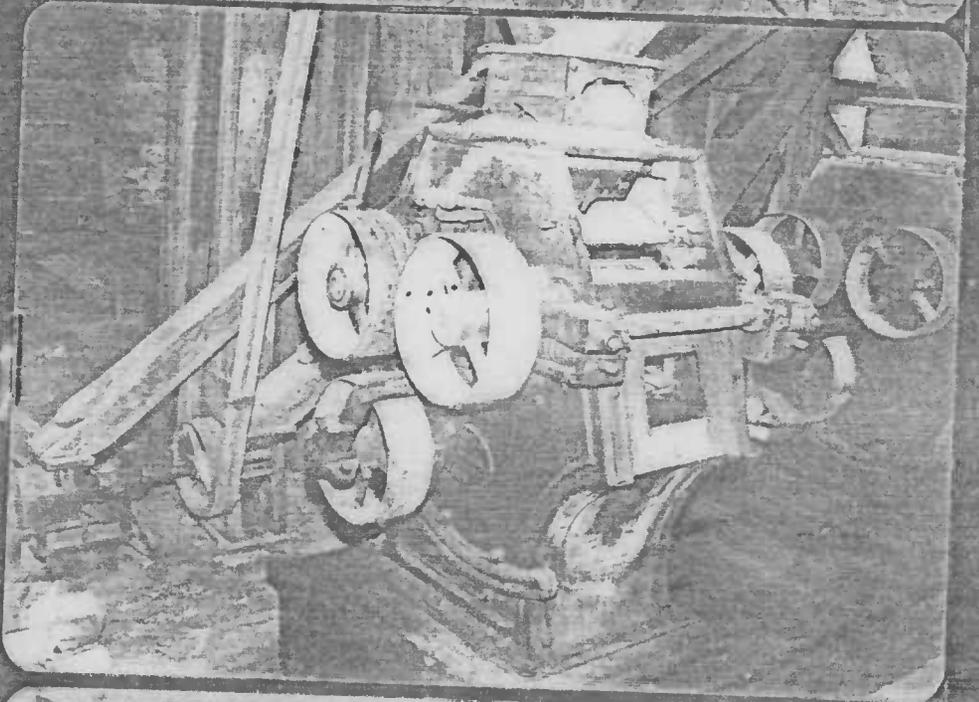
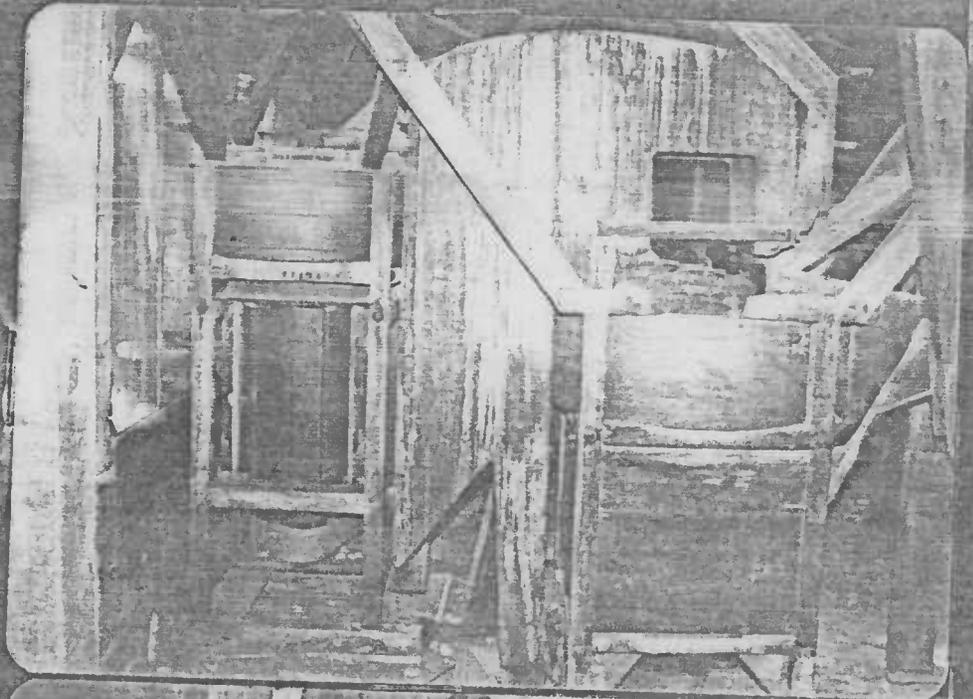
CE-789 Rawlandsville Mill

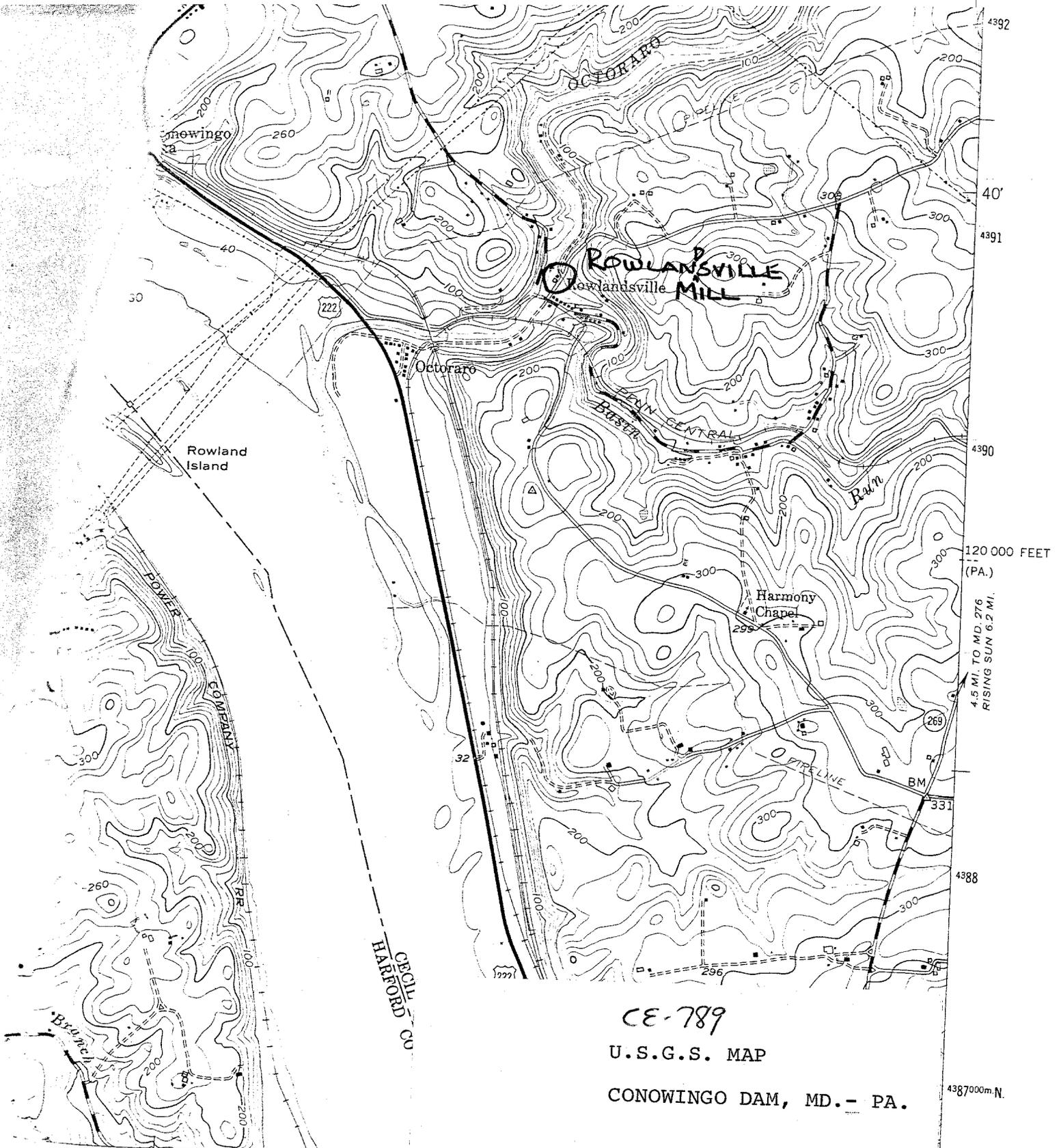
top - 1st floor - wood bins
center - " stones, hopper, chair
bottom - " wallbox lock, strap hinge



CE-789 Rowlandville Mill

top - 2nd story Bush Drum Cleaner
center - " Roller Processor
bottom - " Better Cleaner





CE-789

U.S.G.S. MAP

CONOWINGO DAM, MD.-PA.

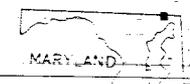
10' 400000m E 2 450 000 FEET (PA.)

WATER OR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA - 1971
 PORT DEPOSIT 1.8 MI
 7.2 MI. TO U.S. 40
 1 MI. TO U.S. 222

39°37'30"
 76°07'30"

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty		4 LANE 6 LANE	Light-duty	
Medium-duty		4 LANE 6 LANE	Unimproved dirt	
		U. S. Route		State Route



CONOWINGO DAM, MD.-PA.

(HAVRE DE GRACE)
 5763 II SE

120 000 FEET
 (PA.)
 4.5 MI. TO MD. 276
 RISING SUN 6.2 MI.



DAVIS / CHRISTY MILL CE-789
ROWLANDSVILLE, MD.
NORTHWEST ELEVATION
NEG. / MD. HIST. TRUST
2/80 PIST

6



CE-789

Rowlandsville Mill
Rowlandsville
(Susquehanna State Park)
south gable end
B. Deale

11/78



CE-789

Rowlandsville Mill
Rowlandsville
(Susquehanna State Park)
southeast elevation
B. Deale 11/78



CE-789

Rowlandsville Mill

Rowlandsville

(Susquehanna State Park)

Detail: window opening SE corner

B. Deale

11/78