

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 operations ceased during the twenties the Ford Saw and Grist Mill stands as a reminder of the resourcefulness of local businessmen during the early twentieth century.

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

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Herbert Witt - Home Improvement Contractor

Telephone #: 264-3472

STREET & NUMBER

Mt. Savage Road

CITY, TOWN

Mt. Savage

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland, 21545

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 405

Folio #: 428

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

AL-V-B-079

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> 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

AL-V-B-079

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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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

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 transferred 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.

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

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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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

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

APPROXIMATE DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1910 () 1920 () 1930 () 1940 () 1950 () 1960 () 1970 ()

DWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- 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() 9/6() 9/9() other()
pegged() nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment()

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

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)
original() 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() replaced()

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

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

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

COMMENTS:

USE: Vacant

SIGNIFICANCE: Industry

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1910

CONDITION: Poor - scheduled for demolition

I N T E R I O R

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
- () PANELED
- () MARBLE

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, masonry, 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: elliptical, tudor

NOTES:

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-079

AI-V-B-077

AI-V-B-078

AI-V-B-090





AI-V-B-079

Ford Saw + Grist Mill

Ford's Crossing, Corriganville

John E. Nelson

6/14/77

Northwest