

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Washington, D.C. 20240

BA-220



**HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION
APPLICATION — PART 1**
(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: GRIST MILL AT ROCKLAND
Address of property: Street 2201 Old Court Road
City Brooklandville County Baltimore State Maryland Zip Code 21022
Name of historic district in which property is located Rockland Historical District

2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:
(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

See Attachment No. 1

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
(use reverse side if necessary)

See Attachment No. 2

Date of construction (if known) approx. 1812 Original site Moved Date of alterations (if known) approx. 1825,
1890, 1900, 1920, 1978

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name JOSEPH R. AZOLA
Street 300 Cathedral Street
City Baltimore State MD Zip Code 21201
Telephone Number (during day), Area Code 301 837 8844

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above

Signature Joseph R. Azola Date _____

For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and contributes does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure appears does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and will likely will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).

The structure is located in a district which appears does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6), will likely will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and appears does not appear to contribute to the character of said district.

Signature J. P. [Signature] Date 11-8-78
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954

is hereby certified a historic structure
 does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet:

Signature _____ Date _____
Keeper of the National Register

Description of Physical Appearance:Exterior Appearance:

The main Mill is of load bearing stone construction. The west facade rises from the Millrace three stories, topped by a gambrel slate roof with dormers. The stone construction dates approximately 1812. A wood frame addition on the north end is two stories in height. The exterior is clad with cedar shingles, while the roof is of standing seam tin. Windows are of industrial type steel construction. The north addition was constructed sometime prior to 1890. Framing details and foundation construction indicate that it may have been built shortly after the original stone portion of the structure. A wood frame two story addition similar in appearance to that on the north end of the building exists at the south end. It was constructed on top of the original boiler room foundation sometime shortly after 1900. A shed structure of wood frame construction was subsequently added to the earlier south addition. The exterior finish of the shed was originally German siding with rolled roofing, the majority of which was destroyed during the 'Agnes' flooding in 1973. A small two story barn clad with board and batten siding, and slate roof, exists approximately 75 feet south of the main complex. Its age has not been accurately identified, but it was built sometime prior to 1890.

Landscape: The Mill buildings are situated several feet below the 100 year flood plain. The main building is approximately 50 feet west of the center line of the current Falls Road (formerly the Falls Turnpike). The original Millraces still exist, but have been dammed off at their source. The current natural setting is very much as it was, although seems to be more heavily wooded than evidenced in some old photographs. The topography is generally flat, but due to the new Falls Road construction, the ground elevation on the east side is 10 ft. higher than that on the west side of the building.

Interior Appearance:

Interior walls in the main Mill are of exposed stone. Lintels over openings are of heavy timber. Internal framing is of heavy timber post and beam construction, with wood floor joists, wood sub flooring, and wood finished flooring. The stone walls vary in thickness from three feet to one and a half feet. Window recesses are very deep and dramatic. The interiors of all of the wood frame additions are presently of exposed wood stud construction, without insulation. The north and south additions have no columns. Joists and rafters clear span both structures. The south shed contains a post and beam bent through its center line from which rafters span to the exterior walls. Stairways were of open riser steep design, approaching ladders in some cases. No fireplaces existed. Finished woodwork consists only of window sills and thresholds here and there. Original hardware has long since disappeared. Despite neglect and vandalism over the past several decades, the Mill interior retains its character.

ATTACHMENT NO. 2

Statement of Significance:

The present community of Brooklandville, in which the Gristmill at Rockland is located, is situated on the original Falls Turnpike. The Turnpike was opened in 1805, and shortly thereafter the Gristmill was constructed where the Jones Falls waterway intersected Falls Turnpike. The adjacent residential community was constructed to house the employees of the Mill. It is presumed that certain other structures in the neighborhood also housed goods and services necessary for the community. The present day Valley Inn located just north of the Mill on the Falls Turnpike was a Roadhouse and Inn during the time in which the Mill was active. The Mill provided the economic base for the entire community. Local farmers had their grain ground there, and it was bagged and shipped to Baltimore along the Turnpike. The significance of this structure is obvious.

STATE:
Maryland

COUNTY:
Balto. Co.

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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BA-116-220
BA 220

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Rockland Grist Mill

AND/OR HISTORIC:
~~SW corner of Falls Road and Old Court Road~~

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
SW corner of Falls Road and Old Court Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Brooklandville

STATE: Md. CODE: COUNTY: Baltimore Co. CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes:
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
			No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	* when in use	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
J.T.H. Johnson et al. (Dr. J.T.H. Johnson, M.D.)

STREET AND NUMBER:
Branx Falls Road

CITY OR TOWN: Brooklandville STATE: Md. CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
BC Land Rec. Liber 1965, f. 565; part of parcel 204, Map 69. Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Towson, STATE: Md. 21204 CODE:

ACREAGE APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 229.15

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
HABS

DATE OF SURVEY: 1965 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Libr. Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE:

STATE: _____

COUNTY: _____

ENTRY NUMBER _____ DATE _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)							
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>		
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)				
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>				
			Moved <input type="checkbox"/>			Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

3- $\frac{1}{2}$ story stone and frame gristmill; substantial chimney; barn-like roof.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		
Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

In addition to its substantial construction, this mill has passed through so many owners and changes of product as to present a capsule cross-section of industrial history, especially illustrating the attempt of Eastern mills to find some product to offset competition from the mass production mills of the West.

Built c. 1800-1810 as a flour and corn mill on Richard Gist's former estate, Turkey Cock Hall; however, "Md. House and Garden Tour Book," 1965, p. 33, listed Robert Wright as founder. Dr. Thomas Johnson purchased the mill in 1813, BCLR Liber HMF 12, f. 187. The head miller's house was at Falls Rd. and Old Court Road with a small house behind it for the second miller. In 1831 the mill was converted to a calico printing mill by a Mr. Mellier and had an output of 7 to 8000 yards/diem. It was inherited by William Fell Johnson in 1842. It was purchased in 1855 by Richard Hook and Co. It burned in 1857 with a loss of \$25,000 with suspicion of arson.

It was shown in 1877 as a blacking and coloring factory, part of the estate of W.F. Johnson. A Mr. Boss manufactured needles there at one time. It passed to a Mr. Clark who ground g flour and then sold the mill in 1894 to Thomas Wright who sold out the next year to James Bryan or Bryant who had a nearby mill at Brooklanville. In 1906, Bryan sold to Moses Garrett of Delaware; a 100-h.p. Corliss engine was installed for use at times of low water. Garrett was ruined by the dumping of large quantities of western wheat on eastern markets following the overproduction of World War I. In 1922, Garrett sold the mill to James P. Hooper who made artificial silk from New England paper pulp. That venture failed in 1927. In 1927, William Fell Johnson, descendant of both Gists and of the 19th Century ~~founder~~ owner of the same name, bought the mill and leased it to J.S. Young Co., subsidiary of Standard Foods, Inc. Harry M. Blinn was president of Std. Foods and needed a multi-story plant for mixing cake materials. The desired formula was reached after 150 tries, and the plant in 1948 turned out 2.5 million pounds of doughnut, biscuit, muffin, ~~glace~~ gingerbread and cake mixtures. That operation ceased however and the plant has served various uses including use by Dorothy Lamour Enterprises and Wagner Spice Company.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"The Rockland Mill" JHU Paper in Am. Economic History, Helen Mixer, Katherine Merritt, Roger & Hecklinger, Pratt Library Md. Room VF (1937)

"Rockland Mill, 150 Years of Producing the Staff of Life," Union News, May 17, 1946

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
John McGrain

ORGANIZATION: **Baltimore County Historical Society** DATE: **Aug. 30, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
9811 Van Buren Lane

CITY OR TOWN: **Cockeysville** STATE: **Md.** ZIP CODE: **21030**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Md.	
COUNTY: Baltimore Co.	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Roskland Mill -more -

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE

ACREAGE APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE

STATE:

COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		
Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

"The Rockland flour mill, eight miles from Baltimore, has been converted into an extensive calico printing establishment by Mr. Mellier, and is already printing 250 pieces, or between 7 and 8,000 yards of calico daily." Niles Weekly Register, 40:425. ~~August~~ August 27, 1831.

Wm. Fell Johnson offered to rent Rockland Print Works which had an output of 400 pieces/diem, American, July 7, 1847.

R.W. Hook's attorney offered the Rockland Mills in American, November 16, 1859, "There is on said land a fine MILL SITE, with race and dam already built."

(Mortgage by R.W. Hook as assignee of a mortgage from R.W. Hook and wife, Arsemas Schofield, Alcium Schofield, and James L. Sheridan, to Alexander Davidson, dated the 15th of March, A.D., 1856 and recorded ... Baltimore County Land Records, Liber HMF 6, f. 592 ---R.R. Boarman, Attorney.

The 1857 Robert Taylor map shows "R.W. Hook ~~and~~ & Co. Cotton Yarn Factory"

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		
ORGANIZATION:		DATE
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

INTERIOR

Floor plans (by floor)

Open - No partitions - Except for additions

Stairways

Wood - Either End

Flooring

Concrete in Basement - Otherwise Wood

Wall and ceiling finish

Painted stone walls - wood board ceiling

Doorways and doors

Doorways to either addition - from center building -

Trim

Very deep window sills - no trim

Hardware

Wrought iron

Lighting

Electric - Originally Oil Lamps

Heating (fireplaces, stoves,
central, etc.)

Central heating (oil) . Originally stoves

Orientation (by compass reading
and general setting)SITE

Faces East - S.E. corn. Falls Rd. & Old Court Rd., situated on Jones Falls - Mill Race
from Jones Falls, one mile N. of Mill and a second, one-quarter mile W. of Mill, from
Slaughter House Run.

Enclosures (fences, etc.)

No

Outbuildings other - Miller's House - Tavern - Blacksmith shop - Homes of Mill Hands - -
all modernized and in use -

Walks, driveways, etc. - - Concrete walks - no driveways - Directly on Road - with only
limited parking space in front of building

Landscaping, gardens, etc. -- No - but grass, stream and woodland still provides a country
setting for the mill

Prepared by S. Francis Offutt (for Mr. William F. Johnson)

Date September 18, 1966

CONTINUATIONS: Any of the above entries may be continued on additional
sheets.

HABS-EDDC

BLUE

Form 3B

VII.15.1959

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Historian's Work Sheet for "Photo-data Books" (Part I)

Name of Structure ROCKLAND GRIST MILL

Address S.W. cor. Falls Rd. & Old Court Rd. Brooklandville, Baltimore County
State, county, township, locality, street address or location

Present Owner (give address) Mr. William Fell Johnson - Brooklandville, Baltimore Co., Md.

Present Occupant Wagner Products Company

Present Use Manufacture of Flavoring Extracts

Brief Statement of Significance (historical): In its day provided a necessary product (the grinding of grains) for the surrounding neighborhood. Workers lived in mill houses nearby - blacksmith shop - tavern, etc. known as "The Village of Rockland"

PHYSICAL HISTORY (All statements shall be documented) Built by Dr. Thomas Johnson in 1813 (B.1766 D. 1831). Remained in family 'til 1855 when it was sold to Richard W. Hook Original and subsequent owners - - (Title Reference HMF 12 Folio 187). It changed hands a number of times, until 1927 when the present owner purchased the Mill and Mill Houses (The Village of Rockland) at a foreclosure sale from Mr. James Hooper. This property of 8 1/2 acres is included in the farm of 468 acres bordering on Falls Rd. known as "Rockland" -

Date of Erection - 1813 - This date is carved in stone and centered on the front of the old stone tavern built at time of other buildings (14 buildings in all)

Architect - unknown

Builder, suppliers, etc. - unknown, other than original owner Dr. Thomas Johnson

Original plans, construction, etc.
stone structure (1813) 36' X 56' - facing Falls Road (which the original owner built also)
Water Wheel on rear of building - high industrial type, square, brick chimney, (outside) -
Mill Race beside building.

Notes on alterations and additions - - Two additions - either end of main building. These are wood - shingled. They balance and preserve the original symmetrical design - built about 1925 - when owned by Mr. James Hooper, who spent approximately \$100,000 on improving and renovating the building.

HISTORICAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH STRUCTURE Between the end of the Revolutionary War & The Civil War, many mills were built on Rivers, Falls, & Branches in Baltimore County. The Rockland Mill has served the community by producing a variety of necessary goods of one form or another since 1813 - These include foods - such as flour and cornmeal. Also fabrics - such as calico and silk. Presently - extracts & food flavorings are manufactured

As was often true in the early history of the County, a village grew up around the mill. . . . in this instance, there was a blacksmith shop (now an open-type garage) a tavern, _____, the Millers home and the homes of the Mill Hands - all of stone and well constructed.

Important old views - - The village was advantageously located on the Old Court Road, (with location) one of the early roads leading to Towson and to Joppa - The Falls Road, the newer, followed Jones Falls and extended northward. The County was sparsely settled in 1813, and grist mills provided much needed employment in a rural economy. This is one of the few remaining mills in use and one of the few villages.

Sources of information - - Mr. William Fell Johnson - present owner of the Mill and the (with location) village, and a direct descendant from Thomas Johnson, the original owner. Prior to 1813 the land was owned by Edward Risteau, his house still stands near the village on the east side of Falls Rd. - called "Turkey Cock Hall". The present owner is also a descendant of the Risteaus - and his family home, built in 1831, called "Rockland" as well as the older house referred to above, are a part of the Johnson tract of 468 acres. until a few years ago 568 acres, but the State condemned about 100 acres for expressways on the outer rim of the property to the east & south. It is one of the few large tracts of undeveloped land remaining in the area.

Likely sources not yet investigated

Prepared by E. Frances Offutt
(for Mr. Wm. Fell Johnson)

Date Sept. 18, 1966

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOCUMENTATION

Published references: Give author's full name, exact title from title page (underlined), publisher, place of publication, date, page references.

Manuscript references: Give location of manuscript and note if long-hand or typed. Cite "from," "to," date, etc.

Interviews: If information came from a personal interview, give complete name and address of informant.

CONTINUATIONS: Any of the above entries may be continued on additional sheets. Exact transcripts in quotes from pertinent documents are especially welcomed as appendices or otherwise.

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Baltimore TOWN _____ VICINITY Dist. IX STREET NO. s.w. corner Falls Road and 77th Old Court Road ORIGINAL OWNER _____ ORIGINAL USE _____ PRESENT OWNER _____ PRESENT USE _____ WALL CONSTRUCTION _____ NO. OF STORIES _____		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY BA-221 220	
		2. NAME Rockland Mill DATE OR PERIOD 1813 STYLE _____ ARCHITECT _____ BUILDER _____	
		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		OPEN TO PUBLIC	
<p>A large three-story structure of fieldstone, two frame additions in 1925. Its special features include a massive industrial type chimney, loading platform and numerous large windows, twelve over twelve. Originally a grist mill, the mill race is still there; formerly a huge water wheel was on the west side of the building. The mill was built by Dr. Thomas Johnson in 1813 and sold in 1855; it changed hands a number of times until 1927 when Mr. William Fell Johnson repurchased it. The building is used today for the manufacture of flavoring extracts.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(second HABS report) E. Frances Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY March 20, 1968</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		Endangered	Interior
			Exterior
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER	
		DATE OF RECORD	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE



black photo neg. rec'd 9/15/70
with 1/2 roll
MHT - color slides



BA-220
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