

BA- 443

030 4485 404

Willow Mills Miller's House  
Northeast side Western  
Run Road near Western Road  
Not accessible  
Date: ca 1850

The Willow Mills Miller's House is a one and one-half story stone house. Also known as the Denbow House, it was associated with the Willow Mills which was a combination grist and saw mill located to the north. The mill operated continuously from the 1850's until about 1936. When grist mills flourished, the miller, who was not necessarily the owner, lived adjacent to the business as did most employees of the time.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Willow Mills Miller's House

AND/OR COMMON

Russell Denbow House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Northeast side Western Run Road near Western Road

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY  | OWNERSHIP                                   | STATUS                                       | PRESENT USE   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT               | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input 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                   | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                   | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                            | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT                 | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS         | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED   | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT                |
|   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO       | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS                    |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT                   |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL                   |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY                     |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:                       |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Russell E. Denbow

Telephone #: 472-4285

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21152

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 4492

Folio #: 569

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

BSA-415

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

The miller's house is a stone house of one and one-half storeys, the gable ends and the top few feet of the sidewalls being of frame construction, covered with aluminum siding. Five bays in length, the entrance is through the west bay on the north side. The second bay from the east end is void of openings, and other bays contain a 1/1 window -- the center one with two 1/1 windows, flanking ones with a single 1/1 window -- and in the south slope two dormer windows light the upper storey.

A one storey frame addition, one bay in length, is at the east end, and a one and one-half storey concrete block and frame addition is at the west end.

The interior is of simple, modern construction, adapted as a dwelling house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

| PERIOD  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORIC             | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0-1499               | <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 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 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                      **Unknown**                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT                      **Unknown**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Denbow House was the miller's house associated with Willow Mills, a combination grist and saw mill located immediately to the north. The mill operated continuously from the 1850's until about 1936. It appears on both the 1850 Sidney map and the 1857 Taylor map. However, the miller's house does not appear this early and thus must have been erected shortly after the mill for the use of the miller who was frequently a hired employe and not the owner himself.

The house has been flooded several times but each time it was repaired and maintained as a dwelling.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Sidney, J.C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland.  
(Baltimore, 1850).

(see continuation sheet #1)  
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 12.76 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

| STATE | COUNTY |
|-------|--------|
|       |        |
|       |        |

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Committee

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

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

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #9 continued

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1877).

McGrain, John W. Heavy Industry at Davisville. (unpublished manuscript,  
1975).