

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Gilpin Falls Hydro Electric Plant Site

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

East of Route 272 on east bank of Big North East Creek

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bayview

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Cecil

**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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Dr. Robert Gray

Telephone #: 398-3770

STREET & NUMBER

Elkton Medical Center 721 Bridge Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

Elkton

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: WAS 303

Folio #: 7

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouses

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Elkton

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

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

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CE-763

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Gilpin Falls Hydro Electric Plant Site is located at the foot of Gilpin Falls. The plant was built in the latter half of 1905 by Frederick Shoff of Colmanville, Pennsylvania. The plant when completed consisted of a frame power house, several water gates, a steel and concrete flume, and a frame boardwalk.

The power house is no longer standing, but many early photographs are still in existence. The building was three bays long by one bay deep with an entrance in the west gable end. The gable roof was covered with wood shingles and had a shed dormer on the north side. A small inside end chimney of brick was located in the west gable end. The building had wooden siding and a stone foundation.

The building was destroyed about the time of the Second World War and the metal substances were removed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

ce-763

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 type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gilpin Falls Hydro Electric Plant was the first electric plant in Cecil County. It operated for only several years before giving way to the Conowingo Dam system.

An interesting storey was that the town of North East was not all too sure of whether or not it wanted electricity, but became the first town to have lights. Apparently members of the town board voted no.

The site might have some archeological importance to industrial historians.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Miller, Alice, Cecil County, Maryland Elkton: C & L Printing, 1949  
Portrait and Biographical Record of Harford and Cecil Counties, New York and  
 Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co. 1897 (under Warburton).  
 The Cecil Democrat, August 19, 1959, The Cecil Whig, December 11, 1967.  
 The Cecil County News July 19, 1905, VOLXXIV, No. 47, Elkton, Maryland

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

George W. Lutz III, Field Historian

ORGANIZATION

Cecil Historical Trust, Inc.

DATE

April 1977

STREET & NUMBER

RD 2

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Rising Sun

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



POWER HOUSE WILMINS FALLS ELECT CO

CE-763

CE-~~763~~ 763

OLD AUTOTOGRAPH OF GILPIN'S  
FALLS (HYDRO-ELECTRIC  
PLANT -

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