



VIRGINIA
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-186 /sg
Negative no(s). 4365

SURVEY FORM

Historic name Barn on Mill Foundation	Common name
County/Town/City Prince William County	
Street address or route number Interex. S.R. 680 & S.R. 601, Waterfall, Va.	
USGS Quad Thoroughfare Gap	Date or period Barn: 20th C. (c1920); foundation: 18th, early 19th C.
Original owner John Brown	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use Grist Mill	
Present owner Dr. John C. Lange	Source of name
Present owner address 16013 Waterfall Road Haymarket, Va.	Source of date Court records, local historian.
Present use Storage barn	Stories 1 story on a high foundation.
Acreage c8 acres, including house & store.	Foundation and wall const'n Stone (rubble) foundation, frame walls.
	Roof type Metal-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs Foundation stones in fair condition.

State potential threats to structure Development in area, possible road widening.

Note any archaeological interest Blacksmith shop site on property.

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes ___ no ___

Architectural description (Note significant features of plan, structural system and interior and exterior decoration, taking care to point out aspects not visible or clear from photographs. Explain nature and period of all alterations and additions. List any outbuildings and their approximate ages, cemeteries, etc.)

The present barn was built upon part of the old stone foundations of a mill which, some say, was still standing in 1914. The overshot water wheel was located on the north side of the present barn (see map). The head race ran from the "upper dam" on Catharpin Run, down the hill behind and northwest of the mill, and the tail race ran northeast from the mill under the present S.R. 680 and behind the Gossom Store.

Barn (larger structure with stone foundation) is post-and-beam constructed on heavy, hand-hewn timbers which are mortise-and-tenoned together.

A blacksmith shop was supposedly located just south of the mill on a presently fenced piece of land now being cultivated, to the left of the 1-story modern gable-roofed machine shed addition to the barn. Dallas Murray, a black man, was the blacksmith in Waterfall.

Interior inspected? No.

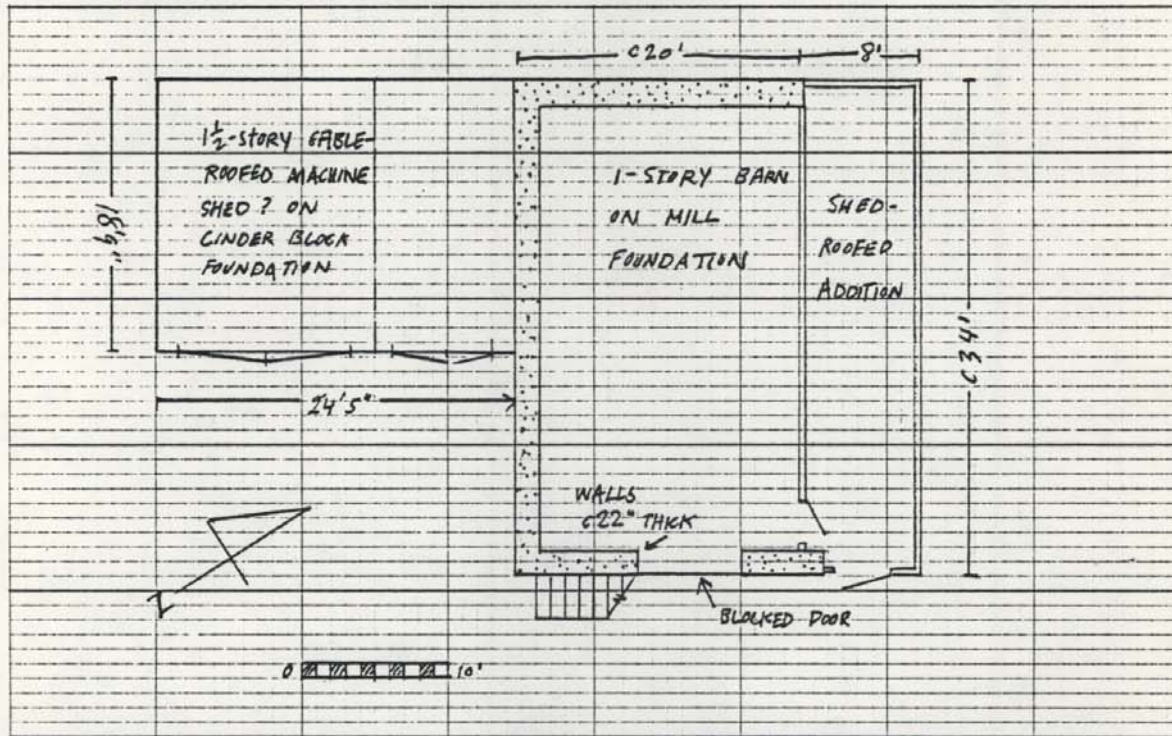
Historical significance (Chain of title: individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

Milling in the Waterfall area probably began in 1798 when John Brown applied for and received a writ of ad quod damnum from the Prince William County Court which permitted Brown to erect a dam across Catharpin Run on his land, ^{opposite} land belonging to Elizabeth and Lewis Burwell Whiting. After having secured water rights, Brown likely built the first of two grist mills in 1798 - 1799 and another grist mill and a sawmill between that time and 1810. In January 1811, Brown sold his mills and 16 acres to Benjamin Dean, who probably operated the mills until January 1818, at which time Dean sold the mills to William Herbert, Jr. John Wood map in 1820 shows "Dean's Mill" in Waterfall, a grist mill and a sawmill. A reference to the mills as a landmark in a deed dated 1849 suggests that the mills were operating at that time, but a later survey made in 1865 refers to an "old dam", indicating that the dam across Catharpin Run on the Whiting property was no longer in use. Waterfall mills, which were last operated by John Gossom, probably ceased operating sometime during the last half of the 19th century, according to E. R. Conner, III, who provided the information contained in this history. Conner relates that, according to his informants, in the early 1900s there was a 3-story mill at Waterfall, which was operating during the Civil War. This building (located where the barn on mill foundation is) stood as late as 1914, but it was torn down by G. A. Gossom, and upon part of its stone foundations the present barn was built.

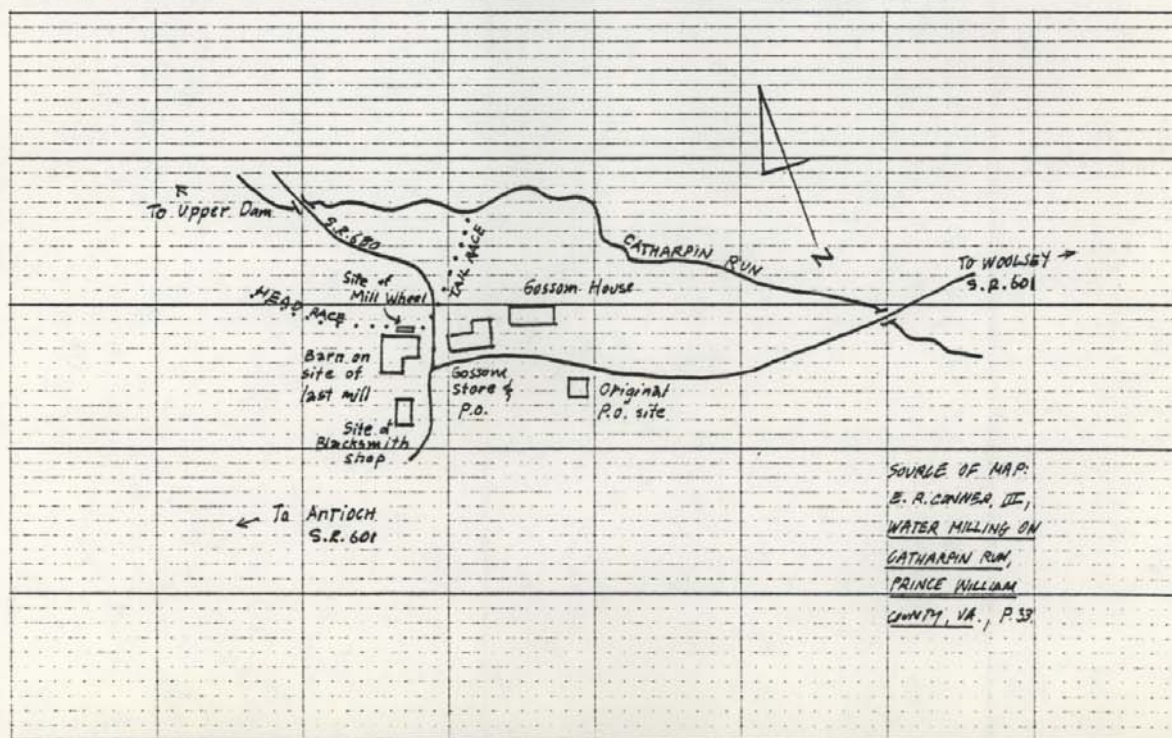
Sources and bibliography
 Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.) Writer's Project, W.P.A., Prince William, The Story of Its People and Its Places, (1941, 1961), p. 184-185; E. R. Conner, III, Water Milling on Catharpin Run, Prince William County, Va. (c1976), pp. 21-24, 33.
 Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials: give location.)

Names and addresses of persons interviewed E. R. Conner, III, Manassas Museum, Manassas, Va.;
Mrs. Barton (Pauline) Padgett, Mt. Atlas Lane, Haymarket, Va.

Plan (Indicate locations of rooms, doorways, windows, alterations, etc.)



Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)



SOURCE OF MAP:
 E. R. CONNER, III,
 WATER MILLING ON
 CATHARPIN RUN,
 PRINCE WILLIAM
 COUNTY, VA., P. 33

Name, address and title of recorder Francis Jones, Architectural
Historian - Surveyor - HUBC

JUL 27 1979