



VIRGINIA
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-68
Negative no(s). 4898

SURVEY FORM

Historic name Missouri Mills	Common name Missouri Mill Site
County/Town/City Prince William County	
Street address or route number c2 mi. South of Joplin off S.R. 619	
USGS Quad Joplin	Date or period Late 18th, early 19th century
Original owner Thomas Chapman	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use Gristmill	
Present owner U.S. Government	Source of name
Present owner address c/o U.S. Marine Corps	Source of date Local historian
Quantico, Va.	Stories
Present use Not in use	Foundation and wall const'n
Acreage Unknown	
	Roof type

State condition of structure and environs No remains left of mill or miller's house; however, two dams (built recently), the headrace and tailrace, and an old road are visible but all in poor condition.

State potential threats to structure

Note any archaeological interest Remains of successful, long-lived mill operations here are an archeological resource.

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.)

Sometime between 1972 when R. Leu visited, surveyed, and photographed this site, and September 1979 when the present surveyor was there, the large stone chimneys of the "miller's house" disappeared. No signs could be found of the "old mill site," located on a map by Leu; however, surveyor was able to find the two dams (not original but photographed), the headrace, tailrace, and the deeply-cut old road running parallel to the present dirt road down to the creek. Upstream dam said to have been constructed on the site of Chapman's old dam, possibly using stones from old dam.

Leary Cemetery where Thomas Chapman is buried is located on the road leading to the mill. See separate inventory sheet.

Interior inspected?

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

Thomas Chapman (1769-1827) probably established this mill on land which he is thought to have received by grant from the Governor of Virginia. The mill was located on a bend in the Chopawamsic Creek which divides Prince William and Stafford Counties. Besides the Chapmans, the Learys and Purcells also ran the mill, which consisted of a gristmill and a sawmill. The mill is supposedly identified on Civil War Maps and is said to have operated until 1900, the Purcells being the last to operate it.*

*Thomas Chapman, Sr., according to Fairfax Harrison's Landmarks of Old Prince William, p. 396, was one of the original commissioners of The Quantico Company, appointed by the act of 1795. The Quantico Company was formed to deal with the problem of the silting up of Quantico Creek. It is not known whether this is the same Thomas Chapman.

Sources and bibliography

Published sources (Books, articles, etc.. with bibliographic data.)

W.P.A., Writers Project, Prince William, The Story of Its People and Its Places (1941, 1961), p. 98.

Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials: give location.)

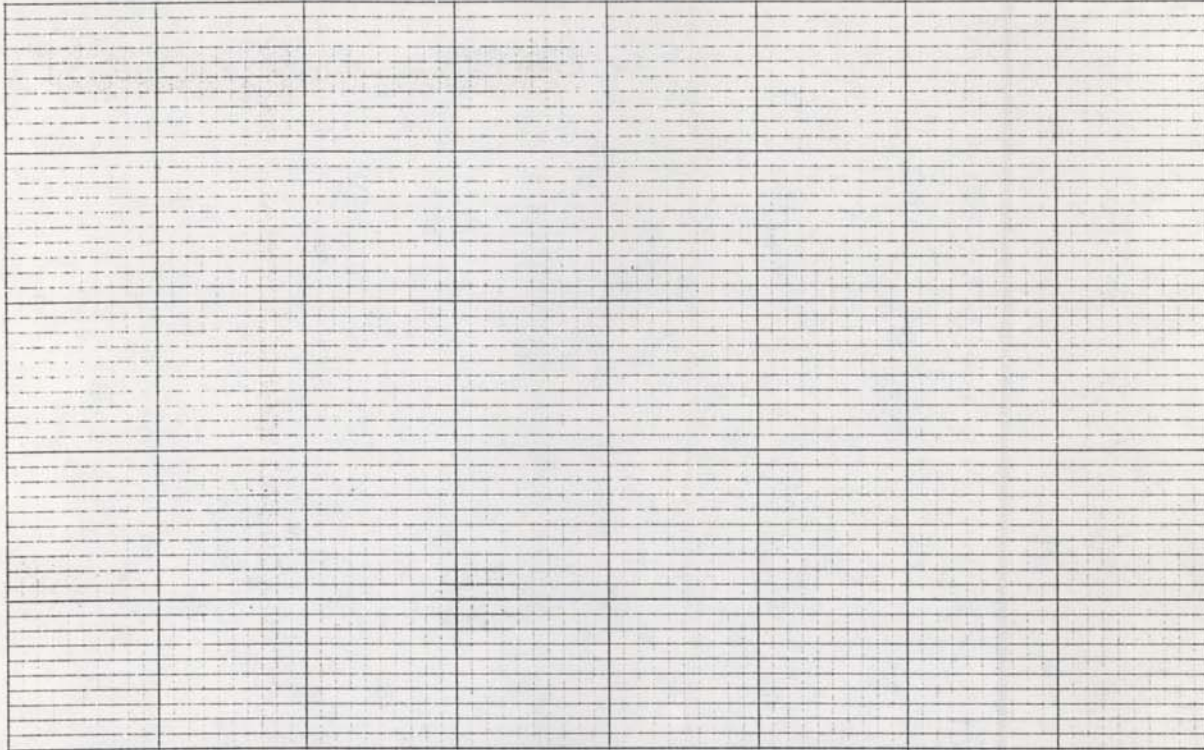
Civil War Map said to note location of mill.

See also R. Leu Survey Sheet, 1972, in VHLC (includes photographs)

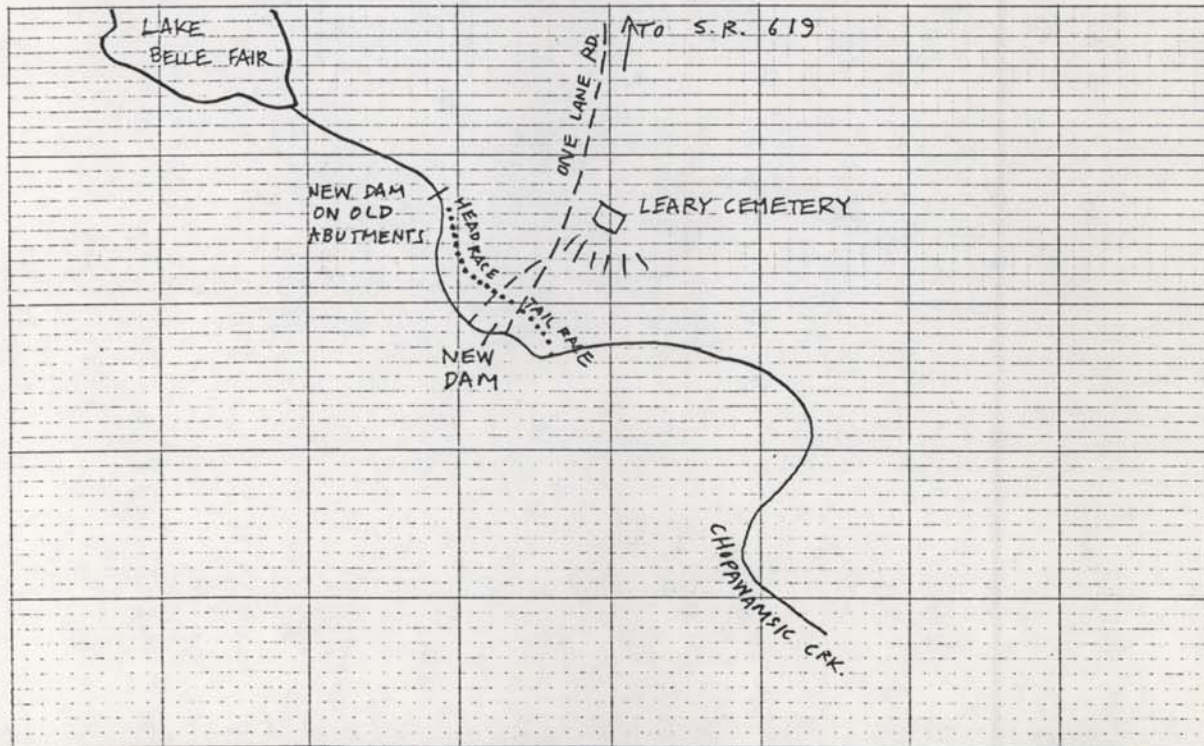
Names and addresses of persons interviewed E. R. Conner, III, Manassas Museum.

Not interviewed but informed: John Leary, 601 Freeland Rd., Freeland, Md. 21503

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



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



Name, address and title of recorder

Frances Jones, Architectural
Historian - Surveyor, NVPDC

Date

NOV 1979



Relfair Mills
Site 89-80

Williams-Honard
Cemetery 76-57

Leary Cemetery
76-54

**Missouri Mill Site
76-68**

TRIANGLE 3.2 MI
ALEXANDRIA 29 MI

TRIANGLE 3.7 MI
WOODBRIDGE 13 MI

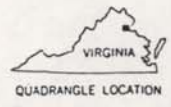
4254000m N
38°30'

789 25' 290 291000m E INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D.C. - 1972
STAFFORD 6 MI. 77°22'30"

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty _____ Light-duty _____
- Medium-duty _____ Unimproved dirt _____
- Interstate Route ◻ U.S. Route ○ State Route

(WIDEWATER)
3000 N NE



JOPLIN, VA.
SW/4 QUANTICO 15' QUADRANGLE
N3830—W7722.5/7.5

1966
PHOTOREVISED 1971
AMS 5561 III SW—SERIES V834