

VLR-6/19/79 NRHP- 8/7/79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

Sep 7 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Edinburg Mill

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER North side U.S. Route 11 at Stony Creek.

CITY, TOWN

Edinburg

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Seventh (J. Kenneth Robinson)

STATE

Virginia

VICINITY OF

CODE

51

COUNTY

Shenandoah

CODE

171

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. James C. Ellis

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Woodstock

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 22664

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Shenandoah County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Woodstock

STATE

Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE

1978

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street

CITY, TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

# **7** DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 Edinburg Mill is a three-story frame grist mill standing on the banks of Stony Creek in Edinburg. Set on a limestone basement, the mill is clad with plain weatherboards and covered with a standing-seam sheet-metal roof. Irregularly fenestrated with 6/6 sash on all sides, it is four structural bays long, and entry is into the gable end. Additions at the turn of the century include two-story, shed-roof extensions for storage along each of the long sides and a one-story, gable-roof office set in front of the mill and connected to it by a covered driveway.

The construction of this mill, like that of most 19th-century grist mills in Virginia, is very conservative. All of the frame is sturdily braced, and features such as shoulder posts (which were no longer used in houses when this mill was built) are found here. More important, a principal-rafter- and purlin roof with wind braces is used. Mill builders in Virginia preferred to use this 18th-century roof frame rather than a truss for spanning their wide buildings because it left the valuable roof space open for bins and machinery. This one resembles an 18th-century roof in every respect except that it uses a ridge board, a feature introduced into vernacular building in the mid-19th century.

As the Edinburg Mill was a working feed mill until July 1978, the interior works, dating from the turn-of-the-century modernization, are intact. Located in the basement, they include the wheel well in the northwest corner and a long bin along the west side. There is a bin in this position on each floor. The stairs, as in each of the upper floors, are in the southeast corner. On the first floor is an old Fairbanks scale with Greek Doric columns supporting the beam, an old desk by the door, and Roskamp's Grain Roller Mill, manufactured by the Roskamp Huller Company of Cedar Falls, Iowa. The second floor is devoted entirely to bins. On the third floor are more bins and a Monarch Receiving Separator and Monarch Centrifugal Reel, both manufactured by Sprout Waldron and Company, of Muncie, Indiana, and an Interelevating Flour Dresser produced by August Wolf and Company of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. The roof space is given over to more bins and to the belt drive shafts which powered the equipment.

## BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The bounds have been drawn as an irregular quadrilateral with Stony Creek as the east side, U.S. Route 11 as the south, a dirt driveway as the west, and an imaginary line at the north edge.

DU

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			Legend (Civil War)

SPECIFIC DATES

1848-1850

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Edinburg Mill, on Stony Creek in the village of Edinburg, is a well-preserved example of the early agrarian industry of the Shenandoah Valley. Once part of a larger industrial complex, the mill is presently being adapted for use as a restaurant. Built ca. 1850 by the Grandstaff family, the mill machinery was modernized at the turn of the century, as was the case with most of the large grist mills of Virginia. The mill continued in use in this form until July 1978, when it was rescued from possible demolition by its acquisition for adaptive reuse.

As with many mills, this is not the first one on its site. Philip Grandstaff, whose father owned a mill on Narrow Passage Creek, purchased 354 acres on Stony Creek in 1804 and after 1813 developed a mill complex there that included saw, boring, and merchant (grist) mills as well as a carding machine and dwellings. The property was bequeathed in 1832 to his son George Grandstaff who continued milling operations on the site until his death in 1876. Land tax records show that this man built a new grist mill at mid-century, for which a \$2,500 increase in building valuation was recorded in 1850. In 1872 Grandstaff sold all of his real estate to his son George A. Grandstaff of Missouri. This sale included "The water power tract on which the merchant mill and mill house are situated [and] the home tract." But litigation stemming from an old partnership led to the division of ownership in the 1880s between the younger Grandstaff and George Koontz. Koontz became sole owner at the turn of the century and in 1905 sold "a dwelling house, outbuildings and one merchant mill" to J. Newton Wilson of Bridgewater.

A dramatic moment in the history of the mill occurred during Sheridan's destructive sweep of the Valley in February 1865. When the building was set afire, tradition has it that the women of the town persuaded Union officers to save the remaining flour. Confederate women and Union officers extinguished the flames, saving the mill and much of its contents.

VDS/du

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Shenandoah County Deed Books LL, NN, A, O, 10, 15, 21, 27, 62.  
Land Tax Books 1798-1890, 1903, 1912.  
Will Books M, 17.  
 Wayland, John W. A History of Shenandoah County, Virginia. Strasburg, Va., 1969.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Edinburg, Va. QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 7	7, 1, 1, 0, 9	4, 2, 9, 9, 4, 8, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point on W side of Stony Creek at its crossing with U.S. Route 11; thence extending approximately 180' W along N side of said route to private drive; thence extending about 150' NW along said drive; thence extending about 200' E to W side of Stony Creek; thence extending about 150' S along said side of said creek to point of origin.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE June 1979

STREET & NUMBER 221 Governor Street TELEPHONE (804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN Richmond STATE Virginia 23219

**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *[Signature]*

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director DATE JUN 19 1979  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE

ATTEST: CHIEF OF REGISTRATION DATE

U.S.G.S. 7.5' quairangle (scale:1:24000)  
Edinburg, Va. 1966 (PR1978)

EDINBURG MILL, Shenandoah County, Virginia  
UTM References:

17/711100/4299480

