

VLR-5/20/80 NRHP-7/30/80

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

**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

Nininger's Mill (Preferred)

AND/OR COMMON

Tinker Mill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 674

CITY, TOWN

Daleville

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Sixth (M. Caldwell Butler)

STATE

Virginia

CODE
51

COUNTY
Botetourt

CODE
023

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- 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
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: Restaurant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. Grady P. Gregory, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER

1360 Maple Avenue, S.W.

CITY, TOWN

Roanoke

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 24016

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Botetourt County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Fincastle

STATE

Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE

1969, 1980

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY

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 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

Nininger's Mill is located on Route 674 at the foot of Tinker Mountain in Botetourt County. The gable-roofed, three-story brick structure was constructed ca. 1847 as a grist mill and converted into a restaurant in 1968. The building was refurbished in 1978.

The four-course-American-bond building sits on a random-coursed limestone foundation. Twentieth-century, wood-frame additions are found on the north and east walls. The east addition consists of a one-room, gable-roofed restroom; the northern wall has an enclosed porch covered by rusticated vertical siding and a shed roof. An iron fire escape was added to the east wall ca. 1968. Two small brick chimneys break the southern roof line, with a third chimney found on the gable roof of the office. Both the north and south elevations contain first-floor entries. The south entrance consists of a simply framed opening that is presently boarded up. The north (main) entrance was renovated into its present form in 1968, when the mill was converted into a restaurant. Fenestration consists of replacement 6/6 hung-sash windows within simply executed wooden frames. An undershot iron mill wheel is found on the west elevation.

While the mill interior was extensively renovated when the building was converted into a restaurant, the interior structural system and certain mechanical parts have been preserved. Lamb's tongue chamfered posts continue to support rough-hewn joists on the first and second floors. In the basement, now the "pub," the cog pit with its large iron cog wheel and shaft remains in situ on the western wall. Above the cog pit in the main dining room the millstone, millstone crane, and crib remain in situ. The grain hopper, elevator shaft, and conveyor have been removed to accommodate restaurant seating. The small corner fireplace, typical of early 19th-century mills, has been preserved. The third floor is presently used for storage and retains gears and cogs of the power shaft. Storage bins, graders, and separators have been removed.

A simple one-story, wood-frame late 19th-century house is located to the north of the mill. A small wood-frame garage adjoins the house.

RCC

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property of 1 1/3 acres includes the mill, a house, and a garage. The boundaries follow Tinker Creek to the south and the road to the east on which the house is located. The tract being nominated is a fraction of the original holdings of Peter Nininger, millwright.

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 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

1847

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

From Colonial times to the end of the 19th century, Virginia maintained a relatively high degree of agrarian self-sufficiency. Importation of goods was restricted primarily to luxury items, with most essentials grown on the farm and processed in the immediate vicinity. The grist mill constituted one of the most important services within the rural economy. By the early 1800s, water-powered mills of brick, stone, or wood were in operation on water-courses throughout the state. When Peter Nininger built his brick mill on Tinker Creek in 1847, he was continuing a milling tradition in Botetourt County that could be traced back to the county's first settlers. Since that time, this imposing building has been a familiar landmark for the county. Its conversion to a restaurant in recent years has served as an example of adaptive use of historic buildings.

As early as 1815 William Blount was taxed for his two mills on Tinker Creek on or near the site of the present mill. Blount acquired the 238-acre property in 1807 from Peter Snider at a cost of \$2,000. In 1816 Blount sold the property to John Griffin, who in turn sold it to John Preston of Richmond in 1817. The selling price of \$4,500 for the 238-acre tract would indicate substantial improvements to the mill site. In 1820 Preston conveyed the property to Elizabeth Ann Preston for a selling price of \$5,000. William Preston sold the 238-acre property to Peter Nininger of Botetourt County in 1834 for the reduced selling price of \$2,700. The property was substantially improved in 1847-48, the tax book in 1849 recording \$2,500 in improvements. This record dates the construction of the present mill.

The 1850 census lists Peter Nininger as a farmer and Caleb Nininger, his son, as a miller. The occupational listings of the Niningers suggest the close relationship of the two professions within the local community. It was Peter, the farmer, who worked the fertile fields and Caleb, the miller, who supervised the preparation of the grain into flour for the market. Adjacent to the Pittsylvania-Franklin-Botetourt turnpike that connected the farmlands of the Great Valley with the bustling Southside markets, the mill operated for decades as a quasi-public utility. The county fixed the rates Nininger could charge for his services and required him to grind the produce of all who came to his mill.

In plan the Nininger Mill is similar to water-powered grist mills built during the first half of the 19th century. The variety of surviving mechanical apparatus indicates the engineering skills required of the miller, a prominent member of the local community. The milling equipment is significant today in the study of rural industrial archaeology. By the end of the 19th century, the impact of the steam engine would be felt on milling. No longer was it necessary to locate the mill on water, nor would the mill be a necessity within the local community. The property remained in the Nininger family until 1904, when it was sold by W. G. Nininger, son of Peter, to E. W. Bowie. It was converted into a restaurant in 1968.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Botetourt County Deed Books 9, 12, 13, 14, 20, "A".
Land Tax Books, 1820-1850.
Personal Property Tax Books, 1815.
Grants, Book 41, 1798-99, p. 608
 Gilmer Map of Botetourt County, Section 3, 1863.
 Stoner, Robert Douthat. Seed Bed of the Republic, Early Botetourt. Roanoke, Va., 1962.
 U. S. Census, 1850. (See Continuation Sheet #1)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 1/3 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Daleville, Va. QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	5,9,5,7,1,0	4,1,3,9,7,7,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point at SW corner of intersection of Route 674 with private drive approximately 50' SW of Norfolk and Western RR tracks over Route 674 and about 1600' W of intersection of said route with U.S. 220; thence extending about 400' S along W side of Route 674 to N side of Tinker Creek; thence extending about 100' NW along said side of creek; thence extending about 300' NW to S side of drive; thence following said side of said drive about 150' E 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 May 1980

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 MAY 20 1980
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Nininger's Mill, Botetourt County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wood, John. Map of Botetourt County, 1821.

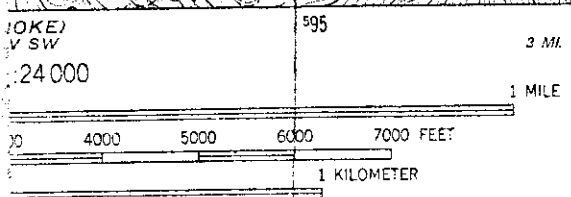
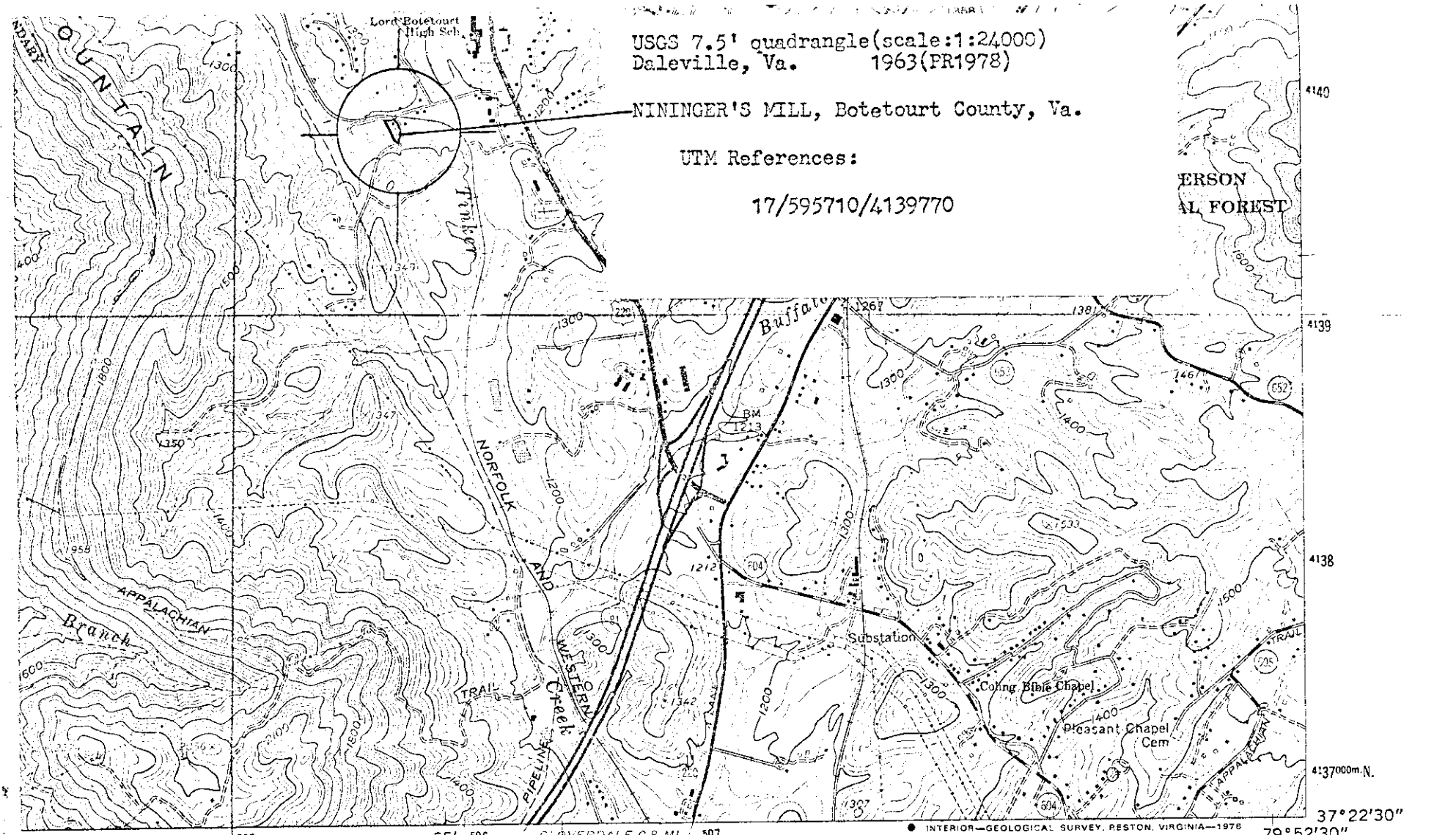
USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)
Daleville, Va. 1963 (PR1978)

NININGER'S MILL, Botetourt County, Va.

UTM References:

17/595710/4139770

ERSON
AL FOREST

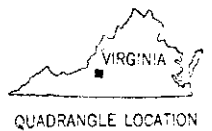


595 596 597 598
3 MI. TO VA. 115
CLEVERDALE 0.8 MI. 597
SCANOKE U.S. 41.0 8 MI.
79° 52' 30" 37° 22' 30"

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

(STEWARTSVILLE)
5058 1V 5E



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

Boundary lines shown in purple compiled from latest information available from the controlling authority

DALEVILLE, VA.

N3722.5—W7952.5/7.5

1963
PHOTOREVISED 1978
AMS 5058 1V NW—SERIES V834

NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
SOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903
AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST