

PH 0664821

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **MAR 15 1978**

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

AND/OR COMMON

Warren's Mill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER On State Road 326, about .8 miles southeast
of its intersection with Route 113.

CITY, TOWN

Millsboro

VICINITY OF

One

STATE

Delaware 19966

CODE

10

COUNTY

Sussex

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY		OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Abandoned mill.

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Gladys E. Hearn

STREET & NUMBER

R. D. 1, Box 176-A

CITY, TOWN

Laurel

VICINITY OF

STATE

Delaware 19958

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sussex County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

The Circle

CITY, TOWN

Georgetown,

STATE

Delaware 19947

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

HAER Invenstory

DATE

1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, National Park Service

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

STATE

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Warren's Mill is located at the head of Betts Pond about a mile north of Millsboro on State Road 326. The structure is particularly noteworthy because of its gambrel roof, an unusual feature for a mill in Sussex County.

Warren's Mill is a large, rectangular, frame structure. It has two full stories and a basement. The building is set on a poured concrete foundation and the spillway is poured concrete. From the basement level, access can be gained into the spillway. The heavy summer beams which transverse the mill and the spillway are supported by rough wooden posts. All evidence of the milling operation has been removed from this level. Only one piece of equipment, part of a turbine, remains evident in the spillway. A stair is found along the south end of the building, leading up to each level. It is a roughly built stair, and is open except for a door at the first floor level.

The first and second floors are each one room. Some machinery remains at the rear of the first floor, work benches in the front. In the center of the building is the grain chute which runs from the second floor to the basement. The flooring here and on the second floor is wide planks. The second floor provides the most interesting interior architectural features. Because there is no attic level, all of the rafters are visible. The gambrel roof is framed by notching out the lower rafter to receive the upper one. Bracing is provided by a board nailed across the joint. The rafters are nailed to a narrow board at the peak. The presence of a ridgepole is uncommon for construction in this area.

The exterior of the mill reflects its use as a mill. There are two large vertical board doors on the facade of the clapboard-sheathed building, and one on the end. In the rear, a double door on the upper level provided access for the grain. Beneath this is the entrance to the basement level through an enclosed cellarway. There are many windows to provide light for the milling operation. They have six-over-six, double-hung sash and are spaced irregularly on the front and rear walls. On each end wall are four such windows, above which are two windows with six-pane stationary sash. The latter are repeated in the shed-roofed dormers which pierce the steep gambrel roof. The roof is now sheathed in composition shingle; however, in the interior, the original wood shingles are visible between the exposed rafters. None of the interior walls of the building are enclosed and all of the exterior trim is quite simple. Simple boards frame the windows and doors and the eaves are exposed. It is a very functional building.

To the rear and side of the mill are two outbuildings. At its south end is a shed which served an unknown purpose in the milling operation. It is also frame, with clapboard siding and a shingled gable roof. Because the facade is stepped back, the gable roof takes an unusual shape. To the rear of the mill, and set perpendicular to it, is a stable. This appears as a smaller version of the mill because of its gambrel roof. This is also a frame building with vertical board siding on the lower part and clapboard on the upper part. The building is divided into two large stalls with a level above for the storage of hay. The doorways into each stall have cuts into each side of the frame where wooden bars could be placed.

Warren's Mill is located immediately adjacent to the roadway which crosses the dam for Betts Pond. To its north and east is wooded open space. To the south is cultivated land and the road to Millsboro. To the west, across the roadway, is Betts Pond. The nominated area encompasses a rectangle of land which uses extensions of the northwest and southwest sides of the mill as two of its sides.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES C. 1910-1918 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of Warren's Mill rests primarily in its architectural form. It is the only known example of a gambrel-roofed mill in lower Delaware. Historically, records indicate that this was one of the earliest mill seats in the Millsboro area.

There is some evidence to indicate that there was a mill seat on Betts Pond as early as 1789. Proof that the pond was dammed by 1822 is found in the Sussex County Road Books for that period in which a plot for a proposed road shows a sketch of a sawmill and references to Captain Benjamin Burton's Upper Mills. Beer's Atlas of 1868 reveals that both a grist mill and a sawmill were drawing power from the millpond. The mill seat continued in use for both purposes throughout the nineteenth century. Today there are still two runs which flow from the head of Betts Pond. No evidence can be found of the mill which stood on the northern run. The southern run empties into the concrete spillway of Warren's Mill.

The present gambrel-roofed structure was built in 1910-18 after a fire destroyed the nineteenth-century mill on its site. It is not known whether the owner, John E. Betts, rebuilt his mill to echo the lines of the earlier structure. However, even in his time, the design was uncommon for use on this type of building. A similar roof form is found on several extant Sussex County barns but there are no other known examples on mills. In Kent County, there are several extant examples as miller's houses, but no known examples as mills. Betts used the gambrel roof not only on the mill, but also on a small stable which he built to the rear.

Warren's Mill takes its name from its last owner, Wilford B. Warren, who operated it until the World War II era. Since that time it has remained vacant. Inside the mill is some of the equipment which was used when it was in operation. Though much of it has been removed and the remainder displaced, the basic pattern of the milling operation which was carried on here can still be discerned.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beer's Atlas of the State of Delaware, 1868.

Sussex County Road Books.

Sussex County Deed Books.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .459 acres

Latitude: $38^{\circ} 35' 46''$

UTM REFERENCES

Longitude: $75^{\circ} 18' 14''$

A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
C	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area is encompassed within a 100'x200' rectangle which uses extensions of the northwest and southwest sides of the mill as two of its sides. A 100' line parallel with the front of the mill and along State Road 326 forms the southwest boundary of the nominated area. The northwest boundary runs parallel with the northwest side of the mill, about five feet from it. The other two sides of the rectangle can be plotted from the above lines. The nominated area includes the mill, a stable, and a shed.

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

Joan M. Norton, Architectural Historial; Dick Carter, Preservation Planner

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE

February 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Hall of Records

TELEPHONE

(302) 678-5314

CITY OR TOWN

Dover

STATE

Delaware 19901

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

Lauren [Signature]

TITLE Director; Div. of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE 3/8/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

R. B. Rethig

DATE 9/13/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST *William [Signature]*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE Sept 11, 1978

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED MAR 25 1978	
DATE ENTERED	SEP 13 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6

PAGE 1

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (Continued)

Delaware Cultural Resource Survey S-438
1977 State
Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs
Dover, Delaware 19901