National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page ____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

 NRIS Reference Number:
 97001414
 Date Listed:
 11/24/97

 Fidler's Mill
 Upshur
 WV

 Property Name
 County
 State

N/A Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

of the Keeper

8. Statement of Significance: Significant Person (s)

None of the individuals historically associated with this property have been justified under criterion B, thus it is removed as such.

This information was discussed with WVSHPO staff by telephone.

DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without attachment)

NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990) United States Depart NATIONAL REGISTE	ment of the Interior R OF HISTORIC PLACES		ervice /4/k
1. Name of Property	FIDLER'S MILL		
historic name:	2932738323322222222		
2. Location		NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	
street & number: <u>HEASTON R</u> city/town: <u>ARLINGTON</u> state code: <u>WV</u> county:		Not for public vic 7zip_code:_262	inity: N/A
3. State/Federal Agency Ce	rtification	یک جناب دیک برای بیان می خان می جناب بیان برای بیان می برای می خان بیان می برای می برای می می می می می می می م بیچ ای این این برای بیچ بیان این بیچ این بیان بیان بیان این بیان بیان می	کے کہ اور نیزہ جو حو مو جو بی برو ہو
As the designated authorit as amended, I hereby certi determination of eligibili registering properties in meets the procedural and p Part 60. In my opinion, t National Register Criteria significant nationall 	fy that this \underline{x} nom ty meets the documen the National Registe rofessional requirem he property \underline{x} mee . I recommend that y statewide \underline{x}	ination req tation standards r of Historic Pl ents set forth i ts does not this property be	uest for for aces and n 36 CFR meet the
State or Federal agency an In my opinion, the propert		Date Date	National
Register criteria. (Se Signature of Certifying Of	e continuation sheet		
State or Federal agency an 4. National Park Service C			
I, hereby certify that thi entered in the Nation See continuation determined eligible f National Register See continuation determined not eligib National Register removed from the Nati	Signal Register sheet. For the sheet. ble for the	ture of Keeper	Date of Action
other (explain): 			

/

Fidler's Mill

Name of Property

Upshur County, WV County and State

5. Classification ====================================	
Ownership of Property:	Category of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)	(Check only one box)
<u>x</u> private	<u>x</u> building(s)
public-local	district
public-State	site
public-Federal	structure object
Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed r	
Contributing Noncontr	ributing
1	buildings
	sites
	structures
1	objects 0 TOTAL
6. Function or Use	***************************************
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions	Current Functions s) (Enter categories from instructions)
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING:	RECREATION: MUSEUM
MANUFACTURING FACILITY - MILL	
7. Description	

Architectural Classification: (Enter categories from instructions	Materials s) (Enter categories from instructions)
VERNACULAR	Foundation STONE
	Roof METAL
	Other
	Walls <u>WOOD SIDING</u> Roof <u>METAL</u>

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Fidler's Mill

Name of Property

Upshur County, WV County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- <u>x</u> A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- <u>x</u> **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- <u>x</u> C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

___ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

- ___ B removed from its original location.
- ___ C a birthplace or grave.
- ___ D a cemetery.
- ___ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ___ F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Industry Architecture

Period of Significance

1849-1942

Fidler's Mill Name of Property

Upshur County, WV County and State

Significant Dates 1849 1906 1942

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) Fidler, William Fidler, William Martin Fidler, Hudson Fidler, Russell

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder <u>Fidler, William</u> Wilson, E.G.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- _ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- _ previously listed in the National Register
- _ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- _ designated a National Historic Landmark
- _ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- _ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

_ State Historic Preservation Office

- _ Other State agency
- _ Federal agency
- _ Local government
- _ University
- _ Other

Name of Repository: ___

<u>Fidler's Mill</u> Name of Property	Upshur County, WV County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property:2.47 acres	
UTM References (Place additional UTM)	references on a continuation sheet.)
<u>17 566825 4294550</u> Zone Easting Northing	Rock Cave Quad Map
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the proper	rty on a continuation sheet.)
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were select	cted on a continuation sheet.)
11. Form Prepared By	
Name/Title: Katherine M. Jourdan, M	National Register Coordinator
Organization: <u>WV SHPO</u>	Date: <u>10 June 1997</u>
Street & Number: 1900 Kanawha Blvd, Ea	ast Telephone: <u>304/558-0220</u>
City or Town: <u>Charleston</u>	State: <u>WV</u> Zip:25305-0300
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of	
Name: <u>Southern Upshur County Busines</u> C/o Ron Fowler	ss Association
Street & Number: Rt 2, Box 14	Telephone:
City or Town: French Creek St	tate: <u>WV</u> Zip: <u>26218</u>

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Fidler's			<u>Upsh</u>	<u>ur County, WV</u>
Section	number	7	Page	2

Fidler's Mill is located on the north bank of the Little Kanawha River along a portion of the river known as Arlington Falls. The mill was a local source for grinding grain and carding wool in the Arlington and Rock Cave area of Upshur County. The two-story front elevation is immediately adjacent to the roadway, however, the rear portion is four stories as it drops from the embankment to reach the river.

The frame building is yellow poplar, the siding on the upper floors having been replaced with matching clapboard over the years due to deterioration and weathering. The top two stories are horizontal clapboard, while the floor above the stone foundation is vertical planks. The building was enlarged when another floor was added in 1916. The former sawmill adjacent to the mill provided the lumber.

The front elevation has double doors, slightly off center with each floor having two 4/4 double-hung sash windows. There is a metal overhang across the first floor of the building over a wooden plank sidewalk. The building has a gable metal roof with a front gable end. The sides of the building also have 4/4 sash windows with the rear elevation having two 4/4 double-hung sash windows. The lowest level (stone foundation) cannot be accessed from the interior of the building, but through a rough opening in the east side of the foundation.

The interior of the building is intact with post and beam construction, wooden floors and wood sided walls. The mill equipment had the capability of powering two mill stones to provide ground wheat and corn simultaneously. The metal gears, wooden chutes with glass view holes, wooden hoppers, and leather belts are still in place. The metal gears have various patent dates of 1779, 1882, and 1892. Painted inscriptions on the lower level machinery read: "EUREKA' PATD MAR 16, 1858/REISSUED MAR 5, 1872/EXTENDED MAR 16, 1872/PTD FEB 22, 1859 & FEB 23, 1861/REISSUED OCT 31, 1865/ & SEPT 12, 1871/PATENTED IN GREAT BRITAIN/ JULY 23, 1872". Above the bagging apparatus it reads: "No.0/CAPACITY/10-15 BUSH. per HOUR".

The second floor still has the wool carding machines which were used seasonally. After sheep shearing, the wool was cleaned and brought to the mill. The machinery would "pick the wool into a fluff, whirl it into long rolls about two feet long and about 1/2 inch thick. It was then ready for the spinning wheel". Family members remember using the wool to spin, and then weave blankets.

The mill building well represents the mill industry in Upshur County. The building grew on its foundation over time and has retained the early milling equipment from the late 19th century.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Fidler's		-	<u>Upsh</u>	ur County, WV
Section	number	8	Page	2

Fidler's Mill is significant under Criterion A for the local milling industry in Upshur County; Criterion B for the Fidler family, especially William Fidler who constructed the mill in 1847, his son William M. Fidler, grandson Hudson, and great-grandson Russell Fidler; and Criterion C for the Architecture of the mill building.

Upshur County histories recount the many mills which sprang up as the county was settled, for they supplied the much needed grain for families and livestock. Many of these mills have disappeared over the years, due to deterioration, or fire. The first mill on the Arlington site was built in 1821 by Daniel Peck. It was a small structure which sat on four posts.

In 1847, William Fidler emigrated from Fluvanna County, Virginia. After a year in Buckhannon, he purchased a 200 acre farm in Arlington which included the mill property. Fidler enlarged the mill in 1849 with the help of several slaves, and his family. The slaves are reported to have helped lay the present stone foundation and run the mill operations.

The mill's power came from a dam located a short distance upstream. A turn of the century photograph shows a wooden mill race that diverted water from the stream to power a twenty foot overshot wheel. This engaged the gears and shafts to power the two stone burr's, or mill stones, which were ordered from France for \$100. The race also powered a saw mill which stood a short distance upstream from the mill. The same photo depicts the sawmill as a ramshackled wooden plank structure with plank roof and open sides along the bank. By 1920, the sawmill had moved farther downstream and was run by Robert Fidler.

After the death of William in May 1865, his son William Martin Fidler, took over the operation and ran the mill until his death in 1901. The mill was sold at that time to a E.G. Wilson, who enlarged the mill, adding the second floor for its present configuration. After several years Wilson ran into financial difficulties and the mill was sold back to the Fidler family, namely Hudson V. Fidler. Hudson continued the milling operation with the help of his son Russell. Local residents recall the barber chair which used to sit near the doorway of the mill. Russell often cut hair for local residents as they waited for their milling order. By the 1920s Hudson had given a half interest in the property to his son, Russell, and a 1/4 interest to sons, Henry and Glen. Later, Russell received Henry's interest in the 1930s, and Glen's in 1967.

During the period of 1847 to 1942, Fidler's Mill provided ground wheat and buckwheat for flour, and ground cornmeal. They also made feed for horses, cattle and other animals. The mill was a social gathering spot for nearby residents as they waited their turn to have their grain ground for flour or meal. Family members and residents recall yearly Halloween dances on the wooden floor of the mill, when leaves were gathered and strewn on the floorboards.

The mill continued its water powered operation through the depression years of the 1930s, until a flood along the river washed the dam out in 1942. Operation ceased for several years, and after World War II the family purchased a Hammermill machine which continued to provide

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Fidler's	<u>s Mill</u>	<u>.</u>	<u>Upshur</u>	County, I	<u>NV</u>
Section	number	8	Page	3	

cornmeal for local families, as the demand for wheat, buckwheat and rye had dropped off. The mill was sold to the Grafton Coal Company in 1978, who gave the property to the Southern Upshur County Business Association (SUBA) in 1988.

The mill served the nearby residents of Arlington, and surrounding Upshur County, through much of the 19th and 20th centurys. It provided a convenient service, both for the grinding of grain and for wool carding.

Fidler's Mill well represents the early milling industry of Upshur County. Many of these structures have been lost in the county in recent years including the Buckhannon Mill, and Tinney's Mill. The integrity of the mill and machinery is excellent, depicting the methods used by an overshot wheel during the late 19th century.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Fidler's MillUpshur County, WVSection number9Page2

Bibliography

Hiner, Mary Margaret, "County Mill Operating Continuously 140 Years". THE BUCKHANNON RECORD, 1964.

Cutright, W.B. THE HISTORY OF UPSHUR COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

Desnastes, Margaret, Personal Notes and Memories, no date.

Thacker, Katherine (Teter), Personal Letter to SUBA, May 22, 1997.

Deed Books, Clerks Office Upshur County Courthouse, Buckhannon, WV

"Fidler's Mill: Future restoration to be tackled", THE RECORD DELTA, February 29, 1988, p. 2-C.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number <u>10</u> Page <u>2</u>	Fidler's Mill		Upshu	ar County, WV
	Section number	10	Page	2

Boundary Description

Beginning at the corner of H.V. Fidler's yard and running thence N 65 1/2 E 297 feet to a rock in the river; thence S 36 W 366 feet to a stake in the road; thence S 75 W 520 feet to a stone; thence N 39^0 E 383 feet to a stone; thence S 64^0 E 42 feet to a stake; and thence N 82^0 E 63 feet to the beginning, containing 2.47 acres more or less.

Boundary Justification

Boundaries described in Deed Book 344, p. 102, July 8, 1988. Property received from Grafton Coal Company.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Fidler's Mill Section number	Upshur County, WV PHOTO Page 1
Name: Address: City: County:	Fidler's Mill Heaston Ridge Road Arlington, WV Upshur County
Photographer:	Deana S. Smith
Date:	July 1997
Negatives:	Deana S. Smith Photography HC 78 Box 99A1 Rock Cave, WV 26234 304/924-6789
Photo 1 of 11:	Front Facade - Northwest facade Camera looking Southeast
Photo 2 of 11:	Rear Facade - Southeast facade Camera looking North over Arlington Falls
Photo 3 of 11:	Northeast Facade Camera looking South
Photo 4 of 11:	First Floor - View towards rear of building Camera looking South
Photo 5 of 11:	First Floor - View towards front of building Camera looking North
Photo 6 of 11:	First Floor - twin stones or burrs Camera looking Northeast
Photo 7 of 11:	First Floor - Grinding stone Camera looking South
Photo 8 of 11:	Lower Level - Gear shafts to grinding stones Camera looking Northeast
Photo 9 of 11:	Lower Level - Hopper/Sacker Camera looking South
Photo 10 of 11:	Second Floor - Wool Carding Equipment Camera looking South
Photo 11 of 11:	Second Floor - Wool Carding Equipment Camera looking North

FIDLER MILL Arlington, WV Upshur County

Floorplans



