

PH 015062C

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED APR 11 1975
DATE ENTERED JUN 5 1975

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 Old Grist Mill

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Little River Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

E. Lebanon

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st Hon. David Emery

STATE

Maine

CODE
023

COUNTY
York

CODE
031

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Philip E. Johnson

STREET & NUMBER Little River Road

CITY, TOWN E. Lebanon VICINITY OF STATE Maine

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. York County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN Alfred STATE Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE DATE FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS CITY, TOWN 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

Lebanon's Old Grist Mill is a large rectangular frame structure which stands two and a half stories high. Its roof is gabled, and there is a small shedlike addition which projects out over the stream at the building's rear. The Mill's foundations are massive. Built of dry laid stone, the foundation walls are five feet thick at the bottom, tapering to a width of two feet under the sills of the building. In the back they lie directly next to the stream, rising up from its bed. The mill dam is of similar construction and directly abuts one end of the structure. However, its original center section, containing the mill run, was replaced by concrete at a later date. Typical of 18th century construction, the mill is framed with heavy handhewn timbers, some of which measure 13"x13" and are up to 22 feet in length. The original floors are a double thickness of hardwood, well worn. In general the structure is in a remarkable state of preservation for a two hundred year old building.

The windows of the Old Grist Mill are small and simply framed with sash hung in a six over six pattern. The small chimney is built without a foundation off to one side to be clear of the machinery. Its flue, however, slants upward at a sharp angle emerging through the ridge of the roof to gain a better draft. A porch runs along the front of the building, which is six bays long. Several apparently minor additions were made on the original structure to accommodate a small store and various woodworking operations. However, the building has retained a harmonious, unified appearance on the exterior.

The present owner is in the process of restoring the entire mill with all its operations in their original forms. With the modern power source of electricity, the grist mill continues to grind grain, and high quality shingles are being produced. Originally an undershot wheel in the race provided the power. The drive shaft had wooden bearings lubricated with strips of animal fat. Today the wheel is dismantled, and the dam for the mill pond is out: Yet when these elements are replaced, hopefully by 1976, the mill will return to its original working order.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 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 1774 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1774 by a Joseph Hardison, this picturesque structure is the oldest surviving industrial building in Lebanon. Its unusually good state of preservation makes it a living example of 18th and 19th century rural industry. Though built originally as a grist mill, later additions in its long history now make it a multi-purpose establishment. In addition to its function as a flour mill, which still continues, there is a shingle and clapboard mill as well as a general woodworking mill housed in the same structure. It is hoped that by 1976 all three operations will be converted back to their original power source, the great undershot waterwheel.

The mill has served the town of Lebanon in several ways over the past two centuries. In the wake of the Freshet of 1785 that destroyed all the mills and bridges along the nearby Salmon Falls River, this grist mill on Little River Falls survived and continued to grind grain for the local inhabitants until the other mills could be rebuilt. The mill ground locally produced grains until the coming of the railroad about 1870 when grain from the Midwest began to be processed. Besides flour for human consumption, courser meal and blends were produced for livestock. The mill building contained a small store that served informally as a village center and public meeting place. Copies of all public notices were hung there. It was also the site of Lebanon's first gasoline pump.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Samuel W. Jones, History of Lebanon, 1873 - unpublished.
 Isaac Hasey's Diaries - 1765-1812 unpublished

(Both above in Maine Historical Society, Portland, Maine)

Also interviews with present owner who has many historical documents and papers pertaining to the mill.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

JTM OK
HL

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 314,919,70 4,810,611,50
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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 Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Architectural Historian
 Frank A. Beard, Historic Preservationist

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE April 4, 1975
 STREET & NUMBER 31 Western Avenue TELEPHONE 207-289-2133
 CITY OR TOWN Augusta STATE Maine

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

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.

James D. Mundy

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE April 7, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

[Signature] DATE 6/5/75
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *[Signature]* DATE JUN 4 1975
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER