

2045  
SEP 20 1988

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES  
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # LA-L-10  
Lawrence County

1. Name of Resource: Big Sandy Milling Company

2. Original Owner: ?

3. Other Names: Louisa Supply Company, Louisa Flour & Feed Co., Louisa Milling Company

4. Prehistoric Site (Building) Object  
Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location: Pike Street between the Railroad Tracks and Lock Avenue in Louisa, Ky.

6. Owner's Name: Lawrence & Darlene Vinson [ P ]

7. Owner's Address: Post Office Box 848, Louisa, Kentucky 41230

8. Evaluation: [ N ]

9. Recognition & Date:  
Nat.Landmark \_\_\_\_\_ Local Landmark \_\_\_\_\_  
Nat.Register \_\_\_\_\_ HABS/HAER \_\_\_\_\_  
Highway Marker \_\_\_\_\_ KY Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
KY Landmark Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

10. N.R.Status & Date:

11. N.R.Group:  
District Name: [ ]  
Mult.Resource Area: Hist.Res.of Louisa [ ]  
Thematic Name: [ ]

12. Historical Theme:  
Primary: Industry [ 10A ]  
Secondary: Architecture [ 030 ]  
Other: [ ]

13. Statement of Significance:  
The mill is significant under Criteria A & C. Under A, the mill is probably Louisa's oldest extant industrial and commercial establishment. The mill reinforced Louisa's regional status as a trade town, as it would bring area farmers here to trade their grain or to get it processed. Under Criterion (Continued) [ ]

14. History:  
This mill has always been owned by Louisa's most prominent businessmen: in the 1880s by Captain Milton Freese, in 1900s by John C. Burns, in 1910s by J. P. Miller, in 1920s by John Moore and Pearl Kouns and, from 1929 until c. 1970 by the Wooten family.

Tradition dates this building to pre-Civil War. Initials and a date of 1840 were found on a door frame and may confirm this. According to another tradition which has not been confirmed, the mill was moved to the present location from a nearby (Continued)

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person: Brenda Isaacs & Junior Thompson, 10/85 Deed Books - #77, p.371, #67, p.526, #64, p.326, #54, p.449, #28, p.210.

16. Date:  
Original Building ? 1840 [ ]  
Addition c.1980 [ ]

17. Style:  
Antebellum Industrial [ 32 ]  
Modern Industrial [ 72 ]

18. Architect/Builder: Unknown

19. No. of Stories: 3+Bsm. & Attic [ 3 ]

20. Original Floor Plan: N/A [ ]

21. Single Pile Double Pile (N.A.)

22. (Roof Form)& Material: Original \_\_\_\_\_  
Gambrel Not Original

23. Structural Material: Wood [ W ]

24. Exterior Material: Wood [ W ]

25. Foundation Material: Brick [ B ]

26. Major Alterations: None \_\_\_\_\_  
?(Moved/Rebuilt Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(Additions)

27. Special Features: None

28. Outbuildings: None [ 0 ]

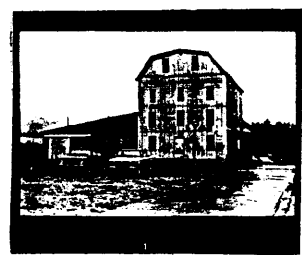
29. Original Function: Mill [ 10A ]

30. Present Use: Mill [ 10A ]

31. Condition: Excellent [ E ]

32. Endangered: Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No X

33. Attach Photos:  
Roll: 8 Photo Nos: 0-5 No. of Slides:  
10 0A-12A



34. Prepared by: Dorinda Kim M. Blackey

35. Organization:

36. Date: September 1985

37. New Survey \_\_\_\_\_ Resurvey \_\_\_\_\_

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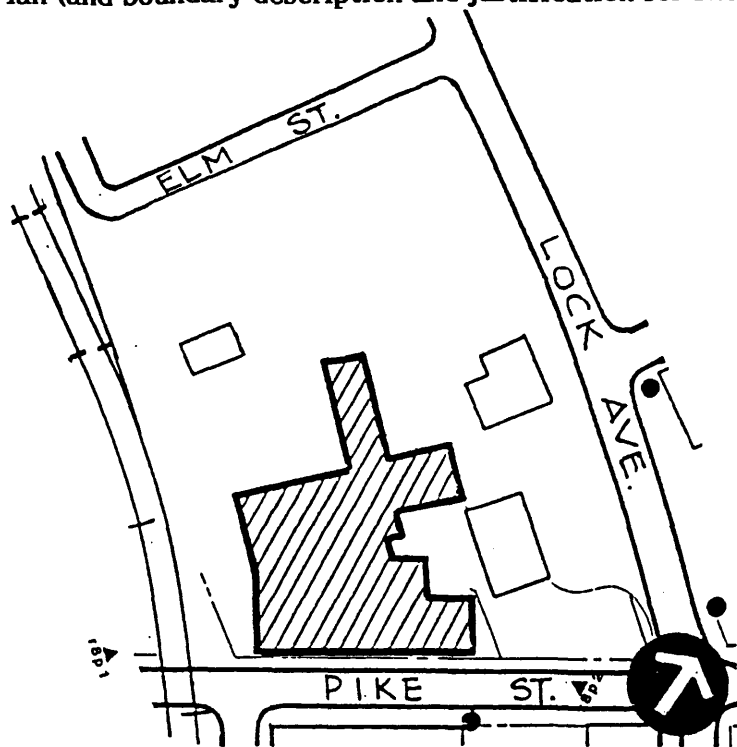
38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Quadrant: <u>Louisa, KY-W.VA.</u>	Zone <u>17</u>	Easting <u>3 5 9 1 6 0</u>	Northing <u>4 2 1 9 7 8 0</u>	39. G.I.S. Mod. [ ]	40. Coordi. Accuracy [ ]
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41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

A. ---	D. ---
B. ---	E. ---
C. ---	F. ---

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: less than one acre      43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: less than one acre

44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):



Boundary Description: Lot 358 and Lot 331 as designated upon the official tax map of the City of Louisa, KY in Plat Book 1, page 4. These two lots are the entire parcel historically associated with the property.

45. Description and House Plan:

The post and beam construction is three stories high. It has a full basement of which only part of the original brick on the perimeter can be seen. There are irregularly placed wood columns in the basement which are of the same vintage as other columns upstairs. More recently, the basement has been poured with concrete. The building is clad with weatherboard primarily; the three-and-one-half story southwest elevation has been covered with raised-seam tin. Six over six sash windows are in three bays on the top two floors on the long sides of the building. The ends of the building also have three bays of windows. The main structural elements are posts and beams, ranging from 12" to 14" square. They are joined with an angled mortise and tenon joint. The walls are full 2 x 4 studs, approximately 18" on center and the corner posts are braced with 2 x 4s which, again, are joined with mortise and tenon joints.

The three-story portion houses an open elevator to carry the raw material to the top. It also contains the mill (an Allis-Chalmers Roller Mill). Powered by gas early in this century, the mill today is powered by electricity. There is another mill for cracking corn.

The one-story, gambrel-roof portion formerly was used for grain storage and now stores some bags of feed. The small addition in front of that is the office. The new, one-story wing stores bagged feed and is non-contributing.

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13. Statement of Significance

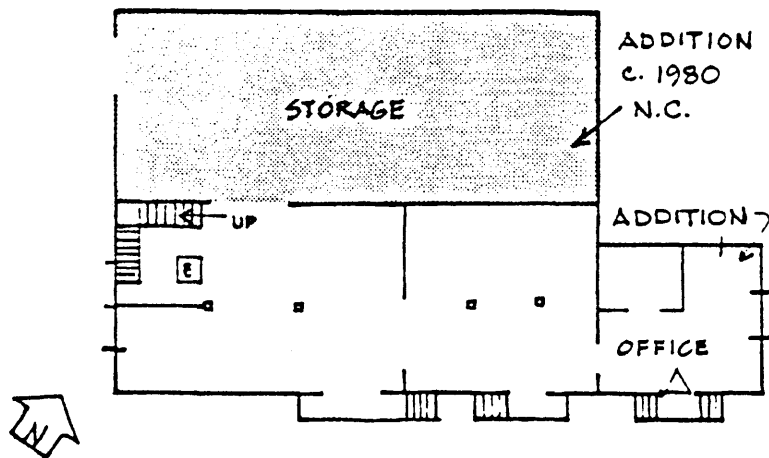
C, the mill is a rare example of post and beam/mortise and tenon construction of such a large building for Eastern Kentucky.

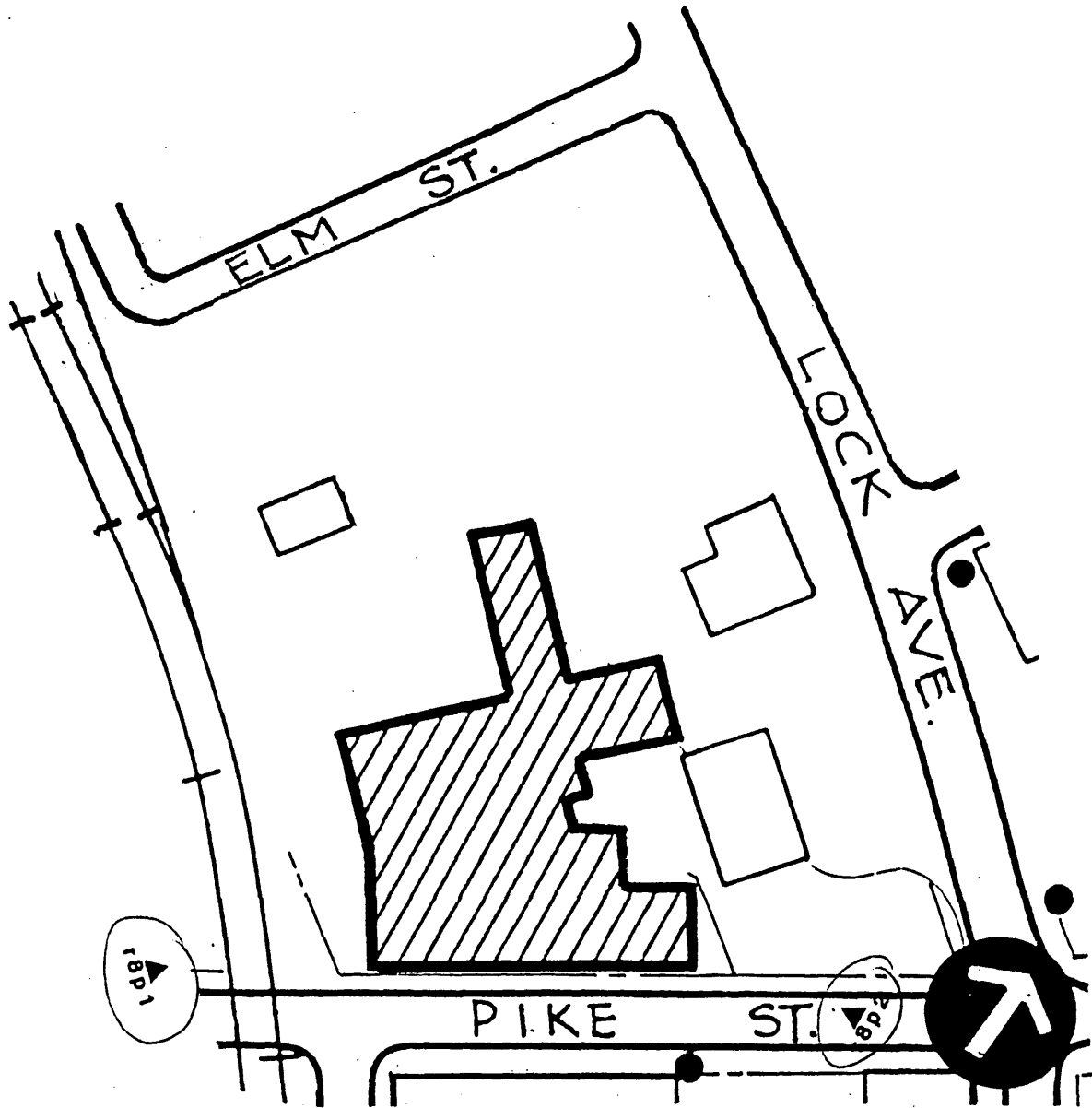
14. History

spot on the river. This makes sense since the 1840 etched date predates the railroad tracks (which are adjacent to the building and upon which it does depend) by some 40 years. This location is only approximately 200 yards from the river but for 1840, that is an unlikely location. The river bank would have had plenty of room to locate such a building making loading onto flatboats much easier.

Another unconfirmed tradition states that the mill was owned by a black man sometime in the 19th century. Although very few blacks lived in Eastern Kentucky then, Louisa's location on a major navigable waterway increased the likelihood that blacks may have gravitated to the town. It is also possible that operation of the mill by a black man has been embellished over the years to ownership. The mill was built for flour and corn processing. Sometime in this century, flour processing ceased, but corn meal was processed until around 1960.

45. Description & House Plan





r8p1 - survey photo

(r8p1) - photo selected for nomination

**BIG SANDY MILLING CO.  
PHOTOGRAPHIC KEY**