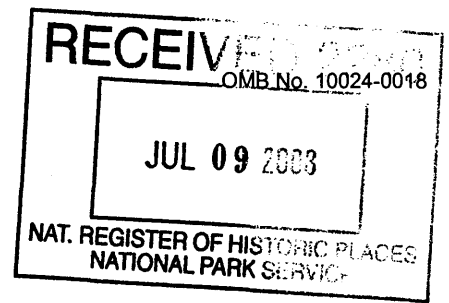
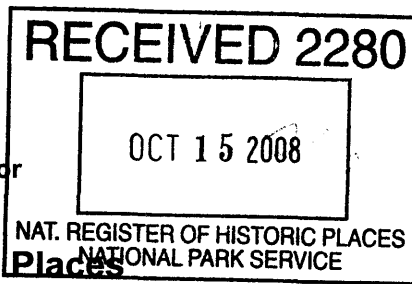


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Roop's Mill
other names CARR-101; Brookside Place

2. Location

street & number 1001, 1019 Taneytown Pike not for publication
city or town Westminster vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Carroll code 013 zip code 21158

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

[Signature] 6-27-08
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 - Determined not eligible for the National Register.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper Patrick Andrus Date of Action 10/31/2008

Roop's Mill (CARR-101)
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal
- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
6	1	buildings
		sites
15	1	structures
		objects
21	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Storage

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION:
Manufacturing facility

Industrial storage

TRANSPORTATION: Pedestrian-related

DOMESTIC: Hotel

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

MID-19TH CENTURY

NO STYLE

foundation STONE

walls BRICK, STONE, WOOD

roof METAL, ASPHALT, WOOD

other METAL

Narrative Description

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

Roop's Mill (CARR-101)

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

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)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

INDUSTRY

Period of Significance

c. 1795 - c. 1955

Significant Dates

c. 1795, 1816, 1825, 1869, 1914

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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 files (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:

Roop's Mill (CARR-101)
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 10.99 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	Zone	Easting	Northing

3	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula S. Reed, PhD; Edie Wallace; Merry Stinson
 Organization Paula S. Reed & Associates, Inc. date August, 2003
 street & number 105 N. Potomac Street telephone (301) 739-2070
 city or town Hagerstown state MD zip code

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name John P. Cugle, Olde Towne LLC
 street & number 2070 Cape Horn Rd. N telephone (410) 857-5522
 city or town Hampstead state MD zip code 21074

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

Description Summary:

The Roop's Mill complex is located on the south side of the Taneytown Pike about a mile west of Westminster in Carroll County, Maryland. Meadow Branch Creek runs from northeast to southwest through the property, providing water for the millrace. The complex focuses on a three-story brick and stone mill, dating from circa 1795 and rebuilt in 1816, which retains machinery from various periods during its operation. The David Roop House, an 1825 stone dwelling, stands near the mill. A log cooper's shed, an early two-part bank barn, and numerous farm sheds complete the mill and farmstead grouping. An innovative late 19th century iron suspension bridge provides pedestrian access across marshy Meadow Branch Creek, connecting the property near the bank barn to the 1860s brick John D. Roop House to the west.

General Description:

The Roop's Mill complex is located on the south side of the Taneytown Pike about a mile west of Westminster. Meadow Branch Creek runs from northeast to southwest through the property, providing water for the millrace. The three-story brick and stone mill stands at the northeastern edge of the property near the road. The two-story stone house with brick addition is located across the driveway to the west. The original access road runs south of these structures, bordered (east to west) by the mill race, a log cooper's shop, a corn crib, a wagon shed, several small sheds and silos, a two-part timber frame bank barn, and another small barn. A 240' long pedestrian suspension bridge runs from the northwestern corner of the bank barn to the John D. Roop House to the northwest.

The buildings and structures referred to below are all considered to contribute to the significance of the property. They are indicated on the sketch site plan which accompanies this documentation.

Roop's Mill:

Roop's Mill is a four-story, 8,000 square foot brick grist mill constructed in 1816 on the stone foundation of a log mill building dating from the 1790s. The property was deeded in 1742. The interior of the mill includes many artifacts significant in the operation of a nineteenth century grist mill. The brick mill was constructed according to the designs of Oliver Evans, who patented rights to several mill innovations and then charged prospective millers for the right to use his designs. The overall concept was a gravity feed system that allowed for efficient operation for processing flour as it moved downward through a multi-story building. The overshot waterwheel (later converted to a turbine and still intact)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 7 Page 2

located on the ground floor inside the mill not only operated the grain mill but also an up-and-down sawmill (still intact) attached to the northwest corner of the building, and a cider mill (no longer extant).

John Roop (1770-1852) moved to Meadow Branch near Westminster, Maryland in 1795 and constructed a log mill and house on the property. In 1816 he replaced the log mill with a four-story brick mill on the earlier foundation. The exterior walls are approximately 18" thick. The flooring is wide wood planks. On the second floor are three grinding stones, which were imported from France through the Port of Baltimore: one for wheat, to produce graham flour (the mill's specialty), the second to grind oats and rye for cattle feed, and the third to grind yellow cornmeal. The roof was first sheathed in metal in 1898. The mill remained in continuous operation until 1919 and retains many of its original features as well as equipment and machinery reflecting the evolution of milling technology over a period of more than 100 years. This equipment includes an electrical generator that was installed by John D. Roop in 1914, run by the water-powered turbine (that had replaced the original overshot wheel). The electrical power produced by this generator was used to operate lights and machinery on the farm, and represents the first electrical system installed in Carroll County.

The miller's office is located on the second floor, with his bedroom directly above. Outside the office at the front of the building is a chain used to hoist grain up from wagons after they were weighed. An indoor scale on the first floor has a weight adjustment, and was used for weighing bags of processed grain. The top story still retains storage bins, a corn sheller, and other machinery. There are still some remnants of the leather drive belts that were threaded from floor to floor to turn the machinery. Also surviving is part of the bolter, consisting of a large rotating screen made of silk cloth which separated the ground wheat into its components and distributed them into large wooden bins. In the basement, parts of the original overshot waterwheel survive, as do pieces of the wooden shaft to which it was geared. A hominy machine, hand-operated cider press, and rice sheller are stored in the mill.

The three-story mill's gable end faces the Taneytown Pike to the north. The building runs three bays long, extended two bays with a two-story brick shed addition at the south end. The timber frame sawmill section at the south end of the east side has partially collapsed.

The millrace with its concrete boxed catch basin is still visible east of the mill. The western tailrace was obliterated by the new driveway that connected to the rebuilt Taneytown Pike in the 1950s.

The mill comprises a stone first floor, two brick stories, and a loft. The first story is subterranean along the east side where the ground level is higher. Random rubble fieldstone masonry is distinguished by slightly larger stones forming quoins at the corners. The brick jack-arch window heads extend from the stone masonry into the brickwork. Doors open into the northernmost bay of the main section and the addition on the west side. The latter, a board and batten two-part "Dutch" door, is topped by a four-pane transom.

A set of concrete steps along the east side's north end leads to a second-floor entrance. To the south a door opens into the first floor, and farther south lies the mill race and sawmill.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 7 Page 3

The main north façade of Roop's Mill is laid in Flemish bond brickwork. The other elevations are set in 4:1 common bond. The brick shed addition is built in 5:1 common bond. Straight arches surmount the windows and doors. 9/6 sash windows light the main structure, while 6/6 windows appear at the loft level. Three central doors, one at each level of the brick structure, open into the north elevation. A hood covers the hoist at the gable's peak. The south wall covered by the brick shed is built in timber frame. Wide clapboards which appear to be original sheath the south gable end. A mechanism leading from the south end of the brick shed provided power to the cooper's shed nearby.

A brick chimney heating the miller's office and bedroom rises from the northwest corner. The metal roof covers an earlier set of wooden shingles.

A partial brick wall extends perpendicular from the east wall near the south end. A 1950s photo published in the Baltimore Sun newspaper depicts a timber frame section at the south end of the sawmill. The structure's gable roof is oriented on a north-south axis. In this photo a frame shed-roofed section covers the eastern two-thirds of the brick shed's second floor level.

The mill's timber framing features typical mortise-tenon-pegged braced joinery. The loft's purlins are supported from the floor with angled braces. First floor posts are simply chamfered, whereas those on the upper levels display decorative lamb's-tongue stops. The post supporting a braced millstone hoist is chamfered with stops at the joint of each member.

Open-riser ladder-like stairs lead to the upper levels near the center of the building. Sections of the collapsed sawmill structure obscure the pit containing the turbine and remains of the overshot mill wheel.

At the northwest corner the miller's office is enclosed by vertical beaded board partitions on the second floor. The miller's bedroom is located on the third floor. The office walls as well as other surfaces are covered with drawings, stencils, and written dates, names, and initials. The date "1833" is carefully lettered on a post.

Built-in mechanisms as well as freestanding equipment survive throughout Roop's Mill. The first floor holds gears, a lathe, and a drill press; the second floor holds three millstones and associated machinery, a cockle seed separator, bag filler, and scales; the third floor contains a bolter and sifter; and the loft is furnished with an elevator. Wooden grain bins partitioned by boards are found on the third floor and the loft. The control room for the 1914 electrical system is still intact. Grain chutes run through the building. Barrels with staves held by split branches or iron hoops, constructed in the cooper's shed nearby, remain in the mill.

The mill's brickwork was repaired and repointed in 2003 by John P. Cugle, who recently purchased the property.

David Roop House:

Located immediately west of the mill building, this 1825 stone dwelling was later enlarged by successive stone, brick, and frame additions. The two-story building's three-bay

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 7 Page 4

façade faces the Taneytown Pike to the north. A brick chimney rises from either gable end. A slate date stone inscribed "1825" is set in the top of the eastern chimney. Large stones form quoins at the corners, and single narrow stones span the architraves. Nine-over-six sash windows flanked by louvered shutters appear at the second floor level. The roof is covered with slate.

Victorian changes include elongated 2/2 first-floor windows, an eastern brick two-story bay window and adjoining single-story bay window, the front door with arched upper panels, and the front porch with square chamfered posts, vine-patterned brackets, and X-crossed balustrade. The east end of the balustrade was originally closed by a gate. The west end of the porch has a stone foundation while the remainder rests on brick piers.

The two-bay stone section covering the entire rear of the house may have originated as a one-story shed-roofed addition which was later raised to two stories. Brick chimneys are located in the center and at the south end. The south gable end is constructed in brick masonry.

The stone addition was subsequently extended to the southeast by a two-bay brick section laid in 5:1 common bond under a shed roof. A galleried porch covers the east side of both parts. Two doors open onto the porch from the first floor and one opens from the second floor. A frame addition and a central porch, later enclosed, fill in the ell's southwest corner under a single-story shed roof.

The rear sections of the house are set with 6/6 sash windows accompanied by louvered shutters. The roofs are covered with metal.

The central front door of the main house opens into a small vestibule facing the back of a stair enclosed by a parlor to either side. The beaded boards forming the eastern partition are visible at the doorway. The stairway is reached by sets of three steps at the end of either parlor leading through doors opening onto a central landing and a straight-run stair. A doorway leading from the east parlor to the rear addition has been closed.

The architraves are trimmed with quirk ogee-astragal moldings. Chair rails were removed when the windows were lengthened. The six panels of each door are raised on one side and flat on the back. Either parlor has an end fireplace. The mantels feature reeded starburst ovals and reeded pilasters and rails. The eastern mantel is joined to the south by a built-in cupboard with two sets of paneled doors and a pair of drawers.

The second floor plan resembles that of the first, but with either end divided into two chambers. A narrow hallway adjoins the stair. The southwest chamber has a fireplace and an attic stair. Peg strips set in the wall provide storage space. The doorways have joined architraves. The six panel doors with very deep panels appear to be reused from an earlier building, probably the property's original late 18th century log house.

The stone addition's floor plan is similar, with a central boxed stair dividing a kitchen to the west and a dining room to the east. The kitchen has a built-in cupboard in the northwest corner. A dumb waiter rising from the cellar and a brick stove flue are located on the kitchen's east wall. An early radiator with upper built-in food-warming shelves stands at the dining room's

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 7 Page 5

north wall. Here shutters enclosing shelves that fill a former window in the main house provide a glimpse of faux wood graining. This section's architraves are trimmed with flat Greek ogee moldings and paneled jambs. An additional molding strip encloses the window sash across the sill. A variety of 19th century iron box locks and door latches are found throughout the building.

The second floor plan mirrors that of the first floor. Pedimented architraves surmount the door and window openings. Iron grates are set into the chimneys to provide heat. Closets enclosed in narrow beaded boards appear to have been constructed circa 1900.

The brick ell encloses a single room on each floor. A small fireplace is located on the first floor at the west end of the north wall.

The attic stair leading from the stone addition is enclosed with wide boards edged in a tiny bead and attached with cut nails. This section's attic is framed with purlins supported by angled floor braces like those in the mill. The mill-sawn rafters are joined by a ridge board. The center chimney twists 180 degrees to exit the roof parallel to the rear chimney.

The main dwelling's rafters are not braced by collar beams. The trusses are scratched with Roman numerals and are mortise-tenon-pegged at the apex. The rafter feet are secured with wrought iron spikes.

A large rectangular water tank or cistern set on heavy sills straddles the two attics. Its framing is braced with criss-crossed timbers attached with cut nails. Mill-sawn wide boards line the interior which in turn is lined with parged bricks. Wide boards are tongue-and-grooved to form the cover. An iron pipe is attached to the east side.

The cellar is reached under either staircase as well as through an exterior entrance at the west end of the main house. A barrel-vaulted root cellar is accessible through the cellar.

The David Roop House, currently unoccupied, awaits restoration.

Six minor outbuildings dating from the mid-19th through the early 20th century are located in the yard to the southwest and west of the David Roop House. These include a small square shed, with vertical board siding and a single-pitched roof (Structure 1 on the sketch site plan); a rectangular frame shed, possibly a former poultry house, clad in German siding, resting on a poured concrete foundation (2); a small rectangular shed with board-and-batten siding and a single-pitched roof (3); a gable-roofed building on a stone foundation, with board-and-batten siding, and remnants of plaster interior finish (4); and a very small, square, board-and-batten shed (5).

Cooper's Shed:

This one-story gable-roofed log building is covered with imitation brick asphalt panels, and stands on a raised stone foundation. It retains 6/6 sash windows marking its five-bay facade.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 7 Page 6

Along the drive which follows the rising contour southwest of the Cooper's Shed are located a frame Corn Crib, a frame Wagon Shed, a metal silo, and a small concrete block outbuilding.

Bank Barn:

The two-part timber-framed bank barn stands on a stone foundation. The east-west gable roof is centered over the main structure with the north-facing forebay extended. The north barnyard is enclosed by a stone wall. The east end of the forebay was later enclosed in rusticated concrete blocks. Two concrete block additions, a small brick shed, and a concrete block milk house were also added to this end over the years. A silo built of large earthen-red clay tile blocks adjoins the barn at the east end of the upper south ramp.

Beaded vertical boards, some 15" wide, cover the barn. Horizontal clapboards sheathe the upper gable ends. The barn roof is covered with metal. Two sets of hinged barn doors open into the upper side, which is divided into five sections of haylofts and threshing floors. The otherwise typical braced timber framing with hay ladders includes unusual gunstock posts.

Under the forebay's west section three batten doors alternate with two vents set with vertical bars. A seam in the masonry indicates the separation of the two sections. A door and window open into the eastern part before the concrete block enclosure.

Equipment Shed:

A frame equipment shed with vertical board siding and a gable roof stands on a concrete pier foundation south of the Bank Barn.

Suspension Bridge:

This 240' long structure is set on three large stone piers which appear to stand about 15'-20' tall. The bridge runs from the northwest corner of the bank barn across the marshy Meadow Branch Creek to the hill on which the John D. Roop House stands.

Two of the piers are surmounted by a set of tall iron posts topped by an arch and cross-braced. Cables support the wooden decking, which has greatly deteriorated.

John D. Roop House:

The eastern gable end of the two-story brick house bears a white marble tablet inscribed "John D. Roop" and the date which appears to be either "1860" or "1869". The five bay by two bay main section faces the road to the north. The original five-bay ell runs across the entire south side of the dwelling. Either side of the ell has a one-bay two-story brick section at the south end, and an inset galleried porch.

The central entrance opens into a small vestibule leading to the stairway. This stair is enclosed by the walls of the parlors, one to the east and one to the west. The ell has a dining

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 7 Page 7

room to the north and a kitchen to the south. A brick bake oven covered by a shed roof projects from the south end of the kitchen.

The main stairway's handrail, supported by a heavy turned newel post and balusters, runs along the east wall. Chimneys are located at the end of either parlor and the kitchen, and at the south end of the dining room. Simple mantels are topped with peaked arches. Rumsford-style parlor fireplaces are fitted with small coal stoves, original to the house. One of these highly decorated stoves is dated 1881. Wooden peg strips, some in an inverted "T" configuration, are set into the walls.

The dining room has a door at the east wall's north bay, and the kitchen has a door on either side as well as at the south end. The rooms at the south end of the porches function as pantries and closets. The kitchen's south wall has paneled cupboards at the east end and a 6/6 window set under a chimney hood at the west end. An enclosed stairway leading up to the second floor and down to the cellar is situated along the kitchen's north wall. The bottom tread is hinged to serve as a storage box.

The plan of the second floor resembles that of the first. The chimneys narrow to small flues fitted with iron grilles to release heat. The ell's south chamber opens onto either porch.

The ground level slopes downhill at the ell's east elevation. Here the cellar is exposed full-height under the south half of the porch. A batten door and 2/2 sash window open into this side of the cellar. The south room of the cellar augments the first floor kitchen. At the south end a spigot provides water from the underground brick cistern behind the bake oven. The cistern was originally fed by a system piping rainwater from the roof alongside an interior wall of the dwelling. A dumb waiter set in a paneled cupboard rises to a similar cupboard in the first-floor kitchen. A large cook stove still stands in the cellar. At the south end of the west side a doorway leads into a root cellar under the porch. The ceiling of this "cave" is constructed in a brick barrel vault.

The bake oven's iron door is reached from the east side. The domed ceiling's oval construction is visible inside the oven.

The north façade is laid in all-stretcher bond while the remainder of the house is laid in 5:1 common bond. A corbelled brick cornice decorates the front eaves. Jack-arched window heads surmount 4/4 sash flanked by louvered shutters. Pairs of four-pane windows light the attic. The building stands on a stone cellar ventilated by openings set with decorative iron grilles. A slate roof covers the house.

A porch shelters the main entrance. Chamfered posts support the porch roof against the wall of the house and turned posts are located at the outer edge. The ell's porch posts are also chamfered. The first floor level balustrade has straight balusters set between the railing and footboard, while the second floor balustrade is set in a diamond pattern. A gate matching the balustrade is built into the south end of the east porch at the first floor level.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 7 Page 8

An additional cistern or shallow well is situated off the south end of the west porch. Large stone steps now close this opening. A very large old pear tree stands at the northwest corner of the house.

Behind the John D. Roop house is an early 20th century garage constructed of rusticated concrete block; a small frame pumphouse is located adjacent to this building. Near the southeast corner of the property, a small early 20th century concrete bridge allowed farm machinery to cross Meadow Branch Creek.

Non-Contributing Elements:

The Roop's Mill complex retains a very high degree of integrity overall. There are only two non-contributing elements: a recently-constructed building which functions for weddings and events, and an asphalt parking lot associated with this building. Both are located at the extreme western area of the property and, as a result, do not significantly affect the integrity of the complex.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 7 Page 0

Summary listing of Contributing and Non-contributing resources:

Contributing Buildings:

Mill
David Roop House
John D. Roop House
Cooper's shed
Bank barn
Small barn

Total: 6

Contributing Structures:

Corn crib
Wagon shed
Concrete block outbuilding
Equipment shed
Metal silo
Tile silo
Small frame outbuildings (shown as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 on sketch site plan)
Garage
Pump house
Suspension bridge
Concrete bridge

Total: 15

Non-contributing Building: Event pavilion

Non-contributing Structure: Parking area

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 1

Summary Statement of Significance:

The Roop's Mill complex is significant under Criterion A for its association with the grist milling industry which supported the agricultural economy of rural Carroll County from the late 18th century through the early 20th century. The brick and stone mill building, constructed ca. 1795 and rebuilt in 1816, exhibits a high degree of integrity and displays a range of technology from the late 18th century through the early 20th century. The remains of the sash saw and the hydroelectric system are especially rare. The variety of extant machinery is particularly significant. The complex derives additional significance under Criterion C as an example of a type of extensive farmstead and rural industrial operation comprising a wide variety of domestic, agricultural, and industrial buildings and structures including, in addition to the mill, an early bank barn and two significant dwellings, the 1825 David Roop House and the 1860s John D. Roop House. The pedestrian suspension bridge is the only example of its type in the region.

Fewer than a half-dozen early grist mills survive in Carroll County to represent the importance of grain production in the region from the late 18th century through the 19th. Roop's Mill is a particularly early and well-preserved example, and retains a complement of associated buildings and structures which is unique in the region. The mill ground wheat for graham flour, oats and rye for cattle feed, and corn for cornmeal throughout the 19th century and into the 20th.

The period of significance, c. 1795 - c. 1955, conforms to the period during which milling operations took place on the property.

Resource History and Historic Context:

John Roop (1770-1852) was the son of Christian Roop, German immigrant to Lancaster County, PA. John followed his three brothers to Frederick County, MD (the future Carroll Co.) buying a large section of "Gill's Range" in 1795. In 1798 he was taxed for 203 ½ acres of "Brown's Delight", Gill's Range", and "Free Gift", with a log house and barn and a log and stone grist mill.¹ Part of the extant barn may be the one designated in 1798. "Gill's Range" was first patented by John Gill in 1742 as a 100-acre tract.² It is believed that a mill stood on the current Roop's Mill site when John Roop purchased the land.

¹ George Horvath Jr., The Particular Assessment Lists for Baltimore and Carroll Counties, 1798, (Silver Spring, MD: Family Line Publications, 1986)

² Dr. Arthur G. Tracey : Early Tract Research, Historical Society of Carroll Co.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 2

In 1805 Roop and his wife Catharine Royer (1770-1835) built a brick house across the Meadow Branch Creek and the road which later became the Taneytown Pike. Called "Meadow Brook", this dwelling was eventually inherited by John Roop Jr. and then by Samuel Roop.³

In 1816 John Roop rebuilt the mill into the structure that stands today. He apparently used the original stone foundation for part of the substructure of the imposing brick building.

Son David Roop (1795-1878) became involved in the mill operation while his brother John Jr. maintained a farm across the road. In 1825 David was taxed for "Part of Gill's Range", 27 acres, with a "Brick Mill and log house last assessed to John Roop". When David married Rebecca Geiman (1803-1888) that same year he built the new stone residence next to the mill. In the 1850 U.S. Census the Roop household included their three daughters and two sons, as well as John Pick (35), "Teacher of Vocal Music", probably a boarder; and two laborers, German immigrant John Ruky (50), and Joseph Geiman (30), probably a relative of Rebecca (47). David (54) was described as a farmer, although he was overseeing the mill operation. The Roops raised six daughters and three sons at their 1825 stone residence, which they undoubtedly enlarged in the 1830s and 1840s.

David Roop's supervision encompassed the period of the mill's highest productivity. Carroll County farmers prospered during the mid-19th century.

David and Rebecca's son John Daniel Roop (1838-1929) succeeded his father in running the mill. He and his wife Mary L. Senseny (1839-1922) purchased the mill property in 1868. Martenet's 1862 map does not depict a dwelling at the site of the present brick house. The Roops built the residence after that date in the 1860s, possibly 1869. Some time after that John D. Roop built the innovative iron suspension bridge to ease his trip between his fashionable new residence and his milling business. Roop was also president of the association formed to repair and improve the road passing his mill, which was known as the Westminster-Meadow Branch Turnpike. In the 1880 U.S. Census John D. Roop (42), "farmer", and his wife Mary L. (41), lived with daughter Emma (18), son William E. (16), nephew Jeremiah Petry (24), "miller", farm hand Amos Little (18), and young servant Clara Ernhart (13).

William E. Roop, born at the David Roop House in 1864, purchased the mill from his father in 1923. The elder Roop had ceased milling operations in 1919, and William never reactivated the business. William and his wife Annie Bucher Roop had occupied the stone residence, which they named Brookside Place, since 1890. There they raised two sons and four daughters. Roop graduated from Western Maryland College in nearby Westminster in 1886. He was a teacher in Carroll County and a professor of English and mathematics at Bridgewater College in Virginia. Roop also studied engineering at the Sheffield scientific school of Yale University, after which he became Westminster's first surveyor and civil engineer. In 1893 Roop was asked to serve as pastor, or elder, in the adjacent Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren, to

³ Roop Family File, Historical Society of Carroll Co., MD. Subsequent Roop family information was also derived from articles and family interviews found in this file.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 3

which his family had donated land for a cemetery. In 56 years of service he never accepted remuneration for his work, and he donated fees from weddings to charities. His family graciously invited churchgoers to dine at his stone residence, where as many as 77 people were served. As a church bishop he inspected missions in Denmark, Sweden, Asia, and Palestine. Roop was also President of the Westminster Deposit and Trust Co. Throughout his career Rev. Roop wore plain clerical garb. He remained at Brookside Place until his death in 1953.

Roop's son John D. Roop Jr. acquired the mill property and was the last family member to operate the mill, albeit on a limited scale. Roop graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 1917 with a degree in engineering. While in college, in 1914, he "bought a dynamo in Philadelphia" and installed a hydroelectric generating system powered by the mill's turbine, the first in Carroll County. This provided lighting for the house and power for the farm machinery.

John D. Roop Jr. became a mining engineer in the western U.S. and in Mexico before returning to Carroll County. He married Edith Pfautz and worked as a surveyor and farmer. In the early 1950s Roop briefly ran the mill with tractor power and considered reactivating a water-powered system or creating a museum, but neither plan proved feasible. In the mid-1950s the Taneytown Pike was widened and straightened, cutting off the millrace from Meadow Branch Creek. Roop, born in 1891, lived into his 90s on the Roop family farm.

The mill languished, neglected until it was recently purchased by John P. Cugle. He has restored the John D. Roop House as a bed and breakfast, and plans to repair the mill.

Agriculture in Carroll County, ca. 1750-WWII

[The following is excerpted from a draft National Register Multiple Property Submission entitled "Historic Architectural Resources of Carroll County, Maryland" by Kenneth M. Short, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust (MD SHPO), Crownsville, MD.]

Knowledge of crops and farming practices is important to an understanding of the evolution and function of the farmstead and its component structures. The early migration of settlers coincided with the revival of Maryland's tobacco trade with England in the 1750's, as well as the advent of large wheat and flour exports to Europe and the West Indies. While corn and pumpkins were the first crops grown in the region, tobacco was a major early crop until Dr. John Stevenson persuaded Charles Carroll of Carrollton and others to convert their fields to the production of wheat and other grains.¹ There were numerous other reasons in the change from tobacco to wheat. While tobacco was a good crop for pioneer farming, grew better in the rich Piedmont soil than it did in the Tidewater, did not require draft animals to raise, and needed little field preparation, it was a very labor-intensive cultivator. Plants had

¹ Carol Lee. *Legacy of the Land: 250 Years of Agriculture in Carroll County Maryland*, (Westminster, MD: The Carroll County Commissioners, 1982), pp. 11-2, Warner, p. 24.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 4

to be started in seed beds and then moved to field mounds. Throughout the growth cycle a lot of hand hoeing was necessary, as well as picking bugs off the plants. It was estimated that one man could only work one acre, and therefore slaves were often employed to increase production. Tobacco had other disadvantages, too. It was highly susceptible to swings in demand and price in England, could only be sold as leaf, and though it kept a long time, one could do little with it. Wheat and corn, on the other hand, could be exported to southern Europe, the West Indies, or other American colonies. If prices dropped too low, the farmer could eat his crop, make whiskey out of it, or feed it to his livestock. By the end of the eighteenth century the cultivation of cereal grains had become more important than tobacco, or indeed any other farm product.²

The switch to wheat required a change in agricultural practices. Fields had to be better prepared and cultivated, and since wheat was sown broadcast style, the field had to be clean. Unlike corn, which has deep roots, wheat roots are shallow, so the farmer had to harrow his fields before sowing in order to create the proper soil texture. Wheat did not require much labor while growing, but had to be harvested when ripe, before it turned brittle or dropped. Tobacco, on the other hand, could be cut over a period of weeks and corn could be left in the field almost indefinitely. Thus, while one man could cultivate 100 acres of wheat, he needed help in planting and reaping it. Slavery was not economical for this seasonal labor so a system of hired labor developed. At the same time that this change was occurring there was also a concomitant diversification. In the 1790's farmers were also raising barley, oats, buckwheat, and rye. Rye grew on land that was too poor for wheat and tobacco, and had several uses. An observer in 1796 noted that the Germans used rye to make bread and the Irish used it to make whiskey. Rye straw was used to make baskets and beehives, and any farmer who kept fruit trees also kept bees. Carrots, turnips, and potatoes were grown for human and animal consumption. Beans and peas were cultivated both in vegetable gardens and as field crops. Dairying was on the increase. Where butter was being made, the left over skim milk was probably fed to pigs, which were butchered and smoked for consumption, and the hog bristles sold to Baltimore brush manufacturers.³

It was mentioned earlier that the several advantages of wheat cultivation led to its adoption in the late eighteenth century. There was an additional impetus at the turn of the nineteenth century as a result of the Napoleonic Wars. In order to sustain their armies, both Britain and France needed food from America, and thus wheat became a bonanza crop, like tobacco, to export. This was a risky venture because the price was propped artificially high and could drop quickly. Once the wheat was planted, however, the farmer was at the mercy of the market. A greater problem was the inclination of the farmer to plant a single crop, year after year, to make a quick killing. In the process long term damage

² Lee, p. 14.

³ Lee, pp. 14-5, 21.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 5

was done to the fields because of soil depletion, erosion, and the conversion of pasture to cultivated fields, which thus reduced the amount of manure available to fertilize the fields at the time when it was most needed. A further risk was taken since by growing only one crop there was more chance of having insect and disease problems, and more chance of being wiped out by them. These became a reality in 1800, which was often referred to as the "Year of the Grasshopper." The insect at fault was the Hessian fly, supposedly brought to America in the straw mattresses of Hessian soldiers during the Revolution. The fly visited great damage on the wheat crop of New York and Pennsylvania in the 1780's and 1790's, finally reaching Maryland in 1800 and causing widespread destruction to wheat for a quarter of a century. Fungus was also a problem, especially "stinking" smut and "loose" smut, which was especially bad in 1805.⁴

Despite these problems profits from wheat remained good until the British blockade of the Chesapeake Bay cut off trade during the War of 1812. Peace in 1815 did not bring the expected relief. The British enacted a tariff on the import of American wheat and the export market evaporated. Then in 1816, the Tamboro Volcano erupted in the East Indies, filling the atmosphere with dust and blocking out sunlight in what became known as the "Year Without a Summer." Though flour prices rose dramatically, the crop failed. The following year the Hessian fly devastated the harvest. Both 1818 and 1819 were good growing seasons, but because of the plenty, flour prices plummeted. The Panic of 1819 then led to the collapse of many Maryland banks and foreclosure on farms. Land that had sold for \$100 to \$120 an acre in 1818 was now selling for as little as \$6 to \$7 an acre in the 1820's. The economy was not solely to blame for this decline. Poor soil management related to the earlier boom period on wheat played a large part in decreasing yields.⁵

Yet the agricultural crisis also brought the beginning of a renaissance, because farmers began to understand that the secret to successful agriculture was good soil management and careful cultivation. It had been recognized in the eighteenth century that limestone land was the most fertile, and advertisements reflect this. Jacob Bixler's 180-acre farm near Manchester had "an abundance of limestone and a good limestone quarry already opened." Before 1812 lime was being imported from Nova Scotia at \$11 a ton, but many farmers apparently prepared their own. No specific description of crop rotation practices was found before the Civil War, and apparently few followed the practices, as in 1840 the *Western Maryland Farmer* could still editorialize against the "general indifference" toward careful agricultural practices. In 1886 the seven-year order of rotation for Shafer's Resurvey in the Cranberry Village was as follows: "turn sod for corn; corn land seeded to rye or oats; seed clover; the

⁴ Lee, pp. 20-1.

⁵ Lee, pp. 25-8.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 6

following year pasture, manure and turn down for wheat, then stubble for wheat again; the next spring seed in grass to mow to prepare the sod for corn once again."⁶

Conditions seemed to improve generally for farmers until the Panic of 1837. The resultant depression lasted for five years, during which time banks in Baltimore called in their loans to country banks, which then demanded payment from businesses and individuals. In 1840, the County was the second largest producer of potatoes in Maryland, but the blight that was devastating Ireland's crop reached New York in that year and the following year spread to Carroll County, destroying half the crop. The Hessian fly's destruction of wheat increased again after a lull, too. By 1843, The Democrat and Carroll County Republican was carrying an average of twenty insolvency notices a week. Things started to improve again in 1846 with the start of the Mexican War and the concomitant rise in demand for supplies, as well as the repeal of the British Corn Laws which had been placing a tariff on American wheat since 1815. The California gold rush in 1849 further helped since Baltimore was a major canning center and supplier, as well as the major market for Carroll County's surplus agricultural products. In general, whenever unemployment decreased in Baltimore, farmers sales of food increased.⁷

In the 1840's, the production of corn, wheat, oats and hay increased, while that of potatoes, tobacco, rye, sheep and swine declined. Perhaps most interesting, the cash value of orchard crops, predominantly apples, peaches, and cherries, doubled. In 1850, 55% of available land in the County was being farmed, and by 1860 that figure was up to 60%. By that time, corn, wheat, oats and hay had continued to climb in output, potatoes and rye were up slightly, and inexplicably, tobacco was up. Dairying was still the most important animal product. Slavery was a small factor in the agriculture of the area. In 1837, the Manchester District held 49 slaves, the Hampstead District 20, and the Myers District 4. Almost two-thirds of all slaves were held in the southern half of the County, and most of them worked on tobacco plantations. Carol Lee has noted that the period from 1840 to 1860 is marked by "... advancing specialization in Carroll County's farming. Dairying and all it entailed -- more corn for fodder, better livestock handling, improved barns -- became increasingly important. Transportation by rail connected the County's farmers with the large urban market in Baltimore, encouraging them to produce perishables for profit. Even so, farming actually expanded in most crops as the County's husbandmen paid greater attention to the management of their soil, the use of horse-powered equipment and scientific theories in agriculture. Carroll County's first two decades as an independent subdivision of Maryland paralleled what amounted to a great revival in farming." This was all to change with the coming of the Civil War.⁸

⁶ Getty, *Carroll's Heritage*, p. 21. Lee, pp. 12, 29, 32, 37, 46.

⁷ Lee, pp. 39-41.

⁸ Lee, pp. 44, 54-6.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 7

As has been mentioned earlier, the switch to wheat cultivation required seasonal labor. With the coming of the Civil War, though, the labor force on farms decreased. However, because inflation and demand caused prices to rise, "farmers who remained on their land enjoyed good returns for their labor." Both Northern and Southern troops moved through the north-eastern part of the County during the battles of Antietam and Gettysburg and took or destroyed crops and livestock, only some of which was paid for. Yet the County did not experience wholesale destruction. The period after the war may have been more serious for agriculture. "For most American farmers, the Civil War's end began an era of desperately troubled economic times. Prices for commodities fell in 1865 and then collapsed in the 1870's. In every section of the nation, some farmers had to abandon their land, become tenants, or suffer a lower standard of living." Carroll County probably suffered less than many areas because of its fertile land, good weather, and proximity to the large urban market of Baltimore, but it still suffered.⁹

While Carroll County would always remain an agriculturally-based economy, there was some light industry that developed prior to, and especially after the Civil War. Naturally it was connected to agricultural needs, and was generally located in the towns, as has already been noted. With the Civil War, the Baltimore canning industry began to grow rapidly, and that growth continued afterward, too. This created a demand for canning vegetables in Carroll County, and also led to a small canning industry in the County. Services began to expand in the County at this time, too. Maryland passed the Public School Law in 1865 requiring free universal education to all children.¹⁰

If industrial development in the region was small, the changes occurring in agricultural practices at the end of the nineteenth century were not. "With quick and easy access to city markets, perishables became increasingly important in Carroll County's farm production." Chickens, too, became very suddenly important. Where the census had reported none before 1880, in 1880 there were over 100,000 chickens and over 500,000 dozens of eggs produced. Ten years later, the number of chickens had tripled and the number of eggs doubled. Orchard fruits increased 600% in value from 1850 to 1880. Dairying, too, sharply increased, with the number of cattle almost doubling in this period, and especially in the 1870's. Jersey cattle became popular as there was a move toward single-purpose breeds instead of those that could be raised for draft, meat, and dairy purposes combined. Farmers bred their own stock. As dairying increased, more acres were planted in feed crops, especially clover and corn. Dairying went naturally with pork production because the pigs were fed the skim milk and buttermilk that was the residue from butter manufacture. The livestock provided more manure for fertilizing crops, as well.

⁹ Lee, pp. 57-58.

¹⁰ Lee, p. 62. Warner, p. 102.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 8

Wheat and meat were still the major products of Carroll County farms, but were not as dominant as they had been previously.¹¹

There was an increased use of machinery such as sulky plows, spring-tooth harrows, manure-spreaders, seed drills, mowers and threshers at this time, which helped farmers cultivate more acres. This was a direct result of the loss of labor during the Civil War. Yet despite all these changes, agriculture still suffered a decline. Foreign exports were down due to high tariffs and deflation, grasshoppers damaged the clover and corn crops in 1870, the potato bug hit in 1871, and drought struck in 1872. The Banking Crisis of 1873 led to foreclosures as loans were called in. Yet probably the major reason for the problems of farmers was over-production. Meats and grains from the west flooded eastern markets, depressing prices.¹²

Carroll County grew very little in the period of 1890-1920, in part because of the migration of the young to the cities, yet it still experienced what Carol Lee calls a "Golden Age" in agriculture. There were three reasons for this. The amount of new farmland being added to the agricultural base was slowing at the same time that urban populations and the export of commodities were expanding. This brought supply more in line with demand, causing prices to rise. "The transition from extensive field crops to perishables -- dairying, poultry and vegetables -- continued in Carroll County during 'The Golden Age.' By 1910, the value of perishables equalled that of wheat, corn, beef cattle and hogs. Soon afterward, perishables were worth more." Dairying was now number one, with the average size herd being 15-20 cows fed on corn, corn fodder, clover, rye and wheat bran. Farmers began to realize in the early twentieth century that the type of winter silage affected the milk production. Alfalfa became popular because it was high in protein and survived in bad times when the clover crop failed. Rye was ground for feed at local mills and stored in silos where it underwent a chemical change that improved its nutritive value. Smith & Reifsnider of Westminster acquired some renown locally for building good silos. By 1916, Carroll County had 300 such structures.¹³

Tomatoes, sweet corn, lima beans, peas and asparagus were the crops grown for canning, and they continued to gain prominence. Vegetables worked well with dairy and poultry farming because the stalks and vines made good silage and the guano helped boost soil productivity. Steam-powered machines were introduced in the 1890's and early 1900's, but they were expensive and difficult to handle on hilly terrain, so horses and mules remained the major power source up until the Second World War.

¹¹ Lee, pp. 60-71.

¹² Lee, pp. 71-7. Warner, p. 147.

¹³ Warner, p. 161. Lee, pp. 78-87.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 9

Horses actually became more important, and the number of them increased, as the number of machines used on the farm increased. The average size farm at this time, on the other hand, was decreasing, from 85 acres in 1890 to 77 acres in 1916.¹⁴

World War I brought a rise in demand and a corresponding rise in prices, but farm costs were also climbing at this time, especially for dairying. Bad weather in 1917 and 1918 hurt crops, and with the end of the war prices fell, foreign markets closed, and competition increased from western and southern states because of improved transportation. The "Golden Age" was over then long before the depression forced an average of seven bankruptcy sales a day at its peak in 1932. The 1930's also saw the worst drought in Maryland history and increased insect problems. Since the 1890's, tenancy, the number of farms, and the value of farmland had declined. The depression reversed this trend: tenancy rose, as did the number of farms, but land values continued to drop. Production fluctuated during the period, but the value of the commodities steadily went down. When war erupted in Europe in 1939, markets closed for farm products, but with U.S. entrance in to the war, as in earlier instances, demand jumped for a time. The future would hold a brief boom-time followed by a great deal of uncertainty.¹⁵

Grist Mills and Milling in Carroll County, c. 1790 – c. 1955

Grist mills in Carroll County typically have a lower story of stone with two to three stories above, generally of brick or frame. They are square or slightly rectangular buildings with gable roofs. One gable end usually has a door centered in each story, with a small section of roof cantilevered above that contains a hoist. The opposite gable end is where the water wheel or turbine was located, inside the lower story, and each side usually has an arched opening near this gable end for the water to enter and exit the mill. The sides and end of the mill have various arrangements of windows and doors. Twentieth-century mills sometimes have a small lantern on one end of the roof. Oliver Evans' 1783 plans influenced the functional design of mills throughout the nineteenth and early 20th centuries, with the motive force in the lower story, grinding equipment on the second story, and other equipment, such as bolters, on the top story. As milling technology changed greatly over the two centuries following Evans' improvements, the equipment varies to a great extent. Also typically associated with the mill are a head race and tail race, and often a mill dam and breast.

Carroll County's economic base was agriculture, and the proliferation of mills in the late eighteenth century was a result of the great need for them by farmers and the availability of water to

¹⁴ Lee, pp. 90-106.

¹⁵ Lee, pp. 110-48.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 10

power the mills. Because of limited transportation, these mills were generally small regional operations, serving the neighboring farming community, and doing a little merchant work. The need to reach them meant that many early roads were constructed to them, and they became one of the focal points of the local farming community. Changing technology throughout the nineteenth century altered and improved the process of milling, but had little impact on the appearance, and importance, of mills. In the late nineteenth century, however, this changed. With the rise of railroads in Carroll County after the Civil War, transportation costs dropped. The advent of other power sources, first steam and later gasoline engines, meant that mills could be built in central locations along railroad tracks instead of along a source of water power near a number of farms. Improved machinery enabled mills to produce more, and partnerships with greater capital were created with the resources to take advantage of these changes and build the new grain elevators. This local competition, along with large national concerns in the midwest, combined to slowly drive the small local mills out of business. Most hung on until the period c. 1930-1955, but they were never as profitable as the first three quarters of the nineteenth century, when mill owners were some of the wealthiest and most influential men in Carroll County.

Carroll County is not only blessed with rich soil and abundant springs and streams, but with hilly terrain that provided an abundant fall of water at numerous locations. These were the natural ingredients necessary for the rise of grist and saw mills. According to the 1794 map, there were 31 grist mills in what would become Carroll County. Joseph Scott noted in his 1807 description of Maryland that "in a circle around Manchester of about nine miles are twenty grist mills and saw mills." Thus, from early in the settlement of the region, mills were ubiquitous in the landscape, and they became focal points for the local farming community. As Carol Lee has pointed out, "flour milling accounted for more than half of the manufacturing production in Frederick County in 1811 and nearly as much in Baltimore County."¹⁶

The basic operation of the mill, which changed little in over one hundred years despite the advance of technology, was described by Lillie Snyder Devilbiss, whose father, Charles H.D. Snyder, owned and operated the Otterdale Mill in the early twentieth century.

My father manufactured flour from wheat which was obtained from nearby farmers. It was brought to the mill in bags by horse and wagon, it was dumped into a chute which ran into a conveyor and was carried to the bucket elevators and to the top floor (4th) where the roughest refuse was sifted from it, then into a huge bin scale where it was weighed and then dumped into large wooden bins on the 2nd and 3rd floors for storage and drying, in preparation for cleaning and grinding into flour, middlings and bran. The wheat was ground by roller mills consisting of numerous grinding and siftings before the finished product was ready for us. These roller mills

¹⁶ Lee, *Legacy of the Land*, pp. 14, 23-4.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 11

were constructed of many iron or steel corrugated rollers so made that they could be regulated to grind coarse or finer. Of course the first grinding was very coarse but as it went through each process of grinding and sifting it became much finer, the outer part of the wheat was known as bran, the next are middling and the center as flour. Each finished product was elevated and conveyed into bins and were known as the bran bin, the middling bin and the flour bin, from where they were sacked or packaged.

The flour was packed by what was known as the flour packet which was a machine at the base of the flour bin which packed the flour by a metal tube with the bags which were weighed, tied and stacked up ready for sale. There were several sizes of tubes to fit the different sizes of flour bags used for filling them, the packer was operated by water power and had an automatic cut off when the bag was full. My father used what he called the miller's knot by looping the twine over in such a way that held it secure without making a clumsy knot and saved much twine.¹⁷

Steve del Sordo has identified the general characteristics of grist mills in Chester County, Pennsylvania, a portion of the Pennsylvania culture region to which Carroll County belongs. "The features [of grist mills] which do belong to the common tradition of construction include a rectangular building and an interior water wheel with the mill race passing through the building. The principal grinding machine and water wheel are located to one end of the mill and the water enters the mill through a segmental arch. Usually there is a corner fireplace or stove within an enclosed office." Mills varied greatly in size. Small mills included Solomon Stocksdales of Edward's Mill near Finksburg, which was 30 feet square, or 900 square feet per story, and Jesse Myers mill near Union Mills, which was 26 by 34 feet, or 884 square feet per story. Conrad Marshall's mill near Hampstead, at 30 by 40 feet, or 1,200 square feet per floor, was of moderate size. Jacob Landes and Philip Greenwood's Mill on Sam's Creek was 40 feet 2 inches square, or 1,613 square feet per floor, putting it in the middle range of mills. Large mills ran in the range of 1,800 to 2,000 square feet per floor. These include the Gunpowder Falls mill of Ephraim Rohrbach, which was 40 by 45, and James Bostian's Otterdale Mill, which was 40 by 50. The stone Bachman mill, built c. 1880 on the site of an earlier mill, was 45 feet square, or 2,025 square feet. One of the largest was the 1844 McKinstry mill, at "... 64 feet 5 inches long and 40 feet 6 inches deep . . .," or 2,600 square feet per floor.¹⁸

¹⁷ Lillie Snyder Devilbiss, "Otterdale Mill".

¹⁸ Steve del Sordo, "Grist Mills, Chester County, in Camille Wells, ed., *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*, (Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 1987), p. 67. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 4 January 1856, p. 3, c. 5; 21 October 1882, p. 3, c. 7. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 14 December 1865, p. 3, c. 2. *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 24 September 1857, p. 4, c. 5. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 4 January 1873, p. 3, c. 4. *Westminster Democrat Advocate*, "Farms of Carroll, Bachman's Mill," 13 February 1886, p. 4, c. 1. Mutual Insurance Company of Frederick County, Policy 273 and 329. Columbia, MD 1987.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 12

Mill buildings were generally either square or slightly rectangular, and were typically no more than five to ten feet longer than their width. Their height varied from two to four stories. Conrad Marshall's mill was two stories, ". . . the lower story built of stone, the upper a frame weatherboarded . . ." Three-story buildings, such as George Mearing's stone mill near Bruceville, were more common. Henry Z. Buchen's mill near Hampstead was a three-story brick structure, as was the Gunpowder Falls mill. Most mills used the attic story space as well, though they usually did not count it. One exception is the Otterdale mill, which was described in 1873 as ". . . 3½ stories high, . . . stone foundation . . ." William Sterner's mill near Harney was ". . . a Four-Story Stone and Frame FLOURING MILL, known as Pine Hill Mills." Joseph Everly's mill near Westminster was also a four-story structure. No mills with a full four stories survive, and it may be that the fourth story was actually the attic story. The Pipe Creek Mill (CARR-102) near Mayberry, rebuilt in 1902, is probably an example of this. The plate is raised over three feet above the floor level, creating virtually a full story that was heavily used. Besides frame, brick, and stone, there were log mills as well, though none now survive. The mill on Sam's Creek that Evan McKinstry bought from George Pusey, and that Samuel McKinstry rebuilt in 1844, was reportedly a log structure. Joe Getty's work with the 1798 tax map has shown that at that time, 36% of mills were log, 36% were stone, and 28% were log and stone.¹⁹

Many mills were located on smaller than average parcels, under 50 acres. Joseph Everly had 34 acres in 1856, Conrad Marshall 44 acres in 1865, Michael Babylon 32 acres in 1868, Francis Holzner 25¾ acres in 1871, and John Ogg 43 acres in 1866. There were, however, some mills on average- or larger-sized farms. Washington Nichodemus had 160 acres in 1846, Henry Z. Buchen 163 acres in 1850, Edward Jones 91 acres in 1860, and Joseph Brummell 93 acres in 1871. Some mills, and perhaps most of them, eventually, began on large farms and were cut off by an executor and sold separately. This was probably done to increase the profit on the whole. The Nichodemus-Englar-Stremmel mill in New Windsor was one such example. Elhannon Englar purchased the 132-acre farm and mill property in 1863 for \$8,000. When Englar's widow, Margaret, sold the property in 1892, after his death, the farm was reduced to 121 acres and sold for \$8,000. The mill with a dwelling and two acres sold for \$1,300 and a four-acre lot with a house sold for \$1,550. Margaret Englar actually purchased the mill, along with two other vacant lots that provided sufficient acreage to support a miller's family. Regardless of the size of the mill property, they always contained a dwelling house, barn, and the typical farm outbuildings, as well as some of the more rare. The miller was also a farmer, raising at least enough to support his family.²⁰

¹⁹ *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 28 November 1861, p., c.. *Westminster Democrat and Carroll County Republican*, 9 May 1850, p. 3, c. 5. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 17 September 1892, p. 1, c. 7. *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 13 November 1856, p. 4, c. 2. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 4 January 1873, p. 3, c. 4. *Carroll Record Histories*. Getty, *Carroll's Heritage*, p. 45.

²⁰ *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 13 November 1856, p. 4, c. 2. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 14 December 1865, p. 3, c. 2. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 8 October 1868, p. 3, c. 8. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 2 February 1871, p. 2, c. 7.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 13

Another important ingredient in the rise of mills, besides the natural resources, was the improvements in mill design made by Oliver Evans in 1783. Evans redesigned numerous aspects of grist mill operation to enable most of the production of flour to be controlled by one man. His advancements were an early example of automation and efficient engineering. Evans took out a Maryland patent in 1783, a United States patent in 1790, and published his plans in The Young Millwright and Miller's Guide in 1795. The book was advertised for sale in Frederick in 1812.²¹

The earliest documented mill in Carroll County based on Evans' improvements is the Shriver mill at Union Mills. Andrew and David Shriver contracted with Frederick County millwright John Mong to build the milling machinery on 2 January 1797. The contract specified that:

He the said John Mong - agrees to build a set of mills as follows to wit. A mill for Manufacturing grain into flour. To comprehend two water wheels of double gear for Three pair grinding and one pair shelling stones compleat. One merchant and one middling bolt-with chest mixers. Packing rooms rolling-screen and appendages. Hopper Boy and Packing Machine. Compleat one cuntry bolt and chest and one buckwheat or corn bolt and chest. Two sets hoisting gears, etc., etc. With everything else needful and necessary to the above described work. Also one flutter wheel saw mill with its appendages complete. So constructed that the whole workmanlike style calculated to produce the best effect possible agreeable to modern millwrighting.

That they A. & D. Shriver are to have all the timber-That is to say-the Husk, sills and plates. Posts, bridge trees, braces. Headblocks and Spur Blocks for the grist mill and all the sills, plates joist and rafters for the saw mill, square and delivered. And all the other stuff needful sawed. As also to supply all the other materials generally necessary

In addition, on 13 March, the Shriviers contracted with Jacob Keefer and John Eckert “. . . to mould and burn a kiln of brick . . . providing 100,000 brick or more, to be paid for at the rate of one French crown for every thousand brick.” At the same time the Shriviers executed a contract with carpenter Henry Kohlstock, of York County, Pennsylvania, to “. . . do all the carpenter work of a mill house forty by fifty feet, and to complete the whole thereof in a sufficient and neat, workmanlike manner, as expeditiously as possible; and further, finally to complete the whole, he is to paint the work, both dwelling and mill

Westminster American Sentinel, 4 September 1886, p. 1, c. 1. *Westminster Democrat and Carroll County Republican*, 22 January 1846, p. 3, c. 1; 9 May 1850, p. 3, c. 5. *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 9 August 1860, p. 3, c. 2. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 24 August 1871, p. 3, c. 5. Carroll County Land Records, GEW 30-132. Equity 3034, Chancery, BFC 46-404.

²¹ Oliver Evans, *The Young Millwright and Millers Guide*, *Fredericktown Herald*, 25 July 1812, p. 3, c. 4.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 14

house, in a proper and sufficient manner; they, Andrew and David Shriver, to find all the materials, paint, oil, etc.”²²

The description of the mill is worth considering in detail. When the building was restored, only one water wheel was placed there because the architect assumed that all mills only had one. However, an 1886 history of the mill confirms the original configuration with two wheels. Andrew K. Shriver, the owner at that time, noted: “About the year 1848 my father, Wm. Shriver, determined to abandon the two 16-foot-in diameter breast wheels . . .” In addition, several other mills in Carroll County also were powered by two water wheels. The Bowers Mill on Big Pipe Creek, four miles from Manchester, had advertised in 1808 “. . . two water wheels, with 12 feet overshot . . .,” and Henry Z. Buchen’s mill near Hampstead had “. . . two overshot wheels 20 feet high” in 1850. Samuel McKinstry’s mill, on Sam’s Creek, was built in 1844, and two years later was described as having “. . . two water wheels 13 feet high 6 feet wide overshot . . .” Jacob Landes’ and Philip Greenwood’s Mill, when insured in 1846, had “. . . two water wheels overshot, 14 feet 8 inches high and 3 feet 7 inches wide.” That it was not uncommon is also suggested by the 1846 advertisement for Washington Nichodemus’ mill, which was built “. . . on an improved plan, with 1 Water Wheel . . .” Nichodemus’ executor must have felt it necessary to specify whether there was one or two water wheels and perhaps two wheels was more common.²³

Though Union Mills had breast wheels, overshot wheels are most commonly mentioned, undoubtedly because they were more efficient. Joseph Everly’s mill near Westminster had “. . . a Water Wheel 18 feet 8 inches overshot . . .” in 1856, and John Ogg’s Mill, also known as Myer’s Mill, near Westminster, had “. . . an overshot water wheel eighteen feet high . . .” in 1886. Most unusual then, was the 1892 description of William Sterner’s mill near Harney: “Power is furnished by two 24-foot undershot water wheels, one nearly new.” The use of the less efficient undershot wheel was probably dictated by the more level terrain of the northwest corner of the County, which would make it difficult to get a sufficient fall of water to drive an overshot wheel. Most millers tried to find a way to increase the power of their mill, such as the improvements Pius Wolf made to his building near Union Mills in 1875,

²² Shriver Papers, Maryland Historical Society, MS #2085. Quoted in: John Milner Associates, “Historic Structures Report of the Water Power Machinery and Hydraulic System of the Union Mills Grist Mill, Union Mills, Maryland” (West Chester, PA: Author, n.d.), pp. 3, 23. Frederic Shriver Klein, “Union Mills, The Shriver Homestead” *Maryland Historical Magazine* 52:4 (December 1957), p. 292. Scharf, *History of Western Maryland*, p. 865.

²³ Milner, “Historic Structures Report of Union Mills,” p. . *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, “Farms of Carroll-Union Mills,” 1 June 1886, p. 4, c. 2. Lee, *Legacy of the Land*, p. 24. *Westminster Democrat and Carroll County Republican*, 22 January 1846, p. 3, c. 1; 9 May 1850, p. 3 c. 5. Mutual Insurance Company of Frederick County, Policy 273 and 329.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property
Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 15

“. . . the principal one of which is the erection of an overshot water wheel, in the place of a breast wheel, thus utilizing about one-tenth more of the moving power of the water.”²⁴

Mill technology continued to change in the nineteenth century, and one aspect of this change was water power. The invention of the water turbine in 1827 meant that millers could reduce their labor and increase the power source driving their equipment simply by replacing their overshot wheel and making a few minor alterations. Andrew K. Shriver explained his father's reasoning for abandoning the two breast mills around 1848:

“This was a great improvement, for although these breast wheels were well housed, the accumulation of ice on them in very cold weather was a great drawback, and attended with much severe labor, for until this was removed the wheels were useless. The turbine, on the contrary, being placed at the bottom of the water, resists all freezing weather, and with the same amount of water produces a greater power.” The switch, however, was gradual. Otterdale Mill (Bostian's Mill)(CARR-114) reportedly burned in the 1860's, and when it was rebuilt in c. 1868 it was apparently built with a turbine from the start. It was advertised in 1873 as having “. . . 3 Buhrman's Turbine Wheels . . .” Similarly, when Bachman's Mill was rebuilt, c. 1880 turbines were put in it.²⁵

The operation of the turbines was described by Lillie Snyder Devilbiss. The Otterdale Mill had three turbine wheels

. . . located under the mill in what was the forebay. These wheels were placed in a horizontal position on the bottom of the forebay and were operated by wheels on the first floor of the mill, the power was controlled by the amount of water going through the wheels. The [turbine] wheels were made up of buckets or vents which were opened and closed by the wheels up stairs . . . I remember when my father would attempt to stop the mill and close the vents in the water wheels, it would be impossible for him to close it entirely, due to the fact that some large eels had become entangled in the openings in the wheels that would keep the buckets from closing. Then he would have to draw all the Water from the forebay, go down by ladder and remove the eels, which were some times as thick as his upper arm. This usually happened in cold weather, which made it unpleasant as there was always some water into which he had to put his hands to remove the eels.

²⁴ *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 13 November 1856, p. 4, c. 2. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 4 September 1886, p. 1, c. 1; 17 September 1892, p. 1, c. 1. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 14 August 1875, p. 2, c. 2.

²⁵ *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, “Farms of Carroll-Union Mills,” 1 June 1886, p. 4, c. 2; 4 January 1873, p. 3, c. 4; “Farms of Carroll - Bachman's Mill”, 13 February 1886, p. 4, c. 1.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 16

New construction, however, is different from alteration of a perfectly viable and proven system, and mill owners took their time in converting to the new technology. McKinstry converted his mill, built in 1844, to a turbine in the late nineteenth century. For some, however, even this was insufficient. A correspondent in 1875 noted that, "owing to the great increase in trade and custom, Mr. Oliver Hoover, proprietor of the grist mill near Ebbvale Station, Bachman's Valley Railroad, has been compelled to put in the mill a 10-horsepower engine. The great scarcity of water would not furnish power enough to keep the mill running, and he determined to use steam, by which means grinding can be done at all times."²⁶

The Shriver Mill contract also noted there was to be ". . . Three pair grinding and one pair shelling stones . . ." Mill stones always came in pairs, a bottom or bedding stone, which was fixed, and a top or runner stone, which was held just above the bed stone and revolved. The best stone for flour milling came from France, and occasionally stones were called French burrs. For example, in 1814 E & J McKinstry (probably Evan and his brother, Joseph) advertised for sale "A Pair of Four feet French Burrs, of an excellent quality, at Jacob Stoner's mill, on Sam's Creek . . ." Four years later Joshua W. Owings, a mill owner near Westminster, announced: "I will sell two pair of 5 ft. French Burrs, the reason these stones are for sale is, I put them in my mill and finding they were too large for the water I took them out for the purpose of puting [sic] in 4 ft. stones which suits the water, those 4 [actually 5] ft. Burrs did not run more than one year." Samuel McKinstry's mill had, in 1846, ". . . 3 pair of French Burrs 4 feet 6 inches in diameter - and one pair of Country stones 4 feet." Similarly, Landes and Greenwood's mill nearby, in the same year, had "2 pair french Burrs, one is 4 feet - one plaster stone 4 feet." When it was advertised for sale several months later, the mill reportedly had ". . . two pair COUNTRY STONES (one pair used for grinding Plaster)." From these gleanings, it would seem that 4 to 4½ foot diameter mill stones were preferred for grinding wheat in Carroll County. The life expectancy of a pair of stones seems not to have been recorded, but obviously they lasted much longer than one year.²⁷

Local stones could also be used for more coarse work, such as the shelling stones of the Shriver mill. The millstones, regardless of how many there were, were housed on the second story, above the water wheel. The number of pairs of stones varied in general based on the size of the mill. Thus, Solomon Stocksdale of Edward's mill, of 900 square feet per floor, ". . . runs 2 pair of Burrs . . .," while the Shriver mill and Otterdale mill, each of 2,000 square feet, had four pair of stones. Otterdale mill had ". . . 4 sets Burrs, 2 wheat and 2 choppers . . ." The term "burr" applied to any set of stones, but often was adopted to refer specifically to the finer French stones used to grind wheat. Thus, the Bowers mill

²⁶ 29 May 1875, p. 2, c. 5. Devilbiss, "Otterdale Mill".

²⁷ Shriver papers, Maryland Historical Society, MS #2085. *Fredericktown Herald*, 23 April 1814, p. 1, c. 1. *Fredericktown Star of Federalism*, 2 April 1819, p. 4, c. 2. Mutual Insurance Company of Frederick County, Policy 273 and 329. *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 17 December 1846, p. 3, c. 5.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 17

in 1808 had “. . . two pair of Burr and one pair of Country stones . . .” and the Caleb Stansbury mill on Patapsco Falls, in 1846, had “. . . one pair burrs, 1 pair of chopping stones, & room for 3 pair . . .”²⁸

The “new process” was introduced to milling in the 1870's as an attempt to get more flour out of the same amount of wheat. This process entailed setting the millstones further apart to do “high grinding” and installing a middling purifier at the end of the production line. Like other milling improvements, this one was gradually adopted by Carroll County millers. The first documented instance was in Frank Cover's mill at Double Pipe Creek. In 1875, he put in “. . . new bolting cloths, and also a middling purifier under the new process of milling . . .”²⁹

Just as turbines replaced overshot wheels, stone burrs were also eventually replaced. The new technology was roller mills, where chilled iron rollers were used to crush the wheat. It developed in the west as a means of producing flour from hard red wheat, and was first introduced to Maryland in 1880. Its first use in Carroll County seems to have been Shriver's Union Mills of 1882. A correspondent described the process he observed at Union Mills several years later: “by means of elevators the wheat is raised to the top most story, and, after being thoroughly cleansed by machinery, it is run down to the second floor, where it passes through sets of rollers, each more closely set, until each particular grain is crushed to a certain degree; this is again elevated to the top story, and is passed through machinery called purifiers. This separates the different particles; after this separation it is returned to the first floor and passed through buhrs, which give it the requirement fineness; this is again elevated to the third floor, and run through bolting cloths, which separate the different grades of flour. . . .” The following year, 1883, F.L. Hering demolished the 1812 Stocksdale Mill and constructed the Comet Roller Mills on the old foundation. Hering described his mill near Finksburg: “. . . after remodeling to the roller short system . . . I have one double set of 6 x 12 Case Rolls, with the H.A. Hueffner Special Corrugations, one single stand of 6 x 12 Case Rolls, smooth, and 24-inch pony burr that I used before remodeling. Mr. Hueffner of Palmer, Illinois, made my flow sheet, and arranged it so that I could use all the separating machinery I had on hand, the only additional machinery being scalpors. We are making a barrel of splendid straight grade flour (not an ounce of low grade) out of 273 pounds of wheat.” The roller mill was a self-contained unit that could be installed on a floor of the mill in place of the burrs and re-use much of the other machinery. It produced a larger quantity of flour because the middlings that were formerly thrown out or fed to stock were reground. Though he switched to rollers, Hering retained a pair of small mill stones (pony burrs) for some uses. This was common, not because of the miller's conservative nature or desire to hedge his bets, but because some grains were better ground on burrs.

²⁸ *Westminster American Sentinel*, 4 January 1856, p. 3, c. 5. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 4 January 1873, p. 3, c. 4. Lee, *Legacy of the Land*, p. 24. *Westminster Democrat and Carroll County Republican*, 15 January 1846, p. , c. .

²⁹ McGrain, *Grist Mills*, p. 8. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 28 August 1875, p. 2, c. 4.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 18

Lillie Snyder Devilbiss wrote that her father ground a lot of cornmeal on a stone burr at the Otterdale Roller Mill in the early twentieth century.³⁰

While conversions to the new technology were gradual, they also seem to have been inevitable. Samuel McKinstry sold his mill to his son, Mordecai, and in March 1891 it was reported that he was having it “. . . converted into a roller mill with a capacity of 25 barrels per day. Mr. John Beard has the contract and expects to have it remodeled by the first of April.” In early May, the work was completed and a test of the new machinery indicated a capacity of 35 barrels per day. The roller technology became so pervasive that after the Bahn-Ziegler Mill was converted, the settlement became known as Roller, and retains that name to this date, though the machinery was removed c. 1952. It is possible to get an idea of this operation because the flow diagram, like the one that F.L. Hering mentioned, was prepared by the Robinson Manufacturing Company of Muncy, Pennsylvania, though it is not dated.³¹ The Roop Mill, outside of Westminster, still contains a roller mill and complete machinery from the late nineteenth century in operating condition, though water does not reach the mill any more.

There was other machinery inside the mill, as well. One of Oliver Evans' major advancements was the system of elevators, chutes, and archimedean screws to move grain and flour up, down, and horizontally, respectively, all driven by the same water power that drove the burrs. As it was noted in Landes and Greenwood's Mill, it had “. . . wheat and flour elevators - and wheat and flour conveyors.” The chutes simply employed gravity to move grain and flour, but the other equipment required gears and belts to transfer power to it from the water wheel. In the McKinstry Mill it was noted in 1846 that “. . . the gearing [sic] through the mill working the masheantry [sic] is all of wood and works bevill and spur . . .” Likewise, in Landes and Greenwood's Mill “the gearing [sic] through the Mill working the Masheantry [sic] is all made of wood.” Wood gearing was being replaced, however. Just ten years later it was noted that Joseph Everly's grist mill near Westminster “. . . was repaired but a few years and all new Gearing, put in from the bottom to the top all of cast iron . . .”³²

In addition, every mill contained several bolts to sift the various types of flour and meal produced, as were mentioned in the Shriver contract. The best description of them comes from

³⁰ John W. McGrain, “‘GoodBye Old Burr’: The Roller Mill Revolution in Maryland, 1882,” *Maryland Historical Magazine*, 77:2 (Summer 1982): 154-71. Westminster Democratic Advocate, “Farms of Carroll-Union Mills,” 1 June 1886, p. 4, c. 1-2. Devilbiss, “Otterdale Mill”.

³¹ *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 7 March 1891, p. 3, c. 2; 2 May 1891, p. 3, c. 4. Robinson Manufacturing Company, flow diagram, Historical Society of Carroll County.

³² Martha Zimiles and Murray Zimiles, *Early American Mills*, New York: Clarkson N. Potter, Inc. Mutual Insurance Company of Frederick County, Policy 273 and 329. *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 13 November 1856, p. 4, c. 2.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 19

McKinstry's Mill: "... the country bolting cloth is No. 8-12 feet 6 inches long 27 inches in diameter - Merchant Bolt has 4 cloths 2 are No. 9 and 1 is No. 8 - the 4th is the separator these both are 12 feet 6 inches long - and 27 inches in diameter[,] one screen 9 feet long and 22 inches in diameter." Similarly, Landes and Greenwood's Mill had "one separator cloth 13 feet 9 inches long and 27 inches in diameter, ... one screen 9 feet 7 inches long 22 inches in diameter." The Shriver contract also noted a smut machine. The fungus known as smut affected the taste of the flour, so mills typically had a machine that would help to clean the wheat before processing. Landes and Greenwood's Mill had "one smutt Mashean Greens Pattern," and the McKinstry Mill had "... two smutt masheans [sic] - one of Njongs and the others Clarks" In 1883, Joseph Yingling improved his mill in Pleasant Valley by adding "... the improved Eureka smutter and wheat separator" As was noted in the descriptions of operations at both Otterdale Mills and Union Mills, separators were the first step in the process. Otterdale Mill still retains a Hercules automatic wheat scourer and separator made by the Hercules Manufacturing Company of Cardington, Ohio, and an Eureka new improved dustless receiving separator made by the S. Hornes Company Eureka Works in Silver Creek, New York. Washington Nicodemus' Mill south of Westminster had "... a Smut Machine, Corn Crusher, and Carding Machine in said Mill" in 1846.³³ An assortment of other machines were also noted in various mills. Joseph Brummell's mill near Sandymount had, in 1871, a hominy mill and corn crusher. John Ogg's mill near Westminster had a bone mill in 1886. Joseph W. Owings' new mill, of 1817, had "Brown's Patent Machine, to break Plaster of Paris . . .," and Jesse Myers mill near Union Mills had "... machinery necessary for chopping feed and grinding plaster, bark, &c., for which it has been used," in 1882. There were "3 cranes for raising Burrs and Stones with a wooden screw - one flour packer and hoper [sic] boy - wheat and flour scales" at Landes and Greenwood's mill. All mills had scales, though they were rarely mentioned. Otterdale Mill (CARR-114) still retains two, including a Fairbanks #4 scale with cast iron fluted Greek Doric columns.³⁴

The mill had to be located where there was a sufficient, continual flow of water to drive at least one water wheel, with a sufficient drop in grade, or fall, that a water wheel the size of those previously mentioned could be used. Typically, the mill was not built right on the water. Otterdale Mill is a rare exception, built right on the bank of Big Pipe Creek. The threat of flood, however, probably discouraged many from building too close to the water. The other reason was that the water did not always flow sufficiently. As Lillie Snyder Devilbiss recalled of her childhood at Otterdale Mill in the early twentieth century,

³³ Mutual Insurance Company of Frederick County, Policy 273 and 329. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 23 June 1883, p. 3. *Westminster Democrat and Carroll County Republican*, 22 January 1846, p. 3, c. 1.

³⁴ 24 August 1871, p. 3, c. 5. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 4 September 1886, p. 1, c. 1. *Fredericktown Star of Federalism*, 29 August 1817, p. 1, c. 3. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 21 October 1882, p. 3, c. 7.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 20

“... in the hot dry weather there was a shortage of water power[.] my father used to go to bed early and got up at midnight and start the mill as the water was higher than at any time during the day.” To get around this potential problem, millers built dams and created ponds, stockpiling water, as it were, for those times when the creeks ran low. Traditionally, in Carroll County, the term mill pond was not used. The dam was referred to as the mill dam breast, and the water that is contained was called the mill dam. A head race was constructed to bring the water to the dam, with a sluice or penstock taking water from the dam to the water wheel or turbine. According to Lillie Snyder Devilbiss, “. . . the water from the race was let into the forebay by means of wooden gates which were raised and lowered according to the amount of water power needed to operate the mill[.] the forebay was constructed of wood and reminded me of a huge square tank and was about 20 ft. deep. It ran under the full length of the mill and it had a small outlet under the opposite end of the mill . . .” This outlet led to a tail race, which conveyed the water from the mill back to the stream. A mill site thus had to have a location to build a dam and the drop that would carry the water to it, leaving enough of a fall for the water to tumble over the overshot wheel. If the fall was too small, an undershot wheel could be used. In Carroll County, however, there were innumerable potential mill sites.³⁵

An example of such a mill site was offered for sale in 1817. It was located on the Patapsco Falls, along the southern boundary of Carroll County. The ten-acre parcel contained “. . . a race dug 112 perches [1,848 feet] long, and part of a mill dam made.” There was a 17 foot fall that was deemed sufficient to drive two pair of five foot diameter burrs. Henry C. Dorsey’s property was advertised in 1815 as a farm and mill site, because “. . . There are seven or eight acres of bottom meadow through which Sam’s Creek runs, forming a very convenient *Mill Seat* of about 10 1-2 feet tall, with a dam built and race dug.” Dorsey’s farm was only “3/4 mile below Mr. Lande’s mill,” yet despite the proximity, the demand must have been great enough to warrant building additional mills and advertising such sites for sale. The demand did not let up by mid-century. James Edmonson’s Farm in southern Carroll County, when offered for sale in 1855, contained “. . . an admirable MILL SITE, upon which the proprietor designed erecting a GRIST and SAW-MILL, a water race for which has been dug, a Pit Wall built for Dam, &c.”³⁶

The race periodically had to be drained and re-dug, as it filled with silt and debris, and muskrats dug holes that would cause the water to drain into the fields. Joshua Hering recalled the bi-annual cleaning of his father’s grist mill race. “Race cleaning was a considerable importance, and especially to the boys. The preparation for it consisted in drawing the water from the race the evening before, and in

³⁵ Devilbiss, “Otterdale Mill,” 1958.

³⁶ *Fredericktown Herald*, 21 June 1817, p. 3, c. 5. *Engine of Liberty & Uniontown Advertiser*, 22 September 1815. Quoted in Getty, *Carroll’s Heritage*, p. 16. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 2 November 1855, p. 1, c. 6. Interview with Donald Folk, 18 April, 1992. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 5 November 1892, p. 3, c. 4.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 21

doing this all the fish that were there, were brought down to the lower end The work of cleaning the race usually took about fifty men for the day; and while it was work, and very dirty work at that, the day was a sort of Gala-Day, and the man who was not invited . . . considered himself slighted." Donald Folk similarly recalled that this was a special time looked forward to by the whole community, and since the mill was important to all its neighbors, everyone would participate in clearing out the silt. It was inaugurated by catching, cleaning, and cooking the catfish that were left behind in the dry race. This spirit of community involvement is echoed in an 1892 report following the burning of Nelson Koontz's mill near Union Mills: "Quite a lot of logs and hauling were donated by farmers who were anxious to have the mill rebuilt."³⁷

The landscape created by mills was much different than what we see today. Mill races stretched over long distances, paralleling roads such as at Pipe Creek Mill, and passing under them, necessitating bridges. The location of the mill race tended to take precedence over anything else in the landscape because of its requirements and the labor involved to construct it. Thus, the race for the Nicodemus-Englar-Stremmel Mill cut right through the barnyard of Elhannon Englar's Farm, and in front of the porch of one of the miller's houses. The deed to the mill gave the owner the right ". . . to clear said race and repair the same, and also to repair said mill dam, and cast the mud and debris on and over the said race banks. But in clearing the head race through Lot N^o. 2, to cast the said mud on the north side thereof until moving opposite the dwelling house on said Lot N^o. 2, and then to cast the mud on the south side until said building is passed." As mills were cut off from the farms they were originally part of, as in this case, it became more common for the races to extend in part over other people's land, and legal provision was typically made enabling the mill owner access to repair the race. The mill race was often landscaped to take advantage of the scenic potential of the man-made stream. A visitor to Union Mills in 1886 noted: ". . . we strolled along a shaded path on the bank of the mill race, which is bordered on either side by a variety of beautiful trees, the maple predominating. . ." A line of trees at Pipe Creek Mill (CARR-102) marks the location of the old race, which has been filled in.³⁸

Mills could operate solely off a mill race, without a dam, and in the earliest period some did. When the dam breast of Airhart Winters' mill near Westminster was breached in 1867, Winters speculated that he might be able to remain in operation, if he could ". . . manage to retain the Western branch by means of the old race, which used to supply the Mill for many years, before the dam was built." Despite its added expense, though, a dam seems to have been preferred. In addition to giving greater control over water flow, the dam would enable the miller to get a greater fall of water, since the

³⁷ Joshua Hering Papers, Maryland Historical Society, MS 1917, quoted in Lee, *Legacy of the Land*, pp. 51, 53. Interview with Donald Folk, 18 April 1992. Westminster Democratic Advocate, 5 November 1892, p. 3, c. 4.

³⁸ Interview with William E. Myers, 7 March 1996. Carroll County Land Records, BFC 84-28. Westminster Democratic Advocate, "Farms of Carroll-Union Mills," 1 June 1886, p. 4, c. 2.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 22

water would be raised to the height of the dam breast, and would come off the top of the dam, rather than the level of the stream or race. The ideal location for a dam would be in a deep, narrow stream bed, where a short length of dam breast could force the water to back up upstream. If the water spread to the sides, a much longer dam breast would be needed to contain it. An illustration of the ideal situation can be seen in a plat of the Ebaugh mill near Hampstead. It also demonstrates how far from a mill the dam could be. There are several instances in which the size of a mill dam was recorded. Conrad Marshall's mill property, near Hampstead, had "A substantially built MILL DAM, Covering about 3½ Acres of ground . . ." in 1865, and John Ogg's mill near Westminster contained ". . . one of the finest dams of water in the county, covering between four and five acres . . ." ³⁹

There was, of course, no standard size for mill dam breasts, but they were uniformly large structures. It was noted in 1885, along Sam's Creek, that "Mr. Geo. Devilbiss has lately had the stone work of the breast of his mill dam extended 20 or 25 feet, and it is now a strong and substantial stone breast, near a hundred feet in length." They were often very wide structures, as well. To improve his mill at Double Pipe Creek in the summer of 1872, a correspondent recorded that Frank Cover ". . . is building a new breast work about 16 feet below the present one, and will fill the space between with rock and gravel, which will give him breast thickness of about 40 feet . . ." The dam breast was often used as a bridge for local traffic. Such was the case with the Nicodemus-Englar-Stremmel Mill in New Windsor. The dam breast is now gone, as is the road that it was a part of. With a width of as much as 40 feet, a horse and buggy could easily be taken over the breast, but it could also be a harrowing experience, as John Lower learned in 1885. "While attempting to cross on the breast of Mr. Frederick L. Yingling's mill dam . . ., when he got about halfway across the horse became frightened and ran into the dam with the buggy." As the event occurred in January, the dam was frozen and the ice did not break, so Lower was able to return to the top of the breast and continue. Getting to the top was not always easy, either, as the breasts were tall structures, as well. When eight-year-old Ephraim Long was crossing the breast of the dam in Spring Mills in the summer of 1892, he fell 15 feet from the top of the breast to the surface of the water below, which itself was 8 feet deep. Fortunately, young Ephraim was able to scale the breast. ⁴⁰

George Devilbiss' dam breast was of stone, as is the surviving breast at the Pickett Mill property near Winfield. Lillie Snyder Devilbiss noted that the Otterdale Mill dam breast ". . . was constructed of wood and logs to a height of 15 ft Later my father built the dam of cement which proved stronger and lasted longer." The breast at McKinstry's Mill is of earth on the exterior, though its complete

³⁹ *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 14 December 1865, p. 3, c. 2. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 4 September 1886, p. 1, c. 1.

⁴⁰ *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 12 December 1885, p. 3, c. 2; 10 August 1872, p. 2, c. 5. 24 January 1885, p. 3, c. 1. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 9 July 1892, p. 3, c. 8.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 23

composition is as yet undetermined. The fact that it was not mentioned in the insurance description compiled on the mill property is indicative of its precarious existence. There are numerous examples of mill dam breasts being destroyed by floods and ice. Along Sam's Creek in 1886 "... the mill dam breast of Mr. Jesse T. Wilson gave way, letting out all the water. Two years ago it happened to the same fate and was rebuilt by Mr. Wilson twice or nearly so, but ever since the breast has been leaking some, more or less, until . . . the water seemed to cut its way through the breast, taking much of the stone, dirt, and timbers with it."⁴¹

The best documented mill breast is probably that of Frank Cover at Double Pipe Creek. Its enlargement to forty feet wide in August 1872 has already been discussed. In January 1873 rain and melting snow caused a nine foot rise in the creek, breaking up the ice that covered it to an average depth of 13 inches. As the ice flowed over the breast, it damaged it severely. As reported the following August:

"The wash-out is from 40 to 50 feet wide, and below the butt work of the dam the water is nine feet deep. The head race of the mill lies high and dry; and . . . the mill will not run for sometime. Fully 1,000 cart loads of rock and gravel are lodged on the stream bed at the entrance of the tail race, to the depth of four feet, which must all be removed before the damage is fully repaired." Work was commencing as the correspondent wrote, and a week later it was noted: "A gang of workmen so far succeeded at the repairs on Mr. Cover's mill dam as to fill up the deep wash-out sufficient to lay the foundation, and by Tuesday evening they had in several trees of heavy logs, nine in number; but during the night a heavy fall of rain up the head waters of Pipe Creek somewhere, (there being no rain here,) caused such a rise in the river as to completely wash out all the work and five of the heavy logs are again lost. At this writing, Thursday morning, the foundation is again being laid." The mill dam breast was finally completed in September at a cost of approximately \$2,000.⁴²

Ice posed more problems than simply occasional damage to the breast. As reported in January 1893, "the mills on Meadow Branch have been frozen up, and unable to do any grinding or chopping." This was a constant complaint in mid-winter. On the other hand, it was also an asset. The advertisement for the sale of John Ogg's mill near Westminster in 1886 noted that "the mill dam is a source of revenue to the owner of the property, many persons filling their ice houses from it." A year earlier, on Sam's Creek, it was reported that "the ice on G.W. Devilbiss' mill dam is four inches thick, and all those who failed to get ice during the last freeze are busily engaged filling their houses." Four

⁴¹ Devilbiss, "Otterdale Mill". *Westminster American Sentinel*, 25 September 1886, p. 3, c. 3.

⁴² *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 25 January 1873, p. 2, c. 4; 23 August 1873, p. 2, c. 3; 30 August 1873, p. 2, c. 4; 20 September 1873, p. 2, c. 5.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 24

inches seems to have been the minimum desired thickness, as around Manchester, at the same time, it was noted to be this thick, and people were busy cutting it. Lillie Snyder Devilbiss recalled, “. . . in winter the dam froze over and the ice froze thick, we enjoyed ice skating until the farmers would come and cut the ice, stack it along the banks of the dam, then houled [sic] it to their ice houses”⁴³

The mill and mill dam proved to be a focal point for the community year round. In February 1884, along the southern border of the county, it was reported that “several wild ducks have been seen recently on the dam at Hood’s mill. The boat there will soon be in requisition again for fishing.” Fishing was a popular past time since it provided variety to the diet of Carroll Countians. As reported in September 1874:

“The rain last week caused a rise of the waters of Pipe Creek, and those persons who had their fish pots or baskets in order caught some eels. The Messrs. McGinnis having one attached to the forebay of their mill, opened three flood gates and caught one royal old fellow which weighed seven pounds A person who never ate of an eel larger than the ordinary rope size, can form no idea how deliciously rich, juicy and tender the flesh of such large ones are.” The eel measured 3½ feet long and 10 inches in circumference. Unfortunately for the Messrs. McGinnis, otters raided the basket overnight, so they were the only ones to enjoy the “rich, juicy and tender” flesh.⁴⁴

Grist mills were a focal point for the community in other ways, too. Since farmers periodically stopped there, hand bills were posted on the walls to advertise farm sales and other events. Surviving nineteenth-century examples can be seen in twentieth-century photographs of the interior of McKinstry’s Mill. Mill owners and operators, or their wives, took advantage of this activity at their business in many ways. When the mill of Richard L. Simperts, north of Manchester, caught fire in 1875, “they succeeded in removing most of the goods . . . from a small store that Mrs. S. kept in the mill.” Among these goods were two kegs of gunpowder and a barrel of coal oil, which would have really had an impact on the community had they remained in the burning mill. The centralized location of the mill provided a good place of business for various craftsmen. Christine Daniels has noted this pattern in the tidewater area of Maryland, as well. “Some artisans who provided widely needed goods and services grouped around dispersed service sites that attracted a large clientele, including mills . . . and taverns.

⁴³ *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 7 January 1893, p. 3, c. 3. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 4 September 1886, p. 1, c. 1. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 24 January 1885, p. 3, c. 2. Devilbiss, “Otterdale Mill”; *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 23 February 1884, p. 3, c. 2; 26 September 1874, p. 2, c. 2, 4.

⁴⁴ *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 23 February 1884, p. 3, c. 2; 26 September 1874, p. 2, c. 2, 4.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 25

Enterprising owners of these suburban sites often divided the adjacent land into lots, gave the subdivision a name, and sold or leased the lots to craftsmen.”⁴⁵

David Kephart, owner of Trevanion Mills near Taneytown, advertised in 1814 that he had “. . . to Rent, at his Mill, in Frederick county . . . the Blacksmith Shop now occupied by Daniel Shunk, and Dwelling house and Stable. The Shop has two fire-places, with a good set of tools and a pair of bellows.” A blacksmith shop was still there in 1886, as was a post office. George Mearing’s mill property contained a blacksmith shop and a wagonmaker’s shop in 1861. Likewise, Samuel McKinstry advertised in 1840 that he “. . . wishes to employ a first rate COOPER, to whom constant employment the year round and liberal wages will be given. The applicant must come well recommended. A good stand can also be had for a SHOEMAKER, (a single man) . . .” The need for a cooper was natural, since flour was shipped in barrels. McKinstry’s cooper shop was a sixteen foot square, one-story brick building that stood 53 feet south of the mill. Jacob Landes and Philip Greenwood also had a cooper shop on their mill property, though it was not in as close a proximity to the mill. It was one-story high and built of stone. Lillie Snyder Devilbiss recalled a cooper shop near her father’s mill, which was torn down after her father switched to cloth and paper bags in which to ship the flour. Before that time, she could “. . . remember seeing him pack flour in barrels which contained 196 lbs. and then put on the barrelhead, the hoop and put on his name by stencil and the customer’s name, and then load them on the wagon by the rope hoist with a special kind of hooks which fit over each end of the barrel and looked very much like a huge pair of ice tongs, and much stronger.” Union Mills was still packing flour in barrels in 1886. In addition to his other buildings, Samuel McKinstry also owned “. . . a log and frame house in which Mrs. Hitchshew keeps store and lives” on land near his mill. This was replaced in 1850 with a brick dwelling that apparently held a store room originally.⁴⁶

When Jacob Landes and Philip Greenwood advertised their mill on Sam’s Creek for sale in 1846, they noted that it was “. . . easy of access having two County roads crossing at the Mill . . .” The mill was not put where the roads were, of course. Rather, roads were laid out leading to the mills. Such was the case when Lineboro road was platted in 1838. There was no town of Lineboro at the time, and the road did not actually extend to the current location of the town. The northeastern end of the road began at a corner of Martin Kroh’s mill, and the southwestern end connected to the Baltimore and Hanover

⁴⁵ McKinstry’s Mills photographs, Historical Society of Carroll County, *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 27 March 1875, p. 2, c. 3. Christine Daniels, “WANTED: A Blacksmith who understands Plantation Work’: Artisans in Maryland, 1700-1810.” *The William and Mary Quarterly*, 3rd series, vol. 1, no. 4, October 1993, p. 749.

⁴⁶ *Uniontown Engine of Liberty*, 17 February 1814, in Joe Getty, *Abstracts*, p. 10. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, “Farms of Carroll Trevanion,” 2 January 1886, p. 4, c. 1. *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 28 November 1861. *Westminster Carrolltonian*, 17 April 1840, p. 1, c. 1. Mutual Insurance Company of Frederick County, Policy 273 and 329. Devilbiss, “Otterdale Mill,” *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, “Farms of Carroll-Union Mills,” 1 June 1886, p. 4, c. 2.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 26

Turnpike. In the process, the road wound around the mill property of Adam Reigle (formerly owned by Michael Koutz, it was the mill of Richard L. Simperts that burned in 1875.)⁴⁷

Despite the constant expense of repairs and improvements, as a group mill owners were on average considerably more wealthy than the average farmer. This success is reflected in the substantial homes that they built, as well. Though Conrad Kerlinger's mill (later Martin Kroh's), and several successors to it, have disappeared, his large stone house of 1790 near Lineboro is testament to his commercial success. The same is true of Michael Koutz's brick house just down the road from Kerlinger's, John Shauck's house, also near Lineboro, the Shriver homestead, Trevanion, Samuel McKinstry's brick house of 1849, and many others. The number of mill owners who served in politics at the local or state level is also indicative of their success and perceived importance to the County. They were successful enough, too, to lease their mills to other operators, eventually. Thus, Evan McKinstry was operating Jacob Stoner's mill on Sam's Creek before he purchased George Pusey's mill nearby in 1815. When Mordecai McKinstry converted his mill to a roller mill in 1891, it was noted that "Mr. W.R. Zumbrun, who at the present time is running the White Rose Mills, will then take charge of the mill." Zumbrun finally purchased the mill in 1915. By this time, however, technology had passed by the small local grist mill. As was noted in 1895: "McKinstry's Mills is one of the places which has likely passed the zenith of its greatness. Like hundreds of other villages in the east, which have been missed by the railroad, the depreciation of business interests has been slow but sure, and the place now is simply a feeder for larger towns. While the neighborhood is prosperous in an agricultural way, and the people are not lacking in either intelligence or industry, neither the store or mill will likely ever do the immense business they once did, and the reasons for this are due to perfectly natural causes." These small mills hung on for several more decades, but their fates were sealed by the larger operations.⁴⁸

The grain elevators that would eventually replace grist mills began as grist mills. W.S. Myer & Bro. of Westminster purchased a steam powered mill that ran three buhrs in 1880 and produced up to fifty barrels of flour a day. Their business grew to the point that in 1884 they built an elevator. The building, designed by Chase & Co., architects, of Chicago, was 45 by 60 feet, 40 feet tall to the eaves, and contained 14 bins with an average storage capacity of 3,000 bushels each. It was equipped with a 15-horsepower steam engine to run its machinery. A year later the firm of N.I. Gorsuch & Son, of Westminster, added an elevator to their business. This building was designed by Carroll County millwright, John Beard, and was originally 30 by 40 feet and 31 feet tall to the eaves. This elevator

⁴⁷ *Westminster Carroll County Democrat*, 17 December 1846, p. 3, c. 5. Carroll County Land Records, WW 2-27.

⁴⁸ *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 7 March 1891, p. 3, c. 2. Carroll County Land Records, ODG 127-349. "McKinstry's Mills" in Joseph Getty, ed., *The Carroll Record Histories of Northwestern Carroll County Communities*, (Westminster: Historical Society of Carroll County, 1994), p. 84.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 8 Page 27

contained 20 bins with an average capacity of 650 bushels each, and was powered by a 12-horsepower gas engine. An additional 40 feet was added to the elevator within a few years.⁴⁹

Connected with each of these elevators was a warehouse. Myer & Bro. had a building 95 by 40 feet which could store from 100 to 150 tons of feed and 4,000 barrels of flour. The warehouse of Gorsuch & Son was originally 90 by 30, and 20 feet was added to it shortly afterward. Its storage capacity was approximately 7,000 bushels. Myer & Bro. improved their milling operation then in 1885. They remodeled their mill, a brick structure 60 x 60 feet and four stories high. They added a mansard story . . . and at the same time added the roller process.” The machinery was installed by the Nordyke & Marmon Company of Indianapolis, Indiana, and was run by a 70 horsepower engine and a 125 horsepower boiler. This boosted their output to 250 barrels per day. As small grist mills often had a cooper shop associated with them, so did Myer & Bro., but this operation was termed a barrel factory and its size of operations suggests that this was an accurate description. It was a brick building, 25 by 75 feet, in which 18 hands could turn out 300 barrels a day.⁵⁰

The 1880's seem to have been the period that gave rise to the grain elevator in Carroll County. The firm of Stoner and McKinstry in Union Bridge were large-scale grain factors, shipping 110,000 bushels of wheat to Baltimore in a one-year period in 1877-78. In 1878 they added a 10 horsepower engine for threshing grain, chopping horse feed, and baling hay and straw. The warehouse existed at this time, and in 1883 a Baltimore architect named Johnston was brought to Union Bridge to inspect the warehouse and to make “a draught of the new grain elevator to be erected.” Stoner superintended the work on the structure. From early on, the appearance of the grain elevators was different than that of grist mills. When Zollickhoffer Bros. built their new mill in Taneytown in 1890, it was described as “. . . a large three story building, sheathed and roofed with corrugated iron, making the outside fireproof.” There was constant pressure for improvement of the old elevators that were evolving from traditional grist mills, in part because new firms, like Zollickhoffer Bros., could build equally good or better elevators from scratch, since technology was changing rapidly. Thus, where old firms were running 12 to 15 horsepower engines installed in the mid-1880's, Zollickhoffer Bros. put in a 50 horsepower engine, built by the York Manufacturing Company in York, Pennsylvania, in 1890.⁵¹

The best description of the layout of machinery and storage in one of these large mills and elevators comes from the Roberts, Roop and Co. Mill in Westminster, which was built in early 1906 to

⁴⁹ *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 11 February 1888, p. 3, c. 7; 2 May 1885, p. 3, c. 1; 25 February 1888, p. 3, c. 6.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

⁵¹ *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 24 August 1878, p. 3, c. 1. *Union Bridge Index*, 1 March 1883, p. 4, c. 4; 5 April 1883, p. 3, c. 1. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 29 March 1890, p. 3, c. 4.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Carroll County, MD
County and State

Section 8 Page 1

replace the old building that was destroyed by fire. The Wolf Co. Of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, were the builders. The new elevator included:

First Floor, Packing Room - Two invincible friction clutch barrel flour packers, invincible sack packer, Fairbank's sack scale, Fairbank's barrel scale and platform scale.

Mill Room - 8 double stands 9 x 30 inches and 2 double stands 9 x 36 inches, heavy Duty Improved Wolf roller mills and Columbian feed governor.

Second Floor - Five Improved Wolf Purifiers, invincible garlic separator, scroll mill, exhaust fan and dust collector.

Third Floor - Four No. 15 Wolf gyrators, 3 Wolf centrifugal heels, Wolf milling separator, invincible double scourer, exhaust fan, magnetic separator and 3 dust collectors.

The power plant is located in the basement of the building and consists of 125 horsepower tubular boiler, 125 horsepower Bates Corliss engine and 10 horsepower engine for driving dynamo for electric light plant, all enclosed in heavy brick walls with concrete floor and ceiling, and 2,200 feet of extra quality leather belting from 3 to 20 inches wide is used to drive the machinery There are 31 stands of elevators and a 1,000 bushel wheat bin.⁵²

In this period, grain elevators were also built in Hampstead, New Windsor, and Linwood, among other places. They all seem to be centrally located, generally in the larger towns, but more importantly, right along the railroad lines in Carroll County. The large scale operations existed to ship grain to other locations, and would not have evolved without the railroads. The mills were all powered by steam or gas, not water, since they had to go to the railroads, and they seem to have been well capitalized. The days of a single mill owner who ground the grain himself had passed, and the new mills were owned by partnerships of wealthy businessmen who hired or leased their operations to others. The grain elevators, of course, were not a radical new change in milling. Changing technology, both in milling and other aspects of business in the nineteenth century, had gradually altered the process of grist milling. The building form, however, changed little until the advent of the grain elevator. Then, in a relatively short period of time, a wholly new and different building type had evolved on the vernacular landscape.

⁵² *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 30 March 1906, p. 3, c. 3.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill
Name of Property

Section 9 Page 0

Carroll County, MD
County and State

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CARR-101
Roop's Mill

Name of Property

Carroll County, MD

County and State

Section 10 Page 1

Geographical Data

UTM References:

New Windsor, MD quad

A: 18-325377-4384412

B: 18-325688-4384170

C: 18-325422-4384171

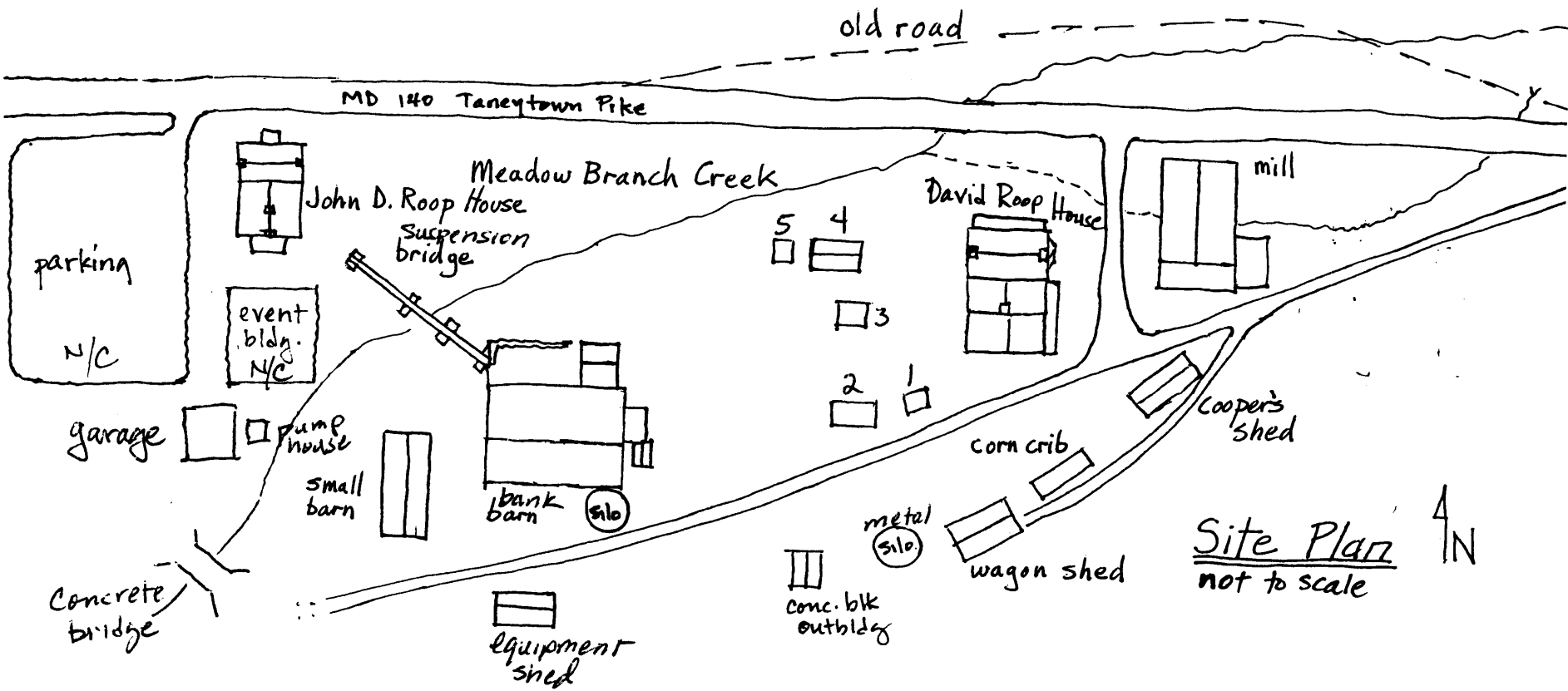
D: 18-325320-4384309

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property, 10.99 acres, comprises Parcel 6620 and a part of Parcel 6621 on Carroll County Tax Assessment Map 38. Parcel 6620 comprises 2.76 acres. The relevant portion of Parcel 6621 is indicated as Parcel "G," 8.23 acres, on Revised Preliminary Plan, Roop Mill, dated Feb., 2007, County File No. T-04-001P.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated acreage represents the remnant of the property historically associated with the resource, and encompasses the contributing elements within their immediate setting.



CARR-101 Roop's Mill
 Westminster, Carroll Co., MD