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DESCR	IPTION SUMMARY	on Continuati	on Sheet #3		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lewis Mill Complex is located on the west side of Poffenberger Road, 1½ miles from Maryland Route 180 in Jefferson, on the bank of Catoctin Creek in Frederick County, Maryland.

The Lewis Mill Complex consists of seven (7)structures and an earthen mill raceway. The mill is a tall structure built into a bank, making it $3\frac{1}{2}$ stories on the creek (west) facade and $2\frac{1}{2}$ on the east. The first story is of random-coursed fieldstone and is fully exposed on the west; on the east about a third of the story is above ground. The second and third stories are of brick laid in common bond; the brick end walls extend a foot above the eaves line. The gable ends under the high gable roof are of frame.

The west side is the principal facade. It is four bays wide on the stone first floor and three bays wide on the three upper levels. A replaced board and batten door set into a panel entrance is located in the northern most bay on the ground level. Two additional doors were located in the central bay of the third and fourth levels and have been replaced with plate glass. Replaced and repaired double hung 6/6 windows occupy the remaining bays on the west gable end. Flat brick arches are laid in the brickwork above each opening in the second and third floors.

The north and south elevations each contain three rather wide bays. On the south, there is a window in each bay of the third floor and a window in each end bay on the second floor. All have flat brick arches and replaced double hung 6/6 sash. The brickwork in the center of this wall was rebuilt at an early time.

The east gable is three bays wide, with a central door in the fourth floor level with windows flanking it, three windows on the third, and a window in the center bay and a board and batten door into an office in the north bay of the second. This facade also has flat arches above the window openings. Thr brick wall on this side is built to the sill of the fourth level windows in the center and almost to the head of these windows on each side.

The roof is covered with tin over shingles and a plain wood cornice runs under the eaves on both side elevations. The roof framing system is unusual: principal rafters with collar beams support the roof. These rafters are connected by individual purlins staggered so each principal rafter has two purlins mortised and tenoned and pegged into it, one above the other. These purlins support the secondary rafters. All the structural members of these system are hand hewn.

The interior of the mill consists of open-bay construction on all floors, with two exceptions. On the northeast corner of the second level is a small office with a desk and cabinets dating to the 19th century. A water room where the sluice entered the building is located on the first level.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.



Specific dates Early 19th to 1920s Builder/Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: A. C.

SIGNIFICANCE

Lewis Mill is particularly significant to Frederick County as an early 19th century mill complex which contributed greatly to the agricultural and commercial growth and development of the Jefferson area of the county serving the immigrant German farmers of Middletown Valley from as early as 1810 to the 1920s. Lewis Mill is a distinctive remaining example of the over four hundred mills which once existed in Frederick County because it is constructed of brick rather than the predominant stone construction and displays a particularly unusual roof framing system with collar beams supporting the roof. Milling equipment, outbuildings, and an earthen raceway enhance the integrity of setting and association of the mill complex.

¹The German agricultural community of Frederick County, particularly Middletown Valley, is heralded in 18th and 19th century history of Maryland. The grist mills which supported the agricultural industry in this community were of primary importance in supporting the commercial trade of flour and meal which sustained the farmers. A resurvey of the property was made on October 10, 1790, and it was renamed "The Mill Seat Secured". According to the research completed by John McGrain, in 1804 the 266-acre tract called "The Mill is Safe", along with the 45-acre tract "Mill Seat Secured", became the site of Catoctin Mill number twelve as listed in the <u>History of Carrollton Manor</u>. An unnamed mill site also appears in this location on the 1808 map by Varle.

²Because of its availability and inexpensiveness, fieldstone or limestone was a more popular building material than brick for service buildings in Frederick County until the second half of the 19th century when commercial brickworks made material more readily available.

³The roof framing system is unusual in that each principal rafter is connected by two purlins mortised, tenoned and pegged into it, one above the other. This roofing system is a medieval roofing system, probably of immigrant Germanic origin.

9. Major Biblio paphical References

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United States Department of the Interior **Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Lewis Mill Complex Continuation sheet Frederick County, Maryland Item number

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Some of the milling equipment from a 19th century operation remains in the mill, including several garners or storage bins, some vertical conveyor belt enclosures on wooden leather belt pulleys, wooden gearing parts, and a stone crane. The wooden overshot wheel is intact and lies half buried in the wheel pit on the south side of the first floor. An earthen raceway, 800 - 1,000 feet long, is still visible on the southeast side of the mill.

The building has been recently rehabilitated and is now used as a handmade pottery studio. A solar collector system was added to the southwest wall of the mill structure in 1981. The following statement from John Hanson, one of the owners, describes the installation.

"In keeping with the "Secretary's Guidelines," our solar collector placement is not on the main facades as seen from the public access road.

As a result of the guidance of historic structures consultant, James Asking, the facade of the mill with the solar collector could easily be restored to its pre-solar appearance. The solar collector foundation is totally independant (sic) of the historic foundation; the collector is held in its verticle(sic) plane by an independant (sic) metal framework attached to the interior floor framework only by $32-\frac{1}{2}$ " rods, the holes for which would be easily filled if the rods were removed; return air at the bottom of the wall utilizes an existing opening while supply air at the top of the wall utilizes the between-thejoist spaces making replacement of the soffit board the only restoration work there; and finally the bead of caulk at the two sides sealing the collector to the historic wall would have to be removed. This system places no stress on the historic masonry from additional weight or wind loading and allows the historic masonry to "breath" on its own."

Additional outbuildings contributing to the complex include the following:

Millers House, c.1825 - $2\frac{1}{2}$ story stucco covered log residence with two story ell, cross gable corrugated tin roof extensively rehabilitated in the past five years on the interior, with corner block molding on the second level which has remained intact.

Springhouse, c. 1825 - log springhouse with banked random-coursed stone foundation with standing seam gable roof.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2



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	Lewis Mill Complex Frederick County, Maryland		7	& 10	Page	2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Wagon shed, c.1880 - one story vertical board tin gable roofed wagon shed with interior corn cribs.

Barn, c.1880 - small two story vertical board barn with tin roof and one story shed roof addition.

Cattle shelter, c.1920 - one story vertical board building with corrugated tin roof.

Stone foundation, c.1880 - once supported late 19th century farmhouse.

Non-contributing outbuilding on the complex:

Garage, c.1930 - one story asbestos shingle covered frame garage with corrugated tin roof.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries for this National Register nomination are drawn to include enough land to maintain a proper setting to protect the resources, both the buildings and the earthen millrace, and utilize natural, visual and man-made features such as the stream and roadway.

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Lewis Mill Complex is neatly defined by geographic boundaries. It follows the west side of Poffenberger Road from the east boundary property line as identified in Liber 1016, Folio 924, from its south intersection with Poffenberger Road to the north intersection with Poffenberger Road, then following the west bank of the mill stream southward to its intersection with the eastern property line which is the point of beginning.

The boundary includes approximately 2.438 acres on which all of the buildings of the complex are located including the earthen millrace.

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Lewis Mill Complex Continuation sheet Frederick County, Maryland Item number

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Lewis Mill Complex consists of seven standing structures, six of which contribute to the significance of the resource; a house foundation and the remains of an earlier millrace. The complex centers on an early nineteenth century three story brick gable roofed mill structure which was rehabilitated in 1979-1980 for use as a pottery shop. Some of the mill equipment still remains intact. Also, in the complex are a circa 1825 stuccoed log house which, although extensively renovated on the interior, still retains original decorative detailing and configuration; a circa 1825 log springhouse with a randomed-coursed stone foundation; a circa 1890 frame wagon shed and corn crib structure; a circa 1880 frame barn; and a circa 1920 cattle shelter. A one story frame garage erected about 1930 stands on the property but is not considered contributive to the significance. The complex retains integrity of location, setting, design, and materials creating a strong feeling and association of the site with its historic role as a mill complex.

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